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**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**





# DENR: Dolomite beach fit for swimming by 2022

[Rhodina Villanueva](#) - The Philippine Star November 7, 2021 | 12:00am



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources held a soft opening of the Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach along Roxas Boulevard on October 16, 2021.

KJ Rosales, file

MANILA, Philippines — While the Manila Bay dolomite beach has been temporarily closed to the public, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will focus on improving the bay's water quality to make it fit for swimming by 2022, officials said yesterday.

“We will focus on cleaning the waters of Manila Bay so that the public, apart from visiting the dolomite beach, can also bathe and swim in the near future,” DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Jonas Leones said.

The DENR-led Manila Bay Task Force (MBTF) will work out a plan for the drainage system of Manila Baywalk's Padre Faura, Remedios and Abad outfalls, he said.

Leones added that wastewater originating from houses and industries will be diverted to the sewage treatment plant, while floodwaters will be coursed through a high-density polyethylene pipe that is 400 meters long from the seawall.

“We will also work on the outfall near the dolomite beach rock garden where there's a high fecal coliform level, according to our Environmental Management Bureau-National Capital Region (EMB-NCR),” Leones said.

“All of these activities are targeted to be completed this year or in the first quarter of 2022 considering possible changes on the alert level status of the NCR,” he added.

DENR-NCR regional executive director Jacqueline Caancan said that as of Oct. 25, the dolomite beach area has a coliform level of 22,000 most probable number per 100 milliliters (MPN/100 mL).

Caancan pointed out that improving the water quality and keeping fecal coliform levels low have been “challenging” tasks.

Leones said water quality in the dolomite area needs to be addressed immediately to achieve the standard level of 100 MPN/100 ml to make it “swimmable.”

He cited significant improvements in the coliform level, which now only ranges from hundreds to thousands as compared to millions or billions prior to the rehabilitation of Manila Bay.



Leones said the MBTF will start the second phase of the project soon and aims to finish it within the year.

It includes installing geo-engineering structures such as geotubes to cover 360 meters of beach area and the overlay of dolomite sand and pebbles to complete the 500-meter area of the beach.

The MBTF will come up with guidelines for visitors who will take pictures outside the beach area to prevent possible overcrowding.

Leones said the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority is conducting minor repairs on the footbridge leading to the beach area to maintain its structural integrity and ensure the safety of the public.

Other plans include the construction of a beach and fishing area near the Manila Yacht Club to serve as a swimming area and playground for children.

The construction of two solar-powered restrooms, a mandamus office, souvenir hub and lighting and landscaping works along the Manila Baywalk are also targeted to be completed this year.

“We’ll do our best to finish these before the holiday season,” said DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units’ Concerns Benny Antiporda.

“Let’s see how our situation will progress since we are in a fragile situation due to the pandemic. But with the decreasing numbers of COVID-19 cases in the country, we are optimistic that we can reopen within the year,” he said.



# DENR cites key to Manila Bay rehab

By [Eireene Jairee Gomez](#) November 7, 2021



Fenced off People walk near the dolomite beach in Manila Bay on Wednesday, Nov. 3, 2021. The beach was closed to the public while rehabilitation work continues. PHOTO BY JOHN RYAN BALDEMOR

THE [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#) (DENR) said on Saturday it would focus on improving the quality of water in [Manila Bay](#).

"We would focus on cleaning the waters of Manila Bay so that the public not only can visit the [dolomite beach](#) but also bathe and swim in the near future," DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs [Jonas Leones](#) said in a news conference.

Leones said part of the plan is to realign the Manila Baywalk's drainage system outfalls in Padre [Faura](#), Remedios and Abad so that wastewater originating from houses and industries will be diverted to a sewage treatment plant. Floodwater, meanwhile, would be coursed through a 400- meter high-density polyethylene pipe from the sea wall.

"We will also work out on the outfall near the Dolomite Beach Rock Garden where there's a high fecal coliform level according to our Environmental Management Bureau-National Capital Region ([NCR](#))," Leones said.

"All of these activities would be completed this year or in the first quarter of 2022 considering possible changes on the alert level status of the NCR," he added.

DENR-NCR [Regional Executive Director Jacqueline Caancan](#) reported that as of October 25, the water in the dolomite beach area has a coliform level of 22,000 mpn per 100 milliliters (mpn/100 ml). She said the goal is to achieve the standard "swimmable" level of 100 mpn/100 ml.

"We would do our best to finish these within the year before the holiday season," said DENR Undersecretary for Solid [Waste Management](#) and Local Government Unit Concerns [Benny Antiporda](#).

Following basic rehabilitation, the DENR would start the second phase of project that includes installation of geo-engineering structures like geotubes to enclose the 360 meters of beach area, additional overlay of dolomite sand and pebbles, a beach and fishing area near the Manila Yacht Club, construction of two solar-powered comfort rooms, mandamus office, souvenir hub, and lighting and landscaping works.

Source: [https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/11/07/news/national/denr-says-efficient-drainage-system-key-to-manila-bay-rehab/1821242?fbclid=IwAR14vvFS57ih9tcgGQh8XXH3DcGS47ZgN-utlrPOdl\\_7-yPTgdwdltLHBU8](https://www.manilatimes.net/2021/11/07/news/national/denr-says-efficient-drainage-system-key-to-manila-bay-rehab/1821242?fbclid=IwAR14vvFS57ih9tcgGQh8XXH3DcGS47ZgN-utlrPOdl_7-yPTgdwdltLHBU8)



# DENR to focus on improving Manila Bay's water quality

Published November 6, 2021, 1:51 PM

by [Joseph Pedrajas](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will prioritize the improvement of Manila Bay's water quality before reopening the Dolomite beach.

In a statement Saturday, Nov. 6, DENR Usec. Jonas Leones reiterated that the agency will focus on cleaning the waters so the public can not only step on the Dolomite beach but also swim in its waters.

He added that the DENR-led Manila Bay Task Force (MBTF) will work out a plan for the drainage system of Manila Baywalk's outfalls in Padre Faura, Remedios, and Abad.

He said the wastewater originating from houses and industries will be diverted to the sewage treatment plant, while floodwater will be coursed through a huge HDPE (high-density polyethylene) pipe that is 400 meters long from the sea wall.

"All of these activities will be completed this year or in the first quarter of 2022, considering possible changes on the alert level status of the NCR," Leones said.

As of October 25, the waters in the Dolomite beach have a coliform level of 22,000 mpn (most probable number) per 100 milliliters, said DENR National Capital Region Executive Director Jacqueline Caanacan.

Caanacan admitted that improving the water quality and maintaining it to a low fecal coliform has been a "challenging" task.

Leones added that the water quality in the dolomite area needs to be addressed immediately to achieve the standard level of 100 MPN/100 ml to make it "swimmable."

But he cited significant improvements in the coliform level, which now only ranges from hundreds to thousands, compared to millions or billions before the rehabilitation of Manila Bay.

In a recent press conference, DENR said the Manila Baywalk Dolomite Beach will remain closed to the public for the second phase of its rehabilitation works.





## Sorry folks! DENR says Manila Bay's water quality improvement prioritized before Dolomite Beach reopening

NOV 6, 2021, 4:46 PM

Santiago Celario  
Writer

***THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has committed to focus its efforts toward the improvement of the Manila Bay's water quality before reopening the Dolomite Beach along Roxas Boulevard in Manila.***

"We will focus on cleaning the waters of Manila Bay so that the public not only can visit the Dolomite Beach but also bathe and swim in the near future," DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Jonas R. Leones said in a press conference.

