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DENR gives timely tweaks to WPP permit process

Published May 3, 2021, 11:54 AM by Ellson Quismorio

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has decentralized the processing and issuance of wood processing plant (WPP) permits in a bid to boost investments and employment in the forestry sector.



DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu (M) (Photo from DENR Facebook page)

This, as DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu ordered the transfer of the authority to renew WPP permits to regional executive directors as part of its efforts to improve transactions in government offices.

Cimatu's directive, contained in DENR Administrative Order (DAO) 2021-05 titled, "Revised Regulations Governing the Establishment and Operations of Wood Processing Plants," also extended the validity of WPP permits from the current three years to five years.

"This order is pursuant to the objectives of Republic Act (RA) 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business to eliminate over-regulation and to promote efficiency," he said of the DAO issued on March 26, 2021.

With the order, only the applications for new WPP permits will be accepted and reviewed by the undersecretary for field operations at the DENR Central Office.

Before the issuance of DAO 2021-05, the approval and renewal of WPP permits were conducted at the DENR Central Office per DAO 2016-07. The old process was also based on the DENR Manual of Authorities for Technical Matters dated May 19, 2016.

"This is but one of the many reforms the DENR has set out to do to shore up investments and employment in the country's forest sector and increase the local supply of wood products and employment productivity in forest resource-dependent communities in the uplands," Cimatu said of the new DAO.





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DENR gives timely tweaks to WPP permit process

He noted that the development was also part of the agency's efforts to fine-tune its regulatory policies with recent forestry policy reforms.

It is also expected to hasten the establishment of production tree plantations in private lands, which can serve as sources of domestic timber. This is turn will minimize timber importation.

As for extending the WPP permit validity to five years, Cimatu said this was consistent with the provision of Executive Order (EO) 23.

EO 23, which declares a "moratorium on the cutting and harvesting of timber in natural and residual forests nationwide," requires WPPs to prove that they have a sustainable source of legally cut wood for at least five years to be able to operate.

To be covered by the permits are WPP operators and lumber dealers engaged in the operation of sawmill, mini-sawmill, re-saw permit, plywood/veneer plants, blockboards, fiberboard, particleboard, and other wood-based panel plants and wood treating plants.

Meanwhile, in order to promote vertical integration, the validity of the WPP permit will be made co-terminus with those of tenure instrument holders engaged in tree plantation development.

With the reforms, private landowners and holders of forestry tenure instruments such as the Integrated Forest Management Agreement (IFMA), Socialized Industrial Forest Management Agreement (SIFMA), and Community-Based Forest Management Agreement (CBFMA) are expected to establish their own WPPs to encourage vertical integration.

Source: https://mb.com.ph/2021/05/03/denr-gives-timely-tweaks-to-wpp-permit-process/





Cimatu decentralizes processing, issuance of wood processor permit; validity extended to 5 years

By DENR Published on May 3, 2021

QUEZON CITY, May 3 -- Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy A. Cimatu has ordered the transfer of the authority to renew Wood Processing Plant (WPP) permits to regional executive directors as part of its efforts to improve transactions in government offices.

Cimatu's directive, contained in DENR Administrative Order (DAO) 2021-05, Revised Regulations Governing the Establishment and Operations of Wood Processing Plants, likewise extended the validity of WPP permits from three to five years.

"This order is pursuant to the objectives of Republic Act 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business to eliminate over-regulation and to promote efficiency," Cimatu said of the directive issued on March 26, 2021.

With the order, only the applications for new WPP permits will be accepted and reviewed by the Undersecretary for Field Operations at the DENR Central Office.

Before the issuance of DAO 2021-05, approval and renewal of WPP permits were conducted at the DENR Central Office per DAO 2016-07 or the DENR Manual of Authorities for Technical Matters dated May 19, 2016.

"This is but one of the many reforms the DENR has set out to do to shore up investments and employment in the country's forest sector and increase the local supply of wood products and employment productivity in forest resource-dependent communities in the uplands," Cimatu said.

He added that extending the permit's validity to five years is also consistent with the provision of Executive Order (EO) 23.

EO 23, which declares a "moratorium on the cutting and harvesting of timber in natural and residual forests nationwide," requires WPPs to prove that they have a sustainable source of legally cut wood for at least five years to be able to operate.

Covered by the permits are WPP operators and lumber dealers engaged in the operation of sawmill, mini-sawmill, re-saw permit, plywood/veneer plants, blockboards, fiberboard, particleboard, and other wood-based panel plants and wood treating plants.

Cimatu explained that this development is part of the DENR's efforts to fine-tune its regulatory policies with recent forestry policy reforms.

It will also help boost the establishment of production tree plantations in private lands which can be sources of domestic timber to minimize timber importation.

Meanwhile, for tenure instrument holders engaged in tree plantation development, the validity of the WPP permit is co-terminus with the said tenure instrument, to promote vertical integration.





Cimatu decentralizes processing, issuance of wood processor permit; validity extended to 5 years

With the reforms, private landowners and holders of forestry tenure instruments such as the Integrated Forest Management Agreement (IFMA), Socialized Industrial Forest Management Agreement (SIFMA), and Community-Based Forest Management Agreement (CBFMA) are expected to establish their own WPPs to encourage vertical integration.

This will enable wood-based enterprises to control multiple processes in the supply chain such as tree growing, harvesting, wood processing, marketing.

It will also enhance their production efficiency resulting in lower production costs. (DENR)

Source: https://pia.gov.ph/press-releases/releases/1074135





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PH rivers yield bulk of Asia's marine plastic wastes in 2015

By: <u>Cristina Eloisa Baclig</u> - Content Researcher/Writer / <u>@CeBacligINO INOUIRER.net</u> / 07:12 PM May 03, 2021



Recyclables, such as pet bottles, were among the trash recovered during the cleanup in Freedom Island. If segregation and recycling were done at source, these materials would not have found their way into the bay. (FILE) Photo by GAIA

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines was Asia's third largest contributor to marine plastic pollution in 2015, according to data recently released in the scientific online publication website Our World in Data (OWID).

The data published on Saturday, which cited a 2015 study published in a peer-reviewed academic journal, detailed that at least 81 percent of the 4.8 to 12.7 million tons of global plastic waste in the oceans came from Asian rivers.

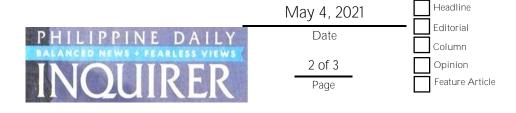
"The fact that a disproportionate amount of plastic pollution comes from Asia is consistent with previous research. Earlier studies estimated its share in 2010 was 86%.8 This should also not surprise us given the fact that Asia is the world's most populous region (home to 60% of the world population)," said Hannah Ritchie, senior researcher and head of research at OWID.

Of the top 10 largest emitting rivers in Asia in 2015, seven were from the Philippines – namely the Pasig River, Tullahan River, Meycauayan River in Bulacan, Libmanan River in Camarines Sur, Rio Grande de Mindanao River, and Agno River in Pangasinan.

This brings the country's total marine plastic input to at least one-third or 36 percent of the total ocean plastics emitted from Asia.

"This is because the Philippines consists of many small islands where the majority of the population lives near the coast. But it's an important update on our previous understanding of where China and India were thought to dominate. India accounts for 13%, and China for 7%," Ritchie explained.





PH rivers yield bulk of Asia's marine plastic wastes in 2015

Pasig River and the PRRC

Pasig River, a 27-kilometer long waterway that cuts across Metro Manila, accounted for 6.4 percent of global river plastics in Asia.

Based on the interactive map produced by non-profit organization Ocean Cleanup Project, the Pasig River dumps over 69,000 tons of plastics into the ocean every year

In past years, the government has previously made an effort to rehabilitate the river by clearing piles of plastic wastes. This was made possible through the creation of the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC).

The commission had a successful run in 2018 and was given the first Asia River Prize Award by the International River Foundation.

