

FOREST MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

By: For. Rosemarie T. Zabala, CDO II/Division Chief

A. Forest Protection and Law Enforcement

The ISEP-TF Operatives composed of representatives from the ENR Office, DENR, MLGUs concerned, PNP & Philippine Army Personnel conducted continuous massive ground operations in the implementation and enforcement of forest protection laws, rules and regulations within the province. From **March 7 to 14, 2014**, a series of apprehensions were conducted by the ISEP-TF, to wit:

Table 1: Shows the Confiscated Forest Products

DATE	SPECIES	NO. OF PIECES	DIMENSION	VOLUME	REMARKS
3/7/14	CHW Lumber	126	Assorted sizes	3,856 bd. ft. 9.09 cu. m.	Abandoned at Villador, Reyna Mercedes
3/10/14	CHW Lumber	220	Assorted sizes	6,605 bd. ft. 15.57 cu. m.	Tappa, San Mariano
3/13/14	CHW Lumber	94	Assorted sizes	2,414 bd. ft. 5.69 cu. m.	Tappa, San Mariano
3/13/14	Narra Flitches	8	Assorted sizes	468 bd. ft. 1.10 cu. m.	Tappa, San Mariano
3/14/14	CHW Lumber	280	Assorted sizes	6,951.33 bd.ft 16.39 cu. m.	Abandoned at Bautista, San Agustin
3/14/14	5 Toner Truck	1			Bautista, San Agustin
3/16/14	Narra Flitches	5	Assorted sizes	187.97 bd. ft. 0.44 cu. m.	Abuan River, Cab. 10, City of Ilagan

B. Forest Resources Development

1. Nursery Operations

Two (2) nurseries are being maintained by the Office, namely: the Provincial and Mega nurseries located at the Capitol Compound and Villa Imelda, City of Ilagan, respectively.

At the Provincial nursery, it is manned by **three (3) full time laborers** and **one (1) part time laborer** since he functions a multi-task assignments. For the period under report, they were able to maintain nursery operational activities and produced **334 pieces** assorted forest tree seedlings, **150 pieces** ornamental seedlings, and **351 pieces** bignay seedlings.



For the Mega nursery at Villa Imelda, it is being watched over by another part time laborer doing nursery maintenance activities with a seedling production of **60 cacao and 24 guava seedlings** as he is but more often assigned to assist as ISEP-TF operative at Abuan Checkpoint.

A total of **194 pieces** of assorted fruit tree and ornamental seedlings were disposed to recipients from the City of Ilagan and Cauayan City. Two rolls green v-net (at 90 meters/roll) were given to MLGU Palanan. Another 10,000 poly bags were also given to the POs of the Villa Jose Minabuan Agro-forestry Producers Cooperative for their seedling production at the Mega Nursery in Villa Imelda.

2. Donation of Confiscated/Apprehended Forest Products

The province in its desire to fully support the project undertakings of the STEP/LRC Capitol, the 502nd Infantry (Liberator) Brigade 5th Infantry (Star) Division PA and the 86th Infantry (Highlander) Battalion 5th Infantry (Star) Division PA had granted their requests for the donation of **278 pieces CHW lumber** with a total volume of **7,231.98 board feet** confiscated forest products for the completion of their respective projects.

C. Other Intervening Events

1. Attended to three (3) callers from Bubug, Sto. Tomas, Isabela and tackled issues and concerns regarding ISF project implementation in the area.
2. Attended and served as Focal Person during the conduct of the Farmers' Congress sa Barangay at Delfin Albano and was able to attend to **16 clients** with concerns and referrals related to zero waste management systems, agri-waste recycling, request for fruit/forest tree seedlings and ISF boundary conflicts which we referred to the PLO tent.
3. With the invitation of our NIA counterparts, attended the meeting together with other members of the TWG composed of representatives from DENR CENRO Naguilian, City ENRO of Ilagan and PLGU ENRO & OPA and finalized the work and financial plan which we have prepared for the Watershed Management Project Component of PASA SRIP for approval and funding of KOICA. And for our further output, this Office prepared and submitted the **first three (3) Training Designs**, namely: 1) Values and Self-Awareness Seminar; 2) Agro-forestry Systems; and 3) orientation and Training on Environmental Law Enforcement which are all intended for the beneficiaries of the PASA SRIP Watershed Management Project to NIA-IMO for them to endorsed to NIA-KOICA Central Office for approval and hopefully to be implemented by the 2nd Quarter of this year.



