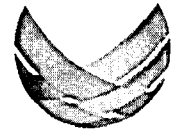




**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS NA YAMAN**



**BAGONG PILIPINAS**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO :** **THE BUREAU DIRECTOR**  
Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB)  
Forest Management Bureau (FMB)  
Land Management Bureau (LMB)  
Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB)  
Environmental Management Bureau (EMB)

**THE REGIONAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** ✓  
DENR - Luzon and Visayas Regions

**THE DIRECTOR**  
Manila Bay Coordinating Office (MBCO)  
National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA)

**FOR :** **THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY**  
Legal Affairs and Enforcement

**THE UNDERSECRETARY**  
Organizational Transformation & Human Resources

**THE UNDERSECRETARY**  
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB)

**FROM :** **THE OIC - ASSISTANT SECRETARY**  
Field Operations Luzon and Visayas

**SUBJECT :** **CONSOLIDATED TOP THREE (3) CURRENT AND EMERGING ISSUES FOR THE 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER 2024**

**DATE :** **OCT 02 2024**

This refers to the submitted top three (3) current and emerging issues of the Luzon and Visayas Regions. This office has consolidated the issues per Bureau/concerned offices and we are requesting your invaluable response on the specific issues raised by the Regions. Our actions aim at providing guidance to the field offices in handling their specific issues within their AOR. We appreciate receiving your response on or before 30 September 2024. Please send the advanced copy of your response at [asecfosl.denr@yahoo.com](mailto:asecfosl.denr@yahoo.com).

Kindly refer to the issues and concerns listed in the table.

REGIONS	ISSUES AND CONCERNS	BACKGROUND / ACTION TAKEN	RECOMMENDATION/ASSISTANCE NEEDED	RESPONSE/ COMMENTS
<b>A. BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU (BMB)</b>				
R2	1. Issuance of Guidelines on the allowable quarry areas in Batanes.	A meeting with USec. for Field Operations was conducted on August 1, 2024 to discuss issues of the Hon. Congressman. A Team composed of DENR R2 personnel, EMB and MGB Technical and Legal Representatives was created to prepare a draft guideline for the small-scale non-commercial quarry operation in the Province of Batanes. On August 23-26, 2024, series of meetings were conducted. Consequently, the draft guidelines was presented to the DENR Regional Executive Director together with EMB and MGB Regional Directors for	Finalization and Issuance of the said DAO	

MEMO NO. 2024 - 885

		<p>their comments. A hard copy of the said draft guidelines was also likewise prepared for endorsement and further review of the DENR Central Office. A meeting presided by the USEC for Legal and Administration Atty. Ernesto Adobo Jr. was conducted on September 2, 2024. The said meeting was attended by the Asec. for Legal Affairs Atty. Norlito Eneran, DENR Regional Executive Director Gwendolyn C. Bambalan, Atty. Aries Matibag from the office of USEC Cuna, MGB and BMB Central Office representatives, other DENR R2 staffs, EMB Region 2 and MGB Region 2 Representatives. Accordingly, the draft guidelines is now with the OSEC per information relayed by Asec Legal Affairs and Enforcement</p>		
	<p>2. Construction of San Mariano - Palanan Road which will traverse the Strict Protection Zones of NSMNP which appears to be prohibited under RA 9125 and RA 11038</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•The PAMB did not issue clearance on the road construction project because it will traverse the Strict Protection Zone (SPZ) of the NSMNP.</li> <li>•EMB issued NOV to DPWH, 3rd Engineering District on September 6, 2023.</li> <li>•The RED visited the area on July 4, 2024 and the road construction was already stopped.</li> <li>•On July 16, 2024, technical personnel of EMB-R02 conducted ground validation and monitoring of the San Mariano-Palanan Road Construction Project of the DPWH Isabela 3rd District at San Mariano, Isabela. As a result, there is no road construction within the buffer zone or within NSMNP, but there is an on-going slope protection activities by DPWH 3rd district which is outside NSMNP, about 600 to 700m away from buffer zone of NSMNP. The said slope protection activity is to mitigate or prevent any soil erosion or environmental damage.</li> <li>•On August 21, 2024, DENR Region 2 submitted memorandum briefer to the Undersecretary, Field Operations-Luzon and Visayas Supervising Undersecretary MGB and EMB-Luzon and Visayas containing the following recommendations of DENR R2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To conduct biophysical assessment of the affected area which will serve as basis for the PAMB to decide on the request for rezoning. Coordination with BMB was already made on August 1, 2024.</li> <li>2. Pending the conduct and completion of the biophysical assessment report, the position of the PAMB not to endorse the project in the meantime is recommended to be upheld.</li> <li>3. Issuance of clarification and legal guidance per CSW dated October 26, 2023 submitted to the Central Office on whether RA 9125, RA 7586 and RA 11038 effectively repealed Republic Act 917 or the Philippine Highway Act and EO 113 which established the Naguillian Jct.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Approval of the funding request amounting to 810,000 for the conduct of Biophysical Assessment</p>	