Leones said the DENR-led Manila Bay Task Force (MBTF) will work out a plan for the drainage system of Manila Baywalk's outfalls in Padre Faura, Remedios, and Abad.

He noted that the wastewater originating from houses and industries will be diverted to the sewage treatment plant, while floodwater will be coursed through a huge HDPE (high-density polyethylene) pipe that is 400 meters long from the sea wall.

"We will also work out on the outfall near the Dolomite Beach Rock Garden where there's a high fecal coliform level according to our Environmental Management Bureau-National Capital Region (EMB-NCR)," Leones said.

"All of these activities will be completed this year or in the first quarter of 2022 considering possible changes on the alert level status of the NCR," he added.

Meanwhile DENR-NCR Regional Executive Director Jacqueline A. Caancan cited that as of October 25, the Dolomite Beach area has a coliform level of 22,000 mpn per 100 milliliters (MPN/100 mL).

Caancan pointed out that improving the water quality and maintaining it to a low fecal coliform has been a "challenging" task.

Leones added that the water quality in the dolomite area needs to be addressed immediately to achieve the standard level of 100 MPN/100 ml to make it "swimmable."

While closed, the MBTF will be coming up with guidelines to those who would like to take pictures outside the beach area to prevent possible overcrowding.



Moreover, the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority is undergoing minor repairs in the footbridge leading to the beach area to further maintain its structural integrity and ensure the safety of the public.

The Phase 2 of the Dolomite project will start soon and is targeted to be finished within the year.

It includes installing geo-engineering structures such as geotubes to cover 360 meters of beach area and the overlay of dolomite sand and pebbles to complete the 500 meters area of the beach.

The establishment of two solar-powered comfort rooms, mandamus office, souvenir hub, and lighting and landscaping works along the Manila Baywalk are also targeted to be completed this year.

"We'll do our best to finish these within the year before the holiday season," said DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda.

Antiporda added: "Let's see how our situation will progress since we are in a fragile situation due to the pandemic. But with the decreasing numbers of COVID-19 cases in the country, we are optimistic that we can reopen within the year."(Santiago Celario)



## Kalidad ng tubig sa Manila Bay pagagandahin ng DENR



November 6, 2021 @ 2:03 PM 16 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – UPANG panatilihin malinis ang kalidad ng tubig sa Manila Bay, ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ay nangako na itutuon ang pagsisikap sa pagpapabuti ng kalidad ng tubig sa Manila Bay bago muling buksan ang Dolomite Beach sa kahabaan ng Roxas Boulevard sa Maynila.

“Tutuon tayo sa paglilinis ng tubig ng Manila Bay para hindi lang mabisita ng publiko ang Dolomite Beach kundi maligo at lumangoy din sa malapit na hinaharap,” DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Jonas R. Leones said in a recent press conference.

Sinabi ni Leones na gagawa ng plano ang Manila Bay Task Force (MBTF) na pinamumunuan ng DENR para sa drainage system ng mga labasan ng Manila Baywalk sa Padre Faura, Remedios, at Abad.

Sinabi niya na ang wastewater na nagmumula sa mga bahay at industriya ay idi-divert sa sewage treatment plant, habang ang tubig-baha ay dadaan sa isang malaking HDPE (high-density polyethylene) pipe na 400 metro ang haba mula sa sea wall.

“We will also work out on the outfall near the Dolomite Beach Rock Garden where there’s a high fecal coliform level according to our Environmental Management Bureau-National Capital Region (EMB-NCR),” ani Leones.

Samantala, binanggit ni DENR-NCR Regional Executive Director Jacqueline A. Caancan na noong Oktubre 25, ang Dolomite Beach area ay may coliform level na 22,000 mpn kada 100 mililitro (MPN/100 mL).

Dagdag pa ni Leones, kailangang matugunan kaagad ang kalidad ng tubig sa dolomite area para makamit ang standard level na 100 MPN/100 ml para maging “swimmable.”

Ang Phase 2 ng Dolomite project ay magsisimula sa lalong madaling panahon at naka-target na matapos sa loob ng taon.

Kabilang dito ang pag-install ng mga istrukturang geo-engineering tulad ng mga geotube upang masakop ang 360 metrong lugar ng beach at ang overlay ng dolomite na buhangin at mga pebbles upang makumpleto ang 500 metrong lugar ng beach.

Ang pagtatayo ng dalawang solar-powered comfort rooms, mandamus office, souvenir hub, at lighting at landscaping works sa kahabaan ng Manila Baywalk ay target ding matapos ngayong taon.





“We’ll do our best to finish these within the year before the holiday season,” said DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda.

Idinagdag ni Antiporda: “Tingnan natin kung paano uunlad ang ating sitwasyon dahil tayo ay nasa isang marupok na sitwasyon dahil sa pandemya. Ngunit sa pagbaba ng bilang ng mga kaso ng COVID-19 sa bansa, umaasa kami na maaari kaming magbukas muli sa loob ng taon. **(Santi Celario)**



# Pagpapahusay sa kalidad ng tubig sa Manila Bay, prayoridad ng DENR

By [Angie dela Cruz](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - November 7, 2021 - 12:00am



People gather at the artificial white sand beach along the shore of Manila Bay.  
The STAR / Miguel De Guzman

## Bago buksan ang Dolomite Beach

MANILA, Philippines — Tinutukan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang pagpapabuti sa kalidad ng tubig sa Manila Bay bago buksang muli ng ahensiya ang Dolomite Beach sa Roxas Boulevard sa Maynila.

Ayon kay DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Jonas R. Leones, gagawa ng mga plano sa drainage system ng Manila Baywalk outfalls sa may Padre Faura, Remedios at Abad sa pamamagitan ng Manila Bay Task Force ng DENR.

Aniya, ang wastewater na nagmumula sa mga bahay at industriya ay ililihis sa sewage treatment plant habang ang tubig baha naman ay mapupunta sa malaking HDPE (high-density polyethylene) pipe na may habang 400 metro mula sa sea wall.

“We will also work out on the outfall near the Dolomite Beach Rock Garden where there’s a high fecal coliform level according to our Environmental Management Bureau-National Capital Region (EMB-NCR),” sabi ni Leones.

Anyang mga aktibidad na ito ay makukumpleto bago matapos ang taong ito o sa unang tatlong buwan ng 2022.

Una nang iniulat ng DENR na noong Oktubre 25, ang coliform level sa Dolomite Beach area ay umabot na lamang sa 22,000 mpn per 100 milliliters (MPN/100 mL)

Ayon kay Leones, ang water quality sa Dolomite Beach area ay kinakailangang tutukan upang makamit ang hinahangad na standard level na 100 MPN/100 ml kung saan ay maaari na itong maging “swimmable.”

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/pilipino-star-ngayon/metro/2021/11/07/2139556/pagpapahusay-sa-kalidad-ng-tubig-sa-manila-bay-prayoridad-ng-denr/amp/>

# DENR, tiniyak na priyoridad ang water quality improvement ng Manila Bay bago muling buksan sa publiko

By [RadyoMaN Manila](#) -Nov. 6, 2021 at 3:00pm



Priyoridad ngayon ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang paglilinis sa katubigan ng Manila Bay bago muling buksan sa publiko ang Dolomite Beach sa bahagi ng Roxas Boulevard sa lungsod ng Maynila.

