



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office

May 29, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
MIMAROPA Region
1515 DENR by the Bay Bldg., Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila

THRU : The ARD for Technical Services

FROM : The OIC, PENR Officer
Oriental Mindoro

SUBJECT : **UPDATES ON THE ON-GOING ACTIVITIES
ATTENDED/PARTICIPATED BY THE DENR ORIENTAL
MINDORO REGARDING OIL SPILL OPERATIONS AND
RESPONSES**

Submitted is the report/updated of this Office regarding the on-going activities related to the oil spill operations and responses within the province of Oriental Mindoro.

Kindly be informed that most of the activities were facilitated by the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) as the lead agency in the oil spill operations. Further, this Office are continuously coordinating and working with the PCG to provide assistance on the possible needs on the on-going operations.

For information and further instructions.


ALAN L. VALLE



PENRO Tracking No. 2305000830
ISD-CDS/bj



May 29, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The OIC, PENR Officer
Oriental Mindoro

FROM : Bea Natasha R. Fortu
Forester II/Information Officer

SUBJECT : **UPDATES ON THE ON-GOING ACTIVITIES
ATTENDED/PARTICIPATED BY THE DENR ORIENTAL
MINDORO TASK FORCE REGARDING OIL SPILL
OPERATIONS AND RESPONSES**

Kindly be informed that on May 27, 2023, Provincial Governor Humerlito “Bonz” Dolor have conducted a press briefing on the updates regarding oil spill operations. It was discussed that three (3) additional municipalities have been cleared with water contamination (oil and grease), thus lifting the fishing ban in accordance to the fish and water quality testing of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR). Out of the 12 Municipalities and one (1) City affected by the oil spill incident, Naujan, Pola, and Pinamalayan still remain under restrictions on fishing and recreational water activities. These areas are within the 15-kilometer radius from ground zero – the point where the MT Princess Empress sunk.

Furthermore, Governor Dolor announced the arrival of Dynamic Support Vessel (DSV) Fire Opal from Singapore. This vessel will be used in the siphoning of the remaining oil in the sunken vessel. Fire Opal is expected to arrive in Batangas Port on May 29, 2023 and will go straight to ground zero. The operations of the siphoning will last for 20-30 days.

Moreover, the insurance’s compensation and claims were tackled. Governor Dolor expressed that the Insurance Claims Caravan or application for the claims is already on-going in six (6) municipalities. However, he also requested for an interim payment of the compensation claims to those who already completed their application.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Shoreline and Dive Assessment in the Areas Affected by the Oil Spill

Please be informed that the Philippine Coast Guard have already started the conduct of Shoreline and Underwater Assessment in the areas affected by the Oil Spill, specifically Calapan City, Naujan and Pola. The activities in the municipality of Naujan was participated and joined by our personnel on May 16-19, 2023. The results of the assessment shall be released after the completion of the assessment of all areas affected by the incident. Further, another batch of coral assessment is scheduled to be conducted on May 31 to June 14, 2023, headed by the PCG thru the Incident Management Team – Marine Science Technology Team in the areas affected in the municipality of Pola. The PENR Office will be participating to the said activity as observers as our divers are still not allowed to undergo and join the underwater assessment.

Attached are the photo documentation of the activities.

