



OCT 13 2020

**DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER**  
**No. 2020- 13**

**SUBJECT : ADOPTING THE WILDLIFE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PLAN (WILDLEAP) 2018-2028, AS THE NATIONAL ROADMAP IN ADDRESSING WILDLIFE CRIMES**

In pursuit of Republic Act 9147, which provides for the conservation and protection of wildlife resources, the East Asia Declaration on Combatting Wildlife Trafficking adopted by the Philippines in 2014, and the Philippine commitments under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028, attached hereto as "Annex A", is hereby adopted for information, implementation, and guidance of all concerned.

The WildLEAP 2018-2028 is consistent with the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015-2028 and serves as the national roadmap in addressing wildlife crimes. It also serves as a guide in prioritizing enforcement actions, fund sourcing/allocation, and evaluating the impacts of enforcement work in the country. It identifies six (6) strategies, namely: (1) Policy and System Development; (2) Networking and Coordination; (3) Capacity Building; (4) Communication, Education, and Public Awareness (CEPA); (5) Improving Governance, Curbing Corruption; and, (6) Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation. Each of the six strategies provides its objectives, interventions, targets, indicators, and timeframe.

The DENR Regional Offices and the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) shall disseminate the WildLEAP, undertake public awareness campaigns, lead in its implementation, and coordinate with relevant agencies/offices to ensure efficient and effective implementation by all concerned.

All DENR Task Groups that are already in force and those that will be formed after signing of this guideline including Law Enforcement Agencies already established and will be established after for the enforcement of environmental laws shall be guided by WildLEAP in the planning and in conduct and enforcement of wildlife laws, rules, and regulations.

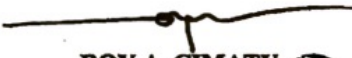
The WildLEAP shall be reviewed every three years and updated, as necessary, to integrate relevant developments on wildlife law enforcement.

Funds for the implementation of the WildLEAP shall be included in the annual budgetary proposal of the DENR Regional Offices and BMB.

All Department orders, circulars, and other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.

If any provision of this Order is declared invalid or unconstitutional, any part or provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation and upon acknowledgment of receipt of a copy thereof by the Office of the National Administrative Registrar (ONAR), UP Law Center.

  
**ROY A. CIMATU**  
Secretary







# WildLEAP

**WILDLIFE LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ACTION PLAN**

**2018-2028**

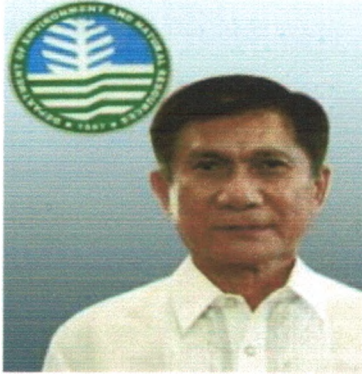


**WILDLIFE  
LAW ENFORCEMENT  
ACTION PLAN (WildLEAP)  
2018-2028**





# MESSAGE



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is committed to push for people-centered agenda in pursuit of environmental protection and sustainable development. It shall continue to institute reforms, and pursue programs and projects that would truly protect the environment and improve people's lives.

The formulation of the Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028 through a multi-stakeholder consultation process is one such measure designed to assure the involvement of all concerned sectors in this gargantuan task to combat illegal activities against wildlife. Indeed, there is a need to harmonize and intensify efforts of law enforcement agencies to arrest and hold the violators accountable for their acts against the voiceless creatures.

With the WildLEAP 2018-2028 guiding fund-sourcing, resource allocation, prioritization of enforcement activities, and evaluation of impacts of enforcement work in the country, we would vastly improve our capability to address illegal wildlife trade and protect biodiversity in the archipelago.

I thank the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) for leading the working group in the formulation of the WildLEAP 2018-2028.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roy A. Cimatu', written over a horizontal line.

**ROY A. CIMATU**  
Secretary, DENR



# MESSAGE



The active synchronization of enforcement personnel has led to a significant curtailment of illegal activities on wildlife throughout the country, but there is yet room for improvement. Alarming developments point to the Philippines having been made a transshipment and destination point for wildlife trade across national borders even as we guard against the encroachment of poachers within our territory.

Inter-agency collaboration in wildlife enforcement is necessary in our all-out war against poachers and traffickers of wildlife species.

We laud the efforts of the Biodiversity Management Bureau at developing the Wildlife Law Enforcement Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028. This will indeed serve as a much-needed guide for law enforcement teams as they collaborate in efforts to curb illegal wildlife trade. WildLEAP sets out to clarify roles and responsibilities of local and national agencies in addressing poaching, smuggling and illegal trade of wild flora and fauna, especially our endemic species. Its implementation will surely lead to improvements in wildlife law enforcement to assure future generations the benefits of our natural patrimony.

We enjoin every Filipino to be vigilant in protecting biodiversity and to take active part in efforts to combat illegal trade of wildlife resources.

  
**ATTY. ERNESTO D. ADOBO, JR., CESO I**

Undersecretary and Chair, Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade





# Table of Contents

	Page No.
Foreword.....	i
Acronyms.....	ii
Tables and Figures.....	iv
Executive Summary.....	v
PART I. State of Wildlife Law Enforcement in the Philippines	
1.0 Introduction	
1.1. Background and Rationale.....	2
2.0 Policy Frameworks for Wildlife Law Enforcement	
2.1 International Frameworks.....	3
2.2 Regional Frameworks, Declarations and Mechanisms.....	4
2.3 National Policies, Programs and Plans	
2.3.1 Republic Act (RA) 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act (Wildlife Act).....	7
2.3.2 Republic Act 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act.....	13
2.3.3 Republic Act 9072 or the National Caves and Caves Resources Management and Protection Act .....	14
2.3.4 Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015-2028.....	14
2.3.5 National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) 2016-2026.....	15
2.3.6 National Ivory Action Plan.....	16
3.0 Species-specific Conservation and Management.....	17
4.0 Support Policies for Wildlife Law Enforcement	
4.1 Republic Act 3019 or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.....	21
4.2 Republic Act 9512 or the Environmental Awareness and Education Act.....	22
4.3 Supreme Court AM No. 09-6-8-SC - Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases.....	23
5.0 The Philippines' State of Affairs Against Wildlife Crime	
5.1 The Philippine Justice System.....	24
5.2 Policies, Programs and Activities of the Five Pillars of Criminal Justice to Address and Combat Wildlife Crime	
5.2.1 Law Enforcement Pillar.....	25
5.2.2 Prosecution Pillar.....	34

Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

5.2.3 Court Pillar.....	35
5.2.4 Correctional Pillar .....	35
5.2.5 Community Pillar (focusing on the LGUs).....	35
5.3 Results and Outputs of Policies, Programs and Activities.....	37
5.4 Partnerships and Collaboration.....	40
5.5 Findings and Observations.....	41

PART II. Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

1.0 Introduction	
1.1 Framework and Process .....	45
1.2 Objective.....	45
1.3 Methodology.....	47
2.0 WLE Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT).....	51
3.0 WLE Strategic Agenda	
3.1 Vision .....	61
3.2 Strategic Priorities and Interventions .....	61
3.3 Action Plan.....	64
3.4 Funding Requirements.....	80
Acknowledgment.....	91



# FOREWORD

The Philippines, with its many seaports and airports, is a known transshipment and destination point of wildlife and wildlife by-products for illegal trade. It, however, is also a staunch advocate in combatting such trade, including those traded through international crime syndicates. In 2013, about five tons of seized elephant tusks were destroyed in a widely-publicized ivory crushing, making the Philippines the first member-country of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), as well as the first non-elephant range state, to take such a public action.

Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) has also been identified as a direct threat to populations of wild fauna and flora, and has contributed to biodiversity loss in the country. It is in this context that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, through the Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB) continues to institute measures to address IWT and wildlife law enforcement, consistent with Republic Act 9147, or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001, and other relevant laws, policies, rules and regulations.

The Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028 has been formulated, through a multi-stakeholder consultation process, to fight illegal activities against wildlife, especially for those species falling under the jurisdiction of the DENR.

We give due recognition to partner agencies, as well as the various stakeholder groups and individuals who have shared valuable inputs and actively participated in the development of the WildLEAP. Now, the more difficult work of implementing identified interventions begins. Together, let us work to enforce wildlife laws and combat illegal wildlife trade and other wildlife crimes.

  
**CRISANTA MARLENE P. RODRIGUEZ**  
OIC-Director, Biodiversity Management Bureau, DENR



# Acronyms

AFP	Armed Forces of the Philippines
AO	Administrative Order
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEAN-WEN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations-Wildlife Enforcement Network
BFAR	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
BMB	Biodiversity Management Bureau
BOC	Bureau of Customs
BOC-ESS-EPU	Enforcement and Security Services - Environmental Protection Unit
CBCF	Cebu Biodiversity Conservation Foundation
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CHED	Commission on Higher Education
COP	Conference of Parties
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
DA	Department of Agriculture
DepED	Department of Education
DENR	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DOJ	Department of Justice
DOJ-NPS	National Prosecution Service
DOTr	Department of Transportation
DOST	Department of Science and Technology
ERDB	Ecosystems Research Development Bureau
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GPS	Global Positioning System
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
ICCWC	International Consortium on Combatting Wildlife Crime
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IOBC	Investigation Officer Basic Course
IPAF	Integrated Protected Areas Fund
LEAs	Law Enforcement Agencies
LGU	Local Government Unit
MARLEN	Maritime Law Enforcement
MBCFI	Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc.
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
MG	Maritime Group
NAIA	Ninoy Aquino International Airport
NALECC	National Environmental Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee
NALECC- SCENR	Subcommittee on Environment and Natural Resources
NBI	National Bureau of Investigation
NBI- EWPID	Environment and Wildlife Protection and Investigation Division
NIPAS	National Integrated Protected Areas System
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NISSAP	National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan
NM	National Museum



PA	Protected Area
PAF	Philippine Air Force
PAMB	Protected Area Management Board
PAWB	Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (now the Biodiversity Management Bureau)
PBCF	Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation
PBCP	Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities
PBSAP	Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
PIBCF	Polillo Islands Biodiversity Conservation Foundation
PCG	Philippine Coast Guard
PCSD	Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
PEFI	Philippine Eagle Foundation Inc.
PhilJA	Philippine Judicial Academy
PMO	Project Management Office
PN	Philippine Navy
PNP	Philippine National Police
PNP-CIDG	Criminal Investigation and Detection Group
PNP- MG	Maritime Group
PNP-SIDD	School for Investigation and Detective Development
PO	Peoples Organizations
POGI	Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade
PPA	Philippines Ports Authority
RA	Republic Act
RPEC	Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases
SC	Supreme Court
SU	Silliman University
TESDA	Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UP	University of the Philippines
UP-IBS	Institute of Biological Sciences
UP- MSI	Marine Science Institute
USD	US Dollars
WB	World Bank
WCO	World Customs Organization
WEOs	Wildlife Enforcement Officers
WLE	Wildlife Law Enforcement
WLEMoP	Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations (WLEMoP)
WRC	Wildlife Rescue Center
WTMUs	Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units
WWF	Worldwide Fund for Nature

# Tables and Figures

Table 1	ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Flora and Fauna
Table 2	Jurisdiction under the Wildlife Act (Fauna)
Table 3	Penalties for Violations of the Wildlife Act
Table 4	Penalties for Violations of the Wildlife Act Section 27(a), adjusted as per Sec. 28
Table 5	Prohibited Acts and Penalties under the Caves and Caves Resources Management Act
Table 6	Species-specific Conservation and Management Programs
Table 7	Summary of law enforcement agencies and number of confiscations made
Figure 1	The total number of confiscations of illegally-traded wildlife, and the number of cases filed and resolved from these confiscations from 2010 to 2018
Figure.2	Proportion of major taxa in illegally-traded wildlife confiscations from 2010 to 2018
Figure 3	Number of confiscated wildlife per taxa from 2010 to 2018



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028 serves as the national framework in combatting illegal activities against wildlife with the aim of ensuring the perpetuation of Philippine wild fauna and flora for sustainability, while contributing to the global fight to end wildlife trafficking - the poaching and illegal trade of wildlife, their by-products and/or derivatives. Primarily, the WildLEAP is envisioned to serve as guide in fund-sourcing, resource allocation, prioritization of enforcement activities, and evaluation of impacts of enforcement work in the country. It is comprised of two parts. Part 1 describes the State of Wildlife Law Enforcement (WLE) in the Philippines and is composed of several sections, while Part II describes the WildLEAP and presents its vision, strategic priorities and specific actions for ten (10) years.

## *Part 1. State of Wildlife Law Enforcement in the Philippines*

Section 1 introduces the WildLEAP and provides the background and rationale behind the need to combat illegal activities against wildlife, particularly for those species falling under the jurisdiction of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Section 2 presents an overview of the pertinent policies, programs and plans on wildlife law enforcement at the international, regional, national and local levels. It discusses the overarching policy frameworks for wildlife law enforcement such as the Republic Act 9147 or the Philippines' Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, the Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the declarations promulgated by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP). All these provide the comprehensive framework for wildlife law enforcement, including the agencies charged with implementation, their jurisdiction, prohibited acts and their corresponding penalties. It also includes a discussion of particular policies and plans that aim to protect wildlife species and their habitats from damage and encroachment by providing for mechanisms for effective management, among others. These include Republic Act 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act (NIPAS), as amended by RA 11038 or the Expanded National Protected Areas System of 2018 (E-NIPAS), Republic Act 9072 or the National Caves and Caves Resources Management and Protection Act, and the National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan 2016-2026.

Section 3 lists the species-specific conservation programs implemented with various partner organizations, and indicates where supportive national policies are available.

Section 4 discusses the policies and plans that support wildlife law enforcement, emphasizing the prosecution of offenses under the relevant laws, safeguards against graft and corruption, and awareness raising through environmental education.

Finally, Section 5 describes the state of wildlife law enforcement by: a) key players, such as groups involved in addressing wildlife crime based on the existing system in the country; b) programs and activities on wildlife law enforcement implemented or policies and systems adopted to enhance efforts to combat wildlife crime; and, c) results of activities, programs and policies in terms of the number of confiscations made and the cases filed in Court. There is no attempt to evaluate whether the policies, programs and activities were effective vis-a-vis the result. This is because there is neither sufficient baseline data nor adequate information on some other useful indicators, such as number of operations conducted, number of cases successfully prosecuted, number of persons successfully prosecuted and convicted, number of cases resolved, amounts of fine imposed, and number of persons convicted and imprisoned. Hopefully, once a wildlife management information system has become operational, data pertaining to these indicators would be more available and easily accessible. In addition, there is lack of opportunity to validate with the stakeholders the result of the interventions vis-a-vis the indicators or to seek clarification on some questions that may arise.

## *Part II. Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028*

Part II is composed of several sections. Section 1 introduces the framework and process, objectives and methodology used in the development of WildLEAP, particularly how it complements and supplements RA 9147 and other relevant laws and policies which provide the legal basis for policies, programs, plans and activities to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats for sustainability, as well as address wildlife crimes and wildlife law enforcement. WildLEAP is also aligned and consistent with the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015-2028, which, under Article 6 of the CBD, is the principal instrument for implementing the Convention at the national level, expressly the commitment to implement the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the 20-point Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The PBSAP is the country's roadmap to conserve biodiversity and achieve its vision that "By 2028, biodiversity is restored and rehabilitated, valued, effectively managed, and secured, maintaining ecosystem services to sustain healthy, resilient Filipino communities and delivering benefits to all."

The WildLEAP supports and complements actions under the direct program intervention on strengthening law enforcement envisioned under the PBSAP.

Section 2 summarizes the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to wildlife law enforcement from which recommendations and strategies were identified to address issues/challenges, and eventually, strengthen WLE in the country.

Section 3 states the vision and strategic agenda for WLE in the Philippines. WildLEAP's vision is that: "By 2028, we have a proactive, competent, effective and efficient wildlife law enforcement network and empowered stakeholders that protect and conserve wildlife resources for sustainable development."

Six strategies were identified and validated as critical components of WildLEAP. These strategies are Policy and System Development; Networking and Coordination; Capacity Building; Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA); Improving Governance, Curbing Corruption; and, Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation.



Each strategy has corresponding objectives, interventions, targets, indicators, timeframe (short-, medium-, long-term), and lead agency/agencies responsible for delivering the outputs and outcomes.

Several approaches and methodologies were used in developing the WildLEAP. The participation of stakeholder groups from national and local governments, business, civil society organizations, academic and research institutions was sought in various stages of development. National data related to wildlife law enforcement held by the DENR-BMB were reviewed and analyzed accordingly. In addition, a survey of Counter Wildlife Trafficking (CWT) Interventions in the Philippines was conducted using a form adopted from the United States Department of the Interior (DOI)-International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) survey of CWT interventions in Southeast Asia. Survey respondents included participants of the 'Training of Trainers' on the Application of the Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations from several wildlife law enforcement units.

Inputs to the WildLEAP were also generated through small group meetings and multi-stakeholder consultation workshops held in 24 November 2016 at the Ritz Hotel at the Garden Oases in Davao City, attended by over 100 participants. Participants, who were grouped into four geographic areas- National Capital Region (NCR), Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, shared their experiences, lessons learned, and challenges on WLE, and provided information on recent developments, including program/projects/activities on WLE at the international, regional, national and local levels.



# Part I

# STATE OF WILDLIFE LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES

# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Background and Rationale

The Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015-2028 identified habitat loss and degradation, overexploitation, pollution, climate change and Invasive Alien Species as the prime drivers of biodiversity loss in the Philippines. PBSAP recognizes that illegal wildlife trade (IWT) threatens populations of wild fauna and flora in the Philippines. Thus, it is a matter of grave concern that the country has come to be known as transshipment and destination point for IWT.

The Philippines aims to lead by example in the advocacy to combat IWT. In 2013, about five tons of seized elephant tusks illegally transported by crime syndicates from African countries were destroyed by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in a widely publicized ivory crushing, making the Philippines as the first member-country of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the first ivory consuming nation and non-elephant range state to take such a public action. Soon after, other nations undertook similar actions following the lead initiated by the Philippines.



DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu conducting inspection of some of the Indonesian-endemic cockatoos that were confiscated in Metro Manila last March 2018 by the Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade, through the joint enforcement team of the National Bureau of Investigation-Environmental Crime Division and Biodiversity Management Bureau.

The DENR, through the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) has instituted measures to address IWT consistent with Republic Act 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001. Such measures range from policy reforms to public education, capacity building of stakeholders, systems and tools development and actual law enforcement. Significant success has been achieved in implementing these measures. However, there is a

need for a national roadmap on wildlife law enforcement to combat illegal activities against wildlife, particularly for those species falling under the jurisdiction of the DENR, hence, the development of this long-term Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) was conceptualized.

## 2.0 Policy Frameworks for Wildlife Law Enforcement

### 2.1 International Frameworks

The Philippines has been a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) since 1992. Through this agreement, the country affirms its commitment to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, which it implements through national strategies and action.

To achieve its objectives, the CBD emphasizes the necessity for international cooperation, particularly on technical and scientific matters. In addition, developed country Parties also undertake to provide financial resources to enable developing country Parties to meet their obligations under the Convention. Additional resources are provided to developing countries' Parties through the CBD's financial mechanism, the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

For the post-2010 period, the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 includes the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The plan provides a framework for the establishment of regional and national-level targets, which take into account national needs and priorities.<sup>1</sup> Most relevant to wildlife law enforcement is Target 12, which seeks to prevent the extinction of threatened species and improve and sustain the conservation status of those most in decline.<sup>2</sup> Recommended actions to achieve this target include protection of sites where threatened species can be found, ex situ conservation and implementation of species recovery and conservation programs.<sup>3</sup>

Prior to being a party to the CBD, however, the Philippines had signed the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) in 1981. CITES is an international agreement between governments which aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Parties to CITES enforce the Convention's provisions by implementing the CITES permitting system, taking measures to confiscate illegally obtained wildlife specimens and providing penalties for persons involved in their trade. The implementation of the CITES provisions is overseen by the designated National Management Authorities.

In 1994, the Philippines also became a party to the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS or Bonn Convention), which recognizes the need to provide special protection for wildlife species that migrate across or outside national jurisdictional boundaries.<sup>4</sup> Parties to the CMS commit to promote, cooperate in, and support research relating to migratory species, as well as take actions to prevent any migratory species from becoming endangered, through immediate protection and agreements covering the conservation and management of migratory species.<sup>5</sup> In this regard, the Philippines has signed the CMS Instruments for the Conservation and Management of Dugong and their Habitats throughout their Range (Dugong MoU); the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU); and, the Conservation of Migratory Sharks (Sharks MoU).

---

1 Convention on Biological Diversity – Conference of Parties, Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 Conference of Parties (COP) 10 Decision x/2 – Annex

2 Convention on Biological Diversity – Conference of Parties, Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 COP 10 Decision x/2 - Annex

3 Convention on Biological Diversity – Executive Secretary, Revised and Updated Strategic Plan: Technical Rationale and Suggested Milestones and Indicators UNEP/CBD/COP/10/9 (10 July 2010), 6

4 Bonn Convention, Preamble p. 4

5 Bonn Convention, Article 2 p. 3



Recent developments in the implementation of the CMS by member countries has led to the creation of a new intergovernmental coalition called the Intergovernmental Task Force on Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds which aims to end the illegal killing, taking and trade of millions of migratory birds, starting in the Mediterranean. The coalition includes governments, the European Commission and United Nations organizations, such as the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), international environmental treaties, INTERPOL, law enforcement and judiciary organizations, hunting communities, and NGOs.<sup>6</sup> This development is relevant to the East Asian-Australasian Flyway – which includes the Philippines – where birds are threatened by indiscriminate shooting and trapping along their migratory routes, in addition to being rendered more vulnerable due to habitat loss.<sup>7</sup> The prevention of illegal killing, taking and trade of migratory birds was further emphasized during the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS COP 12) hosted by the Philippines in October 2017.

Also in 1994, the Philippines ratified the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention), which considers the ecological functions of wetlands as regulators of water regimes and as habitats



Philippine hosting of the CMS COP12, October 2017, Philippine International Convention Center

supporting characteristic flora and fauna.<sup>8</sup> Contracting Parties may designate areas for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance where conservation through the establishment of nature reserves, research and efforts to increase waterfowl populations shall be promoted.<sup>9</sup> The Philippines currently has seven Ramsar-designated sites, as follows: 1) Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park, 2) Negros Occidental Coastal Wetlands Conservation Area, 3) Las Piñas-Parañaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area, 4) Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary, 5) Naujan Lake National Park, 6) Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary, and 7) Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park.<sup>10</sup> It is noted that these sites are also internationally important sites for migratory birds, which are vulnerable to poaching for illegal wildlife trade.

## 2.2 Regional Frameworks, Declarations and Mechanisms

In 2005, the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) crafted the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Flora and Fauna. The Plan had a five-year cycle and was subsequently updated for the 2011 to 2015 period.

<sup>6</sup> New Task Force Set to Stop Illegal Killing, Taking and Trade of Migratory Birds at <http://web.unep.org/ecosystems/news/new-task-force-set-stop-illegal-killing-taking-and-trade-migratory-birds>. Accessed 15 December 2016.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

<sup>8</sup> Ramsar Convention, Preamble p. 2

<sup>9</sup> Ramsar Convention, Article 2 p. 1, Article 4, p. 1, 3 and 4

<sup>10</sup> See: Ramsar Sites Information Service at [https://rsis.ramsar.org/rsis-search/?P%5B0%5D=regionCountry\\_en\\_ss%3APhilippines&pagetab=1](https://rsis.ramsar.org/rsis-search/?P%5B0%5D=regionCountry_en_ss%3APhilippines&pagetab=1) (accessed 25 December 2016)

Table 1 below shows the objectives of the Regional Action Plan and provides the corresponding action points for each objective:<sup>11</sup>

**Table 1. ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Flora and Fauna**

Objectives	Action Points
1. To assist ASEAN Member States in adopting effective and enforceable legislation for CITES implementation by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. encouraging all ASEAN countries to enact Category 1 CITES implementing legislation in order to have the ability to meet evolving CITES requirements and to address any policy loopholes that may be identified after enactment;</li> <li>b. updating national legislation, where necessary, social and economic incentives to promote and regulate sustainable management as well as responsible trade of wild fauna and flora; and effective implementation and enforcement of CITES; and</li> <li>c. promoting awareness programs for the judiciary and other law enforcement agencies to enable adequate and timely responses to offences.</li> </ul>
2. To promote networking amongst relevant law enforcement authorities in ASEAN countries to curb illegal trade in CITES Wild Fauna and Flora by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. sustaining and strengthening inter-agency committees or cooperation at national levels, to ensure coordination and collaboration between law enforcement officials on trade in wild fauna and flora;</li> <li>b. sustaining networking through the ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) and its Program Coordination Unit for exchange of law enforcement information regarding trade in CITES wild fauna and flora, and to coordinate regional participation in the Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group and the ASEANAPOL;</li> <li>c. promoting collaborative capacity-building efforts for improved law enforcement; and</li> <li>d. linking and networking with other relevant networks and countries to combat the illicit trade of CITES Wild Fauna and Flora, and in support of the implementation of the Regional Action Plan.</li> </ul>
3. To promote research, monitoring and information exchange on CITES-related issues by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. exchanging information on permit issuance, regional market dynamics and trade flows to improve understanding of producer-consumer relationships, including re-exports, in the region;</li> <li>b. encouraging research activities to ensure that sufficient biological and population dynamics information is available on species in trade in order to undertake non-detriment findings (NDFs) and to establish export quotas; and</li> <li>c. establishing a mechanism by which information about CITES-listed species may be shared, with a particular focus on illegally traded species found in more than one country.</li> </ul>

<sup>11</sup> Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in CITES Wild Flora and Fauna 2011-2015, at <http://www.asean-wen.org/index.php/regional-agreements-protocols/file/4-asean-regional-action-plan-on-trade-in-cites-wild-fauna-and-flora-2011-2015>, 1-9

**Table 1. (contd.)**

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Action Points</b>
4. To promote compliance of industry groups, trade associations /traders and local communities with CITES requirements and national regulations on trade in CITES wild fauna and flora, and to support research and capacity building on sustainable management of trade in wild fauna and flora by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. increasing awareness through education and engagement of relevant industry groups about trade in wild fauna and flora and CITES;</li> <li>b. collaborating with industry groups as a source of information about aspects of trade in CITES wild fauna and flora, inter alia harvest management, captive breeding/ranching, artificial propagation, and market demand; and</li> <li>c. promoting the re-investment of revenue derived from trade in CITES wild fauna and flora into conservation and associated research of species in trade.</li> </ul>
5. To encourage greater regional cooperation on specific issues by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. reviewing the current status of the relationship between CITES implementation and other biodiversity related conventions; and</li> <li>b. establishing bilateral and multilateral taskforces to address shared concerns within ASEAN, related to the conservation and trade in particular species.</li> </ul>
6. To seek sufficient technical and financial assistance through collaborative initiatives by:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. identifying key partners and engaging international and regional donor agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and scientific institutions in advisory and supporting roles in the implementation of projects and activities arising from the action plan; and</li> <li>b. engaging international and regional donor agencies and NGOs to aid in securing adequate funds to implement projects and activities arising from the action plan.</li> </ul>

To fulfill the second objective, the ASEAN-WEN was launched in 2005. ASEAN-WEN is the “world’s largest wildlife law enforcement network and involves law enforcement agencies of the ten ASEAN Member States.”<sup>12</sup> National-level task forces from each of the Member States comprise this regional network.<sup>13</sup> The ASEAN-WEN has assisted in enforcement actions, including inspections and seizures, and has facilitated training activities for its national counterparts on various aspects of combatting illegal wildlife trade.

