



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

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RECORDS SECTION  
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JUN 1 2023

May 22, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR** : The Regional Executive Director  
MIMAROPA Region

**FROM** : The OIC - PENRO  
Oriental Mindoro

**SUBJECT** : **REQUEST FOR THE UPDATING OF CONSERVATION AREA  
(CA) AND CHANGING OF CONSERVATION AREA MAP IN  
LAWIN FOREST AND BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION SYSTEM**

Forwarded is the request of CENRO Socorro, Oriental Mindoro regarding the above subject.

Please be informed that CENRO Socorro is requesting for the changing and updating of Conservation Area map in Cybertracker. Be informed that the three (3) Municipalities namely Pinamalayan, Gloria, and Bansud are now under the jurisdiction of CENRO Roxas, Oriental Mindoro.

Attached are documents and compact disc (CD) containing the new Conservation Area map to be uploaded in the SMART server.

For information and consideration.

  
ALAN L. VALLE





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

May 9, 2023

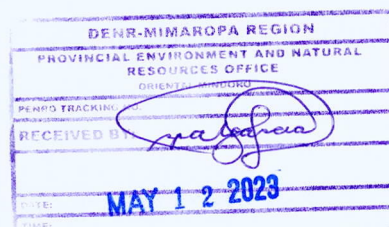
# MEMORANDUM

**FOR** : The Regional Executive Director

**THRU** : The OIC - PENRO

**FROM** : The CENR Officer

**SUBJECT** : **REQUEST FOR THE UPDATING OF CONSERVATION AREA (CA) AND CHANGING OF CONSERVATION AREA MAP IN LAWIN FOREST AND BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION SYSTEM (LFBPS)**



Relative to the continuous protection of our forest areas, may we request for the change of CENRO Socorro's CA size from 79,731.79 hectares to 117,647.77 hectares and replacement of the current map in LFBPS corresponding to our area of responsibility.

Please be informed that the current CA is based on 2010 forest cover and there's already an updated 2020 version. May we request that the three (3) municipalities namely Pinamalayan, Gloria and Bansud be removed from our CA and that all our forestlands in our area of jurisdiction be covered with the new CA. With this, were hoping that it will be given consideration and will be changed.

Attached are the printed copy of revised Forest Conservation Area Plan and map, and compact disk containing electronic copy of the proposed new CA.

For information and consideration.

*For and in the absence of CENR Officer,*

**RICARDO R. NATIVIDAD**  
Senior EcoMS/In-charge, Office of the CENRO



May 9, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR** : The CENR Officer

**THRU** : The Chief, MES  
The Unit Head, Enforcement Unit

**FROM** : The Lawin Data Manager

**SUBJECT** : **REQUEST FOR THE UPDATING OF CONSERVATION AREA (CA) AND CHANGING OF CONSERVATION AREA MAP IN LAWIN FOREST AND BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION SYSTEM (LFBPS)**

As part of continuous protection and security for our forest areas, may we request for the updating of CENRO Socorro's CA from its former size of 79,731.79 hectares into 117,647.77 hectares. Changes in this year's size is due to the inclusion of areas not part of the current CA but is part of forestland while the same request made last year was due to DAO 2021-30.

Please be informed that the current CA only covers a part and not all of forestland and is based on 2010 forest cover. Also, there's already updated forest cover of 2020 and an incoming update of CA is inevitable. Further, were hoping that it will be given consideration and that the CA map of CENRO Socorro in LFBPS be changed as soon as possible.

