

# 2023

# ANNUAL REPORT





# PhilBio

*Biodiversity in Action*

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## Office Address

Door 1, Northland, 12th Street Lacson, 6100  
Bacolod City, Negros Occidental  
Philippines

## Contact number

+63 34 435-8209

## Email

info@philbio.org.ph

## Access online through:

[www.philbio.org.ph](http://www.philbio.org.ph)



Philippines Biodiversity Conservation  
Foundation, Inc. (PBCFI)



@philbio1990



@pbcfi

Front Cover: Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park by Philip Godfrey Jakosalem

Back cover: Dipterocarps of Hinobaan by Lisa Paguntalan

Lisa J. Paguntalan, Christian R. Casio, Philip Godfrey C. Jakosalem,  
Andrew Ross T. Reintar, Javica Faye Canag, Hannah Torres - Sarao, Girlie  
Mangilimutan and Erika Lobaton. 2023 PhilBio Annual Report. Philippines  
Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc. 2023.

with contributions from

Gerrie Mae Flores, Andrie Bon Flores, Pedro Villarta, Melvin Rada, RJ  
Pabilonia, Rose Marie Getida, Jennifer Therese Paradero and Lorry  
Alcala

Photos: Godfrey Jakosalem, Joseph Marc Caceres, Andrew Ross Reintar,  
Lisa J. Paguntalan, Christian Casio and Jennifer Therese Paradero



# Message

## Executive Director

On-track to achieve national targets aligned with the global biodiversity goals. That wraps up the year 2023. **In line with PhilBio's vision and mission**, the 2023 projects and activities focused on species, ecosystems and people. Strengthening our areas of focus and expanding to conservation sites of interest through partnerships were key in achieving our biodiversity targets.

I was once again reminded this year that the PhilBio team have built an organization with integrity, strengthened partnerships with key stakeholders and transforming into a national force.

The partnership with the **Biodiversity Management Bureau of DENR, UNDP Philippines - BioFin Project** and the **USAID INSPIRE Project** helped us pursue our goal in securing unprotected rainforests on Negros, Panay. The unexpected partnership with the **Forest Foundation Philippines Inc. (FFP)** in facilitating the updating of the Philippines Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) to align this with the Kunming - Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF) and the 30 x 30 global targets.

**Investing in our people** - Our people are at the heart of our ability to deliver our purpose. As we remain committed in delivering better conservation results, we continue to provide knowledge, experience and guidance to the PhilBio team.



**Lisa J. Paguntalan**  
Executive Director

**Strengthening partnerships and leadership role** - While we all struggle to face conservation challenges, I am optimistic that we can make important progress working with key decision-makers, inspiring people and having a grounded purpose.

PhilBio's track record demonstrates its ability to manage in difficult times and our competitive advantage is much stronger now than 10 years ago. This very strength fuels our ability to secure important unprotected sites and advocate for the wise use of the resources.

All these were made possible because of the strong support of the partners, volunteers, donors, friends, family and most importantly to the commitment of our dedicated and passionate technical team and very supportive Board Members.

We celebrate our achievements but we are unto our next set of targets. We persevere in the most challenging areas where conservation is most needed. We persevere and remain accountable as we strive to further raise the conservation standards for the benefit of the future generations of Filipinos.



# OUR VISION

The long-term conservation of the Philippines' native and endemic wildlife and natural habitats for the benefit of future generations of all peoples who may inhabit and share the natural resources of the country.





# OUR MISSION

To enhance and enable the conservation of the Philippines unique and threatened environment, biodiversity and natural resources into perpetuity, through the establishment of integrated biodiversity conservation and development programs that include conservation breeding, dissemination of knowledge, management practices and the active participation and collaboration of relevant stakeholders, particularly those who are dependent upon the natural resources of the region.







# **BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH, SURVEY AND MONITORING**

*Phalaenopsis aphrodite* at San Remigio, Antique

# West Philippine Sea: Seabird Survey (Lawak and Pag-asa Islands)

Counting breeding birds in the remote island of Lawak, the fourth largest of the Philippine-occupied islands and part of the West Philippine Sea, as part of the baseline information gathered under the initiative of the Department of Tourism Region IV-B in collaboration with Tubbataha Management Office on November 14-19, 2023. PhilBio Field Operations Director Godfrey Jakosalem counted population of breeding birds.

**12,297**  
active nests counted

**4,401**  
adult seabirds recorded



egg of Sooty tern

A total of 12,297 active nests were counted, while a total of 4,401 adult seabirds were also recorded. With the high population present within these small islands, the Department of Tourism Central Office, DOT MIMAROPA, Provincial Tourism - Palawan, Joint-process Media Planning Business System, the Municipality of Kalayaan, and the Philippine Coast Guard shall continually monitor the population of seabirds within Lawak and Pag-asa Islands.



Nesting Sooty terns in Lawak and Pag-asa Islands.





# BIODIVERSITY LENS ON Majestic KANLAON

Monitored since 2018, the Northern Negros biodiversity monitoring is a long-term study characterize different taxa like birds, bats, reptiles, and amphibians, while also looking at the river bottom inhabitant and water quality of the different rivers. In comparison from the 2021 data, these are the main highlights from the recent monitoring:



Two of the Impact (downstream) sites recovered from Poor condition to Sub-optimal conditions



Bird species abundances showed varying results with some species showing increasing trends



Invasive Asian Painted Frog *Kaloula pulchra* was recorded for the first time in Wasay



Forest – dependent bat abundances increased while species associated with clearings have decreased



Biodiversity indices for birds, bats, reptiles and amphibians have fluctuated but appears to be within the expected range



Total number of amphibians and reptiles known in the area have more than doubled since 2006



Relative abundance of Hazel's Forest Frog *Platymantis hazelae* (IUCN Vulnerable) showed an increasing trend

## Management Recommendations



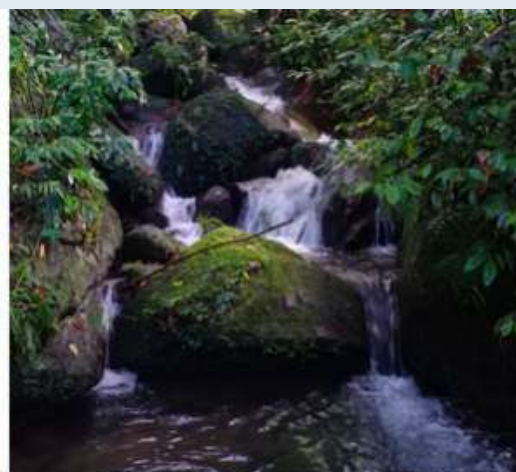
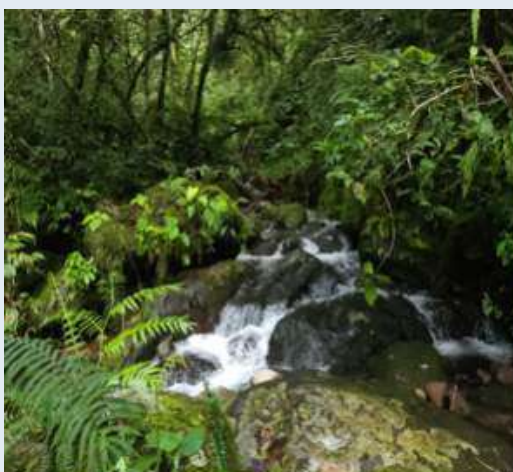
Continue patrolling in Simaguan - Mangogon-cogon, Dinagaan and Old CAGU camp areas



Treatment for infected / wounded Almaciga mother trees



Public awareness at the sitio and barangays levels within and adjacent the sites



Rhotos showing different sampling sites within EDC buffer zones / MKNP: Bangkoyo River (right), and Mangogon-cogon River (left)



A photograph of an Oriental Darter perched on a thick, horizontal tree branch. The bird is facing right, with its long, slender neck extended upwards and its sharp, yellowish-brown beak pointed towards the top right. Its plumage is primarily dark blue-black, with a lighter, iridescent blue-grey on its neck and head. The background is a dense, out-of-focus thicket of brown and tan branches and leaves, suggesting a natural, wooded habitat. The text "WETLANDS AND LANDSCAPES" is overlaid in the center of the image in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a red outline.