In 2015, the ASEAN signed with the governments of Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, Russia and the United States a joint Declaration on Combatting Wildlife Trafficking. The Declaration reaffirms, among others, their support for the ASEAN Regional Action Plan on Trade in Wild Flora and Fauna and urges all Parties to implement the Action Plan and comply with their obligations under CITES.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>12</sup> FAQs <http://www.asean-wen.org/index.php/faqs>

<sup>13</sup> Ibid

<sup>14</sup> Association of Southeast Asian Nations et. al., EAS Declaration on Combatting Wildlife Trafficking (13 November 2014), at <https://cites.org/sites/default/files/eng/news/sundry/2014/EAS%20declaration%20on%20Combatting%20wildlife%20trafficking.pdf>

## 2.3 National Policies, Programs and Plans

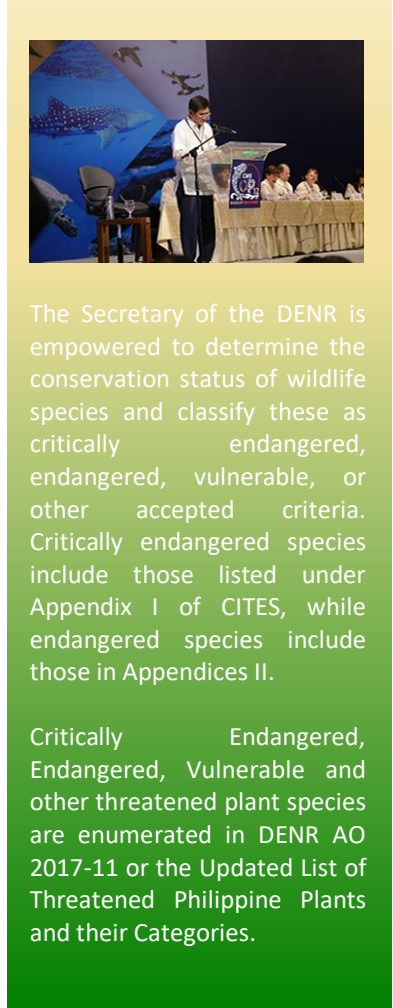
In enforcing wildlife law, the Philippines is guided by several national policies, programs, and plans focused on wildlife species and their habitats, whether they be protected areas, key biodiversity areas or critical habitats. These include, among others:

### 2.3.1 Republic Act (RA) 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act (Wildlife Act)

The Wildlife Act was enacted in 2001 and governs the conservation of wildlife species and their habitats, the regulation of the collection and trade of wildlife, the pursuit of the Philippines’ commitments under the CBD, CITES and other relevant international conventions and the conduct of scientific studies on the conservation of biological diversity.<sup>15</sup>

#### *Jurisdiction*

To implement the Wildlife Act, the DENR is vested with jurisdiction over terrestrial plant and animal species and all turtles, tortoises and wetland species, including crocodiles, water birds, amphibians, and dugong. The Department of Agriculture (DA) has jurisdiction over aquatic critical habitats and aquatic resources, including fishes, aquatic plants, invertebrates, and marine mammals except the dugong (Table 2). For all species in the province of Palawan, jurisdiction is conferred to the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) pursuant to its mandate under RA 7611.<sup>16</sup>



**Table 2. Jurisdiction under the Wildlife Act (Fauna)**

Class	DENR	DA
Mammals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All terrestrial mammalian species</li> <li>▪ Dugong</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All marine mammals</li> <li>▪ Freshwater mammals</li> </ul>
Avian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All species including water birds</li> </ul>	
Reptiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Terrestrial snakes</li> <li>▪ Freshwater turtles</li> <li>▪ Tortoises</li> <li>▪ Sea turtles</li> <li>▪ Crocodiles</li> <li>▪ All lizards including sailfin lizards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sea snakes</li> <li>▪ Freshwater snakes</li> </ul>
Invertebrates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All terrestrial invertebrates including land snails</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All aquatic invertebrates (marine and freshwater)</li> </ul>

Source: Annex A, Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Administrative Order 1 (2004) (RA 9147 Implementing Rules and Regulations)

Jurisdiction for implementation of CITES in the Philippines is likewise divided among the three agencies. The DENR-BMB is the designated Management Authority for terrestrial resources, while the DA-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) has jurisdiction over aquatic resources. In the province of Palawan, the PCSD is the Management Authority pursuant to its mandate.<sup>17</sup> The Management Authorities are supported by Scientific Authorities, including the DENR-Ecosystems

<sup>15</sup> RA 9147 Sec. 2

<sup>16</sup> Republic Act 7611, or the Strategic Environmental Plan for Palawan Act (1992) created the PCSD to set the governance, implementation and policy direction of Palawan’s Strategic Environmental Plan. It is composed of Palawan’s legislative representative, representatives from national government agencies, executives from the various local government units, and other members from the public and private sectors, as the Council deems necessary (Sec. 16).

<sup>17</sup> RA 9147 Sec. 19

Research and Development Bureau (ERDB), University of the Philippines (UP)-Institute of Biological Sciences (IBS), National Museum (NM), UP-Marine Science Institute (MSI), UP Visayas and Silliman University (SU).<sup>18</sup>

### *Prohibited Acts and Penalties*

The Secretary of the DENR is empowered to determine the conservation status of wildlife species and classify these as critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable, or other accepted criteria.<sup>19</sup> Critically endangered species include those listed under Appendix I of CITES, while endangered species include those in Appendix II.<sup>20</sup>

Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable and other threatened plant species are enumerated in DENR AO 2017-11 or the Updated List of Threatened Philippine Plants and their Categories and DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-15 or the Establishing the List of Threatened Species and Their Categories, and the List of Other Wildlife Species Pursuant to Republic Act 9147, Otherwise Known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act.



The Philippine Eagle, *Pithecophaga jefferyi*, the country's National Bird, is listed as 'Critically Endangered' under DAO 2004-15. This species is protected under Philippine laws and CITES. [Credits: Klaus Nigge]

These threatened species, as well as their by-products and derivatives, may only be collected for scientific, breeding, or propagation purposes by accredited individuals.<sup>21</sup>

The Wildlife Act has made it unlawful to willfully and knowingly exploit wildlife resources and their habitats, or undertake the following acts:<sup>22</sup>

- (a) killing and destroying wildlife species, except in the following instances:
  - (i) when it is done as part of the religious rituals of established tribal groups or indigenous cultural communities;
  - (ii) when the wildlife is afflicted with an incurable communicable disease;
  - (iii) when it is deemed necessary to put an end to the misery suffered by the wildlife;
  - (iv) when it is done to prevent an imminent danger to the life or limb of a human being; and
  - (v) when the wildlife is killed or destroyed after it has been used in authorized research or experiments.
- (b) inflicting injury, which cripples and/or impairs the reproductive system of wildlife species;
- (c) effecting any of the following acts in critical habitat(s):
  - (i) dumping of waste products detrimental to wildlife;

---

18 RA 9147 Sec. 19

19 RA 9147 Sec. 22

20 Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Administrative Order 1 (2004) (Implementing Rules and Regulations for RA 9147) Rule 28.2

21 RA 9147 Sec. 23

22 RA 9147 Sec. 27

- (ii) squatting or otherwise occupying any portion of the critical habitat;
  - (iii) mineral exploration and/or extraction;
  - (iv) burning;
  - (v) logging; and
  - (vi) quarrying
- (d) introduction, reintroduction, or restocking of wildlife resources;
- (e) trading of wildlife;
- (f) collecting, hunting, or possessing wildlife, their by-products and derivatives;
- (g) gathering or destroying of active nests, nest trees, host plants, and the like;
- (h) maltreating and/or inflicting other injuries not covered by the preceding paragraph; and
- (i) transporting of wildlife.

These offenses are punishable by fines ranging from PhP10,000 to PhP1 million and/or imprisonment from six months to 12 years. Table 3 shows the complete range of penalties:

**Table 3. Penalties for Violations of the Wildlife Act**

Violations	Penalties
Sec. 27 (a) Killing and destroying wildlife species	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 6 years and 1 day to 12 years and/or a fine of PhP100, 000 to PhP1 million
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 4 years and 1 day to 6 years and/or a fine of PhP50,000 to PhP500,000
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 2 years and 1 day to 4 years and/or a fine of PhP30, 000 to PhP300,000
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 1 year and 1 day to 2 years and/or a fine of PhP20, 000 to PhP200,000
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 6 months and 1 day to 1 year and/or a fine of PhP10,000 to PhP100,000
Sec. 27 (b) Inflicting injury which cripples and/or impairs the reproductive system of wildlife species	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 4 years and 1 day to 6 years and/or a fine of P50,000.00 to P500,000.00
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 2 years and 1 day to 4 years and/or a fine of P30,000.00 to P200,000.00
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of 1 year and 1 day to 2 years and/or a fine of P20,000.00 to P200,000.00
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of 6 months and 1 day to 1 year and/or a fine of P10,000.00 to P50,000.00
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of 1 month to 6 months and/or a fine of P5,000.00 to P20,000.00
Sec. 27 (c) Damaging Critical Habitats and (d) Introduction, reintroduction or restocking of wildlife resources	
	Imprisonment of 1 month to 8 years and/or a fine of P5,000.00 to P5,000,000.00
Sec. 27 (e) Trading of Wildlife	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 2 years and 1 day to 4 years and/or a fine of P5,000.00 to P300,000.00
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 1 year and 1 day to 2 years and/or a fine of P2,000.00 to P200,000.00
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of 6 months and 1 day to 1 year and/or a fine of P1,000.00 to P100,000.00
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of 1 month and 1 day to 6 months and/or a fine of P500.00 to P50,000.00
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of 10 days to 1 month and/or a fine of P200.00 to P20,000.00

**Table 3. continued**

<b>Violations</b>	<b>Penalties</b>
Sec. 27 (f) Collecting, hunting or possessing wildlife, their by-products and derivatives and (g) Gathering or destroying of active nests, nest trees, host plants and the like	
If, in case of paragraph (f), acts were perpetuated through the means of inappropriate techniques and devices, the maximum penalty shall be imposed.	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 2 years and 1 day to 4 years and a fine of P30,000.00 to P300,000.00
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 1 year and 1 day to 2 years and a fine of P20,000.00 to P200,000.00
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of 6 months and 1 day to 1 year and a fine of P10,000.00 to P100,000.00
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of 1 month and 1 day to 6 months and a fine of P5,000.00 to P50,000.00
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of 10 days to 1 month and a fine of P1,000.00 to P5,000.00
Sec 27 (h) Maltreating and/or inflicting injuries on wildlife and (i) Transporting of Wildlife	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 6 months and 1 day to 1 year and a fine of P50,000.00 to P100,000.00
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 3 months and 1 day to 6 months and a fine of P20,000.00 to P50,000.00
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of 1 month and 1 day to 3 months and a fine of P5,000.00 to P20,000.00
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of 10 days to 1 month and a fine of P1,000.00 to P5,000.00
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of 5 days to 10 days and a fine of P200.00 to P1,000.00

Source: Sec. 28, R.A. 9147

These fines should automatically be increased by 10 percent every three years to adjust for inflation.<sup>23</sup> Since the Wildlife Act was passed in 2001, the fines should have increased by 50 percent in 2016. Applying these provisions, the penalties should reflect the increased rates as follows (Table 4).

**Table 4. Penalties for Violations of the Wildlife Act Section 27(a), adjusted as per Sec. 28**

<b>Violations</b>	<b>Adjusted Penalties (as of 2016)</b>
Sec. 27 (a) Killing and destroying wildlife species	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 6 years and 1 day to 12 years and/or a fine of PhP150,000 to PhP1.5 million
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 4 years and 1 day to 6 years and/or a fine of PhP75,000 to PhP750, 000
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 2 years and 1 day to 4 years and/or a fine of PhP45,000 to PhP450, 000
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 1 year and 1 day to 2 years and/or a fine of PhP30,000 to PhP300, 000
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 6 months to 1 year and/or a fine of PhP15,000 to PhP150, 000



**Table 4. continued**

<b>Violations</b>	<b>Adjusted Penalties (as of 2016)</b>
Sec. 27 (b) Inflicting injury which cripples and/or impairs the reproductive system of wildlife species	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 4 years and 1 day to 6 years and/or a fine of PhP75,000 to PhP750, 000
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 2 years and 1 day to 4 years and/or a fine of PhP45,000 to PhP300, 000
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 1 year and 1 day to 2 years and/or a fine of PhP30,000 to PhP300, 000
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 6 year and 1 day to 1 years and/or a fine of PhP15,000 to PhP75, 000
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of a minimum of 1 months to 6 months and/or a fine of PhP10,000 to PhP30, 000
Sec. 27 (c) Damaging Critical Habitats and (d) Introduction, reintroduction or restocking of wildlife resources	
	Imprisonment of 1 month to 8 years and/or a fine of P7,500.00 to P7,500,000.00
Sec. 27 (e) Trading of Wildlife	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 2 years and 1 day to 4 years and/or a fine of P7,500.00 to P450,000.00
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 1 year and 1 day to 2 years and/or a fine of P3,000.00 to P300,000.00
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of 6 months and 1 day to 1 year and/or a fine of P1,500.00 to P150,000.00
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of 1 month and 1 day to 6 months and/or a fine of P750.00 to P75,000.00
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of 10 days to 1 month and/or a fine of P300.00 to P30,000.00
Sec. 27 (f) Collecting, hunting or possessing wildlife, their by-products and derivatives and (g) Gathering or destroying of active nests, nest trees, host plants and the like	
If, in case of paragraph (f), acts were perpetuated through the means of inappropriate techniques and devices, the maximum penalty shall be imposed.	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 2 years and 1 day to 4 years and a fine of P45,000.00 to P450,000.00
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 1 year and 1 day to 2 years and a fine of P30,000.00 to P300,000.00
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of 6 months and 1 day to 1 year and a fine of P15,000.00 to P150,000.00
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of 1 month and 1 day to 6 months and a fine of P7,500.00 to P75,000.00
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of 10 days to 1 month and a fine of P1,500.00 to P7,500.00
Sec 27 (h) Maltreating and/or inflicting injuries on wildlife and (i) Transporting of Wildlife	
Critically Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 6 months and 1 day to 1 year and a fine of P75,000.00 to P150,000.00
Endangered Species	Imprisonment of 3 months and 1 day to 6 months and a fine of P30,000.00 to P75,000.00
Vulnerable Species	Imprisonment of 1 month and 1 day to 3 months and a fine of P7,500.00 to P30,000.00
Other Threatened Species	Imprisonment of 10 days to 1 month and a fine of P1,500.00 to P7,500.00
Other Wildlife Species	Imprisonment of 5 days to 10 days and a fine of P300.00 to P1,500.00

Furthermore, apprehending agencies are mandated to turn all seized or recovered wildlife over to the nearest Wildlife Rescue Center (WRC). Perishable and consumable items that are still fit for animal or

human consumption are to be donated to non-profit or charitable organizations, penal institutions or WRCs.<sup>24</sup>

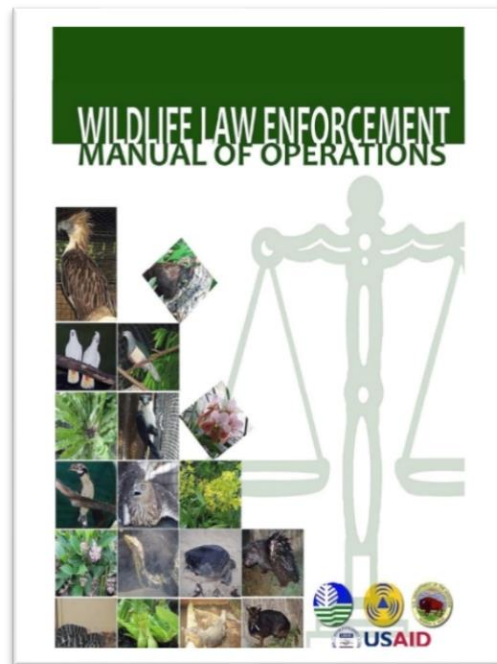
### *Regulation of Exotic Wildlife*

The Wildlife Act also regulates the introduction and propagation of exotic species in the country. Introduction of exotic wildlife is subject to the issuance of a prior clearance from the government agency concerned, which will only do so upon compliance with an Environmental Impact Study, submission of appropriate scientific studies, and a Management Plan, as well as with the Prior Informed Consent of local stakeholders.<sup>25</sup> In addition, exotic wildlife cannot be introduced in protected areas and critical habitats.<sup>26</sup>

### *Wildlife Law Enforcement*

To strengthen the enforcement of these provisions, the Wildlife Act allows for the deputation of Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEOs) to supplement existing law enforcement on the ground. WEOs may seize illegally traded wildlife and wildlife products, apprehend offenders, and assist in monitoring and surveillance operations. WEOs may be from NGOs, citizens' groups, community organizations, and other volunteers who have undergone the necessary training in wildlife laws and regulations, CITES provisions, wildlife identification, and the necessary administrative and judicial procedures.<sup>27</sup>

In order to properly guide WEOs, the Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations (WLEMoP) was developed to provide standards and protocols for law enforcers in implementing RA 9147 and other relevant wildlife laws, rules and regulations.<sup>28</sup> These standards and protocols include monitoring of wildlife transport and trade, conduct of surveillance, raid of establishments illegally possessing, selling and/or displaying wildlife for sale, confiscation of illegally possessed/traded/displayed wildlife species, prosecution of cases against wildlife law violators, and related legal concerns.



The WLEMoP charts general procedures for the various stages of wildlife law enforcement, including:

- Surveillance
- Regulatory monitoring
- Serving a Warrant of Arrest
- Conducting Proper Warrantless Arrests
- Conducting a Search with a Warrant (or Conduct of a Raid)
- Apprehension, Seizure and Handling of Evidence

24 Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Administrative Order 1 (2004) (Implementing Rules and Regulations for RA 9147) Rule 28.3

25 RA 9147 Sec. 13, Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Administrative Order 1 (2004) (Implementing Rules and Regulations for RA 9147) Rule 13.1 and 13.2

26 RA 9147 Sec. 13

27 RA 9147 Sec. 30, Joint DENR-DA-PCSD Administrative Order 1 (2004) (Implementing Rules and Regulations for RA 9147) Rule 30.1 and 30.4

28 DENR Memorandum Circular No. 2010-17 Adopting the "Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations" as Guide in the Enforcement of Republic Act 9147 and Other Relevant Wildlife Laws, Rules and Regulations by Designated/Deputized Wildlife Enforcement Officers, Environment and Natural Resources Officers and Members of the Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units

- Filing and Prosecution of Cases under various scenarios

Each section also contains detailed guidelines on the implementation of each of these actions based on relevant environmental laws, the Rules of Criminal Procedure and the Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases described in Section 4.3 hereof.

#### *Wildlife Management Fund*

The Wildlife Act also established a Wildlife Management Fund (WMF) to finance rehabilitation or restoration of habitats and support scientific research, enforcement and monitoring activities, as well as enhancement of capabilities of relevant agencies.<sup>29</sup> This fund is derived from the following sources; fees collected from the processing and issuance of wildlife permits/certifications and associated services, e.g. Local Transport Permit, Export/Re-export/Import Permit/Certification, etc.; fines imposed and damages awarded, donations, endowments, or grants, which are exempted from donor taxes and all other tax charges or fees.<sup>30</sup>

### ***2.3.2 Republic Act 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act***

The NIPAS Act was enacted in 1992, establishing a protected areas system that encompasses outstandingly remarkable areas and biologically important public lands that are habitats of rare and endangered species of plants and animals, biogeographic zones and related ecosystems, whether terrestrial, wetland or marine.<sup>31</sup> Game refuges, bird and wildlife sanctuaries, wilderness areas, strict nature reserves, watersheds, mangrove reserves and fish sanctuaries that had been proclaimed prior to 1992 were among the initial components of the System.<sup>32</sup>

Notably, the NIPAS Act provided for the establishment of a Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) for each established protected area. This body includes representatives from the DENR, regional and local governments, Indigenous Peoples and local communities and NGOs. The PAMB allocates the PA's budget, approves proposals for funding, and decides matters relating to planning, peripheral protection and general administration of the area in accordance with the general management strategy.<sup>33</sup>

The NIPAS Act also created the Integrated Protected Areas Fund (IPAF) to finance projects of the System. Among other sources, income derived from taxes on the permitted sale and export of wild flora and fauna accrue to this fund.<sup>34</sup> In 2012, Republic Act 10629 amended the NIPAS Act to allow PAMBs to retain 75 percent of all revenues raised from the operation of the protected area system and the management of flora and fauna therein.<sup>35</sup>

---

29 Wildlife Act, Sec. 29

30 Wildlife Act, Sec. 29

31 RA 7586, Sec 2

32 RA 7586, Sec 3

33 RA 7586, Sec 11

34 RA 7586, Sec 16

35 RA 10629 Sec 1

### **2.3.3 Republic Act 9072 or the National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act**

The Caves Act was enacted in 2000 recognizing caves and cave resources as part of the country’s national wealth, as well as creating mechanisms for cooperation and information sharing among governmental authorities and other stakeholders.<sup>36</sup>

Cave resources include animal and plant life that naturally occur in caves.<sup>37</sup> Table 5 shows the prohibited acts and their corresponding penalties to protect cave animal and plant life:

**Table 5. Prohibited acts and penalties under the Caves and Cave Resources Management Act**

<b>Prohibited Acts</b>	<b>Penalties</b>
Altering the free movement of any animal or plant life into or out of any cave	<b>Person found guilty of these offenses:</b> Imprisonment from 2 years to 6 years, or a fine ranging from PhP20,000 to PhP500,000 or both at the discretion of the Court
Gathering, collecting, possessing, consuming, selling, bartering or exchanging or offering for sale without authority any cave resource (including animal or plant life)	<b>Person furnishing the capital to accomplish these acts:</b> Imprisonment from 6 years and 1 day to 8 years, or a fine ranging from PhP500,000 to PhP1 million, or both at the discretion of the Court
Counseling, procuring, soliciting or employing other persons to commit the above violations	

In addition, if the Court determines that the cave requires rehabilitation or restoration, the offender may be required to restore the area or compensate for the damage. Offenders who are government employees shall likewise be removed from office.<sup>38</sup>

### **2.3.4 Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015-2028**

The PBSAP 2015-2028 is “the country’s roadmap to conserve its biodiversity and achieve its vision,” which is “by 2028, biodiversity is restored and rehabilitated, valued, effectively managed and secured, maintaining ecosystem services to sustain healthy, resilient Filipino communities and delivering benefits to all.”<sup>39</sup> It was officially adopted through DENR Administrative Order No. 2016-12.

The PBSAP updates the Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Priorities (PBCP), which were crafted in 2002. It takes into account recent policies, programs, mechanisms and initiatives in biodiversity conservation and management. Notably, the PBSAP aligns the national targets with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

The PBSAP identifies direct and enabling interventions to address and reduce the five major pressures of biodiversity loss – habitat loss and degradation, overexploitation, invasive alien species, climate change, and pollution.<sup>40</sup> Specific indicators are likewise provided to monitor and assess the Plan’s progress.

36 RA 9072 Sec 2

37 RA 9072 Sec 3(a)

38 RA 9072 Sec 8

39 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028, 16

40 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028, 105

*Wildlife Law Enforcement*

Strengthening law enforcement is a direct program intervention of the PBSAP that is expected to help reduce, control, and manage direct pressures on biodiversity that result from illegal activities, such as illegal logging, blast fishing, and illegal collection of wildlife and wildlife products.<sup>41</sup> This intervention will contribute to the realization of several overall target results, as follows:<sup>42</sup>

Conservation Targets:

- By 2028, the conservation status of nationally and globally threatened species in the country from 2016 levels is maintained or improved.
- By 2028, the population of migratory bird species identified in selected inland and coastal wetlands along the East Asian–Australasian Flyway will be maintained.

Results related to reducing threats to biodiversity:

- By 2028, the key threats to biodiversity will be reduced, controlled or managed.

The PBSAP also identifies combatting environmental organized crime as a priority program for the short term.<sup>43</sup> These efforts to strengthen law enforcement for PBSAP implementation have been projected to cost Php8.5 billion, or 0.2 percent of the total implementation cost.<sup>44</sup>

***2.3.5 National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan (NISSAP) 2016-2026***

The NISSAP was formulated to prevent the introduction of invasive alien species (IAS), manage their spread, and minimize their threats.<sup>45</sup> IAS are among the principal drivers of biodiversity loss. One of the key results sought under the PBSAP is to reduce threats to biodiversity by reducing the number of IAS hotspots in the country<sup>46</sup> and crosscutting interventions and stakeholder collaboration.<sup>47</sup>

Enforcement of the relevant provisions of the Wildlife Act, quarantine regulations and other applicable policies are vital to the control and eradication of IAS.<sup>48</sup> The NISSAP identifies several actions to improve and support this enforcement, including:<sup>49</sup>

- Capacity building on IAS identification for customs officials, WEOs, WTMUs, quarantine officials and other relevant agencies;
- Enhanced enforcement of import and export regulations, biosafety and quarantine mechanisms and border inspection procedures; and

---

41 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028, 105

42 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028, 107-108

43 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028, 109

44 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028, 112

45 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan 2016-2026 (2016), 18

46 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028, 107

47 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028, 110

48 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan 2016-2026 (2016), 30

49 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan 2016-2026 (2016), Appendix 2-6



- Integration of early detection efforts (e.g. field survey, inspection) in existing monitoring and surveillance programs and quarantine services.

