



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan
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June 13, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Director
Mines and Geosciences Bureau- MIMAROPA Region
1515 L&S Bldg, Roxas Blvd.
Ermita, Manila

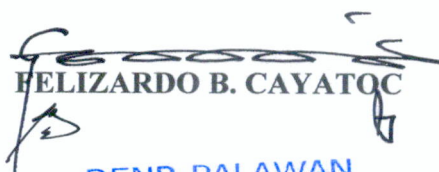

FROM : Provincial Environment and
Natural Resources Officer

SUBJECT : **INVESTIGATION REPORT OF THE QUARRYING OPERATION
BY MR. SANDRO DE JESUS IN CHINIBAYAN RIVER, BRGY.
NEW BUSUANGA, BUSUANGA, PALAWAN WITHIN THE
BUSUANGA PASTURE RESERVE**

Forwarded is the memorandum dated 30 May 2023 of CENRO Coron Transmitting a copy of investigation report dated 29 May 2023 of the MGB-MIMAROPA Embedded Personnel re: the above subject.

For information and record.

RGT/EMU
Doc. No. 2023-4995


FELIZARDO B. CAYATOC
DENR-PALAWAN
PENRO-RECORDS
RELEASED
By 
Date: 15 JUN 2023 2023-1653



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Community Environment and Natural Resources Office
Barangay 5, Calamianes Island, Coron, Palawan
Telephone No. +63 917 504 2633

E-mail: cenrocoron@denr.gov.ph Website: www.denr.gov.ph

30 May 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Director
Mines and Geosciences Bureau
MIMAROPA Region

THRU : The PENR Officer
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
Province of Palawan

FROM : OIC, CENRO
Community Environment and Natural Resources Office
Coron, Palawan

SUBJECT : INVESTIGATION REPORT OF THE QUARRYING
OPERATIONS BY MR. SANDRO DE JESUS IN CHINIBAYAN
RIVER, BRGY. NEW BUSUANGA, BUSUNAGA, PALAWAN
WITHIN THE BUSUANG PASTURE RESERVE

DENR PENRO
PALAWAN RECORDS
RECEIVED

BY: [Signature]
DATE: 05-31-2023 ON 13:49:5

Respectfully forwarding a copy of the investigation report dated 29 May 2023 of the MGB
-MIMAROPA Embedded Personnel regarding the above-cited subject.

A spot investigation was conducted by the Busuanga Pasture Reserve Monitoring Office (BPRMO) last 19 May 2023 in Chinibayan River, Brgy. New Busuanga, Busuanga, Palawan, where a quarrying operation was ongoing using a payloador and a truck. The operators mentioned that it was under the directives of *Sangguniang Bayan* member Sandro de Jesus of LGU Busuanga. Since they are operating within the BPR, they were advised to stop their operations until the necessary permits have been secured from the Provincial Mining Regulatory Board (PMRB) and the Forest Management Bureau (FMB).

Accordingly, the MGB Embedded Personnel conducted a follow-up investigation last 23 May 2023, where no ongoing operation was spotted and no recent activity was observed. However, several stockpiles were still present in the Chinibayan River, spanning about 950 meters of the river.

Other findings and recommendations indicated in the investigation report are subject to your instructions and/or appropriate actions.

For information and record.

RODNEY G. MERIAN
OIC-CENRO, Coron





Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
MIMAROPA Region
Coron, Palawan

29 May 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Community Environment and
Natural Resources Officer
Coron, Palawan

FROM : The Undersigned

SUBJECT : INVESTIGATION REPORT OF THE QUARRYING
OPERATIONS BY MR. SANDRO DE JESUS IN CHINIBAYAN
RIVER, BRGY. NEW BUSUANGA, BUSUNAGA, PALAWAN
WITHIN THE BUSUANG PASTURE RESERVE



A follow-up investigation was conducted by the MGB Embedded personnel last 23 May 2023 under Travel Order No. 2023-020, together with the BPRMO and MES personnel listed below, regarding the above-mentioned subject.

Leonardo M. Puno Jr.	OSS/Bantay Gubat	BPRMO
Archie M. Agnes	OSS/Bantay Gubat	BPRMO
Reniel Oliver M. Fuentes	Forest Technician I	MES
Julius R. Sorreda	Forest Ranger	MES
Mark Angelo A. Factuar	Forest Ranger	MES
Nathaniel D. Lagrada	Forest Protection Officer	MES

Background Information

Last 19 May 2023, the Busuanga Pasture Reserve Monitoring Office (BPRMO) personnel verified the Skyes Aggregare Ventures Inc. (SAVI) status within the BPR in Brgy. New Busuanga, Busuanga, Palawan. During the verification, they spotted an ongoing quarrying operation using a payloader and a truck (**Photo 1**).

According to Mr. Roman Balud, the truck operator, the ongoing operation in the Chinibayan River is under the directives of *Sangguniang Bayan* member Sandro de Jesus of LGU Busuanga. Furthermore, Mr. Jonathan Cayupan, the payloader operator, mentioned that they work under LIA Gravel and Sand. The quarry operation started last 18 May 2023 and has already extracted almost two (2) trucks of aggregates. They added that they have a quarry permit from the PMRB, but it was not presented to the BPRMO personnel.

