

NG SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN
TANGGAPAN
RECEIVED
DATE: 3/26/25
BY:
TIME: 10:35
TANDAG CITY, SURIGAO DEL SUR

Refer To: Committee on Environmental Protection and Ecology
noted

1st Endorsement

March 25, 2025

Respectfully forwarded to Mr. Edgar G. Perez II, J.D., Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, the herein attached basic communication dated March 4, 2025 from **MR. VIRGILIO R. ALAS III**, EMS II, Municipality of Madrid, this Province, forwarding a report on the Assessment of Sand and Gravel Extraction within the Carac-an River, Madrid, Surigao del Sur, conducted by the composite team created through Sangguniang Panlalawigan Order dated September 4, 2024 in connection to the Administrative Case No. 06-2024 between Mr. Jose E. Mollaneda, complainant vs. Hon. Mayor Juan Paolo L. Lopez, respondent..

For your information and appropriate action.

Tanggapan ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan
SURIGAO DEL SUR
OSSP-SDS-2025-4566
Telephone No.: (086) - 211 - 5832
E-Mail: tspsurigaosur@yahoo.com
Date:
Time:
Received by:

MANUEL O. ALAMEDA, SR.
Vice Governor

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Tandag, Surigao del Sur
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Republic of the Philippines
Province of Surigao del Sur
MUNICIPALITY OF MADRID

–oOo–

MUNICIPAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE

March 4, 2025

HON. MANUEL O. ALAMEDA SR.
Vice Governor
Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Surigao Del Sur

TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN
RECEIVED
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TANDAG CITY, SURIGAO DEL SUR

VICE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
(RECEIVED)
DATE: 3/25/25 TIME: 12:24

Dear Hon. Alameda

Respectfully furnished to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Surigao Del Sur the herein copy of the report re: Assessment of Sand and Gravel Extraction within Caracan River, Madrid, Surigao Del Sur" conducted by the composite team created through Sangguniang Panlalawigan Order dated September 4, 2024 in connection to the Administrative Case No. 06-2024 between MR. JOSE E. MOLLANEDA, complainant vs. HON. MAYOR JUAN PAOLO L. LOPEZ, respondent. Content of which is self-explanatory.

For your information, records and appropriate action.

Very truly yours,

VIRGILIO R. ALAS III
EMS – II

Noted :

JUAN PAOLO L. LOPEZ
Mayor

Cc:
- Office of the Provincial Governor, Surigao Del Sur
- PMRB Chairperson, Surigao Del Sur
- PENRO/PMRB Secretariat, Surigao Del Sur

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BAGONG PILIPINAS
Madrid Palamboon

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Surigao del Sur
MUNICIPALITY OF MADRID

–oOo–

MUNICIPAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE

FOR : **HON. JUAN PAOLO L. LOPEZ**
Mayor
Madrid, Surigao Del Sur

FROM : **VIRGILIO R. ALAS III**
EMS – II

ENRIQUE P. VELONERO
Extension Officer
All in MENRO, Madrid, Surigao Del Sur

DATE : February 18, 2025

SUBJECT : **ASSESSMENT OF SAND AND GRAVEL EXTRACTION WITHIN CARACAN RIVER, MADRID, SURIGAO DEL SUR.**

I. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings, observation and recommendation of the undersigned in response to the letter request of the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office of Surigao Del Sur and as per instruction from the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Surigao Del Sur. Further presents, the result of the assessment of Sand and Gravel Extraction within Caracan River, Madrid, Surigao Del Sur conducted by the Composite Team.

II. OBJECTIVE OF THE ASSESSMENT:

1. To assess the effects of Sand and Gravel extraction on the local environment.
2. To assess compliance of permittees and extractors with relevant laws, regulations and permits related to sand and gravel extraction.
3. Evaluate the availability of sand and gravel resources and the potential for sustainable extraction without hampering economic development, natural resources management and resiliency of local constituents.
4. Determine appropriate measures and mechanism towards the purpose of attaining a balance between extraction and conservation, sand and gravel utilization addressing Climate Change mitigation/adaptation.

III. COMPOSITION OF ASSESSMENT TEAM:

NAME	POSITION	OFFICE
1. Gaius Jabez A. Galope	Project Dev. Officer	DENR-MGB-RXIII

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2. Diana Jean S. Dano	Science Research Specialist II	DENR-MGB-RXIII
3. Cheryl M. Elpa	Information Officer	DENR-EMB-RXIII
4. Thelma S. Alcoberes	PENR Officer	PLGU-Surgiao Del Sur
5. Mae Q. Sauro	Asst. PENR Officer	PLGU-Surigao Del Sur
6. Norberto R. Ramirez II	Community Dev. Officer – I	PLGU-Surigao Del Sur
7. Virgilio R. Alas III	EMS – II	LGU-Madrid-MENRO
8. Enrique P. Velonero	Extension Officer	LGU-Madrid-MENRO

IV. METHODOLOGY:

1. Courtesy to the Local Chief Executive of Madrid Mayor Juan Paolo L. Lopez.
2. Actual inspection of the Sand and Gravel extraction site, permit area and stock yard.
3. Tracking and marking of locations with relevant information that will contribute to the findings and observation of the assessment.
4. Areal photo of the location with relevant information that will contribute to the findings and observation of the assessment.
5. Interview with the Sand and Gravel Permittee and operators including the Barangay local monitoring personnel.

V. FINDINGS AND OBSERVATION:

1. During the actual inspection and assessment of the Caracan river, there were no actual extraction or operation of sand and gravel were observed.

