

08 MAY 2022, SUNDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



## DENR uses 'bokashi balls' to clean Boracay's wetland

Published May 7, 2022, 1:26 PM

by [Aaron Recuenco](#)

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has started using “bokashi balls” into the Balabag Wetland Park in Boracay Island as part of the rehabilitation and recovery of ecosystems in the area.

A bokashi ball, also known as “mabuhay ball,” is a Japanese rehabilitation technology made up of all-organic materials, such as garden soil, molasses, and rice hull.



photo: DENR

In a statement, the DENR said the “bokashi ball” has an effective microorganism solution that breaks down toxins and consumes bad bacteria in the water.

Martin Despi, general manager of the Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation and Management Group (BIARMG), said this is not the first time that they used the balls.

“This is a regular activity of the Environmental Management Bureau – National Capital Region (EMB-NCR) to improve water quality of the Manila Bay Watershed. As long as we remain consistent with our rehabilitation efforts in all our wetlands, we are positive that throwing bokashi balls will reap positive results,” said Despi.

The DENR aims to throw around 8,000 bokashi balls into the Balabag Wetland, with each bokashi ball able to clean about one-square-meter area.

In a statement, the DENR said the “bokashi ball” has an effective microorganism solution that breaks down toxins and consumes bad bacteria in the water.

Martin Despi, general manager of the Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation and Management Group (BIARMG), said this is not the first time that they used the balls.

“This is a regular activity of the Environmental Management Bureau – National Capital Region (EMB-NCR) to improve water quality of the Manila Bay Watershed. As long as we remain consistent with our rehabilitation efforts in all our wetlands, we are positive that throwing bokashi balls will reap positive results,” said Despi.

The DENR aims to throw around 8,000 bokashi balls into the Balabag Wetland, with each bokashi ball able to clean about one-square-meter area.

Source: <https://mb.com.ph/2022/05/07/denr-uses-bokashi-balls-to-clean-boracays-wetland/>



# MGB wants W. Visayas geohazard map updated

By Perla Lena **May 7, 2022, 1:04 pm**



**ASSESSMENT.** A geologist from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) in Western Visayas conducts a rapid geohazard assessment on landslide affected areas in the municipality of San Dionisio in Iloilo due to Tropical Depression Agaton. Cindy Ferrer, information officer of the Office of Civil Defense and at the same time Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC) spokesperson, on Saturday (May 7, 2022) said MGB has recommended the updating of geohazard map to include new areas affected by the landslide. *(Photo courtesy of MGB VI Facebook page)*

**ILOILO CITY** – The Mines and Geosciences Bureau in Western Visayas (MGB 6) has recommended the updating of its geohazard map to include areas and places that experienced flooding and landslide during Tropical Depression Agaton in April.

The Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC) during its full council meeting held in this city on May 4 was supportive of the move of the MGB, said Cindy Ferrer, information officer of the Office of Civil Defense and at the same time RDRRMC spokesperson.

“Some of the landslides are new so one of their recommendations was to update the geohazard map,” she said in an interview on Saturday.

Ferrer, citing the latest RDRRMC situation report, said 73 rain-induced landslides were monitored during Agaton: 18 from Capiz, 24 from Iloilo province, 23 from Antique, seven from Negros Occidental, and one in Aklan.

Some 388 barangays all over the region were flooded.

“Some of the incidents used to be minimal but the hazard became risky during Agaton,” she added.

There was no timeline though as to the period of updating but geologists have been deployed since Typhoons Odette and Agaton for rapid geohazard assessment, she said.

In addition to updating the geohazard map, the MGB also recommended the relocation of residents staying in critical geohazard zones and the prohibition of the construction of houses, schools, and important infrastructures in the landslide- and flood-prone areas. **(PNA)**



# Saving the ‘wood of the gods’

Will commercialization prevent the extinction of Aquilaria trees?

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA MAY 8, 2022



The aromatic and rare agarwood from Aquilaria tree species is the world’s most expensive forest product, which price fetches as much as \$100,000 a kilogram.

Seventy-three kilograms of agarwood chips were confiscated at the Port of Davao on December 24, 2020, the Bureau of Customs reported.

The confiscated forest products, estimated to be worth P62 million, were scheduled to be shipped to Vietnam through the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila.



Seeds of an Aquaria tree.