As per the record, the Forest Management Bureau issued no clearances and permits for any quarrying activities inside the reservation. Thus, the BPRMO personnel advised the operators to stop their operation until such permits have been secured from PMRB and FMB.

Accordingly, a memorandum of endorsement was forwarded by BPRMO to the undersigned regarding the subject, dated 26 May 2023.

Purpose and Scope

The undersigned investigated the subject area within the BPR to validate the legality of the activity and to conduct appropriate actions to address the issue. The investigation includes an inspection of the site, photo documentation, a verbal interview with a resident, and a discussion with the *Punong Barangay* of Brgy. New Busuanga, Busuanga, Palawan.

Findings and Observations

1. The undersigned investigated the reported area last 23 May 2023. The subject area is in Chinibayan River, Brgy. New Busuanga, Busuanga, Palawan. It is geographically situated at $12^{\circ}14'10"N$, $119^{\circ}55'42"E$. It is approximately 72 kilometers from CENRO (1 hour and 30-minute motorcycle ride) and about 5.4 kilometers (12-minute motorcycle ride) away from the Barangay Hall of Brgy. New Busuanga (Figure 1).

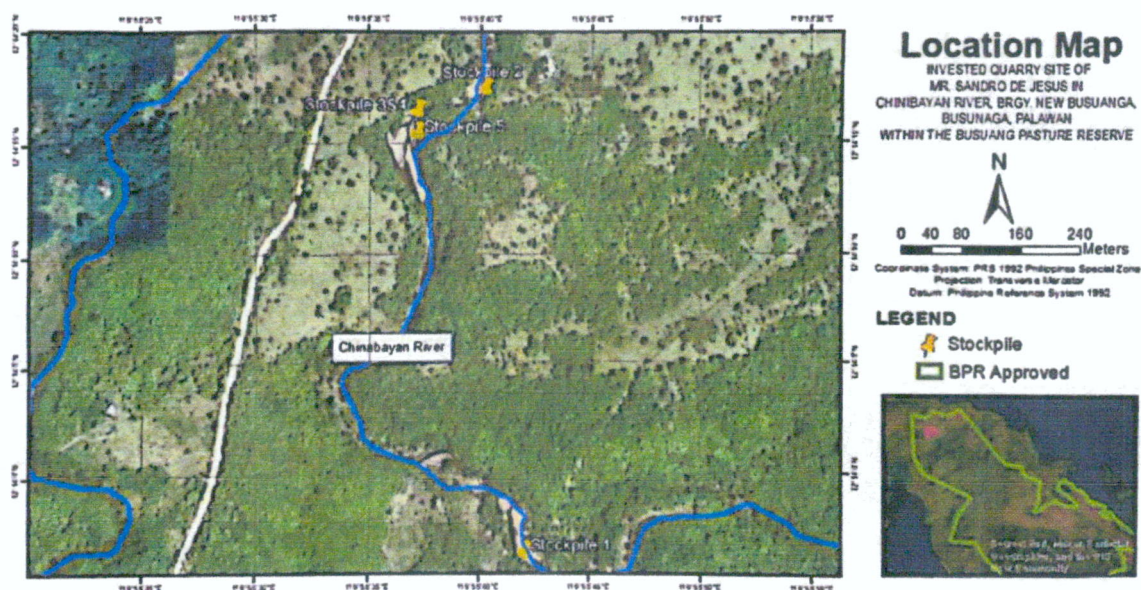


Figure 1. Location map of the investigated quarry site of SB Sandro de Jesus. The distance between stockpiles 1 and 2 is approximately 950 meters.

2. Prior to the investigation, the undersigned had a courtesy call with Hon. Ardon A. Libarra, *Punong Barangay* of Brgy. New Busuanga (Photo 2). Hon. Libarra was informed of the ongoing illegal quarrying operations in his jurisdiction. He presented a copy of the Order of Payment for a fine/penalty, dated 08 May 2023, made by Mr. Jay de Jesus, amounting to PhP 40,000.00 (Photo 3). According to Hon. Libarra, Mr. Jay de Jesus is the sibling of SB Sandro de Jesus.
3. Upon arrival, no ongoing operation was spotted, and no recent activity was observed (Photo 4). Mr. Sandy Edonga, a resident near the subject area, mentioned that the operators stopped any activities since they were ordered to do so by the BPRMO last 19 May 2023 (Photo 5).

