

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

DATE : 14 MAY 2016

DAY : Saturday

DENR

IN THE NEWS

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BusinessMirror

A broader look at today's business

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Protect country's waters from climate-change impacts—DENR

AMID the growing threats and likely impacts of climate change to oceans, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) called on the public to do their part in protecting the country's waters through active participation in coastal and marine conservation.

The DENR made the appeal as the country marks the 17th annual celebration of the Month of the Ocean in May with the theme "Biodiversity for Food and SeaCUREity," a reminder on how climate change has wreaked havoc on the world's marine life.

Temperature increase has warmed the ocean floor and caused the death of corals that are vital to marine life and food security.

Environment Secretary Ramon J.P. Paje said the DENR, for its part, has increased efforts to scale up "green" infrastructure, conduct scientific assessment and enable communities, which are at the forefront of biodiversity conservation, to counter the effects of climate change.

He said the agency will also embark on a nationwide coral restoration program and improve its reforestation projects, notably the National Greening Program.

"Aside from this, the country has already received considerable foreign assistance in the last five years to scale up protected area management effectiveness," Paje said.

"This supports the capacity development needs for protected area management, as well as augment the financing of priority activities," he added.

Just recently, the DENR established the Sustainable Coral Reef Ecosystem Management Program (SCREMP) in Albay province to help combat the alarming effects of climate change to Philippine waters.

The program aims to raise public awareness and social environmental consciousness on the value of coral reefs and associated coastal and marine ecosystems to mitigate the impact of climate change.

SCREMP will promote sustainable management of coastal and marine resources, including biodiversity, through habitat protection, conservation and rehabilitation.

This month, the Philippines also joins the world in celebrating the International Day for Biological Diversity on May 22, with the theme "Mainstreaming Biodiversity: Sustaining People and their Livelihoods."

The event aims to inform the public on the relevance of biological diversity in sustaining people and livelihoods within biodiversity-rich areas. Women's groups will showcase their biodiversity-friendly enterprises and livelihood and products and services.

The Philippines is one of the world's 17 megabiodiverse countries and is home to 70 percent to 80 percent of the entire planet's biodiversity. The more than 7,100 islands in the country harbor some of the richest ecosystems and species in the world.

Scientists have noted that there is a higher concentration of species per unit area in the Philippines than anywhere else in the world.

It has over 6,000 plant species, more than 530 bird species, at least 165 mammal species, 235 reptile species, nearly 90 amphibian species, and more than 280 freshwater species of fish. It also has a high percentage of flora and fauna endemism.

Underscoring the importance of national parks and protected areas in the conservation of the country's rich biodiversity, the DENR pushed for the passage of the Enhanced National Integrated Protected Areas System (Enipas) Act in Congress during the past three years.

The Enipas Act will set the boundaries of protected areas and their classification as national parks consistent with the concept of ecosystem-based adaptation, one of the ways the Philippines could comply with the Paris climate accord and achieve the country's Intended Nationally Determined Contributions. *Jonathan L. Mayuga*

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Serpent-eating eagle saved

TABUK CITY—A serpent-eating eagle was surrendered to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) here on Thursday by a man who bought it for P500 from a vendor in Tanudan town.

The eagle was first handed over to a local radio station by Jonathan Cabbigat, who said the bird appeared injured.

Carousel Viten, Radyo Natin station manager, took custody of the bird after reimbursing Cabbigat and delivered it to the Tabuk community environment and natural resources office (Cenro).

While the DENR did not have a sanctuary for wildlife in the region, it would help the eagle heal before releasing it back to the wild, said Veron Banglot, Cenro supervising ecosystem management specialist. *Estanislao Albano Jr., Contributor*



THE SERPENT-EATING eagle saved from the illicit wildlife trade

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Campaign materials, huwag sunugin-Ecowaste

Binalaan ng eco-waste coalition ang publiko sa masamang epekto ng pagsunog sa mga campaign materials sa lansangan at mga basurahan.

Aksyon ito ng grupo, matapos ang ginagawang paglilinis ng pambahalaan, civic groups, barangay personnel officials at concerned individuals kasunod ng nakaraang halalan noong Lunes.