## ‘Wood of the gods’

Sought for its fragrant dark resinous heartwood, agarwood, locally known as “lapanisan,” is used in making incense and perfume products. It is often used in church or religious practices—getting the tag “wood of the gods”—and for medicinal purposes.

It is the most expensive forest product and rarest in the world, with a kilogram fetches up to \$100,000.

Its high demand is rendering agarwood threatened with global extinction because of tree poaching that cut down every tree from genus Aquilaria in search of agarwood. Aquilaria has 15 species of trees in the family Thymelaeaceae.

## Rare product

Agarwood is naturally produced in the wild when an Aquilaria tree is injured and a type of mold grows in it and infects the wood to produce the unusually fragrant scent.

As not all Aquilaria trees in the wild produce agarwood and the only way to find out is to cut down the tree and chop it into pieces, it is like a “hit and miss” for agarwood poachers, who journey to search for this forest product.



Aquilaria trees are very rare and are found only in the deepest parts of the jungles in Southeast Asia, including the Philippines.

## Endangered species

Due to its high value, hunting for this dark, brown agarwood in every Aquilaria tree in the wild has led to its status as endangered species.

This occurs even as trading of an Aquilaria tree, its products and byproducts, are highly regulated for trade to deter poaching.

Despite the campaign against illegal wildlife trade, including agarwood, poaching of the tree has been ongoing, with some Filipinos harvesting seeds and seedlings from the wild to grow them in their own backyard, in the hope of producing a small fortune in producing agarwood.

According to Benjamin Mead, founder and CEO of Iba Botanicals Inc., around 80 percent of agarwood has reportedly been cut.

“We went through the process and secured the necessary permits to establish a legal and sustainable agarwood industry in the Philippines. This was designed to support the population of agarwood, promoting a new high-value sustainable agricultural industry. We focused on indigenous species of Aquilaria trees,” he said.

## Commercialization

As a strategy to curb the illegal wildlife trade of the precious forest product and save the Aquilaria trees from extinction, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through its Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), is now promoting the commercialization of agarwood.

Theresa Tenazas, DENR-BMB OIC division chief of the Wildlife Resources Unit, told the BusinessMirror that of the 12 wildlife culture permits issued by the DENR, half are for agarwood.

The DENR started issuing wildlife culture permits for agarwood in the last quarter of 2021.

## No harvesting in the wild

According to Tenazas, harvesting wild Aquilaria trees is prohibited without permits.

Harvesting in the wild, she added, requires a special permit, which is different from an import permit and permit to operate a tree plantation for commercial production.

Since it is listed in Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the trading of Aquilaria trees, seeds, seedlings, or its byproducts, require a CITES permit, she said.

“Those who wish to start agarwood production need to secure all permits, otherwise, selling will not be allowed,” Tenazas said in a May 4 telephone interview.

## Birth of an industry

The high-value agarwood industry requires a certified legal source. Being a pioneer, Iba Botanicals may be the first and the only legal source of agarwood seedlings in the Philippines.

Iba Botanicals, a company based in Iba, Zambales, was the first to secure a wildlife culture permit from the DENR as well as from the Department of Agriculture’s Bureau of Plant Industry to import seedlings, grow, propagate and sell them within the Philippines.

The permit issued by the DENR-BMB to Iba Botanicals on September 23, 2021, allowed the company to operate an Aquilaria malaccensis plantation in Zambales, where the company can also practice inoculation to induce the production of the high-value agarwood from the trees.



“There’s a lot of online selling of agarwood seedlings going on. But only Iba Botanicals has the legal permit to sell them,” Mead told the BusinessMirror via Zoom on May 4.

Mead said the company is spearheading the move to establish the Agarwood Association of the Philippines, with private individuals, the academe and various stakeholders, to promote the best practice in the production of agarwood.

### **10-year process**

Producing agarwood on an agroforestry plantation or on one’s backyard takes at least 10 years from cultivation, to nurturing the trees, to inoculation and have the agarwood ready for harvest.

Fortunately, the Philippines is known to host a number of Aquilaria trees, including the Aquilaria malleccensis species, which produces the most aromatic, making it the most profitable agarwood.

“It takes about seven years to grow Aquilaria trees and another three years of waiting after inoculation to harvest,” he said.

After 10 years, a single Aquilaria tree can earn the tree farmer or plantation owner at least P1.2 million a tree.