4. Confirmed attendance of the interested participants to the Regional Forum on Rubber from the VJMAFP Cooperative from the City of Ilagan, individuals from Sto. Tomas, San Mariano and Mallig plus four (4) ENRO personnel and one (1) from the OPA.
5. Then using RP vehicle SFA 320, proceeded to Casili Lake M&M Resort at Tuao East, Cagayan and attended the said **Regional Forum on Rubber: Its Potentials and Opportunities to the National Greening Program (NGP) in Cagayan Valley** with the theme ***"Help Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change and Alleviate Poverty: Plant Rubber Trees!"***.

The program was opened thru a video slide invocation followed by Dr. William C. Medrano, Executive Director of CVARRD who gave the welcome remarks and Dr. Aleth M. Mamauag, CVARRD-RRDCC Chair & ISU President, and inspiring messages delivered by Father Robert Reyes, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Santiago City; Dir. Benjamin B. Tumaliuan RED, DENR RO2; Dir. Mary Anne E.R. Rarauay, RD, NEDA RO2 and Atty. Ma. Esperanza C. Bañares, RD, DTI RO2. The Keynote Speaker was no other than **Secretary Manuel N. Mamba**, Head, Presidential Liaison Office. The forum was closed by Mr. Charles Lim, PCCI-Souther Isabela Chapter and the known "Rubber Pusher".

The Resource Persons came all the way from the rubber producing regions in the Southern Philippines with the following topics presented:

- ✓ Economic Potential of Rubber for Cagayan Valley by Dr. Pablito Pamplona, Consultant of the University of Southern Mindanao;
- ✓ Rubber Technologies by Dr. Pamplona, Dr. Romulo Cena, Director, USMARC, USM and Dr. Ken Foo Chong, President, Exquisite Organic Product;
- ✓ Marketing Prospects of Rubber by Engr. Anthony P. Bravo, Provincial Director, DTI-Region 12;
- ✓ Rubber Demand in the Philippines by Mr. Masahiro Yoki, President of Yokohama Tire Phils.;
- ✓ Financing Support for Rubber by Mr. Bernardo B. Bayangos, Dept. Manager of Isabela Lending Center, LBP and Mr. Armenio S. Eslava, Branch Head, DBP, Santiago City;
- ✓ Research & Development Support to Rubber by Dr. Rudy Galang of DA-BAR;



- ✓ National Rubber Industry Road Map by Engr. William Contillo of DA-CVRC; and
- ✓ Proposed Rubber Industry Road Map for Cagayan Valley by Dr. William C. Medrano, Executive Director, CVARRD & Vice President for RDET, ISU.

6. ENR Officer Geronimo P. Cabaccan, Jr. & CDO II Rosemarie T. Zabala together with MENR Officer Warlito Yadao of San Mariano, Isabela attended the **1st International Agroforestry Congress** with the theme **“Agroforestry: Greening and Feeding the Nations”** held on March 19-21, 2014 at Bohol Plaza Resort, Dauis, Panglao Island, Bohol. In the afternoon of March 19, 2014 after the registration and billeting, attended the Industry Strategic Plan (ISP) Consultation on Cacao, Coffee and Rubber

The Keynote Speaker during the opening program on March 20, 2014 was the Congressman of the 3rd District of Bohol, **Hon. Arthur Yap**. After the Opening Program, it was immediately followed by the presentation of Plenary Papers as follows:

- ✓ Using Agroforestry as a Pathway to a Green Economy by Dr. Ravi Prabhu, Deputy Director General of the World Agroforestry Centre (WAFC) - (ICRAF) Headquarters;
- ✓ Agroforestry and Climate Change Adaptation by Dr. Rodel D. Lasco, Coordinator, WAFC – (ICRAF) – Philippine Office;
- ✓ Role of Agroforestry in Ensuring Food Security by Dr. Rex Victor O. Cruz, Chancellor, UPLB; and
- ✓ The Role of Sound Policies in Improving the Science and Practice of Agroforestry

Thereafter, it was followed by an open forum and discussion about the issues and concerns raised in relation with the papers presented.

