

18 FEBRUARY 2022, FRIDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



**DENR TYPHOON ODETTE RESPONSE GROUP.**

Kasama ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary at Head of Typhoon Odette Response Group Benny D. Antiporda (pang-anim sa kaliwa) ang mga miyembro ng grupo na kinilala sa ginanap na 21st signing anniversary ng Republic Act 9003 o ang Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000 noong Pebrero 2, 2022 sa Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center sa Quezon City. Binigyan ng DENR ng certificates of commendation ang mga group members dahil sa kanilang napakahalagang suporta at serbisyo na naibigay sa pamamahagi ng relief goods (inset), maagang pagbibigay ng government services at humanitarian assistance sa mga tao sa Bohol at mga naapektuhan ng bagyong Odette sa Central Visayas noong Disyembre 2021. Nasa larawan din sina Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service (SCIS) Director Hiro V. Masuda at SCIS Assistant Director at concurrent Task Force Tayo ang Kalikasan Executive Director Maria Matilda A. Gaddi (ikalawa at ikalima sa kaliwa,

ayon sa pagkakasunod), kabilang din ang iba pang DENR heads at personnel (mula sa kaliwa) na sina Adona P. San Diego, Nicholas D. Calderon, Roy C. Castillo, Roberto L. Jimenez, Engr. Guillermo V. Estipona, Jr. at Jonathan A. Acabal. *(From DENR Strategic Communication and Initiatives Service thru Precy F. Lazaro)*



# Three Tree Huggers

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 [Journal Online](#)



Officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Assistant Secretary and concurrent Director of Forest Management Bureau (FMB) Marcial Amaro (middle), FMB Assistant Director Edna Nuestro (left) and National Greening Program Office chief Ma. Teresa Aquino, tasked to oversee DENR's forest rehabilitation programs hug trees to convey their gratitude for the air these provide during the launch of the **"Tree Hugging Campaign"** held at the Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center in Quezon City on February 14, 2022. The FMB organized the weeklong event, which runs from February 14 to 18, to raise public knowledge on the social and health benefits of trees and the crucial role forests play in [addressing climate change](#) challenges. The ten best photos of "tree huggers" with a caption, and uploaded in the [FMB Facebook page](#) will be chosen as winners of the *Tree Hugging Campaign* online challenge.



Source: <https://journal.com.ph/three-tree-huggers/>



## Pena: Hug a tree

ROX PENA

February 17, 2022

THE Forest Management Bureau (FMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) came up with a unique Valentine's Day activity – tree hugging!

According to the FMB's Facebook page, the "Tree Hugging Day" campaign aims to promote the social and health benefits that can be derived from nurturing trees/forests, and raise awareness on the importance of the tree-hugging movement.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu said that this activity was meant to make the Filipino public aware of the trees' importance and nurturing forests "as a measure to address climate change."

Anyone can participate in this tree-hugging campaign by posting on Facebook or Instagram a selfie or groupie while hugging a tree. Those interested can visit the FMB's Facebook page ([facebook.com/denrfmbofficial](https://facebook.com/denrfmbofficial)) for the mechanics. The submission of entries, however, ends February 18. I posted my picture hugging an old balacat tree at Mabalacat Elementary School.

Why hug a tree? According to some articles I read in the internet, hugging a tree increases levels of hormone oxytocin. This hormone is responsible for feeling calm and emotional bonding. When hugging a tree, the hormones serotonin and dopamine make you feel happier.

Some research also claimed that by just walking in a forest has relaxing effects. It was found to lower blood pressure and heart rates, induce a positive mood, and reduce anxiety levels. Walking in the forest is called "forest bathing." The term emerged in Japan in the 1980s as a physiological and psychological exercise called shinrin-yoku.

Stone Kraushaar, PhD, a clinical psychologist known as "The Hug Doctor" and author of the book "A 21-Day Journey to Embracing Yourself, Your Life, and Everyone Around You" said that "a good embrace—a hug—squeezes every ounce of fear, worry, and negativity out of your spirit, leaving you with nothing but warmth, inner peace, and a feeling of connection." Dr. Stone recommends that we stay in a hug for a minimum of 21 seconds every day.

Tree hugging was also used as a form of protest. In India, there was the Chipko movement, also called Chipko andolan, a nonviolent social and ecological movement by rural villagers, particularly women, in the 1970s, aimed at protecting trees and forests slated for government-backed logging. The Hindi word chipko means "to hug" or "to cling to."

Inspired by the Chipko movement, people in Japan in 2009 protested the building of a tunnel near Mount Takao, hugging trees that would have been displaced by the 40-foot-wide hole. In 2017, in West Bengal in India, students protested the logging of about 4,000 trees by forming a human chain around them.