# WETLANDS AND LANDSCAPES

*Oriental Darter at Tawi-Tawi*



## National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (2024 -2034) **DENR partners with PhilBio in updating PBSAP 2024-2034**

Over 260 participants from six regions in Mindanao participated in the updating of the Philippines Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan organized by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Biodiversity Management Bureau in partnership with PhilBio, Forest Foundation Philippines, USAID SIBOL Project of RTI -International, and UNDP BIOFIN. PhilBio assisted in organizing and facilitating the two regional cluster workshops in Mindanao as part of the updating of the Philippines Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP).

Of the more than 260 participants, 17 were from civil society organizations (CSO) and non-government organizations (NGO), six were from the private sector; sixteen were from the academe and six were Indigenous Peoples from Mindanao.

Key to the success of the consultation-workshops was the involvement of major stakeholders and the strong participation from government agencies other than the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Of the six regions, the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) was the most well represented group with strong participation from the local government units, Ministry of Environment Natural Resources and Energy (MENRE), academic institutions, private sector and the indigenous peoples. Issues and concerns in implementing a landscape and seascape level approach were discussed lengthily. A number of local issues and concerns e.g. mining, marshland/wetland protection and proposed development, renewable energy inside key biodiversity areas and protected areas as well as the low representation of indigenous peoples in the planning process were also highlighted .



*Experts, resource persons and facilitators during the Regional updating of the PBSAP for Northeastern Mindanao*



# FIRST GLIMPSE OF LIGAWASAN MARSH

The Ligawasan Marsh is a marsh in the Mindanao River basin in the southern portion of Mindanao spanning the provinces of North Cotabato, Maguindanao del Sur and Sultan Kudarat. The local communities within the marsh have used the waters as food source and easy transportation. All enthusiastic what lies within their waters, the Municipality of General Salipada K. Pendatun in collaboration with the Provincial Government of Maguindanao del Sur have invited PhilBio and other experts to assess the biological properties of Ligawasan. A rapid waterbird assessment with data collection and training on water quality and peatland sampling was participated by the staff of GSKP and the province, and representatives from the different municipal local government units.

## PEATLAND CONFIRMED

in Ligawasan Marsh within the jurisdiction of GSKP with

**94.87% peat soil  
concentration**



Presence of a peatland ecosystem is confirmed within the jurisdiction of GSKP in Ligawasan Marsh bringing the total type of wetlands from three to four (peatland, marsh, artificial and open water). Peat soil analysis showed a high concentration of peat soil of up to 94% (range of 43.6-94.87%) peat in some areas of the peatland.

### Significant bird species recorded

# 66

bird species recorded

# 3

threatened  
species

# 5

Philippine  
endemic  
species



*Comb-crested Jacana*



*Pheasant-tailed Jacana*



*Purple Heron*



*Philippine Swamphen*



*Philippine Duck*



*Black-backed Swamphen*

*Comb-crested Jacana*  
*Irediparra gallinacea*  
*gallinacea*



A total of 66 waterbirds from 27 families were recorded in the wetlands of GSKP. Of the 66 bird species, 55 were breeding resident, five were endemic, 11 were migratory and three threatened species. The top five most abundant birds were Whiskered Tern (46.2%), Javan



Pond Heron (12.6%), Comb Crested Jacana (7.7%), Philippine (Purple) Swampphen (6.2%) and Purple Heron (5.65%). The endemic and Vulnerable Philippine Duck shares 3.6% (112 individuals) of the bird population in the area. This also means that Ligawasan Marsh supports at least 1% of the global population of the Philippine Duck.

In terms of water quality, the physico-chemical properties of the four sampling stations in the wetland almost did not vary in terms of pH, temperature, nitrates and phosphates. The water was neutral with pH ranging from 7.3 – 7.4. Temperature appears to be consistent in all sampling sites at 25 degrees Celsius. All stations were contaminated with fecal coliform bacteria with one station showing levels way beyond tolerable limits.

## POSITIVE of FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

**all 4 sampling stations  
exceeded the recommended  
fecal coliform bacteria levels  
with Station 4 exceeding  
tolerable limits**

Freshwater plant species were also noted. Presence of invasive alien species of aquatic plants and freshwater fishes even in the less disturbed sections of the marsh. Management recommendations including facilitating the legal protection of the marsh were provided in the report.

### Freshwater plants observed



*Nymphaea pubescens*  
Native



*Nymphoides indica*  
Native



*Pontederia crassipes*  
Exotic - invasive



*Pistia stratiotes*  
Exotic - invasive



*Salvinia molesta*  
Exotic - invasive





# Waterbirds of Tawi-Tawi

The Province of Tawi-Tawi have participated the Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) led by CENRE Abdulmukim Maruji. A total of 48 species of birds from 21 families were recorded during the assessment. Of the 48 species, 31 are waterbird and 17 are terrestrial. Eight threatened species were recorded during the assessment including the Critically Endangered (DAO 2019-09 & IUCN Red List) Christmas island frigatebird *Fregata andrewsi*, the Endangered Far-eastern curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*, Great knot *Calidris tenuirostris*, Beach thick knee *Esacus magnirostris* and Brown booby *Sula leucogaster*, the Vulnerable Chinese egret *Egretta eulophotes*, Malaysian plover *Charadrius peronii* and Greater crested tern *Thalasseus bergii*.

**48**  
bird species  
recorded

**8**  
threatened  
species

## Threatened waterbirds species of Tawi-Tawi

Species	DENR DAO 2019-09	IUCN Red List
Christmas island frigatebird <i>Fregata andrewsi</i>	CR	CR
Far-eastern curlew <i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>	EN	EN
Great knot <i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>	EN	EN
Beach thick knee <i>Esacus magnirostris</i>	EN	NT
Brown booby <i>Sula leucogaster</i>	EN	LC
Chinese egret <i>Egretta eulophotes</i>	VU	VU
Malaysian plover <i>Charadrius peronii</i>	VU	NT
Great crested tern <i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	VU	LC



Chinese Egret



Bar-tailed Godwit



Great Knot



Lesser Frigatebird



Beach thick-knee

Aside from bird assessment, the team also conducted a lecture on the rich biodiversity of Tawi-tawi, and the importance of wetlands and waterbirds to 26 grade-school students of Tabawan Integrated School in East South Ubian.

**26**  
grade-school  
students  
attended the  
lecture



Intertidal sandbar at Panampangan Island in Sapa-sapa, Tawi-Tawi.

# How a national high school ruled urban biodiversity

The beginnings of this journey can be traced back to the difficult times of the pandemic, when BCNHS students began bird assessment study guided by Dir. Lisa Paguntalan and Sir Godfrey Jakosalem of PhilBio. PhilBio's persistent support, including the supply of necessary equipment and guidance, not only reinforced the research efforts but also ignited a learning ripple effect that touched the lives of many more students.

As the collaboration grew, BCNHS students secured not one, but five biodiversity studies with PhilBio within the campus of BCNHS. The students' commitment not only demonstrated the students' academic abilities, but also their shared commitment to promoting the cause of biodiversity research. Their outputs were presented on the LGU of Bacolod City. Part of the involvement includes the distribution of printed copies with baseline information on plant diversity and urban wildlife in the city.

The partnership had a far-reaching influence, winning regional and national recognition and appreciation. BCNHS students won both the Student Oral and Poster Presentation categories at the Biodiversity Conservation Society of the Philippines' 31st Annual Symposium, which took place at Sorsogon State University - the highest recognition the students received. The accomplishment was not easy, so praises are given for everyone's tireless work. The accolades continued to roll in, winning numerous provincial and regional symposia and contests.

BCNHS students established the spirit of collaboration and stewardship that defined their partnership with PhilBio as they presented their research findings and shared their ideas with the larger community. They assured that the legacy of their partnership with PhilBio would go on, inspiring future generations to take up the mantle of biodiversity protection with pride and enthusiasm.