According to Mead, the cultivation of Aquilaria trees is not new. Some countries in Asia are successfully producing agarwood. This makes the illegal wildlife trade in the Philippines, which threatens to drive the species to extinction, a big issue.

### **Tree seedling importer**

As an importer of Aquilaria tree seedlings, Iba Botanicals has started selling seedlings, and has been helping buyers to secure permits from concerned government agencies.

The company has established a partnership with Gourmet Farms to promote and distribute Agarwood seedlings from its nursery in Tagaytay, but larger volumes are also available for commercial-scale plantations.

Iba Botanicals and Gourmet Farms have also started giving seminars to address requirements and techniques needed to successfully cultivate Aquilaria trees, from propagation to harvesting, licensing, permitting and marketing.

In its web site, Gourmet Farms indicated that a tree seedling of Aquilaria costs P1,000.

According to Mead, it was through an engagement with DENR-BMB that Iba Botanicals has begun to understand the significant pressure of agarwood poaching on the Philippines.

“Agarwood is IUCN [International Union for Conservation of Nature] red-listed so its trade is severely restricted,” he said.

So far, Iba Botanicals and Gourmet Farms are holding at least twice a week training seminars.

### **Finding the legal source**

It is also, for this reason, Mead said, that Iba Botanicals is reaching out to interested parties to secure the necessary permits from government agencies if they intend to propagate Aquilaria malaccensis trees, or produce agarwood for commercialization.

According to Mead, around 80 percent of Aquilera trees had been reportedly cut in the Philippines in 2018.

“We went through the process and secured the necessary permits to establish a legal and sustainable agarwood industry in the Philippines. This is really designed to support the population of agarwood and to promote a new high-value sustainable agricultural industry. We focused on indigenous species of Aquilaria trees,” he said.



## Exciting development

According to Mead, consistent with Iba Botanical's approach to creating a sustainable industry, the company is offering technical support and training, including seed and seedling supply.

While there are a lot of uncertainties or lack of clarity around some of the legalities around agarwood, he said close coordination with concerned government agencies will help address the problems.

"We also educate people about the importance of wildlife culture permit and on the legal source of materials," he said.

He added that for now the company is importing seeds, but will soon be doing the selling.

Mead said the initial target is to expand in Mindanao, with 1,000 hectares of sustainable agroforestry of mixed species, including *Aquilaria* trees.



# Crocodile conservation opens in NLuzon

By [Leander C. Domingo](#) May 8, 2022



THE aerial view of the crocodile conservation site at the Isabela State University in San Mariano, Isabela Campus.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A CROCODILE conservation site at the Isabela State University (ISU) in San [Mariano Campus](#) in Isabela province is expected to advance the institution's wildlife conservation undertaking.

According to the ISU website, the Philippine Crocodile Conservation Center (PCCC) was opened to the public after its blessing and inauguration on April 19.

The website said the PCCC exists as an offshoot of a Tripartite Memorandum of Agreement of the local government unit (LGU) of San Mariano, the [Mabuwaya Inc.](#), and the university with the support of the [Department of Environment and Natural Resources](#) (DENR) and the [Department of Tourism](#) (DoT).

The blessing was led by Fr. [Ryan Torralba](#) who in his homily reminded everyone about the care of nature and its inhabitants as one of our greatest responsibilities.

During the inauguration, Vice Mayor [Dean Anthony Domalanta](#), who represented Mayor [Edgar Go](#), led the ceremonial cutting of ribbon with ISU President [Ricmar Aquino](#); Merlijn [Van Weerd](#), [Mabuwaya Foundation](#) chief executive officer; Dr. [Myrna Cureg](#), chairman of the Mabuwaya Foundation Board of Trustees; [Enrique Pasion](#), DENR development management officer; and [Leila Blancaflor](#), DoT operation officer; and Dr. [Clarinda Galiza](#), ISU campus administrator in San Mariano.

Domalanta highlighted that the university has been rendering various academic and economic services and this milestone, he said, would bring the campus advancement in terms of wildlife conservation.

For ISU, Aquino emphasized that the PCCC establishment on the university campus recognizes and epitomizes their love and commitment to nature and wildlife species.

"This is enshrined in our advocacy as '[University of Nature](#), People, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship,'" he said.

During the program, Weerd shared that the Philippine crocodile whose rehabilitation began in 1999 was recognized as the world's first community sanctuary in 2001.