However, in September last year, President Rodrigo Duterte deemed that the <u>river</u> <u>"uncleanable."</u> A couple of months later, he has ordered the disestablishment of PRRC.

The commission's powers and functions, as mandated in Executive Order No. 93, was then transferred to other government agencies and offices such as the Manila Bay Task Force, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

Mismanaged plastic wastes

The OWID report said the country's distribution of ocean plastics was determined through three steps—the first step focused on the amount of plastic waste generated by each country while the remaining steps examined the mismanaged plastic waste per country.

Mismanaged plastic waste is defined as "plastic that is either littered or inadequately disposed of." This pertains to plastic that is improperly disposed of and managed — which are usually dumped in uncontrolled landfills and outside landfills.

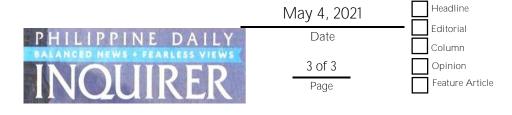
"Plastic will only enter rivers and the ocean if it's poorly managed. In rich countries, nearly all of its plastic waste is incinerated, recycled, or sent to well-managed landfills. It's not left open to the surrounding environment," Ritchie wrote in her report.

"Low-to-middle income countries tend to have poorer waste management infrastructure. Waste can be dumped outside of landfills, and landfills that do exist are often open, leaking waste to the surrounding environment. Mismanaged waste in low-to-middle income countries is therefore much higher," she added.

Data bared that the 2015 per capita mismanaged waste in the Philippines, around 6.52 percent, was a hundred times greater than in the United Kingdom.

The World Bank, in its "Market Study for the Philippines: Plastics Circularity Opportunities and Barriers" report released in March stated that at least 2.7 million tons of plastics are being thrown away by Filipinos every year.





PH rivers yield bulk of Asia's marine plastic wastes in 2015

Unfortunately, of the sum, one-fifth of these plastic wastes were being improperly disposed of and mostly thrown into the ocean. Only 28 percent of the key plastic resins – including polyethylene terephthalate (PET), low-density polyethylene (LDPE), high-density polyethylene (HDPE), and polypropylene (PP) – were recycled in 2019.

Meanwhile, data published in the journal Science Advances found that over 550 million kilograms of plastic waste are being mismanaged in the Pasig River alone.

The OWID report, likewise, said that the probability of mismanaged waste from the Philippines ending up in the ocean in 2015 equated to 7.17 percent.

To address the issue on the plastic waste management in the country, the World Bank recommended the following:

Raise sorting efficiency

Set recycled content goals for all major end-use applications

Require "design for recycling" standards for plastics

Enjoin more chemical and mechanical recycling capacities

Create industry-specific requirements to collect post-use plastics

Restrict plastics disposal.

In February, the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC) has also approved <u>a draft resolution that includes plastic straws and plastic coffee stirrers</u> in the list of non-environmentally approved products (NEAP).

The DENR has vowed to eliminate the use of plastic straws and plastic coffee stirrers in the country, saying "this is long overdue and we need to catch up with the demand of solid waste management in our country."

"The prohibition on these two single-use plastic items may be small steps in the NEAP listing, but it is a big leap when it comes to compliance with the provisions of RA 9003," DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda said.

Read more: https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1426727/ph-rivers-yield-bulk-of-asias-marine-plastic-

wastes-in-2015#ixzz6tq2aw6sN

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Plastic kills whale



Photo from BFAR Facebook page

RALPH LAWRENCE G. LLEMIT

May 03, 2021

A WHALE with an estimated 4,000-kilogram body weight stranded along the coastlines of Mati City, Davao Oriental was confirmed to have died due to plastic ingestion.

In a report from the Mati City Information Office, a male Bryde's whale was stranded in Barangay Lanca, Mati City on Saturday, May 1, 2021.

Bryde's whale, considered as an endangered species, was seen along the coastline in Lanca around 1 p.m., according to barangay officials.

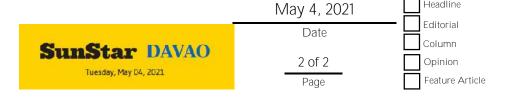
The whale was still alive when the residents of Sitio Kutkut in Purok Dos, Barangay Lanca discovered it. They tried to return it back to the water but struggled due to its weight and it was low tide during that time.

The whale died around 6:30 p.m. of the same day.

On Sunday, May 2, personnel from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)-Davao and D'Bone Collector Museum Director Darrell Blatchey, along with the area's tourist police, went to the site to check on the whale.

Blatchley confirmed to SunStar Davao in a text message that plastic ingestion was the cause of the whale's death.





Plastic kills whale

"The whale died [due] to blockage of the throat due to plastic bags," he said, adding that first responders were able to pull out plastic bags out of its throat.

A plastic was also recovered from its stomach.

The bones of the whale were brought to Davao City for preservation, while its flesh was immediately buried in an undisclosed area.

Blatchley had previously expressed concerns after another marine creature was found dead along the coastlines of Davao Region.

Deaths of these marine creatures were oftentimes attributed to fish net traps, dynamite fishing, and plastic wastes.

He also said marine creatures dying due to plastic wastes ingestion has become normal throughout the years.

"It shows we have already destroyed our country, our oceans, so much to the point nga mamatay tungod sa basura (they would just die due to garbage)," Blatchley said in a previous interview.

Source: https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1893536/Davao/Local-News/Plastic-kills-whale





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DENR urges: Protect coastal waters



Published 6 hours ago on May 4, 2021 02:00 AM By Jonas Reyes



Photo credit: DENR

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has urged Central Luzon residents to protect the coastal waters and rich marine sources of Region 3 during this Month of the Ocean (MOO).

In a statement, DENR regional executive director Paquito Moreno Jr. said that MOO aims to protect the healthy state of the coastal areas of Region 3 and to sustain the abundant marine resources via the participation of local communities in keeping these bodies of water clean.

"Our collective effort can achieve more to protect and save our marine resources. Marine ecosystems are home to diverse and unique biodiversity, and serve as important source of food and livelihood to coastal communities," Moreno said.

Known for being the third largest aquaculture producer in the country, Central Luzon has a total coastal length of 630 kilometers and is connected to known bodies of water such as the Manila Bay, Subic Bay and the West Philippine Sea.

Bataan, Zambales and Aurora are known coastal areas where five of the seven species of marine turtles breed and nest, while the province of Zambales has a rich treasure trove of marine life that includes giant clams, mesophilic coral species, large fishes such as the blue-spotted rabbitfish and mangroves.





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DENR urges: Protect coastal waters

Coastal areas of Bulacan and Pampanga are also home to mangrove forests.

The DENR official also urged the public to use fewer plastic products, recycle, dispose trash properly, and participate in mangrove planting and clean drives by the agency and other organizations.

He added that doing so will help in protecting the marine life and important bodies of water in Central Luzon.

"These are actions we can do that will make a big difference for our water bodies. They may seem little, but when done collectively, they will create a significant impact in protecting our rivers, seas and oceans," Moreno said.

The agency, through its provincial and community offices, will conduct small-scale mangrove planting and cleanup drive during the celebration of MOO this year and plans to conduct massive social media campaign and an online biodiversity quiz competition.

"This would engage the public especially the youth in the protection and conservation of marine resources," Moreno said.

The agency has likewise scheduled a learning event on Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring System for its technical personnel in the regional and field offices.

MOO is celebrated annually by virtue of Presidential Proclamation 57 issued in 1999 to raise public awareness on the protection of marine waters from degradation.

This year's observance is anchored on the theme "The Science We Need for the Ocean We Want."

Inspired by the United Nation's Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, it centers on recognizing the role of science as well as the contributions of recognized scientists in the protection and conservation of the ocean and other water bodies.

Source: https://tribune.net.ph/index.php/2021/05/04/denr-urges-protect-coastal-waters/



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DENR calls for coastal waters, marine life protection

IAN OCAMPO FLORA

May 03, 2021

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is calling on public support for the protection of coastal waters and rich marine resources of Central Luzon.