## **FIRST PLACE WINNERS** on both Student Oral and Poster Presentation categories at the BCSP's 31st Annual Symposium





## Bold Moves and Noble Acts: A PhilBio Intern's POV

*"Beyond this semblance of positivity lies a tug-of war between I can and I cannot, of whether I should go or I should not."*

*Back then, I had always questioned myself: Am I fit to join such expedition? Am I going to survive out there? Am I really in the right course? That was me before July 19, 2023—the day when things started to change, when those doubts began to shrink until I could barely hear those voices questioning my capabilities.*

*"It was not easy. It was very challenging, but I would surely miss those days."*

*For almost two weeks, we lived without electricity and phone signal. We trudged miry terrains and slippery trails. Scratches, bruises, fungal infections, and insect bites marred our arms and legs. We witnessed firsthand the might of Typhoon Egay; and experienced heavy rain, strong winds, chilling temperatures, and thick fogs. Yet, if I were to rethink my life's decision, still I would choose to go on camping at 900+ masl, spend around 3-6 hours a day trekking in a dense forest, sleep until midnight to process all collected plant samples, encounter face-to-face those species that were once only known to me in photos, talk in front of public officials and esteemed guests, and join this OJT to work with amazing people pushing a noble goal—to protect nature.*

*"Gina Lopez once said, 'Paradise is not made of buildings; it is made of people.' I guess she was right."*

*To work in a great team was a privilege. Our PhilBio mentors had been the kind of people that, though were well versed in their fields, were not intimidating. Instead of building walls, they opened the doors to their inspiring lives and helped us see the beauty of the field of biodiversity conservation.*



OJT students of MSU-IIT during the biological assessment at San Remigio, Antique



*I also had the best OJT-mates and OJT professor with me. From funny convos to horror stories, our laughter echoed at the camping grounds of Aningalan. Even more, the cottages of Icbaclag witnessed how these cheerful souls turned on “serious mode” when processing collected samples from the field. Of course, I have high respect to all the local guides that have been with us since Day 1. They have been our “walking maps” and “talking identification guides” in the field, but, most especially, they are the living proofs that expertise needs no diploma.*

*“Knowledge had been acquired. Experience had been gained. A bond had been formed.”*

*Perhaps, the most precious thing that I brought home from this endeavor was the bond that was built at the high grounds of San Remigio, tested at the rugged terrain of the Southern Central Panay Mountains, and fortified by the strong winds of Typhoon Egay. This is something that I would surely cherish for life and, well, miss so much.*

*“A favorite song of mine says, ‘Cause once you see it, oh, you’ll never, never be the same.”*

*I guess, I made the right decision. I picked the right course. Sure, I still have a lot to improve and I have not seen much of the world yet; but this aspiring biologist is on her way, ready to take the next bold move and be part of a noble act—to stand in behalf of Mother Nature. They say ‘go out of your comfort zone’ but I say: ‘Conquer fears, silence doubts, push boundaries, and expand your comfort zone.’*

*“Neither a photo with the highest resolution nor a thousand flowering words are enough to encapsulate how memorable the experience was and how grateful I am for the opportunity.”*



*Jennifer inside the forests of San Remigio, Antique*



*Plants team measuring the DBH of a dipterocarp tree*





# CONSERVATION SITE ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT

*Sicogon Island Wildlife Sanctuary*



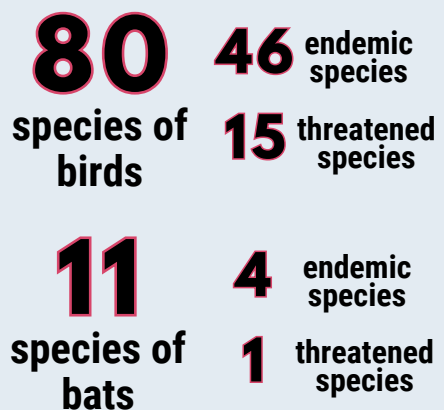
# Discovering Central Panay Mountains

The Central Panay Mountain Range (CPMR) is an unprotected forest despite being the lifeblood of four provinces and 16 municipalities on Panay Island. It has a total area of 76,000 hectares and population stronghold for numerous endemic and threatened wildlife, such as the Critically Endangered species Visayan Warty Pig (*Sus cebifrons*), and Rufous-headed Hornbill (*Rhabdotorrhinus waldeni*). In 2018, the Regional Development Council of Region VI passed RDC-VI Resolution 2018-62 requesting the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Region VI and Biodiversity Management Bureau to conduct Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) of CPMR as a protected area. The strategic location of CPMR at the core of Panay is a major consideration in looking into the entire landscape and seascape attributes of the island.

The PhilBio in partnership with the Province of Antique, Municipality of San Remigio and DENR PENRO Antique conducted a wildlife field course and assessment as part of the BioSECURE Project of PhilBio and in support to the declaration of CPMR as protected area.

All enthusiastic and excited, the assessment team composed of PhilBio, staff and locals from the Municipality of San Remigio and OJTs from the Mindanao State University - Iligan Institute of Technology braved the cold and strong winds at the forests of San Remigio.

The assessment has recorded 80 bird species including the critically endangered Rufous-headed Hornbill and Negros Bleeding-heart. For bats, 11 species were recorded, 29 species of herpetofauna (18 reptiles, 11 amphibians) and over 225 species of plants.





# Negros Wildlife and the Bukidnon Magahat

The Bukidnon Magahat Indigenous Peoples tribe inhabits portions within the Southwestern Negros in both Negros Oriental and Occidental. The Southwestern Negros is a Key Biodiversity Area (SWN-KBA), which received high regards towards the area's protection and conservation from the IP tribe. Moreover, is the remaining large lowland forest patch in Negros Island. The Bukidnon Magahat IP, in collaboration with the LGU of Hinoba-an and DENR, are the front runners of the area's protection, mainly through forest rehabilitation, regular patrolling, and establishing of fire line to prevent forest fires, among others. The Bukidnon Magahat tribe has fully understood the importance of their biodiversity as one of the remaining habitats of some Philippine endemic species, and as major sources of their daily sustenance, i.e. water, food, protection from natural calamities and source of livelihood. The once illegal loggers now fully understood the importance of their biodiversity, and are fully committed for its preservation.

**35** participants from the Indigenous People community, DENR and LGU Hinobaan.

As effective stewards of conservation in the area, PhilBio has maximized their capabilities to improve the monitoring of their biodiversity. The IP members from the 4 clusters spent 3 days familiarizing all about birds - bird identification, choosing of monitoring sites, bird monitoring methods and monitoring equipment. Discussions on the tagging of mother trees and food plants of birds was also included as monitoring of food plants and habitats of birds is also important. Every IP member showed cooperation, dedication and enthusiasm as the discussions and training went, and few together with their wives. They get to know the different birds that they collectively call as 'tamsi' and 'punay', introduced to the common English names of birds, recognized some of the bird calls, and challenge themselves in describing bird species. They become more excited in applying these learnings on actual monitoring works and assessment, and committed to share these to the other members of the tribe. They committed to use these valuable learnings for the continuous protection and improvement of their remaining forests.



*Participants of the Wildlife Identification Training*



# Youth Leads the Way: 1st Biodiversity Camp in Hinoba-an

“Ang Kabataan ang Pag-asa ng Bayan”. PhilBio recognizes the participation of the youth is vital for biodiversity conservation. The youth sector comprises 28% of the total population of the Philippines. Their support matters on biodiversity and the survival of humanity.

A total of 36 members of the youth sector participated in the Youth Biodiversity Camp 2023 conducted in partnership with the Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO) of Hinoba-an, managed by the BioSECURE Project of PhilBio with funding from USAID INSPIRE Project of the Gerry Roxas Foundation. The three-day bio-camp was filled with educational and fun activities that enabled the youth to gain first-hand experience, develop and practice their leadership capacities and teamwork, be responsible stewards of biodiversity, improve their ability to plan and be involved in conservation action. Specifically, the activities aim to let them learn the following: a) importance of resource mobilization in reaching a common goal, b) importance of maximizing the strengths and knowing the weaknesses of each member and the team, c) how to basically characterize a forest, d) how to mobilize members from different groups (sectors) in implementing an activity / project, and e) how to plan a realistic activity / project.

The participants have realized that these learnings were considered as puzzle pieces that will help them create a better picture of themselves. One participant also shared that this camp was the first to have both the IP youth and school youth participate in a single camp allowing them to interact and collaborate cooperatively. Overall, gratitude and excitement filled the eyes of the participants as they were thankful and hopeful for the opportunities, and excited for the forests of Hinoba-an and of the whole Negros Island.