He also added that the Mabuwaya Foundation is dedicated to preserving and protecting the Philippine crocodile in its natural environment.





"To promote knowledge of the species and to enhance local engagement in conservation activities, the organization takes a community-based approach," Weerd said.

Galiza also recognized the hard work of everyone, who contributed to realizing this dream being it a commitment of ISU, the local government unit of San Mariano, and the Mabuwaya Foundation to support wildlife conservation toward the stability of nature, ensure the survival of this species, and educate the people about sustainable development.

Throughout the construction of the project, Galiza specially mentioned that the cooperation of everybody ensured the completion and success of the project which can also bring about the sustainable formation of the students, the website added.

The faculty and staff of the campus, including other guests from the different agencies, said they see the project as a trailblazer in the province and beyond, as this is the first in the entire Philippines.

The inauguration of the PCCC was followed by a tour around and inside the building with the guests from DoT, DENR, ISU, LGU of San Mariano, LGU of Baggao through the [Municipal Environment](#) and [Natural resources Office](#), the Mabuwaya Foundation's Board of Trustees, Bantay Sanktuwaryo members, the Franciscan Apostolic Sisters in Sta. Ana, Cagayan, and youth performers from Cabagan and San Mariano, faculty and staff, students, and other visitors.



## 'Work closely with communities': BAN Toxics on citizen participation in research and development in the ASGM sector in the PH

Friday, May 6, 2022 Journal Online



Several environmental organizations on Thursday, May 5, gathered during the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN)'s D-Tox Session which aimed to discuss various toxic and waste issues in the Southeast Asia (SEA) region.

The topic of the D-Tox Session was Citizen Science: A strategic approach to solving toxic waste and chemical issues in the region. The event was attended by participants from the Philippines, Thailand, Hong Kong, Indonesia, and Taiwan.

Among the resource speakers was environmental watchdog BAN Toxics which was represented by their Policy and Research Officer, Jam Lorenzo. Lorenzo spoke about citizen participation in research and development in the Filipino artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) communities.

"[BAN Toxics](#) has been working with the ASGM sector for more than a decade, and what this has taught us is that we need to recognize community expertise and knowledge in conducting research as a valuable resource that helps us to understand situations more clearly and allows us to work more closely with communities," said Jam Lorenzo.

Founded in 2006, BAN Toxics is a non-profit, non-governmental organization whose mandate is to promote sound chemicals and wastes management. The organization was established to respond to urgent waste and chemicals issues besetting the Philippines. BAN Toxics' current grassroot interventions include capacity building programs for the ASGM communities in the Philippines.

Citizen science is a [strategic tool that empowers communities](#) affected by toxic and waste issues with data and knowledge they can use to exercise their rights to a healthy and safe environment.

The D-Tox session was conceived in 2020 as a virtual platform for non-government organizations in Southeast and East Asia which are members of the International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN) to discuss various toxic and waste issues in the region. Additionally, D-Tox is also an online capacity-building platform that helps POs improve their performance.



Furthermore, the session was also attended by CitizenScience.Asia, EARTH Thailand, ECOTON Indonesia, Interfacing Development Interventions for Sustainability (IDIS) Philippines, Taiwan Watch Institute, and Greeners Action Hong Kong.

This D-Tox session was organized by IPEN, with the help of CitizenScience.Asia, Ecological Alert, and Recovery Thailand, and EcoWaste Coalition.



ABS-CBN News

15h · 🌐



Isang butanding ang nalambat ng mga mangingisda sa lambaklad sa Barangay Malabor, Tibiao, Antique Lunes.

Nagtulong-tulong at maingat na ibinalik ng mga mangingisda sa malalim na bahagi ng dagat ang butanding.

Mahigpit na ipinagbabawal sa lalawigan ang paghuli sa butanding. (📷 : Discover Antique) | via Rolen Escaniel

BASA HIN ang mga kaugnay na ulat: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/patrol/tag/wildlife?page=5>



👍❤️😬 403

7 Comments 62 Shares



## One-fifth of reptiles worldwide face extinction

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS MAY 8, 2022



A king cobra snake is hidden in a potato chip can that was found in the mail in Los Angeles. Reptiles that live in forest areas, such as the king cobra, are more likely to be threatened with extinction than desert-dwellers, in part because forests face greater human disruptions.