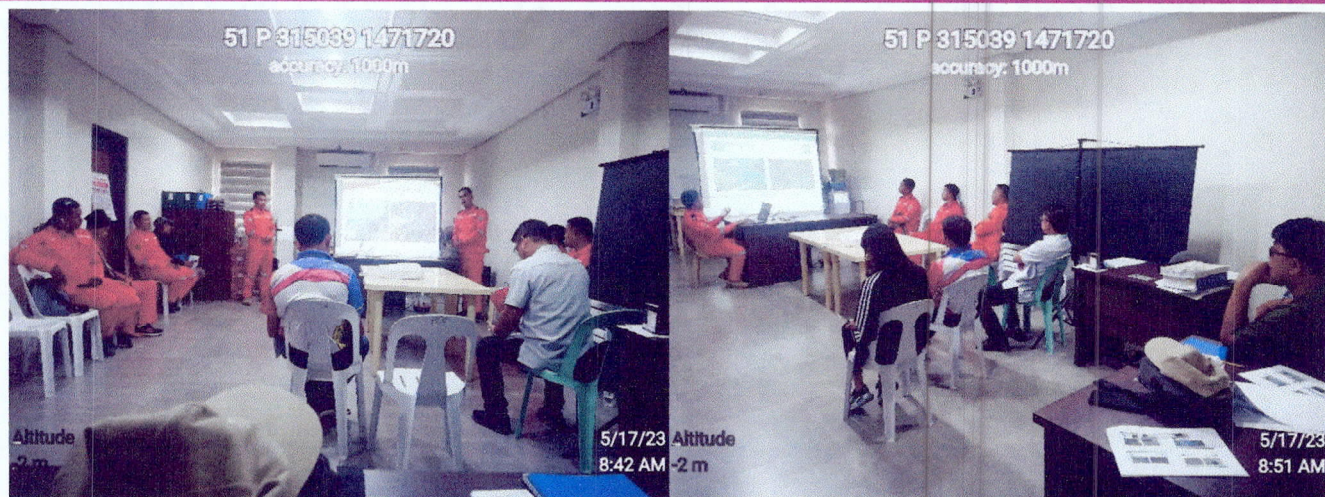


Figure 1.0 Orientation of the Shoreline and Dive Assessment Job Aid for the coastal areas of Naujan affected by the oil spill held by the Philippine Coast Guard



Figure 112 Setup and task distribution of the Shoreline and Dive Assessment Teams for the coastal areas of Naujan affected by the oil spill



Figure 2.1 Shoreline Assessment (left) and water sampling (right) in the coastal areas of Brgy. Melgar A, Naujan



Figure 2.2 Briefing at the residence of Brgy. Melgar A, Naujan regarding the conducted Shoreline Assessment



Figure 3.1 Shoreline Assessment (left) and water sampling (right) in the coastal areas of Brgy. Melgar B, Naujan

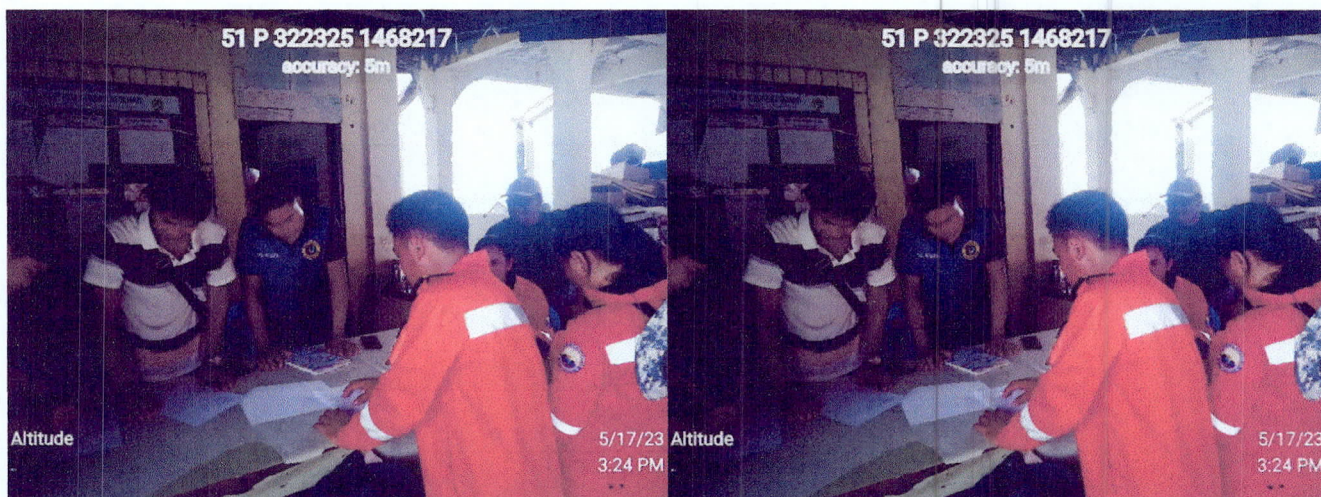


Figure 3.2 Briefing at the Barangay Hall of Melgar B, Naujan regarding the conducted Shoreline Assessment



Figure 4.0 Dive Team Assessment of PCG in the coastal areas of Brgys. Melgar A and Melgar B, Naujan



Participation to the Meeting with the Office of the Civil Defense re Water Quality Sampling in MIMAROPA for Oil Spill Incident

A Zoom meeting called for by the Office of the Civil Defense (OCD) was also attended by this office regarding the issues on the water quality sampling in oil spill affected areas within MIMAROPA region. Present during the said meeting were Director, Joe-Mar Perez, EMB RD Joe Amil Salino, DOH Assistant Secretary Gloria J. Balboa and key officials from the OCD. This meeting was presided by OCD Assistant Secretary Bernardo Rafaelito R. Alejandro IV.