Feeling stressed? Hug a tree!

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1921309/pampanga/opinion/pena-hug-a-tree>



Sektor ng pagmimina, malaki umano ang maitutulong para makarekober ang ekonomiya

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Responsableng pagmimina, ipinanawagan

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## Juvenile reticulated python released in Dapitan City



ZAMBOANGA. Personnel of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office of Piñan, Zamboanga del Norte release a juvenile reticulated Python back to its natural habitat in Dapitan City. (SunStar Zamboanga)

February 16, 2022

PERSONNEL of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro) of Piñan, Zamboanga del Norte released a juvenile reticulated python back to its natural habitat in the province.

Roservirico Tan, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) regional information officer, said Wednesday, February 16, that the juvenile reticulated python was freed at the Jose Rizal Memorial Protected Landscape in Dapitan City.

Tan said the reptile was rescued by Angelo Mangao in his residence and coordinated with the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (Menro) of Sergio Osmeña for its proper turn-over to Cenro-Piñan.

Tan said the reptile has an approximate weight of one kilogram and length of two meters upon assessment of the personnel of Cenro-Piñan.

He said the juvenile reticulated Python was released back to its natural habitat after it was declared in good and healthy condition.

The reticulated python is the world's longest snake, and listed as least concern on the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List because of its wide distribution. (SunStar Zamboanga)



## P3.5 million exotic aquatic animals seized at NAIA



Bureau of Customs agents inspect exotic aquatic animals intercepted at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport on Wednesday.

Rudy Santos

MANILA, Philippines — Government agents have confiscated at least P3.5 million worth of exotic aquatic animals and plants at the Philippine Skylander Inc. warehouse at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Terminal 1.

The undeclared shipment composed of albino, soft shell turtles, pacman turtles, exotic fish, anubias and microsorium plants arrived from Thailand on Wednesday, according to the Bureau of Customs (BOC).

The aquatic animals were imported by Aquatic Enterprises without the necessary permit from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, BOC NAIA district collector Mimel Talusan said.

Talusan said charges of violating Republic Act 10863 or the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act would be filed against the importer.

The BOC was recently recognized by Traffic Southeast Asia for its efforts against wildlife trafficking, which resulted in the interception of 923 tarantulas and other arachnids, five centipedes, 66 Philippine and Malaysian reptiles, 22 Thailand bearded dragons and six Thailand live tegus in 2021.



## P3.5 M halaga ng exotic aquatic wildlife at halaman, nasabat ng BOC sa NAIA

ni [Jasmin Joy Evangelista](#) | February 17, 2022



File photo: BOC

Nakumpiska ng mga tauhan ng Bureau of Customs (BOC) sa Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) ang nasa P3.5 milyong halaga ng mga isda, pagong, palaka, at halamang dagat noong nakaraang Huwebes.

Ang mga naturang hayop ay kabilang sa import shipment ng isang Aquaxotic Enterprises mula sa Thailand.

Kabilang sa mga nasabat ang 180 albino soft-shelled turtles, 120 pacman frogs, at 38,188 na mga isda.

Kabilang din sa nasamsam ang 718 anubias plants at 260 microsorium plants.

Ayon sa Bureau of Customs, ang mga naturang hayop at halaman ay hindi naka-declare sa permit to import ng Aquaxotic.

Tinatayang naghakakahalaga ang mga ito ng P3.5 milyon.

Ayon pa sa BOC, ito ay paglabag sa Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).





## Customs seizes P3.5-M misdeclared exotic aquatic wildlife



Photo from Bureau of Customs NAIA's Facebook

February 17, 2022

THE Bureau of Customs (BOC) Port of Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) has confiscated misdeclared exotic aquatic wildlife worth P3.5 million in Pasay City.

In a press statement, the BOC Port of NAIA said it seized 180 albino soft shell turtles and 120 pacman turtles and 38,188 various exotic fish on February 10, 2022.

Also seized were various aquatic plants such as 718 anubias plants and 260 pieces of microsorum plants.

Personnel of the Ports Environmental Protection and Compliance Division Enforcement and Security Service (EPCD-ESS) carried out the confiscation.

The BOC Port of NAIA said in its press release that the seized aquatic animals and plants were part of an importation of a certain Aquaxotic Enterprises and originated from Thailand.

The said shipment included animals and plants not declared under the Aquaxotic's permit to import, thus violating Republic Act (RA) 10863, also known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act.