2. The team observed multiple indicators of extraction of sand and gravel in Caracan river.

   a. Stock pile of sand and gravel material were sporadically observed in some portion of the river channel, thereby disrupting the natural flow of the water. Further, redirecting the waterflow from the center channel of the river causing the scouring of the river banks. Erosion of riverbank caused by waterflow leads to the instability and eventual failure of the tree growing near the bank. *(Annex Aerial-photo 1, 2, 3, 4, 7)*

   b. Sporadic distribution of pits because of sand and gravel extraction along the river bed, while some pits were observed near the river banks.

3. Using the Global Positioning System (GPS) application, the team observed some of the sand and gravel claims/area were located in areas which are not suitable and not appropriate for extraction of sand and gravel, such as but not limited to riparian zone, agricultural land and areas prohibited under section 79 of the DENR Administrative Order No. 2010-21 to wit;

NAME	REMARKS
a. Caryl A. Orozco	➢ 314-957 M upstream from the NIA Dam.
b. Loida L. Godita	➢ Agricultural Land, 100 meters from NIA Dam.
c. Lydio O. Arreza	➢ Located within Riparian zone.

d.	Dale Yray	➢ 670 -800 M downstream from the NIA Dam.
e.	Jed Marcial T. Mollaneda	➢ Area straddles from riparian to agricultural land.
f.	Mark Rinan Mira	➢ Area straddles from riparian to agricultural land.
g.	Alicia L. Olan	➢ Area straddles within the accretion area.
h.	Reynaldo A. Guillen	➢ 290 to 390 M upstream from San Juan Bridge.
i.	Glenn Michael Uriat	➢ 577 to 641 M upstream from San Juan Bridge.
j.	Charlito Orquita	➢ 530-770 M downstream from San Juan Bridge.

4. Mechanized equipment for sand and gravel operations were observed in the area with ancillary facility, such as stockyard.

5. The team also observed stock pile of sand and gravel in one of the confluences of the Caracan river *(River Junction or stream mouth)*. The stock pile obstructed and may interrupt the waterflow and during heavy rains it will cause inundation of water to the nearby farmland/property.

6. The team decided to deferred the conclusive findings and observation to the area covered by the sand and gravel permit of Mr. Jed Marcial T. Mollaneda transferred to Ms. Ma. Maila D. Mollaneda issued by the Honorable Governor Alexander T. Pimentel on April 12, 2024. The SAG Permit area covering 3.695 hectares is mostly located in the agricultural land while some portion is within the river banks/riparian zone of the river and in areas which are no longer suitable for extraction of sand and gravel. The team agreed to conduct an actual survey of the area with a geodetic engineer and notice will be disseminated regarding its schedule. On January 31, 2025 a team which is composed of personnel coming from PENRO Surigao Del Sur, MENRO of Madrid and Private Geodetic Engineer Reynard Amorin hired by Mr. Mollaneda conducted the reconnaissance survey before proceeding to an actual relocation survey of the area covered by Sand and gravel permit of Mr. Mollaneda. Using the GPS application, Engineer Amorin and the team have concluded that the entire area covered by the Sand and gravel permit of Mr. Mollaneda is **not suitable, not appropriate and not feasible for Sand and Gravel extraction**, thus the actual relocation survey of the permit area of Mr. Mollaneda was not conducted.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The undersigned highly supported and affirms to the recommendations of the Mines and Geosciences *(Gaius Jabez A. Galope and Diana Jean G. Dano, December 11, 2024 report)* and PENRO-LGU Surigao Del Sur *(Thelma S. Alcoberes et.al. December 18, 2024 report)*.

2. Findings number 2 of the report of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB RXIII) which is hereto attached should be conducted and established particularly on the studies regarding the rate of replenishment of sand and gravel resources, and comprehensive study regarding its impact on river ecosystem and its morphology.

3. Findings number 4 of the report of the MGB must be addressed. No permittee claims to be responsible of the in-situ stockpiling of sand and gravel material. However, clearing and leveling of the stock piled sand and gravel materials must be undertaken to maintain an appropriate natural flow of the water throughout the stretch of the Caracan River.

4. The MGB-RXIII Recommendation numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be map/plot out so that the LGU of Madrid could adopt a policy of zoning Carac-an river that only allows the operation of quarrying, and the utilization of natural wealth shall be considered based on real contributions to the sustainable economic growth and general welfare of the municipal constituents within the purview of ecologically sound practices and responsible mining.

5. The Provincial Mining Regulatory Board (PMRB) must conduct the cleansing of the roster of sand and gravel claims from areas which are not suitable, not feasible and prohibited for the extraction of sand and gravel.

6. All the recommendations presented by the MGB-RXIII, PENRO-LGU Surigao Del Sur and EMB-RXIII must be raised, tackled and endorsed to the Provincial Mining Regulatory Board (PMRB), Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Surigao Del Sur to be acted accordingly.

ANNEXES:

1. Aerial-photos taken during actual assessment and inspection.
2. MGB-RXIII Report on the environmental assessment of Carac-an River located in the Municipality of Madrid, Province of Surigao Del Sur by *Gaius Jabez A. Galope and Diana Jean G. Dano*.
3. Report on the Assessment of Sand and Gravel Permitted Areas Carac-an River, Municipality of Madrid, Province of Surigao Del Sur prepared by FOR. THELMA S. ALCOBERES, RPF et.al.