		<p>San Mariano to Palanan road, should these laws cannot be harmonized.</p> <p>4. The DPWH must adhere to the provisions of the DPWH Department Order No. 159 s.2022 in all its undertakings.</p> <p>•On August 30, 2024 an interface meeting with Congressmen Go and Ty, DENR R2 lead by RED Bambalan, MGB, EMB, PENRO Isabela, CENRO Palanan, CENRO Naguillan and DPWH key officials was held in Hotel Andrea, Cauayan City, Isabela. In that meeting the following were agreed upon:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DENR R2 to facilitate and immediately conduct of the biophysical assessment by the multidisciplinary team.</li> <li>2. DPWH to submit all the requirements for ECC and GSUP applications</li> </ol>		
R3	<p>- Aside from seeking a court order (involving long litigation in court), the other available remedy to evict illegal occupation within PA is the Order of Removal/Departure of the offender from the protected area by the Secretary of the DENR. The said remedy is moved practical, immediate and not expensive as compared to ordinary cases filed in regular court.</p> <p>- Under Section 21 of DAO 2019-05, the Secretary has the authority to order clearing of PAs from illegal structures.</p> <p>- Under Rule 21.1, The DENR shall cause the eviction of an offender from the protected area on the basis of a court order, except in cases of emergency, when the DENR Secretary may order the immediate exit or departure of the offender from the protected area.</p> <p>- There is an emergency when there is a demonstrated impending threat to human life and biodiversity, or to species found within the ecosystem from the protected area.</p> <p>- Clarification on how to invoke Rule 21.1 over illegal occupants/structures within PAs</p>	<p>- Field Offices conducted investigation to determine if the illegal structures within PAs pose a grave threat to the environment that would justify their immediate removal.</p> <p>- For Pantabangan-Carranglan WFR, it was determined that the illegal structures blocked the entire river located in Brgy. Marikit, Pantabangan, Nueva Ecija, which makes the place as flood hazard and polluted due to lack of sanitary facilities.</p> <p>- Technical Conferences were conducted in the presence of the offenders to discuss and inform them of their violation.</p> <p>- DENR R3 prepared a CSW / report of the investigation to be submitted to the Secretary with recommendation for the issuance of an order for the immediate removal / departure of the illegal structures from the Protected Area.</p>	<p>Along this line, we are seeking the intervention of the DENR Secretary for the issuance of an Order of Departure of the Offender from the Protected Area</p>	