WASHINGTON—Even the king cobra is “vulnerable.” More than one in five species of reptiles worldwide are threatened with extinction, according to a comprehensive new assessment of thousands of species published recently in the journal *Nature*.

Of 10,196 reptile species analyzed, 21 percent were classified as endangered, critically endangered or vulnerable to extinction—including the iconic hooded snakes of South and Southeast Asia.

“This work is a very significant achievement—it adds to our knowledge of where threatened species are, and where we must work to protect them,” said Duke University ecologist Stuart Pimm, who was not involved in the study.

Similar prior assessments had been conducted for mammals, birds and amphibians, informing government decisions about how to draw boundaries of national parks and allocate environmental funds.

Work on the reptile study—which involved nearly 1,000 scientists and 52 co-authors—started in 2005. The project was slowed by challenges in fundraising, said co-author Bruce Young, a zoologist at the nonprofit science organization NatureServe.

“There’s a lot more focus on furrier, feathery species of vertebrates for conservation,” Young said, lamenting the perceived charisma gap.

But reptiles are also fascinating and essential to ecosystems, he said.

The Galapagos marine iguana, the world’s only lizard adapted to marine life, is classified as “vulnerable” to extinction, said co-author Blair Hedges, a biologist at Temple University.

It took 5 million years for the lizard to adapt to foraging in the sea, he said, lamenting “how much evolutionary history can be lost if this single species” goes extinct.

Six of the world’s species of sea turtles are threatened. The seventh is likely also in trouble, but scientists lack data to make a classification.



Worldwide, the greatest threat to reptile life is habitat destruction. Hunting, invasive species and climate change also pose threats, said co-author Neil Cox, a manager at the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's biodiversity assessment unit.

Reptiles that live in forest areas, such as the king cobra, are more likely to be threatened with extinction than desert-dwellers, in part because forests face greater human disruptions, the study found. AP

Image credits: [US Fish and Wildlife via AP](#)

08 MAY 2022, SUNDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **NEWS CLIPPINGS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
AND  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

# PEOPLES JOURNALS

Everybody's Newspaper

13  
PAGE

UPPER  
 LOWER

PAGE 1  
STORY

BANNER  
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

08 MAY 2022

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## DENR starts Boracay wetlands rehab

THE government has started the rehabilitation of Balabag Wetland Park in Boracay Island, Malay, Aklan by throwing of "bokashi balls" also known as mabuhay balls.

According to Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation and Management Group general manager Martin Despi, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, through the Boracay Inter-Agency Task Force, led the "bokashi balls"-throwing on April 29 as part of the rehab and recovery mission of the island's ecosystems.

Bokashi ball is a Japanese rehabilitation technology made up of all-organic materials, such as garden soil, molasses and rice hull.

Bokashi ball-throwing is also a regular activity of the

Environment Management Bureau-National Capital Region to improve the water quality of the Manila Bay Watershed.

Studies said it has an effective microorganism solution that breaks down toxins and consumes bad bacteria in the water.

"As long as we remain consistent with our rehabilitation efforts in all our wetlands, we are positive that throwing bokashi balls will reap positive results," Despi said, noting that the 8,000 square meter-wetland's water quality is currently at 7,900 most probable number per 100 milliliters.

The DENR aims to throw around 8,000 bokashi balls into the Balabag Wetland, with each bokashi ball able to clean about one-square-meter area.

**Joel dela Torre**





TITLE:

PAGE:

DATE

## Amazon tribes turn the tables on intruders with social media

By FABIANO MAISONNAVE  
*The Associated Press*

**R**IO DE JANEIRO—It was dusk on April 14 when Francisco Kuruaya heard a boat approaching along the river near his village in Brazil's Amazon rainforest. He assumed it was the regular delivery boat bringing gasoline for generators and outboard motors to remote settlements like his. Instead, what Kuruaya found was a barge dredging his people's pristine river in search of gold.

Kuruaya had never seen a dredge operating in this area of the Xipaia people's territory, let alone one this massive; it resembled a floating factory.

Kuruaya, 47, motored out to the barge, boarded it and confronted the gold miners. They responded in harsh voices and he retreated for fear they were armed. But so was he—with a phone—the first he'd ever had. Back in his village Karimaá, his son Thaylewa Xipaia forwarded the photos of the mining boat to the tribe's WhatsApp chat groups.