Issues and Concerns Raised:

- The results of the water quality testing from the EMB were not immediately furnished to other concerned agencies. Consequently, there is a delay in the analysis and decision-making that concerns other agencies.
- The DENR EMB MIMAROPA submits the data/results internally to the DENR Task Force, who are the authorized team to disseminate such data
- Release of the water quality results from the DENR EMB MIMAROPA requires a clearance before it can be disseminated to other agencies

Agreements

- Director Joe-Mar Perez shall raise all the concerns to the DENR Task Force as well as to the Secretary
- The results shall be released not later than Thursday of the week, to take time for the other agencies to analyze and prepare necessary advisories/notices. And to be included in the weekly reporting of the Strategic Committee chaired by the OCD

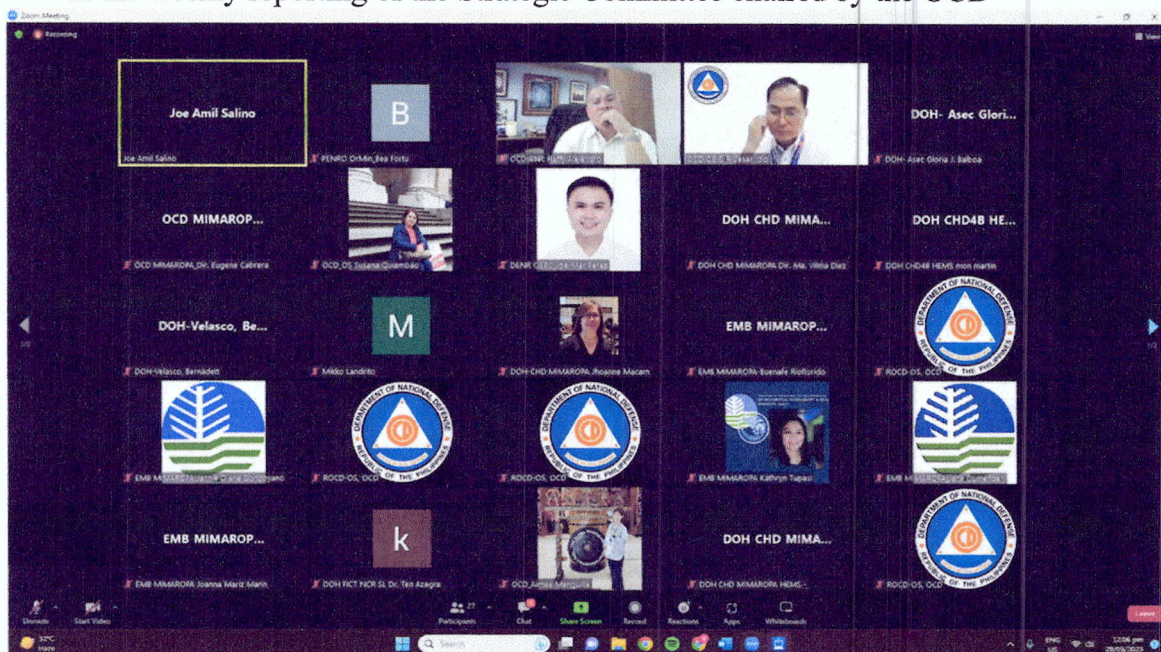


Figure 5.0 Dive Team Assessment of PCG in the coastal areas of Brgys. Melgar A and Melgar B, Naujan



Conduct of Coastal Clean-Up in Barangay Navotas

In celebration of the Month of the Ocean a Coastal Clean-Up was organized and conducted by the PENR Office in Barangay Navotas, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro on May 26, 2023. The said barangay is the closest barangay to where the MT Princess Empress has sunk in Naujan, and one of the barangays that is heavily affected by the oil spill incident. It is on the 3rd week of March when the first sightings of oil sleek was observed in the shorelines of the barangay. In response, an immediate installation of improvised spill booms was conducted by the PCG, DENR EMB and the Barangay.