The BOC Port of NAIA has been recognized by non-governmental wildlife trade monitor Traffic Southeast Asia for the Port's efforts against wildlife trafficking for 2021 which resulted in the interception of 923 tarantulas and other arachnids, 5 centipedes, 66 Philippine and Malaysian reptiles, 22 Thailand bearded dragons and 6 Thailand live tegus.



## Non-native black ants

Also, the BOC Port of NAIA has seized three misdeclared export and two undeclared import shipments that contain non-native black ants considered as harmful to public health.

Its records show that the three intercepted export parcels declared as "Lego Kid's Toy" bound for France, Singapore and Italy were sent by a certain "Shin Yap."

The subject parcels yielded a total of 21 small cups and 21 specimen tubes containing assorted black ants concealed in a Lego box.

Meanwhile, another two suspicious imported shipments from Poland were also subjected to mandatory non-intrusive inspection and physical Customs examination. The same yielded a total of 375 specimen tubes containing black ants.

"Like in other countries, the importation and exportation of non-native black ants are strictly prohibited in view of the danger it poses not only to human health but also to the environment. Studies in China show that non-native black ants are carriers of virus, bacteria and diseases inimical to local ecology, including agriculture and forestry. However, despite common perils and hazards, black ants are also beautiful in appearance," read the BOC Port of NAIA's statement.

The seized black ants were turned over to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and subjected to seizure and forfeiture proceedings for violation of Sections 11 and 27 of RA 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act), and Section 117 in relation to Section 1113 (f) of RA 10863. **(KAL)**



## Bacolod residents warned of illegal dumping of garbage



BACOLOD. The Task Force Basura in Bacolod City warns residents for hiring pedicab or tricycle drivers to illegally dump their garbage in various areas in the city. (Task Force Basura Photo)

**MERLINDA A. PEDROSA**

February 17, 2022

THE Task Force Basura has warned residents of hiring pedicab or tricycle drivers to illegally dump their garbage in various areas in Bacolod city.

Wilfredo Geolingo, head of the task force, said that from February 14 to 16, a total of 13 individuals were given first warning for illegally dumping their garbage in the highways, as well as in the areas of Barangays 1, 2, 14, 16 and Mansilingan, Felisa, Taculing, Alijis, and near Lopue's East.

Geolingo said most of the violators were pedicab and tricycle drivers who were hired by the homeowners.

But pedicab or tricycle drivers refused to give the names of the home owners who hired them to dump their garbage, he added.

Under the law, they will be fined P500 for violation of Republic Act 9003, or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, or do community service if they commit the same offense.

That would include whoever commissioned them to dump the garbage, Geolingo warned, as he urged residents to wait and follow the schedule of the garbage collection within their barangay or subdivision to avoid penalties.

Source: <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1921250/bacolod/local-news/bacolod-residents-warned-of-illegal-dumping-of-garbage>



# 'Mobile museum' raises awareness on biodiversity protection

By Perla Lena February 17, 2022, 7:46 pm



**TRAVELLING MUSEUM.** The Mobile Museum Boxes traveling exhibition is now available at the Santa Barbara Centennial Museum in Santa Barbara, Iloilo until April 13, 2022. The exhibition aims to raise awareness on the protection and preservation of natural resources in the Visayas

**ILOILO CITY** – A Mobile Museum Boxes (MMB) traveling exhibition since 2019 that aims to raise awareness on the protection and preservation of the natural resources in the Visayas regions are currently on display at the Santa Barbara Centennial Museum in Santa Barbara, Iloilo.

Santa Barbara Tourism Officer Irene Magallon, in an interview Thursday, said the MMB covers rocks, forests, shells, land formation, and flora and fauna, among others that can be found in the three Visayas regions.

She cited among others the lithologic (study of rocks) map represented by rocks that can be found in the islands of Visayas, rare species of plants that are near extinction found in Samar and Leyte; replica of Mt. Kanlaon, Bohol Chocolate Hills, the world's biggest flower Rafflesia that can be found in Antique and Iloilo; preserved animals; and landslide in Leyte.

"The purpose is really make them understand the need for conservation of forests and other natural resources. Because of climate change and global warming we have to be aware of it," Magallon said.

In addition to the MMB, visitors can also take a look at the centennial museum display and chronology of events leading to Philippine Independence in 1898, which is the focus of the museum, she said.

"Because we had the opportunity to display these mobile museum boxes, which is not very common of course so we really gave them a chance to be featured in our centennial museum," Magallon said.

She added that since Iloilo is already the last venue, there was a proposal to have it extended for probably another two weeks.

"It might stay long in Iloilo because we are still uncertain what will happen in the following months due to Covid-19," she said although raising the possibility of the project wrapping up by the first half of the year.