Sabi ng grupo, base sa Republic Act 9003, o ang Ecological Solid Waste Management Act, ay nagbabawal sa hayagan ng panununog ng mga solid waste at may parusang P300 hanggang P1,000 o pagkakapiit na isa o 15 araw.

Ilan sa mga may mataas na toxic pollutants ay isang byproduct chemicals na tinatawag

na dioxins, na nagreresulta sa pagsunog sa mga basura na mayroong chlorine, ayon pa sa EcoWaste Coalition.

Giit ni Aileen Lucero, Coordinator, EcoWaste Coalition ang mga campaign materials tulad ng papel at paper plastic campaign banners, posters at fliers ay mayroong chlorine, coating at mga ink.

Ang dioxins ay mapanganib at kahit mababa ang lebel ay maaring humantong sa problema sa kalusugan tulad ng cancer, sabi pa ng grupo.

Kaya naman, sa halip na sunugin ay i-recycle na lang ang mga ito para makatulong na maiwasan ang formation at mailabas ang dioxins at marami pang uri ng mapanganib na pollutants. (Ricky T. Tulipat)

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DENR forester natusta sa kidlat sa Cagayan

TUGUEGARAO CITY - Dead on the spot ang isang forester ng Community and Environment and Natural Resources ng Amulung, Cagayan matapos na tamaan ng kidlat.

Ang nasawi ay si Marc Ian Dela Cruz, 24, forest technician one, binata, ng Cattabayungan, Cabagan, Isabela.

Sinabi ni forestry specialist Andres Giquing na nagtungo sa Balungcanag, Rizal, Cagayan si Dela Cruz, kasama ang iba pang forester na sina Wilbert Rances, Joel Ortiz, Noel Masalang at Mark Anthony Cappucino para magsagawa ng geotagging sa mga puno na itinanim doon kaugnay sa ipinapatupad na national greening program ng pamahalaan.

Habang nagsasagawa ng geotagging ang mga nasabing kawani ng DENR ay bumuhos ang malakas na ulan na may kasamang pagkulog at pagkidlat.

Tinamaan ng kidlat ang mga nasabing kawani subalit si Dela Cruz ang napuruhan na agad nitong ikinamatay habang nasa maayos ng kalagayan ang apat na kasama ng biktima.



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La Niña sa kalagitnaan ng taon—PAGASA

Ni ROMMEL P. TABBAD

Binalaan ng Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) ang gobyerno at ang publiko kaugnay ng pagpasok ng La Niña phenomenon sa bansa, na magiging kabaligtaran ng El Niño.