Prepared and submitted by:

ENRIQUE P. VELONERO
Extension Officer

VIRGILIO R. ALAS III
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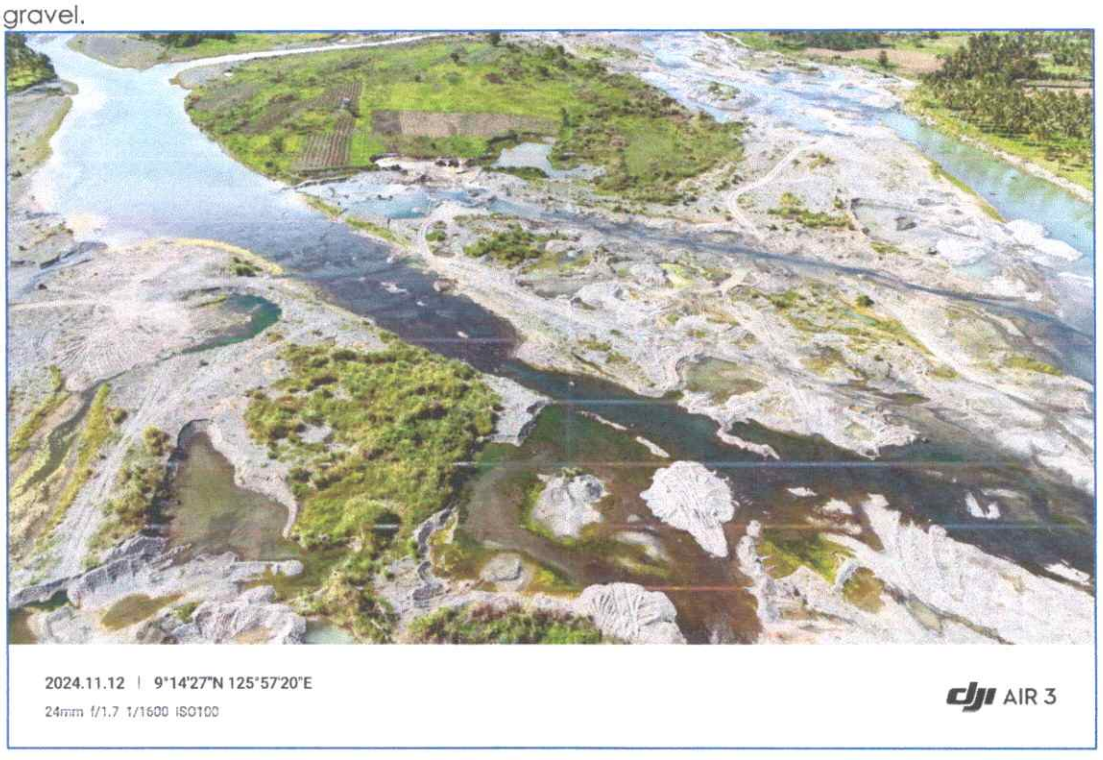
ANNEX 1 AERIAL-PHOTOS DURING ACTUAL ASSESSMENT / INSPECTION.

Aerial-photo 1: Pits caused by extraction of Sand and Gravel and stockpile of sand and gravel.



Aerial-photo 2 : Pits caused by extraction of Sand and Gravel and stockpile of sand and gravel.



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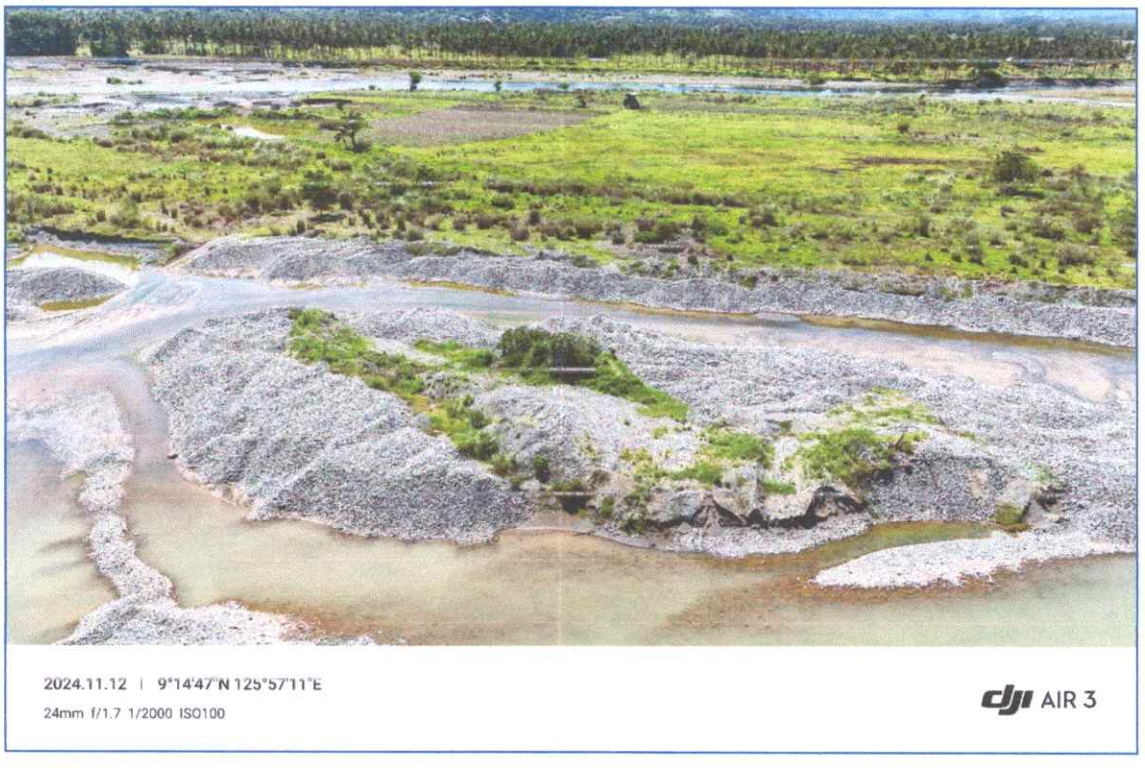
Aerial-photo 3 : abandoned Stockpile of sand and gravel **(circled)** and scouring of riverbank manifested by falling Coconut **(circled)**



Aerial-photo 4 : Abandoned stockpile of sand and gravel located at the middle of the river bed.