The call is in support of the Month of the Ocean (MOO) celebration in May 2021.

DENR executive director Paquito Moreno, Jr., in a statement, said conserving the healthy state of coastal areas and sustaining their abundant marine resources would be more achievable if local communities would partake in the mission to keep the water bodies in Central Luzon clean.

"Our collective effort can achieve more to protect and save our marine resources. Marine ecosystems are home to diverse and unique biodiversity, and serve as an important source of food and livelihood to coastal communities," he said.

DENR records showed that the region has a total coastal length of 630 kilometers, where coastal areas of Aurora and Zambales are teeming with marine life and resources.

Central Luzon is also the third-largest aquaculture producer in the Philippines, statistics showed.

According to Donaver Guevarra, regional information officer of the DENR, the region has five coastal provinces, including Aurora, Bataan, Bulacan, Pampanga, and Zambales, which are rich in marine resources.

"Five of the seven species of marine turtles are breeding and nesting in the coastal waters of Bataan, Zambales and Aurora, while species of giant clams, mesophotic coral species, large fishes such as the blue-spotted rabbitfish, and mangroves can also be found in the rich waters of Zambales," he said.

Guevarra added that coastal areas of Bulacan and Pampanga are also home to mangrove forests.

Moreno appealed to the public to protect marine life and important water bodies in the region by using fewer plastic products, recycling, disposing of trash properly, and participating in mangrove planting and cleanup activities organized by the DENR, local government units and other organizations.

"These are actions we can do that will make a big difference for our water bodies. They may seem little, but when done collectively, they will create a significant impact in protecting our rivers, seas and oceans," he ended.

As part of the MOO celebration this year, the DENR will hold small-scale mangrove planting and cleanup activities through its provincial and community offices.





DENR calls for coastal waters, marine life protection

Massive social media campaigns and online biodiversity quiz competitions will also be conducted to engage the public, especially the youth in the protection and conservation of marine resources.

The DENR has likewise scheduled a learning event on Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring System for its technical personnel in the regional and field offices.

MOO is annually celebrated in the month of May by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 57 issued in 1999 to raise public awareness on the protection of marine waters from degradation.

In 2021, the theme, "The Science We Need for the Ocean We Want," is inspired by the United Nation's Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. It centers on recognizing the role of science, as well as the contributions of recognized scientists in the protection and conservation of the ocean and other water bodies.

Source: https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1893512





DENR: Protect coastal waters, rich marine resources of Central Luzon

By Carlo Lorenzo J. DatuPublished on May 3, 2021

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga, May 3 (PIA) -- Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) urged the public to protect the coastal waters and rich marine resources of Central Luzon from degradation.

In line with the celebration of the Month of the Ocean (MOO) this May, DENR Regional Executive Director Paquito Moreno Jr. stressed that conserving the healthy state of coastal areas and sustaining their abundant marine resources would be more achievable if local communities would partake in the mission to keep the water bodies clean.

"Our collective effort can achieve more to protect and save our marine resources. Marine ecosystems are home to diverse and unique biodiversity, and serve as important source of food and livelihood to coastal communities." he said.

DENR records show that Central Luzon has a total coastal length of 630 kilometers. The region is also the third largest aquaculture producer in the Philippines.

Five of the seven species of marine turtles are breeding and nesting in the coastal waters of Bataan, Zambales and Aurora, while species of giant clams, mesophotic coral species, large fishes such as the blue-spotted rabbitfish, and mangroves can also be found in the rich waters of Zambales

Coastal areas of Bulacan and Pampanga are also home to mangrove forests.

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DENR: Protect coastal waters, rich marine resources of Central Luzon

"These are actions we can do that will make a big difference for our water bodies. They may seem little, but when done collectively, they will create a significant impact in protecting our rivers, seas and oceans," he said.

As part of the MOO celebration this year, DENR will hold small scale mangrove planting and cleanup activities through its provincial and community offices.

Massive social media campaign and online biodiversity quiz competition will also be conducted to engage the public especially the youth in the protection and conservation of marine resources.

The agency has likewise scheduled a learning event on Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring System for its technical personnel in the regional and field offices.

MOO is celebrated annually by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 57 issued in 1999 to raise public awareness on the protection of marine waters from degradation.

This year's observance is anchored on the theme "The Science We Need for the Ocean We Want".

Inspired by the United Nation's Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, it centers on recognizing the role of science as well as the contributions of recognized scientists in the protection and conservation of the ocean and other water bodies. (CLJD-PIA 3)



DENR records show that Central Luzon has a total coastal length of 630 kilometers. The region is also the third largest aquaculture producer in the Philippines. (DENR)

Source: https://pia.gov.ph/news/articles/1074067





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Beach view

posted May 03, 2021 at 10:39 pm by Norman Cruz

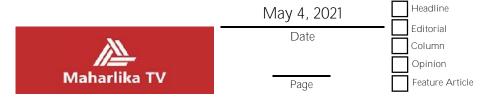


River Warriors from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources clean up a portion of the Manila Bay shoreline in Baseco Compound in Manila, where they collected dozens of sacks of garbage on Monday.

Topics: Beach view , Department of Environment and Natural Resources , Manila Bay

Source: https://manilastandard.net/mobile/article/353494





Tone-toneladang basura nakolekta sa baybayin ng Baseco

May 3, 2021 min read



Nagsagawa ng paglilinis nitong Lunes ang mga tauhan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa Pasig River sa isang bahagi ng baybayin ng Manila Bay sa Baseco compound sa Maynila kung saan nakolekta nila ang tone-toneladang basura na itinapon ng ilang mga residente sa nasabing lugar. (Jhun Mabanag/BENJAMIN CUARESMA/AI/MTVN)

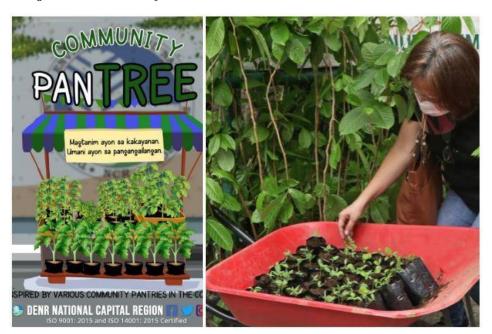
Source: https://www.facebook.com/2165747740135352/posts/4069902279719879/?app=fbl





DENR-NCR to hold 'Community PanTREE' this week

By Ma. Alaine P. AllaniguePublished on May 3, 2021



Photos of DENR-NCR's community pan-tree (DENR-NCR/Facebook)

QUEZON CITY, May 3 (PIA) -- The Department of the Environment and Natural Resources National Capital Region (DENR-NCR) will resume this week its version of community bayanihan dubbed, 'Community PanTREE'.

In a Facebook post, the DENR NCR said its version of the 'Community PanTREE' will be held onTuesday and Thursday, May 4 and 6, 2021, between 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the DENR-NCR Technical Services compound, North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City.

Each recipient is allowed to bring home a maximum of five (5) fruit-bearing tree seedlings and 10 vegetable seedlings (courtesy of the Bureau of Plant Industry), subject to available stocks.

The public is also advised to bring their own pots for the seedlings.

Likewise, the public is strongly advised to observe safety and health protocols such as wearing of face masks and face shields, and maintaining physical distancing during the activity. (PIA NCR)

Source: https://pia.gov.ph/news/articles/1074084





DENR taps families for National Greening Program

By Samuel D. CandidoPublished on May 3, 2021

BORONGAN CITY, May 3 (PIA) - - The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) tapped 386 families in the 12 municipalities of Eastern Samar to help rehabilitate over 2,824 hectares of forestland in the area starting this year, 2021.

According to Ms. Felicita Cervantes, national greening program focal person, they have signed Letters of Agreement (LOA) with concerned families to expand the implementation of the Enhanced National Greening Program (E-NGP) through the "family approach".

She added that there are 386 families mostly 4Ps beneficiaries that signed up for the program.