*Participants of the Biodiversity Youth Camp 2023*



# SAVING ENDANGERED WILDLIFE ON SICOOGON ISLAND

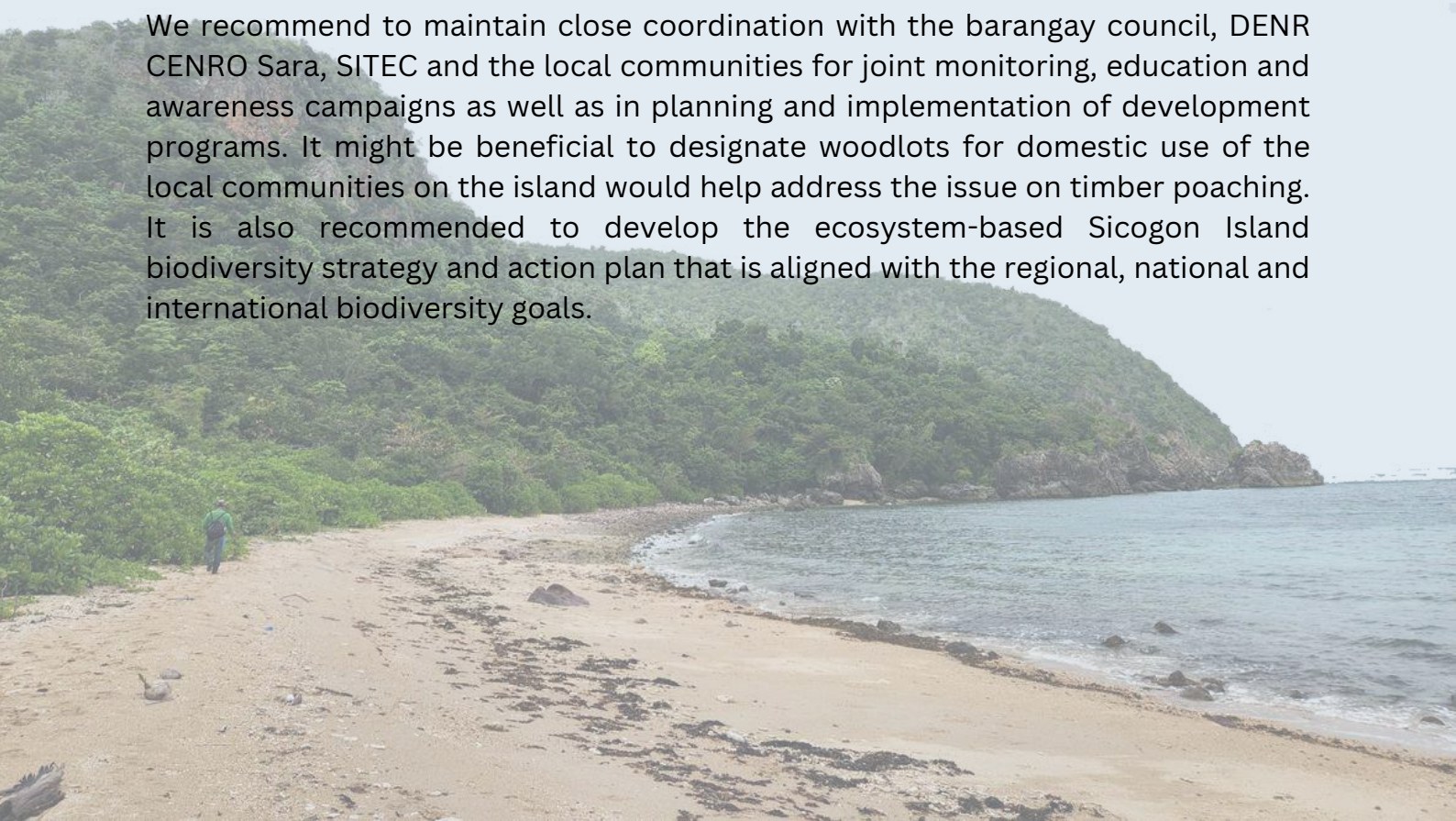
Confirming wild populations of the Critically Endangered Visayan Warty Pig *Surcebifrons*, Vulnerable Philippine Duck *Anas luzonica*, Visayan Flowerpecker and new records of plants were among the highlights of the rapid site assessment on the wildlife on Sicogon Island. Near-threatened species encountered include the Philippine Scrubfowl *Megapodius cumingi pusillus* (locally known as Tabon) and the Marbled Water Monitor *Varanus nuchalis*. A one-day training on basic bird identification and use of equipment combined with field activity was also conducted with the staff of Huni Resort.

A total of 12 Tabon nest mounds were found where eight (8) were active and four (4) were inactive. A total of seven (7) eggs were laid and six (6) were poached the day before the assessment. Nest site characteristics were collected to determine factors influencing nest site selection.

There were 120+ flowering plants (angiosperms), gymnosperms and ferns recorded in the area. Two orchid species were added to the list of known plants on the island including a species of *Gastrodia*. Among the wildlife food plants identified were the *Canarium luzonicum*, *Canarium euryphyllum* (pili) and few *Ficus* species. Some sections of the island including the trail to the lagoon was invaded with the invasive and alien species *Lucaena leucocephala* (ipil-ipil).

Poaching of the Philippine Scrubfowl eggs combined with compaction of their nesting sites pose a threat to the species' population on the island. Selective timber poaching for lumber, household use and charcoal were among the observed activities in the forests.

We recommend to maintain close coordination with the barangay council, DENR CENRO Sara, SITEC and the local communities for joint monitoring, education and awareness campaigns as well as in planning and implementation of development programs. It might be beneficial to designate woodlots for domestic use of the local communities on the island would help address the issue on timber poaching. It is also recommended to develop the ecosystem-based Sicogon Island biodiversity strategy and action plan that is aligned with the regional, national and international biodiversity goals.



# Waterbird Monitoring with DENR NCR

Thirty-two (32) participants from DENR NCR, representatives from the local government units of Las Piñas and Parañaque, students and teachers from academic institutions, and local communities took part in the four-day field training in Las Piñas - Parañaque Wetland Park (LPPWP). The field training covered a range of topics from the use of equipment, materials, and skills in waterbird and wetland monitoring protocols so that the design of their monitoring program can be improved or expanded.

Resource Persons from the PhilBio provided inputs how to design and implement surveys, waterbird identification, mist-netting, bird handling, bird ringing/banding, count training tools and habitat monitoring, field sessions to practice survey methods, data entry and analysis and presenting results to decision-makers.

The participants expressed a high level of satisfaction with the field training and workshop. They have expressed their interest to share their experiences, train others and participate in bird monitoring activities in the region e.g. Annual Waterbird Count. Among the next steps of activities identified by LPPWP include updating the monitoring system, adopting the point count system and use of indicator birds for terrestrial ecosystem, integrating bird monitoring in citizen science activities, strengthening network with nearby urban green spaces and wetlands and publication of bird monitoring results in peer-reviewed journal.



*Photos during the training at Las Piñas - Parañaque Wetland Park with DENR NCR staff. Pacific Golden Plover and Grey-tailed Tattler (left above), presentation on silhouettes identification of terrestrial birds (left below) and DENR NCR staff establishing a mist net (right).*



# Updates on the Negros Occidental Coastal Wetlands Conservation Area (NOCWCA)

## Asian Waterbird Census 2022

A total of 42,746 waterbirds were recorded during the AWC 2022. This was participated by DENR Offices (PENRO Negros Occidental, CENRO Kabankalan City, CENRO Bago City and CENRO Cadiz City), with ENRO staff of LGUs, POs and PhilBio. This is huge increase from the previous results of 2022 with 18,000 individuals.

**42,746** total waterbird counted

Areas counted per City / Municipality	No. of species recorded	Total no. of Waterbirds counted
Municipality of Hinigaran	30	1418
Himamaylan City	38	1002
Kabankalan City	54	5152
Municipality of Ilog	59	18934
Municipality of Binalbagan	29	961
Municipality of Pontevedra and San Enrique	50	12594
Municipality of Valladolid	10	541
Municipality of Pulpandan	30	1874
Bago City	21	270
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>42,746</b>



First documented record of Pied Avocet in Negros Island and Western Visayas

A Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* was seen and recorded last January 17, 2023 during the conduct of Asian Waterbird Census at Brgy. Latasan, E.B. Magalona, Negros Occidental.