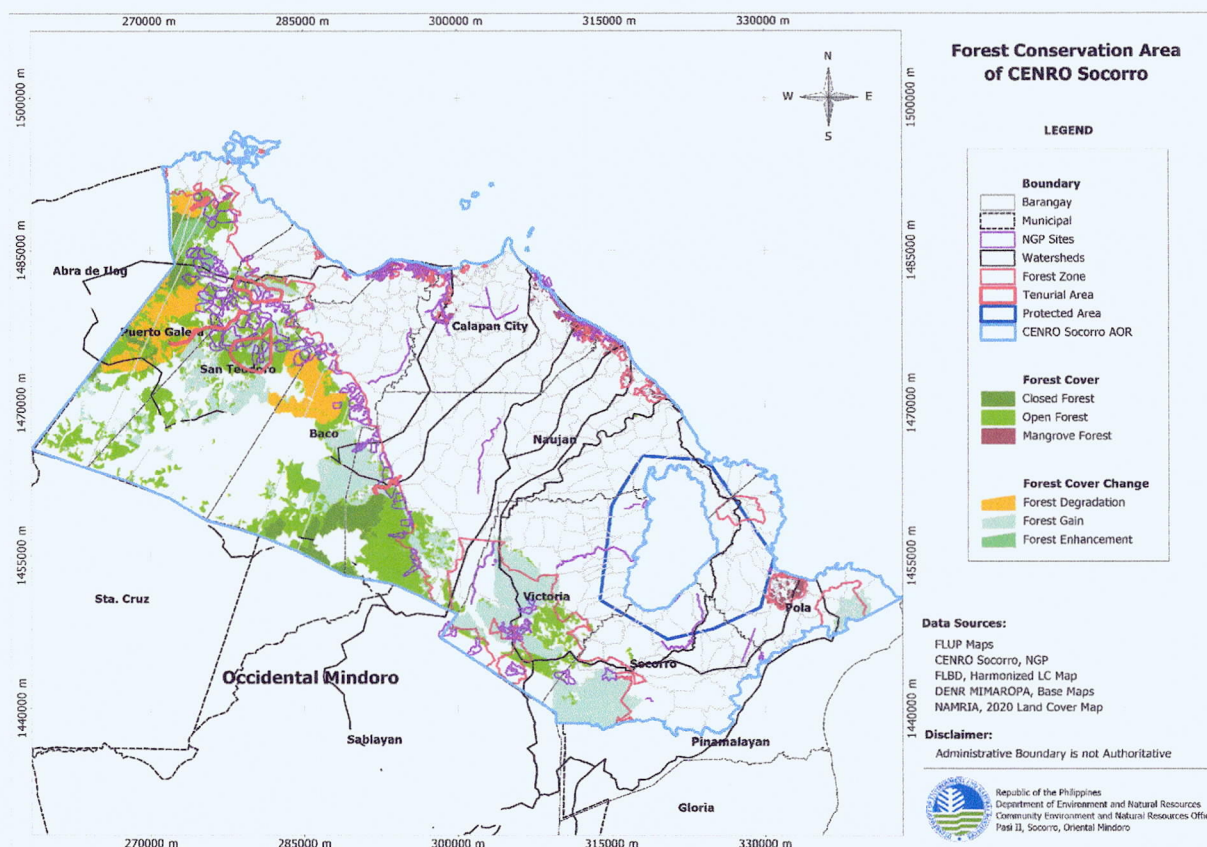
Attached are the printed copy of revised Forest Conservation Area Plan and map, and compact disk containing electronic copy of the proposed new CA.

For information and further instruction, if any.

  
**ADRIAN V. CATUD**



## Forest Protection Plan for CENRO Socorro Map



### General Data

Location:	Puerto Galera, San Teodoro, Baco, Calapan City, Naujan, Victoria, Socorro and Pola
Total Conservation Area:	117,647.77 hectares
Closed Forest:	3,677.56 hectares
Open Forest:	52,513.61 hectares
Forestland:	91,126.18 hectares
Mangrove Forest:	2,153.03 hectares
NGP (2011-2018):	8,611.48 hectares
CBFMAs:	1,710.18 hectares
NLNP:	22,061.33 hectares
Resource Manager/s:	CENRO, Chief MES & Enforcement Unit, MLGU/BLGU and other Law Enforcement Units, and IP groups
Data Manager:	FT I Adrian Catud
Patrol Organizer(s):	CENRO Rodel M. Boyles, MES Chief Ricardo R. Natividad, Enforcement Unit Head Leonida A. Mindaros
Number of Patrollers:	Total of 18 patrollers (11 Forest Rangers, and 7 Forest Protection Officers)