The MMB with the theme “Conserving the Natural History of the Visayas Region” was launched in Eastern Samar State University in Borongan, Eastern Samar in 2019, and was transferred to the University of Eastern Philippines in Catarman, Northern Samar.

It was brought to the University of the Philippines Visayas Tacloban and Visayas State University in Baybay, all in Leyte province.

It is a joint venture of the National Museum of the Philippines (NMP) – Botany and Herbarium Division, the Western Visayas Association of Museums, Inc. (WVMI), and the Forest Foundation of the Philippines (FFP).

The MMB will return to the National Museum Western Visayas in Iloilo City after its exhibition at the Santa Barbara Centennial Museum.

She said that the exhibit is open to the fully vaccinated general public but they are hoping to see students, college and senior high school learners.

It is open on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. but they can make special arrangements during weekends. **(PNA)**



# Rare baby ghost shark discovery delights New Zealand scientists

ABS-CBN News

Posted at Feb 17 2022 01:33 PM

SYDNEY - While typically heard in an omnipresent children's song, the phrase baby shark has delighted New Zealand scientists after the rare discovery of a juvenile ghost shark during a survey off the east coast of the country's South Island.



Ghost sharks, also known as chimaeras, are not really sharks but are related to sharks since both of their skeletons consist of cartilage rather than bone.

Not much is known about these marine creatures because they usually reside at depths of up to 6,000 feet (1,829 meters), largely inaccessible to researchers.

"What we do know tends to come from the large adults which are usually a meter, a meter and a half in length, so finding one that actually kind of just sits in the palm of my hand is incredibly uncommon," Brit Finucci, a scientist at New Zealand's National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research told Reuters on Thursday.

This newly hatched ghost shark was grabbed from a depth of 1.2 kilometers (0.75 mile), Finucci said. Photos of the baby ghost shark showed black fins connected to a body of translucent skin with a wispy white tail and black eyes.

"I thought it was cool, other people on the boat not so much," laughed Finucci. "I knew right away it was just something different that we don't generally come across so I grabbed it and took a couple of photos which have now spread all over the internet."

Juvenile ghost sharks tend to be found at different depths than the adults and in some cases look different than the adults, she said. The creatures, which are also called ratfish, rabbitfish, elephant fish or spookfish, have large heads and oversized eyes versus their body.



Ghost shark embryos develop in egg capsules laid on the sea floor, feeding off a yolk until they are ready to hatch.

The "very rare and exciting find" will give some insight into the species, she said. "It kind of fills in some of the little gaps here and there."

**(Reporting by Renju Jose and Cordelia Hsu; Editing by Christian Schmollinger)**

Source: [https://news.abs-cbn.com/overseas/02/17/22/rare-baby-ghost-shark-discovery-delights-scientists?fbclid=IwAR0nBmcb14CWeUOOWIkt\\_nz-7Leg7qs](https://news.abs-cbn.com/overseas/02/17/22/rare-baby-ghost-shark-discovery-delights-scientists?fbclid=IwAR0nBmcb14CWeUOOWIkt_nz-7Leg7qs)

18 FEBRUARY 2022, FRIDAY



**DENR**

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# **PUBLICATIONS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



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February 02, 2022

**DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER  
NO. 2022 - 02**

**SUBJECT: GUIDELINES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UNDER THE PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT SYSTEM (PEISS) FOR PROPOSED RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT THROUGH DREDGING ACTIVITIES PURSUANT TO SECTION 5.4 OF DENR-DPWH-DILG-DOTR JOINT MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR 2019-01**

In response to the urgency of river restoration projects under DENR Administrative Order Nos. 2019-13, 2019-14, 2020-01, 2020-07 as amended by 2020-15, 2020-12 Rationalizing Dredging Activities in Heavily - Silted River Channels pursuant to DENR-DPWH-DILG-DOTR Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2019-01 or the Guidelines on the Issuance of Clearance and/or Permit for Dredging Within Waterways or Other Inland Bodies of Water, these guidelines on public participation pursuant to Presidential Decree 1586 for dredging projects shall be adopted.

**SECTION 1. Rationale.** The DENR Administrative Order No. 2017-15 provided guidelines on public participation for projects covered under the Philippine EIS System. Considering the urgency of river restoration projects under DAO Nos. 2019-13, 2019-14, 2020-01, 2020-07 as amended by 2020-15, and 2020-12 and since the same are considered as environmental enhancement projects under the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System (PEISS), guidelines on public participation specifically for this type of project shall be issued.