An Administrative Order to formally adopt and implement the NISSAP is pending.

### ***2.3.6 National Ivory Action Plan***

In 2013, the CITES Standing Committee identified the Philippines as among the eight countries with significant roles in the illegal ivory trade. The country was recognized as an important transit point of illegally sourced ivory from Africa on its way to consumers in China. The CITES Standing Committee required all identified countries to submit their respective national action plans detailing how they would deal with this issue.<sup>50</sup>

The most recent Philippine National Ivory Action Plan covered a two-year period from June 2014 to June 2016. It focused on working toward the following: enactment of legislation and regulations on the registration of ivory and ivory products; national level enforcement and investigation actions through the Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade (POGI), DENR and partner agencies; international collaboration to improve enforcement; and building awareness in major air and sea ports.<sup>51</sup> During the 16<sup>th</sup> CITES Conference of the Parties held in South Africa in 2016, the Philippines has been commended for its compliance and substantial implementation of the NIAP.



In 2013, about five tons of seized elephant tusks were destroyed in a widely-publicized ivory crushing, making the Philippines the first member-country of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), as well as the first ivory-consuming nation and non-elephant range state, to take such a public action [Credits: National Geographic News].

50 See: <https://cites.org/eng/niaps>

51 Department of Environment and Natural Resources – Biodiversity Management Bureau, National Ivory Action Plan July 2014 to June 2016 (2014), 1-

## 3.0 Species-specific Conservation and Management

Several species-specific conservation and management programs for threatened wildlife species are implemented by government agencies and non-government organizations. These aim to increase the populations of these species through conservation and protection efforts.

Some species are highlighted by national and local level issuances that underscore the need for their conservation.

**Table 6. Species-specific Conservation and Management Programs**

Program and Supportive Issuances	Areas of Implementation	Activities	Partner Organizations
<b>Birds</b>			
Philippine Raptors Conservation Program	Regions 1, 2, 3, CALABARZON, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, CARAGA & CAR	Conservation breeding, research and education, Philippine eagle nest monitoring, rescue, rehabilitation and release of captive population, management and habitat protection, community engagement, capacity-building and awareness campaigns.	Haribon Foundation, Philippine Eagle Foundation Inc. (PEFI), University of the Philippines- Diliman- Institute of Biology, concerned LGUs
Philippine Cockatoo ( <i>Cacatua haematurus</i> ) Conservation Program	Narra, Rizal, Dumarán and Culasi Island, Balabac, Palawan, Polillo Island	Nest protection, identification, protection and management of key conservation sites, habitat restoration, conservation education, community involvement, rescue of individual birds, translocation and conservation breeding for re-introduction	Katala Foundation, Inc., Loro Parque Fundación, Wildlife Without Borders
Philippine Owls Conservation Program Includes: Cebu Hawk-owl ( <i>Ninox rumseyi</i> ), Camiguin Hawk-owl ( <i>Ninox leventisi</i> ), Sulu Hawk-owl ( <i>Ninox rey</i> )	Cebu Island, Camiguin Sur, Sulu Island	Field research; and, protection of habitat for the species	Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation (PBCF), World Owl Trust, UK-Owl TAG, Negros Forests and Ecological Foundation, Inc. (NFEFI)



Table 6. continued

Program and Supportive Issuances	Areas of Implementation	Activities	Partner Organizations
Philippine Hornbills Conservation Program Includes: Rufous-headed hornbill ( <i>Aceros waldeni</i> ), Visayan Tarictic hornbill ( <i>Penelopides panini</i> )	Northern Negros Natural Park, Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park and Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park in Negros Island	Monitoring and research	PBCF, North of England Zoological Society, Vogelpark Avifauna, Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc. (MBCFI), Polillo Islands Biodiversity Conservation Foundation (PIBCF)
Bleeding heart Pigeons ( <i>Gallicolumba spp.</i> ) Conservation Program	Negros and Panay Island	Conservation breeding	PCCF, Bristol Clifton and West of England Zoological Society, UP Los Banos, SU-Cebu Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Negros Forests (CBCF) and Ecological Foundation, Inc. (NFEFI)
<b>Mammals</b>			
Tamaraw ( <i>Bubalus mindorensis</i> ) Conservation Program	Whole island of Mindoro	Verification survey of tamaraw population, information education campaign, habitat and wild population monitoring including annual population count in Mt. Iglit-Baco National Park and maintenance of genepool farm/Mindoro Biodiversity Rescue and Conservation Center.  Annual celebration of the Special Month (October) for the Conservation and Protection of the Tamaraw in Mindoro (2002) in accordance with Proclamation No. 273	Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF)-Philippines, Far Eastern University, Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group, Noe Conservation with the D'Aboville Foundation
Visayan Spotted Deer ( <i>Rusa alfredi</i> ) Conservation Program	Negros and Panay	Rescue and breeding, reintroduction, awareness campaigns	PBCF

**Table 6. continued**

Program and Supportive Issuances	Areas of Implementation	Activities	Partner Organizations
<p>Philippine Bats Conservation Program</p> <p>Includes: Philippine Bare-backed Fruit Bat (<i>Dobsonia chapmani</i>), Golden-crowned flying fox (<i>Acerodon jubatus</i>) and Philippine tube-nosed Fruit Bat (<i>Nyctimene rabori</i>)</p>	<p>Philippine Bare- backed Fruit Bat in Carmen and Catmon in Cebu</p> <p>Golden-crowned flying fox in Mt. Kanlaon National Park in Negros Island</p> <p>Philippine tube- nosed Fruit Bat in Panay and Negros islands</p>	<p>Supporting habitat conservation, information and education campaigns, stakeholder training activities, surveys and research</p>	<p>PBCF, NFEFI</p>
<p>Flying Fox Conservation Program</p>	<p>Nationwide</p>	<p>Identification and protection of roosting sites; population monitoring; education and awareness; establishment of critical habitats</p>	<p>PBCFI</p>
<p>Philippine Tarsier (<i>Carlito syrichta</i>) Conservation Program</p>	<p>Corella, Bohol</p>	<p>Habitat conservation and eco-tourism, awareness campaigns, research, captive breeding and rehabilitation</p>	<p>Philippine Tarsier Foundation, Inc.</p>
<p>Visayan Warty Pig (<i>Sus cebifrons</i>) Conservation Program</p>	<p>Negros and Panay Islands</p>	<p>Breeding program, development of protected areas</p>	<p>PBCF, NFEFI, Zoological Society of San Diego</p>
<p>Cloud Rats Conservation Program</p> <p>Includes: Dinagat cloud rat (<i>Crateromys australis</i>), Panay bushy-tailed cloud rat (<i>Crateromys beaneyi</i>)</p>	<p>Mari-it Conservation Park in Panay Island, Dinagat Island</p>	<p>Survey and monitoring, breeding</p>	<p>PBCF</p>
<p>Calamian Deer Conservation (<i>Axis calamianensis</i>) Program</p>	<p>Busuanga and Culion Islands in Palawan</p>	<p>Field research, education and awareness campaigns</p>	<p>PBCF</p>

**Table 6. continued**

Program and Supportive Issuances	Areas of Implementation	Activities	Partner Organizations
<b>Reptiles</b>			
Philippine Crocodile Conservation Program <i>(Crocodylus mindorensis</i> and <i>Crocodylus porosus)</i>	Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park, Palawan, Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary	Awareness and education campaigns, conservation breeding, population survey, rescue and release	Palawan Wildlife Rescue and Conservation Center, Mabuwaya Foundation, Isabela Provincial Government
Pawikan Conservation Project  Includes: Five species of marine turtles: Green turtle, Hawksbill, Olive ridley, Leather back, Loggerhead	All Regions except CAR	Nest monitoring and protection, hatchling management and hatchling release, information and education campaigns, coordination with LGUs, rescue and rehabilitation	Marine Wildlife Watch of the Philippines, various LGUs, NGOs and POs
Philippine Freshwater Turtle Conservation Program  Includes: Philippine Forest Turtle ( <i>Siebenrockiella leytenis</i> ), Southeast Asian Box Turtle ( <i>Cuora amboinensis</i> ), Asian Leaf Turtle ( <i>Cyclemys dentate</i> ), Malaysian Softshell Turtle ( <i>Dogania subplana</i> )	Narra, Roxas, Dumaran and Taytay in Palawan	Research, stakeholder engagement, captive population management, identification of conservation areas	Katala Foundation, Inc.

## 4.0 Support Policies for Wildlife Law Enforcement

Several policies are in place to guide enforcement of wildlife and wildlife-related laws. Among them are:

### 4.1 Republic Act 3019 or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act

The Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act has been in effect since 1960. It lists acts and omissions that constitute corrupt practices of public officers, as follows:<sup>52</sup>

- (a) Persuading, inducing or influencing another public officer to perform an act constituting a violation of rules and regulations duly promulgated by competent authority or an offense in connection with the official duties of the latter, or allowing himself to be persuaded, induced, or influenced to commit such violation or offense;
- (b) Directly or indirectly requesting or receiving any gift, present, share, percentage, or benefit, for himself or for any other person, in connection with any contract or transaction between the Government and any other part, wherein the public officer in his official capacity has to intervene under the law;
- (c) Directly or indirectly requesting or receiving any gift, present or other pecuniary or material benefit, for himself or for another, from any person for whom the public officer, in any manner or capacity, has secured or obtained, or will secure or obtain, any Government permit or license, in consideration for the help given or to be given, without prejudice to Section thirteen of this Act;
- (d) Accepting or having any member of his family accept employment in a private enterprise which has pending official business with him during the pendency thereof or within one year after its termination;
- (e) Causing any undue injury to any party, including the Government, or giving any private party any unwarranted benefits, advantage or preference in the discharge of his official administrative or judicial functions through manifest partiality, evident bad faith or gross inexcusable negligence. This provision shall apply to officers and employees of offices or government corporations charged with the grant of licenses or permits or other concessions;
- (f) Neglecting or refusing, after due demand or request, without sufficient justification, to act within a reasonable time on any matter pending before him for the purpose of obtaining, directly or indirectly, from any person interested in the matter some pecuniary or material benefit or advantage, or for the purpose of favoring his own interest or giving undue advantage in favor of or discriminating against any other interested party;
- (g) Entering, on behalf of the Government, into any contract or transaction manifestly and grossly disadvantageous to the same, whether or not the public officer profited or will profit thereby;

- (h) Directly or indirectly having financing or pecuniary interest in any business, contract or transaction in connection with which he intervenes or takes part in his official capacity, or in which he is prohibited by the Constitution or by any law from having any interest;
- (i) Directly or indirectly becoming interested, for personal gain, or having a material interest in any transaction or act requiring the approval of a board, panel or group of which he is a member, and which exercises discretion in such approval, even if he votes against the same or does not participate in the action of the board, committee, panel or group.

Interest for personal gain shall be presumed against those public officers responsible for the approval of manifestly unlawful, inequitable, or irregular transaction or acts by the board, panel or group to which they belong;

- (j) Knowingly approving or granting any license, permit, privilege or benefit in favor of any person not qualified for or not legally entitled to such license, permit, privilege or advantage, or of a mere representative or dummy of one who is not so qualified or entitled; and,
- (k) Divulging valuable information of a confidential character, acquired by his office or by him on account of his official position to unauthorized persons, or releasing such information in advance of its authorized release date.

Penalties of imprisonment, perpetual disqualification from office, confiscation or forfeiture of any prohibited interest or unexplained wealth, and/or a fine may be imposed on public officials found guilty of these acts.<sup>53</sup> Private parties involved in these practices may also be similarly penalized and/or temporarily or permanently disqualified from transacting business with the government.<sup>54</sup>

The DENR has a dedicated office for Internal Audit and Anti-Corruption. The Office of the Ombudsman likewise has a designated Environmental Ombudsman with jurisdiction over violations of environmental laws involving public officials and employees.<sup>55</sup> Administrative cases filed against DENR personnel are referred to the Office of the Environmental Ombudsman for resolution and disposition.<sup>56</sup>

## 4.2 Republic Act 9512 or the Environmental Awareness and Education Act

The National Environmental Awareness and Education Act was enacted in 2008 as part of the State's policy to "promote awareness on the role of natural resources in economic growth and the importance of environmental conservation and ecological balance toward sustained national development."<sup>57</sup>

To implement this policy, the DENR, along with the Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and Department of Science and Technology (DOST) were mandated to integrate environmental education into the school curricula at all levels. This environmental education should include modules on topics such as tree planting, waste minimization, segregation, recycling and composting, freshwater and

---

53 RA 3019 Sec 9

54 RA 3019 Sec 3

55 Frequently Asked Questions, Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Luzon  
<http://www.ombudsman.gov.ph/index.php?home=1&navId=Mg=&subNavId=MTY=&l=3>

56 DENR Administrative Order 15 series of 2008 General Guidelines for the Referral of Cases to the Office of the Environmental Ombudsman (11 August 2008)

57 RA 9512 Sec 2

marine conservation, forest management and conservation, relevant livelihood opportunities and economic benefits and other related programs and undertakings.<sup>58</sup>

### 4.3 Philippine Supreme Court AM No. 09-6-8- SC — Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases

Civil, criminal and special civil actions involving violations of the NIPAS Act, Caves and Cave Resources Management Act, Wildlife Act and other environmental laws are governed by the Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases. The Philippine Supreme Court promulgated these Rules in 2009 to: protect and advance the constitutional right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology; provide a simplified, speedy and inexpensive procedure for the enforcement of environmental rights and duties recognized under the Constitution, existing laws, rules and regulations, and international agreements; introduce and adopt innovations and best practices ensuring the effective enforcement of remedies and redress for violation of environmental laws; and enable the Courts to monitor and exact compliance with orders and judgments in environmental cases.<sup>59</sup>

The innovations introduced by the Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases include relaxation of the rules on standing, allowing any Filipino citizen in representation of others, including minors or generations yet unborn, to file an action to enforce rights or obligations under environmental laws.<sup>60</sup> Courts are also enjoined to prioritize the adjudication of environmental cases.<sup>61</sup>

---

58 RA 9512 Sec 3

59 Philippine Supreme Court AM No. 09-6-8- SC, Rule 1 Sec. 3

60 Philippine Supreme Court AM No. 09-6-8- SC, Rule 2 Sec. 5

61 Philippine Supreme Court AM No. 09-6-8- SC, Rule 4, Sec. 5

## 5.0 The Philippines' State of Affairs against Wildlife Crime

In the Philippines, the anti-crime machinery for preventing and controlling crime, such as wildlife crime, is the criminal justice system. Law enforcement, prosecution, Courts, and correction pillars are the primary agencies charged with these responsibilities, while the community pillar serves as the informal component.<sup>62</sup> All of the pillars play very important and crucial roles in combatting and reducing crimes.

### 5.1 The Philippine Justice System

The Law Enforcement pillar involves agencies charged with the enforcement of penal laws. To this belong the Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), DENR, BFAR, Bureau of Customs (BOC), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippines Ports Authority (PPA), Philippine Navy (PN) and the Philippine Air Force (PAF), among others. The work of the Law Enforcement pillar consists of the prevention and control of crimes, enforcement of laws and effecting the arrest of offenders, including the conduct of lawful searches and seizures to gather necessary evidence so that a complaint may be filed with the Prosecutor's Office.<sup>63</sup>



Photo: AFP

Philippine maritime police unload some of the sea turtles seized by officials from a Chinese-flagged vessel 111 km. west of Palawan Province in May 2014 [Credits: AFP; Source: <http://www.asiaone.com/asia/philippines-charges-9-chinese-fishermen>]

The Prosecution pillar lays the background to determine whether the person arrested for violating a law can be placed in the processes of the system. It resolves whether the person can be charged in Court or not.<sup>64</sup>

The Court pillar is the cornerstone of the system that determines whether the person charged for a criminal offense is guilty or not.<sup>65</sup>

The Correctional pillar refers to institutions mandated to administer both correctional and rehabilitation programs for the offenders. These institutions include the National Bureau of Penology, Correctional Institution for Women, and Bureau of Jail Management and Penology. The correctional

<sup>62</sup> Oscar G. Soriano, *The Philippine Criminal Justice System: Theories, Models & Practice* (Quezon City: Great Books Publishing, 2010) pp. 1-2.

<sup>63</sup> Sedfrey M. Candelaria, et al, eds. *Assessment of the Capacity of the Pillars of the Philippine Criminal Justice System*, <[www.ombudsman.gov.ph](http://www.ombudsman.gov.ph)>, (December 19, 2016).

<sup>64</sup> Nanette D. Cano, "Concept of Criminal Justice System in the Philippines," 2016, <[www.cu.edu.ph](http://www.cu.edu.ph)>, (December 19, 2016).

<sup>65</sup> Ibid.



and rehabilitation programs intend to develop the offenders or convicts' abilities and potentials and facilitate their re-integration into the community and normal family life.<sup>66</sup>

The Community pillar represents the most important part of the system. These are the members of the community starting from the family, the school, the church, the government, the mass media, and the community agencies up to the barangay government unit. These community members must be involved and committed in the fight against crime. For one, they are the eyes and ears of the agencies charged with the enforcement of the laws. They are the ones who report the crime to authorities. They are the vital witnesses in Court. It is only through active participation of the community that the fight against crime can achieve a high level of success. Informed private citizens can make a decisive difference in the prevention, detection and prosecution of crime, as well as in the restoration of offenders to the community as law abiding and productive citizens.

## 5.2. Policies, Programs and Activities of the Five Pillars of Criminal Justice to Address and Combat Wildlife Crime

Combatting wildlife crime in the Philippines is a collaborative effort of many institutions. Many of these implement programs and activities or have adopted policies and systems that enhance efforts to combat wildlife crime. At present, however, there is no system in place to assess whether the policies, programs and activities are effective.

### 5.2.1. Law Enforcement Pillar

#### 5.2.1.1. DENR

As the primarily mandated government agency, DENR, through the BMB, has been at the forefront of the efforts to address and combat wildlife crime, particularly through policies, IEC and training activities. In its effort to strengthen wildlife law enforcement, it led the development of the Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations. The WLEMOP provides the standard operating procedure all mandated agencies must follow to ensure that wildlife crimes are detected and investigated, and that violators are brought to Court. The DENR-BMB, in partnership with Tanggol Kalikasan, USDOITAP and recently with the USAID-Protect Wildlife Project, has so far conducted seven (7) batches of national training of trainers on the application of the said Manual that had raised awareness and capacitated about 430 individuals from national government agencies, local government units and civil society organizations for wildlife law enforcement. The BMB, through the assistance of the University of the Philippines-Diliman, has also initiated the conduct of basic Wildlife Forensics (tissue sample collection for DNA) and Management of Wildlife Rescue Center for DENR Regional/Field Offices. More advanced training on Wildlife Forensics and Wildlife Crime Scene Investigation was introduced in early part of 2018 with the USDOITAP as lead partner in the implementation.

The BMB likewise facilitated the institution and mobilization of the Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade (POGI) to apprehend violators, confiscate undocumented wildlife, their by-products and derivatives and file cases with the Office of the Prosecutor.

---

<sup>66</sup> Lee Anne Elvambuena, "Five Pillars of the Criminal Justice System." 2013, <www.scribd.com>, (December 20, 2016).

On efforts to raise awareness, reach out and change behavior to reduce demand for wildlife, their derivatives and by-products, the BMB has led the production of posters on threatened species, booklets on RA 9147 and short videos emphasizing the importance of wildlife. These videos are shown at different training activities, events and gatherings participated in by both children and adult learners. The BMB has likewise initiated the conduct of the national wildlife quiz bee for high school students. This is to encourage inclusion of topics on Philippine biodiversity and wildlife in high school curriculum. BMB has likewise led the conferment of Wildlife Law Enforcement Awards which recognize the contributions and efforts of groups and individuals in combatting wildlife crime.

As part of its “Stop Illegal Wildlife Trade Campaign”, the BMB has also embarked on the conduct of nationwide orientation-seminars on national and international policies on ivory and wildlife trade targeting agencies and entities manning and operating in major air and sea ports. These seminars had covered ports in Manila, Pampanga, Sorsogon, Mindoro, Palawan, Cebu, Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Samar, Leyte, Iloilo, Cagayan de Oro, General Santos, Surigao del Norte, Sarangani, Zamboanga City and Davao City.



Thirty (30) Grade 9 students from different public schools in the National Capital Region (NCR), CALABARZON and Region III participated in the Third Wildlife Quiz Bee Contest wherein they were challenged with questions to hone their knowledge about wildlife.

BMB also sees the value of expanding regional and international cooperation and commitment, hence its active participation in the ASEAN Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement (formerly ASEAN-WEN) and CITES Conference of the Parties.

At the field level, DENR regional offices have contributed their fair share in efforts to address and combat wildlife crime. In these offices are lodged the environmental law enforcement functions of the DENR. The activities of the regional offices can be grouped into four categories or programs, namely capacity building, actual law enforcement operation, IEC for reducing demand for wildlife, and coordination and networking. Under capacity building, the regional offices conduct basic wildlife law enforcement training activities for LGUs, law enforcement agencies, and deputized community law enforcement volunteers.<sup>67</sup> They likewise establish WTMUs at seaports and airports, and deputize PNP personnel and officials as WEOs.<sup>68</sup> As of December 2017, there are about 1200 designated/deputized WEOs nationwide. On their actual law enforcement program, DENR, through its rangers, conducts foot patrol, surveillance and intelligence gathering, monitoring of their permittees and counter-operations such as apprehensions and rescue of wildlife.<sup>69</sup> DENR field offices likewise file cases in the Office of the Prosecutor for possession and trading of wildlife.<sup>70</sup> On IEC, DENR hosts radio programs and posts signage and information materials<sup>71</sup> in strategic locations in the community. It also reaches out to communities and barangays and students in elementary and high schools.<sup>72</sup> Finally, under its program on coordination and networking, DENR establishes linkages with other law enforcement agencies through regular coordination and meetings and entering into covenants to uphold inter-agency cooperation against wildlife crime.<sup>73</sup>

#### *5.2.1.2. Philippine National Police*

The Philippine National Police, through the School for Investigation and Detective Development (SIDD), has included in its Investigation Officer Basic Course (IOBC) a submodule on environmental laws. This submodule discusses wildlife crime and the laws pertinent to this. IOBC is part of the Certification Program of the PNP Field Investigation Service. IOBC is a course that must be undertaken by a field investigator for him or her to be certified as Police Investigator. Since the inclusion of wildlife laws in the IOBC, five batches of training have been conducted composed of approximately 50 students for each batch. Also ongoing in the PNP SIDD is the development and institutionalization of Environmental Crime Investigation Course. Part of the environmental crime is wildlife crime.

The PNP has supported POGI in its various operations, such as the Tondo, Lucena, and Batangas City cases. On July 3, 2013, the PNP assisted POGI in raiding a house in Tondo, Manila, which yielded 109 threatened wildlife species – 78 Hill mynas, 12 Blue-naped parrots, five Saltwater crocodiles, and 14 Forest turtles.<sup>74</sup> Joint POGI-PNP operations in Lucena, Quezon<sup>75</sup> led to the arrest of four persons and the seizure of 178 heads of threatened Palawan species.<sup>76</sup> On November 10, 2013, POGI worked with PNP operatives and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) personnel in Batangas City to conduct the confiscation of threatened species: five monitor lizards and one cloud rat on November 10, 2013.

---

67 Survey on Wildlife Law Enforcement by Biodiversity Management Bureau, September-November, 2016 attached as Annex 1.

68 Ibid.

69 Ibid.

70 Ibid.

71 Ibid.

72 Ibid.

73 Ibid.

74 DENR Honors Wildlife Crime Fighters." The Philippine Star, December 1,2013, <www.Philstar.com>, (December 20,2016)

75 Ibid.

76 Ibid.

The PNP Maritime Group (MG) is likewise supportive of wildlife law enforcement efforts. For example, the PNP-MG was responsible for the apprehension of wildlife smugglers in two separate operations in Palawan Province. On October 18, 2013, they led the arrest of 13 Vietnamese nationals<sup>77</sup> and confiscated the 294 marine turtles found in their possession. Two weeks later, on November 3, 2013, the PNP-MG arrested two Malaysian fishermen who were caught smuggling out 9,228 marine turtle eggs, two sacks of marine turtle meat, and three sacks of sea clam meat.<sup>78</sup>



**The DENR engages law enforcement agencies assigned in the airports and seaports in monitoring wildlife transport and trade.**

On March 26, 2014, a Vietnamese vessel marked KH-96365-TS was intercepted by PNP-MG operatives for poaching off the waters of Taytay, Palawan. They discovered onboard about 50 assorted dead sharks, including great white sharks, bull sharks, and hammerhead sharks.<sup>79</sup>

On May 6, 2014, the PNP-MG patrol intercepted a Chinese fishing vessel and recovered a total of 555 sea turtles. Of the total, 177 were alive and were immediately released back to the wild. The PNP-MG police investigators also discovered that 207 sea turtles were slaughtered and stuffed by the Chinese fishermen.<sup>80</sup>

The PNP – Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) has also been an active partner of the DENR in its investigation efforts. It has assisted the latter in tracking down criminals engaged in online sale of wildlife and facilitated the conduct of training on social media exploitation in relation to wildlife trafficking.<sup>81</sup>

In addition to actual law enforcement operations, the PNP also conducts outreach or IEC activities. These include a seminar on RA 9147 for the designated WEOs in the Valenzuela Police Station.<sup>82</sup> The Batangas Police Provincial Office conducted a series of dialogues with the community to disseminate information and create awareness on the different issues and concerns, including wildlife trafficking.<sup>83</sup> Police Regional Office XII conducted wildlife advocacy seminars for elementary and high school students in Region XII. It likewise conducted a wildlife enforcement symposium attended by its personnel, especially those manning the checkpoints like the Public Safety Forces.<sup>84</sup>

### *5.2.1.3. National Bureau of Investigation*

In 2010, the National Bureau of Investigation established the Environment and Wildlife Protection and Investigation Division (EWPID), which conducts activities pertinent to addressing wildlife crime, such as actual investigation and operations and some information dissemination.