Ayon kay DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Jonas Leones, layon nilang makapaligo o makapaglangoy sa Dolomite Beach ang mga bibisita roon.

Ani Leones, tinatrabaho nila ngayon ang paglalagay ng drainage system sa Manila Baywalk na bahagi ng Padre Faura, Remedios at Abad.

Aniya, ang mga wastewater na dumadaloy mula sa mga kabahayan at industriya ay padadaluyin sa sewage treatment plant habang ang floodwater ay padaraanin sa high-density polyethylene pipe na may habang 400 meters mula sa sea wall.

Lahat aniya ng aktibidad na ito ay targetna makumpleto sa first quarter of 2022 kasabay ng posibleng pagbabago sa alert level status sa NCR.

Source: [https://rmn.ph/denr-tiniyak-na-priyoridad-ang-water-quality-improvement-ng-manila-bay-bago-muling-buksan-sa-publiko/?fbclid=IwAR1r\\_IV1M6m4yyFa6kQHa7HZUL7QIVTsTXapUybtsussZSfGQeYhHWx2TGs](https://rmn.ph/denr-tiniyak-na-priyoridad-ang-water-quality-improvement-ng-manila-bay-bago-muling-buksan-sa-publiko/?fbclid=IwAR1r_IV1M6m4yyFa6kQHa7HZUL7QIVTsTXapUybtsussZSfGQeYhHWx2TGs)





## Dismantling of illegal fishing structure in Cavite started

Published November 6, 2021, 2:19 PM

by [Joseph Pedrajas](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has started the dismantling of illegal aquaculture structures in Cavite as part of government's efforts for the Manila Bay rehabilitation amid opposition from fisherfolk.

DENR was joined by the Philippine Coast Guard and the local government of Cavite City in removing "sapra" or abandoned fish traps made of bamboo with "superlight" to attract fish.

Tall bamboo structures were demolished starting Thursday, Nov. 4, while fishing paraphernalia, including improvised superlight and wide fishing nets with smaller holes, were recovered during the operation.

"Just like what we've said a long time ago, our first objective is to see is to believe. No more floating debris here in Manila Bay, that is our target," DENR Usec. Benny Antiporda said in a statement Saturday, adding that debris from the fishing structures in Cavite City are washed as



Bacoor City Agriculture Office/DENR/MANILA BULLETIN

"These (sabras) majorly contribute to the floating debris washed towards the baywalk area," he said, "Come typhoons, they (operators) are just waiting for it to be destroyed and when destroyed they do not fix it, instead they bring in and install new set of bamboos."

The DENR official also alleged that some sapra operators, who are big business owners, immediately abandoned the structures before their operation as they were "aware that they have violated laws and cases shall be filed against them when caught."

Meanwhile, the DENR official stressed that inter-agency coordination is being undertaken to address the concerns of smaller fishing communities in Cavite City that have been affected by the illegal fishing operations.

Various groups and fisherfolk living in the coastal communities of Cavite recently held protest actions to oppose the agency's dismantling activity.

They said the project would only displace at least 15,000 residents whose livelihood depends on mussel and oyster farming in the area and doubted the agency's intention by saying the order is only a "prelude to massive reclamation projects that are meant to wipe out not only the fishing structures but also the fishing villages along Manila Bay."

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/11/06/dismantling-of-illegal-fishing-structure-in-cavite-started/>



UNTV News and Rescue

14h · 🌐



Bilang bahagi ng Manila Bay rehab, ipagpapatuloy ang paggiba sa mga ilegal na istruktura sa lugar.

See Translation



YOUTUBE.COM

**450 Illegal structures sa Manila Bay, nakatakdang gibain ng DENR**

Bilang bahagi ng Manila Bay rehab, ipagpapatuloy ang paggiba sa mga ilegal na istruktura sa l...

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# DENR Turns To Open-Pit Mining As Government Scrambles For Funds

Regina Lay November 2, 2021

Four years ago, President Duterte said the country “can live” without mining.



The Philippine STAR file photo shows open-pit mining in the country.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is moving to finalize a draft order that will lift the ban on open-pit mining, undoing the work of late secretary Gina Lopez.

DENR Undersecretary Jonas Leones told One News’ “BusinessWorld Live” on Monday, Nov. 1, that they’ve just finished a review of the order with the technical working group (TWG).

*“There were lots of comments and they are now incorporating all these comments,” Leones said. “After this TWG, we will be subjecting this draft to consultation with different stakeholders, mining chambers and NGOs and see how we can move forward [with] this open-pit mining methodology.”*

This is the second measure the Duterte administration has taken this year to embrace the mining industry.

In April, through Executive Order No. 130, it lifted a nine-year-old moratorium on new mining licenses – marking a U-turn from its early stance on mining.

“We need to because of the pandemic,” Leones said. “We need to take advantage of these mineral resources and ensure that we can move forward [with] our economy.”

Anti-mining group Alyansa Tigil Mina contests this idea.

“Our data, whether we look at the past three years or if we stretch it to the last 30 years, [show] the economic contributions of mining [have] been insignificant,” Jaybee Garganera, National Coordinator for Alyansa Tigil Mina, told One News. “Wala pa sa --- hindi lumalampas sa 1% ng GDP (gross domestic product) ang ambag ng pagmimina sa ating ekonomiya (Mining’s contribution to GDP is less than 1%).”

Official data show the sector accounted for P102.3 billion in 2020, equivalent to about 0.6% of GDP that year. It contributed P25.5 billion in taxes, fees and royalties.

In her short stint, Lopez shut down at least 23 mines and canceled some 75 contracts for either damaging or threatening watersheds and agricultural lands.





If the new order is signed by DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu, at least two open pits will be restarted: the \$5.9 billion Tampakan mine in South Cotabato, and the \$1 billion Silangan project in Surigao del Norte. Both are known for their copper and gold reserves. Tampakan has been stalled since 2010, after the local government banned open pits; eventually global commodities giant Glencore walked away from the project.

This time around, DENR said it has created a new office that will ensure companies strictly adhere to environmental laws and standards. It added the draft order will look into other methods of extracting minerals beyond excavating open pits, for example via underground mining.

“At the time, mining operations [were] really, shall we say, not much concerned about [the] environment. They do not like to invest in environmental compliance because it is costly,” Leones admitted.

“I think with the lessons they [learned] during the time of Gina Lopez, now our [mining] chambers are beginning to invest [in] environmental conservation and protection and they are even assisting the government in restoring some of our natural resources, our forests, so I think it's different now,” he said.

Lopez famously went on helicopter rides to take aerial photos of fields stained red with nickel laterite.

In 2017, President Duterte repeatedly blasted the mining sector, at one point saying, “All you contribute to the country is about P70 billion in taxes. We can live without it.” In public briefings, he painted sordid pictures of bald and denuded mountains and the deep holes left behind by open-pit projects.

Fast forward to 2021 and just seven months after EO 130 was signed, DENR has received “a lot of applications,” and said it’s currently reviewing at least 20 to 30 new proposals. It had previously said up to a hundred are in the pipeline, though any new project is expected to take another two to three years to ramp up operations.

Alyansa Tigil Mina called the move to restart open-pit mining “the last nail in the coffin.”