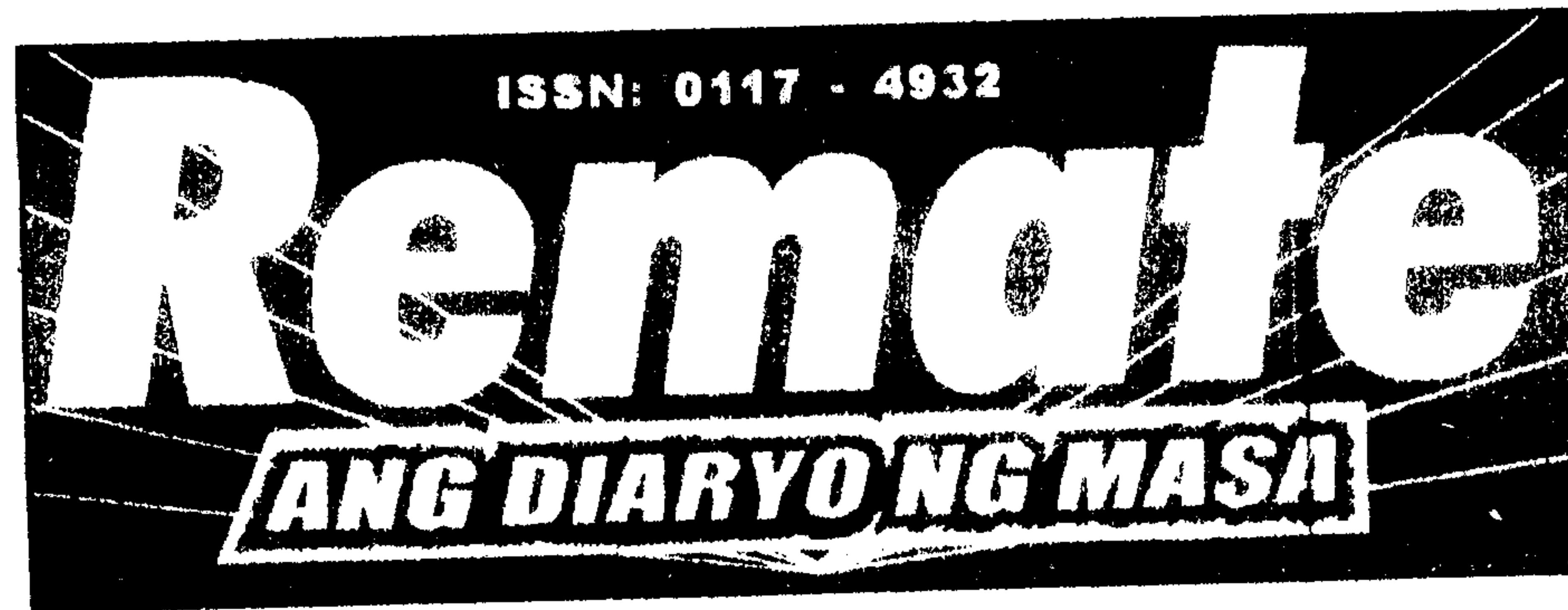
Ayon kay Anthony Lucero, weather specialist ng PAGASA, kapag pumasok na ang naturang weather phenomenon ay makararanas ang bansa ng malalakas na pag-ulan na magpapabaha sa maraming lugar sa bansa.

Batay sa huling advisory ng PAGASA, patuloy na humihina ang El Niño sa tropical Pacific na nangangahulugan na unti-until nang mamumuo ang La Niña sa gitnang bahagi ng taon.

Kaugnay nito, pinayuhuan ng ahensiya ang gobyerno na paghandaan ang nasabing weather event, habang tinutulungan ang mga naapektuhan ng El Niño.

Dahil dito, inaasahan na ng ahensiya ang below normal rainfall sa Luzon at Visayas, habang sa ilang bahagi ng

Mindanao ay makakaranas na ng "near-normal to above-normal rainfall conditions".



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El Niño matatapos na

MAY posibilidad na mata-tapos na ngayong buwan o sa susunod na buwan ang nararanasang matinding El Niño phenomenon sa bansa at kasunod nito ay ang La Niña sa katapusan ng taon.

Subalit, ayon sa PAG-ASA, posible pang madagdag ang mga lalawigan na makararanas ng tagtuyot ngayong buwan.

Sa ngayon, aabot sa 28

na lalawigan ang nakararanas ng tagtuyot at posible pa itong pumalo sa 37 hanggang sa katapusan ng Mayo.

Kabilang dito ang mga probinsiya ng Abra, Ifugao, Kalinga, Apayao, Mountain Province, Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac, Zambales, Occidental Mindoro, Palawan at Masbate sa Luzon.

Sa Visayas, apektado ang Aklan, Antique, Capiz,

Guimaras, Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Bohol, Cebu, Siquijor at Biliran.

Sa Mindanao, kasama sa mga tatamaan ng matinding tagtuyot ang Zamboanga Sibugay, Camiguin, Lanao del Norte, Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental, Davao del Sur, South Cotabato, North Cotabato, Sarangani, Surigao del Norte, Sulu at Tawi-Tawi. **M SAPICO**

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THE PHILIPPINE
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TRUTH SHALL PREVAIL

The only paper you read from cover to cover!

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Photo shows a parched rice field in Jaen, Nueva Ecija yesterday. An estimated 12,558 hectares of agricultural land in Nueva Ecija, the country's rice granary, has been affected by an extended El Niño. BOY SANTOS