In the afternoon of the same day, simultaneous sessions were held in three (3) different halls, namely: 1) Role of Agroforestry in Environmental Rehabilitation and Climate Change Adaptation; 2) Role of Agroforestry in Ensuring Food Security, and 3) Improving the Science and Practice of Agroforestry. One of the Congress participants from this Office then presented her paper entitled **“Balance Ecosystem for Healthy Life and Sustainable Living: Experiences of Green Daisy Organic Farm Through Natural Agroforestry cum Permaculture Farming Practices”** under session no. 2.



Then on the last day of the Congress, March 21, 2014, the Congress participants had a cultural tour to selected scenic and historical areas in Bohol – a chance for the ENRO participants to see Bohol after the 7.2 magnitude earthquake that shook the province last year.

7. On the other hand, two (2) staff attended the Training on GIS Applications in Forest Land Use Planning conducted by the B+WISER on March 24-27, 2014 at the EIC Building, Isabela State University Cabagan, Isabela.
8. In response to the letter of KARAPATAN-CV AND DAGAMI-CV forwarded to the Provincial Governor, Hon. Faustino G. Dy III, attended the dialogue conducted at De Venecia Hall, Administration Building of ISU at Echague main campus together with Atty. Maricel Ramil of the PLO.

The main issue tackled during the dialogue was all about the land in dispute between ISU Roxas Campus and the alleged dwellers that came to reside within the area located at Brgy. Matusalem, Roxas, Isabela.

Both parties together with their respective legal counsellors presented their own versions and documents on hand to sustain their occupancy over the said area. The final decision lies on the DENR RO2 who has the main jurisdiction to shed light on the issue as to who will be the legitimate denizen over the land in dispute. But unfortunately, no representative/s from DENR RO2 came to attend the dialogue. Hence, the parties just agreed to abide with the status quo order and to whatever will be the final order of DENR. Dr. Aleth Mamauag stressed to exercise the virtue of patience while the residents of Matusalem thru their spokespersons emphasized that the DENR decision must come up with resolutions favorable to the interest of the people, thus, will look into their plight as to their right of abode.

9. Coordinated with NIA-IMO counterparts at Pasa SRIP regarding the on-going final delineation of the 200 hectares for Watershed Rehabilitation and had an informal discussion with some of the Irrigators' Association members present regarding watershed management and protection.



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

By: For. Cecilia M. Asuncion, SEMS/Division Chief

As member of the Provincial Program Management and Implementing Unit (PPMIU) representing Social and Environmental Safeguards (SES) together with PPDO representatives, conducted ground working/networking with the grassroots level, and obtained the following:

1. Barangay Profiling of Magassi, Mabangug, and Union all of Cabagan, Isabela and Barangay Camasi of Tumauni, Isabela intended for the preparation of economic analysis on the proposed 5-kilometer Farm to Market Road (FMR).
2. Obtained technical data on geographical location of the proposed project needed in the preparation of Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) Report mandated under PD 1586 (Environmental Impact System) consistent to Social and Environmental Safeguards aspect of the proposed project.
3. Assisted in the conduct of Information Education Campaign through Public Consultation Meeting with stakeholders on the proposed Dairy Industry and its sub-project/s (FMR) with two hundred thirty one (231) reported attendees.

Attended Business Plan Preparation workshop at Subic Zambales for the Carabao Dairy Farming and Marketing from March 17-March 21, 2014, Venecia Hotel, Subic Zambales, coming up with an output in Processing, Policy framework, Budgeting and cost analysis of the proposed enterprise.