A group composed of DENR, staff from LGU of EB Magalona, PhilBio and volunteer students from Tanza National High School conducted AWC at Brgy Latasan, E.B. Magalona when the waterbird was seen wandering around a vacant fishpond. It blended together with some Black-winged and Pied stilts, but its upward bill was very peculiar making the specie noticeable. Conservation and Development Section Chief of PENRO Neg. Occ,. Forester Rosie Pablico checked the 2021 and 2022 AWC data and further confirmed that it was the first record of the species in the island and in Western Visayas.

A large group of people, mostly wearing white t-shirts with a colorful parrot logo, are posing for a group photo in front of a building with a large, yellow, conical dome. The group is arranged in several rows, with some people kneeling in the front. The building's facade features a decorative pattern of white and orange triangles. The text "CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND AWARENESS" is overlaid in large, bold, white letters with a red outline.

# CONSERVATION EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

*Dulungan Month Celebration at the Province of Antique*



# 1st PhilBio Wildlife Field Course

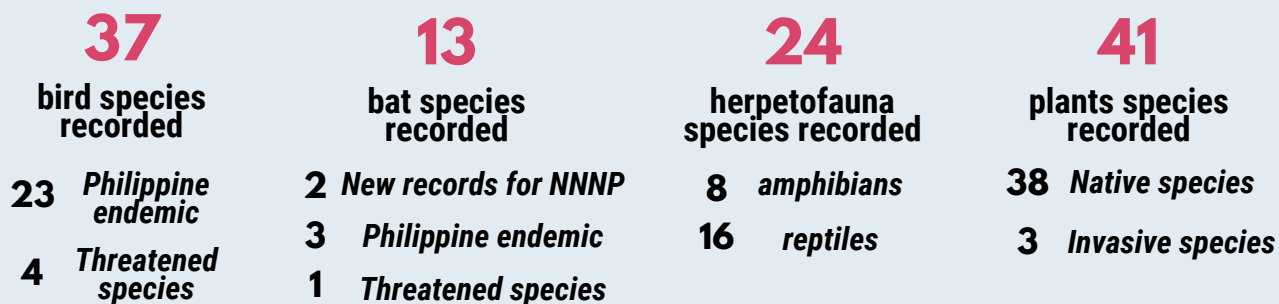
Forty (40) participants from Cebu, Negros, Panay and Mindanao from the academe, DENR, LGUs, NGOs & private company were fully geared for the 5-day Wildlife Field Course at Gawahon Eco-Park, Victorias City, a part of the Northern Negros Natural Park (NNNP).

The participants were grouped to four (bats, birds, herpetofauna and plants) wherein they get to practice their monitoring method and at the same time, gather biological data. Part of the training is to come up with a monitoring protocol to be adopted by Gawahon Eco-Park and by the DENR Offices and LGU.



As the training went on, camaraderie of the groups also developed. The participants showed how teams should work with the available resources that they have in reaching to the same goals. The training also became an avenue for them to share their experiences from the field and how can they apply these to their respective areas. Most importantly, the training has provided data for the management of the protected area.

The training also produced promising biological results for Gawahon Eco-Park:

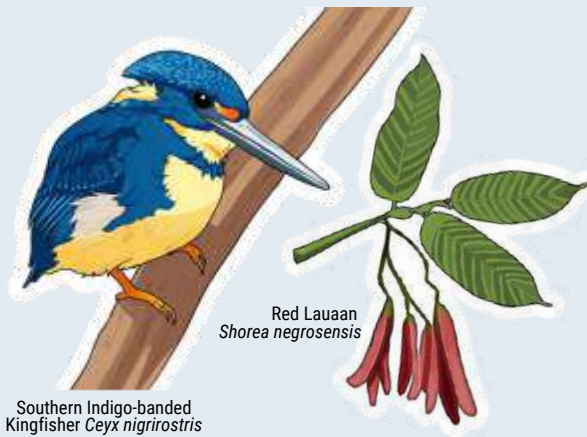


Participants, facilitators and resource persons of the 1st PhilBio Wildlife Field Course.

# 19th Negros Wildlife Month Festival

For its 19th year, the Provincial Environment Management Office (PEMO) of the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental organized the 19th Provincial Wildlife Month Festival partner's meeting attended by 100 representatives from local government units, academe, government offices and CSOs. This was first time since the pandemic that the biodiversity partners of Negros Occidental has gathered.

**100** representatives from LGUs, academe, government offices and CSOs attended the meeting



The flagship species for the 19th Wildlife Month Festival are the Southern Indigo-banded kingfisher *Ceyx nigrirostris* and Red Lauaan *Shorea negrosensis* with the theme “Kahoy nga Lawaan, kag pispis nga Salaksakan, Diri sa Negros ginapadamo kag ginahalungan,” giving direct emphasis on the species and the type of ecosystem they are thriving, which should be the main headline of the festival - watersheds.

## Negros Wildlife Foot Parade and Headdress Competition

The 19th Provincial Wildlife Month Festival was opened through the Negros Wildlife Foot Parade and Headdress Competition wherein all of the participants get to showcase their wildlife headdresses within the streets of Bacolod City, from the Provincial Lagoon to the Ayala Grounds. The parade and competition was attended by 800 participants all over Negros Occidental including 20 LGUs, DENR, schools, NGOs and private companies

## 2nd Sayawit Para sa Kalikasan Contest

Biodiversity awareness is not only expressed in social media platforms but through participation in research and other outdoor conservation activities. The PEMO of the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental in partnership with DENR-PENRO Negros Occidental, PhilBio and Ayala Malls Bacolod organized the Sayawit Para sa Kalikasan Contest for students to express their awareness and care for Negros biodiversity through a colorful presentation of sing and dance.. This was participated by 12 schools all over Negros Occidental.





## Wildlife Photo Exhibits

The Wildlife Photo Exhibit showcased photos of wildlife of Negros / Philippines displayed in SM City Bacolod. A total of 50 wildlife photos were provided by PhilBio and Central Philippines State University (CPSU). Short talks on Negros and Philippine wildlife followed the ribbon cutting of the photo exhibit attended by students and teachers from CPSU and staff from PEMO.

**50**  
photos of  
Negros  
wildlife

**9** researches from  
high school and  
college students

**3,471**  
Facebook interactions



## Biodiversity Research Symposium

This year's symposium covers 9 student researches highlighting the involvement of youth on biodiversity research and conservation. The student researches focused on urban biodiversity, and technology and innovation. The symposium was attended by 200 students from different schools in Negros Occidental, and has garnered 3,471 interactions through Facebook.

**2,000**  
students from STI-  
WNU attended the  
symposium

## Biodiversity Lecture

More than 2,000 students from STI-WNU attended the Biodiversity Symposium wherein PhilBio provided discussions on the Philippines Biodiversity and Bats of the Philippines.

## 18th Negros Occidental Provincial Wildlife Quiz

A total of 68 schools have participated the provincial quiz held at Cadiz Arena, Cadiz City, the highest delegation of school since the wildlife quiz in Negros Occidental has started. Caceres, Jr proudly welcoming the participants to the City of Whales, Cadiz City. Still the defending champion, the Negros Occidental High School

**68**  
schools  
participated all  
over Negros  
Occidental



gained the top place while Negros Occidental National Science High School from Victorias City was the 2nd placer, a new participant of the quiz, while Colegio San Agustin Bacolod secured a spot at 3rd.



# SEASON OF CREATION: Albay Biodiversity Awareness and Action Planning

The Season of Creation is celebrated from the **Day of Prayer for Creation (1st day of September)**, and ends on the the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (4th day fo October), the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. Throughout the month-long celebration, the world's 2.2 billion Christians come together to care for our common home: Earth.

The Quasi-parish of St. John Paul II in Pili Iraya, municipality of Bacacay in the Province of Albay led by Father Errol G. Bataga Jr. with support from the Bishop of Legazpi, Most Reverend Joel Z. Baylon. The quasi-parish of St. John Paul integrated biodiversity conservation in the activities and program of the church and invited PhilBio to share information on the biodiversity importance of Bicol Region.

A total of 78 participants, majority of which are women from the church community, senior citizens, high school students, youth volunteers, teachers, barangay councilors, farmers and volunteers participated in the event. A short action planning workshop gave the participants a bird's eye view of what the different sector's thoughts are and how one can help. The purpose of the action planning includes: a) to check their current resources and their activities, b) what activities that they can participate and possibly acquire additional support, and c) how con they mobilize the different sectors for biodiversity-related activities.