R4A	Issue within Masungi Georeserve Foundation Major points on 3 Congressional Inquiries and Updates on the Draft Report of Sub-committee on JVA, & Supplemental MOA between DENR and Bluestar Development Corporation	a. Provision of technical assistance to Central Office on the congressional hearing materials b. The Region provided technical assistance to Central Office on the review of MOA on the fulfillment of duties and responsibilities c. Preparation of CSW for submission to Central Office for congressional inquiries d. Waiting for the result of the hearings and inquiries and further instructions	Continuous provision of support and assistance from Central Office	Note: Already submitted during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Issues and concerns. For follow up of the action taken.
R5	Restrictions imposed by certain provisions of RA 11038 or the ENIPAS Act of 2018 [e.g. Section 20 (v)] affect tourism and economic development in the concerned local government units, due to the inclusion of land-based areas within the coverage of Ticao-Burias Pass Protected Seascape (TBPPS)	1. The PAMB passed a resolution to modify the boundaries and to create a TWG. 2. Ongoing Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) in TBPPS as a preparatory activity for the modification of boundary. 3. Included in the FY 2025 Work and Financial Plan based on the NEP the activity on the Modification of Boundaries of TBPPS. 4. Discussed during the 3rd Quarter RDC Full Council Meeting held on September 4, 2024 the situation of TBPPS and RDC Members agreed that the Bicol Regional Tourism Committee (BRTC) will prepare a position paper supporting the amendments of RA 11038 particularly for TBPPS.	Support for the Modification of Boundaries of TBPPS	
R7	Development Fees in Protected Areas Existing Policy: DAO 2019-05 (IRR of RA 7586 or the NIPAS Act of 1992as amended by RA No. 11038 or the ENIPAS Act of 2018) - Rule 25.5 The annual Development Fee for areas covered by SAPA shall be based on the fixed percentage of the zonal value of the land and improvements which is equivalent to five percent (5%) of the most recent zonal value of the commercial zone in the nearest barangay or municipality where the project area is located, multiplied by the size of the area for development and one percent (15) of the value of improvement, as premium to the protected area. The annual SAPA fee based on this computation shall be paid upon issuance of the SAPA. - For water supply and renewable energy projects of national significance, the proponent shall be subjected to a one-time payment of the	Communicated with Central Office	- Review Rule 25.5 of DAO No. 2019-05 on Annual Development Fee and similar with the FMB computation, if possible should be based on the result of Protected Areas Resource Accounting Valuation and also in consultation with stakeholders. - Consider the computation of user's fee based on Section 7 of DAO 99-34 dated August 10, 1999 – Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration Management and Development of Foreshore Areas, Marshy Lands and other lands Bordering Bodies of Water which is three per centum (3%) of the value of land and one per centum (1%) of value of improvements and DAO 98-20 dated May 20, 1998 and DAO 2010-26 dated October 13, 2010.	

	<p>Development fee as computed above and an annual fee equivalent to PhP7,200.00 per hectare, or a fraction thereof, and to be increased cumulatively by ten percent (10%) every year.</p> <p>- The highest and most recent zonal values prescribed by the BIR shall be used as basis for the computation of the SAPA Development Fee.</p> <p>- The Zonal Valuation of BIR which can be accessed through the internet is based on values of real property in the locality and generally used as basis for computing internal revenue tax and fair market value of the property. Hence, charging a government share based on zonal value of nearest commercial zone (per square meter) may generate a very high amount. The permittee is investing to develop areas allowed under the Protected Area Management Plan and this may serve as disincentive to private sector to invest and pursue their entrepreneurial activities.</p> <p>Sample Case: Tsuneishi Heavy Industries Cebu (Port and Shipbuilding Facility): Value of Land = 647,229 x 4,000/sq.m. x 5% = PhP129,445,800.00 Value of Improvement = PhP3,482,912.28 (1% of value of improvement) ADF = PhP129,445,800.00 + PhP3,482,912.28 = PhP132,928,712.28</p>			
R8	<p>- Issuance of Tenurial Instruments.</p> <p>Issuance of a Provisional Permit at the Regional Office for SAPA, FLAG/T while application is still being processed at the DENR Central Office.</p> <p>- Government projects such as school expansion/ existing establishments with no tenurial instrument</p>		<p>- FLAGt applicant should apply ahead of time to pave way for the issuance of clearance from NCIP upon inspection;</p> <p>- Classify projects that need for SAPA application and those where MOA can be entered into instead of SAPA</p>	
<b>B. FOREST MANAGEMENT BUREAU (FMB)</b>				