"The project will cover a total of 2,824 hectares in the upland barangays of 12 municipalities and these areas will be planted with bamboo, fruit trees, rattan, as well as indigenous forest species," she said.

Under the program, CENRO-Borongan will assist the concerned families in rehabilitating and developing the forest areas in line with the implementation of the E-NGP.

The focal person added, that through the "family approach" they aim to get more participation and commitment from the partner families and other community stakeholders.

Cervantes further said that the program beneficiaries will be properly compensated by the DENR for the services rendered.

The compensation will depend on the commodities they will plant and the area to be planted. She disclosed that they will receive a retention fee equivalent to ten percent of the total project cost for at least three years or the duration of the contract.

Cervantes further added that they extend the necessary technical assistance and other support programs to sustain the plantations. (nbq/SDC/PIA-E. Samar)

Source: https://pia.gov.ph/news/articles/1074040





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DENR-Soccsksargen hands over Cotabato City land records to Barmm



ZAMBOANGA. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Soccsksargen turns over Friday, April 30, the initial batch of Cotabato City's land-related documents to the management of the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (Menre-Barmm). A photo handout shows Engineer Mama Samaon, DENR-Soccsksargen assistant regional director for technical services (left), and Menre-Barmm Land Management Services Director Eshan Karl Mabang (2nd from left) leading the turnover of documents in Koronadal City. (SunStar Zamboanga)

May 03, 2021

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Soccsksargen has turned over the initial batch of Cotabato City's land-related documents to the management of the Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Energy in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (Menre-Barmm).

Engineer Mama Samaon, DENR-Soccsksargen assistant regional director for technical services, and Menre-Barmm Land Management Services (LMS) Director Eshan Karl Mabang led the turnover ceremony Friday, April 30, in Koronadal City.

Samaon said the transmitted records included the Cotabato Cadastre (CAD-52) or the city's approved survey plans and survey records.

Samaon said also transferred are the projection maps of Marawi City and list of Land Registration Authority (LRA) titles they gathered during their operations with the Task Force Bangon Marawi.

"The DENR-12 (Soccsksargen) is doing its best to hand over all land documents in a systematic manner for easy referral of Menre-Barmm in the future," Samaon said.

Mabang said there will be a series of turnover from DENR-Soccsksargen to Menre-Barmm for the land records of Cotabato City, including the electronic copies of the documents.



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DENR-Soccsksargen hands over Cotabato City land records to Barmm

They are currently upgrading the Menre's LMS records section in preparation for the comprehensive turnover of land records from Cotabato City and the 63 villages of North Cotabato.

Mabang said the effort seeks to provide efficient and effective records keeping and management system that will cater to region-wide land documents, especially with the added planned digitalized data.

The DENR central office has transferred in December last year to Menre documents, maps, protected areas, and other resources covering Cotabato City and the 63 villages of North Cotabato, as well as the Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary in Zamboanga Peninsula, the Lake Lanao Watershed in Northern Mindanao, and the Liguasan Marsh in Soccsksargen. (SunStar Zamboanga)

Source: https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1893528





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Yellowish discharge from ship docked at Manila Bay not hazardous — PCG

Published May 3, 2021, 4:09 PM by Richa Noriega

The water samples collected from the ship MV Sarangani, which was caught allegedly discharging wastewater while docked near the Manila Bay on April 25, had no presence of oil content and harmful substance based on initial laboratory results, the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) said on Monday, May 3.

"Initially as per laboratory result wala pong oil content and below sa harmful substance na nirelease sa criteria or sa level ng harmful substance yung mga samples ng tubig na nakuha natin. Meaning po wala pong any hazardous things that would impaired the health of a living thing doon po sa kinuhang samples (Initially as per laboratory result there is no oil content and it is below the harmful substance based on the criteria or the level of harmful substance in the water samples collected. Meaning there are no hazardous things that would impaired the health of a living thing in the water samples taken)," PCG National Capital Region (NCR) spokesperson Lt. Michael John Encina told the Manila Bulletin.



(Photo courtesy of the PCG)





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Yellowish discharge from ship docked at Manila Bay not hazardous — PCG



(Photo courtesy of the PCG)

Encina said that they are still waiting for the result of the investigation of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) to determine the cause of the yellowish liquid at the Manila Bay.

"The PCG conducted a thorough investigation relatively to this matter just to give a fair view in the part nung MV Saranggani at the same time para sa ating mga concerned citizen (for our concerned citizen). We are very fortunate na meron tayong mamayan din na nagiging (to have citizens that also become) Coast Guard din in their own ways," he said.

Since the result of the investigation revealed that there was no presence of oil and harmful substance, Encina said the cases filed against Emil Neri, the owner of the MV Sarangani, were already dropped as of Monday, April 3.

Encina said the result of the investigation conducted by the PCG was already sufficient to waived charges against the owner.

"Yung pong kaso na finile against MV Sarangani and doon po sa may ari nito na si Mr. Emil ay nadropped and waived na po so yung other samples coming from Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) hindi na po kinuha ng team the mere fact na yung samples which were gathered by the team po natin and was brought to laboratory has already been sufficed (The cases filed against MV Sarangani and its owner, Mr. Emil was dropped and waived. The other samples coming from BFAR were not also taken by the team. The mere fact that the samples, which were gathered by our team and were brought to the laboratory has already been sufficed)," he added.





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Ilang opisyal ng Iligan City, kinasuhan sa pagsira ng landmark ng lungsod

ABS-CBN News Posted at May 03 2021 11:28 PM



ILIGAN - Nagsampa nitong Lunes sa regional trial court (RTC) ng kasong paglabag ng environmental at cultural heritage laws ang mga residente ng lungsod na ito laban sa mga opisyal ng lokal na pamahalaan at kontraktor na sumira raw sa Anahaw Ampitheater.

Kabilang din sa mga nagsampa ng kaso ay si National Commission on Senior Citizens Commissioner Atty. Franklin Quijano.

Pinagiba raw ang ampitheater ng lokal na pamahalaan upang pagandahin at gawing mas ligtas ayon kay Konsehal Sorelie Bacsarpa, committee chair on Culture and the Arts doon.

Hindi rin umano nadeklara ng National Heritage Institute na isa itong cultural heritage.

Isa sa mga atraksyon sa siyudad ang naturang ampitheater. Ayon naman sa website ng LGU, layon din ng "improvement" na ayusin ang landscape design at lighting doon.

"The Improvement of Anahaw Amphitheatre Cultural Heritage Project focuses mainly on the improvement of existing but broken-down structures such as the concrete bleachers and stairways, retaining walls, and perimeter guard railings," ayon sa isang <u>pahayaq</u> ng siyudad.

"The project would also cover the rehabilitation of the existing basketball court, and the addition of pathways and jogging area on the upper portion of the amphitheater... The said project would also constitute the beautification, landscape design, and lighting of the whole area," dagdag nito.





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Ilang opisyal ng Iligan City, kinasuhan sa pagsira ng landmark ng lungsod

Nakakuha raw ang lokal na pamahalaan ng Special Allotment Release Order na higit P17 milyong pondo mula sa Department of Budget and Management (DBM) para sa pagpapaayos nito.

Pero ayon kay Quijano, maituturing nang isang cultural heritage ang ampitheater na manomanong ginawa noong 1960s gamit ang coral stones.

Hindi rin umano simpleng pag-aayos ang ginawa ng lokal na gobyerno dahil binuwal ang mga coral stones nang walang konsultasyon sa publiko.

"Hustisya ang aming hinihingi. Ibalik nyo ang tiwala ng mga tao. Hindi lang ang ampitheater ang inyong sinira. Ang serbisyo niyo hindi niyo ginawa. You have to restore," sabi ni Quijano.

Ayon naman sa isa rin sa mga nagsampa ng kaso na si Atty. Betsy Zalsos, walang kinuhang environmental compliance certificate ang LGU mula sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Hindi lang daw kasi pagpapaganda ang layunin ng ampitheater. Nasisilbi rin itong slope protection. Maaari raw magdulot ng pagguho ng lupa ang pagbungkal sa ampitheater.