A short meeting with Most Reverend Joel Z. Baylon and the representatives from the different Dioceses in Albay identified biodiversity - related activities and programs for the Province of Albay.





# 7th National Wildlife Quiz

A total of 68 students from 34 schools representing nine regions and 28 provinces participated in the 7th National Wildlife Quiz, Biodiversity Talks and Ecosystems Tour in the Province of Leyte, Eastern Visayas region.

**34** schools all over the Philippines  
**9** regions  
**28** provinces

## Biodiversity Talks

First part of the event was the half-day Biodiversity Talks with partners of PhilBio as the Resource Speakers on biodiversity matters.

**64,528**

interactions with  
61,000  
Facebook live  
viewers

## 7th National Wildlife Quiz

This is the 1st time that the Eastern Visayas Region has sent representatives, and for Ormoc City to facilitate and organize the to the national quiz. Before announcing the winners, 3 schools have tied with 39 points for 2nd, 3rd and 4th places. Students from Negros Occidental High School were still the defending champions, followed by Holy Infant Academy of Calapan from Oriental Mindoro and Colegio San Agustin Bacolod from Negros Occidental as 2nd and 3rd placers.

## Ecosystems Tour

One group of participants went to the Mahagnao Volcano Natural Park, had a brief discussion on the PAs biological profile and tourism activities, and had the chance to tour the protected area. One memorable encounter during the tour was when they witnessed the century old trees and the Philippine ducks. The other group then went to Lake Danao Natural Park wherein they were also welcomed by the PASu and had a discussion on the history and flora and fauna of the protected area. Before having their lunch, they also had a short tour on the PA. After lunch, they went to another site, the Leyte Sab-a Peatlands wherein majority of the participants were first timers in seeing a peatland ecosystem. Dir. Montemayor of FPE gave a discussion about peatlands, and its importance on carbon sequestration. Majority of the participants, who are actually first timers in going inside a terrestrial protected area, were amazed on its dense forest cover and never seen before wildlife.



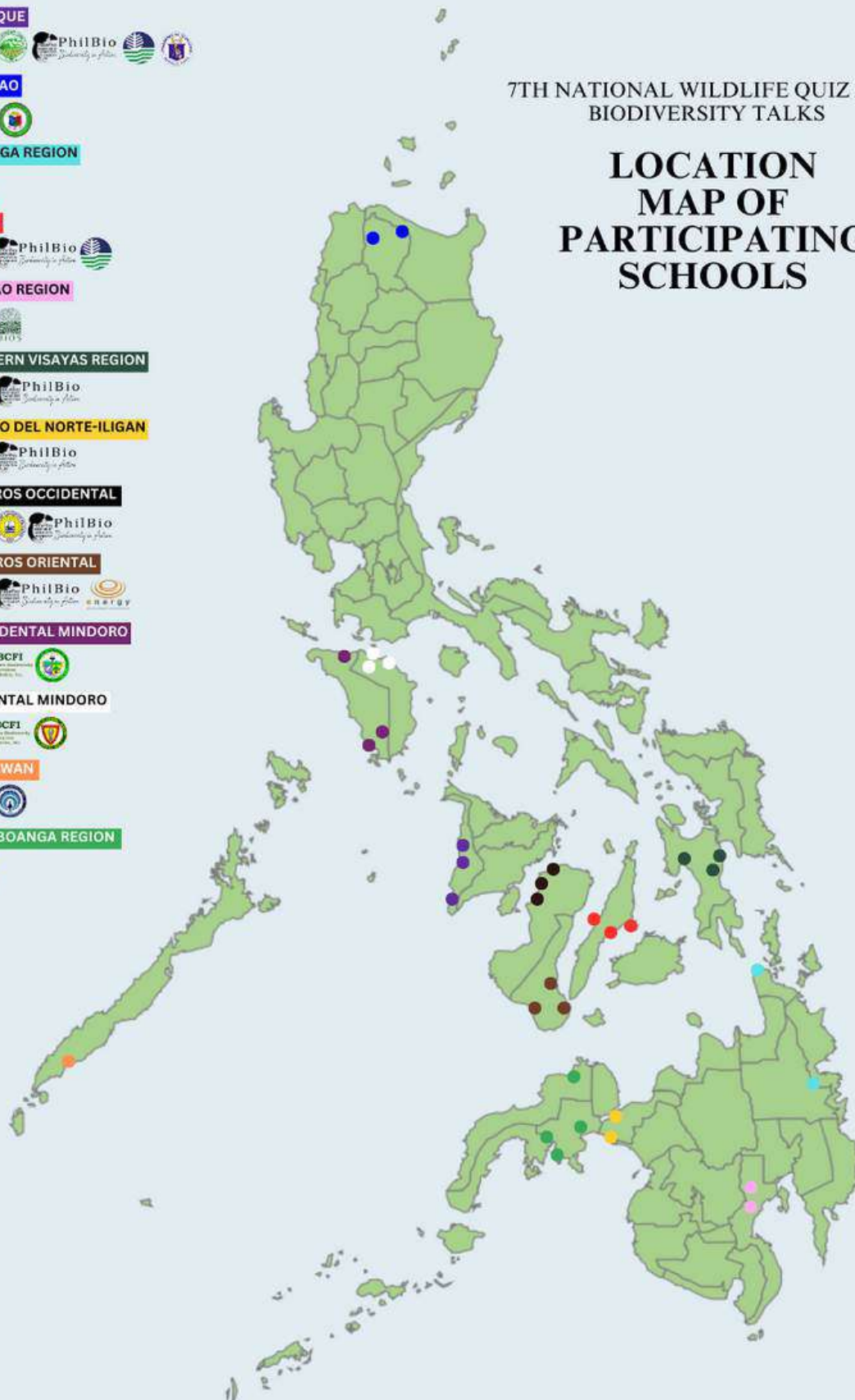
Top 10 schools of the 7th National Wildlife Quiz

Location map of participating schools of the 7th National Wildlife Quiz and the partner organizations and institutions



7TH NATIONAL WILDLIFE QUIZ AND  
BIODIVERSITY TALKS

## LOCATION MAP OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS





# Dulungan Month celebration

The Province of Antique has passed the Provincial Ordinance No. 2020-208 which celebrates the month of August as the Dulungan Month of the Province of Antique to increase awareness and understanding on the biology, ecology and cultural values of Dulungan or the Walden's Hornbill (*Rhabdotorrhinus waldeni*), a Philippine threatened bird endemic only to the islands of Negros and Panay. The protection of Dulungan symbolizes the protection of the forests of Antique and to the whole Central Panay Mountain Range. Annually, the Province of Panay have prepared a set of activities relevant to biodiversity conservation and awareness.

## Opening of the 2023 Dulungan Month

The launching of the 2023 Dulungan Month Celebration was kicked off through a tarpaulin unveiling ceremony. On the afternoon, a forum was attended by environment practitioners within Antique wherein the initial results of the Wildlife Field Course was presented. Gov. Rhodora J. Cadio participated in celebrating the Dulungan Month 2023 and firmly commits herself in conserving the rich biodiversity of the province as the Dulungan is considered the unique representation of the abundant flora and fauna of Antique.

**40**  
wildlife  
photos of  
Panay Island

### Wildlife Photo Exhibit

A week-long showcase of the flora and fauna of Panay displayed at the ground floor of the Old Capitol Building, Antique in line of the celebration of Dulungan Month festival of the Province of Antique.

### Biodiversity Lectures

Local celebration of the Dulungan month in Sebaste and Culasi with Mayor January Padpad, Municipal Administrator, MENRO Ann Lotilla and team, Provincial Local Government Unit Environment and Natural Resources Office (PLGU ENRO) Vivian Marfe and team, and the Antique Dulungan Youth Volunteers. The simultaneous lectures in Brgy. Alegre is conducted by the PLGU ENRO and Dulungan Youth Volunteers.

### Commitment Signing

Commitment signing was conducted in the Municipality of Sebaste, Antique. Forty participants attended the commitment signing from around 25 LGUs, government agencies and other institutions. The purpose of the commitment signing was to garner solid support from the local stakeholders in Antique towards the conservation of Dulungan, and its habitat the Central Panay Mountain Ranges. One of the identified and proposed annual activity is the Synchronized Hornbill Count that needs the support of the relevant stakeholders within the CPMR.

