

NARRATIVE REPORT ON WORLD WETLANDS DAY CELEBRATION 2005

THEME : “There’s wealth in wetland diversity – Don’t lose it!!”

INTRODUCTION

February 2nd marks the World Wetlands Day Celebration that reminds us of the cultural and biological diversity of wetlands which represent a natural wealth that can sustain ecological balance both physically and emotionally.

Wetlands are the suppliers and regulators of water for entire river basins- they are the world’s “water towers” that plays critical components of the water cycle.

In celebration of this month activities, the DENR together with other government agencies, LGUs, NGOs, Academe, barangay officials and other concerned groups help in the realization to develop strategies in the management and utilization of wetlands that has provided sustenance to wildlife as well as other benefits for people.

The Protected Areas, Wildlife and Coastal Zone Management Service (PAWCZMS) in coordination with field offices spearheaded the said occasion with various Information, Education Campaign (IEC) which have resulted and developed awareness among people the importance of wetlands and the wealth that has brought in the past and future generation.

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES

- **Hanging of Streamers**

The hanging of streamers in conspicuous places was conducted in all DENR regional and field offices to promote public awareness which starts the celebration of World Wetlands day. *(Please see attached schedule of activities)*



- **Asian Waterfowl Census**

One of the activities conducted was bird counting in different wetlands area such as San Ramon, Mampang- Tugbungan, Talon- Talon, Murcielagos Island Protected Landscape and Seascape and Vitali Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve which starts early January to monitor the migratory birds.

- **Briefing of Mangrove Nursery Preparation**

The ATENEO- SACSI Group which is the partner of DENR in conserving the environment had conducted installation of marker & Mangrove Planting at Mampang Wetland Area. There were 71 participants who participated the mangrove nursery preparation.

- **Radio Program and Press Release**

The importance of wetlands, environmental issues and its month- long activities were shared through radio plugging and print media to inform people from all walks of life. Press release was conducted in all regional and local newspapers. *(Please see attached newsletter)*. Hereunder are the radio Stations.

Radio Stations	Place
DXMR – Radyo ng Bayan	Zamboanga City
DXRZ – Radyo Agong	Zamboanga City
Hot- FM	Liloy, Zamboanga del Norte



- **Special Convocation at DENR-IX Open Stage**

A special convocation was held to commemorate the World Wetlands Day.



- **Tree/ Mangrove Planting**

The mangrove planting was held simultaneously with field offices which were participated by LGUs, NGO, and Academe in different wetland areas such as Mampang and Talon-Talon wetland area, Lake Maragang, ZDS, Lakewood and Liburan River. Hereunder are the lists of participants:

Participating Agency/ Academe	No. of Participants
ATENEO-SACSI, Z.C.	29
Mampang Barangay, Z.C.	11
KABUHI Mindanao, Z.C.	12
Talon-Talon Barangay, Z.C.	6
Mampang Elementary, Z.C.	13
Regional Science High, Z.C.	17
ATENEO- Science High School Club, Z.C.	28



- **Coastal Clean-Up**

Coastal Clean-up was also conducted at the coastal area of RT Lim, Boulevard, Zamboanga City last February 24, 2005, Coastal area of Leon Postigo, Zamboanga del Norte.



- **IEC/Dalaw Turo**

Information, Education Campaign (IEC) was conducted in selected schools in Zamboanga City which includes elementary, high school and college students. The campaign focused on the benefits and values of wetlands as well as types of wetlands, part of this is the environmental games. There were 10 schools who participated. Hereunder are the list of schools and number of students.

Name of Schools	Date conducted	No. of Participants
Pilar College – HS Dept.	January 31	131
Tumaga Elem. School	February 4	87
Montessori de Zamboanga	February 4	42
WMSU- Env'tl Engg. Students	February 7	33
San Roque Elem. School	February 8	60
Sta. Maria Central School	February 8	52
ZSCMST- HS Dept.	February 9	91
Hansel & Gretel (Ferndale Int.)	February 9	71
Bolong Elem. School	February 10	182
Divisoria Elem. School	February 10	80



- **MOA Signing**

The signing of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was conducted between WMSU- IPESCA (Institute of Physical Education, Sports and Cultural Affairs) and DENR- IX on Adopt- A Wetland Area.

- **Culmination Program**

The culmination program was held last February 28, 2005 at the Lantawan compound, DENR, Zamboanga City.



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