“*Hindi na rin nagpapanggap naman ‘tong administrasyong Duterte na ginamit lang nila ‘yung makakalikahan na maskara para mas mai-present sa bansang Pilipinas na kakaiba kami, ngayon malinaw na na business as usual* (The Duterte administration isn’t even pretending anymore that it’s different and is pro-environment, it’s clear now it’s all business as usual),” Garganera said.

“*Sa panahon ng pandemiya hindi nakita ng gobyerno ‘yung relasyon ng pagkasira ng kalikasan at pandemiya* (Even in the middle of the pandemic, they can’t see the relationship between destroying nature and a pandemic),” he added.

The Philippines is the biggest supplier of nickel ore to China, which in turn is the world’s largest consumer of the mineral. It is an essential ingredient in stainless steel and batteries.

By DENR’s estimate, only about 16% of total mineral reserves in the Philippines have been tapped so far.

Source: <https://www.onenews.ph/articles/denr-turns-to-open-pit-mining-as-government-scrambles-for-funds?fbclid=IwAR3-5fcKkDL26Qv69XJZsDRfELpryQIG8IKvtQXHLK5jhHh1XLhmFRO8T3g>



# Process, requirements streamlined for importing wood products

November 6, 2021, 5:57 pm



**MANILA** – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) issued new regulations governing the entry and disposition of imported wood products, providing streamlined importing procedures and requirements.

Luimyla Valente-Peña, senior forest management specialist at DENR Forest Management Bureau, said in a news release on Saturday that Administrative Order No. 2021-06 repeals previous regulations pertaining to shipments of the products.

Peña said the new policy specified the Asean Harmonized Nomenclature (AHTN) Code for regulated commodities for importation, updated registration requirements and transport documents, and fees and bonds and included additional ports of entry for imported wood products.

“Now, we (have) adapted the AHTN Code and it is published by the Tariff Commission, it detailed the products to be regulated by the DENR. We included Subic Bay Port already, we (also) included North Harbor, Manila and then some in Mindanao,” she said in a webinar.

Transport documents for imported wood products are an authority to import/certificate of registration, sanitary and phytosanitary import clearance, or plant quarantine service certificate issued by the Bureau of Plant Industry and/or phytosanitary certificate.

Others include import entry and internal revenue declaration, commercial invoice, bill of lading, packing list, and Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species import permit if applicable.

The red ribbon authentication (apostille) and the log supply contract with foreign exporters are no longer required.

Peña said registration requirements are the authenticated copy of registration, an electronic copy of purchase order, and list of specific species of wood and its specific names if under AHTN Code Nos. 44.03 and 44.07.

Those who may import wood products are tenure holders, wood processing plant permit holders, and certificate of registration holders.

The combined application and registration fee is PHP3,000 and a cash bond of PHP12,000. **(PR)**

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1158969>



## 'Saribuhay' showcases PHL's rich biodiversity

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA NOVEMBER 7, 2021



New species of Hypericaceae, commonly known as the St. John's-wort, from Mindanao.

Eight out of 11 species of giant clams in the world are found in the Philippines; there are new species of orchids on Mt. Lantoy in Cebu; fruit bats show a unique behavior of eating roots and leaves instead of the usual fruits; there are 457 indigenous vegetables belonging to 255 genera and 90 families; and new plants were discovered on mountain ranges.

These are only some of the new information on the country's rich biodiversity which can be seen on "Saribuhay," a YouTube series that features the outputs of the Biodiversity Science and Technology Program of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PCAARRD).



Northern pit viper

"Saribuhay" is a portmanteau or blend of two Filipino words *sarisari* and *buhay*, which respectively means "diversity" and "life." The program puts more science in biodiversity protection and conservation efforts

### **Saribuhay documentary series**

The Saribuhay documentary series, which starts airing via DOST-PCAARRD's YouTube channel <https://youtube.com/dostpcaarrd> this month, tackles the accomplishments of the four sub-programs in biodiversity—namely, terrestrial (flora and fauna), marine, indigenous plants and native animals.

A preview of the series was shared during an online news conference on October 28.





The program aims to sustain and take care of the Philippines' biodiversity through the formulation of policies in the access and benefit-sharing of our genetic resources.

The DOST-PCAARRD Biodiversity S&T Program is part of the "Big 21 in 2021," a compilation of the DOST's 21 outstanding outputs this year.



The guests at the news conference on "Saribuhay" discuss the importance of their research projects on biodiversity. They include Tina Baradas, Dr. Allan B. Siano and Dr. Maan M. Acedera. Also present were DOST-PCAARRD Executive Director Dr. Reynaldo T. Eborá and Bunny Joven.

Science Secretary Fortunato T. de la Peña said in a taped message that the DOST's 21 high-impact programs this 2021 underscored the importance of protecting and conserving the country's rich biodiversity.

"The country is rich in biological diversity where globally important species of plant, animals and microorganisms can be found. The Philippines is dubbed as the center of biodiversity in the world," he said in Filipino.

The Philippines is a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity, wherein scientific researches to discover new species of plants and animals, including the implementation of various projects to protect and conserve them, are given importance.

"The biodiversity science and technology program of DOST-PCAARRD is supported by the DOST to protect and conserve, and study and promote the sustainable use of biodiversity, knowledge, products and services," he said.

He noted that the DOST is part of the team that crafted the policy on access and benefit-sharing of the country's genetic resources.

DOST-PCAARRD Executive Director Dr. Reynaldo T. Eborá highlighted the council's prominent projects and accomplishments related to biodiversity at the online presser.

### **Cebu's flora and fauna**

Under the project, "Flora and Fauna Assessment Using Permanent Biodiversity System in Cebu Island Key Biodiversity Areas," researchers examined the flora and fauna on Mt. Lantoy, Mt. Kapayás, and Nug-as Forest.

The project was led by the Cebu Technological University together with the University of the Philippines Cebu, Bohol Island State University, University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), National Research Council of the Philippines, University of San Carlos, and Central Visayas Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources R&D Consortium.

It was able to discover new species of orchid on Mt. Lantoy, and recorded distribution of new species of the northern temple Philippine pit viper and two endangered bird species—the Cebu black shama and Cebu hawk-owl.



The program was also able to record the distribution of native tree species and discover the unique behavior of fruit bats that eat roots and leaves instead of the usual fruits.

### **Mindanao mountain ecosystem**

At the same time, the project, "Biodiversity in Selected Mountain Ecosystems of Mindanao for Conservation and Sustainable Development," reported three new species of plants on Mt. Hamiguitan, Mt. Apo, Mt. Pantaron Range and Mt. Tago Range.

It likewise reported a flowering plant that sources its nutrients from mycorrhizal fungi; new species of snout beetle on Mt. Hamiguitan; and the four-spined pygmy devil on Mt. Pantaron Range, which wasn't recorded in over a century.

The project was led by the Central Mindanao University, UPLB, Davao Oriental State University and the Philippine National Museum.

The Indigenous Plants and Native Animals Biodiversity S&T Program project, "Documentation of Indigenous Vegetables in the Philippines," led by UPLB, documented indigenous vegetables from 20 provinces in the country and recorded 457 indigenous vegetables belonging to 255 genera and 90 families.

### **Native pigs**

At the same time, the project, "Conservation, Improvement and Profitable Utilization of the Philippine Native Pigs," developed six native pig breeds through organized community-based breeding and selection led by Marinduque State College, together with the Bureau of Animal Industry-National Swine and Poultry R&D Center, Isabela State University, Benguet State University, Kalinga State University and Eastern Samar State University.