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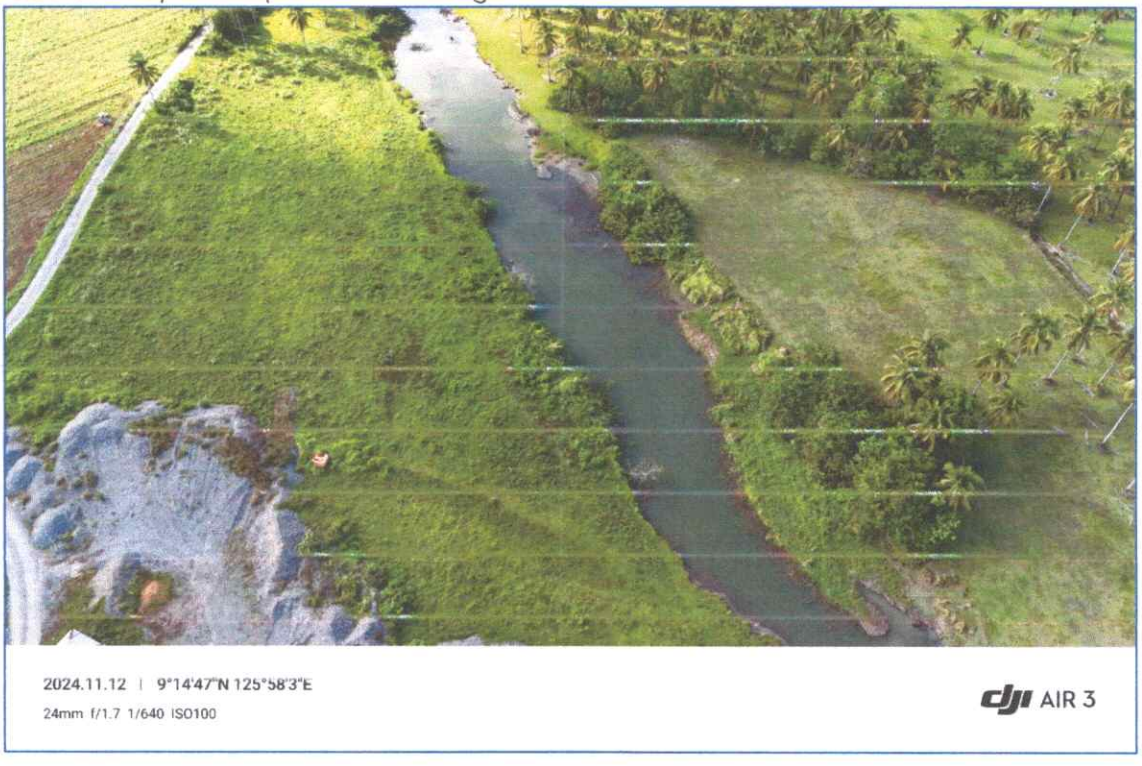
Aerial-photo 5 : Stock pile of Sand and gravel materials located at one of the confluences of Carac-an river.



Aerial-photo 6 : One of the tributaries of Carac-an river where the junction/confluence is obstructed by a stockpile of Sand and gravel



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Aerial-photo 7 : Sporadic distribution of pits along the riverbed caused by extraction of sand and gravel.



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ANNEX 2

MGB-RXIII Report on the environmental assessment of Carac-an River located in the Municipality of Madrid, Province of Surigao Del Sur.

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Republic of the Philippines
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IC24-11-05-10946

December 11, 2024

Hon. Alexander T. Pimentel
Provincial Governor
Province of Surigao del Sur
Capitol Hills, Tandag City

Dear Gov. A. T. Pimentel:

This refers to your Letter dated 5 November 2024, duly received by this Office on 8 November 2024, requesting for technical assistance in the conduct of an environmental assessment of Carac-an River located in the Municipality of Madrid, Province of Surigao del Sur.

The assessment was jointly conducted by the Office of the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources-Local Government Unit (LGU), Municipal Environment and Natural Resources (MENRO) of Madrid, Surigao del Sur, Environmental Management Bureau, and DENR-PENRO Surigao del Sur, and technical personnel from Mines and Geosciences Bureau Regional Office No. XIII, on November 12-13, 2024. In view thereof, we are respectfully forwarding a copy of the report for information of the Honorable Governor.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

By Authority of the Regional Director:

FRANCIS GLENN N. SUANTE
Chief, Mine Safety, Environment, and
Social Development Division
Officer-in-charge

MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU
Regional Office No. 13, Surigao City
0624-12-13-9984
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c.f. **The Municipal Mayor**
Municipality of Madrid, Surigao del Sur
170 Urbiztondo Street, Purok 4, Linibonan,
Madrid, Surigao del Sur

MENRO-LGU
Municipality of Madrid, Surigao del Sur
170 Urbiztondo Street, Purok 4, Linibonan,
Madrid, Surigao del Sur

I. INTRODUCTION

Through a Letter dated November 5, 2024, the Office of the Provincial Government of Surigao del Sur thru the Office of the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources-Local Government Unit, requested technical assistance of this Office to conduct a river assessment on the Carac-an River located in the Municipality of Madrid, Surigao del Sur, primarily to determine the physical condition of the river given that it is a source for a sand and gravel aggregate materials. This Office conducted an assessment on November 12-13, 2024, in response to the request. The assessment was done using GPS-enabled devices, and river traverse. A document review was also conducted, preliminarily assessing the area with the declared watershed forest reserves. Due to time constraints, the team were not able to conduct a full aerial survey, and the assessment was only limited to field survey and geotagging along the midsection of the river, supplemented by google earth images. Assessment of the existing infrastructures, i.e. dams, agricultural fields/areas, bridges, nearby built-up areas and other infrastructure that may be affected by extraction activities were not conducted due to time constraints, but mainly due to scope of activities to be undertaken.