<b>CAR</b>	<p>Intensified Forest Protection</p> <p>A. Difficulty for the registration with the Land Transportation Office (LTO) of motor vehicles confiscated /forfeited in favor of the government</p> <p>B. Lack of Funds for the implementation of the management plan of TEPO/PEPO areas</p>	<p>- Compliance to the numerous requirements for the registration of conveyances seized, confiscated and forfeited in favor of the government.</p> <p>-The CENR offices have initiated monitoring activities in these areas with the assistance of the regional office.</p>	<p>- Possible amendment to Joint DENR-DOTr Administrative Order number 2018-01 to simplify the requirements for registering conveyances (vehicles) that have been seized, confiscated, or forfeited in favor of the government. Consideration should be given to vehicles with existing encumbrances, clarifying that any obligations related to these encumbrances remain the responsibility of the original owner and not the government.</p> <p>-For possible provision of budget</p>	
<b>R3</b>	<p>Exclusion of National Greening Program (NGP) sites, Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) areas, Certificate of Stewardship Contracts (CSCs), closed forests, and other Tenurial Instruments in the application for Exploration Permits. (EP applicants are required to exclude areas overlapping NGP sites, CBFM areas, CSCs, closed forests, and other Tenurial Instruments)</p>	<p>MGB R3 conducted review of areas open and closed to mining applications</p>	<p>Issuance of clarification/guidelines from DENR and/or MGB CO relative to the issue/concern</p>	
<b>R4B</b>	<p>Pastoral Letter of Pastor Socrates C. Mesiona from the Apostolic Vicariate of Puerto Princesa. Issues presented are as follows:</p> <p>1. Illegal Tree cutting and Timber poaching</p> <p>2. Special Tree Cutting and Earth Barring Permit (STCEP) issued to mining companies resulting to thousands of trees being cut down in Palawan</p>	<p>PENRO Palawan send a reply with the following info:</p> <p>1. The DENR carried out the ENGP which is a massive forest rehabilitation program of the government implemented in pursuit of sustainable development for poverty alleviation, food security, biodiversity conservation, environment stability, and climate change adaptation and mitigation.</p> <p>2. DENR reiterate thru letter that STCEP is only confined within the approved mining area covered with Mineral Production Sharing Agreement (MPSA) and the issuance of Special Tree Cutting Permit by the DENR is anchored on the requirements provided under DENR Administrative Order No. 2021-11.</p>	<p>We recommend issuing a policy that such approval of tree-cutting permits shall be cleared first by the Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations before issuance.</p>	

R7	<p>1. Annual Government Share in Timberland Areas (FLAg/FLAgT) Existing Policy: DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-59 Rules and Regulations Governing the Special Uses of Forestlands DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-28 Rules and Regulations Governing the Special Uses of Forestlands for tourism Purposes Section 18. Payment of Government Share and Surcharges for Late Payment is at least five percent (5%) of the most recent zonal value of the nearest commercial zone of the barangay/municipality/city or province whichever is higher.</p> <p>Comments: Individual and groups who are holder of Special Land Use Permit (SLUP) and FLAG/FLAgT expressed their concerns on government share/Users Fee which in some cases they considered the fees as frugally absurd on their part. The Zonal Valuation of BIR which can be accessed through internet is based on values of real property in the locality and generally used as basis for computing internal revenue tax and fair market value of the property. Hence charging a government share based on zonal values of the nearest commercial zone (per square meter) may generate very high amount for a forestland which is beyond the commerce of man and needs investment to develop. This may serve as disincentive to private sector to invest and pursue entrepreneurial activities in forestland. To cite a particular case in Consolacion, Cebu: Uni-Orient Pearl Ventures. with application for FLAG - Dry-dock/Ship Repair, located in Sitio</p>	Communicated with Central Office	<p>- Review/revisit draft DAO prepared by FMB in 2017 Re: Annual Government Share for FLAg and FLAgT based on result of Forest Resource Accounting Valuation Study. - Based on a letter dated October 24, 2018 (copy attached) of then FMB Director Nonito M. Tamayo, CESO IV addressed to Mr. Richard Brojan of Fortune Shipworks, Inc., Brgy. Tayud, Consolacion, Cebu and applicant for GFLAg, the draft DAO prepared in 2017 was already enhanced taking into consideration the inputs of affected stakeholders. The draft DAO being a document in progress is subject to final review/deliberation by the Policy Review Committee (PRC) of FMB for eventual consideration of the Policy Technical Working Group (TWG) of DENR Central Office. - The Policy Consultation Workshop on Multiple Use Forest Management Program was conducted by FMB last September 24-26, 2019 in Bacolod City attended by representative from DENR and other stakeholders (drydock/shipyard owners, resort owners, holders of FLGMA, FLAg, FLAgT and other Special Land Users) particularly on the rates of annual government share.</p>	<p>Note: Already submitted during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Issues and concerns. For follow up of the action taken.</p>
----	--	----------------------------------	--	--