As part of the Information Education Campaign (IEC), two (2) ENR Personnel visited some cooperative members who started to collect substrates from farm wastes to be used for their vermin-composting projects at Cabisera 10, City of Ilagan, Isabela including the Villa Jose Minabuan Agroforestry Producers Development Cooperative.

Monitored and supervised maintenance works of the two (2) job order labour forces for production/protection systems via multiple agro-forestry production and vermicomposting organic fertilizer production.



MINERAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

By: For. Celia N. Badua, CDO II/Division Chief

A. PROCESSING OF PERMIT APPLICATIONS

At present, this Office accredited an additional **Four (4)** haulers/dealers/traders/retailers and processors in trading mineral products and by-products with the corresponding fees collected by the Provincial Treasurer's Office (PTO) amounting to **Ten Thousand Eighty Pesos (Php 10,080.00)**.

B. ENFORCEMENT OF POLICIES CONCERNING MINERAL RESOURCES

An additional **Fifteen (15)** Accreditation Stickers were issued to different haulers conspicuously pasted in their dump trucks with corresponding payments collected in the amount of **Seven Hundred Fifty Pesos (Php 750.00)**.

C. FIELD MONITORING OF QUARRY AND MINING OPERATIONS

1. Mining Operations

The joint team composed of representatives from DENR Mines & Geo-Sciences Bureau (MGB) and Environment and Natural Resources Office (ENRO) conducted identification, assessment and verification from March 25-27, 2014, the purposed of which was to determine the possibility to be declared as Minahang Bayan within the Municipality of Dinapigue, Isabela. Together with Municipal Mayor Hon. Reynaldo D. Derije, a closed meeting was instituted to discuss all the issues and concerns arising therefrom. As a result, the team recommended to the municipal LCE the issuance of Cease and Desist Order (CDO) to various illegal miners and the establishment of a Monitoring Checkpoint. Consequently, the team was able to delineate and plot the geographic coordinates of the mining area in the topographic map of Dinapigue, Isabela.

As member of the Multi-Partite Monitoring Team of the Isabela Nickel Mining Project of Geogen Corporation, ENR Officer Geronimo P. Cabaccan, Jr. joined the 1st Quarter field monitoring of small-scale mining activities as to their compliance with existing mining rules and regulations at Dinapigue from March 24-29, 2014.

PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING THE CLOSED MEETING INSTITUTED TOGETHER WITH MAYOR REYNALDO D. DERIJE DISCUSSING THE ISSUES AND CONCERNS ARISING AND THE IDENTIFICATION, ASSESSMENT AND VERIFICATION CONDUCTED BY THE TEAM FOR THE PROPOSED MINAHANG BAYAN WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DINAPIGUE, ISABELA AND THE 1ST QUARTER MULTI-PARTITE MONITORING TEAM (MMT).



ATTENDANCE DURING THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL AGROFORESTRY CONGRESS WITH THE THEME "AGROFORESTRY: GREENING AND FEEDING THE NATIONS" WITH ENR OFFICER GERONIMO P. CABACCAN, JR. & CDO II ROSEMARIE T. ZABALA TOGETHER WITH MENR OFFICER WARLITO YADAO OF SAN MARIANO, ISABELA HELD ON MARCH 19-21, 2014 AT BOHOL PLAZA RESORT, DAUIS, PANGLAO ISLAND, BOHOL.

OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

Date	Venue/Location	Activity/ies	Remarks
March 11, 2014	LGU Delfin Albano, Community Center	Farmers' Congress	Facilitated and assisted by SEMS Cecilia M. Asuncion, CDO II Rosemarie T. Zabala and ENR Staff
March 18, 2014	LGU Nagulian, Community Center	Farmers' Congress	Facilitated and assisted by CDO II Myrna B. Odinario, CDA II Shirley S. Sia and ENR Staff
March 21, 2014	LGU San Guillermo Coliseum	Farmers' Congress	Facilitated and assisted by CDO II Myrna B. Odinario, CDA II Shirley S. Sia and ENR Staff