The pigs are Markaduke from Marinduque; Quezon black from Quezon province; ISubela from Isabela province; Benguet from Benguet province; Yookah from Kalinga province, and Sinirangan from Eastern Samar.

The native pig breeds boast of high-quality meat compared with commercial hybrid pig breeds.

The Marine Biodiversity S&T Program oversees the ecological and ecosystem diversity management and conservation, assessment and monitoring, and sustainable use of the country's marine resources.

The projects under the program are the following: Exploration, mapping and assessment of deep-water areas (Philippine Rise); Assessing the status of giant clams and advancing culture techniques; Studies on the biology and utilization of commercially important mollusk species on Panay Island in Western Visayas, Philippines.

DNA barcoding and genetic diversity of selected marine fishes along the north bifurcation of the North Equatorial Current; DNA barcoding of selected marine fishes in Davao and Sulu archipelago.

Stock assessment and reproductive biology of blue swimming crab (*Portunus pelagicus* Linnaeus, 1758) and other crustaceans in Maqueda Bay, Villareal Bay, Zumarraga Channel and Southeastern Samar Sea; and Central Visayas R&D Center for Biodiversity Project 3: Biodiversity conservation and sustainable utilization of seagrasses in Camotes Islands, Cebu.



These projects were led by UP Diliman, UP-Marine Science Institute, Davao del Norte State College, Western Philippines University, De La Salle University, UPLB, UP-National Institute of Geological Sciences, UP Mindanao, UP Visayas, Samar State University and the University of San Carlos.

They were able to discover that eight out of 11 species of giant clams in the world can be found in the Philippines; and recorded 75 percent to 100 percent of live corals in Benham Bank of Philippine Rise.

The project likewise contributed to marine biological features and resources in Benham Bank Seamount that led to the declaration of 50,000 hectares of the area as a Marine Protected Area and more than 300,000 hectares as Special Fisheries Management Area, according to the Proclamation 489, Philippine Rise Marine Resource Reserve in 2018.

Moreover, 150 reef fish species were recorded in Northern Luzon and 373 reef fishes in Southern Mindanao.

More than 304 reef fishes were also recorded in Basilan, Sulu and Tawi-Tawi. Of this number, 200 genetic barcodes were added to the biodiversity database of UP Mindanao.

On Panay Island, it recorded a high mollusk diversity as well as the high production of cephalopod fishery.

Under the program, a hatchery protocol was developed to address the low catch rate of blue swimming crab in southeast Samar and Maqueda Bay.

An additional red alga and 11 species of seagrass were also discovered in Camos Island.

### **Unlimited benefits**

Ebora said among the benefits of having a rich biodiversity is having a diversity of food source and of various products that can be derived from these natural resources.

“There’s no limit to the benefits from biodiversity depending on the knowledge we have and the technology we have to explore these benefits,” he said.

Ebora said through science and technology, the Philippines will be able to know the importance of the country’s biological resources, hence, effectively protecting and conserving them.

“We cannot protect what we do not know,” he said, highlighting the need for more research and development to explore the country’s rich biodiversity.

Images courtesy of DOST-PCAARRD photo and Screenshot





# Small-scale tuna fishers, processors get environment certification

BY RIZAL RAOUL REYES NOVEMBER 7, 2021

Filipino small-scale fishers and tuna processor-exporters brought home a big win recently when they were certified under the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)

Organized in 2019, the Philippine Tuna Handline Partnership (PTHP) is a group of small-scale fishers and exporters that is operating in Mindoro Strait and Lagonoy Gulf. The full MSC assessment process started in March of 2020.

MSC certification is the latest development in a decades-long Fisheries Improvement Project (FIP) being run with handline tuna fishers in Mindoro Strait and Lagonoy Gulf. The goal of the FIP is to improve the environmental sustainability of fisheries.

“This process has created unity among everyone—among exporters, fishers, local governments, everyone. We’ve realized that it’s not about us, but about what we do here in the fisheries, our livelihood, what we do with others and what we can achieve together,” Sam C. Garcia, chairman of the Philippine Association of Tuna Processors Inc., said in a news statement.

To meet the MSC standard, a fisher must comply to three principles to be considered sustainable.

First, fishing activities should allow fish populations to remain productive and healthy; second, harm to habitats and endangered species should be minimized to ensure the health of the ecosystem; and third, the fishery must be managed well, with laws and plans that enable the sustainability of the fishery.

Being a useful global standard, the MSC measures the environmental performance of wild-caught fisheries like Mindoro Strait and Lagonoy Gulf.

The PTHP, the first group in the Philippines to receive a MSC certification, represents the country’s tuna processors.

It consists of both small-scale tuna fishers and processors.

Although the PTHP has been certified by the MSC, the group still needs to meet a number of conditions for them to keep their certification. Conditions are requirements outlined by the MSC, and serve as a good guide in helping fisheries work towards sustainability.

For the PTHP, closing these conditions and meeting the MSC standard is a step in the right direction for the future of their fisheries.

The tuna fisheries under the PTHP need stronger habitat management strategies, policies to identify and protect endangered species, and effective monitoring and enforcement of fishery laws.

Although tuna management plans have been drafted, local government units still need to recognize them and adopt them on a municipal level for them to be effective.

Further, measures also need to be adopted to protect tuna fisheries throughout the region. The Philippines belongs to the Western Central Pacific region, which the MSC has flagged for not having sufficient measures in place to protect local fisheries.



The MSC has warned that failure to implement the region-wide harvest control rules and strategies by December 2022, tuna fisheries in the Western Central Pacific could lose their MSC certification.

“For around a decade of fisheries work we fishers have grown together in order to face whatever obstacle that has come our way. With the help of government agencies and the partners who have stood alongside us, practices that once harmed the environment and our local communities have left our fisheries little by little over the many years,” said IFARMC of Mindoro Strait Chairman Bernard A. Mayo Sr., a fisher leader who has been with the program since its inception in 2011.



# Plastic waste collection in Bulacan and Las Piñas

BY **BMPPLUS** NOVEMBER 5, 2021



SM Cares and Plastic Credit Exchange (PCX) recently launched its Plastic Waste Collection Program in SM City Marilao, Bulacan, and SM Southmall, Las Pinas, which brings to a total of eight SM Malls that serve as collection points.

The program aims to divert plastic waste from landfills and bodies of water by collecting them straight from households and communities for upcycling or recycling. To date, SM & PCX have collected 7,945 kilograms of plastic waste from the participating SM Malls.

This is equal to diverting 14,622.759 kilograms of CO<sub>2</sub>, equivalent to 242 tree seedlings grown for ten years. The Plastic Waste Collection Program is sponsored by Colgate-Palmolive Philippines and Nestle Philippines and supported by knowledge partner Pricewaterhouse Coopers Philippines.

To know more about the mall venues and schedule of plastic waste collection, you may visit <https://www.smsupermalls.com/smcares/>.

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2021/11/05/plastic-waste-collection-in-bulacan-and-las-pinas/>





# Cebu archdiocese to create 'ecological ministry' in parishes

By **CBCP News** - November 6, 2021 - 6:52 PM



The Archdiocese of Cebu through its Commission on Environmental Concern launches the “500 Legacy Trees for 500 Years of Christianity” project at the University of Cebu – Mambaling Campus on Oct. 3, 2021. (Photo from Archdiocese of Cebu)

Archbishop Jose Palma of Cebu encouraged the establishment of a “Parish Ecological Ministry” in all parishes of the archdiocese.