	<p>Tawagan, Tayud, Consolacion, Cebu Annual Government Share = Area x Most Recent Zonal Value of Nearest Commercial Zone x 5% = 67,584 sq.m. x 4,000/sq.m. x 0.05 = PhP13,516,800.00</p>			
	<p>2. Inventory Fee for those with Less Than a Hectare Tree Plantation Existing Policy: DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-16 Prescribing the Revised Schedule of Forestry Administrative Fees Item D.2 Timber inventory, requires all applications a 100% intensity with corresponding fee of Php1,200.00/ hectare. Comments: There are tree cutting permit applications received by our field offices that does not exceed one (1) hectare but still we are requiring the applicant to pay Php1,200.00/hectare inventory fee. We recommended a formula on how to compute the Inventory Fee based on spacing and number of trees to be cut and raised the concern to the Forest Management Bureau (FMB). The FMB however, informed us through a memorandum dated 29 December 2022 that they already drafted and endorsed a policy pertaining to the "Amendment of Certain Provisions of DAO 2004-16 Prescribing the Revised Schedule of Forestry Administrative Fees". As of to date, the proposed policy amendment is still pending.</p>	Communicated with Central Office	To push for the urgent approval of the proposed amendment and seek support from other regions to endorse the policy proposal.	Note: Already submitted during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Issues and concerns. For follow up of the action taken.
R8	<p>- Issuance of Tenurial Instruments. Issuance of a Provisional Permit at the Regional Office for SAPA, FLAG/T while application is still being processed at the DENR Central Office. - Government projects such as school</p>		<p>- FLAGt applicant should apply ahead of time to pave way for the issuance of clearance from NCIP upon inspection; - Classify projects that need for SAPA application and those where MOA can be</p>	



	expansion/ existing establishments with no tenurial instrument		entered into instead of SAPA	
<b>C. LAND MANAGEMENT BUREAU (LMB)</b>				
<b>NCR</b>	No. available guidelines on the renewal of Area Clearance. Per Section 5 DAO 2018-14, the clearance is effective for five (5) years only.	The Region is requesting guidance from the Central Office	The policy should align with any recommendation of the Cumulative Impact Assessment study.	
<b>CAR</b>	Tax Declaration as requirement upon submission of the application for Free Patent (Agricultural) poses a significant challenge for many applicants, significantly depriving them of their desire to acquire a Free Patent and affecting the region's Target. The annual target for this year is 2,049, but the current accomplishment stands at only 71%, or 1,462 lots.	A Memorandum of request was forwarded to LMB on August 13, 2024.	The region recognizes the Tax Declaration as mandatory; however, it is suggested that, if possible, the Tax Declaration be required only after the approval of the Patent to align with the requirements of the concerned LGUs. In cases where a Tax Declaration is not available upon submission of the application for a Free Patent, proof of compliance may be demonstrated by a letter from the applicant requesting a Tax Declaration, which has been duly received by the Municipal Assessor's Office.	
<b>R2</b>	Political Boundary Issue between San Nicolas Pangasinan and Sta. Fe, Nueva Vizcaya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•On July 24-25, 2024, a meeting was held in San Fernando City, La Union for the Technical Working Group created pursuant to Special Order No. 2022-746 dated November 22, 2022 to present its findings and recommendations. The meeting was attended by the Director of LMB, REDs of Regions 1 and 2 and other key personnel from both regions. From the discussions, there appears some technical concerns that have yet to be further investigated and clarified by the team</li> <li>•On July 29, 2024, DENR R2 held a meeting where one of the focus of the discussions is Executive Order No. 56 issued on July 13, 1917. Executive Order No. 56 describes the political boundary of the Provinces of Nueva Vizcaya, Pangasinan, and Mountain Province. In that meeting, it came out from the DENR R2 personnel who are members of the team, that they did not locate on the ground POINT 26 as mentioned and described in EO No. 56. Only K-68 was located on the ground because POINT 26, as discussed by the team, is a generic corner/point and there is no geographic</li> </ul>	Approval of the Funding request from LMB amounting to 1 million for the conduct of boundary survey	Note: Already submitted during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Issues and concerns. For follow up of the action taken.