Pinuna rin ng grupo na naunang ipagiba ang ampitheater ng LGU saka humingi ng otorisasyon mula sa Sangguniang Panlungsod.

Balak rin nilang kasuhan ang mga konsehal na nagbigay ng otorisasyon.

Hiniling rin nila sa korte ang temporary environmental protection order at pag nullify ng kontrata ng LGU at kontraktor.

- Ulat ni Roxanne Arevalo

Source: https://www.facebook.com/27254475167/posts/10159451125610168/?app=fbl





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PH 'doing good' in fight against Covid-19

By Azer Parrocha May 4, 2021, 1:09 am



DOING GOOD. President Rodrigo Roa Duterte talks to the people after holding a meeting with the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) core members at the Malago Clubhouse in Malacañang Park, Manila on Monday night (May 3, 2021). Duterte said the country is doing good in fighting the Covid-19 pandemic. (Presidential photo by King Rodriguez)

MANILA – The Philippines is "doing good" in its fight against Covid-19 compared to other countries, President Rodrigo Duterte said on Monday night.

In a pre-recorded public address, Duterte made the remark while praising Health Secretary Francisco Duque III for leading the country's efforts to respond to the prevailing pandemic.

"Compared with other countries, which is not really the time to make comparisons, but we're doing good in the fight against Covid. And Secretary Duque is the hero there," he said.

Citing the health department's case bulletin, Duterte said it is worth looking at the country's total Covid-19 recoveries instead of just the total number of infections.

As of Monday, health authorities recorded 7,255 new Covid-19 cases bringing the total active cases to 69,466. Covid-19 recoveries increased to 975,234 with the addition of 9,214 new recovered patients.

"When you try to figure out the actual numbers of the Covid cases, *yung na*-contaminate, recovery, *tapos nakalabas na*, kindly *pag-aralan ninyo kung ilan ang nagkasakit at ilang ang gumaling* (those who were contaminated, recovered and were discharged from the hospital, kindly study how many how many are getting sick and how many are recovering)," he said.

Duterte assured the public that the government is working "diligently" to slow down the spread of the virus.

"I assure you that we are all working diligently and truthfully. At gusto namin talagang makatulong (We really want to help)," he said.





PH 'doing good' in fight against Covid-19

More vaccines

While he admitted that the country is far from acquiring enough Covid-19 vaccines to inoculate the target 50 to 70 million Filipinos, Duterte noted that more vaccines are coming.

"We still have to have the vaccines in numbers because we have plenty of Filipinos to vaccinate," he said.

The country now has three brands of Covid-19 vaccines in its inventory namely "Sputnik V" from Russia's Gamaleya Research Institute of Epidemiology and Microbiology, "CoronaVac" from China's Sinovac Biotech, and "AstraZeneca" from a British-Swedish manufacturing company of the same name.

He is also optimistic of the government's procurement of vaccines from different manufacturers.

"Wala tayong problema, sa tingin ko (We don't have a problem, I think), in the acquisition ng bakuna (of vaccines) because we have at least some guarantees from countries who honor the contract at darating 'yan ng panahon kailangan natin (and they will come at the time we need them)," he said.

He, however, expressed hope that vaccines acquired by the country would also be effective against new coronavirus variants.

"Let us just pray that *itong mga* (these) variants, *itong mga* (these) mutants will not go haywire. 'Yan ang bantayan natin. Baka hindi na ma-control ng isang bakuna lang and we do not have insight yet kung anong pinag-aralan ng mga scientists (That's what we should monitor. Maybe it can no longer be controlled by one vaccine and we do not have insight yet about what scientists are studying)," he said.

Duterte urged the country's scientists to rise up to the challenge of learning more about the new strains of the virus.

"This would be another challenge maybe to our native scientists to work harder *tsaka kaya man nila ito kung talagang trabahuin nila. Hindi man tayo nagkulang* (and they can actually do it if they really work on it. We did not lack in providing them what they need). We will provide them with all that is necessary really to make a conclusive finding if they have one," he added. *(PNA)*

Source: https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1138969





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'Coin-mmuni-tea pantry' sa Quezon City, nag-aalok ng barya at tsaa

By Mer Layson (Pilipino Star Ngayon) - May 4, 2021 - 12:00am



Maaga pa lamang ay pila na ang marami sa pagbubukas ng Kaisa Community Pantry sa C.P Garcia sa Brgy. UP Campus sa Quezon City.

Boy Santos

MANILA, Philippines — Kakaiba ang iniaalok sa isang community pantry sa Quezon City na may tatlong araw pa lamang na nag-ooperate, dahil sa halip na pagkain ay namimigay sila ng mga barya na maaaring gamiting pamasahe, gayundin ng mga tsaa para isulong naman ang healthy living sa mga mamamayan.

Ayon kay Karl Bartolata, organizer ng naturang 'Coin-mmuni-tea pantry,' na matatagpuan sa Visayas Avenue, Quezon City, mga pagkain din ang una nilang iniaalok sa mga residente nang umpisahan nilang iorganisa ang kanilang community pantry.

Gayunman, may ilang mga donors aniya silang nakausap na nagsabing nahihiya silang magbigay ng donasyon dahil mga barya lang ang kaya nilang ialok.

Dito na aniya nila naisipang itatag ang 'Coin-mmuni-tea pantry' kung saan maaring mag-donate at kumuha ng barya ang kahit na sino, para sa mga nangangailangan ng pamasahe nila.

Bukod sa barya, may mga tsaa rin aniya silang alok tulad ng tanglad tea at iced tea na kaloob ng grupong Galaw ng Kalikasan.

Layunin naman aniya nito na maisulong ang healthy living sa mga mamamayan.

Nabatid na binubuksan ang 'Coin-mmuni-tea pantry' mula alas-9:00 ng umaga hanggang alas-6:00 ng gabi.

Source: https://www.philstar.com/metro/2021/05/04/2095756/coin-mmuni-tea-pantry-sa-quezon-city-nag-aalok-ng-barya-tsaa/amp/





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Unioil reveals sustained efforts to combat climate change

Ruben Manahan IV Mon, 3 May 2021, 8:00 am·2-min read

Independent oil firm Unioil takes pride in its long-running efforts to keep up with the demands of the times.

Unioil claimed in its statement that it is the premier company in the Philippines to provide Euro 5 fuels in multiple variants in all its stations in the Philippines. According to the company, its pump products contain five times less sulfur than Euro 4 fuels—containing only 10ppm as compared to 50ppm.

Following this move, Unioil also furthered its stance on helping de-escalating climate change with the launch of the "Doing Our Part" campaign in November 2017. In line with this, Unioil rolled out several measures to reduce the carbon footprint of its business operations

Unioil uses solar panel to power their station

Among its initiatives is the use of solar-powered "hybrid" service stations—the first of which is found along Congressional Avenue Extension, Quezon City. The said station has solar panels that are 40 percent more efficient than conventional ones. Each unit cuts the company's carbon footprint by 4.7 metric tons annually—equivalent to planting approximately 5,000 trees a year.

It was also during that same timeline that the independent oil player launched the oil industry's first EV charging station within a gasoline station. Unioil's EV Charging Station can be found in Unioil Congressional Extension Station in Quezon City. This was eventually followed by the opening of Unioil Guadalupe along EDSA Makati in June 2018. The said EV charging stations are equipped with three charging protocols, compatible with most Japanese, European, and American electric vehicles.

Unioil EV Charging station

However, Unioil said that even before its "Doing Our Part" campaign, the company had already been championing clean air and sustainability, as it has been monitoring air quality since 2016. Unioil has strategically placed its air monitoring stations in key cities in the Philippines, with more than 26 stations providing live data to the public, free of charge. These Philippine air quality scores may be viewed at https://www.airvisual.com.