## Area Description

The remaining natural forest in CENRO Socorro is located specifically along the mountain ranges within the municipalities of Puerto Galera, San Teodoro, Baco, Naujan, Socorro, Victoria, Pola. These forest areas reach up to the boundary of Occidental Mindoro covering the watersheds namely Baco-Bucayao, Bucayao River, Mag-asawang Tubig, and Pula River Watershed. The elevation reaches from 100 to 1500 masl with the slopes of the natural forest classified from steep to very steep slopes. Some important features include the Tamaraw Falls and Mt. Malasimbo in Puerto Galera, Mag-asawang Tubig river in Victoria and Naujan, Naujan Lake in Municipalities of Naujan, Victoria, Socorro and Pola, and Mt. Halcon in Baco and San Teodoro.

Furthermore, the forest also serves as home for the indigenous people which are generally referred to as “Mangyan”. They are further sub-divided into six tribes but only the Alangan (living in San Teodoro, Baco and Naujan), Iraya (Puerto Galera and San Teodoro) and Tadyawan (Victoria, Socorro, Pola, Pinamalayan and Gloria) were living within the jurisdiction of CENRO Socorro while the Taubuid (Pinamalayan and Gloria), Bangun and Buhid (Bansud) are not. These tribes directly benefit from the numerous ecosystem services that they got from the forest area such as water and food resources. Thus, the Mangyans serve as the “de-facto” stewards of the natural forest in the area.

## Forest Condition

The data of the remaining forest within the CENRO jurisdiction are based on the forest cover change analysis by B+WISER in 2014, the actual observation of the area and the 2020 land cover map of NAMRIA. The forest types observed in the area are tropical semi-evergreen forests in most parts and mossy forest (tropical upper montane forest) at high elevations of Mt. Halcon, Mt. Malasimbo and Mt. Sinai. The forest is dominated by Mayapis (*Shorea palosapis*), Tanguile (*Shorea polysperma*), Quisumbing Gisok (*Hopea quisumbingiana*), Malugai (*Pometia pinnata*) and Dao (*Dracontomelon dao*), among others. Exotic species such as Falcata (*Albizia falcataria*) and Mahogany (*Swietenia macrophylla*) can also be found at lower portions of Naujan, Baco and San Teodoro.

However, based on data on forest cover change from NAMRIA from 2003-2010 (no available data for 2010-2020), it was observed that forest degradation is prevalent in the area and 8,496 ha of forest are degraded. These are mainly due to kaingin, historically logged-over areas, timber poaching and small-scale mining (portions of San Teodoro and Puerto Galera). The remaining intact portions of the forest are concentrated in the less accessible areas especially in steep slopes. In intact areas, closed forests are found with dense vegetation with multiple layers of trees at various ages. In open areas, which have been left undisturbed for several years, abundant natural regeneration particularly of pioneer species are observed.

Moreover, the forest serves as habitat to the remaining endemic and threatened floral and faunal diversity in the area belonging to the groups of herps, aves and mammals as well as critically endangered species like the Tamaraw (*Bubalus mindorensis*). As part of the LAWIN Forest and Biodiversity Protection System, wildlife that indicates good forest health were identified to aid in the analysis of the state of the remaining forest in the area. These so-called indicator species that were identified for Oriental Mindoro are the following: a) Black-hooded coucal (*Centropus steeri*), Mindoro hornbill (*Penelopides mindorensis*), Mindoro



racket-tail (*Prioniturus mindorensis*), Mindoro imperial pigeon (*Ducula mindorensis*), Philippine hawk eagle (*Nisaetus philippensis*), Pink-bellied imperial pigeon (*Ducula poliocephala*), Yellow-breasted fruit dove (*Ptilinopus occipitalis*) and Mindoro warty pig (*Sus Oliveri*). Some of which are now rarely seen in the area.

### **Conservation Objectives**

The natural forest within the CENRO's jurisdiction needs to be conserved and protected to ensure that there's : (a) sustainable water quality and sufficient supply for irrigation, hydro-power plants, domestic households as well as Naujan Lake National Park; (b) maintainable and continuous livelihood and eco-tourism activities in the area for both local and national visitors; (c) habitat for the numerous endemic and threatened floral and faunal diversity such as the above mentioned indicator species and increase in the population of the Tamaraw be obtained; and (d) abated effects of destructive phenomena such as landslides, rockslides, mudslides and flash floods especially to the local communities.