**SECTION 2. Objectives.** This Order shall provide guidelines for the identification of the public participation procedures for the individual Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Study required to be undertaken by contractors pursuant to Part V, Section 3 of DAO No. 2019-13 and Part IV, Section 3 of DAO Nos. 2019-14, 2020-01, 2020-07 and 2020-12. The following are the specific objectives of this Order:

1. Establish the specific requirements and procedures for public participation of proposed dredging projects; and
2. Identify the key stakeholders for public participation activities during the review and evaluation stage of the EIA process for dredging projects.

**SECTION 3. Scope and Coverage.** This DAO covers the public participation process under the PEISS for the restoration of heavily silted river channels through dredging projects pursuant to Section 5.4 of DENR-DPWH-DILG-DOTR Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2019-01.

**SECTION 4. Definition of Terms.** As used in this Order, the following terms shall be defined as:

- 4.1 Focus group discussion (FGD)** is a rapid assessment, semi-structured data gathering method in which a purposively selected set of participants gather to discuss and deliberate on a specific topic. It normally has a small number of participants, just enough to generate rich discussion.
- 4.2 Inter-Agency Committee** – a committee created under DAO Nos. 2019-13, 2019-14, 2020-01, 2020-07 as amended by 2020-15, and 2020-12 that will serve as oversight for the implementation of the said Orders and monitoring of the dredging operations; recommend the suspension and/or cancellation of permits and/or clearances; and propose policies and programs to rationalize the dredging operations.
- 4.3 Multi-partite Monitoring Team (MMT)** – an independent entity whose membership represents primarily the stakeholders/public that is intended to assist the DENR in monitoring environmental impacts and compliance with the Philippine EIS System requirements and other environmental laws. The MMT scheme is intended to enhance participation and transparency at the post-ECC issuance stage of the EIA Process.
- 4.4 Public Consultation** refers to dialogue or communication between and among the project proponent, the EMB-DENR, relevant government agencies, LGUs, and other stakeholders for the purpose of exchanging information and views on the environmental impacts assessment, management, and monitoring for proposed dredging projects as part of the review of the ECC Application.
- 4.5 Public Participation** – is an element of a process that gives citizens, particularly stakeholders, the opportunity to influence major decisions that may affect their community and their environment. In the EIA Process, the goal of public participation is to enable citizens to take responsibility for environmental protection and management through active involvement in the process.
- 4.6 Public Scoping** involves the gathering of information, concerns, opinions, and suggestions from the public that will be included in the terms of reference for the EIA study of the dredging project.

**SECTION 5. Requirements and Procedures of Public Participation for DENR River Restoration through Dredging Activities**

**A. Review and Evaluation Stage**

1. **Identified Public Participation Activities for Proposed Dredging Project**
  - a. **Public Scoping**

The proponent is required to conduct a public scoping to gather issues and concerns that can be integrated with the EIA through any of or a combination of the following:

1. Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with key stakeholders; and/or
2. Interview with Key Stakeholders

The proponent shall submit results of the FGD and/or interview with stakeholders that should include a list of issues and concerns and attendance of stakeholders to EMB concerned prior to the technical scoping. The EMB shall issue an enhanced Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) screening checklist to be used in the technical scoping.

**b. Public Consultation**

The proponent shall conduct public consultation after the first deliberation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) document to inform the public of the results of the EIA study. It shall be conducted through a meeting or series of meetings with key stakeholders to be participated in among others by those who were duly notified/invited and/or present during the conduct of the public scoping activity. Written invitations from the proponent shall be provided to key stakeholders seven (7) days prior to the scheduled consultation. Within the same period, the proponent shall provide the concerned EMB Office a notice of meeting for posting at the EMB Regional Office website for at least seven (7) days prior to consultation.

The representative/s from the EMB RO or DENR Field Office, or LGU concerned shall facilitate the public consultation.

A copy of the receipt of the invitations, proof of attendance of stakeholders in the meeting, as well as the list of issues and concerns of the key stakeholders on the EIA study shall form part of the EIA Report/EIS.

The conduct of public scoping and public consultation can be conducted virtually on any online platform available (i.e., Zoom, MS Teams, Google Meet, Cisco Webex). However, in the case of face-to-face activity, the health and safety protocols by Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF)/Local Government Unit (LGU) concerned shall always be observed.