In this relation, the area chosen for cleanup is an oil spill affected area and has raised problem on the litters caused by the installed improvised spill booms. As a result, a total of 11 large sacks with approximately 15kgs (each sack) in weight was collected within the coastal and mangrove area of the barangay (approximately 200m shore length). Based on the observations, the materials of the installed spill booms such as nets, plastic bottles, ropes were already washed out to the shorelines and mangrove areas and most of it were already buried in the sand. An approximately 200m of improvised spill boom was installed in the area, covering the mangroves. The wastes that have been washed out to the shores were already collected, while those that were buried needs further man-power and preparation on the uninstallation.

It is recommended that uninstallation of the remaining improvised spill booms shall be done immediately before the onset of the typhoons and the Southwest Monsoon.

The PENR Office have immediately coordinated with the PCG on the possible removal of the spill booms and for the follow-up cleanup activity of the said area. The PCG will further notice and advise the PENRO on the definite schedule of the activity. The PCG and the DENR PENRO have already agreed that the PCG shall coordinate and make arrangements with the said Barangay.



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office




BEA NATASHA R. FORTU

INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM - OrMin
Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office Building
Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

26 May 2023

ALLAN L. VALLE
Officer-In-Charge
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

DEAR SIR VALLE;

The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), thru the Incident Management Team-Oriental Mindoro (IMT-OrMin) Marine Science Technician (MST) Team, intends to conduct a coral habitat oiling assessment in the marine waters of Pola in response to the MT Princess Empress oil spill incident.

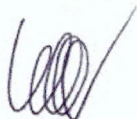
In line with this, IMT-OrMin MST crafted a schedule of the said activities which will commence on 29 May 2023. This will focus on oil coverage on oil stranding on corals which will be joined by various agencies.

In this connection, request is hereby conveyed for the availability of representatives from your good office to join the aforementioned activities.

CG P/ENS MARVIN B MANILLO, Assistant OIC, MST, will coordinate with your cognizant staff for details pertinent thereof or he can be reached thru mobile number +639675042916.

We hope for your kind consideration on our request in line with our common goal in achieving a safe and cleaner marine environment in Oriental Mindoro.

Very truly yours,



CG COMMO GERONIMO B TUVILLA
Incident Commander, IMT-OrMin



INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM CALAPAN
MARINE SCIENCE TECHNICIAN TEAM
 Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

INTER-AGENCY UNDERWATER ASSESSMENT ACTIVITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF POLA

ACTIVITY	SCHEDULED DATE	REMARKS
BRIEFING	31 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A PowerPoint Presentation will be presented for a general understanding of the activity.
MARINE PROTECTED AREAS (MPA'S)	SCHEDULED DATE	REMARKS
BACAWAN	31 May 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Days Frequency is set to have time to prepare all the diving materials. The scheduled date can be moved depending on the weather condition for the safety of all divers.
BUHAY NA TUBIG	2 May 2023	
CALIMA	5 June 2023	
TIGUIHAN	7 June 2023	
PUTING CACAO	9 June 2023	
TAGUMPAY	12 June 2023	
MISONG	14 June 2023	

Prepared by:

CG P/ENS MARVIN B MANILLO
Assistant OIC, MST (IMT Calapan)

Noted by:



CG ENS EDWARD S YEO JR
OIC, MST (IMT Calapan)

MAY 29 2023



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA REGION
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office

May 26, 2023

Hon. LAURO ESCAREZ
Barangay Captain
Barangay, Navotas, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

Dear **Hon. Captain Escarez**:

Makakalikasang araw po!


The DENR PENRO, Oriental Mindoro had conducted Coastal Clean-up activity along the shoreline of Barangay Navotas, early this morning, May 26, 2023. It was observed during our clean-up activity that oil spill boom materials such as plastic bottles, nets, and ropes became waste along the shorelines which coiled and twisted with the branches and roots of mangroves and aroma trees. Also, we noticed that there are waste buried under the sand which are difficult to remove by hand. Further, there were burned spill boom materials which is a violation of clean air act.

Be informed that the DENR personnel alone could not be able to totally clean the area. In this regard, may we request the Barangay to conduct a massive coastal clean-up to remove the remaining waste generated from the spill boom materials.

Your usual support in conserving and protecting our coastal areas is highly appreciated.

Very truly yours,


ENGR. ALAN L. VALLE
OIC-PENR Officer


GITANA, LUKE JOHN PAUL m.
KAGAWAD
8:12 am

TSD/RPS/Dhal

Ilang-ilang St., Sitio II, Suqui, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro
DENR Contact Nos. (043) 288-3017, Tel. Fax No. 288-3006