		<p>position mentioned in Executive Order No. 56.</p> <p>•As an offshoot of the July 29, 2024 meeting, DENR R2 submitted a report on August 27, 2024, concerning the said issue containing the following recommendations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. POINT 26 as described in the law must be verified/located on the ground taking into consideration the description mentioned in EO 56 and other extraneous evidence to that effect;</li> <li>2. Reconstitution of the members of team taking into consideration their physical ability and fitness to trek considering the high elevation of POINT 26 as described in EO 56;</li> <li>3. Pending the resolution of the boundary dispute, Regions 1 and 2 have agreed to adopt the approved cadastral surveys of the municipalities of Santa Fe, Nueva Vizcaya and San Nicolas, Pangasinan in the monitoring and enforcement of environmental laws. A joint memorandum containing the details of the agreement will be submitted once both agreed on the terms and conditions.</li> </ol> <p>•On September 9, 2024, DENR R2 endorsed to DENR R1 a copy of the draft joint memorandum containing the agreements during the July 24-25, 2024 meeting in San Fernando City, La Union for its comments. The agreement is, among others, for both regions to follow and adopt the approved cadastral surveys of the municipalities of San Nicolas, Pangasinan and Sta. Fe, Nueva Vizcaya for purposes of environmental laws regulations and enforcement pending the resolution of the boundary dispute.</p>		
R3	<p>Natural Expropriation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Due to the movement of the sea landward, private properties were submerged/placed under water.</li> <li>b. Following the case of Republic of the Phil. represented by the Director of Lands vs. CA and Josefina Morato, et.al. the invaded property became foreshore and passed to the realm of the public domain. In fact in Gov't. vs. Cabangis, the government annulled the registration of the land subject of cadastral proceedings where the parcel of land became foreshore land.</li> <li>c. Since they are covered by registered title, the owner are still claiming the same as their private property invoking property</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Notices were sent to resort owners that they are obliged to pay occupation/user's fee pursuant to LGC No. 58, dated August 15, 1979 as their property has been reverted to the mass of public domain due to natural expropriation.</li> <li>- Advised concerned Assessor's Office to cancel/deny declaration of the area for taxation purposes</li> <li>- Prepare CSW/Report of the Investigation</li> <li>- Prepare a memo/communication for the Office of the Secretary. Re: Request of Issuance of an order for the immediate removal/departure of the illegal structure from the protected area invoking Section 21 of the ENIPAS Act (RA 11038) and Rule 21.1 of DAO 2019-05 (IRR of ENIPAS)</li> </ul>	<p>Issuance of guidelines from the Central Office on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. official declaration of the area as part of public land</li> <li>b. cancellation of title; and</li> <li>c. disposition of the area for Foreshore/ Miscellaneous Lease</li> </ol>	