II. DISCUSSION

Climate

The Philippine climate is mainly influence by its geographical features, and by large-scale systems—moons, tropical cyclones and the El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO), while its variability heavily depends on rainfall. Conventionally, the Philippine climate is classified into four (4) zones—Type I, Type II, Type III and Type IV—based on the Modified Coronas' Classification (Coronas, 1920; Kintanar, 1984) mainly relying spatial distribution of rainfall measured using rain gauge data. Majority of the eastern portion of the Philippines including the Surigao del Norte experiences a Type II climate condition, wherein the MCC states the whole Province typically experiences very pronounced rain period from December to February every year, with no single dry month. Usually, the minimum monthly rainfall occurs during the months of December to February or from March to May. According to the Philippines Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) and Cinco et al., (2016), the mean annual rainfall of the Philippines varies from 965 to 4,064 millimeters on an annual basis, wherein the Eastern Surigao segment receives the greatest amount of rainfall.

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Extreme weather events such as Tropical cyclones can severely contribute to the rainfall all throughout the archipelago which can bring strong winds and rainfall with destructive impacts. In the Philippines, there are two types of monsoons: the southwest monsoon, known as Habagat,

and Northeast Monsoon, known as Amihan. Monsoons, seasonal wind flow reversal with accompanying rainfall, can also bring severe impact on the seasonality and spatial variability of the Philippine Climate.

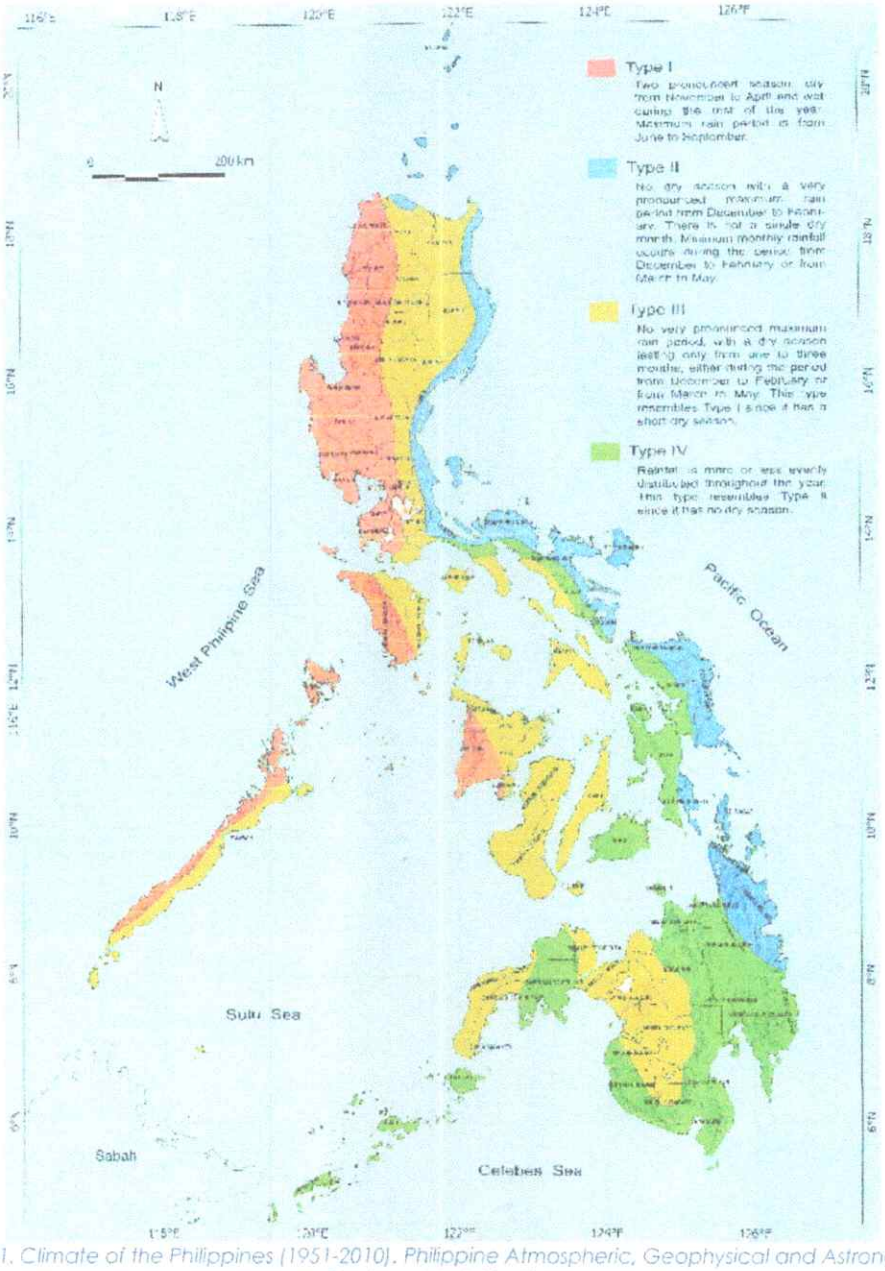

Figure 1. Climate of the Philippines (1951-2010). Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration

Technological advancements have led to further studies regarding the Philippine Climate. A work by Corporal-Lodangco, I. L., Leslie, L. M. (2017) has further defined the Philippine Climate Zones by combining surface and satellite data—the Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission from National Aeronautics and Space Administration Goddard Earth Sciences- Data and Information Services Center. The study utilized rain gauge data, Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission Rainfall data to perform clusters analyses together with the use of dendrograms, cophenetic correlation coefficients,