In a circular released Nov. 3, he said that the new ministry is one of their contributions to efforts against the environmental crisis.

He said the archdiocese’s Commission on Environmental Concern also sees the need “to have their pastoral initiatives and programs touching base at the parish level”.

“And this can be addressed through the setting up of the Parish Ecological Ministry in all parishes in the archdiocese,” Palma said.

The creation of parish-based ecology desks is also in line with the National Laudato Si program of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines.

The archbishop said the task and responsibility is to implement the archdiocese’s “500 Legacy Trees Program” and address other environmental concerns.

The initiative to plant and grow fruit-bearing trees was launched this year for the local Church’s 500th Year of Christianity celebration.

“It is our aim that in 2025, at least 50 percent if not all our parishes, have promoted ecological spirituality and action and thus, concretely manifesting a Church that is truly gifted to give,” Palma said.

Source: <https://interaksyon.philstar.com/trends-spotlights/2021/11/06/203926/cebu-archdiocese-to-create-ecological-ministry-in-parishes/>



ABS-CBN News  
12h · 🌐

TINGNAN: Isang pawikang mula pa Malaysia ang napadpad sa karagatang sakop ng Boracay sa Aklan nitong Sabado.

Ayon sa nagbahagi ng larawan na si Gemma Manito Manipol Betita, sinagip ng mga mangingisda ang pawikan matapos makitang nanghihina at minabuting dalhin sa Caticlan, Malay.

Sa tag ng pawikan, nakitang mula Malaysia ito. Pansamantalang nasa pangangalaga ng Philippine Coast Guard at Bantay Dagat Malay ang pawikan para masuri ang kalusugan bago ibalik sa dagat.

Noong Oktubre 31, isang pawikan ding mula Sabah ang nasagip ng mga mangingisda sa isla. | via Rolan Escaniel

BASAHIIN ang mga kaugnay na ulat: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/patrol/tag/PAWIKAN>

See Translation





# COP26: Greta Thunberg tells protest that COP26 has been a 'failure'

Published 1 day ago



Greta Thunberg branded the COP26 climate summit a "global north greenwash festival"

**Greta Thunberg has told a mass rally in Glasgow that the COP26 climate summit has been a "failure".**

The Swedish activist had earlier joined thousands of young people - including striking school pupils - for a march through the city.

She addressed the crowd when it arrived in George Square, saying "immediate and drastic" cuts to emissions are needed.

The march was organised by Fridays for Future Scotland, a group founded by youngsters inspired by Ms Thunberg.

It was one of the largest of a series of demonstrations taking place throughout the summit, which is being held in the city.

Ms Thunberg said: "It is not a secret that COP26 is a failure. It should be obvious that we cannot solve a crisis with the same methods that got us into it in the first place."

She said: "We need immediate drastic annual emission cuts unlike anything the world has ever seen.

"The people in power can continue to live in their bubble filled with their fantasies, like eternal growth on a finite planet and technological solutions that will suddenly appear seemingly out of nowhere and will erase all of these crises just like that.

"All this while the world is literally burning, on fire, and while the people living on the front lines are still bearing the brunt of the climate crisis."

She described the UN climate change summit as a "two-week long celebration of business as usual and blah, blah, blah" to "maintain business as usual" and "create loopholes to benefit themselves".

Ms Thunberg added: "We know that our emperors are naked."

Activists from several other countries also gave speeches about how climate change is already affecting their homelands.





They included including Vanessa Nakate from Uganda, who said: "Historically, Africa is responsible for only 3% of global emissions and yet Africans are suffering some of the most brutal impacts fuelled by the climate crisis.

"But while the global south is on the frontlines of the climate crisis, they're not on the front pages of the world's newspapers."



Ms Thunberg joined the march as it made its way to the city centre from Kelvingrove Park



The march began with chants in Kelvingrove Park

The procession marched through the city's west end, past the COP26 site at the Scottish Events Campus, before heading towards the city centre.

It ended at George Square where a stage and speakers had been erected.

Charlie O'Rourke, 14, from Glasgow, skipped school to attend the march with his mother Cairsty and his sister.

He said global leaders at COP26 must "listen to the people", adding: "Don't just go for profit. Listen to what the planet needs."

His mother said she was there for her children and for "the generations to come to just show that something has to happen and it has to happen very quickly".

Finlay Pringle, 14, from Ullapool in the Highlands, travelled by train to Glasgow with his father to take part in the march.

He said: "If you really, truly love something and you want to protect it, no matter what it is, it doesn't have to be climate striking, but if there's something that you love and you want to protect it, then you should do that, don't think twice about it."





The large procession crossed over the M8 at Charing Cross and made its way into the city centre



Indigenous activists from Brazil speak at the Fridays for Future demo in George Square



One school pupil unfurled a Gaelic banner in Edinburgh Waverley which read "help the world"

The wider Fridays for Future movement has seen young people around the world striking from school on a Friday to raise awareness of climate change.

Anna Brown, an activist with Fridays for Future in Glasgow, said the event was aimed at demonstrating a need to move climate discussions away from "enclosed" spaces.

She told the BBC: "The message is that the system of COPs - we've had 26 now - isn't working. So we need to uproot that system.

"The message is you need to listen to the people in the streets, the young people, the workers."





Anna Brown, from Fridays for Future, says the UN climate change summits had failed to deliver

She continued: "We need to move it from being in an enclosed space where people can't get involved to the streets, where people can see what's happening and have a say.

"I think part of it is designed so people don't understand what it's about - if people don't understand what's being said in negotiations, they can't criticise what's happening and the decisions that are being made."

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Ritchie said it was "hugely inspiring" to see thousands young people take part in the "spectacular event" on the streets of Glasgow.

"This was a really important day in the COP26 schedule and we were pleased to be part of such a memorable event for these young participants and for Glasgow," he said.

"Our officers enjoyed engaging with young people, many have children of their own who were taking part in today's march."

He said there has been "positive engagement" between police and protestors during the summit and so far fewer than 20 arrests had been made - mostly for disorder type offences.



First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said she was committed to "meaningful engagement" between the Scottish government and young people and to involve them in decision-making.

She said: "In Scotland, we are already acting to tackle the climate emergency, but, as we have heard from children and young people this week from Scotland and round the globe, is it not enough and we must do more."





Meanwhile, the Prince of Wales expressed sympathy with the anger and frustration of the young activists in a speech addressing COP26 negotiators, telling delegates the "weight of history" was on their shoulders.

He said he had been invited to take part in the march, but would not be able to do so.

In London, Downing Street said young people missing school to attend the demonstration is "extremely disruptive at a time when the pandemic has already had a huge impact on their learning".

However, Glasgow City Council and most neighbouring local authorities told the BBC that schoolchildren would not be punished for taking part in the climate strike.

They urged parents to let schools know if a pupil would be off for safety check purposes.

Only East Dunbartonshire told pupils they would be marked as having unauthorised absence if they did not attend school on the day of the march.