	<p>rights and payment of taxes.</p> <p>d. Resort owners refused to pay occupation fee citing that the foreshore is part of their titled property.</p> <p>e. Field Offices were required to investigate to determine if the illegal structures pose grave threat to the environment that would justify their moderate removal.</p> <p>f. Technical conferences were conducted at the presence of the offender to discuss and inform them of their violation.</p>			
R4A	1. Lifting of the suspension on the processing of Friar Land applications	Complied to the needed requirements for lifting of suspension with standing request for the lifting of suspension order on Friar Lands covering seven (7) estates in CALABARZON sent to the Central Office on April 21, 2022.	Fast track the request for the lifting of suspension and further assistance regarding this matter.	Note: Already submitted during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Issues and concerns. For follow up of the action taken.
	2. Lungsod Silangan Suspension	The office has complied to the needed requirements with standing request for the lifting of suspension/moratorium on the issuance of survey authority and patents sent to the Central Office on April 6, 2022 and was reiterated thru another Memorandum dated April 18, 2022	Fast track the request for the lifting of suspension and further assistance regarding this matter.	Note: Already submitted during the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter Issues and concerns. For follow up of the action taken.
<b>D. MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU (MGB)</b>				
R1	Energy Project Proponents must seek prior clearance from the DENR before requesting to conduct Area Status and Clearance (ASC) and Geological Site Scoping (GSS) from MGB	Project proponents were advised to also coordinate with the DENR.	To require the project proponent to submit copy of their DENR lease/permit/ agreements/joint venture/ production sharing agreement/license or proof of application for their tenurial instruments (if not yet available) when submitting a request for ASC and GSS from MGB.	
R2	Issuance of Guidelines on the allowable quarry areas in Batanes.	A meeting with USec. for Field Operations was conducted on August 1, 2024 to discuss issues of the Hon. Congressman. A Team composed of DENR R2 personnel, EMB and MGB Technical and Legal Representatives was created to prepare a draft guideline for the small-scale non-commercial quarry operation in the Province of Batanes. On August 23-26, 2024, series of meetings were conducted. Consequently, the draft guidelines was presented to the DENR	Finalization and Issuance of the said DAO	

		Regional Executive Director together with EMB and MGB Regional Directors for their comments. A hard copy of the said draft guidelines was also likewise prepared for endorsement and further review of the DENR Central Office. A meeting presided by the USEC for Legal and Administration Atty. Ernesto Adobo Jr. was conducted on September 2, 2024. The said meeting was attended by the Asec. for Legal Affairs Atty. Norlito Eneran, DENR Regional Executive Director Gwendolyn C. Bambalan, Atty. Aries Matibag from the office of USEC Cuna, MGB and BMB Central Office representatives, other DENR R2 staffs, EMB Region 2 and MGB Region 2 Representatives. Accordingly, the draft guidelines is now with the OSEC per information relayed by Asec Legal Affairs and Enforcement		
R3	Exclusion of National Greening Program (NGP) sites, Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) areas, Certificate of Stewardship Contracts (CSCs), closed forests, and other Tenorial Instruments in the application for Exploration Permits. (EP applicants are required to exclude areas overlapping NGP sites, CBFM areas, CSCs, closed forests, and other Tenorial Instruments)	MGB R3 conducted review of areas open and closed to mining applications	Issuance of clarification/guidelines from DENR and/or MGB CO relative to the issue/concern	
<b>E. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU (EMB)</b>				
R2	Issuance of Guidelines on the allowable quarry areas in Batanes.	A meeting with USec. for Field Operations was conducted on August 1, 2024 to discuss issues of the Hon. Congressman. A Team composed of DENR R2 personnel, EMB and MGB Technical and Legal Representatives was created to prepare a draft guideline for the small-scale non-commercial quarry operation in the Province of Batanes. On August 23-26, 2024, series of meetings were conducted. Consequently, the draft guidelines was presented to the DENR Regional Executive Director together with EMB and MGB Regional Directors for their comments. A hard copy of the said draft guidelines was also likewise prepared for endorsement and further review of the DENR Central Office. A meeting presided by the USEC for Legal and Administration Atty. Ernesto Adobo Jr. was conducted on September 2, 2024. The said meeting was attended by the Asec. for Legal Affairs Atty. Norlito Eneran, DENR Regional Executive Director Gwendolyn C. Bambalan, Atty. Aries Matibag from the office of USEC Cuna, MGB and BMB Central Office representatives, other DENR R2 staffs, EMB Region 2 and MGB Region 2	Finalization and Issuance of the said DAO	