# EFFECTIVE AND ADAPTIVE GOVERNANCE



*Comb-crested Jacana of Ligawasan Marsh*



# Philippine Hornbills conquer the International Stage

Not just one, but five Philippine hornbill presentations from PhilBio were shared with the international communities during the 8th International Hornbill Conference. PhilBio presentations include the first ecological study on the Critically Endangered Sulu Hornbill *Anthracoceros montani*, population density of the endangered Visayan Tarictic Hornbill *Penelopides panini* and conservation initiatives of local government on hornbill conservation.

**5 presentations**  
from PhilBio



Moreover, Melvin Rada - the City Environment Officer of Tayabas City was perhaps the 1st representative from the local government of the Philippines to present the conservation initiatives of the Luzon Tarictic Hornbill in the history of the International Hornbill Conference. Their monitoring, close to 10 years of community-focus conservation program, had led to the protection of Luzon's very own endemic birds: Northern Rufous Hornbill *Buceros hydrocorax* and Luzon Hornbill *Penelopides manillae*. Melvin Rada of Tayabas City did not only report activities and results, he was providing direct evidences of improved forest habitats, increased capacity to protect and conserve the hornbills and their habitats, and most importantly, the positive change in behavior of people towards hornbills and the forest.

The presentations of the PhilBio team also received positive and interesting responses from the international communities.



PhilBio Team attending the 8th International Hornbill Conference in Thailand (Andrew, Dir. Lisa and Godfrey).



Melvin Rada of the ENR Office of the City of Tayabas

# Sealed Partnership Agreements

## MOU signing with Negros Provincial LGUs

Two Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) were signed as part of the BIOFIN Project of PhilBio by looking through finance solutions on mainstreaming biodiversity in local government plans and programs. The MOU with Negros Oriental was signed by Gov. Manuel "Chaco" Sagarbarria, while Negros Occidental was signed with Gov. Eugenio Jose "Bong" V. Lacson together with UNDP Philippines, DENR represented by BMB and PhilBio. These momentous MOU signing shows the commitment of both Provinces on biodiversity conservation.



## MOA signing with CEBREM Central Mindanao University

Signed partnership agreement with Center for Biodiversity Research and Environmental Management (CEBREM) of the Central Mindanao University (CMU) to strengthen their partnership on biodiversity research endeavors.



## MOA signing with Mindanao State University- Iligan Institute of Technology



MSU-IIT and PhilBio signed a MOA which signals the exciting academic and research collaborations between the two institutions. This includes the support of PhilBio to the OJT students of MSU-IIT by including them on biological assessments as their thesis.



# Hinoba-an Terrestrial Development Project

## ● Presentation to the Barangay Council of Damutan

As one of the project sites of PhilBio under the USAID INSPIRE project of the Gerry Roxas Foundation Inc., the project was presented by Andrew Ross Reintar and Kahlael Omero of PhilBio to the Barangay Council of Barangay Damutan, Hinobaan.



## ● Wildlife Identification and Monitoring Training

A three-day training on wildlife identification and monitoring was conducted and was participated by 25 IPs from the 4 Clusters of Bukidnon Magahat, and 10 MENRO and CENRO staff. Lectures on Philippines Biodiversity, bird identification and methods, proper handling and use of equipment and the establishment of monitoring sites for birds and mother fruiting trees were discussed.



## ● FPIC Consultation and Validation Meeting

Girlie Mangilimutan & Javica Faye Canag of PhilBio attended the FPIC Consultation & Validation for the Hinoba-an Terrestrial Development Project. The event was joined by the Bukidnon Magahat Tribe of Damutan (Clusters 1-4), LGU of Hinoba-an, and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) of Negros Occidental, headed by Mr. Hazel Acse. The purpose of this meeting is to secure a Pre-Condition Certificate from NCIP.



## ● Biodiversity Youth Camp 2023

The Biodiversity Youth Camp aims to encourage IP youths and students to learn, experience and have the opportunity to explore the landscape biodiversity of Southwestern Negros. A total of 22 IP youths and 10 high school students from various schools participated the camp.



# Technical and Financial Upgrade of PhilBio staff

## Biodiversity Conservation Training Program: Sukat ng Kalikasan - High Conservation Value-Natural Capital Accounting (HCV-NCA) and Citizen Science

The USAID INSPIRE Project introduced the HCV-NCA as a tool in quantifying resources as means of conserving an area. Two technical staff of PhilBio participated in the week-long training - workshop. .



## Biodiversity Conservation Training Program: Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Carbon Accounting

Christian Casio and Kahlael Omero participated the biodiversity training on Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Carbon Accounting. Carbon Accounting is the process of quantifying the number of greenhouse gases (GHGs) produced directly and indirectly from a business's or organization's activities within a set of boundaries. This able an area to be protected based on the quantified GHGs for certain amount of years.



## Communication Design and Production Workshops

As part of the continuation of the Communications Training Workshop, Communication Foundation for Asia conducted a four-Day capacity-building activity on Communication Design and Production Workshops for under the USAID INSPIRE Project. During the training, they had the opportunity to develop prototypes of communication initiatives and simulate realities on the ground. This would serve as preparation for their communication and education projects.







# PROJECTS AND GRANTS

*Black-winged stilt*

# PHILBIO on PBSAP 2024-2034

PhilBio received a grant close to six million pesos from the Forest Foundation of the Philippines to assist in organizing and facilitating the updating of the Philippines Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2024-2034 for three regional cluster consultations: Northeastern and Southwestern Mindanao. The grant includes financial support for the transportation of experts and participants from NGOs, academe and IP communities, food, accommodation, venue and administrative needs of the workshop.

**6M**  
grant  
received  
from FFP for  
the updating  
of PBSAP



## Biodiversity Education and Awareness Development (BEAD) to Save Wildlife

In support for the conduct of the 7th National Wildlife Quiz, Biodiversity Talks, and Ecosystems Tour, PhilBio received a grant of **Php 250,000.00** from the Foundation for the Philippine Environment. The grant enabled us to support the transportation of participants from Zamboanga Region, Antique, Negros Occidental and Lanao del Norte, vehicle rental for the Ecosystems Tour, transportation of Resource Persons for the Biodiversity Talks and accommodation support for the participants.

**Php 250,000.00** grant for the conduct of 7th National Wildlife Quiz



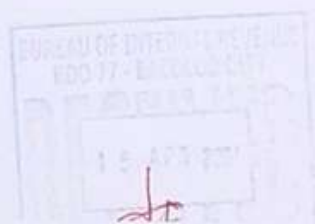


# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

PHILIPPINES BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.  
C/O NFEFI Compound, South Capitol Road, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental  
TIN # 285-392-208-000

## Statements of Financial Position As of December 31, 2023 and 2022 (In Philippine Currency)

Assets:	Notes	2023	2022
<b>Current Assets:</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalent	4	4,297,245.00	2,380,149.37
Advances	5	219,848.00	249,942.53
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>4,517,093.00</b>	<b>2,630,091.90</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Investment	6	13,050,000.00	12,710,462.02
Property and Equipment (Net)	7	1,411,572.00	1,488,421.35
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>		<b>14,461,572.00</b>	<b>14,198,883.37</b>
<b>Total Assets:</b>		<b>18,978,665.00</b>	<b>16,828,975.27</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Accounts Payable	8	504,160.00	507,324.24
Others Payable		-	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>504,160.00</b>	<b>507,324.24</b>
<b>Fund Balance</b>			
General Reserve Fund		4,012,933.00	2,122,767.66
Non Current Assets		14,461,572.00	14,198,883.37
<b>Fund Balance</b>		<b>18,474,505.00</b>	<b>16,321,651.03</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>		<b>18,978,665.00</b>	<b>16,828,975.27</b>

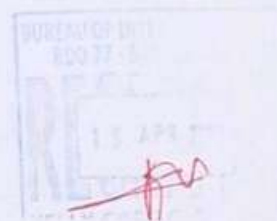


# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

PHILIPPINES BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.  
C/O NFEFI Compound, South Capitol Road, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental  
TIN # 285-392-208-000