**2. Key Stakeholders for Public Participation Activities**

At the minimum, the following stakeholders shall participate in the public scoping and public consultation:

- a) LGUs who have jurisdiction over the river to be dredged;
- b) Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in the project area;
- c) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Field Offices and Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) in the project area including Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) and National Water Resources Board (NWRB);
- d) Regional and/or Provincial and/or City or Municipal and/or National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council;
- e) Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), if applicable;
- f) Mine Rehabilitation Fund Committee (MRFC) of the provincial government;
- g) National Irrigation Administration (NIA) in case the river system is being utilized for irrigation;
- h) People whose socio-economic welfare, business activities, industries that will be displaced or are projected to be affected as determined by LGU concerned; and
- i) Households that will be displaced (if any)
- j) Any person, entity, public, private corporations, affected directly or indirectly by the project

**B. Monitoring Stage**

The Inter-Agency Committee (IAC) shall have an option to establish a Multi-Partite Monitoring Team (MMT). The IAC shall identify the members of MMT as well as its monitoring activities to be undertaken during the dredging operation. The MMT shall prepare a monitoring report for endorsement of IAC to EMB Regional Office concerned for record of the project compliance as well as for validation of the MMT findings/observations.

The proponent shall provide funds for the monitoring activities of the MMT, the amount of which shall be based on the annual work and financial plan to be prepared by the MMT in consultation with the EMB Regional Office concerned.

**SECTION 6. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Order shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the other portions or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue in full force and effect.

**SECTION 7. Repealing Clause.** All Orders and other similar issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 8. Effectivity.** This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation and upon acknowledgment of the receipt of the copy thereof by the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR).

ROY A CIMATU  
Secretary



SENRO61785

18 FEBRUARY 2022, FRIDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **COVID-19 NEWS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



# ‘Mask mandate to remain until end of pandemic’

[Neil Jayson Servallos](#) - The Philippine Star February 18, 2022 | 12:00am



A boy walks past a mural at SSS Village in Marikina City yesterday. The government says wearing face masks will still be required even if the country is placed under Alert Level 1.

Russell Palma

MANILA, Philippines — The mandatory wearing of face masks in public places will remain as the government policy until the COVID-19 pandemic dissipates, the National Task Force (NTF) against COVID-19 said yesterday.

Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr., NTF chief implementer, said the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases has yet to discuss whether the policy should be lifted or not.

“As of now, we haven’t discussed the removal of the face mask (policy). No such discussion has been made,” Galvez said in an interview with radio station dzBB, noting that the government is still trying to control COVID-19 cases nationwide.

“What I have been telling the media all this time is that the last component of our easing of (rules and restrictions amid the pandemic) would be the removal of the mask mandate because that’s our final defense,” he added. Earlier this week, Galvez said the mask mandate could be scrapped by the fourth quarter of this year, but only if the pandemic becomes “very manageable” at that time.

NTF medical adviser Teodoro Herbosa said the move could be possible, considering that the government would have fully vaccinated 90 million Filipinos by then, a number that represents about 81 percent of the whole population.

However, Galvez said the NTF’s official recommendation is that the mask mandate would not be scrapped until COVID-19 has been “totally eliminated.”

“Until the pandemic has ended... and while we cannot say that we are totally secured or that the COVID-19 is totally eliminated, we cannot remove the face mask (mandate),” he said.

Malacañang had said that face masks would still be required under Alert Level 1 classification, which may be in effect by March 1.

Under Alert Level 1, intrazonal and interzonal travel will be allowed regardless of age and comorbidities.



All establishments or activities may operate or be undertaken at full on-site or venue capacity, but minimum public health standards like observing physical distance, frequent hand washing, and wearing of face masks are observed.

Metro Manila and several other areas will be under Alert Level 2 until the end of February even with the decline in new COVID-19 infections and the low health care utilization rate.

Latest data on the National Vaccination Dashboard of the NTF showed that only over 60 million Filipinos have been fully vaccinated, with over eight million already having received their booster dose.



# PNP: 251 areas under granular lockdown

[Emmanuel Tupas](#) - The Philippine Star February 18, 2022 | 12:00am



Police seen along Galicia Street in Bangkulasi, Navotas on July 14, 2020. The area was placed under lockdown since July 10 due to the surge of COVID-19 cases.

The STAR / Michael Varcas, file

MANILA, Philippines — A total of 251 areas in the country are under granular lockdown due to COVID-19 cases, the Philippine National Police (PNP) reported yesterday.

Police said 297 households or 343 people are affected by the lockdown.

The affected residents are being secured by 121 police officers and 335 force multipliers.

Four regions have areas under lockdown, with the Cordilleras topping the list with 139.

The other regions with locked down areas are Ilocos with 83, Metro Manila with 16 and Cagayan Valley, 13.

The 16 areas under lockdown in the National Capital Region are all in Manila, affecting 17 people.

At least 438,003 people have been apprehended nationwide for violating COVID-19 protocols since Feb. 1.