### **Conservation Targets**

All Flora and Fauna found within the forest zone shall be conserved, protected, maintained and rehabilitated. Considering the climate type prevailing within the jurisdiction of the CENRO which is Type IV characterized by no distinct dry and wet season or the rainfall is evenly distributed throughout the year, natural regeneration of forest can be achieved easily, thus trees or patches of forest can be found even in open forest, grass land and other areas of the forest land. Since there was a proposal by the B+WISER in 2014 to include these areas to be patrolled and not only the conservation target areas, it is appropriate to include all forestland to be part of the whole conservation area as it needs protection and conservation.

In order to meet the conservation objectives, the continuous growing of closed multi-layered forests which are 3,677.56 hectares will be maintained and protected, open forest will also be protected and, if possible, will be rehabilitated while the forest loss and degradation shall be reduced by 30% within the next 5 years. Production forest shall also be developed for agro-forestry purposes as source of livelihood opportunities that includes fruit, honey, rattan and other non-timber forest products production as one of the strategies to protect and reduce stress to natural forest. Thus, there will be less or no net forest loss. Moreover, incidence of kaingin, forest fires, illegal logging, charcoal making and small-scale mining will be reduced by 30%.

### **Desired Future Forest Condition**

A closed forest having good infiltration and water retention capacities providing sustainable water source to springs that delivers potable water for irrigation and domestic use throughout the year. In addition, these forests shall also provide other ecosystem services such as food, climate amelioration, serve as habitat for wildlife especially those that are critically endangered, and as sustainable source of water for tourism and hydro-power plant projects. Maintained and growing closed multi-layered canopy forest protected from illegal activities. The predominant species consist of Dipterocarp species in closed canopy forest and pioneer species are thriving in open canopy portions. Increase in the number of threatened and critically endangered flora and fauna species. There is sustainable production of timber and non-timber forest products from production forests.



## Management Interventions and Responsibilities

In order to reduce degradation and the incidence of destructive practices within the natural forest, the LAWIN forest and biodiversity protection system (LFBPS) was implemented starting in August 2016. From then on, regular patrolling (at least 50 km per month) shall be carried out following a specific patrol plan by teams of forest rangers, forest protection officers and other patrollers, particularly in areas exhibiting degradation resulting from kaingin and illegal logging. This is done in order to reduce and monitor the number of incidences of these threats. The patrol plan will be developed by the CENRO representatives together with their forest rangers and will be updated on a quarterly basis to ensure sufficient patrol coverage of the forestland over time. The forest rangers will be organized in patrol teams consisting of at least four members each and deployed in specific patrol sectors (at least 2 patrol sectors).

Afterwards, data collected thru the patrols shall be analyzed and reported by the designated Lawin Data Manager of the PENRO/CENRO/LGUs on a monthly basis through reports created after the data have been submitted by the patrollers. These reports contain observation records on threat and indicator species sightings supported by geotagged pictures and maps, if possible, for special analysis. The responses to be implemented on unaddressed observed threats will be decided upon by CENRO or his/her representative and/or respective LGUs, if any, after the report has been submitted. Trends of indicator species, forest condition and threats will be assessed on a quarterly basis against the conservation targets to ensure achievement of the conservation objectives within the next 5 years.

The following table provides an overview of the above described interventions with the corresponding recommended resources needed required.

Table 1: Table of Interventions

Intervention	Timeframe/ frequency	Responsible	Required resources	Amount (Php)	Source
<b>Patrolling</b>	January to December (based on the patrol plan per quarter)	FRs, FT 1, and FPOs	Travelling Allowance, (e.g. Motorcycle/ gasoline expenses and transportation);	<b>₱2,500/month/ patroller</b> (₱660/day; FPOs excluded)	CENRO Budget and/or PENRO, RO, FMB
			Equipment (tablets, power bank, radio for communication)	Brand New VHF portable radio at ₱21,000/unit*5; Brand new VHF fixed base radio at ₱100,000/unit; Android Tablet at ₱15,000/unit*10; Power bank at ₱2,000/unit*10;	