<sup>77</sup> Ibid.

<sup>78</sup> Ibid.

<sup>79</sup> Ephraim Canoy, “Vietnamese Poachers nabbed in Palawan.” ABS-CBN News, updated on March 31, 2014, <news.abs-cbn.com>, (December 20, 2016).

<sup>80</sup> Edu Panay, “China Poachers Charged; Turtles Returned to Sea.” The Philippine Star, updated on May 12, 2014, <www.philstar.com>, (December 20, 2016).

<sup>81</sup> Survey on Wildlife Law Enforcement by Biodiversity Management Bureau, September-November, 2016 attached as Annex 1.

<sup>82</sup> Ibid.

<sup>83</sup> Ibid.

<sup>84</sup> Ibid.

The NBI Central Office operatives together with members of POGI raided the Manila North Cemetery on September 23, 2014, targeting some mausoleums that were turned into a bird breeding center and makeshift aviary. More than 60 birds were confiscated from this operation.<sup>85</sup> Earlier, on June 25, 2014, a joint NBI and POGI covert operation led to the capture of a big time coral smuggler in Zamboanga City.<sup>86</sup> This led to the seizure of stalactites, corals, and other wildlife species in a buy-bust operation in Pagadian City. Recovered at the house were 30 pieces of stalactites, 275 pieces of coral species that include precious and rare black and red corals, several giant clams, two carapaces of hawksbill turtles and 29 hawksbill scutes.<sup>87</sup> NBI Region XII also conducted some surveillance operations on the illegal transport of endangered species and illegal trading of geckos, known locally as “tuko,”<sup>88</sup> which are purported to have medicinal value.

On April 4, 2016, the EWPID was changed into the Environmental Crime Division. Just like its predecessor, the Division has been an active partner of POGI in its operations. On April 4, 2016, the NBI and DENR raided a sari-sari store in Cainta selling endangered birds. The group was able to rescue 23 birds from this operation.<sup>89</sup> In May 2016, the NBI arrested a Chinese national for possession of four pangolins and three cobras in Clark Freeport Zone.<sup>90</sup>

The NBI was likewise involved in POGI's operations in Davao, Bulacan, Pasay, and Cartimar.<sup>91</sup>

As to information dissemination activities, the NBI Region XI conducted a lecture for barangay officials relative to wildlife cases.<sup>92</sup> The NBI Region XII – Central Mindanao Regional Office likewise conducted a training activity on wildlife crimes participated in by deputized WEOs<sup>93</sup> from among the PNP-MG and Forest Rangers. The said NBI Office was likewise represented in the intelligence fusion activity joined in by DENR and PNP for the purpose of combatting wildlife traffic.<sup>94</sup>

#### 5.2.1.4. Bureau of Customs (BOC)

In its effort to contribute to the enforcement of environmental laws, including wildlife laws, the BOC created, as early as 1996, the Environmental Protection Unit (EPU) under the Enforcement and Security Services (ESS). The functions of the EPU include coordination and participation in all activities regarding environmental protection conducted by other government agencies and NGOs, whether local or foreign-based institutions.<sup>95</sup> Under Customs Special Order No. 12-96, the Director of the ESS is directed to exert efforts to establish EPUs at all principal ports and subports of entries for the effective enforcement of environmental laws and regulations. There are EPU operatives in the Port of San Fernando in La Union, Port Irene in Cagayan Valley, Port of Subic, Port of Clark, Port of Batangas, Subport of Puerto Princesa, Port of Legaspi, Port of Iloilo, Port of Cebu, Mactan International Airport, Port of Tacloban, Port of Surigao, Port of Davao, Port of Zamboanga, Port of Cagayan de Oro, Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) District Office, and Mariveles District Office.

85 James Konstantin Galvez, “Public Asked to Help Stop Wildlife.” The Manila Times Online, October 25, 2014, <www.manilatimes.net>, (December 20, 2016).

86 “DENR Honors ‘Wildlife Heroes,’” March 6, 2015, <www.denr.gov.ph>, (December 20, 2016).

87 “DENR Credits Social Media, Public Vigilance for Successful Wildlife Rescue Operations,” July 3, 2014, <www.denr.gov.ph>, (December 20, 2016).

88 Survey on Wildlife Law Enforcement by Biodiversity Management Bureau, September-November, 2016 attached as Annex 1.

89 Kiersnerr Gerwin Tacadena, “NBI, DENR Raid Sari-Sari Store Selling Endangered Birds.” GMA News Online, published on April 6, 2016, <www.gmanetwork.com>, (December 20, 2016).

90 Jonathan L. Mayuga, “Clark Freeport Zone under Tight Watch for Illegal Wildlife Trade,” Business Mirror, May 4, 2016, <www.businessmirror.com.ph>, (December 20, 2016).

91 Survey on Wildlife Law Enforcement by Biodiversity Management Bureau, September-November, 2016 attached as Annex 1.

92 Ibid.

93 Ibid.

94 Ibid.

95 Enad, Nicomedes P., “Border Control Activities and Challenges for Tackling Illegal Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes,” Powerpoint Presentation, Workshop 2010 of the Asian Network for Prevention of Illegal, Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes, Yokohama, Japan, January 27-29, 2010.



The BOC has been very active in enforcing wildlife laws. Of the eight ivory confiscations in the Philippines from 1996 to 2009, six were made by the BOC. These eight confiscations involved approximately 12,750 kilograms of elephant tusks/ivory,<sup>96</sup> part of which were destroyed during the Philippine ivory crushing event in 2013.

In 2011, the BOC was responsible for the detection and apprehension of illegal shipment in Cotabato City of marine wildlife species consisting of 163 stuffed hawksbill and green turtles, 21,169 pieces of black corals, 7,340 pieces of trumpet and helmet shells and 196 kilograms of sea whips.<sup>97</sup> In the first quarter of 2016, NAIA Customs personnel found wildlife in styrofoam cases declared as aquatic plants.<sup>98</sup> An employee of the Office for Transportation Security at the NAIA has also been held on charges that he tried to send 11 tarsiers, 11 snakes, 11 monitor lizards, eight sailfin lizards and two types of owls to Japan.



The BOC, in implementing RA 9147, has conducted orientation-seminars about the law among its Collection and Inspection Officers nationwide and has designated WEOs among its ranks. It likewise actively participated in the ASEAN-WEN.

#### 5.2.1.5. *Philippine Coast Guard (PCG)*

The PCG is mandated to enforce Maritime Law, including laws on fisheries, immigration, tariff and customs, forestry, firearms and explosives, human trafficking, dangerous drugs and controlled chemicals, the Revised Penal Code, and all other applicable laws within the country's maritime jurisdiction. It is likewise mandated to combat transnational crime, including wildlife crime.<sup>99</sup> In relation thereto, the PCG has established and continuously sustains the operations of nine (9) National Coast Watch Centers located in Manila, Cebu, Dumaguete, Antique, and Palawan.

The PCG was responsible for several apprehensions pertinent to wildlife crime. On 24 April 2012, PCG personnel confiscated several dead sea turtles and rare corals from a Vietnamese fishing boat during routine inspection at a Tawi-Tawi port.<sup>100</sup> The PCG has intensified its intelligence operations, particularly in Southeastern Mindanao where its maritime patrol and inter-agency operations resulted in several apprehensions.<sup>101</sup> In 2013, it apprehended Chinese poachers whose boat ran aground a coral reef in southwestern Philippines. Inspection of their boat led to the discovery of more than 10,000 kilos of pangolin meat.<sup>102</sup> The PCG was also credited for the October 21, 2013 arrest of 13 Vietnamese

96 Biodiversity Management Bureau. (2013). Report on the Implementation of the provisions of CITES Resolution Conf. 10.10 (Rev. COP15) and Decision 13.26 (Rev. CoP15) concerning controls of trade in ivory. Retrieved from [cites.org](http://cites.org).

97 The Associated Press, "Coral Smuggling Raises Alarm in Philippines." CBCNews World, updated on June 3, 2011, <[www.cbc.ca](http://www.cbc.ca)>, (December 20, 2016).

98 "Editorial-Threats to Wildlife," The Philippine Star, February 1, 2016, <[www.philstar.com](http://www.philstar.com)>, (December 20, 2016).

99 MARLEN, (December 4, 2016) retrieved from <http://www.coastguard.gov.ph/index.php/transparency/functions/marlen> on December 20, 2016.

100 David Yu Santos, "Dead Sea Turtles, Corals Seized in Vietnamese Boat," Rappler, updated April 25, 2012, <[www.rappler.com](http://www.rappler.com)>, (December 20, 2016).

101 Survey on Wildlife Law Enforcement by Biodiversity Management Bureau, September-November, 2016 attached as Annex 1.

102 Damian Carrington, "Chinese Vessel on Philippine Coral Reef Caught with Illegal Pangolin Meat," The Guardian, April 15, 2013, <[www.theguardian.com](http://www.theguardian.com)>, (December 20, 2016).

poachers and recovery of 300 frozen sea turtles.<sup>103</sup> On May 27, 2015, PCG operatives were able to seize 14 stuffed sea turtles from Green Island in Barangay Tumarbong in Roxas, Palawan.<sup>104</sup>

In Central Visayas, the PCG has deployed its intelligence personnel at the port area to monitor illegal activities. It works in close coordination with DENR, BFAR, and other government agencies on concerns regarding wildlife trafficking, leading to the apprehension and confiscation of nine sacks of dried starfish at the Camotes Port, Cebu in August 2016.<sup>105</sup> The PCG further enhanced the skills of its personnel by sending them to attend various environmental seminars and training activities.

The PCG is also very active in rescue operations and proper disposition of wildlife. On August 23, 2015, PCG personnel of Coast Guard Vessel AE 46 recovered a three-foot sea turtle, which it turned over to the Ninoy Aquino Park and Wildlife Center, Quezon City.<sup>106</sup> A stranded sperm whale was also rescued by the PCG off the shoreline of Barangay Marina in San Jose, Antique.<sup>107</sup> Also in October 3, 2016, PCG personnel onboard a BFAR vessel found and subsequently rescued a floating wounded *pawikan* while conducting a maritime patrol in Zamboanga City.<sup>108</sup>

#### 5.2.1.6. Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD)

The PCSD is a multi-sectoral and interdisciplinary body responsible for the enforcement and implementation of RA 7611, otherwise known as the “Strategic Environmental Plan” for Palawan. The PCSD also has the mandate to enforce the provisions of RA 9147 (Wildlife Act), RA 9175 (Chainsaw Act) and RA 9072 (Caves Act). It has created its own PCSD Enforcement Team, including WTMUs at strategic air and sea ports in Palawan, to directly engage in activities against wildlife crimes. It has established the PCSD Committee on Security and Safety, which is chaired by the Commander of the Western Command AFP and composed of the major Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) operating within Palawan, to act as the coordinating committee on matters related to environmental enforcement.

The PCSD Enforcement Team has led several apprehensions and prosecutions for illegal possession, collection, trade and trafficking of wildlife. PCSD enforcement data shows that from 2010 to 2015, 215 major wildlife enforcement operations were conducted: 60 involving wild flora and 155 for wild fauna. Consequently, 175 cases were filed against more or less 415 persons.

In 2015 alone, some of the major enforcement apprehensions in Palawan include: confiscation of 525 heads of hawksbill turtles and 65 pieces of marine turtle eggs at the Kaliksi Island Resort in Puerco Island, Barangay Tumarbong, Roxas; confiscation of 4,402 heads of freshwater turtles and 33 pieces of freshwater turtle eggs at Sitio Canumay, Barangay Rio Tuba, Bataraza; confiscation of 211 heads of freshwater turtles on February 20 at Taytay; confiscation of 61 heads of freshwater turtles on March 21 at Taytay; confiscation of 90 heads of freshwater turtles on April 27 at Dumaran; confiscation of 25 heads of marine turtles on May 24, at Dumaran; confiscation of 100 heads of talking mynah, 10 heads of blue-naped parrots, three heads of Palawan cockatoo, one crocodile and one wild boar on August 26 at Rizal; confiscation of eight heads of talking mynah and 16 heads of blue-naped parrot on August 27 at Aborlan; confiscation of 10 heads of freshwater turtles, two heads of blue-naped

---

103 Agence France-Presse, “13 Vietnamese Nabbed in PH for Poaching Sea Turtles,” ABS CBN News, October 21, 2013, <news.abs-cbn.com>, (December 20, 2016).

104 Keith Anthony S. Fabro, “14 Stuffed Sea Turtles Seized in Palawan,” CNN Philippines, updated May 27, 2015, <cnnphilippines.com>, (December 20, 2016).

105 Survey on Wildlife Law Enforcement by Biodiversity Management Bureau, September-November, 2016 attached as Annex 1.

106 Rosette Adel, “Coast Guard Personnel Rescues ‘Pawikan,’” Philstar.com, updated August 23, 2015, <www.philstar.com>, (December 20, 2016).

107 “Coast Guard Rescues a Sperm Whale in Antique,” Nation Today. News, May 15, 2016, <www.nationtoday.news>, (December 20, 2016).

108 “Coast Guard Rescues Endangered Sea Turtle in Zamboanga City”, <<http://www.coastguard.gov.ph/index.php/11-news/1354-coast-guard-rescues-endangered-sea-turtle-in-zamboanga-city>>, (October 5, 2016).



parrot, two heads of civet cat and 10 heads of talking mynah on September 11 at Puerto Princesa City; confiscation of 17 heads of talking mynah on October 5 at Bataraza; confiscation of 975 heads of freshwater turtles on October 18 at Taytay; and confiscation of 53 heads of marine turtles on November 26 at Bataraza.<sup>109</sup>

In trying to forge cooperation with other agencies, local governments and community members, the PCSD has trained and deputized WEOs from local police, local government employees, NGOs and volunteer groups. It also has partnered with the Provincial Government of Palawan thru the Provincial Law Enforcement Task Force and Bantay Palawan Task Force. This partnership led to the apprehension of some of the major wildlife crimes in Palawan.

#### 5.2.1.7. Philippine Navy (PN)

The Philippine Navy is the naval service branch of the AFP with a role in assisting other government agencies in the protection of marine resources and environment.

The PN has been an active partner of the national government and LGUs in environmental protection and conservation. Through their environmental programs, the PN was involved in campaigns against illegal activities within Philippine waters.<sup>110</sup> For example, in November 30, 2012, the PN rescued more than 100 sea turtles from Chinese poachers. On May 24, 2013, in the vicinity of Sitio Marabon, Brgy. Bangkalan, Balabac, Palawan, joint teams of the PN and PNP-MG-Special Boat Unit seized 65 sea turtles that were about to be transported to Hasa-Hasa Shoal. It came to be known later that the turtles were ultimately intended for sale to Chinese poachers.<sup>111</sup>

Meanwhile, the PN station based in Fleet Marine Ready Force, Naval Base Heracleo Alana, Sangley Point, Cavite City facilitated the revision of the PN's apprehension form to include wildlife crimes. It likewise facilitated the establishment of WTMUs in several seaports. However, due to budgetary constraints, these units were not maintained.

The PN also conducted a seminar on wildlife laws, rules and regulations for commanding officers and operations officers of the PN vessels in Region IX and some portions of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), as well as an orientation-seminar on RA 9147 for the PN personnel in the Naval Force Western Mindanao together with barangay officials from the same area.<sup>112</sup>

### SURRENDERED PANGOLIN, RELEASED IN PALAWAN

A Palawan pangolin (*Manis culionensis*) that found its way to Manila by alleged poaching was surrendered to the Manila Zoo and was then turned over to DENR-BMB WRC last January 16, 2017. The pangolin, commonly known as Balintong, is an adult male, weighs 3.95 kg and is about 3 ft in length from snout to tail, according to Dr. Glenn Maguad, DVM, Incharge BMB WRC.

Dr. Maguad facilitated the transport of said wildlife and personally transported the same to Palawan for its release to the wild.

Together with the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff and USAID Protect Wildlife Project, the pangolin was released in the province, location undisclosed. [Credits: PCSD; Source: <https://www.facebook.com/pcsd7611/photos/a.355182424691142.1073741836.349475605261824/740441682831879/?type=3&theater>]



109 PCSDS, Law Enforcement Unit. (2015). Post Operation Reports.

110 Agence France-Presse, "Philippine Navy Rescues 100 Sea Turtles from Poachers," Interaksyon, November 30, 2012, <[www.interaksyon.com](http://www.interaksyon.com)>, (December 20, 2016).

111 Elmer Badilla, "65 Sea Turtles Bound for Sale to Chinese Poachers Seized in Palawan," Interaksyon.com, May 25, 2013, <[interaksyon.com](http://interaksyon.com)>, (December 20, 2016).

112 Survey on Wildlife Law Enforcement by Biodiversity Management Bureau, September-November, 2016 attached as Annex 1.

Meanwhile, the Headquarters Office Station, through its Office of the Naval Staff for Civil Military Operations, facilitated the updating and revision of the PN environmental protection policy, a draft of which has been submitted and is awaiting approval by the PN Flag Officer in Command. It likewise conducted information and dissemination activities on RA 9147. The PN also conducted actual seaborne patrols within territorial seas and intelligence networking and information sharing with other LEAs.<sup>113</sup>

*5.2.1.8. Philippine Ports Authority (PPA)*

Presidential Decree No. 857 designates the PPA as a government-owned corporation under the then Department of Transportation and Communications (now Department of Transportation, or DOTr). PPA is responsible for the financing, management, and operations of all public ports throughout the Philippines, except for the port of Cebu. Part of its function is the enforcement of marine pollution control and other environmental protection laws, rules and regulations, including RA 9147, in close coordination with DENR, PCG and other LEAs.<sup>114</sup>

The PPA in Cebu has conducted awareness briefings on wildlife trafficking for its port security personnel.<sup>115</sup> The PPA office in Batangas conducted a re-echo seminar on Wildlife Law Enforcement for its PPA-Project Management Office personnel.<sup>116</sup> It likewise facilitated the establishment of a WTMU inside the Port of Batangas.<sup>117</sup>

The PPA in Mindoro likewise conducted a re-echo training on Wildlife Law Enforcement for its security guards and port police.<sup>118</sup>

*5.2.1.9. DA-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)*

In the past five years, the DA-BFAR has expanded its law enforcement efforts in five specific ways.

First, it started to implement its program of hiring and training new Fishery Law Enforcement Officers. These officers conduct, among others, seaborne operations to intercept smugglers of turtles and other aquatic wildlife. The training of these officers involves a 90-day 2-part program. The first part is the 30-day transition period in which participants are indoctrinated on discipline, conduct and values, basic tactical training, and strenuous physical training. The second part is the 60-day training on BFAR operations and protocols, fishery laws and aquatic protection, shipboard operations and practicum, advance tactical training, water search and rescue, field training exercises and physical development program.<sup>119</sup>

Second, it strengthened law enforcement in the procurement of 27 units of 40-footer Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) vessels, 70 units of 30-footer multi-mission vessels, and two units of 50-meter vessels equipped with necessary special operations tools and devices such as service fire arms, GPS, night vision goggles, scuba gear and rigid-hulled inflatable rubber boats.<sup>120</sup>

---

113 Ibid.

114 Ibid.

115 Ibid.

116 Ibid.

117 Ibid.

118 Ibid.

119 “New DA-BFAR Fishery Law Enforcers Ready to Combat IUUF,” BFAR News, January 13, 2015, <[www.bfar.da.gov.ph](http://www.bfar.da.gov.ph)>, (December 20, 2016).

120 Ibid.



DA-BFAR’s “Malinis at Masaganang Karagatan” Program awards coastal municipalities with exemplary efforts in protecting and conserving their marine environment, which include, among other criteria, no illegal fishing.

### 5.2.2. Prosecution Pillar

The DOJ-NPS, in coordination with its Training Department, initiated in 2014 the development of a training program on the prosecution of environmental cases which involve forestry, wildlife, protected area, fisheries, and air and water pollution. In the development of the training program, the DOJ-NPS held a consultation workshop in 2012 on the training design. In 2013, it conducted a pilot training attended by the chief of its regional prosecution offices all over the country to test the design. Revisions were made on the training design based on the recommendations of the pilot participants. The DOJ-NPS then implemented a ‘Trainers’ Training with the purpose of developing its in-house capability. Approximately 40 prosecutors were trained to serve as resource persons for the subsequent regional training activities that were to be conducted. From 2013 to 2015, the DOJ-NPS conducted three regional training activities attended by the heads of the city and provincial prosecutors’ offices in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

The DOJ-NPS has likewise started with its program to monitor environmental cases through the conduct of regular inventory of cases pending in the city and provincial prosecutor offices as well as those filed with the Courts.

It has also conducted inquest and prosecuted some wildlife cases in Court.<sup>121</sup>

Third, it started its development of the Fishery Law Enforcement Management Information System. Through this system, BFAR will be able to monitor and track cases of apprehensions and violations.

Fourth, it developed a Fishery Law Enforcement Manual of Operations, which serves as its standard law enforcement protocol.

Finally, it facilitated the amendment of RA 8550, otherwise known as the Fisheries Code of the Philippines, and paved the way for the promulgation of RA 10654 to enable said Bureau to address illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing.

121 Survey on Wildlife Law Enforcement by Biodiversity Management Bureau, September-November, 2016 attached as Annex 1.

### 5.2.3. *Court Pillar*

The Philippine Courts, in general, are guardians of laws (civil, criminal, and administrative) to the end that they become instruments in protecting the environment for the present and future generations. Courts everywhere in the Philippines are heavily burdened by clogged dockets. Thus, in a bid to improve the handling of environmental cases in the Philippines and to address the increasing number of wildlife violators in the country, the Supreme Court (SC) of the Philippines approved the creation of 117 environmental Courts, or “green Courts”. The SC has designated 45 lower Courts as Forestry Courts and 48 First Level Courts and 24 Second Level Trial Courts to handle all kinds of environmental cases including violations of RA 8550 as amended by RA 10654 (Fisheries Code) and RA 7586 or NIPAS Act of 1992.<sup>122</sup>

On April 13, 2010, the SC promulgated the Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases.<sup>123</sup> These are aimed to protect the people’s constitutional right to a balanced and healthful ecology. The Rules, which took effect on April 29, 2010, govern the procedure in civil, criminal and special civil actions involving enforcement or violations of environmental laws, RA 9147 or Wildlife Act included.

To disseminate information about the Rules, the Philippine Judicial Academy (PhilJA), which is the training arm of the judiciary, conducted multi-sectoral training activities on basic environmental laws and the Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases. PhilJA, with support of partners, was able to cover all the regions of the country.

These Rules were successfully applied in the case of 13 Vietnamese poachers that were caught on August 10, 2010 with the remains of 101 endangered Hawkbill turtles near El Nido, Palawan. The poachers later sentenced to jail time and fines by the Puerto Princesa’s Regional Trial Court Branch 50.<sup>124</sup> Also, on November 24, 2014, a Philippine Court fined nine Chinese fishermen in the amount of US Dollars (USD) 102,000.00 each for poaching hundreds of sea turtles in the disputed shoal in the South China Sea.<sup>125</sup>

### 5.2.4. *Correctional Pillar*

The corrections pillar undertakes reformation and rehabilitation of offenders for their eventual absorption into the social and economic streams of the community, through institutional or community-based programs. The Bureau of Corrections and Provincial Jails are responsible for the treatment and rehabilitation of national prisoners.

There is little information about the participation of this pillar in addressing wildlife crime. The survey conducted by the BMB did not reach the duly mandated agency under this pillar as the survey was limited to agencies that have been able to participate in the five batches of Training of Trainers on the Application of Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations. This pillar remains unexplored but has the potential to positively contribute in the fight against wildlife crime.

### 5.2.5. *Community Pillar (focusing on the LGUs)*

The over-exploitation of natural resources and destruction of wildlife should be a basic concern for everybody. Environmental awareness fosters a sense of connection to the natural world, encourages conservation of irreplaceable natural resources and vulnerable plant and animal species and promotes

---

122 “SC Creates 117 ‘Green Courts’ to Act on Environmental Cases,” GMA News Online, published January 13, 2008, <[www.gmanetwork.com](http://www.gmanetwork.com)>, (December 20, 2016).

123 Abigail T. Tze, “SC Unveils Landmark Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases,” April 14, 2010, <<http://sc.judiciary.gov.ph>>, (December 20, 2016).

124 “Filipino Government Cracks Down on Sea Turtle Poachers,” WWF Global, August 10, 2010, <[www.panda.org](http://www.panda.org)>, (December 20, 2016).

125 Manuel Mogato, “Philippines Fines Chinese Fishermen \$102,000 each for Poaching,” World News, November 24, 2014, <[www.reuters.com](http://www.reuters.com)>, (December 20, 2016)



sustainable development. Through a persistent campaign for the conservation of endangered species, citizens are adopting more responsible environmental attitudes.

For example, on April 6, 2016, a resident of La Union reported the presence of a 120-kg sea turtle to the Local Chief Executive for proper care.<sup>126</sup> In June 2011, the Pasay City office raided a pet shop selling vulnerable species such as pigeons, tarantulas, ring-neck doves and several reptiles.<sup>127</sup> On August 10, 2015, because of the concern and support of the public through social media, a six-foot long turtle tied to a bamboo pole in Marabut, Samar was immediately released back to the sea with the help the DENR.<sup>128</sup> In Pasay City, on March 7, 2015, residents turned over an anteater to DENR for proper disposition.<sup>129</sup>



The Marine Turtle Sanctuary in Matina Aplaya, Davao City, also known as the Pawikan Sanctuary, is part of a 37-hectare Marine Protected Area (MPA) that was established through Council Resolution No. 0250403, declaring the area as a nesting ground for Hawksbill Turtles. The sanctuary engages in the recovery, tagging, and rescue of illegally captured and detained marine turtles.

[Credits: DLPC; Source: <https://www.facebook.com/ecotourismdavao>]

LGUs share the responsibility in the enforcement of environmental laws through educating the community and various establishments on the protection of wildlife and their habitats.

Palawan, for instance, is known all over the world as the Philippine's last ecological frontier. Thus, the province implements strict adherence to wildlife protection and conservation. On June 17, 2015, a member of the Palawan Provincial Law Enforcement Task Force recovered inside the Kaliksi Island Resort, 413 hatchlings and 112 juvenile turtles.<sup>130</sup> In October 2015, hundreds of rare turtles were confiscated with the active participation of the Task Force.<sup>131</sup> In Araceli, LGU and stakeholders began to support conservation efforts to discourage overfishing of reef fish in the area.<sup>132</sup> As a result, the local catch improved to meet the needs of the settlers.