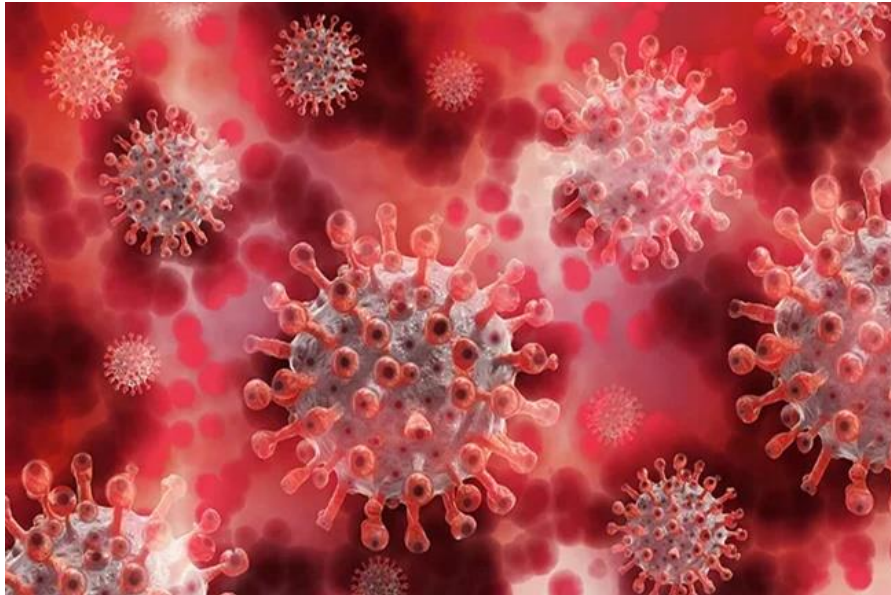
Of the number, 71,470 violators were arrested in Metro Manila.

Police said 379,624 people were accosted for disregarding minimum public health standards, 53,081 for ignoring curfew and 5,298 for leaving their homes even if they were not allowed outdoors.



## PILIPINAS, HINDI PA RIN NAKALAMPAS SA CRISIS STAGE NG COVID-19 PANDEMIC

by **DWIZ 882** February 17, 2022



Hindi pa tuluyang nalalampan ng Pilipinas ang crisis stage sa COVID-19 pandemic.

Ito ang nilinaw ni Department of Health (DOH) Secretary Francisco Duque III kasunod ng unang pahayag na nalagpasan na ng bansa ang pandemya.

Sa panayam sa DWIZ, ipinaliwanag nito na tanging sa epekto ng omicron variant nakabangon ang pilipinas at hindi sa COVID-19.

Posible kasing magkaroon pa ng mas maraming variant na mabubuo at magdudulot ng panibagong hawaan sa ating bansa.

Sa huling tala, bumuti na ang two-week growth rate, Average Daily Attack Rate (ADAR) at healthcare utilization ng bansa. – **sa panulat ni Abigail Malanday**

Source: <https://www.dwiz882am.com/index.php/pilipinas-hindi-pa-rin-nakalampas-sa-crisis-stage-ng-covid-19-pandemic/>



**#OneDENR**

**Covid-19  
Situation and Response**



# DOH COVID-19 CASE BULLETIN # 705

## PEBRERO 17, 2022

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

PORSYENTO NG AKTIBONG KASO

# 1.8%

TOTAL NG AKTIBONG KASO  
**66,588**

PORSYENTO NG GUMALING

# 96.7%

TOTAL NG GUMALING  
**3,524,875**

PORSYENTO NG NAMATAY

# 1.52%

TOTAL NG NAMATAY  
**55,330**

MGA BAGONG KASO **2,196**

MGA BAGONG GUMALING **4,409**

MGA BAGONG NAMATAY **107**

KABUANG BILANG NG KASO **3,646,793**

### MGA NAGPOSITIBO HULING PEBRERO 15

DATOS NGAYONG PEBRERO 17  
AYON SA REPORTS NOONG PEBRERO 15

# 9.7%

PORSYENTO NG MGA  
NAGPOSITIBO

# 29,392

BILANG NG  
TINIST

HALOS  
**93.0%**  
ANG MILD AT  
ASYMPTOMATIC  
NA KASO!

**D** UMISTANSYA NG  
ISANG METRO AT LIMITAHAN  
ANG PISIKAL NA  
INTERAKSYON SA IBA

#### KABUANG PILIPINAS

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (3.9K TOTAL BEDS)  
**31%** Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (20.7K TOTAL BEDS)  
**27%** Utilized

WARD BEDS (14.9K TOTAL BEDS)  
**23%** Utilized

VENTILATORS (3.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)  
**17%** Utilized

#### NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

PUNO NA BA ANG ATING MGA OSPITAL?