"Guys, this is urgent!" he said to fellow members of his tribe in an audio message The Associated Press has reviewed. "There's a barge here at Pigeons Island. It's huge and it's destroying the whole island. My dad just went there and they almost took his phone."

Several days' voyage away, in the nearest city of Altamira, Kuruaya's daughter Juma Xipaia received the frantic messages. She recorded her own video with choked voice and watery eyes, warning that armed conflict was imminent—then uploaded it to social media.

In a matter of hours, word was out to the world.

The episode illustrates the advance of the Internet into vast, remote rainforest areas that, until recently, had no means of quickly sharing visual evidence of environmental crime. A fast-expanding network of antennae is empowering Indigenous groups to use phones, video cameras and social media to galvanize the public and pressure authorities to respond swiftly to threats from gold miners, landgrabbers and loggers.

Until now Indigenous communities have relied on radio to transmit their distress calls. Environmental and Indigenous rights groups then relayed these to the media and the public. But the non-profits have been maligned by Brazil's far-right President Jair Bolsonaro, who advocates legalizing mining and land leasing in protected Indigenous territories. He has castigated the organizations as unreliable actors, out of touch with Indigenous people's true desires and on the payroll of global environmental do-gooders.

Video and photos coming directly from Indigenous people are harder to dismiss and this is forcing authorities as well as the public to reckon with the reality on the ground.

"When used properly, technology helps a lot in real-time monitoring and denouncing," said Nara Baré, head of the group Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon, in a telephone interview. "The external pressure to make the federal government act in the Xipaia territory was very important. Technology has been the main tool for that."

Connectivity is not only enabling whistle-blowing on social media. Brazil's Federal Prosecutor's Office has set up a website to register reported crimes and receive uploaded visual material. Previously people in remote communities have had to make the long and expensive trip to the nearest city that has a federal prosecutor's office.

Xipaia territory is part of a pristine rainforest area known as Terra do Meio (Middle Earth) that is dotted with dozens of Indigenous and traditional river communities. Internet connection there was rare until mid-2020, when a group of non-profits, including Health in Harmony and the Socio-Environmental Institute, financed installation of 17 antennae throughout the vast region.

Priority was given to communities with either health centers or market hubs for the production and sale of forest products, such as Brazil nuts. Signal can be painfully slow, especially on rainy days, yet it has connected people who were previously off the grid, and is enough for photos and videos to trickle out of the forest.


"The strategy was to improve communication and avoid unnecessary trips to the city," said Marcelo Salazar, Health in Harmony's Brazil program coordinator. "The Internet makes it easier for health, education, and forest economy issues." Fighting environmental crime was an added benefit, he added.




TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU**  
DENR Compound, Videsas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, 1118  
Tel. Nos. (032) 8539-4378  
Website: [www.emb.gov.ph](http://www.emb.gov.ph) Email: [recordsco@emb.gov.ph](mailto:recordsco@emb.gov.ph)



### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN (EPRMP) of the proposed JLR BASALT MATERIAL QUARRY PRODUCTION EXPANSION PROJECT of the JLR CONSTRUCTION & AGGREGATES, INC. located at the CITY OF NAGA AND MUNICIPALITY OF MINGLANILLA, PROVINCE OF CEBU.

Notice is hereby given to all parties who wish to give their opinion regarding the implementation of the proposed JLR BASALT MATERIAL QUARRY PRODUCTION EXPANSION PROJECT to attend the Public Hearing on:

Date	Time	Venue
16 May 2022 (Monday)	1:00 PM <i>Registration starts at 12:00 NN</i>	Barangay Cogon Covered Court, Naga City, Cebu

The Public Hearing is being conducted in connection with the review of the EPRMP of the aforementioned project by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

The following is the project information:

<b>Project Name</b>	JLR Basalt Material Quarry Production Expansion Project
<b>Project Location</b>	City of Naga and Municipality of Minglanilla, Province of Cebu
<b>Project Capacity</b>	4,000,000 MTPY
<b>Proponent</b>	JLR Construction & Aggregates, Inc.

All interested parties who wish to attend or participate in these Public Hearings should preferably confirm their attendance/participation and may give their opinion(s) in a concise position paper to the ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EIAMD) of this Office through mail or through email at [eia@emb.gov.ph](mailto:eia@emb.gov.ph), at least three (3) days before the Public Hearing schedule. Those who will not be able to register or submit written positions may be given the opportunity to share their issues on the day of the hearing itself.