In Davao City, Council Resolution No. 0250403 established a Pawikan Sanctuary in Matina Aplaya to serve as a nesting ground for hawksbill turtles. The sanctuary engages in recovering, tagging, and rescue of illegally captured and detained marine turtles. The sanctuary manages the hatchery which yields 93 percent hatchlings.<sup>133</sup> The local government of Davao also created a Marine Turtle Protection and Conservation Task Force through Executive Order No. 29-2003.

126 Erwin Beleo, "Endangered Sea Turtle Rescued in La Union," Northbound Philippines News Online, February 4, 2016, <northboundasis.com>, (December 20, 2016).

127 Atom Araullo, "Pasay Pet Show Selling Exotic Wildlife Raided," ABS-CBN News, updated June 23, 2011, <news.abs-cbn.com>, (December 20, 2016).

128 Lalaine Jimenea, "Sea Turtle Caught in Samar," The Philippine Star, updated August 10, 2015, <www.philstar.com>, (December 20, 2016).

129 "Anteater Caught in Pasay City," Coconuts Manila, March 7, 2015, <manila.coconuts.co>, (December 20, 2016).

130 Dennis Carcamo, "Authorities Rescue 525 Sea Turtles from Palawan Resort," Philstar Global, updated June 17, 2015, <www.philstar.com>, (December 21, 2016).

131 Keith Anthony S. Fabro, "Hundreds of Rare Turtles Recovered in Palawan," CNN Philippines, October 20, 2015, <cnnphilippines.com>, (December 21, 2016).

132 DJ Yap, "Fisher Folk Key to Marine Conservation-WWF," Philippine Daily Inquirer, August 17, 2013, <globalnation.inquirer.net>, (December 21, 2016).

133 "Turtle Sanctuary in Punta Dumlagu," Official Website of Davao City, July 24, 2011, <webcache.googleusercontent.com>, (December 21, 2016).

In Morong, Rizal, the Morong Pawikan Centre is also promoted as a national effort to protect the species. In fact, for five months starting October of each year, local fishermen and farmers dig the turtles' eggs and bury them in a guarded artificial hatchery to protect them from poachers.<sup>134</sup>

### 5.3 Results and Outputs of Policies, Programs and Activities

The result of the policies, programs and activities described in Section 3.2 could have been more comprehensive and more relevant if we have information pertinent to the following:

For Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs):

- ✓ No. of cases investigated
- ✓ No. of operations conducted
- ✓ No. of wildlife specimens confiscated
- ✓ No. of persons arrested
- ✓ No. of cases filed before the Office of the Prosecutor
- ✓ No. of cases filed before the Ombudsman

For Prosecution:

- ✓ No. of information filed with the Court
- ✓ No. of cases successfully prosecuted
- ✓ No. of persons made respondent
- ✓ No. of persons successfully prosecuted and convicted

For Courts:

- ✓ No of cases resolved
- ✓ Amount of fines imposed
- ✓ No. of persons convicted/imprisoned

These indicators would enable policy and decision makers to assess whether the WLE interventions are effective, whether the law enforcers are fully knowledgeable and equipped, and whether the law enforcers are proactive or responsive, among others. The number of cases investigated is an indicator of how responsive an investigating agency is at handling reported cases. As the citizens become better informed about wildlife crimes, community reporting would likely improve, thereby, yielding more actionable information for law enforcers to investigate. With more timely law enforcement operations being conducted, law enforcement visibility in the area would improve towards crime prevention. It is thus hoped that a system will be developed where DENR can get information on the above from all concerned LEAs.

In the meantime, based on the records held by BMB, there is information on the number of confiscations made, the number of wildlife confiscated and the agencies and partners involved in such confiscations, as well as the number of cases filed and decided upon by the Court. Records show that most of the confiscations were done through a multi-agency collaboration. Table 7 provides a summary of LEAs and partners involved in wildlife confiscations and the number of their involvement.

---

<sup>134</sup> "Turtles' Vulnerable Start to Life on Philippine Coast," February 28, 2016, <www.breitbart.com>, (December 21, 2016).

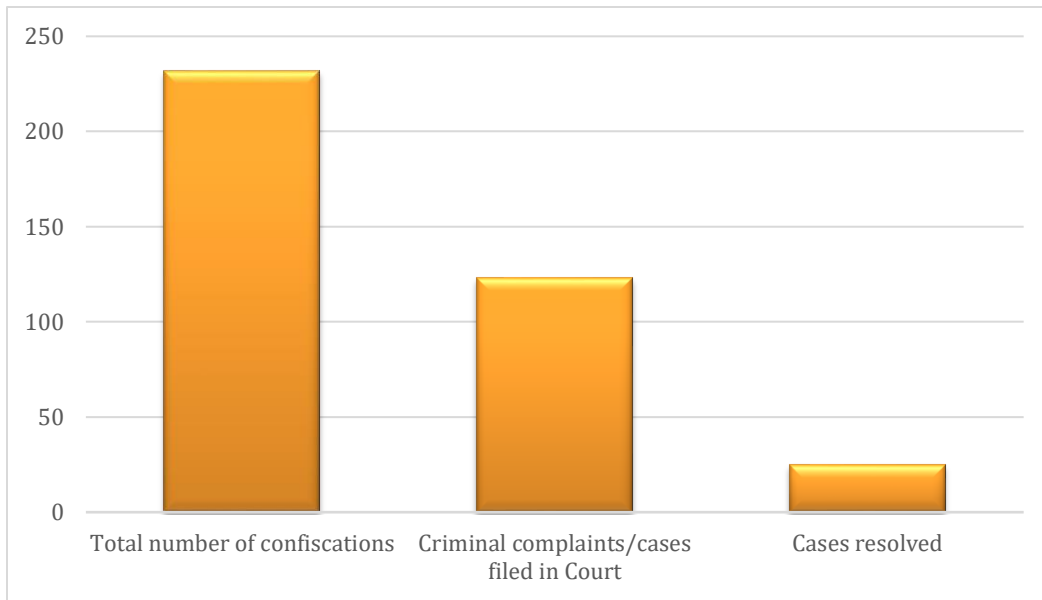
**Table 7. Summary of law enforcement agencies and partners involved in wildlife confiscations and number of involvement**

<b>Agencies/ Offices involved</b>	<b>Number of Involvement</b>
DENR Regional/Field Offices	103
PNP	84
DENR POGI/BMB	71
NBI	46
LGUs	28
PCSDS	26
PCG	16
BOC	7
DA-BFAR	6
Bantay Dagat	5
Civil Society Organizations	5
PPA	5
Enforcement Volunteers	4
PN	3
El Nido Environmental Law Enforcement Team/Council	3
AFP	2
DOTr- Office of Transportation Security	2
FEDEX CARGO	2
DA-BAI	1
DENR Task Force Kalikasan	1
Environmental Law Enforcement Task Force	1
Indigenous People (IP)	1
Philippine Marines	1
PhilPost	1
Thai Airways	1

*Source: DENR-BMB*



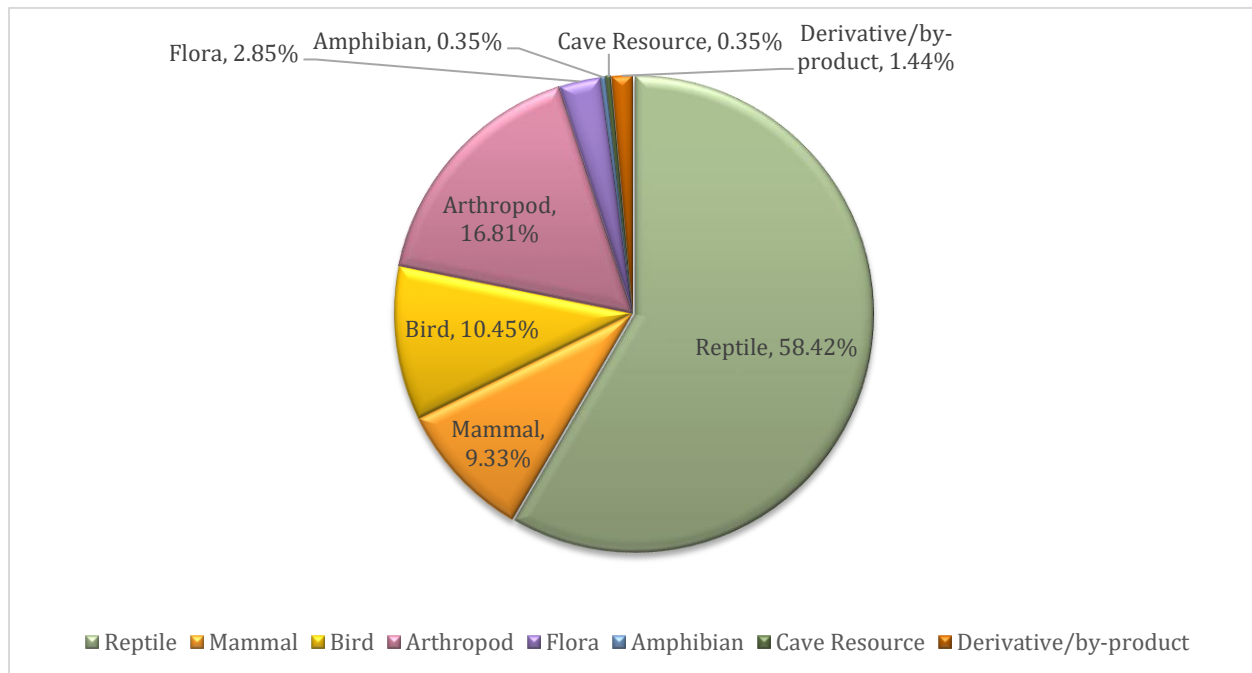
Records further show that LEAs and partners have made a total of 232 confiscations from 2010 to 2018. Out of these confiscations, 123 complaints/cases were filed with only twenty-five resolved in Court during the said period. These data are presented in Figure 1 below.



Source: DENR-BMB

Figure 1. The total number of confiscations of illegally-traded wildlife, the number of cases filed in Court and the number of complaints/cases resolved from 2010 to 2018.

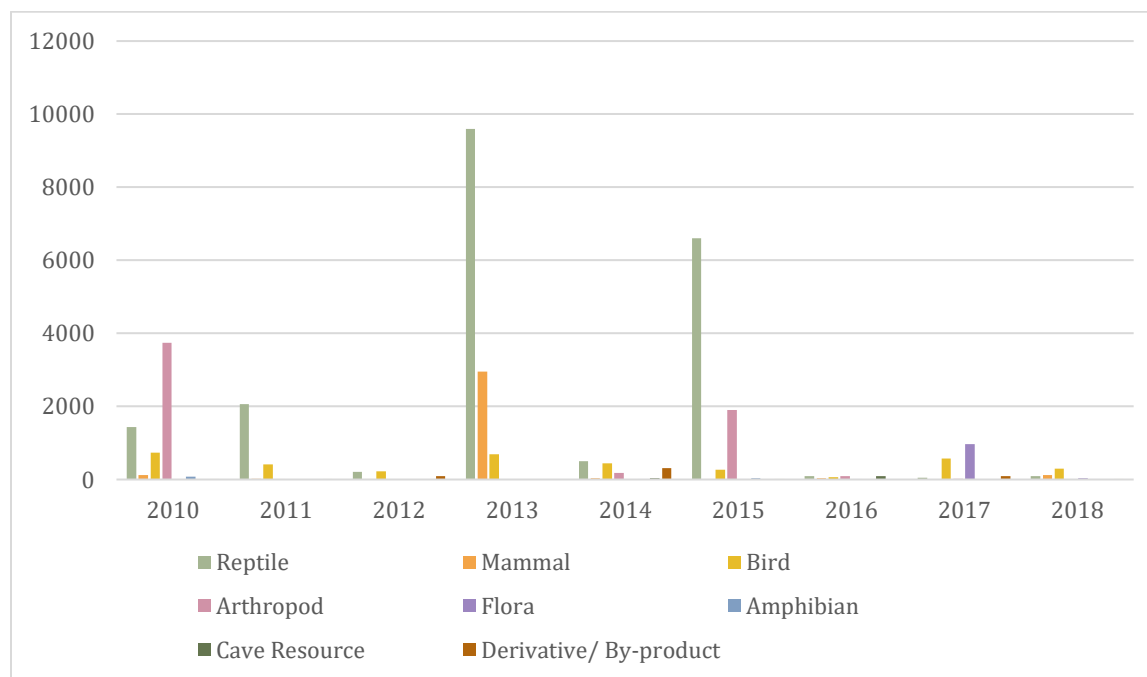
Figure 2 shows the taxa and percentage number of wildlife confiscated. Majority of the confiscated illegally traded wildlife are reptiles, followed by birds and mammals. From 2010 to 2018, a total of 20,624 specimens of reptiles were confiscated, 90.53 percent of which consisted of turtles and tortoises (Order Testudines). Majority of the confiscated turtle specimens were eggs (9,310 pieces).



Source: DENR-BMB

Figure 2. Proportion of major taxa in illegally-traded wildlife confiscations from 2010 to 2018.

Figure 3 shows the number of illegally traded wildlife for each taxon that were confiscated from 2010 to 2018. Elevated figures for 2013 are due mainly to the 9,228 marine turtle eggs which were confiscated from Malaysian fishermen in Palawan in November that year. All the eggs were rendered unviable. In 2015, 4,402 heads of freshwater turtles were seized in a warehouse in Palawan, of which 322 were already dead. Majority of the surviving turtles were released back to their natural habitats in Northern Palawan.



Source: DENR-BMB

Figure 3. Number of confiscated wildlife per taxon from 2010 to 2018.

On arthropods, about 3,712 assorted butterfly species (Order *Lepidoptera*) were confiscated in Coron Airport in Palawan in 2010. In the same year, twelve (12) more butterflies were confiscated, as well as twenty-two (22) tarantulas (Family *Theraphosidae*) and three (3) scorpions (Order *Scorpiones*). In 2015, 2 spiders, 644 scorpions, and 1,582 tarantulas were also confiscated.

## 5.4. Partnerships and Collaboration

In the Philippines, the institutional mechanism for coordination of environmental law enforcement in general, and wildlife law enforcement, in particular, is the National Environmental Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee - Subcommittee on Environment and Natural Resources (NALECC-SCENR). Executive Order No. 829 dated September 11, 1982 as amended by EO No. 41 dated 19 December 1992, created the NALECC to serve as the venue for the coordination of all law enforcement activities of various government agencies.

Section 3 of Malacañang Administrative Order 219<sup>135</sup> provides that the NALECC Chair (Chief PNP) shall enhance the coordination and cooperation of all LEAs at the operational level by interactive and vigorous interaction through the NALECC forum. The Chair shall adopt measures to improve the NALECC coordination and cooperation for better day-to-day operational coordination of the implementing agencies.

The NALECC has subcommittees and the SCENR is chaired by the DENR Secretary, assisted by the Assistant Secretary for Field Operations as alternate permanent representative.

The objective of NALECC-SCENR for which this committee was established has not been fully realized. This can be attributed to several factors, such as the: 1) absence of permanent representations and alternates to the committee resulting in difficulty in ensuring continuity and getting appropriate actions for issues raised in the previous meetings; 2) lack of appreciation on the part of the LEAs on the real purpose of the NALECC-SCENR; 3) lack of feedback mechanism; and 4) lack of priority and support for WLE. Attendance and representation to the regular meetings vary depending on availability and not on positions or designations in the organization. The feedback mechanism is observed to be weak, hence, law enforcement issues raised in the meetings are not communicated in a speedy manner and could not therefore be immediately acted upon by the proper offices.

However, in terms of ensuring general coordination among LEAs, the NALECC-SCENR has been effective. An example of this is the regular conduct of the environmental law enforcement summits, where multi-year action plans geared towards strengthening environmental law enforcement in the country are formulated and endorsed to agencies concerned for implementation.

The creation of inter-agency and multi-sectoral task forces also makes for effective institutional coordination mechanisms, as shown by the performance of POGI. However, to ensure sustainability, they must be supported by a robust secretariat and enforcement staff, and lodged in the appropriate offices of the LEAs.

The Philippines has established partnerships with foreign agencies, through special projects, to address issues related to illegal wildlife activities and enforcement. These agencies include Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)-Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape Project; US Department of the Interior-International Technical Assistance Program (USDOI-ITAP); and, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-Protect Wildlife Project.

## 5.5. Findings and Observations

Based on the above, the following are some of the findings and observations on the state of wildlife law enforcement in the Philippines:

1. Almost all the concerned LEAs have interventions on wildlife law enforcement. These interventions are in various forms – from development of implementing guidelines and policies, to implementing a program and undertaking specific activities.

---

<sup>135</sup> Delineating the Functions, Powers and Jurisdiction of the Presidential Anti-Crime Commission, the National Peace and Order Council, the National Law Enforcement Coordinating Council and their Implementing Agencies

2. The interventions employ the utilization of both soft and hard approaches to wildlife law enforcement. The soft approaches consist of IEC activities for the LGUs, communities and the schools, both elementary and high school. The hard approaches consist of: a) capacity building on law enforcement, in terms of enhancing knowledge and skills, increasing manpower and increasing necessary tools, equipment and gadgets; and, b) engagement in actual law enforcement operations.
3. The survey results did not indicate any intervention that addresses the need for livelihood opportunities for communities that are involved in illegal wildlife activities. However, this must be validated through further research. Nevertheless, the DENR has initiated the development of biodiversity-friendly enterprises as part of its conservation and development programs for local communities. Similar efforts are already underway under the USAID-Protect Wildlife Project in the Philippines.
4. There is limited available and accessible information on the results of the interventions except for three indicators: the number of confiscations, number of wildlife confiscated, and number of cases filed and resolved in Court. Baseline data is also lacking. Because of these, the information is insufficient for a proper evaluation of the effectiveness of the interventions. However, this has to be validated through further research.
5. On the number of confiscations vis-à-vis the number of complaints/cases filed, data from the BMB show that there were 206 confiscations from 2010 to 2017. However, out of 206, only 106 criminal complaints/cases were filed in Court. Some of the cases that did not progress may have been due to abandonment of contraband, but there is reason to believe that some cases may have been dismissed outright by the Prosecutor's office for failure to show probable cause. This is an interesting matter which the law enforcement community must further look into so that proper mechanisms can be put in place to address the same.
6. On the number of cases filed in Court vis-a-vis the number of cases resolved, the BMB data show that out of 106 cases filed from 2010 to 2017, only sixteen (16) cases were resolved. However, there is a high probability that several other cases have been resolved by the Court but were not included in this analysis in the absence of progress reports from the DENR Regional

*On the wildlife taxa that were confiscated, turtles and tortoises top the list, followed by birds. This may be interpreted to mean: a) the concerned LEAs are aware and have the capacity to seize and arrest violators; or b) demand for trade for this wildlife species is high.*



[Source:  
<http://www.angmarinongpulis.com/2014/11/palawan9-chinese-poachers-convicted.html>]

Field Offices and other concerned parties. Nevertheless, this is another interesting matter that should be looked into, especially with regard to reporting system and case monitoring.

7. On the wildlife taxa that were confiscated, reptiles top the list, followed by birds. This may be interpreted to mean that demand for these wildlife species is high or these species can be easily captured from their natural habitat. Either way, LEAs should continue to strengthen their capacity by further training, recruitment, and collaboration through shared resources, intelligence information, and data gathering to determine sources, transit routes, and destinations.





## Part II

# WILDLIFE LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PLAN (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Framework and Process

The Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028 complements and supplements Republic Act 9147 or the Philippines Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, Republic Act 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act, and other relevant laws and policies that provide the legal basis for policies, programs, plans, and activities to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats for sustainability, as well as address wildlife crimes and wildlife law enforcement.

WildLEAP is aligned and consistent with the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015-2028, which, under Article 6 of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is the principal instrument for implementing the Convention at the national level, particularly, the commitment to implement the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the 20-point Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The PBSAP is the country's roadmap to conserve biodiversity and achieve its vision that *“(b) By 2028, biodiversity is restored and rehabilitated, valued, effectively managed and secured, maintaining ecosystem services to sustain healthy, resilient Filipino communities and delivering benefits to all.”*

The PBSAP identified five major drivers of biodiversity loss, namely: habitat loss and degradation, pollution, climate change, overexploitation, and invasive alien species. The unsustainable production, consumption, and overexploitation of wildlife species for trade (particularly illegal) and domestic use have contributed to habitat loss and degradation, and reduction in species populations<sup>1</sup>.

The PBSAP also identified direct, as well as enabling or support program interventions to meet its overall goal of improved human well-being. Among the direct program interventions is strengthening law enforcement, which actions, when implemented, can result to significant reduction, control, and management of direct pressures on biodiversity (e.g. illegal wildlife trade), as well as physical changes in protected areas, key biodiversity areas, and critical habitats. Enabling or support program interventions help amplify the impacts of direct program interventions, hence, contributing to the attainment of the overall goal. Figure 4 shows the PBSAP Framework with its direct and enabling or support program interventions.<sup>2</sup>

## 1.2 Objective

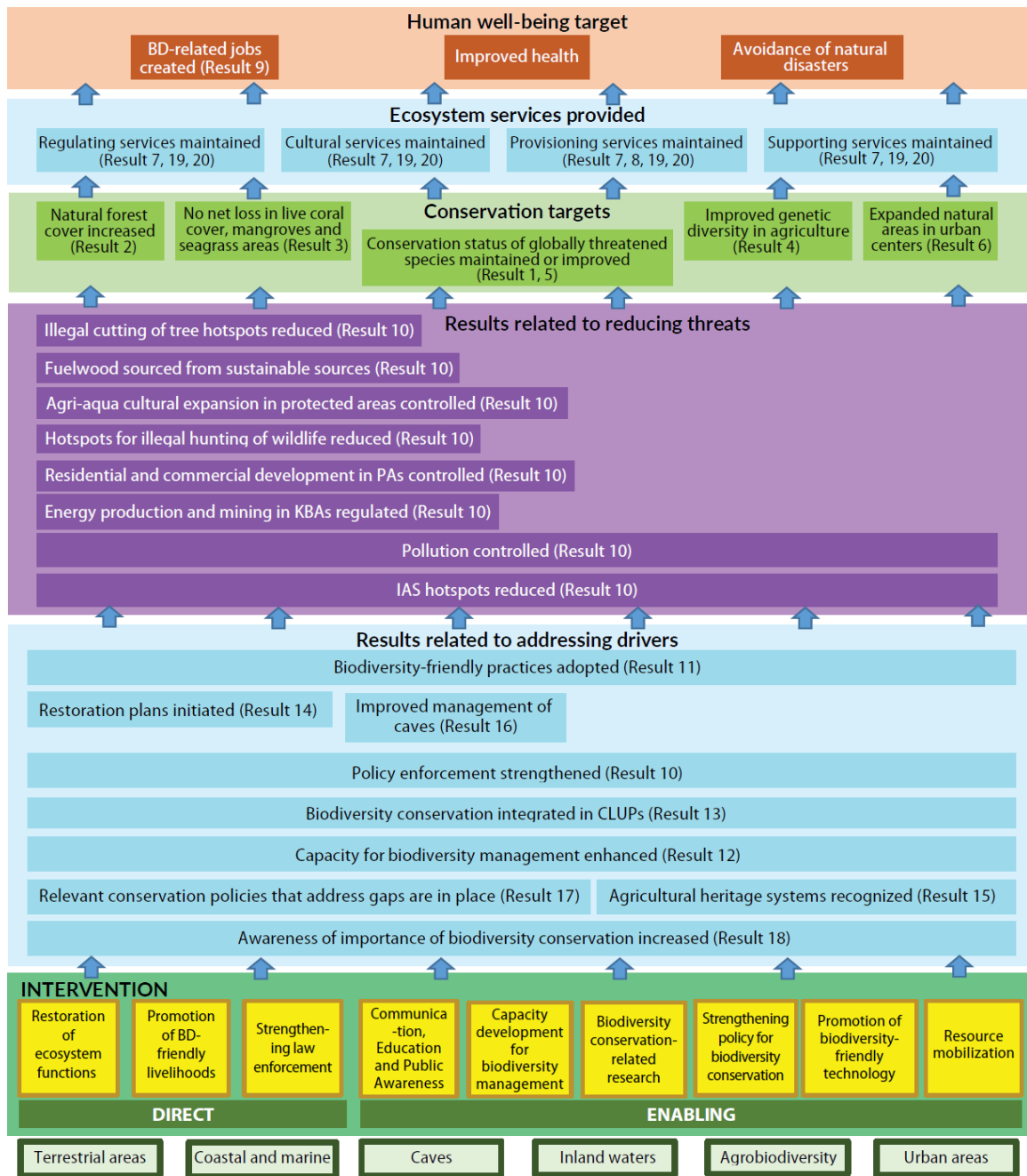
The WildLEAP was developed primarily to combat illegal activities involving wildlife, particularly those species under the jurisdiction of the DENR. It supports and complements actions under the direct program intervention on strengthening law enforcement envisioned

---

<sup>1</sup>PBSAP 2015-2028

<sup>2</sup> Figure 35, PBSAP 2015-2018

under the PBSAP. It is also meant to identify and prioritize enforcement activities, and serve as a guide for fund sourcing, resource allocation, and evaluation of the impacts of enforcement work in the country.