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K-means approach and silhouette coefficient values. The study suggests that the Philippines has six (6) climate clusters wherein the Surigao del Norte falls under the Cluster 2. In Cluster 2, monotonic rainfall distribution is imminent, and the minimum rainfall amount is experienced during the months of April to October, during Habagat or southwest monsoon. During northeast monsoon or Amihan, the climate cluster experiences an increase in rainfall in November peaking in January with mean and median of 730 mm of rainfall. The minimum amount of rainfall is 150mm that can be observed during the months of August. In terms of sand and gravel resources, climate seasonality is one of the factors affecting sediment yield on a river channel. Extreme rainfall typically results in high sediment yield as an intrinsic function.

Geology and Geological Hazard

Philippines is geo-dynamically complex archipelago which involves various tectonic processes, such as: continental rifting, oceanic spreading, continent-arc collision, and oblique subduction (Quebral, et. al. 1996; Aurelio et al. 2013; Yan et al., 2018). The archipelago by and large is comprised of accreted ophiolites, magmatic arcs and sedimentary formations – referred as the Philippine Mobile Belt, and partly terranes of continental affinity—Palawan, Mindoro and Panay— derived from southern mainland Asia, Eurasian Block (Taylor and Hayes, 1980, 1983; Yumul et. al. 2003; Padrones et al., 2017; Dimalanta et al. 2018). The archipelago is bounded by two major tectonic structure, to the east is the west-verging Philippine trench with oblique convergence and to the west are Manila Trench, Negros-Sulu Trench System, and Cotabato Trench formed by east-dipping subduction zones (Cardwell et al., 1980; Yumul et al., 2008). The interaction between the Philippine Mobile Belt and the PSP has led to the formation of the Philippine Fault by shear partitioning (Fitch, 1972; Aurelio, 2000).

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Due to the geodynamic framework of the Philippines, geologic hazards are common specifically the occurrence of seismic-related hazards, mass movement. Further **hydrologic hazards** are equally common as well because the Philippines is a country with tropical climate experiencing high rainfall amount all throughout the year, and particularly Surigao del Norte experiencing the highest amount rainfall as reported by PAGASA. The Hydrologic hazards involve **flooding, channel erosion and migration, rill erosion, gully erosion**, and among others.

Site Assessment

The Team has focused the assessment along portions of the Carac-an river that is within the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Madrid, Surigao del Sur. Certain factors were considered during the said assessment, such as: Imminent hydrologic hazard in the area, compositional/physical

characteristics of alluvial deposits/sediments, topography and seasonal changes in terms of climatic conditions.

The Carac-an River is characteristically similar to an anastomosing stream type described to be consisting of multiple-thread channel system with very low stream gradient and bankfull width of each channel noted to be variable. Lateral migration rates of the channels are infrequent based on Google satellite images. Based on our field observation, the fluvial deposits in area are generally composed of various rock and earth materials. The sediments, in terms of grain size, range from boulders to fine sands and clay fractions. In terms of the degree of sorting, the sediments are moderately-highly sorted and are generally subrounded to rounded with high degree of sphericity. In situ stockpiles of aggregate materials were observed within the mid-channel bars and island. Ancillary facilities such as stockyards, mechanical sorting area, and bunk houses for sand and gravel operations were also observed within the Carac-an river.

III. FINDING(S)

1. Surface manifestation of extraction of aggregates in a form of a multiple circular pits were observed within the channel bars and in fringes of the river channel.

2. The Carac-an river has a considerable amount of sand and gravel resources but studies regarding the rate of replenishment of these resources were not yet established, likewise a comprehensive study regarding its impact on river ecosystems and its morphology has not yet been established.

3. It was observed that the mid-stream portion of the river is dominated by gravel-sized materials with minor amounts of sand-sized fragments transitioning to high ratio of sand-size sediments further downstream near the Carac-an bridge.

4. Some portions of the channel were stockpiled with gravel and sand materials disrupting the natural flow of the river. In-situ stockpiling is also equally common all throughout the stretch of the river.

5. Mechanized equipment for sand and gravel operations were observed in the area with ancillary facility, such as stockyard.

6. Although the extraction of sand and gravel aggregate is **not** yet on alarming levels of potentially irreversible impact, a word of caution is hereby raised regarding its effects on groundwater, that over-extraction would affect its level and quality, i.e. lowering of water table, reduced

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surface water availability, localized ground subsidence, saltwater intrusion, and vulnerability of groundwater to contamination since these sediment materials acts as buffer between the surface environments and the groundwater. During the assessment a potential contaminant such as gasoline, crude oils, and other potential contaminants were observed laid down at the bare soil without sufficient containment.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Off-channel mining of sand and gravel aggregates along active mid-channel bars and point bars should be carefully planned and done in sequential manner liken to a regular strip-mining sequence.

2. Instream mining may be permitted but in a controlled manner to control downcutting or vertical erosion of channel beds. The deepening of these features due to over-extraction may limit its access to its active channel bars and floodplain during bank full and flood stages. Furthermore, this may possibly divert the water downstream and induce flooding during heavy rainfall events.

3. The rate of extraction of sand and gravel materials may be regulated to allow the natural replenishment of sediments at the extraction sites.

4. In situ stockpiling of aggregates is also discouraged, especially in the river channel. Rather stockpiling may be done outside the river channel or in relatively stable portions of the river. Direct shipping/direct delivery of aggregates in accordance with the buyer's volume/tonnage needs and other specifications to control in-situ stockpiling.