# 'It's our lives on the line', young marchers tell UN climate talks

By Elizabeth Piper, Lucy Marks and Natalie Thomas via Reuters

- November 6, 2021 - 8:24 AM



Climate activist Greta Thunberg speaks at a Fridays for Future march during the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), in Glasgow, Scotland, Britain, November 5, 2021. (Reuters/Russell Cheyne)

GLASGOW, Scotland — Thousands of young campaigners marched through the streets of Glasgow on Friday, chanting their demand that world leaders at the U.N. climate conference safeguard their future against catastrophic climate change.

Inside the COP26 conference venue in the Scottish city, civil society leaders took over discussions at the end of a week of government speeches and pledges that included promises to phase out coal, slash emissions of the potent greenhouse gas methane and reduce deforestation.

“We must not declare victory here,” said former U.S. Vice President Al Gore, who shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for his work informing the world about climate change. “We know that we have made progress, but we are far from the goals that we need to reach.”

Campaigners and pressure groups have been underwhelmed by the commitments made so far, many of which are voluntary, exclude the biggest polluters, or set deadlines decades away.

Swedish teenage activist Greta Thunberg joined the marchers on the streets, who held placards and banners with messages that reflected frustration with what she described as “blah-blah-blah” coming from years of global climate negotiations.

“You don’t care, but I do!” read one sign, carried by a girl sitting on her father’s shoulders.

Sixteen-year-old protester Hannah McInnes called climate change “the most universally devastating problem in the world”, adding: “It’s our lives and our futures that are on the line.”

## Promises

The talks aim to secure enough national promises to cut greenhouse gas emissions – mainly from fossil fuels – to keep the rise in the average global temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

Scientists say this is the point at which the already intense storms, heatwaves, droughts and floods that the Earth is experiencing could become catastrophic and irreversible.



To that end, the United Nations wants countries to halve their emissions from 1990 levels by 2030, on their way to net-zero emissions by 2050. That would mean the world would release no more climate-warming gases than the amount it is simultaneously recapturing from the atmosphere.

The summit on Thursday saw 23 additional countries pledge to try to phase out coal – albeit over the next three decades, and without the world’s biggest consumer, China.

A pledge to reduce deforestation brought a hasty about-turn from Indonesia, home to vast and endangered tropical forests.

But a plan to curb emissions of methane by 30% did appear to strike a blow against greenhouse gases that should produce rapid results.

And city mayors have been working out what they can do to advance climate action more quickly and nimbly than governments.

The Glasgow talks also have showcased a jumble of financial pledges, buoying hopes that national commitments to bring down emissions can actually be implemented.

But time was running short. “It is not possible for a large number of unresolved issues to continue into week 2,” COP26 President Alok Sharma said in a note to negotiators published by the United Nations.

Efforts to set a global pricing framework for carbon, as a way to make polluters pay fairly for their emissions and ideally finance efforts to offset them, are likely to continue to the very end of the two-week conference.

### **The new normal**

U.S. climate envoy John Kerry said on Friday it was possible to reach a deal at the summit settling the final details of the rulebook for how to interpret the 2015 Paris Agreement.

He said the United States was in favor of “the most frequent possible” assessments of whether countries were meeting their goals to reduce emissions.

In Washington, President Joe Biden’s mammoth “Build Back Better” package, including \$555 billion of measures aimed at hitting the 2030 target and adapting to climate change, looks set to pass eventually. It hit snags on Friday, however, as the House of Representatives was due to vote on it.

Gore, a veteran of such battles, offered conference-goers a scientific video and photo presentation filled with images of climate-fuelled natural disasters, from flooding to wildfires.

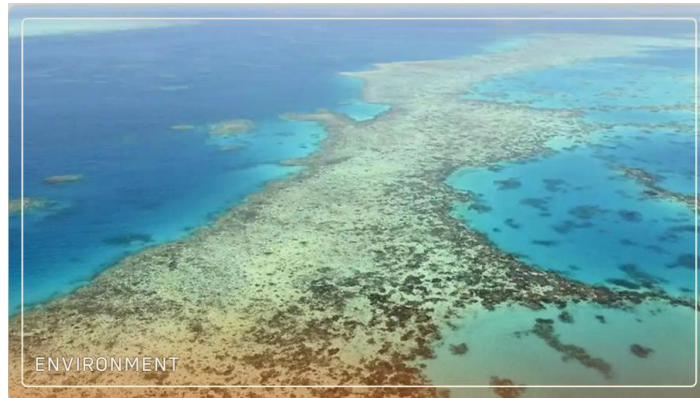
“We cannot allow this to become the new normal,” Gore said.

One schoolchild’s placard put it just as well.

“The Earth’s climate is changing!” it read, under a hand-painted picture of a globe on fire. “Why aren’t we?”

—Additional reporting by Katy Daigle in Glasgow; Editing by Kevin Liffey, Janet Lawrence and Philippa Fletcher

Source: <https://interaksyon.philstar.com/trends-spotlights/2021/11/06/203966/its-our-lives-on-the-line-young-marchers-tell-un-climate-talks/>



## [98% of Great Barrier Reef affected by coral bleaching](#)

NOV 6, 2021, 4:51 PM

Rose De La Cruz  
Columnist

***Australia's Great Barrier has been impacted up to 98 percent by coral bleaching arising from climate change and severe heatwaves. Other destroyers of the UNESCO world heritage site are cyclones and crown-of-thorns starfish which eat the corals.***

Coral bleaching has affected 98 percent of Australia's Great Barrier Reef since 1998, leaving just a fraction of the world's largest reef system untouched, according to a study published Friday.

The paper in the peer-reviewed journal Current Biology found that just two percent of the vast underwater ecosystem had escaped impacts since the first mass coral bleaching event in 1998 -- then the world's hottest year ever, a record that has repeatedly been broken as climate change accelerates.

Lead author Terry Hughes, from the ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies at James Cook University, said the frequency, intensity and scale of climate-fueled marine heatwaves that cause coral bleaching are increasing.

### **Checkerboard of reefs**

*"Five bouts of mass bleaching since 1998 have turned the Great Barrier Reef into a checkerboard of reefs with very different recent histories, ranging from two percent of reefs that have escaped bleaching altogether, to 80 percent that have now bleached severely at least once since 2016," he said.*

Bleaching occurs when healthy corals become stressed by spikes in ocean temperatures, causing them to expel algae living in their tissues which drains them of their vibrant colors.

The Great Barrier Reef has suffered three mass bleaching events during heatwaves in 2016, 2017 and 2020, leaving many affected corals struggling to survive.

Government scientists said in July that corals have shown some signs of recovery since the last bleaching but admit the long-term outlook for the 2,300-kilometre-long (1,400-mile-long) ecosystem is "very poor."

### **Cyclones, starfish**

The reef is also susceptible to harm from cyclones and outbreaks of crown-of-thorns starfish, which eat the coral, with both factors becoming more damaging due to climate change.





The research found corals that had previously been exposed to heatwaves were less susceptible to heat stress, but co-author Sean Connolly, from the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, warned more frequent and severe bleaching would reduce the reef's resilience.

*"Corals still need time to recover before another round of heat stress so they can make babies that will disperse, settle and recover the depleted parts of the reef," he said.*

*"Action to curb climate change is crucial."*

The findings come during a landmark United Nations climate summit in Glasgow, Scotland, where Australia committed to reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050 but failed to announce a more ambitious 2030 target.

One of the world's biggest exporters of coal and gas, Australia's economy is heavily reliant on fossil fuels and its conservative government has been reluctant to kick the country's addiction.