Source: PBSAP 2015-2028

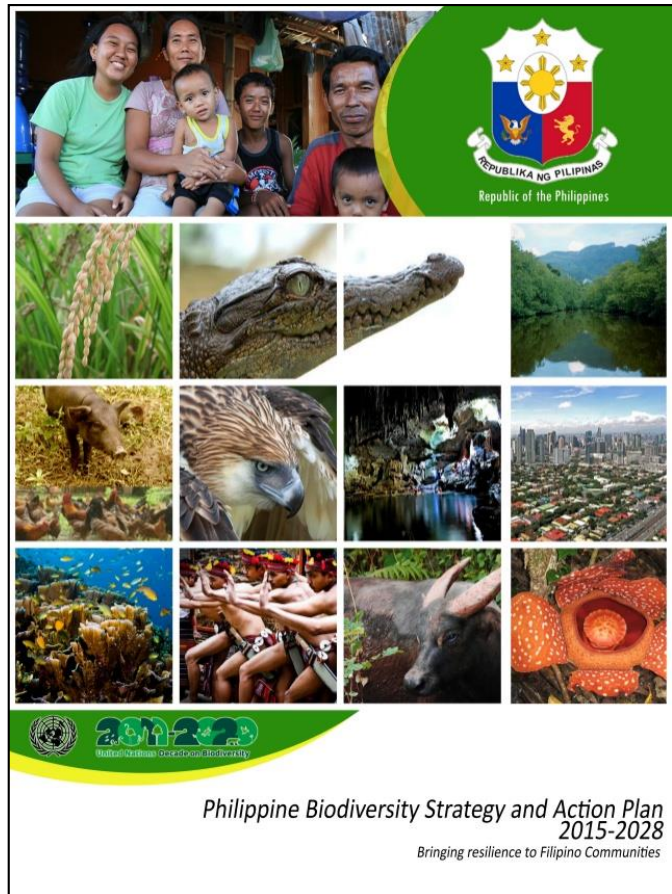
Figure 4. PBSAP 2015-2028 Framework

The WildLEAP sets the vision, expected outcomes, key activities, outputs/indicators, implementing entities, and timelines under each of the seven strategies for wildlife law enforcement, which are distinct yet mutually reinforcing. Each strategy supports the attainment of the vision of wildlife law enforcement in the country.

### 1.3 Methodology

In developing WildLEAP, several approaches and methodologies were used. The participation of stakeholder groups from national and local governments, business, civil society organizations, academic and research institutions was likewise sought in its various stages of development.

National data related to wildlife law enforcement held by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB) were reviewed and analyzed accordingly. In addition, a survey of Counter Wildlife Trafficking (CWT) Interventions in the Philippines was conducted using a form adopted from the United States Department of the Interior (DOI)-International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) survey of CWT interventions in Southeast Asia (Annex 1). The DENR-BMB distributed survey forms and gathered the completed forms from the Regional Offices of the DENR, the Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Justice – National Prosecution Service (DOJ-NPS), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Philippine Judicial Academy (PHILJA), Department of Finance – Bureau of Customs (DOF-BOC), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Philippine Navy (PN), and other relevant offices. The survey, however, was limited to those who participated in the six annual (2011-2016) Training of Trainers on the Application of the Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations of the DENR-BMB.



The Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015-2028 is the country's roadmap to conserve biodiversity and achieve its vision that *"(By 2028, biodiversity is restored and rehabilitated, valued, effectively managed and secured, maintaining ecosystem services to sustain healthy, resilient Filipino communities and delivering benefits to all.)"*

Several small group meetings were held with key enforcement agencies and partners to discuss, level off, and agree on the WildLEAP outline and content, including the design of the multi-stakeholder consultation/workshop.

The multi-stakeholder consultation/workshop was held on November 24, 2016 at the Ritz Hotel at Garden Oases in Davao City immediately after the First National Wildlife Law Enforcement (WLE) Summit held on November 22-23, 2016 at the same venue. It was attended by over 100 participants of previous Training of Trainers, including: DENR personnel involved in WLE and related activities, such as the respective Chiefs of the Enforcement, Conservation and Development, and Licenses, Patents and Deeds Divisions; members of the Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade (POGI); officials from the BOC, DOJ-City/National Prosecution Offices, NBI, PCG, PN, Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), PNP, Philippine Center for Transnational Crime (PCTC), PCSD; and representatives from the local government units (LGUs) of the Cities of Zamboanga, Quezon, Davao, Pasay and Calapan, as well as Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

The output of the National WLE Summit served as input to the draft WildLEAP. The summit participants shared their experiences, lessons learned, and challenges on WLE, provided information on recent developments, including programs/projects/activities on WLE at the international, regional, national and local levels, and gave recommendations to address issues and challenges, as well as strengthen WLE in the country.



The participants in the national consultation workshop in WildLEAP.

Three workshop sessions during the national consultation were conducted to achieve specific objectives vital to the development of the WildLEAP, specifically:

- 1) Identifying SWOT - to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats relevant to WLE;
- 2) Visioning - to agree on a vision for WLE in the Philippines that would guide the WildLEAP 2018-2028; and,

- 3) Formulating Strategies- to identify interventions through programs/projects/activities (P/P/A), targets, indicators, time frame, and lead institutions.

The participants were grouped into four geographic areas: 1) the National Capital Region (NCR); 2) Luzon; 3) Visayas; and, 4) Mindanao. The workshop groups were provided with a facilitator and documenters, as well as a rapporteur chosen from among the group members, who reported the results in plenary.

#### *Workshop Output*

- *Identifying Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT)*

In identifying the SWOT, preparatory work was done using information gathered from archival research, desktop review, meetings, and official records from the DENR-BMB. This was supplemented by inputs from the presentations and results of Workshop 1 (Best Practices and Lessons Learned on WLE) and Workshop 2 (Enforcement Issues and Proposed Solutions) of the First National WLE Summit, and the results of the consultation specifically focused on the WLE SWOT conducted during the workshop on the WildLEAP.

Table 8 shows the consolidated SWOT generated from documentary reviews and group workshops.

- *Visioning*

The Vision Statement was crafted through a process that started with identifying key words and phrases to describe a vision for WLE. These words and phrases were subsequently developed into several vision statements, from which a final vision statement was adopted.

- *Formulating Strategies*

In formulating strategies, preparatory work was done using information gathered from archival research, desktop reviews, meetings with and official records from the DENR-BMB, and the direct program intervention on strengthening law enforcement identified in the PBSAP. This was supplemented by inputs from the participants of the 1<sup>st</sup> National Wildlife Law Enforcement Summit held on November 22-23, 2016. Seven strategies were pre-identified and validated as critical components of WildLEAP 2018-2028, such as:

Strategy 1- Policy development

Strategy 2- Networking and Coordination

Strategy 3- Capacity Building

Strategy 4- Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)

Strategy 5- Improving Governance, Curbing Corruption

Strategy 6- Mobilization of Resources

Strategy 7- Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation



## Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

For each strategy, programs/projects/activities and targets, indicators, time frames and lead institutions were also identified.



Consultation workshop on the development of WildLEAP held last 24 November 2016 at Ritz Hotel at Garden Oases in Davao City

## 2.0 WLE Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)

Table 8. Consolidated SWOT on wildlife law enforcement.

Strategy	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Policy development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of national policies, standards and protocols (e.g. RA 9147, Wildlife Law Enforcement Manual of Operations)</li> <li>• Availability of local policies and ordinances that support wildlife protection</li> <li>• Use of PAMB as platform for issuance of PA Resolutions</li> <li>• Establishment of critical habitats/ Protected Areas (PAs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to review current wildlife policies, including RA 9147 (increasing penalties)</li> <li>• Absence of comprehensive policy on forests, including Forest Land Use Planning (FLUP), watershed, National Greening Program (NGP) for habitat conservation</li> <li>• Lack of local ordinances to complement/supplement national laws</li> <li>• Approval of local transport permit by the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) per latest manual of approval causes inconvenience to clients due to distance</li> <li>• Lack of regulation on use of wildlife as logos for commercial products</li> <li>• Lack of free legal assistance in Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation (SLAPP) and other harassment cases against environmental law enforcers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interest groups who are willing to lobby for the amendments of RA9147</li> <li>• Strengthening of RA9147 to mandate LGUs to allocate a substantial amount for wildlife enforcement or prevention programs</li> <li>• Integration into National Urban Development and Housing Framework (NUDHF), LGU Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP)/ Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP), barangay program on health, environment, and women</li> <li>• Formulation of local ordinances and strict implementation by LGUs at community, barangay city/municipal, and provincial levels</li> <li>• Use of resources for trafficking and maritime security, narcotics and other priority concerns on wildlife law enforcement</li> <li>• Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), Convention on</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-appreciation of and prioritization by Congress to amend RA 9147</li> <li>• Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) – Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) installation of Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) system</li> </ul>

Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

Strategy	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absence of immediate legal assistance during or right after apprehensions/seizure of wildlife</li> <li>• Absence of policy guidelines to regulate pet shops</li> <li>• Agency's lack of internal guidelines for turn-over and disposal of confiscated conveyances and equipment to optimize economic value</li> <li>• No law on destruction on government property</li> <li>• Duplication and overlapping of agencies' functions</li> <li>• Conflicting policies of DENR with the Dept. of Agriculture – Bureau of Plant Industry (DA-BPI) on the issuance of phytosanitary permits (flora) and with DA – Bureau of Animal Industry (DA-BAI) on the issuance of quarantine certificates (fauna)</li> <li>• No sentencing guidelines for judges to determine first-time from repeat offenders</li> <li>• Policies keep changing</li> <li>• Wildlife law enforcement not included as Major Final Output (MFO) of Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs)</li> </ul>	<p>International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES) and public health laws</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules of engagement on Maritime Law Enforcement within the Philippine Area of Responsibility</li> <li>• Tapping Sen. Miguel Zubiri as champion</li> <li>• Timely sharing of information received from other National Central Bureaus (NCBs) / Interpol to loner LEAs – modus operandi from other countries; trends and patterns</li> </ul>	
Networking and Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong collaboration and/or partnership between and among national and local</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In some areas, lack of civil society (e.g. NGOs, People's</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of Advisory Council for wildlife law enforcement</li> </ul>	

Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

Strategy	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
	<p>enforcement agencies, LGUs, other government agencies, Non-government Organizations (NGOs) and communities (through enforcement networks, MOAs, covenants, inter-agency task forces or teams, designation of focal persons/contact persons)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of inter-agency team to conduct assessment of damages caused by vessels/ships</li> <li>• Creation of special committees for environmental concerns within LGUs</li> <li>• Expansion of Regional Wildlife Monitoring Council (RWMC) Membership from 10 to 20 members</li> <li>• Multi-sectoral involvement of community volunteers for PAs, Task Forces, Green and Blue Brigades</li> <li>• Regular conduct of summit of all LEAs, prosecutors and judges involved in WLE</li> <li>• Faster information delivery</li> </ul>	<p>Organizations [POs]) participation in Task Forces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In some areas, Regional Wildlife Monitoring Councils (RWMCs) are not activated</li> <li>• In some areas, members of LEAs are uncooperative, lack interest to share information and updates</li> <li>• In some areas, miscommunication/coordination with other concerned agencies</li> <li>• Creation of focal person and contact numbers/ wildlife center</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lessons from MPA network system provide opportunity to improve coordination, work with LGUs, mobilize funds and resources</li> <li>• Access to US Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) with attachés from different regions around the world</li> <li>• Access to Association of Southeast Asian Nations - Wildlife Law Enforcement Network (ASEAN-WEN) or its successor organization</li> </ul>	
Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of training modules designed for all levels (community/civil society organizations,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absence of programmatic training for professional development in DENR (esp. due to Rationalization Plan), other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available technical support from USFWS for innovation, development, and use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion, transfer and/or reassignment of trained WL enforcers</li> </ul>

Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

Strategy	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
	<p>city/municipal, provincial, regional) and across sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration of WLE in high school curricula and in training modules (e.g. PNP-Investigation Officer Basic Course/Certification Program, PNP- Basic Recruitment Course and Senior/Junior Leadership</li> <li>• Conduct of National Trainor's Training</li> <li>• Availability of competent and trained trainors and expert resource persons (individuals, NGAs/NGOs)</li> <li>• Expertise and experience in work related to environment, law enforcement</li> <li>• Available system for information gathering (e.g. compilation of spot reports, intelligence reports, littoral observation areas for maritime surveillance)</li> <li>• Community-based Intelligence Information System (e.g. hotline with direct access by community informants to DENR, recruitment of Barangay Intelligence Network</li> </ul>	<p>LEAs, prosecutors and the judiciary (including wildlife identification, forensics, firearms handling and self-defense, case handling, and WLE in general)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to build capacity of PENRO/City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO), whose focus is on illegal logging and not wildlife</li> <li>• Lack of logistics and infrastructure for BMB-Wildlife Rescue Center (WRC), e.g. cages, tools, transportation and communication equipment, internet)</li> <li>• Weak intelligence gathering capability, e.g. absence of community informants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing Master of Science in Clinical Investigation (MCSI) courses and expansion to a terrestrial version, and other courses</li> <li>• Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) training on aquatic wildlife identification</li> <li>• Tapping of religious groups, NGOs, cause-oriented groups, and communities for public awareness on wildlife protection and conservation, including enforcement</li> <li>• Tapping of Church and Pope Francis' encyclical, "laudato si"</li> <li>• Sharing of information to schools; early introduction in schools</li> <li>• Maximizing the use of social media for wildlife and wildlife-related advertisements</li> <li>• Tapping of Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Dept. of Education (DepEd), and academe in capacity building (including courses or additional units on wildlife and other enforcement laws)</li> <li>• Tapping of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) – for livelihood skills training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Half-hearted/ inadequate interest of trainees</li> </ul>

Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

Strategy	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct of training on wildlife laws and other environmental concerns at the barangay level</li> <li>• Availing of overseas training</li> <li>• Development or inclusion of wildlife and other related laws as an elective course in Bachelor of Laws</li> <li>• Building a strong relationship with the LGU to fund the demand-reduction strategy for wildlife</li> <li>• Use of social media to inform the public of the importance of wildlife protection and management</li> </ul>	
<p>Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials (e.g. coffee table book, posters, bulletins, short videos)</li> <li>• Use of tri-media and social media for IEC (e.g. <i>Kapihan sa PLA</i>, regular radio programs, audio visual displays at seaports and airports, malls and DENR offices, wildlife quiz bee)</li> <li>• Regular conduct of law enforcement symposia and meetings for wildlife permit holders, schools, LGUs,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absence of clear and effective IEC system and strategy (e.g. lack of IEC materials on WLE in local languages)</li> <li>• Lack of involvement of National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) in IEC on wildlife conservation (e.g. raising awareness on RA 9147 by indigenous peoples)</li> <li>• Absence or lack of valuation studies for wildlife (to highlight their value)</li> <li>• Insufficient funds for CEPA</li> </ul>		



Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

Strategy	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
	<p>Regional Law Enforcement Coordinating Committees (RLECC), etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct of community immersion</li> </ul>			
<p>Improving Governance, Curbing Corruption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of provisions of RA 9147 re WLE (e.g. designation or deputation of Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEOs), Deputized Environment and Natural Resources Officers (DENROs), operationalization of Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units (WTMUs), creation of task forces such as POGI)</li> <li>• Presence of government-mandated agencies and units (e.g. BoC- Enforcement and Security Services/Environment Protection Unit; NBI Environmental Crime Division)</li> <li>• Use of technology and internal surveillance system to monitor and promote transparency and accountability, e.g. information systems, Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) in inspection areas, spy cameras, LAWINForest and Biodiversity Protection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-creation of plantilla positions for WLEAgencies, WTMUs, legal officers, airport/seaport personnel, and veterinary doctors</li> <li>• “Enforcers without force” — unarmed enforcers</li> <li>• Political interference, meddling, or lack of LGU support in some areas</li> <li>• Some LGU officials and policy-makers are involved in illegal wildlife trade</li> <li>• Non-renewal of WEO deputation orders</li> <li>• In some areas, lack of incentives/honoraria/hazard pay</li> <li>• In some areas, lack of alternative livelihood</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuance of ordinances declaring properties used as marketplace and stock room for wildlife as “public nuisance”</li> <li>• Incentives/promotions</li> <li>• Involvement of ombudsman in capacity building for DILG, LGUs since they have OMBs Environmental Divisions</li> <li>• Tapping of Environmental Ombudsman in WLE</li> <li>• Tapping of barangay officials nationwide to further strengthen the monitoring of illegal wildlife trade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change of officials/administration (at the barangay and national levels)</li> <li>• Change in administration’s priorities</li> <li>• Rationalization plan of government</li> <li>• WLE is low in priorities of national and local governments, including LEAs</li> <li>• Intervention by corrupt politicians</li> </ul>

Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

Strategy	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
	<p>System, drones/unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), digital evidence, bluetooth and WiFi transfer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of incentives (e.g. honoraria, allowance, health insurance, awards, and recognition for informants, partner agencies including NGOs)</li> <li>• Promotion of transparency and accountability in governance practices (e.g. Citizen’s Charter in WLE, client transactions inside offices only, compartmentalizing and limiting information to a selected few, moral recovery program)</li> <li>• Streamlining of operations (e.g. process, requirements, establishment of one-stop shop, automation of permitting systems)</li> </ul>			
Mobilizing Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrative approaches to forest and wildlife protection through ecotourism activities</li> <li>• Engagement with private sector to support WLE, protection, and conservation through their corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects, e.g. IEC, insurance, joint effort of the Civil</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of innovative approaches to resources mobilization</li> <li>• Quid pro quo mentality for LGUs/private institutions in providing subsidies</li> <li>• Poor planning of activities by inexperienced personnel</li> <li>• Resources not delivered as programmed or used for other purposes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tapping assistance from USAID’s Science, Technology, Research and Innovation for Development (STRIDE), Strengthening Urban Resilience for Growth with Equity (SURGE), and Protect Wildlife Programs</li> <li>• Tapping assistance from U.S. Department of the Interior’s</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of fund support from other countries</li> </ul>

Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

Strategy	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
	<p>Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) and airline companies to save Boracay flying foxes from bird strike</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• System of counterpart and sharing of resources from partner LGUs, LEAs, NGAs, and OGAs, as well as donor agencies, e.g. GIZ, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)</li> <li>• Establishment of fee and fund systems, e.g. in Protected Areas of Palawan, Integrated Protected Areas Fund (IPAF), Wildlife Management Fund (WMF)</li> <li>• Introduction and creation of livelihood programs (e.g. engaging former violators to become wardens or wildlife protectors)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of logistics and modern monitoring equipment (e.g. cameras, intelligence fund, transport) and personnel to man seaports and airports</li> <li>• Low budget allocated to LEAs</li> <li>• Late release of budget</li> <li>• Difficult and lengthy procurement process</li> <li>• Long judicial process</li> </ul>	<p>International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tapping assistance from GIZ PA, Biodiversity, and Reduce Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) Projects</li> <li>• Tapping assistance from Asian Development Bank – Global Environment Facility Illegal Wildlife Trade (GEF-ADBIWT) Program: Greater Wynnewood (GW) partnership</li> </ul>	

Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

Strategy	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
Reporting, Monitoring, and Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• System of targeting the next level culprits (people behind the operations)</li> <li>• Availability of PNP cybercrime group for cyber-patrolling</li> <li>• Maintenance of database on apprehended, seized, confiscated forest products; conveyance and cases filed in court against Environmental Law Enforcement (ELE) violators</li> <li>• Availability of tools (e.g. use of Management Effectiveness Assessment, digital evidence (photo) preservation)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LEAs in distant locations able to operate without being monitored</li> <li>• In some areas, non-submission or late submission of reports or replies to memos</li> <li>• Accomplishment in terms of wildlife enforcement is not part of an agency's Major Final Output (MFO)</li> <li>• Lack of information systems (e.g. for monitoring of apprehended and confiscated products, status of cases filed in court)</li> <li>• Too many forms to accomplish and fill up (apprehension and turn over)</li> <li>• Lack of directory of focal persons and wildlife centers, and corresponding contact numbers</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hacking of information systems</li> <li>• Monopoly of service providers telephone companies</li> </ul>

Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028

Others		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of dedication from the national leadership for WLE, resulting in a weak program for protection of law enforcers</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased buying capability within and outside the country</li> <li>Porous borders</li> <li>Self-proclaimed experts on exotic wildlife</li> <li>Groups, hobbyists using DENR logo</li> <li>Peace and order situation</li> </ul>
--------	--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

## 3.0 WLE Strategic Agenda

### 3.1 Vision

The vision of WildLEAP 2018-2028 is:

*“By 2028, we have a proactive, competent, effective, and efficient wildlife law enforcement network and empowered stakeholders that protect and conserve wildlife resources for sustainable development.”*

### 3.2 Strategic Priorities and Interventions

Six strategies were identified and validated as critical components of WildLEAP 2018-2028. The objectives and planned interventions under each strategy were also identified and hereby presented, as follows:

#### **Strategy 1(S1): Policy and System Development**

*Objective (Obj): Policies, systems, and tools in support of WLE are in place through the participation of relevant agencies and stakeholders.*

*Planned Interventions:*

1. Generation of scientific information and data to better understand status of illegal wildlife trade in the country;
2. Development of standards on wildlife resource valuation in support of WLE;
3. Strengthening and harmonization of policies and processes on WLE (to include incentive mechanisms, WEO deputation, adoption of local flagship species, etc.);
4. Development of electronic-permitting systems for wildlife species;
5. Updating/enhancement of protocols for enforcement of wildlife laws, including forensic specimen collection protocol; and,
6. Development/updating/enhancement of wildlife management information systems



## **S2: Networking and Coordination**

*Obj: To strengthen multi-agency networks and collaboration in wildlife law enforcement at all levels.*

*Planned Interventions:*

1. Establishment of inter-agency wildlife law enforcement group at the regional and local levels (provincial, municipal, city);
2. Creating venues for regular sharing of information including issues, best practices, and lessons learned on WLE;
3. Strengthening of collaborative mechanism with the private sector in wildlife conservation and protection;
4. Strengthening and continuous mobilization and operation of Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade (POGI) and other similar inter-agency bodies;
5. Operationalization of Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units in all major airports and seaports;
6. Coordination and development of mechanisms with private companies (e.g. airline, bus, shipping, cargo forwarders, transport network vehicle service, etc.) to combat illegal transport of wildlife;
7. Promotion of Philippines' efforts on WLE at the regional and international events and publications;
8. Continuous compliance to international and regional commitments; and,
9. Establishment of collaborative mechanism with neighboring ASEAN countries on trans-boundary WLE concerns.

## **S3: Capacity Building**

*Obj: To strengthen the capacities of relevant government units at the national and local levels as well as concerned stakeholders in WLE.*

*Planned Interventions:*

1. Development and institutionalization of a comprehensive programmatic capacity building on WLE;
2. Development of academic courses or short-term formal education program on WLE;

3. Implementation of basic training programs, e.g. Training of Trainers (TOT) on WLE, orientation-training on environmental laws for Prosecutors and Judges in all RTCs and MTCs, continuous mentoring and coaching of WLE Officers, barangay-level monitoring system, values orientation, etc.; and,
4. Implementation of specialized training sessions (e.g. wildlife ID and handling, specimen collection and preservation for forensics, cyber-crime investigation, intelligence-led law enforcement, controlled delivery, communication planning, etc.)

#### **S4: Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)**

*Obj: To increase awareness of various stakeholders on Philippine wildlife and relevant laws to effect behavioral change.*

*Planned Interventions:*

1. Assessment of the level of public awareness on Philippine wildlife conservation and protection, and related laws;
2. Preparation of CEPA/ WLE communication plan with impact assessment tool;
3. Development, production and dissemination of CEPA materials; and,
4. Conduct of awareness campaign to educate communities and other stakeholders on the importance of healthy, balanced, and productive ecosystems, increase chances of reporting illegal activities, and reduce the incidence of wildlife crimes.

#### **S5: Improving Governance, Curbing Corruption**

*Obj: To ensure transparent, accountable, and responsible law enforcement officers and institutions that uphold the rule of law.*

*Planned Interventions:*

1. Establishment of feedback mechanism;
2. Mobilization and provision of support to wildlife-related bodies, e.g. National and Regional Wildlife Management Committees, Philippine Plants Conservation Committee (PPCC), Philippine Red List Committee (PRLC), etc.; and,
3. Management of confiscated wildlife.

## **S6: Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation**

*Obj: To be able to assess the impacts, refine the mechanisms and monitor implementation status of WildLEAP*

*Planned Interventions:*

1. Monitoring compliance to reporting requirements;
2. Conduct of impact assessment of WLE efforts vis-à-vis implementation of the WildLEAP at regular interval (every 3 years);
3. Development of mechanisms for monitoring of status of wildlife-related cases at DOJ and Judiciary/Supreme Court, as appropriate; and,
4. Promotion of public participation in monitoring and reporting wildlife crimes.

### **3.3 Action Plan**

The Action Plan for each strategic priority and intervention that includes targets, indicators, timeframe<sup>1</sup>, and responsible agency/ies are presented in succeeding pages of this document including the cost of implementing the WildLEAP.

The total cost of implementing the WildLEAP from 2019-2028 is estimated to PhP4.9 billion. The largest cost was estimated for the strategy that will ensure transparent, accountable, and responsible law enforcement officers and institutions that uphold the rule of law.