Comments and Recommendations

1. SB de Jesus violated the following laws:

Republic Act 7942, otherwise known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995	Section 103. Theft of Minerals	<i>Any person extracting minerals and disposing the same without a mining agreement, lease, permit, license, or steals minerals or ores or the products thereof from mines or mills or processing plants shall, upon conviction, be imprisoned from six (6) months to six (6) years or pay a fine from Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) to Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the appropriate court. In addition, he shall be liable to pay damages and compensation for the minerals removed, extracted, and disposed of</i>
DAO 2010-21, Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 7942	Chapter XII - Section 116. Illegally-sourced minerals/mineral products	<i>Illegally-sourced minerals/mineral products are those which are mined, extracted, removed and/or disposed of without authority or permit under existing mining laws, rules and regulations.</i>
Presidential Proclamation No. 1387 issued in 1975, Reserving and Establishing as a Pasture Reserve a Certain Parcel of Land of the Public Domain Situated in the Island of Busuanga, Province of Palawan		Any form of disposition, exploration, or exploitation inside the Busuanga Pasture Reserve is prohibited, including sand and gravel extraction. The subject area is withdrawn from sale, lease, settlement or any other form of disposition, exploration, or exploitation and reserve as a pasture reserve. This Proclamation is an established fact that the Busuanga Pasture Reserve is government property.

2. The undersigned was also informed of other quarry sites being operated by SB de Jesus. The undersigned will conduct continuous monitoring and inspection in the alleged quarry sites of SB de Jesus.
3. For MGB MIMAROPA to issue a Cease-and-Desist Order (CDO) to SB de Jesus.
4. The undersigned will attend a Clarificatory Technical Meeting (CTM), headed by the BPRMO, to be attended by SB de Jesus, and other concerned office(s).

For your reference, record, and further instruction(s).



Alessa Anne S. Estorninos
Science Research Specialist II
MGB MIMAROPA – Embedded Personnel

Photo Documentation



Photo 1. The BPRMO personnel spotted an illegal quarrying operation in the Chinibayan River using a payloader and a truck last 19 May 2023.



Photo 2. Courtesy call with Hon. Ardon A. Libarra, Punong Barangay of Brgy. New Busuanga.

Item	Description	Amount
1	Violation of PRRS Regulation No. P-010-2010	30,000.00
2	Violation of PRRS Regulation No. P-010-2010	10,000.00
TOTAL		40,000.00

Photo 3. Order of Payment for a fine/penalty, dated 08 May 2023, made by Mr. Jay de Jesus, amounting to PHP 40,000.00.



Photo 4. No ongoing operation was spotted and no recent activity was observed.



Photo 5. Interview with Mr. Sandy Edonga, a resident near the subject area.

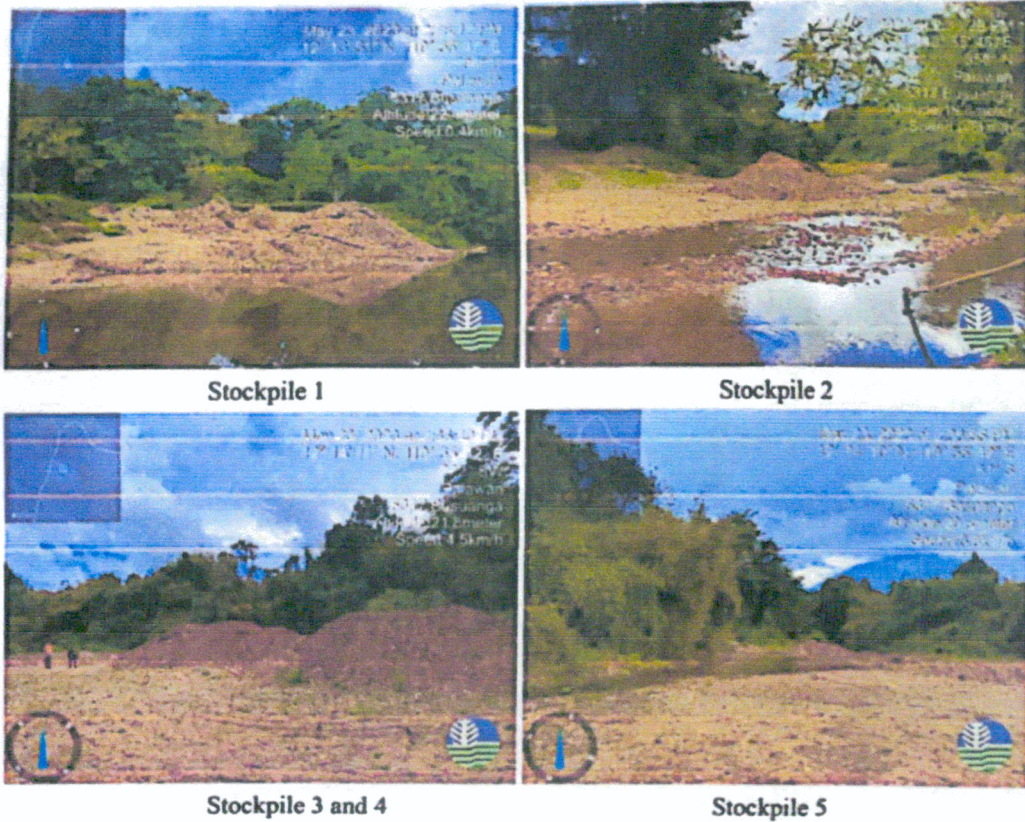


Photo 6. Stockpiles along the Chinibayan River.