		Representatives. Accordingly, the draft guidelines is now with the OSEC per information relayed by Asec Legal Affairs and Enforcement		
R5	Delay in the approval of Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) Applications for Projects within Protected Areas which hamper the Implementation and Completion of DPWH projects with approved and released budget	In compliance with Memorandum dated 2024-292 dated 26 March 2024 from DENR Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzaga, B V conducted a review of all ECCs issued for projects within PAs. Based on records on file, ECC Applications within Protected Areas in Bicol Region are mostly from DPWH infrastructure projects.	We recommend the Lifting of Suspension of Approval of Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) Applications for Projects within Protected Areas by EMB Regional Offices	
<b>F. MANILA BAY COORDINATING OFFICE (MBCO)</b>				
NCR	Standardization of salary of (Estero Rangers and other Object 29) as well as possible review on the potential increase of salary of COS.	Financial review and endorsement to DENR-CO to request for the adoption of standard salary for Estero Rangers under the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program for the remaining quarter of 2024	Adoption of the standard salary fund to be sourced-out from the same PPA and within the budget allocation	
<b>G. DENR CENTRAL OFFICE – ORGANIZATIONAL TRANSFORMATION AND HR</b>				
CAR	Prioritization and approval of the proposed establishment of CENRO Bucay in Abra.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A letter was sent to the Secretary of DBM by the DENR Secretary dated November 19, 2020 requesting for the establishment of CENRO Bucay and citing the challenges faced by CENRO Bangued with relatively large administrative jurisdiction and limited institutional and human resources.</li> <li>- A copy of the proposal for the establishment of CENRO Bucay was endorsed to the Office of the Congressman in August 18, 2022.</li> <li>- Also, a copy was indorsed by the region to CO on August, 2024</li> </ul>	To strengthen our efforts to coordinate with Congress/DBM to secure its approval.	
<b>H. DENR CENTRAL OFFICE - Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB)</b>				
R6	Affirmation of DENR Central Office on the results of the updated Carrying Capacity of Boracay Island conducted in 2022 by Center for Environmental Law and Policy Advocacy (CELPA), Inc. as target of DENR R6.	<p>The result of the study was already forwarded to DENR Central Office per Memorandum of the RED dated December 12, 2022.</p> <p>The result was presented to the Regional Development Full Council Meeting on March 24, 2023 by the RED as requested. The newly created Boracay-Caticlan Sustainable Development Council per Executive order No. 025 issued by Governor Jose Enrique M. Miraflores proposed to conduct another study on the carrying capacity of Boracay Island to validate the results by tapping another study team.</p>	Requesting for affirmation by top Management of the results of the study and policy issuance on the authority to certify the carrying capacity of the Island.	
<b>I. NATIONAL MAPPING AND RESOURCE INFORMATION AUTHORITY (NAMRIA)</b>				
R1	Proliferation of untenured occupants along the unclassified public land at Binmaley-Lingayen Baywalk, Pangasinan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Re-inventory of foreshore areas along the Lingayen-Binmaley baywalk was conducted by CENRO Dagupan from July to August 2024.</li> <li>- A total of 510 structures were inventoried which include commercial, residential, rest house and vacant lots.</li> </ul>	Request for updates and/or to facilitate the approval of the classification of the Unclassified Public Land for possible issuance of appropriate tenurial instruments.	
<b>J. DENR CENTRAL OFFICE – ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS AND ENFORCEMENT</b>				

<p><b>CAR</b></p>	<p>Difficulty for the registration with the Land Transportation Office (LTO) of motor vehicles confiscated /forfeited in favor of the government</p>	<p>Compliance to the numerous requirements for the registration of conveyances seized, confiscated and forfeited in favor of the government.</p>	<p>Possible amendment to Joint DENR-DOTr Administrative Order number 2018-01 to simplify the requirements for registering conveyances (vehicles) that have been seized, confiscated, or forfeited in favor of the government. Consideration should be given to vehicles with existing encumbrances, clarifying that any obligations related to these encumbrances remain the responsibility of the original owner and not the government.</p>	
-------------------	--	--	---	--

For consideration and appropriate action, please.

  
**GILBERT C. GONZALES, CESO III**