The project's EPRMP and Executive Summary for the Public are downloadable at our website: [www.eia.emb.gov.ph](http://www.eia.emb.gov.ph) (kindly access the Notice of Public Hearing/ Consultation link found in our website) while copies will be available in the following offices:

1. **EMB Region VII**  
DENR Compound, Greenplains Subdivision, Banilad, Mandaue City  
Tel No. (032) 260-9777
2. **Naga City Hall / Minglanilla Municipal Hall**  
East Poblacion, Naga City, Cebu / Municipality of Minglanilla, Cebu

For more details, please contact the EIAMD Division at this Office at telephone number (02) 8539-4378 loc. 116 through the project casehandlers Engr. Dexter Tabada and Engr. Jason Paolo Esguerra.

Protect the environment... Protect life...

08 MAY 2022, SUNDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **COVID-19 NEWS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



# DOH to set up COVID-19 vaccination sites in polling precincts

[Angelica Y. Yang](#) - Philstar.com May 7, 2022 | 2:54pm



A health worker prepares a dose of a COVID-19 vaccine booster at the Marikina Sports Complex on Monday, Jan. 3, 2022.

The STAR / Walter Bollozos

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Health (DOH) said Saturday that voters who wish to complete their primary series or get booster doses against COVID-19 can head over to vaccination sites beside polling precincts on elections day.

"Para naman po dun sa ating mga kababayan, may sinet up po tayong vaccination sites sa lahat ng polling precinct. Pagkatapos niyo pong bumoto maari po kayong dumiretso 'dun kung wala pa ho kayong booster o 'di kaya ay kailangan pang kumpletuhin ang primary series," DOH Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said in an interview on Laging Handa on Saturday.

("We have set up vaccination sites in all polling precincts. After voting, you can go straight to the site to get your booster or if you need to complete your primary series.")

The COVID-19 jabs are free of charge.

Vergeire told reporters later on that these pop-up vaccinations sites or tents will be located 30 meters away from polling sites, as approved by the Commission on Elections (Comelec).

Voters who wish to get their COVID-19 vaccines in those sites only need to bring their vaccination cards and an ID, she said.

Earlier this week, Comelec Commissioner George Garcia said in a Kapihan in Manila Bay forum that he is personally not in favor of putting up vaccination sites near voting precincts, saying that their presence may make voters think they need to be immunized before casting their ballots.

Registered voters who will be heading to their assigned precincts on May 9 [do not need to show proof of vaccination or bring RT-PCR results](#) in order to vote, he said.

DOH Secretary Francisco Duque III believes that the polls, where 67.5 million voters are expected to flock to precincts, [will not trigger a widespread lockdown](#) as many Filipinos are already vaccinated against COVID-19 and receiving booster doses.

The Philippines has registered 150 more COVID-19 cases on Friday, bringing up the country's caseload to 3,686,693.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/05/07/2179437/doh-set-covid-19-vaccination-sitesin-polling-precincts>



# DOH monitors 35 close contacts in Palawan

Shiela Crisostomo - The Philippine Star May 8, 2022 | 12:00am



Speaking at the Laging Handa public briefing, Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said these close contacts took the same mini cruise liner that arrived at the Port of Puerto Princesa last April 22.

[pna.gov.ph](https://pna.gov.ph) / File

MANILA, Philippines — Thirty-five close contacts of 14 foreign tourists who turned up positive for COVID-19 after visiting Palawan are now under close monitoring in Puerto Princesa City, the Department of Health (DOH) said yesterday.

Speaking at the Laging Handa public briefing, Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said these close contacts took the same mini cruise liner that arrived at the Port of Puerto Princesa last April 22.

The 14 infected foreigners were passengers of the ship, which had 18 Filipino crew members, one of whom also tested positive for COVID-19.

“The 15 samples collected were analyzed and we were able to submit 13 samples for genome sequencing. The other samples did not pass (the criteria for sequencing),” said Vergeire, adding that the results have not yet come out.

Genome sequencing is being conducted to determine if those who turned up positive for COVID-19 were carrying any variant of concern, particularly the highly contagious BA.2.12 subvariant which already entered the Philippines through a Finnish woman who visited the country late last month.

In a statement, the DOH said that 25 foreign tourists boarded the ship for a diving expedition in Tubbataha Reef.