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-59165781>

07 NOVEMBER 2021, SUNDAY



# NEWS ALERTS

# COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE





# Philippines reports 2,656 new COVID-19 cases

Philstar.com November 6, 2021 | 4:00pm



Commuters sport face shields while riding the LRT Line 2 coach in Quezon City on Nov. 3, 2021.  
The STAR / Miguel de Guzman

MANILA, Philippines — Philippine health authorities on Saturday reported 2,656 new coronavirus infections, pushing the total number of cases to 2,800,621.

- Active cases: 34,866 or 1.2% of the total
- Deaths: 154, pushing the count to 44,239
- Recoveries: 5,130 bringing the number to 2,721,516

## Fewer quarantine violators, more vaccines

- Philippine National Police chief Gen. Guillermo Eleazar said they [logged 9,461 quarantine violators](#) on the first day that Alert Level 2 was hoisted over Metro Manila.
- This was slightly lower than the average daily number of people they apprehended for quarantine violations in the past 20 days when the capital region was under the stricter Alert Level 3.
- A total of 866,970 doses of Pfizer's coronavirus vaccine [arrived Friday night in the Philippines](#), bringing the total number of jabs that have landed in the country to 109,779,530.
- The fresh shipment of shots is the first batch of 1,733,940 Pfizer doses that were bought by the national government through a loan from the Asian Development Bank. The second batch, also consisting of 866,970 doses, will arrive Saturday night.
- Pfizer announced that its anti-COVID pill, Paxlovid, [can reduce by 89% the risk of hospitalization or death](#) among adult patients with the disease who are at high risk of progressing to severe illness.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2021/11/06/2139448/philippines-reports-2656-new-covid-19-cases>



# Active COVID-19 cases posibleng bumaba sa 22K sa Nobyembre 15 – DOH

By [Malou Escudero](#) (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - November 7, 2021 - 12:00am



Commuters queue for the carousel bus in Monumento, Caloocan on Nov. 2, 2021 as workers are back for work after the long weekend brought by All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

The STAR/Michael Varcas

MANILA, Philippines — Malaki ang posibilidad na bumaba na lang sa 22,000 ang aktibong kaso ng COVID-19 sa bansa kung patuloy na susunod ang mga mamamayan sa ipinatutupad na minimum public health standards.

Sinabi ni DOH Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire na dapat mapanatili ang 82% na mobility at maging ang mabilis na detection at isolation para bumaba sa 22,000 ang aktibong kaso sa Nobyembre 15.

Pero kapag nawala aniya at tumaas ang mobility ay maaaring tumaas muli ang aktibong kaso sa buong Pilipinas sa 52,393.

Sa kasalukuyan ay nasa 53,642 ang aktibong kaso sa buong Pilipinas pero kung magluluwag pa ng husto at hindi susunod ang mga mamamayan sa protocols ay tiyak tataas pa rin ang kaso ng COVID-19.

Kaya nanawagan si Vergeire sa mga mamamayan na ipagpatuloy ang pagsunod sa ipinatutupad na minimum public health standards upang hindi na magkaroon ng pagtaas ng kaso pagdating ng Kapaskuhan.

“So iyon po ang ating panawagan sa ating mga kababayan na sana tuluy-tuloy po nating gawin ito para mabawasan po natin ang mga nagkakasakit at hindi po tayo magkaroon ng pagtaas ng kaso pagdating po ng Kapaskuhan,” ani Vergeire. — **Ludy Bermudo**





**#OneDENR**

**Covid-19  
Situation and Response**





# DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 602

## NOBYEMBRE 6, 2021

Para sa kumpletong detalye at impormasyon,  
bisitahin lamang ang aming pampublikong site:  
<https://ncovtracker.doh.gov.ph/>

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

# 1.2%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO  
**34,866**

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

# 97.2%

TOTAL NG GUMALING  
**2,721,516**

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

# 1.58%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY  
**44,239**

MGA BAGONG KASO **2,656**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **5,130**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **154**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **2,800,621**

### MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING NOBYEMBRE 4

DATOS NGAYONG NOBYEMBRE 6  
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG NOBYEMBRE 4

# 5.6%

PORSYENTO NG MGA  
NAGPOSITIBO

# 48,218

BILANG NG  
TINEST

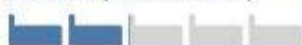
HALOS  
**72.7%**  
ANG MILD AT  
ASYMPTOMATIC  
NA KASO!

**A**LAMIN  
ANG TAMANG  
IMPORMASYON

#### KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (4.0K TOTAL BEDS)



**42%**  
Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.6K TOTAL BEDS)



**32%**  
Utilized

WARD BEDS (14.1K TOTAL BEDS)



**27%**  
Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.2K TOTAL VENTILATORS)



**27%**  
Utilized

#### NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.4K TOTAL BEDS)



**37%**  
Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.9K TOTAL BEDS)



**27%**  
Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.0K TOTAL BEDS)



**26%**  
Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.0K TOTAL VENTILATORS)



**26%**  
Utilized

#### KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

Mild 67.1%

5.6% Asymptomatic

3.7% Critical

8.7% Severe

14.86% Moderate



## UPDATE AND MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Ipagpatuloy natin ang masusing pagsunod sa lahat ng Minimum Public Health Standards para sa kaligtasan ng ating mga sarili at ng ating mga minamahal sa buhay. Maging alisto din tayo sa mga sintomas, at sa oras na makaramdam ay agad makipag-ugnayan sa BHERTS o sa One COVID Referral Center na maabot sa **1555, (02)886-505-00, 0915-777-7777, o sa 0919-977-3333**, para sa karampatang gabay.

Para sa iba pang pangangailangang medikal, puntahan ang <http://bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine> upang malaman kung papaano maabot ang serbisyo ng ating Telemedicine Service Providers, at ang <http://bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines> para maabot ang ating mga ospital sa lalong mabilis na panahon.



Ihahanap ka namin ng lugar para mag-isolate o magpagamot, tumawag lang sa sumusunod:

SMART: 0919 977 3333  
GLOBE: 0915 777 7777  
TEL NO: (02) 886 505 00



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?

I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH

MESSANGER: Department of Health PH

KONTRACOVID PH: [kontracovid.ph](https://kontracovid.ph)



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App

O Gamiting ang WEBAPP  
at pumunta sa [Staysafe.ph](https://staysafe.ph)

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

OfficialDOHgov

@DOHgovph

[doh.gov.ph](https://doh.gov.ph)

(02) 894-COVID / 1555



07 NOVEMBER 2021, SUNDAY



**DENR**

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# **VLOGS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**






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#ManilaBayUpdate #DolomiteBeach #BattleForManilaBay  
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MANILA BAY

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MANILA BAY WHITE BEACH

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maraming salamat po, keep safe everyone  
[#SaveManilaBay](#)

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CAVITE CITY

ANG PAGWASAK!! ILEGAL PALAISDAAN DEKADANG NAKINABANG! DENR AT PVERSA NG MGA PULIS NAKIPAGHABULAN NA!

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DAHIL SA MAIGTING NA PAGLILINIS NG MANILA BAY.PINWASAK NA NI TATAY DIGONG ANG MGA ILEGAL NA PALAISDAAN SA CAVITE DAHIL NAKAKASIRA ITO SA BAYBAYIN NG MANILA BAY AT SANHI NG MGA MALAWAKANG PAGDAMI NG BASURA SA DAGAT.DAHIL NARIN SA PAGLABAG SA  
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