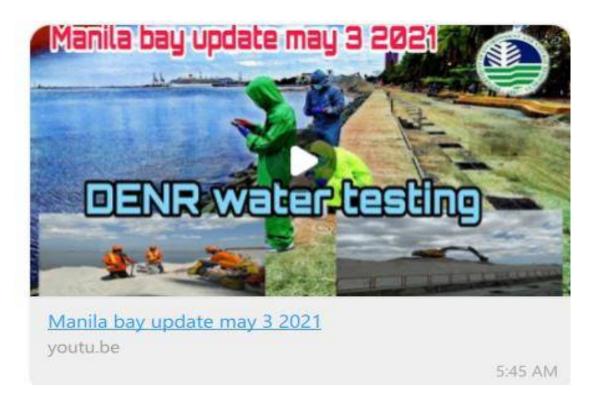
Source: https://sg.news.yahoo.com/unioil-reveals-sustained-efforts-combat-000000856.html



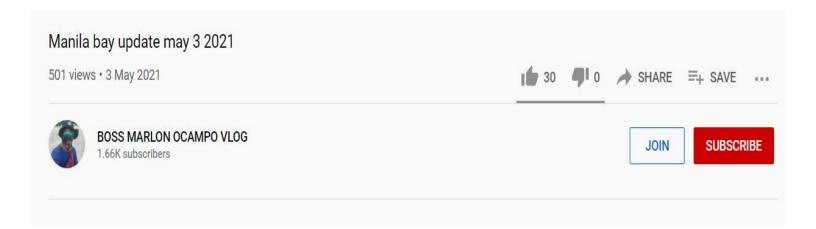




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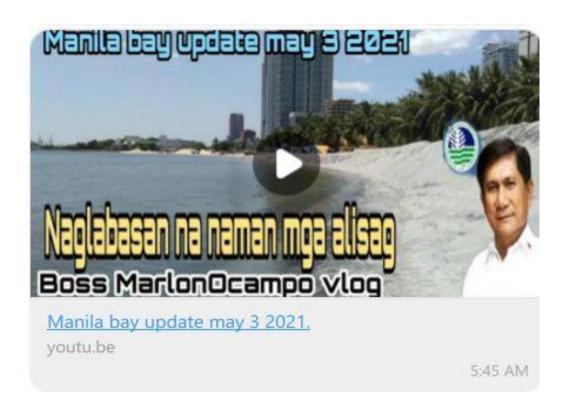
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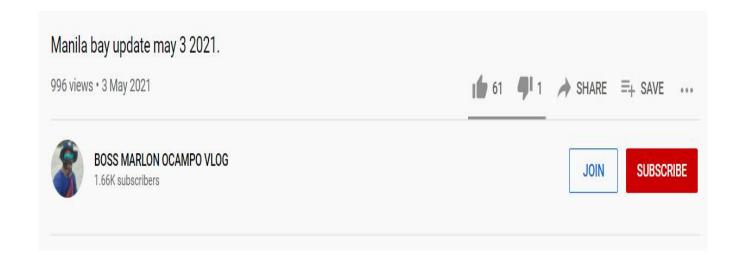




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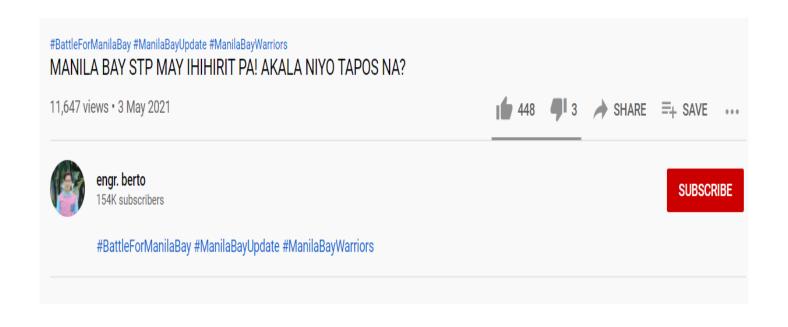




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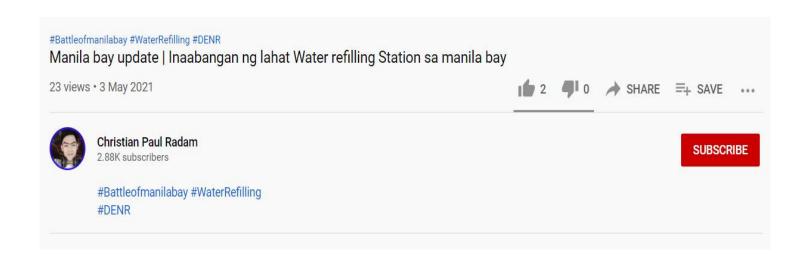




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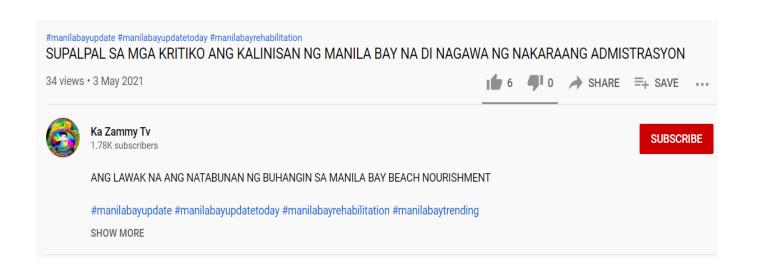




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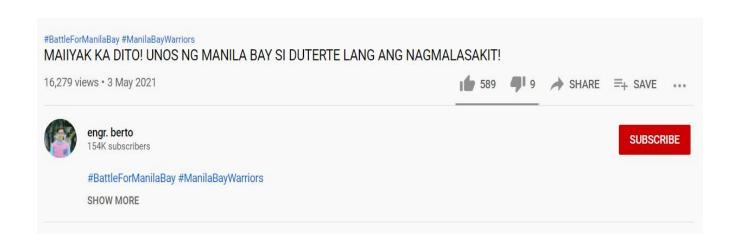




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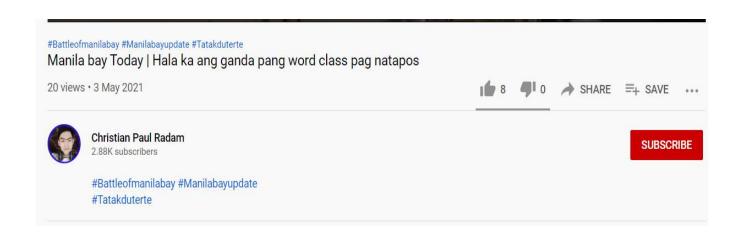




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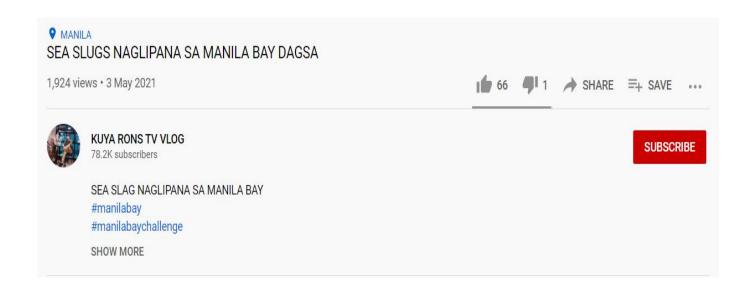




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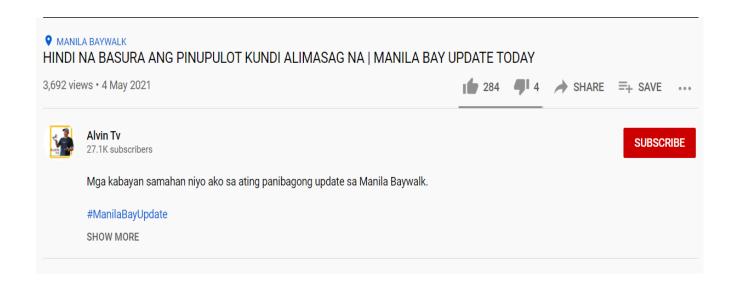