Three days after departure, one foreigner was reported to have nasal congestion and was tested using a COVID-19 antigen test, which turned positive.

“This incident was immediately reported to the port by the ship’s captain and they were advised to return to the city for immediate management,” the DOH said.

At the time, the index case’s identified close contacts were the other foreign nationals in the group and a Filipino crew member, who also exhibited mild symptoms and tested positive in an antigen test.

Upon the ship’s return to the Port of Puerto Princesa, all crew members and passengers were subjected to RT-PCR testing. On April 29, it was confirmed that 14 foreigners and the Filipino crew member were infected with the virus.

“All cases were isolated at a facility, with five already tested negative and discharged, while seven will be for discharge today (May 7). All were fully vaccinated,” the DOH said.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2022/05/08/2179551/doh-monitors-35-close-contacts-palawan>

08 MAY 2022, SUNDAY



**DENR**

# **NEWS ALERTS**

# **VLOGS**

**STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE**



**Please click this link:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twxc3H-a\\_yw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=twxc3H-a_yw)

MANILA BAYWALK DOLOMITE BEACH

MANILA BAY MATINDING HALUKAYAN SA DOLOMITE PHASE1, Miz July

1,260 views • 7 May 2022

73

DISLIKE

SHARE

CLIP

SAVE

...



**Miz July**

75.2K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

Manila Bay Update, May 06,2022

maraming salamat po, keep safe everyone

#SaveManilaBay

SHOW MORE



**Please click this link:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-Rd40OdLvA>

#manilabay #4k

Naku po! Ano ito? Manila Bay Update Today | May 7, 2022 [4K]

6,923 views • 7 May 2022

👍 152

👎 DISLIKE

➦ SHARE

💰 THANKS

≡+ SAVE

...



**BTV Pinas**

76.7K subscribers

**SUBSCRIBE**

#manilabay

#4k

SHOW MORE





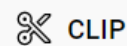
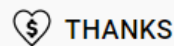
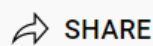
**Please click this link:**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qiaP1O-L\\_F8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qiaP1O-L_F8)

MANILA

POSTE SA DOLOMITE BEACH TINANGGAL PLANO KAPANA-PANABIK MANILA BAY

2,791 views...



**KUYARONS TV**  
101K subscribers

**SUBSCRIBE**

Poste sa dolomite beach tinanggal plano kapana-panabik manila bay update

[#manilabay](#)

[#dolomitesand](#)

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GYAcl8ewtg>

📍 MANILA BAYWALK DOLOMITE BEACH

MANILA BAY MILAGRONG NANGYARI ITO! BAGONG MUKHA NG BAYWALK! KITANG KITA SA HIMPAPAWID! Miz July

714 views • 7 May 2022

👍 69    🗨️ DISLIKE    ➦ SHARE    ✂️ CLIP    ⋮ SAVE    ...



Miz July

75.2K subscribers

SUBSCRIBE

Manila Bay Update, May 06,2022  
maraming salamat po, keep safe everyone  
[#SaveManilaBay](#)

SHOW MORE




Please click this link:


[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_OKsvXnXeJ8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_OKsvXnXeJ8)


#manilabay #rehabilitation


Manila Bay Update: May 7, 2022

4,091 views • 7 May 2022

 134

 DISLIKE

 SHARE

 CLIP

 SAVE

...



PINOY BLOGGER PH  
30.1K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabay #rehabilitation

SHOW MORE







Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WwSgffoaYI>

#manilabay #rehabilitation

Manila Bay Update: May 7, 2022

2,724 views • 7 May 2022

 93  DISLIKE  SHARE  CLIP  SAVE ...



PINOY BLOGGER PH  
30.1K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#manilabay #rehabilitation

SHOW MORE



Please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1ybIkTTZ0s>

#BoracayRehabilitation #DuterteLegacy #BoracayUpdate

BORACAY AT NIGHT, BUHAY NA BUHAY NA!

1,947 views...

👍 68

👎 DISLIKE

➦ SHARE

💖 THANKS

✂️ CLIP

📌 SAVE

...



engr. berto

196K subscribers

JOIN

SUBSCRIBE

#BoracayRehabilitation #DuterteLegacy #BoracayUpdate

LET'S CONTINUE SPREADING AWARENESS!

SHOW MORE