Statement of Fund Operation  
For the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022  
(In Philippine Currency)

Revenues	Notes	2023	2022
Receipts/Fund Inflows	9	14,335,132.00	5,695,037.91
Expenses/Fund Outflows			
Direct Cost	10	10,612,145.00	3,469,484.36
Operating Cost	11	1,570,132.00	1,029,748.09
Total Expenses		12,182,277.00	4,499,232.45
Net Savings (Loss)		2,152,855.00	1,195,805.46





# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

PHILIPPINES BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.  
C/O NFEFI Compound, South Capitol Road, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental  
TIN # 285-392-208-000

## Statement of Cash Flows For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022 (In Philippine Currency)

Cash flow from Operating Activities:	2023	2022
Net Surplus/(Loss) from Operations	2,152,855.00	1,195,805.46
Add: Depreciation	566,025.00	251,073.22
(Increase)decrease in:		
Advances		(15,960.88)
Increase(decrease) in:		
Accounts payable	(3,166.00)	
Other Payable	30,095.00	(57,324.24)
Cash Provided by Operating Activities	2,745,809.00	1,373,593.56
Cash Provided by Investing Activities		
(Increase)Decrease in:		
Property & Equipment	(489,175.00)	(451,624.49)
Investment	(339,538.00)	(2,710,462.02)
Net cash used in investing activities	(828,713.00)	(3,162,086.51)
Cash Provided by Financing Activities		
Increase(Decrease)		
Contributed Share Capital		759,461.86
Net cash provided by Financing Activities	-	759,461.86
Increase(Decrease) in Cash	1,917,096.00	(1,029,031.09)
Add: Cash Balance Beginning, January 1	2,380,149.00	3,409,180.46
Cash Balance End, December 31	4,297,245.00	2,380,149.37

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

PHILIPPINES BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, INC.  
C/O NFEFI Compound, South Capitol Road, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental  
TIN # 285-392-208-000

Statement of Changes in Fund Balances  
As of December 31, 2023 and 2022  
(In Philippine Currency)

<u>Fund Balance</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
General Fund	4,012,933.00	2,122,767.66
Non Current Assets Fund	14,461,572.00	14,198,883.37
<u>Fund Balance</u>	<u>18,474,505.00</u>	<u>16,321,651.03</u>





# CONSERVATION PARTNERS

Aklan Environment and Natural Resources Officer (AKENRO)  
Aklan State University - Banga campus  
Alliance for Zero Extinction  
Asian Species Action Partnership  
BACIWA Prime Water  
Bacolod City National High School  
Bacolod City Traffic Authority Office  
Bacolod Paramount Industrial and Electrical  
Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Farmers Association, Inc.  
Biodiversity Conservation Society of the Philippines (BCSP)  
Biodiversity Finance Initiative Project  
Biodiversity Management Bureau  
Capiz Environment and Natural Resources Office (CapENRO)  
Capiz State University (CapSU)  
Carlos Hilado Memorial State College  
Cebu Association of Biology Students, Inc.  
Cebu Normal University  
Cebu Technological University - Argao Campus  
City Environment Management Office of San Carlos City  
City Environment and Natural Resources Office - Cadiz City  
Colegio San Agustin - Bacolod  
Co's Digital Flora of the Philippines  
Cuernos de Negros Mountaineers  
DENR CENRO Bago City  
DENR CENRO Cebu City  
DENR CENRO Kabankalan City  
DENR CENRO Midsayap  
DENR PENRO Aklan  
DENR PENRO Antique  
DENR PENRO Negros Occidental  
DENR PENRO Negros Oriental  
DENR PENRO Siquijor  
DENR PENRO Zamboanga Sibugay  
DENR Regional Office 12  
DENR Regional Office 6  
DENR Regional Office 7  
DENR Regional Office 8  
Department of Education - Negros Occidental  
Energy Development Corporation - BINHI (Negros)  
Environment and Natural Resources Division (ENRD) - Negros Oriental  
Environment and Natural Resources Office of Cadiz City  
Environment and Natural Resources Office of Cebu City  
Forest Foundation Philippines  
Foundation for the Philippine Environment  
Kapunungan sa mga Mag-uuma sa Yutang Lasangnon sa Bulolacao Nug-as Alcoy  
Negros Oriental State University  
Mindanao State University - Iligan Institute of Technology  
Mindanao State University - Marawi main campus  
Mindanao State University - Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography

# CONSERVATION PARTNERS

North Carolina Zoo  
PAMO - Apo Island Protected Landscape and Seascape  
PAMO - Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park  
PAMO - Mt. Banahaw - San Cristobal Protected Landscape  
PAMO - Mt. Kanlaon Natural Park  
PAMO - Northern Negros Natural Park  
PAMO - Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary  
PAMO - Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park  
Philippine Eagle Foundation Inc.  
Philippine Initiative for Conservation of Envi. (PhilinCon)  
Philippine Marine Corps - Armed Forces of the Philippines  
Philippine Normal University - Visayas  
Philippines Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation Inc.  
Provincial Disaster Risk and Reduction Management Office  
Provincial Environment and Management Office (PEMO)  
Provincial Environment Natural Resources Energy Tawi-Tawi  
Provincial Local Government Unit of Aklan  
Provincial Local Government Unit of Antique  
Provincial Local Government Unit of Capiz  
Provincial Local Government Unit of Negros Occidental  
Provincial Local Government Unit of Negros Oriental  
Provincial Planning and Development Office - Negros Occidental  
Provincial Tourism Office of Negros Occidental  
Schools Division of Sipalay City  
Silliman University  
Sitio Bugtong Lubi Indigenous Peoples Farmers Association Inc. (SBLIPFAI)  
Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment  
STI West Negros University  
Talarak Foundation Inc.  
TawiTawi Advocates for Wildlife Support Initiative Rangers (TAWSI Rangers)  
Technological University of the Philippines-Visayas  
Tourism Office of Victorias City  
United Nations Development Programme  
United States Agency for International Development-Philippines  
University of Antique  
University of Negros Occidental - Recoletos  
University of San Carlos  
University of St. La Salle - Bacolod  
University of the Philippines - Mindanao  
University of the Philippines - Manila  
University of the Philippines - Visayas  
Wetlands International - Philippines  
Wild Bird Photographers of the Philippines



# BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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**Guadalupe Garcia**  
Treasurer



**Joseph Feliz Mari H. Durano**  
Member



**Roberto Sandoval**  
Member

# MANAGEMENT AND STAFF



**Lisa J. Paguntalan**  
Executive Director



**Philip Godfrey C. Jakosalem**  
Field Operations Director



**Andrew Ross T. Reintar**  
Field Projects Officer



**Girlie D. Mangilimutan**  
Administrative and Finance Officer



**Christian R. Casio**  
Conservation Education Officer



**Javica Faye Canag**  
Field Project Site Coordinator - Negros Occidental



**Hannah Torres-Sarao**  
Field Project Site Coordinator - Negros Oriental



**Erika A. Lobaton**  
Administrative Assistant

## SCIENTIFIC ADVISERS



**Dr. Arvin Diesmos**  
Herpetologist



**Dr. Pieter Pelser**  
Botanist



**Diesmond Allen**  
Ornithologist



**Dr. Tammy Midlenstein**  
Bat Biologist



**Dr. Julie F. Barcelona**  
Botanist



**Dr. Juan Carlos T. Gonzalez**  
Ornithologist

## RESEARCH FELLOWS



**Yñigo del Prado**  
Herpetologist



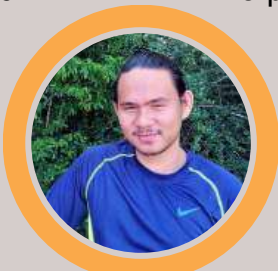
**Manulito Sandoval**  
Herpetologist



**Val B. Salares**  
Botanist



**Jeanette Mara P. Tan**  
Botanist



**Arkady A. Tahl**  
Botanist



**Gerrie Mae Flores**  
Herpetologist



**Andrie Bon Flores**  
Herpetologist

## FIELD TECHNICIANS



**Lorry Alcala**



**Pedro Villarta**



**Reymark Villarta**



**Deony Baylocon, Jr.**





## **2023 PhilBio Annual Report**

Philippines Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc.

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*Remnant forests of Southwestern Negros KBA*