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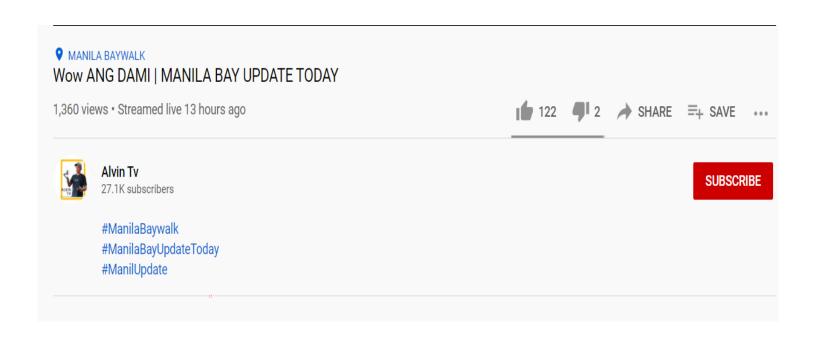




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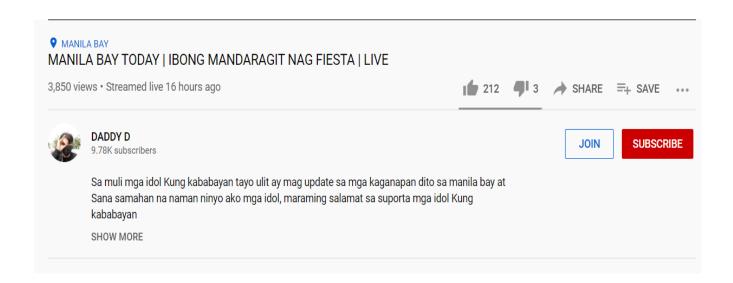




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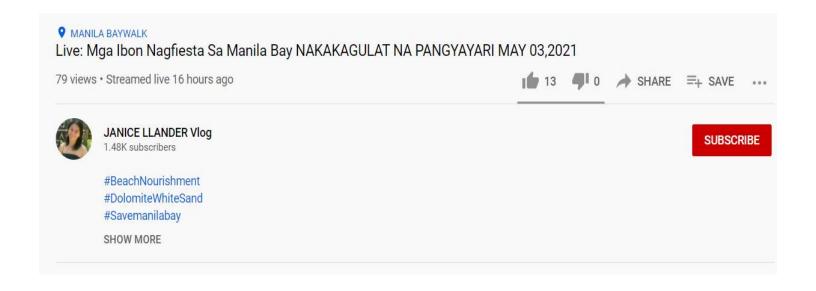




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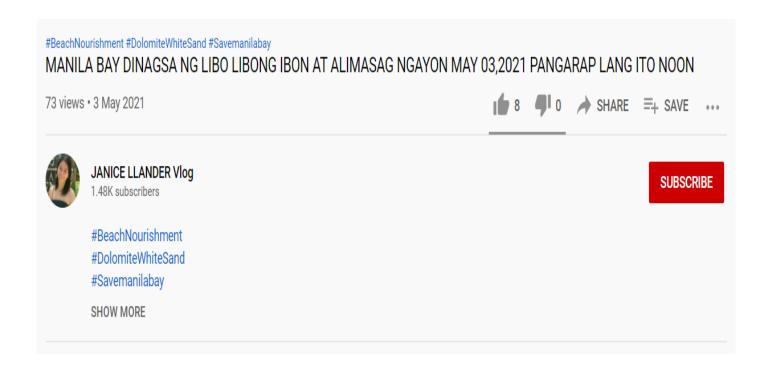




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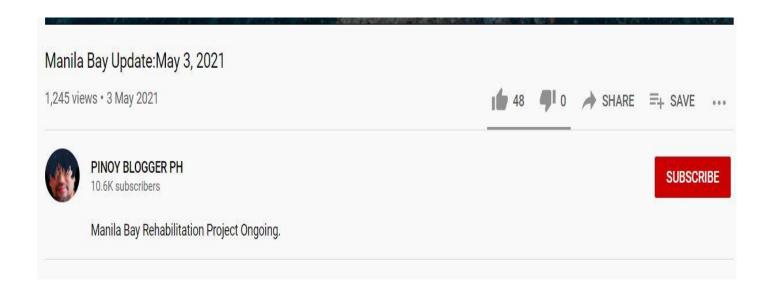




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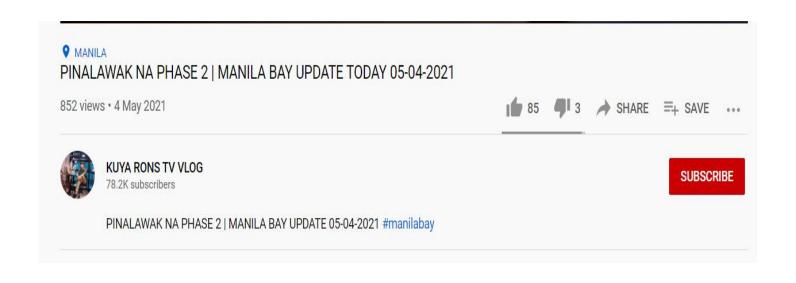




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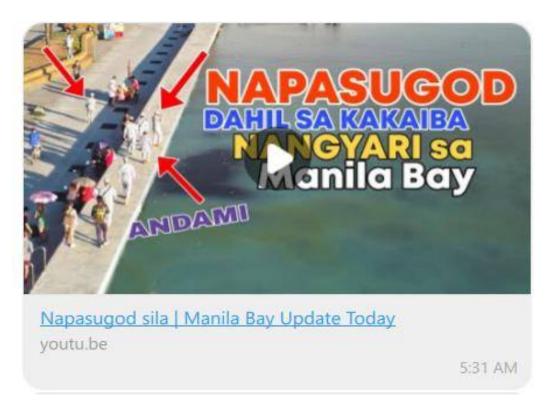
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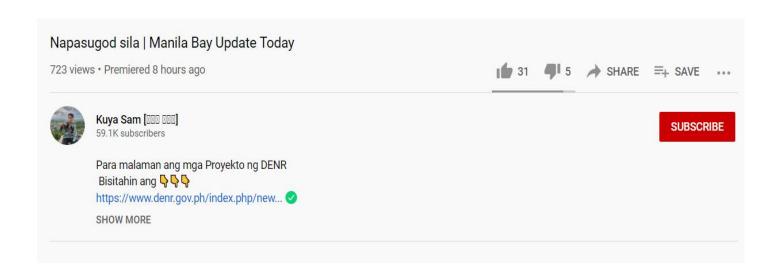




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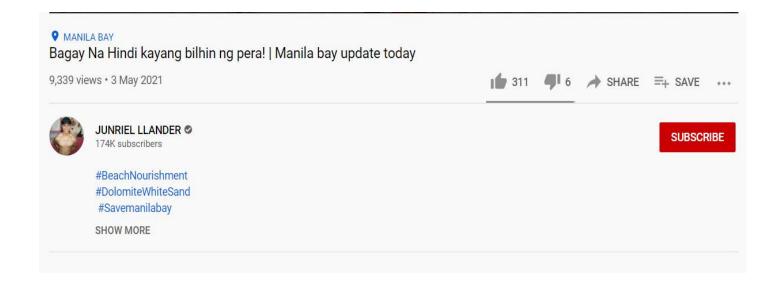




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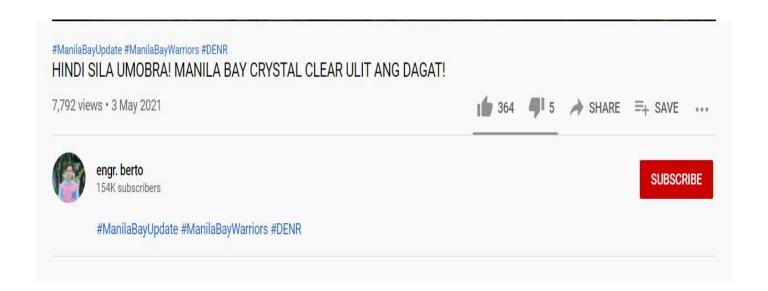