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5. In an attempt to restore the natural conditions of the river, the abandoned stockpile should be flattened out or may be pushed back to the ponded water. However, it should be done carefully not to disrupt the channel flow.

6. Regular monitoring of channel bank erosion and channel incision is recommended especially on areas with existing structures, i.e. *bridges, dams, built-up areas*, that might be affected by these fluvial processes whether it be natural or induced by anthropogenic activity. Likewise, monitoring of channel migration/avulsion, aggradation and degradation patterns should also be regularly conducted.

7. In accordance with the provisions of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Administrative Order No. 2010-21, Section 79, to quote: "*No extraction, removal and/or disposition of materials shall be*

allowed within a distance of one (1) kilometer from the boundaries of ***reservoirs established for public water supply****, archaeological and historical sites or of any* ***public or private works or structures****, unless the prior clearance of the Government agency(ies) concerned or owner is obtained..."* (emphasis supplied)

8. Extraction activities within the permit area should also adhere to provisions of the existing laws and environmental policies.

9. Resource management and regular monitoring/assessment is highly recommended to ensure sand and gravel resource extraction, to provide support to the affected community and stakeholders in terms of imminent geological hazards, and to monitor the area in terms of environmental considerations.

V. PREPARED BY:



GAIUS JABEZ A. GALOPE
Project Development Officer

DIANA JEAN G. DANO
Science Research Specialist II

ANNEX A – PHOTOS

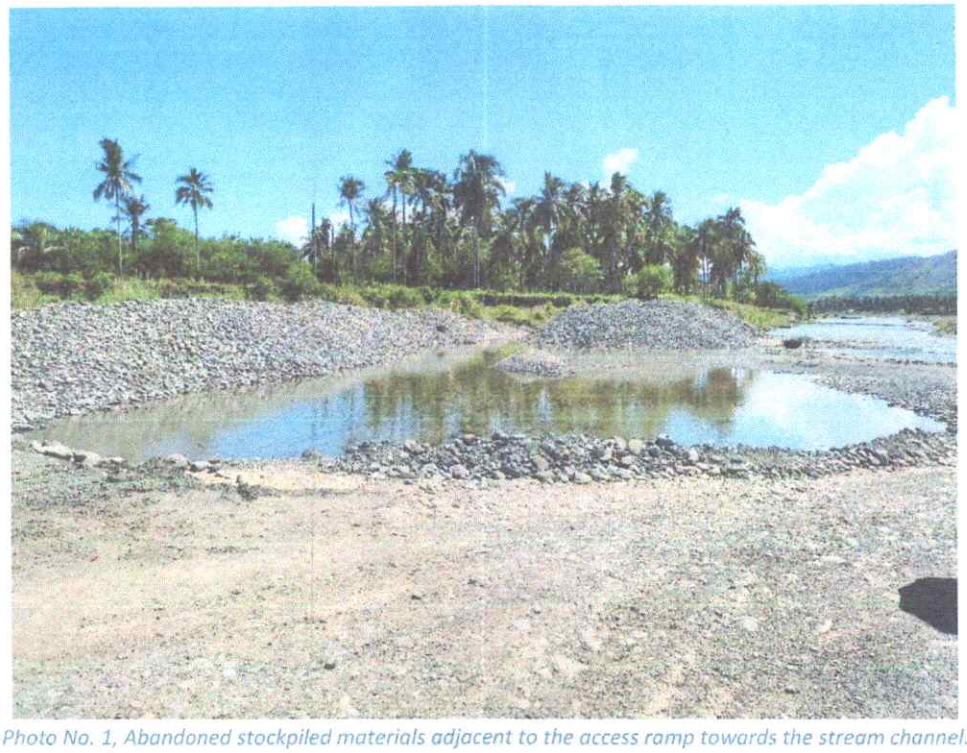

Photo No. 1, Abandoned stockpiled materials adjacent to the access ramp towards the stream channel.



Photo No. 2, Circular pits that may have been formed due to extractive activities. Note that there were no proponents/permit holder present during the field assessment.

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Photo No. 3, Tabular stockpile at the fringes of the river channel.



Photo No. 4, One of the areas being applied for sand and gravel permit but are situated within a riparian zone.

MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU
Regional Office No. 13, Surigao City
OC24-12-13-9984
08:48:09 Report



Photo No. 5, Aggregates stockyard facility within a channel bar by one of the proponents/permit holder.



Photo No.6. Mechanized sorting machine on the same area as described on Photo No. 5.

MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU
Regional Office No. 13, Butuan City
0C24-12-13-9984
08:48:09 Report

ANNEX 3

Report on the Assessment of Sand and Gravel Permitted Areas Carac-an River, Municipality of Madrid, Province of Surigao Del Sur prepared by FOR. THELMA S. ALCOBERES, RPF et.al.

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BAGONG PILIPINAS

Madrid Palamboon

Republic of the Philippines

PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR

PENRO-LGU

Capitol hills, Telaje, Tandag City

Report on the Assessment of Sand and Gravel Permitted Areas
Carac-an River, Municipality of Madrid
Province of Surigao del Sur

PENRO - LGU
RELEASED
BY:
DATE/TIME: 12-18-24
TANDAG CITY, SURIGAO DEL SUR

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the findings of the assessment conducted on the respective sand and gravel permitted areas in Carac-an River, Madrid, Surigao del Sur. It aims to evaluate the environmental impact of the sand and gravel extraction.