<b>Data Management</b>	January to December (Monthly reporting and/or whenever data/ reports are needed)	Designated Data Manager	Computer/ Laptop, Printer, Wi-Fi (modem) or internet allowance and External Drives (Data Storage)	<b>₱80,000.00</b> (₱50,000 for laptop; ₱10,000 for printer; ₱4,000 for external drive; ₱1,000-₱1,500 per month of internet plan)	CENRO Budget and/or PENRO, RO, FMB
			Supplies (e.g. bond paper and printer inks, fastener/combo ring, clear folder) for reporting	<b>₱3,000.00</b>	CENRO budget
<b>Data review and Response to observed threats</b>	January to December	Resource Managers	Operations (apprehensions, confiscations, investigation, filing of complaints and prosecution)	<b>₱100,000.00</b> /year	CENRO budget
<b>Hiring/ deployment of Bantay Gubat or Forest Protection Officers (FPO) and/or Project Support Staff</b>	January to December	Resource Managers	Payment for Wages	<b>₱714,000.00</b> Wages (7pax * ₱8,500/mo.)	CENRO budget
<b>Conduct of IEC</b>	January to December	LGU's and other concerned stakeholders, PENRO and CENRO personnel	Payment for Expenses	<b>₱40,000.00</b> (1 meeting/ year)	CENRO budget
<b>Conduct of trainings/ seminars for newly appointed forest protection officers</b>	January to December	Forest Protection Officers, RD/ Enforcement Division, PENRO and CENRO	Payment for Expenses	<b>₱20,000.00</b>	CENRO budget
<b>TOTAL (2021)</b>				<b>₱1,752,000.00</b>	

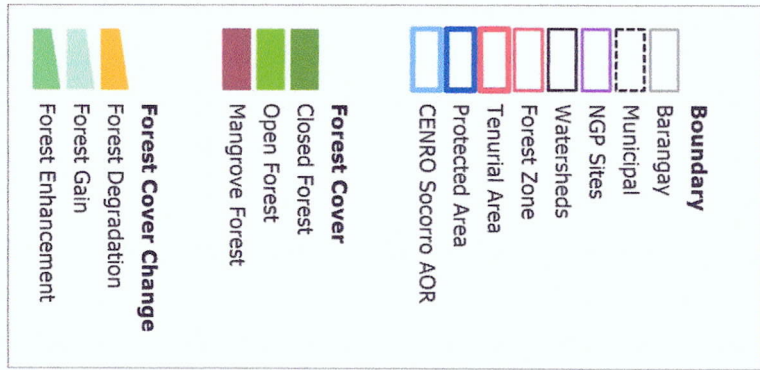


## **Implementation Arrangements**

CENRO-Socorro will utilize the Forest Rangers and Forest Protection Officers for patrolling and some personnel like Foresters and Forest Technicians for data management and other operations under LAWIN. On the other hand, the MENROs from the 10 municipalities will encourage to employ forest guards/ranger/protection officers for patrolling and forest protection which may come from the local communities living in the uplands especially the IPs. These forest protectors will augment the teams of forest rangers that will be involved during patrolling, planning and execution. Patrollers from the CENRO will conduct patrolling based on the patrol plan. Moreover, the patrollers must coordinate before and after patrolling to the respective agency/LGUs for the conduct of patrolling and as part of addressing the observed threats. Afterwards, the data manager will address the threats thru the Lawin Forest and Biodiversity Protection System based on the submitted patrol reports, then make use of the SMART Connect option to regularly sync patrol data and reports to the server to ease data/report review and collection either from the PENRO, Regional Office and the DENR-Forest Management Bureau.

# Forest Conservation Area of CENRO Socorro

## LEGEND



## Data Sources:

FLUP Maps  
CENRO Socorro, NGP  
FLBD, Harmonized LC Map  
DENR MIMAROPA, Base Maps  
NAMRIA, 2020 Land Cover Map

## Disclaimer:

Administrative Boundary is not Authoritative



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Pasti II, Socorro, Oriental Mindoro