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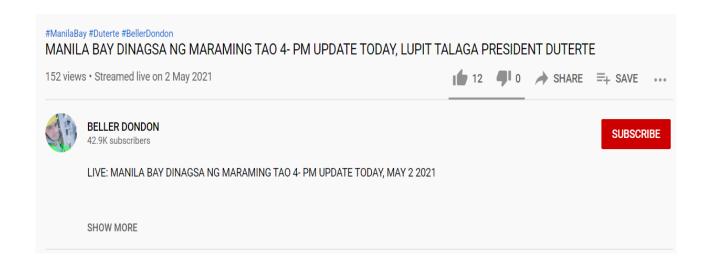




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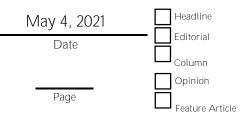


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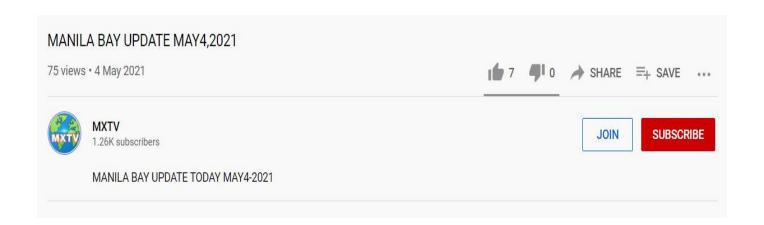








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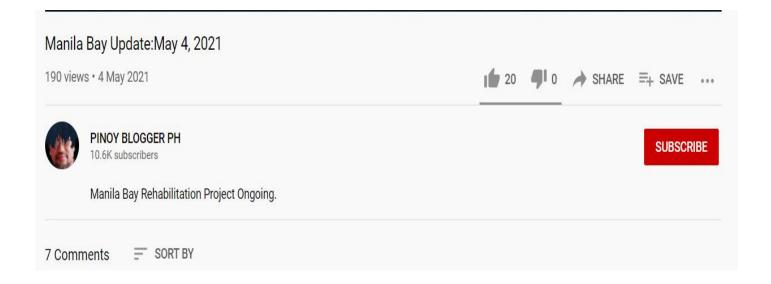




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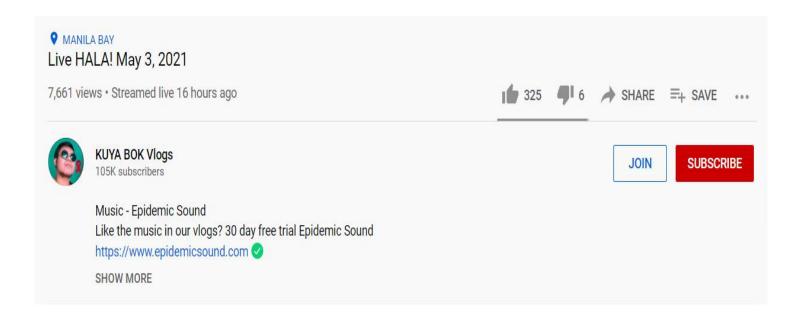




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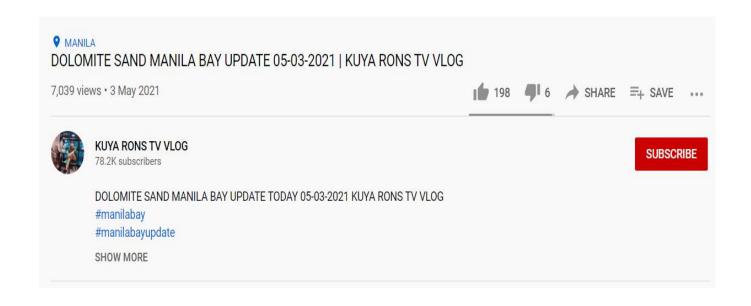




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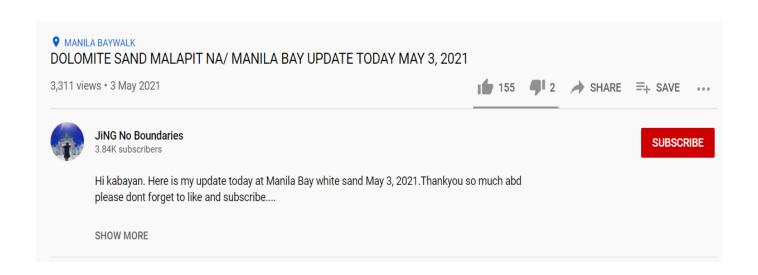




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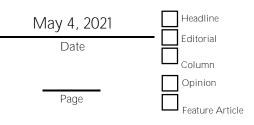


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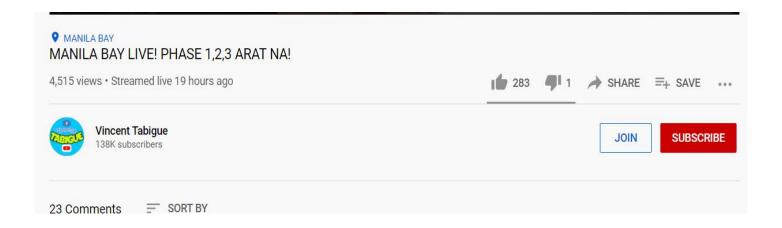








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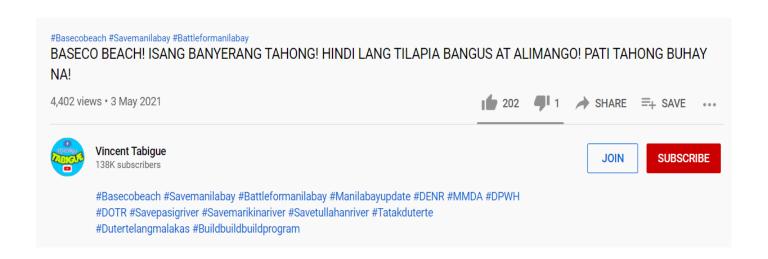




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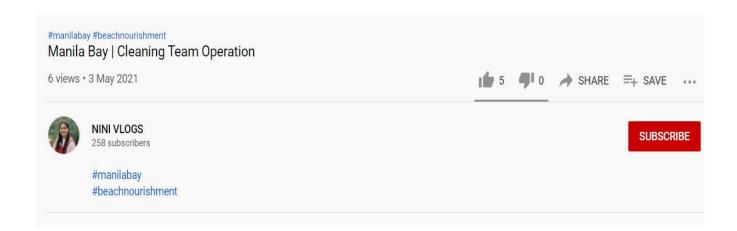




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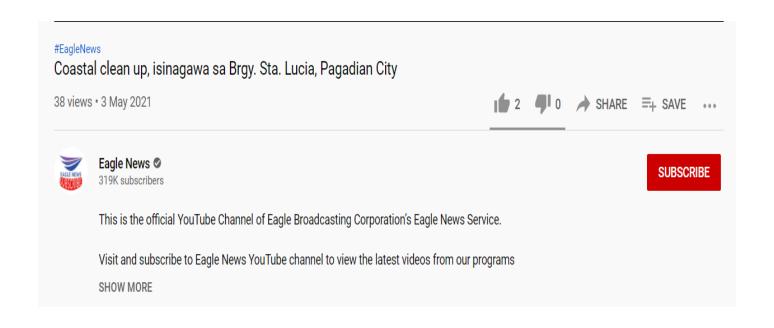




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Source: https://youtu.be/MTd-ypct5zE







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Source: https://youtu.be/mGE1kToup74







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Source: https://youtu.be/ovz1vF3bDI8







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Source: https://youtu.be/rEGtlaEpzQw