---

<sup>1</sup> Short Term – 2019-2020; Medium Term – 2021-2024; Long-term - 2025-2028

## ACTION PLAN

### Strategy 1. Policy and System Development

*Objective: Policies, systems, and tools in support of WLE are in place through the participation of relevant agencies and stakeholders.*

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
1. Generation of scientific information and data to better understand status of illegal wildlife trade in the country.	1.1 Research on wildlife trade, valuation, and law enforcement conducted	1.1.1 Number of publications related to wildlife trade, valuation, etc.	X			DENR-BMB PCSD Concerned NGAs, in coordination with the academe
	1.2 Inventory of wildlife species in trade and their associated habitats	1.2.1 Updated list of wildlife species in trade	X			
		1.2.2 Baselines established	X			
	1.3 Conduct of research on accessibility, affordability, and availability of online trade of wildlife in support to POGI operation	1.3.1 Information on the extent of online wildlife trade in the country	X			
2. Development of standards on wildlife resource valuation in support of WLE	2.1 Inventory and review of existing tools on resource valuation	2.1.1 Compendium of existing tool/s on resource valuation produced	X			DENR-BMB, DOI-ITAP, in coordination with ERDB, DENR Policy and Planning Service, and the academe
	2.2 Develop and pilot-test standard tool/s on wildlife resource valuation	2.2.1 Guidelines on wildlife resource valuation adopted and disseminated		X		
	2.3 User's fee system fully implemented	2.3.1 Percentage increase in revenues generated	X	X	X	
3. Strengthening and harmonization of policies and processes on WLE (to include incentive mechanisms, WEO deputation, adoption of local flagship species, etc.)	3.1 Review of policies including local ordinances relevant to WLE to identify conflicts and gaps	3.1.1 Compendium of existing policies including local ordinances relevant to WLE	X			DENR, NALECC-SCENR, other NGAs, USDOJ ITAP, ADB-GEF, USAID-Protect Wildlife Project
		3.1.2 Report on identified policy conflicts and gaps produced and disseminated	X			

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
	3.2 Draft policy amendments or new policies addressing conflicts and gaps	3.2.1 Legal instruments harmonizing and addressing conflicting policies issued (e.g. House Bill amending RA 9147, revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of RA 9147, template of proposed local ordinances, etc.)	X			DENR-BMB, ADB-GEF Combatting Illegal Wildlife Trade Project (IWT)
	3.3 Draft Executive Order creating a national body dedicated to combatting wildlife crimes in the country	3.3.1 EO endorsed to the President	X			DENR-BMB and DENR Policy and Planning Service
4. Development of electronic-permitting systems for wildlife species	4.1 Develop an interoperable (linked with other relevant agencies) online transaction system for processing and issuance of wildlife-related permits	4.1.1 Fully functional systems in use		X		DENR (BMB, Regional/ Field offices) BOC, PCSDS, BFAR, ADB-GEF IWT, USAID-Protect Wildlife Project
5. Development/ updating/ enhancement of protocols for enforcement of wildlife laws, including forensic specimen collection protocol	5.1 Establish protocol for monitoring, investigation, and detection of online wildlife trade	5.1.1 Protocol established and tested in at least three areas of major enforcement concern		X		DENR, NALECC-SCENR, LEAs, in coordination with other NGAs and the academe
	5.2 Establish protocol for forensic specimen collection	5.2.1 Protocol established and tested in at least three areas of major enforcement concern	X			
	5.3 Review and enhance existing WLE manual/protocols	5.3.1 Enhanced/updated WLE manual/protocols	X			
	5.4 Draft policy for the adoption of the enhanced and updated WLE manual/protocols	5.4.1 Policy adopting the enhanced/updated WLE manual issued		X		
		5.4.2 Updated/enhanced WLE manual reproduced and disseminated at all levels			X	

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
6. Development/ updating/ enhancement of wildlife management information system	6.1 Adopt and maintain Environmental Law Enforcement Management Information System (ELEMIS) at all DENR Regional Offices	6.1.1 ELEMIS adopted and functional at all DENR Regional Offices	X			DENR-KISS BMB, DENR Regional and Field Offices
	6.2 Integrate ELEMIS in Environmental Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs)	6.2.1 ELEMIS, particularly the wildlife management information component, integrated in information management system of key LEAs			X	DENR, LEAs (NBI, BOC, PNP-Police and Maritime Group)
	6.3 Develop and use mobile application/s for wildlife crime reporting	6.3.1 Mobile application/s developed (with built in case tracking system)		X		DENR-BMB and USAID-Protect Wildlife
		6.3.2 Number of active users		X		
	6.4 Develop and maintain databases on wildlife permit holders and their wildlife stocks, and data analysis	6.4.1 Database developed and maintained	X			DENR-BMB, DENR-Regional Offices, permit holders, USAID Protect Wildlife
6.5 Develop and promote information sharing protocol	6.5.1 Policy adopting information sharing protocol		X		DENR-BMB, USAID-Protect Wildlife	



**ACTION PLAN****Strategy 2. Networking and Coordination**

*Objective: To strengthen multi-agency networks and collaboration in wildlife law enforcement at all levels.*

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
1. Establishment of inter-agency wildlife law enforcement group at the regional and local levels (provincial, municipal, city)	1.1. Conduct of WLE stakeholder analysis in at least 6 major wildlife trade hotspots	1.1.1 WLE Stakeholder maps	X			DENR-BMB/ Regional Offices and other LEAs, NCIP/ Regional Offices, USAID Protect Wildlife Project, ADB-GEF Combatting Illegal Wildlife Trade Project (IWT)
	1.2. Conduct/support consultation meetings to secure multi-agency support in the creation of WLE group at the regional and local levels	1.2.1 Consultation meetings conducted	X			
	1.3. Facilitate drafting/execution of Agreements or other legal instruments to mobilize and operationalize the regional and local bodies	1.3.1 Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) or other legal instruments establishing the local and regional inter-agency wildlife law enforcement groups	X			
	1.4. Mobilization/operation of regional and local enforcement groups	1.4.1 Enforcement reports submitted at the national level	X			
	1.5 Intelligence funds allocated per region per year	1.5.1 Amount of intelligence fund allocated for enforcement work.	X			
	1.6 Protective equipment for DENR law enforcers (e.g. firearms or whichever is applicable in the law enforcement operations)	1.6.1 Number of protective equipment procured	X			
		1.6.2 DENR law enforcers equipped with personal protective equipment	X			

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
	1.7 Drones with HD cameras per RO procured and operational	1.7.1 Number of drones procured		X		DENR (Policy and Planning Service, Financial and Management Service, BMB, Regional Offices)
		1.7.2 Number of staff trained on drone operations and data analysis		X		
2. Creation of venues for regular sharing of information including issues, best practices, and lessons learned on WLE	2.1 Conduct of WLE Summit every two years	2.1.1 Summit Declaration	X	X	X	DENR-BMB
		2.1.2 Documentation of best practices and lessons learned on WLE	X	X	X	
		2.1.3 Recommendations to resolve emerging issues	X	X	X	
	2.2 Conduct/support regular meetings of regional WEOs, WTMU, RLECC	2.2.1 Report/updates on WLE	X	X	X	DENR-Regional Offices
3. Strengthening of collaborative mechanism with the private sector in wildlife conservation and protection	3.1 Document good practices of private sector engagement in wildlife conservation and protection	3.1.1 Publication of good practices on private sector engagement in wildlife conservation and protection	X			DENR-BMB, USAID-PW, ADB-GEF Combatting Illegal Wildlife Trade Project (IWT), US-DOI ITAP
	3.2 Establishment of mechanics to recognize private sectors' contributions to wildlife conservation and protection	3.2.1 Mechanics for selecting recipients of recognition established and implemented	X			
		3.2.2 Number of private companies and institutions recognized	X			
	3.3 Implementation of Adopt-a-Wildlife Species Program, e.g. public-private partnership for <i>in-situ</i> conservation of threatened species (DENR Administrative Order 2010-16)	3.3.1 MOA executed	X			DENR (BMB, Regional Offices) in coordination with private sector
		3.3.2 Certificates of funding contribution issued	X			

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
	3.4 Encourage private sector support for WLE	3.4.1 Number of private companies supporting WLE activities	X			
		3.4.2 Number, type and value of contribution	X			
4. Operationalization of Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units in all major airports and seaports	4.1 Designation of WTMUs to man all major air and sea ports	4.1.1 At least 80 WTMUs created		X		DENR Regional Offices in coordination with CAAP, CSO, PO, PNP, PCG, PPA
		4.1.2 At least 40 of WTMUs created are fully functional			X	
5. Strengthening and continuous mobilization and operation of Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade (POGI) and other similar inter-agency bodies	5.1 Review and reconstitute POGI	5.1.1 POGI reconstituted through DENR Special Order	X			DENR (BMB, Regional Offices), DOJ, NBI, PNP, NICA, BOC
	5.2 Conduct of surveillance, case building, law enforcement and case filing	5.2.1 Number of wildlife law violators apprehended	X	X	X	
		5.2.2 Number of enforcement reports or updates to contain the following: a. Number and types of violations b. Case numbers c. Names and addresses of persons apprehended/arrested d. Number of responses to reports of violations e. Name of apprehending officer and organizational affiliation f. Number of inspections in hotspots conducted g. Species and number of wildlife specimens intercepted/confiscated/seized	X	X	X	

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
		h. Information on the status of investigations and judiciary proceedings determined				
		6.2.3 Number of cases filed	X	X	X	
6. Coordination and development of mechanisms with private companies (e.g. airline, bus, shipping, cargo forwarders, Transport Network Vehicle Service (TNVS), etc.) to combat illegal transport of wildlife	6.1 Coordination meetings	6.1.1 Meetings conducted with private companies	X			DENR (BMB) in coordination with private companies
	6.2 Orientation on wildlife trafficking and wildlife laws	6.2.1 Orientations conducted	X			
	6.3 Drafting of MOA or other institutional arrangements	6.3.1 MOA and other issuances executed	X			
7. Promotion of Philippines' efforts on WLE at the regional and international events and publications	7.1 Attendance in regional and international events and dissemination of Philippine WLE initiatives therein	7.1.1 Country report	X	X	X	DENR-BMB
		7.1.2 Report on regional and international developments on WLE, including best practices on WLE at global level	X	X	X	
	7.2 Papers/manuscripts/articles on WLE prepared	7.2.1 Papers/manuscripts/articles on WLE published	X	X	X	
	7.3 Sourcing of international funds and support (e.g. multilateral, bilateral, other international institutions) facilitated	7.3.1 Number of proposals developed and submitted to potential funding donors	X	X	X	DENR (BMB, Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Service (FASPS))
7.3.2 Number of multilateral/ bilateral/ other international funding and grant agreements supporting wildlife conservation initiatives, including WLE signed		X	X	X		
8. Ensure continuous compliance to international and regional commitments	8.1 Regular sharing of information and response to transnational intelligence reports	8.1.1 Case documents	X	X	X	DENR-BMB

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
	8.2 Regular submission of reports to international conventions (e.g. CITES, CBD, ASEAN Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement, etc.)	8.2.1 National reports	X	X	X	
9. Establishment of collaborative mechanism with neighboring ASEAN countries on transboundary WLE concerns	9.1 Participate in Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), including the SOMTC Working Group on Illicit Wildlife and Timber Trafficking	9.1.1 Country report	X	X	X	DENR, PCTC
	9.2 Initiate bilateral arrangements with Indonesia and Malaysia for joint cross border control and surveillance operations	9.2.1 Bilateral meeting reports	X			DENR-BMB in coordination with DFA
		9.2.2 Actual joint operations reports	X			
	9.3 Initiate discussion for the integration of wildlife trade issues in the agenda of the Brunei Darussalam Indonesia Malaysia Philippines – East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) and Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF)	9.3.1 Meeting reports that tackle wildlife trade issues	X			PCSDS, Mindanao Development Authority (MINDA)
	9.4 Enhance cooperation with Malaysia on the management and protection of marine resources within Turtle Island Heritage Protected Area (TIHPA)	9.4.1 TIHPA Joint Management Committee (JMC) meetings	X	X	X	DENR (BMB, Region IX, ARMM), BFAR, DND, DFA
		9.4.2. TIHPA JMC resolutions on strengthening wildlife law enforcement	X	X	X	

**ACTION PLAN****Strategy 3. Capacity Building**

*Objective: To strengthen the capacities of relevant government units at the national and local levels as well as concerned stakeholders in WLE.*

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
1. Development, and institutionalization of comprehensive programmatic capacity building on WLE	1.1 Review and enhance of existing WLE training courses	1.1.1 Programmatic WLE training course developed including module	X			DENR-BMB, Tanggol Kalikasan, USAID-PW
	1.2 Institutionalize the programmatic training course	1.2.1 DENR Administrative Order or other legal issuance	X			
	1.3 Conduct of training	1.3.1 Training reports	X	X	X	
2. Development of academic courses or short-term formal education program on WLE	2.1 Coordinate with Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC), CHED, NBI Academy, PNP Academy, Philippine Military Academy (PMA), and other relevant learning institutions for guidance and assistance in the development of formal education program on WLE	2.1.1 Coordination meetings and reports		X		DENR-BMB in coordination with PPSC, CHED, NBI Academy, PNP Academy, PMA
	2.2 Explore potential partnerships with academic institutions for integration of wildlife and other environment-related subjects in their respective curriculum	2.2.1 Coordination meetings and reports		X		DENR-BMB in coordination with academe
	2.3 Develop courses on environmental conservation and protection that may be offered as core or elective subjects in academic degree programs of learning institutions	2.3.1 Number of courses developed and adopted	X			
	2.4 Coordinate with the Philippine Regulatory Commission (PRC) and other relevant bodies/agencies/	2.4.1 Coordination meetings and reports		X		DENR (BMB, HRDS) in coordination with PRC

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
	institutions for potential recognition of WLE courses as part of continuing professional education (CPE)	2.4.2 Number of WLE courses included as CPE credits		X		
3. Implementation of basic training programs, e.g. Training of Trainers (TOT) on WLE, orientation-training on environmental laws for Prosecutors and Judges in all RTCs and MTCs, continuous mentoring and coaching of WLE Officers, barangay-level monitoring system, values orientation	3.1 At least one basic training program carried out per year	3.1.1 Training report/s	X	X	X	DENR-BMB
	3.2 Train at least 300 key personnel of local and national government agencies and partners per year	3.2.1 Directory of trained personnel	X	X	X	
		3.2.2 Sex-disaggregated list of speakers and participants	X	X	X	
		3.2.3 Training reports including copy of presentation materials	X	X	X	
3.3 At least 10% of trained non-DENR personnel actively engaged in wildlife law enforcement related activities	3.3.1 Individual accomplishment reports	X	X	X		
4. Implementation of specialized training sessions (e.g., wildlife ID and handling, specimen collection and preservation for forensics, cyber-crime investigation intelligence-led law enforcement, controlled delivery, communication planning, etc.)	4.1 At least one specialized training program with a minimum of 35 participants carried out per year	4.1.1 Training module prepared	X	X	X	DENR-BMB in coordination with academe, NBI and PNP
		4.1.2 Training reports including copy of presentation material	X			
		4.1.3 Sex-disaggregated list of speakers and participants	X			



## ACTION PLAN

### Strategy 4. Communication, Education and Public Awareness

*Objective: To increase awareness of various stakeholders on Philippine wildlife and relevant laws to effect behavioral change.*

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
1. Assessment of the level of public awareness on Philippine wildlife conservation and protection, and related laws	1.1 Develop survey questionnaires	1.1.1 Survey questionnaires developed	X			DENR (BMB, Regional Offices) in coordination with development partners, and academe, USDOJ, ADB-GEF IWT
	1.2 Conduct of actual survey based on standard methodology	1.2.1 Survey conducted nationwide	X			
	1.3 Analysis of survey results	1.3.1 Survey report	X			
2. Preparation of CEPA/ WLE communication plan with impact assessment tool	2.1 Review of existing National and Regional CEPA/ Communication plan	2.1.1 Discussion paper on WLE CEPA/Communication plan	X			DENR (BMB, Regional/Field Offices) in coordination with DILG, LGU and development partners
	2.2 Development of National CEPA/Communication Plan on WLE (to consider Regional context)	2.2.1 National CEPA/Communication Plan on WLE	X			
	2.3 Impact assessment tool developed	2.3.1 CEPA/ communication impact assessment tool	X			
	2.4 Assessment of the impacts of CEPA activities	2.4.1 Impact assessment report		X		
3. Development, production and dissemination of CEPA materials	3.1 Development of campaign materials (e.g. AVP, posters, leaflets, brochures, tarpaulins, comic-type materials, etc.)	3.1.1 Number of CEPA materials developed, produced and disseminated to various target audiences	X			DENR (BMB, Regional/Field Offices)
	3.2 Production of popular versions of RA 9147 and other related policies in at least 4 local languages e.g. Cebuano, Ilocano, Filipino, and Chavacano	3.2.1 Number of copies produced	X			
		3.2.2 No of copies distributed	X	X	X	

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
	3.3 Dissemination of wildlife-related policies through all forms of media e.g., booklets, regional notification, posting in BMB and DENR websites and social media networks	3.3.1 No. of visits/download/ likes	X	X	X	
		3.3.2 No. of articles featured in newsprints	X	X	X	
		3.3.3 Airtime spent on wildlife-related policy discussions	X	X	X	
4. Conduct of awareness campaign to educate communities and other stakeholders on the importance of healthy, balanced, and productive ecosystems, increase chances of reporting illegal activities, and reduce the incidence of wildlife crimes.	4.1 Conduct of contests (e.g., slogan-making, quiz bee, poster-making, jingle-making, photography, mobile app. development for reporting wildlife crime contest)	4.1.1 Number of awareness programs conducted for communities/barangays	X			DENR (BMB, Regional/Field Offices) in coordination with DILG/LGUs, LEAs, communities, USAID PW
		4.1.2 Number of communities/barangays as beneficiaries of community awareness programs	X			
	4.2 Implementation of informal education programs (e.g. <i>Dalaw-Turo</i> /school caravans, orientation of barangay officials and local communities, radio plugs, TV ads, film showing in cinemas, installation of billboards in air/sea ports, hanging of tarpaulins in national and provincial roads, posting of posters/tarpaulins in bus stations)	4.2.1 Number of DENR personnel trained on Dalaw-Turo strategies	X	X	X	
		4.2.2 Number of CEPA campaigns launched (Dalaw-Turo/school caravans, orientation of barangay officials and local communities, radio plugs, TV ads, film showing in cinemas, installation of billboards in air/sea ports, hanging of tarpaulins in national and provincial roads and bus stations)	X	X	X	
		4.2.3 At least 25% of the Filipino people are aware of wildlife conservation and protection	X	X	X	

## ACTION PLAN

### Strategy 5. Improving Governance, Curbing Corruption

*Objective: To ensure transparent, accountable, and responsible law enforcement officers and institutions that uphold the rule of law.*

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
1. Establishment of feedback mechanism	1.1 Review existing feedback mechanisms that can be applied to WLE	1.1.1 Analysis report	X	X	X	DENR (BMB, Regional Offices) in coordination with other NGAs
	1.2 Develop feedback mechanism on WLE	1.2.1 Feedback mechanism developed	X	X	X	
	1.3 Operationalize feedback mechanism	1.3.1 Number of regions that implement and operationalize the mechanism	X	X	X	
		1.3.2 Compliance reports	X	X		
2. Mobilization and support to wildlife-related bodies, e.g. National and Regional Wildlife Management Committees, Philippine Plants Conservation Committee (PPCC), Philippine Red List Committee (PRLC), etc.	2.1 Conduct of regular meetings of wildlife-related bodies	2.1.1 Minutes of the Meeting including inter-agency recommendations	X	X	X	DENR (BMB, Regional Offices) in coordination with other LGUs, academe and other GAs
		2.1.2 Action documents in pursuit of recommendations	X	X	X	
3. Management of confiscated wild animals	3.1 Assessment of existing WRCs in terms of capacity and capability to maintain confiscated animals	5.1.2 Report on the operational status and condition of WRCs nationwide	X			DENR (BMB, Regional/Field Offices) in coordination with LGUs and private sector
	3.2 Streamlining, enhancement of existing and/or establishment of new WRCs, as necessary.	3.2.1 Number of WRCs established/improved and maintained	X	X	X	
		3.2.2 Regular animal inventory report including disposition, in accordance with existing guidelines	X	X	X	
	3.3 Establishment of holding facilities in major trade hotspots	3.3.1 Number of holding facilities established in major trade hotspots	X			

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
	3.4 CTVS installed and operational in hotspot areas	3.4.1 Number of CCTVs procured	X			DENR (Policy and Planning Service, Financial and Management Service, BMB, Regional Offices)
	3.5 Dedicated fund in all regions allocated annually for the purchase of medical tools, supplies and equipment	1.7.3 Amount of medical tools, supplies and equipment procured	X			DENR (Policy and Planning Service, Financial and Management Service, BMB, Regional Offices)

## ACTION PLAN

## Strategy 6. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

*Obj: To be able to assess the impacts, refine the mechanisms and monitor implementation status of WildLEAP*

Interventions	Targets	Indicators	Time Frame			Responsible Entity/ies
			S	M	L	
1. Monitoring compliance to reporting requirements	1.1 Regular and timely submission of quarterly WLE reports to the Office of the Secretary	1.1.1 Quarterly reports submitted	X	X	X	DENR (BMB, Regional Offices)
2. Conduct of impact assessment of WLE efforts vis-à-vis implementation of the WildLEAP at regular interval (every 3 years)	2.1 Development of evaluation tool	2.1.1 Evaluation tool developed	X	X		DENR (BMB, Policy and Planning Service)
	2.2 External evaluation of impact	2.2.1 Evaluation Report including recommendation/s to improve WLE activities	X	X	X	
	2.2 Mid-term review of WildLEAP	2.3.1 Report of mid-term review			X	
2.3.1 Updated WildLEAP				X		
3. Development of mechanisms for monitoring of status of wildlife-related cases at DOJ and Judiciary/Supreme Court, as appropriate	3.1 Coordinate with DOJ and Judiciary/Supreme Court	3.1.1 Regular status report of wildlife cases	X			DENR-BMB in coordination with DOJ
4. Promotion of public participation in monitoring and reporting wildlife crimes	4.1 Updating and dissemination of directory of deputized and designated WEOs and WTMUs (from CENRO to national level)	4.1.1 Directory regularly updated and published	X			DENR (BMB and Regional Offices)
	4.2 Design and promote the use of a system for real time reporting on wildlife crimes	4.2.1 System for real time reporting of wildlife crimes established	X			
		4.2.2 Increased number of individuals reporting wildlife-related crimes			X	

**BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS (in million pesos)****Strategy 1. Policy and System Development**

Interventions	Targets	Timeline			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				TOTAL
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
1. Generation of scientific information and data to better understand status of illegal wildlife trade in the country.	1.1 Research on wildlife trade, valuation, and law enforcement conducted	X			2,429.22	2,550.68									4,979.90
	1.2 Inventory of wildlife species in trade and their associated habitats	X			1,463.29	1,536.45									2,999.74
	1.3 Conduct of research on accessibility, affordability, and availability of online trade of wildlife in support to POGI operation	X			300.00	315.00									615.00
2. Development of standards on wildlife resource valuation in support of WLE	2.1 Inventory and review of existing tools on resource valuation	X			489.00	513.45									1,002.45
	2.2 Develop and pilot-test standard tool/s on wildlife resource valuation		X				5,957.01	6,254.68	6,567.61	6,895.99	7,240.79				32,916.08
	2.3 User's fee system fully implemented	X	X	X											
3. Strengthening and harmonization of policies and processes on WLE (to include incentive mechanisms, WEO deputation, adoption of local flagship species, etc.)	3.1 Review of policies including local ordinances relevant to WLE to identify conflicts and gaps	X			540.00	567.00									1,107.00
	3.2 Draft policy amendments or new policies addressing conflicts and gaps	X			3,559.20	3,737.16									7,296.36
	3.3 Draft Executive Order creating a national body dedicated to combatting wildlife crimes in the country	X													
4. Development of electronic-permitting systems for wildlife species	4.1 Develop an interoperable (linked with other relevant agencies) online transaction system for processing and issuance of wildlife-related permits		X				7,767.00	8,155.35	8,563.12	8,991.27	9,440.84				42,917.58

Interventions	Targets	Timeline			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				TOTAL
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
5. Development/ updating/ enhancement of protocols for enforcement of wildlife laws, including forensic specimen collection protocol	5.1 Establish protocol for monitoring, investigation, and detection of online wildlife trade		X				300.00	315.00	330.75	347.29	364.65				1,657.69
	5.2 Establish protocol for forensic specimen collection protocol	X													
	5.3 Review and enhance existing WLE manual/protocols	X			1,250.00	1,312.50									2,562.50
	5.4 Draft policy for the adoption of the enhanced and updated WLE manual/protocols		X		6,250.00	6,562.50	5,100.00	5,355.00	5,632.75	5,903.89	6,199.08				41,003.22
6. Development/ updating/ enhancement of wildlife management information system	6.1 Adopt and maintain Environmental Law Enforcement. Management Information System (ELEMIS) at all DENR Regional Offices	X			742.00	779.10									1,521.10
	6.2 Integrate ELEMIS in Environmental Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs)			X							632.26	663.88	697.07	1,993.21	
	6.3 Develop and use mobile application/s for wildlife crime reporting		X				2,200.00	2,310.00	2,425.50	2,546.78	2,674.11			12,156.39	
	6.4 Develop and maintain databases on wildlife permit holders and their wildlife stocks, and data analysis	X					882.00	863.10	906.26	951.57	999.15			4,602.07	
	6.5 Develop and promote information sharing protocol		X												
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>17,022.71</b>	<b>17,873.84</b>	<b>22,206.01</b>	<b>23,253.13</b>	<b>24,425.98</b>	<b>25,636.78</b>	<b>26,918.62</b>	<b>632.26</b>	<b>663.88</b>	<b>697.07</b>	<b>159,330.28</b>



## BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS (in million pesos)

## Strategy 2. Networking and Coordination

Interventions	Targets	Timeline			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				Total
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
1. Establishment of inter-agency wildlife law enforcement group at the regional and local levels (provincial, municipal, city)	1.1 Conduct of WLE stakeholder analysis in at least 6 major wildlife trade hotspots	X			938.58	985.50									1,924.08
	1.2 Conduct/support consultation meetings to secure multi-agency support in the creation of WLE group at the regional and local levels	X			1,251.70	1,314.88									2,566.57
	1.3. Facilitate drafting/execution of Agreements or other legal instruments to mobilize and operationalize the regional and local bodies	X			2,372.02	2,490.62									4,862.63
	1.4. Mobilization/operation of regional and local enforcement groups	X			1,079.45	1,133.42									2,212.88
	1.5 Intelligence funds allocated per region per year	X													
	1.6 Protective equipment for DENR law enforcers (e.g. firearms or whichever is applicable in the law enforcement operations)	X													
	1.7 Drones with HD cameras per RO procured and operational		X					7,574.00							7,574.00
2. Creation of venues for regular sharing of information including issues, best practices, and lessons learned on WLE	2.1 Conduct of WLE Summit every two years	X	X	X	5,434.00	5,705.70									11,139.70
	2.2 Conduct/support regular meetings of regional WEOs, WTMU, RLECC	X	X	X	16,099.31	16,904.27									33,003.58
3. Strengthening of collaborative mechanism with the private sector in wildlife conservation and protection	3.1 Document good practices of private sector engagement in wildlife conservation and protection	X			855.00	897.75									1,752.75
	3.2 Establishment of mechanics to recognize private sectors' contributions to wildlife conservation and protection	X			552.80	559.44									1,112.24