ICU BEDS (1.3K TOTAL BEDS)  
**31%** Utilized

ISOLATION BEDS (4.5K TOTAL BEDS)  
**25%** Utilized

WARD BEDS (4.2K TOTAL BEDS)  
**26%** Utilized

VENTILATORS (1.1K TOTAL VENTILATORS)  
**20%** Utilized

#### KALAGAYAN NG MGA AKTIBONG KASO

1,090 Asymptomatic

60,848 Mild

2,913 Moderate

1,428 Severe

309 Critical

#### DOH HOSPITAL HOTLINES

For health concerns and emergencies, you may access  
here the DOH hospital hotlines across the country:

[bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines](https://bit.ly/DOHHospitalHotlines)

#### DOH ONE HOSPITAL COMMAND CENTER (OHCC) HOTLINES

• 1555 • 0915-777-7777  
• 02-886-505-00 • 0919-977-3333

[bit.ly/OHCCHotline](https://bit.ly/OHCCHotline)

#### DOH TELEMEDICINE CONTACT DETAILS

[bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine](https://bit.ly/DOHTelemedicine)

SeeYouDoc  
✉ seeyoudoc.com  
📞 SeeYouDoc

KonsultaMD  
✉ konsulta.md  
📞 KonsultaMD

CloudPx  
✉ cloudpx.ph/

Telimed and Medgate  
✉ medgate.ph/shop/telimedplan/purchase

MedCheck  
✉ medcheck.com.ph/find-a-doctor/SeeYouDoc

TelAventusMD  
✉ TelAventusMD@aventusmedical.com.ph  
📞 TelAventusMD

HealthNow  
📞 healthnow.ph/  
✉ help@healthnow.ph  
📱 HealthNow



Manatiling ligtas!

I-download ang StaySafe App  
o gamitin ang WEBAPP  
at pumunta sa [Staysafe.ph](https://Staysafe.ph)



Walang internet or load?  
Report via SMS

2158-5779 (for Globe users)  
225-655-779 (for other users)



May tanong ukol sa COVID-19?  
I-chat na si KIRA!

VIBER: Kira Kontra COVID by DOH  
MESSENGER: Department of Health PH  
KONTRACOVIDPH: [kontracovid.ph](https://kontracovid.ph)

MAYROON PANG KATANUNGAN? SUMANGGUNI LAMANG SA SUMUSUNOD:

[OfficialDOHgov](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialDOHgov)

[@DOHgovph](https://twitter.com/DOHgovph)

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

[📞 \(02\) 894-COVID / 1555](tel:(02)894-COVID)



18 FEBRUARY 2022, FRIDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **VLOGS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



**Please click this link:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMaN0smIRDk&ab\\_channel=BTVPinas](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XMaN0smIRDk&ab_channel=BTVPinas)

#manilabay

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BTV Pinas

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MANILA

MANILA BAY BINUKSAN NA SA PUBLIKO 02-17-2022

10,588 views • Feb 17, 2022

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Binuksan ngayong araw ng Feb.17, 2022 ang Manila Baywalk sa bahagi ng Remedios para sa ating mga kababayan. Malaking bagay ito para kahit papaano ay maibsan ang mga stress na nararanasan dulot ng pandemya. Manatiling sumunod sa health protocols.

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[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2fRkYWMn0OE&ab\\_channel=KUYARONSTV](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2fRkYWMn0OE&ab_channel=KUYARONSTV)

MANILA

MAHABA-HABA NA DOLOMITE SAND MANILA BAY UPDATE 02-17-2022

11,304 views • Feb 17, 2022

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mahaba haba na ang tambak ng dolomite sand at mas lalong titingkad ang ganda kapag napagdugtong na ang phase 1 & 2 sa pagtatambak ng dolomite sand.

#manilabay

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
Please click this link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOMfivqJ3v0&ab\\_channel=MizJuly](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TOMfivqJ3v0&ab_channel=MizJuly)

MANILA BAY WHITE BEACH

MANILA BAY TODAY,PWERSA NG WARRIORS HINDI TINANTANAN! NAKATAGO SA DOLOMITE PEBBLES ! Miz July

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Miz July

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maraming salamat po, keep safe everyone

[#SaveManilaBay](#)

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maraming salamat po, keep safe everyone

[#SaveManilaBay](#)

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#BattleForManilaBay #BasecoBeach #Aplaya

ITO NA PALA ANG APLAYA SA BASECO! NAMANGHA AKO SA NAKITA!

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#basecobeach #baseco #basecobeachupdate

PAGBABAGO SA BASECO APLAYA, INFORMAL SETTLERS KUMUSTA NA!?

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