Introduction

The assessment was conducted on November 12, 2024 participated by the following personnel:

Mines and Geo-sciences Bureau, Regional Office, Surigao City

1. Gaius Jabez A. Galope - Project Development Officer/ Geologist
2. Diana Jean S. Dano - Science Research Specialist II/ Mining Engineer

Environmental Management Bureau, Regional Office, Butuan City

1. Cheryl M. Elpa - Information Officer

PENRO-LGU, Surigao del Sur

1. Thelma S. Alcoberes - Provincial ENR Officer
2. Mae Q. Sauro - Asst. Provincial ENR Officer
3. Norberto R. Ramirez, II - Community Development Asst. I

MENRO, LGU Madrid, Surigao del Sur

1. Vergelio Alas III - MENRO
2. Enrique Velonero - MENRO Staff

The scope of the assessment covered by five (5) permitted areas operated by the following permit holders:

1. Gomersindo P. Gringin - Brgy. Patong-patong, Madrid, Surigao del Sur
2. Ma. Maila D. Mollaneda - Brgy. Patong-patong, Madrid, Surigao del Sur
3. Rodrigo C. Sual - Brgy. Bagsac, Madrid, Surigao del Sur
4. Glenn Sullano - Brgy. San Juan, Madrid, Surigao del Sur
5. Yanson T. Doliente - Brgy. San Vicente, Madrid, Surigao del Sur

Methodology

On November 12, 2024 the team arrived in the Municipality of Madrid, this province, at 9:00 o'clock in the morning. Then, we paid courtesy call to Honorable Mayor Paolo Lopez, Municipal Mayor of LGU Madrid, Surigao del Sur. After the courtesy call the team proceeded to the area for ocular inspection. MENRO Madrid used their drone for an aerial view of the aforementioned five (5) permitted areas. There was a discussion between and among the PENRO-LGU, MENRO LGU-Madrid, MGB, and EMB personnel as to the details of the respective sand and gravel permits.

Results

Below are the findings and observations:

1. Gomersindo P. Gringin

Sand and Gravel Permit was issued to Gomersindo P. Gringin by Honorable Governor Alexander T. Pimentel on February 15, 2024, covering an area of 1.9813 hectares located in Barangay Patong-patong, Madrid, Surigao del Sur. The permit covers an Environmental Compliance Certificate with Reference Code ECC-OL-R13-2017 duly issued by the Environmental Management Bureau, Regional Office, Butuan City.

No quarrying operations were observed on the day of inspection. And no visible signs of environmental destruction or degradation were noted.

2. Ma. Maila D. Mollaneda

Sand and Gravel Permit was issued to Ma. Maila D. Mollaneda by Honorable Governor Alexander T. Pimentel on April 12, 2024, covering an area of 3.695 hectares located in Barangay Patong-patong, Madrid, Surigao del Sur. The permit covers an Environmental Compliance Certificate duly issued by the Environmental Management Bureau, Regional Office, Butuan City with Reference Code ECC-R13-1211-010. But no extraction activities have commenced since the issuance of the sand and gravel permit.

During inspection it was noted that out of 3.695 hectares of the permitted sand and gravel areas it is more or less one (1) hectare remains viable for sand and gravel extraction, as substantial areas have transformed into dry land and some areas are now used as road for vehicles and equipment access.

3. Rodrigo C. Sual

Sand and Gravel Permit was issued to Rodrigo C. Sual by Honorable Governor Alexander T. Pimentel on April 12, 2024, covering an area of 1.74 hectares located in Barangay Bagsac, Madrid, Surigao del Sur. The permit covers an Environmental Compliance Certificate duly issued by the Environmental Management Bureau, Regional Office, Butuan City with Reference Code ECC-OL-R13-2017-004.

During inspection there was no operation. However, the team observed an excavation pit resulting from sand and gravel extraction. Geologist Jarvis recommended back-filling to prevent accidents and mitigate river flow alteration.

4. Glenn Sullano

Sand and Gravel Permit was issued to Glenn Sullano by Honorable Governor Alexander T. Pimentel on August 1, 2024, covering an area of 1.51 hectares located in Barangay San Juan, Madrid, Surigao del Sur. The permit covers an Environmental Compliance Certificate duly issued by the Environmental Management Bureau, Regional Office, Butuan City with Reference Code ECC-OL-R13-2017-0011.

No operation at the time of inspection. However, Mr. Sullano the permit holder was there during inspection. Presence of backhoe and screen were seen in the area, but no violations observed.

5. Yanson T. Doliente

Sand and Gravel Permit was issued to Yanson T. Doliente by Honorable Governor Alexander T. Pimentel on April 22, 2024 covering an area of 2.636 hectares located in Barangay San Vicente, Madrid, Surigao del Sur. The permit covers an Environmental Compliance Certificate duly issued by the Environmental Management Bureau, Regional Office, Butuan City with Reference Code ECC-OL-R13-2021-0099.

No operation on the day of inspection. It was observed that there was an excavation pit resulting from sand and gravel extraction. Stockpile of extracted sand and gravel within the river was also observed. Geologist Jarvis of MGB recommended backfilling of the excavation pit and to remove the sand and gravel stockpiled in the river to prevent accidents and mitigate river flow alteration. He added that the sand and gravel stockpile to be removed shall be re-deposited along the riverbank as embankment.

Recommendations:

1. To conduct an actual ground relocation of the permit area of Ma. Maila Mollaneda to determine the exact area viable for sand and gravel extraction;

2. Regular joint monitoring is recommended to ensure permit compliance and environmental sustainability;

3. To continue the conduct of area assessment to other permitted sand and gravel areas in Carac-an river, Madrid, Surigao del Sur;

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Community Development Asstn. I

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THELMA S. ALCOBERES, RPF
Provincial ENR Officer

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Attachment

Photographs of permitted areas





YANSON T. DOLIENTE -AREA





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Rodrigo C. Sual - Area





GLENN SULLANO -AREA



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COURTESY CALL TO MAYOR PAULO LOPEZ