Interventions	Targets	Timeline			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				Total
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
	3.3 Implementation of Adopt-a-Wildlife Species Program, e.g. public-private partnership for in-situ conservation of threatened species (DENR Administrative Order 2010-16)	X			541.06	568.11									1,109.18
	3.4 Encourage private sector support for WLE	X													
4. Strengthening and continuous mobilization and operation of Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife Trade (POGI) and other similar inter-agency bodies	4.1 Review and reconstitute POGI	X			4,265.16	4,478.42									8,743.58
	4.2 Conduct of surveillance, case building, law enforcement and case filing	X			3,484.32	3,658.53									7,142.85
5. Operationalization of Wildlife Traffic Monitoring Units in all major airports and seaports	5.1 Designation of WTMUs to man all major air and sea ports		X				1,814.95	1,905.70	2,000.99	2,101.04	2,080.12	2,184.12	2,293.33	2,407.98	16,788.23
6. Coordination and development of mechanisms with private companies (e.g. airline, bus, shipping, cargo forwarders, Transport Network Vehicle Service (TNVS), etc.) to combat illegal transport of wildlife	6.1 Coordination meetings	X			2,040.97	2,151.42									4,192.39
	6.2 Orientation on wildlife trafficking and wildlife laws	X													-
	6.3 Drafting of MOA or other institutional arrangements	X													-
7. Promotion of Philippines' efforts on WLE at the regional and international events and publications	7.1 Attendance in regional and international events and dissemination of Philippine WLE initiatives therein	X	X	X	1,392.18	1,461.78	1,534.79	1,611.62	1,692.30	1,776.81	1,865.65	2,056.88	1,958.94	2,159.75	17,510.71
	7.2 Papers/manuscripts/articles on WLE prepared	X	X	X	631.97	663.57	696.75	731.59	768.17	806.58	846.91	889.25	933.71	980.40	7,948.90
	7.3 Sourcing of international funds and support (e.g. multilateral, bilateral, other international institutions) facilitated	X	X	X	1,324.78	1,391.07	1,460.57	1,533.60	1,610.28	1,190.79	1,755.33	1,864.10	1,957.30	2,055.17	16,142.98
8. Ensure continuous compliance to international and regional commitments	8.1 Regular sharing of information and response to transnational intelligence reports	X	X	X	348.56	365.95	384.30	403.51	423.69	444.87	467.11	490.47	514.99	540.74	4,384.19

Interventions	Targets	Timeline			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				Total
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
	8.2 Regular submission of reports to international conventions (e.g. CITES, CBD, ASEAN Working Group on CITES and Wildlife Enforcement, etc.)	X	X	X	695.06	729.82	766.31	804.62	844.85	887.10	931.45	978.02	1,026.98	1,078.27	8,742.49
9. Establishment of collaborative mechanism with neighboring ASEAN countries on transboundary WLE concerns	9.1 Participate in Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC), including the SOMTC Working Group on Illicit Wildlife and Timber Trafficking	X			1,008.59	1,059.02									2,067.61
	9.2 Initiate bilateral arrangements with Indonesia and Malaysia for joint cross border control and surveillance operations	X			4,386.12	4,605.43									8,991.55
	9.3 Initiate discussion for the integration of wildlife trade issues in the agenda of the Brunei Darussalam Indonesia Malaysia Philippines – East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) and Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF)	X			3,786.12	3,975.43									7,761.55
	9.4 Enhance cooperation with Malaysia on the management and protection of marine resources within Turtle Island Heritage Protected Area (TIHPA)	X	X	X	4,336.12	1,402.93	1,473.08	1,546.73	1,624.07	1,705.27	1,790.53	1,180.06	1,974.06	2,072.77	19,105.62
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>56,823.88</b>	<b>56,503.06</b>	<b>15,704.74</b>	<b>8,537.37</b>	<b>8,964.34</b>	<b>8,912.45</b>	<b>9,737.10</b>	<b>9,642.91</b>	<b>10,659.31</b>	<b>11,295.08</b>	<b>196,780.25</b>

**BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS (in million pesos)****Strategy 3. Capacity Building**

Interventions	Targets	Timeline			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				Total
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
1. Development, and institutionalization of comprehensive programmatic capacity building on WLE	1.1 Review and enhance of existing WLE training courses	X			2,253.00	2,365.65									4,618.65
	1.2 Institutionalize the programmatic training course	X			10.00										10.00
	1.3 Conduct of training	X	X	X		673.00	706.65	741.98	779.08	818.04	858.94	901.88	946.98	994.33	7,420.87
2. Development of academic courses or short-term formal education program on WLE	2.1 Coordinate with Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC), CHED, NBI Academy, PNP Academy, Philippine Military Academy (PMA), and other relevant learning institutions for guidance and assistance in the development of formal education program on WLE		X				50.00	52.50	55.13	57.88					215.51
	2.2 Explore potential partnerships with academic institutions for integration of wildlife and other environment-related subjects in their respective curriculum		X				50.00	52.50	55.13	57.88					215.51
	2.3 Develop courses on environmental conservation and protection that may be offered as core or elective subjects in academic degree programs of learning institutions	X				442.00									442.00
	2.4 Coordinate with the Philippine Regulatory Commission (PRC) and other relevant bodies/ agencies/ institutions for potential recognition of WLE courses as part of continuing professional education (CPE)		X					15.20	15.96	16.76	17.60				65.51

Interventions	Targets	Timeline			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				Total
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
3. Implementation of basic training programs, e.g. Training of Trainers (TOT) on WLE, orientation-training on environmental laws for Prosecutors and Judges in all RTCs and MTCs, continuous mentoring and coaching of WLE Officers, barangay-level monitoring system, values orientation	3.1 At least one basic training program carried out per year	X	X	X	2,553.00	2,680.65	2,814.68	2,955.42	3,103.19	3,258.35	3,421.26	3,592.24	3,771.94	3,960.54	32,111.27
	3.2 Train at least 300 key personnel of local and national government agencies and partners per year	X	X	X	3,290.00	3,454.50	3,627.23	3,808.59	3,999.02	4,198.92	4,408.91	4,629.36	4,860.83	5,103.87	41,381.21
	3.3 At least 10% of trained non-DENR personnel actively engaged in wildlife law enforcement related activities	X	X	X											
4. Implementation of specialized training sessions (e.g., wildlife ID and handling, specimen collection and preservation for forensics, cyber-crime investigation intelligence-led law enforcement, controlled delivery, communication planning, etc.)	4.1 At least one specialized training program with a minimum of 35 participants carried out per year	X	X	X	7,202.00	7,562.10	7,940.21	8,337.22	8,754.08	9,191.78	9,651.37	10,133.94	10,640.63	11,172.67	90,585.98
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>15,308.00</b>	<b>17,177.90</b>	<b>15,203.96</b>	<b>15,964.16</b>	<b>16,762.37</b>	<b>17,600.43</b>	<b>18,340.48</b>	<b>19,257.42</b>	<b>20,220.38</b>	<b>21,231.40</b>	<b>177,066.51</b>

**BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS (in million pesos)****Strategy 4. Communication, Education and Public Awareness**

Interventions	Targets	Time Frame			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				Total
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
1. Assessment of the level of public awareness on Philippine wildlife conservation and protection, and related laws	1.1 Develop survey questionnaires	X			2,299.00	2,413.95									4,712.95
	1.2 Conduct of actual survey based on standard methodology	X			4,610.00	4,840.50									9,450.50
	1.3 Analysis of survey results	X			670.00	703.50									1,373.50
2. Preparation of CEPA/WLE communication plan with impact assessment tool	2.1 Review of existing National and Regional CEPA/ Communication plan	X			911.00	956.50									1,867.50
	2.2 Development of National CEPA/Communication Plan on WLE (to consider Regional context)	X			1,087.50	1,141.87									2,229.37
	2.3 Impact assessment tool developed	X													
	2.4 Assessment of the impacts of CEPA activities		X		10,700.00	11,235.00									21,935.00
3. Development, production and dissemination of CEPA materials	3.1 Development of campaign materials (e.g. AVP, posters, leaflets, brochures, tarpaulins, comic-type materials, etc.)	X													
	3.2 Production of popular versions of RA 9147 and other related policies in at least 4 local languages e.g. Cebuano, Ilocano, Filipino, and Chavacano	X	X	X	4,848.00	5,090.40	5,344.92	5,612.17	5,892.77	6,187.41	6,496.78	6,821.66	7,162.70	7,520.84	60,977.66
	3.3 Dissemination of wildlife-related policies through all forms of media e.g., booklets, regional notification, posting in BMB and DENR websites and social media networks	X	X	X	120.00	126.00	132.30	138.92	145.86	153.15	160.81	168.85	177.29	186.14	1,509.32

Interventions	Targets	Time Frame			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				Total
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
4. Conduct of awareness campaign to educate communities and other stakeholders on the importance of healthy, balanced, and productive ecosystems, increase chances of reporting illegal activities, and reduce the incidence of wildlife crimes.	4.1 Conduct of contests (e.g., slogan-making, quiz bee, poster-making, jingle-making, photography, mobile app. development for reporting wildlife crime contest)	X	X	X	1,886.00	1,980.30	2,079.32	2,183.28	2,292.44	2,407.07	2,527.42	2,653.79	2,786.48	2,925.81	23,721.90
	4.2 Implementation of informal education programs (e.g. Dalaw-Turo/school caravans, orientation of barangay officials and local communities, radio plugs, TV ads, film showing in cinemas, installation of billboards in air/sea ports, hanging of tarpaulins in national and provincial roads, posting of posters/tarpaulins in bus stations)	X	X	X	15,878.85	16,672.79	17,506.43	18,381.75	19,300.84	20,265.88	21,279.18	22,343.14	23,460.29	24,633.31	199,722.47
Total					43,010.35	45,160.81	25,062.97	26,316.11	27,631.92	29,013.52	30,464.19	31,987.44	33,586.77	35,266.09	327,500.17



## BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS (in million pesos)

## Strategy 5. Improving Governance, Curbing Corruption

Interventions	Targets	Timeline			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				Total
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
1. Establishment of feedback mechanism	1.1 Review existing feedback mechanisms that can be applied to WLE	X	X	X	1,450.00	1,522.50	1,598.63	1,678.56	1,762.48	1,850.61	1,943.14	2,040.30	2,142.31	2,249.43	18,237.94
	1.2 Develop feedback mechanism on WLE				382.20	401.00	421.16	442.21	164.32	487.54	511.92	537.51	564.39	592.61	4,504.85
	1.3 Operationalize feedback mechanism				12.16	12.77	13.41	14.08	14.78	15.52	16.30	17.11	17.97	18.86	152.94
2. Mobilization and support to wildlife-related bodies, e.g. National and Regional Wildlife Management Committees, Philippine Plants Conservation Committee (PPCC), Philippine Red List Committee(PRLC), etc.	2.1 Conduct of regular meetings of wildlife-related bodies	X	X	X	9,900.00	10,395.00	10,914.75	11,460.49	12,033.51	12,635.19	13,266.95	13,930.29	14,626.81	15,358.15	124,521.13
3. Management of confiscated wild animals	3.1 Assessment of existing WRCs in terms of capacity and capability to maintain confiscated animals	X			2,833.20	2,974.86									5,808.06
	3.2 Streamlining, enhancement of existing and/or establishment of new WRCs, as necessary.	X	X	X	307,000.22	322,350.23	338,467.74	355,391.12	373,160.68	391,818.72	411,459.65	431,980.13	453,002.14	476,258.10	3,860,888.73
	3.3 Establishment of holding facilities in major trade hotspots	X			22,317.14	23,432.99									45,750.13
	3.4 CCTVS installed and operational in hotspot areas	X				1,800.00	1,890.00								3,690.00
	3.5 Dedicated fund in all regions allocated annually for the purchase of medical tools, supplies and equipment	X													
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>343,895</b>	<b>362,889</b>	<b>353,306</b>	<b>368,986</b>	<b>387,136</b>	<b>406,808</b>	<b>427,198</b>	<b>448,505</b>	<b>470,354</b>	<b>494,477</b>	<b>4,063,554</b>

## BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS (in million pesos)

## Strategy 6. Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

Interventions	Targets	Timeline			Short term		Medium Term				Long Term				Total
		S	M	L	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	
1. Monitoring compliance to reporting requirements	1.1 Regular and timely submission of quarterly WLE reports to the Office of the Secretary	X	X	X	2,252.97	2,365.62	2,483.90	2,608.09	2,738.50	2,875.42	3,019.19	3,170.15	3,328.66	3,495.09	28,337.59
2. Conduct of impact assessment of WLE efforts vis-à-vis implementation of the WildLEAP at regular interval (every 3 years)	2.1 Development of evaluation tool	X	X		1,098.80	1,153.74	1,212.00	1,272.00	1,335.60	1,402.38					7,474.51
	2.2 External evaluation of impact	X	X	X	686.00	720.30	756.32	794.13	833.84	875.53	919.31	965.27	1,013.53	1,064.21	8,628.43
	2.3 Mid-term review of WildLEAP		X					22.80		22.80				23.94	69.54
3. Development of mechanisms for monitoring of status of wildlife-related cases at DOJ and Judiciary/Supreme Court, as appropriate	3.1 Coordinate with DOJ and Judiciary/Supreme Court	X			75.00	78.75									153.75
4. Promotion of public participation in monitoring and reporting wildlife crimes	4.1 Updating and dissemination of directory of deputized and designated WEOs and WTMUs (from CENRO to national level)	X			250.00	262.00									512.00
	4.2 Design and promote the use of a system for real time reporting on wildlife crimes	X	X												
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>4,362.77</b>	<b>4,580.41</b>	<b>4,452.21</b>	<b>4,697.02</b>	<b>4,907.93</b>	<b>5,176.13</b>	<b>3,938.50</b>	<b>4,135.42</b>	<b>4,342.19</b>	<b>4,583.24</b>	<b>45,175.82</b>



# Acknowledgments

This Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028 could not have been developed without the initiative, guidance and invaluable help of many individuals, institutions and organizations that deserve due acknowledgements.

## **Advisory Team:**

BMB Director Crisanta Marlene P. Rodriguez  
BMB OIC-Assistant Director Armida P. Andres  
Dr. Theresa Mundita Lim (former BMB Director)  
Dr. Antonio Manila (former BMB Assistant Director)

## **Development Team:**

Ms. Josefina L. de Leon, Chief, Wildlife Resources Division, BMB  
Ms. Nermalie M. Lita, Chief, Wildlife Regulation Section, BMB  
Ms. Lorilie Salvador, Wildlife Resources Division, BMB  
Ms. Mary Grace B. Ulatan, Wildlife Resources Division, BMB  
Atty. Ronely Bisquera-Sheen, USDOJ-ITAP  
Atty. Justine Nicole Torres, Volunteer-writer  
Ms. Camille Sophia Nacion, Volunteer-writer  
Mary Jean A. Caleda, PhD, Consultant

## **Support Team:**

Dr. Esteven U. Toledo  
Dr. Rogelio D. Demelletes, Jr.  
Ms. Althea L. Abarquez  
Ms. Teresita B. Tomas  
Ms. Danica G. Darlucio  
Ms. Jessica R. Balite  
Ms. Sheena Crystal Dawn A. Rubin

## **Contributors:**

Ms. Marion Antonette Daclan, Sulu-Sulawesi Seascape Project, GIZ  
Atty. Edward Lorenzo, USAID-Protect Wildlife Project  
Atty. Marina Rabe-Manuel, USAID-Protect Wildlife Project  
Mr. Glenn M. Forbes, USAID-Protect Wildlife Project  
Mr. Randy Vinluan, USAID  
Ms. Kamille Jan Trillanes-Rosales, Biodiversity Finance Initiative Philippines Project  
Ms. Anabelle Plantilla, Biodiversity Finance Initiative Philippines Project  
Ms. Angelique F. Ogena, Biodiversity Finance Initiative Philippines Project  
For. Flordelino M. Rey, DENR-Office of the Assistant Secretary for Field Operations-  
Visayas

Engr. Roberto M. Aguda, DENR-Office of the Assistant Secretary for Field Operations-  
Visayas  
Ms. Llarina S. Mojica, DENR-Policy Studies Division  
Mr. Venerando U. Garcia, DENR-Policy Studies Division  
For. Kryshlaine Raquel, DENR-Office of the Assistant Secretary for Field Operations  
Mr. Isagani Amatorio, Forest Management Bureau  
Mr. Luigi Antonio Tungpalan, DENR-Central Office  
Atty. Romeo Bravo, DENR-CAR  
Mr. Julius Cawilan , DENR-CAR  
Mr. Henry Valeros, DENR-CAR  
Mr. Gilbert Mangliwan, DENR-CAR  
Ms. Veronica Banglot, DENR-CAR  
Mr. Mauricio Nead, DENR-CAR  
Ms. Richelle Ricohermoso, DENR-NCR  
Ms. Maricar Puno-Sanchez, DENR-NCR  
Mr. Allan N. Domingo, DENR-NCR  
Mr. Carlito Castañeda, DENR-NCR  
Mr. Glen Pastorfide, DENR-NCR  
Mr. Antonio Ridulme , DENR-Region I  
Atty. Arlyn Katherine C. Buduhan, DENR-Region I  
Ms. Marilyn Racoma, DENR-Region I  
Ms. Joey Zarate, DENR-Region I  
Ms. Sanrose Pulangco, DENR-Region II  
Ms. Cecilia Luzuriaga, DENR-Region II  
Mr. Jovencio Payba, DENR-Region II  
Ms. Minerva Paguigan, DENR-Region II  
Mr. Eliseo Mabasa, DENR-Region II  
Mr. Merlito Villar, DENR-Region III  
Mr. Fernando Reyes , DENR-Region III  
Ms. Minerva Martinez, DENR-Region III  
For. Fred Sadueste, DENR-Region III  
Mr. Ricky Hernandez, DENR-Region III  
Mr. Arnold A. Arbolado, DENR-CALABARZON  
Mr. Ramon Berbano, DENR- CALABARZON  
Ms. Elegia Tulio, DENR- CALABARZON  
Mr. Ernesto Diso, Jr., DENR- CALABARZON  
Mr. Ramil J. Gutierrez, DENR- CALABARZON  
Mr. Victor D. Ombajino, DENR- CALABARZON  
Ms. Florida Morada, DENR- CALABARZON  
Mr. Alexander Mancio, DENR-MIMAROPA  
Ms. Ma. Vivian Soriano, DENR-MIMAROPA  
Ms. Grace Mahilom, DENR- MIMAROPA  
Ms. Rhodora Ubani, DENR- MIMAROPA  
Ms. Clarissa Pador, DENR- MIMAROPA  
Mr. Danilo G. Patron, DENR- MIMAROPA  
Mr. Lino Dimapilis, DENR- MIMAROPA  
Mr. Jerry Bautista, DENR- MIMAROPA  
Mr. Thelmo Hernandez, DENR- MIMAROPA

Ms. Grace Cariño, DENR-Region V  
Mr. Noel Madrideo, DENR-Region V  
Ms. Annabelle M. Barquilla, DENR-Region V  
Ms. Myrna G. Baylon, DENR-Region V  
For. Rechilda Almazar, DENR-Region V  
Ms. Dolores Vargas, DENR-Region V  
Ms. Narisol Divina, DENR-Region V  
Ms. Merlene Aborka , DENR-Region VI  
Mr. Renato B. Andraje, DENR-Region VI  
Ms. Emelyn Peñaranda, DENR-Region VI  
Mr. Rainier A. Manlegro, DENR-Region VII  
Ms. Shelumiel L. Purisima, DENR-Region VII  
Ms. Ma. Clea Arceño, DENR-Region VII  
Mr. Ariel Rica, DENR-Region VII  
Ms. Eugenia Bautista, DENR-Region VIII  
Ms. Nena Daynos, DENR-Region VIII  
Mr. Kenneth Yves, Salon DENR-Region VIII  
Mr. Allen Cebuano, DENR-Region VIII  
Mr. Concordio Remoroza, DENR-NIR  
Mr. Rosendo Lopez, DENR-NIR  
Ms. Lucia Salazar, DENR-NIR  
Mr. Philip Lechoncito, DENR-NIR  
For. Rosie Pablico, DENR-NIR  
Mr. Marlo Llena, DENR-NIR  
For. Lemuel A. Soriano, DENR-NIR  
Ms. June Melissa Garol, DENR-Region IX  
Ms. Serena Cabrera, DENR-Region IX  
Mr. Cidur Julsadjiri, DENR-Region IX  
Mr. Edgardo Espinas, DENR-Region IX  
Ms. Arlene Gabayno, DENR-Region IX  
Mr. Virgilio A. Bais, DENR-Region X  
Mr. Reynaldo Benedictos, DENR-Region X  
Mr. Henry Halina, Jr., DENR-Region X  
Mr. Rustom Delada, DENR-Region X  
For. Roel Dahonog, DENR-Region X  
Mr. Gilbert Dragas, DENR-Region XI  
Mr. Victor Billones, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Lucille Arguero, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Conteza B. Arao-arao, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Ma. Theresa P. Ledardo, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Ma. Mercedes Dumagan, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Glenna Reba M. Cruz, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Angelique Elizalde, DENR-Region XI  
Mr. Brine E. Dumdum, DENR-Region XI  
Mr. Ronald Amacio, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. April Lepardo, DENR-Region XI  
Mr. Eduardo Ragaza, DENR-Region XI  
Mr. Morris Wryth Nononio, DENR-Region XI

Ms. Concepcion L. Apostol, DENR-Region XI  
Mr. Efren P. Flores, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Llane B. Bandong, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Darlyn Maglinab, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Josefina L. Bravo, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Mari Antoniette A. Andulana, DENR-Region XI  
Mr. Efren Tagorda, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Edriane Beth M. Tago, DENR-Region XI  
Ms. Jayvee Jude V. Agas, DENR-Region XI  
Dr. Cesar Guevarra, DENR-Region XII  
For. Dirie P. Macabaning, DENR-Region XII  
Ms. Emily Ampatuan, DENR-Region XII  
Ms. Jewel Padullon, DENR-CARAGA  
Ms. Claire Jamero, DENR- CARAGA  
Ms. Cleofie J. Aranas, DENR- CARAGA  
Mr. Modesto Lagumbay, DENR- CARAGA  
Ms. Felirose Magno, Armed Forces of the Philippines  
Mr. Amiel Abayon, Bureau of Customs  
SA I Jonathan Belmonte, Bureau of Customs  
SA I Elvin M. Enad, Bureau of Customs  
District Commander Paul O. Ditona, Bureau of Customs  
SP/LT. Angelito Cruz, Bureau of Customs  
Ms. Joshua Managula, Bureau of Customs  
Hon. Marissa L. Ednaco, Department of Justice  
Atty. Albert Angelo D. Villalon, Department of Justice  
Ms. Liezel Aquiatan, Department of Justice  
Ms. Elizabeth Abogado, LGU-Calapan  
Dr. Ronald Bernasor, LGU-Pasay  
Ms. Armi D. Francisco, LGU-Quezon City  
Mr. Arthur Paclibar, LGU-Zamboanga  
Dr. Maria Corazon B. Sepulveda, LGU-Davao City  
Agent Abner O. Tecson, National Bureau of Investigation  
Mr. Nolan Gadia, National Bureau of Investigation  
Atty. Edwin Romano, National Bureau of Investigation  
Mr. Geraldo de Luna, National Bureau of Investigation  
Engr. Laureano Tugas II, National Bureau of Investigation  
SI Rio C. Ponsones, National Bureau of Investigation  
Atty. Ariel Ross Calub, National Bureau of Investigation  
Bro. Martin Francisco, BSMP NGO-Sagip Sierra Madre  
Bro. Gregory M. Mendoza, BSMP NGO-Sagip Sierra Madre  
Mr. Christopher Mariano Yu, NGO-Turtle Conservation Society of the Philippines  
LCDR. Laberny M. Ikan, PCG Philippine Coast Guard  
Mr. Kristian B. Genita, Philippine Coast Guard  
Mr. Kenneth Ronar A. Cabico, Philippine Coast Guard  
Ms. Jessica Lorraine Young, Philippine Coast Guard  
CDR Famela Aspuria, Philippine Coast Guard  
Ens Jack Ryan Basitao, PCG Philippine Coast Guard  
LCDR Agapito B. Bibat, PCG Philippine Coast Guard

Mr. Rommel X. Wassig, Philippine Coast Guard  
LTJG. Grace F. Idos, Philippine Coast Guard  
Lt. Robinson Madriaga, Philippine Coast Guard  
PCInsp. Edwin Cura, Philippine Center on Transnational Crime  
LCDR Roy Alfaro, Philippine Navy  
Mr. Edmar Andes, Philippine Navy  
Ms. Marion Ivy Abenoja Escobar, Philippine Navy  
COC Pedrito C. Dulanas, Jr., Philippine Navy  
Lt. Freddie Navarro, Philippine Navy  
PO3 Joer Jim M. Jimeno, Philippine National Police  
PO2 Janet C. Arnego, Philippine National Police  
PSUPT. Ronie S. Bacuel, Philippine National Police  
PSUPT. Wilson O. Delos Santos, Philippine National Police  
SSUPT. Rhoderick Armamento, Philippine National Police  
Mr. George Sali-em, Philippine National Police  
Mr. Chester Dacua, Philippine National Police  
PSSUPT. Ernesto Flores, Philippine National Police  
PSUPT. Juell Neil O. Salcedo, Philippine National Police  
PO2 Jayson Kent L. Jadraque, Philippine National Police  
PSI Alpasar Haber, Philippine National Police  
PCI Genie L. Balubal, Philippine National Police  
PO3 Rosabelle M. Bitayo, Philippine National Police  
Psupt. Harry Lorenzo III, PNP-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG)  
Ms. Mylene Petalio, PNP-Maritime Group  
PO2 Carlo A. Capuno, PNP-Maritime Group  
PO2 Joseff Erick Von Occena, PNP-Maritime Group  
PSupt. Crisostomo Ubac, PNP-Maritime Group  
Mr. Francis Robert A. Maralit, Philippine Ports Authority  
Ms. Suzie M. Huelgas, Philippine Ports Authority  
Port Police Chief Inspector Mary Pauleneth A. Miraples, Philippine Ports Authority  
Mr. Erdie S. Cocoy, Philippine Ports Authority  
PPCI Felix Angelo Quianzon, Philippine Ports Authority  
Mr. Reynaldo C. Galicha, Philippine Ports Authority  
Mr. Ponciano L. Mojica, National Intelligence Coordinating Agency  
Capt. Jesus R. Nava, PN (GSC Armed Forces of the Philippines )  
Ms. Felirose Magno, GSC, AFP  
Col. Joel B. Fernandez PAF (GSC), AFP  
Ms. Feli Rose B. Magno, AFP  
Major Henry M. Guillermo, AFP  
Ms. Alma Sario



