



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
CARAGA REGION



September 29, 2023

REGIONAL MEMORANDUM

No. 0936, s. 2023

To: SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
This Region

SARIBUHAY—CARAGA REGION WILDLIFE QUIZ BOWL

1. The Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF), together with the Cantilan Bank, Inc., and Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, co-presented by the Department of Education-Caraga, will conduct the first-ever Saribuhay—Caraga Region Wildlife Quiz Bowl on October 14-15, 2023 at SM City Butuan.
2. The activity aims to develop an ethics of wildlife conservation among high school students private and public schools in the region.
3. The following SDOs are requested to identify one (1) teacher-coach and two (2) student-contestants from **each private or public school** to be identified by the concerned SDOs:

SDOs	No. of school-participants (private or public)	No. of participants involved
Agusan del Norte	3	3 teachers; 6 JHS or SHS students
Agusan del Sur	3	3 teachers; 6 JHS or SHS students
Bayugan City	2	2 teachers; 4 JHS or SHS students
Bislig City	2	2 teachers; 4 JHS or SHS students
Butuan City	3 (1 slot is for Philippine Science High School-RXIII)	3 teachers; 6 JHS or SHS students
Cabadbaran City	2	2 teachers; 4 JHS or SHS students
Dinagat Islands	3	3 teachers; 6 JHS or SHS students
Siargao	2	2 teachers; 4 JHS or SHS students
Surigao City	2	2 teachers; 4 JHS or SHS students
Surigao del Norte	3	3 teachers; 6 JHS or SHS students
Surigao del Sur	3	3 teachers; 6 JHS or SHS students
Tandag City	2	2 teachers; 4 JHS or SHS students
Total	30	30 teachers; 60 JHS or SHS students

4. Meals and accommodation will be shouldered by the PEF. However, transportation expenses of the teacher- and student-participants from the public schools will be charged against other school local funds outside their MOOE subject to the availability of funds and usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.



2023-09-14713

5. For logistics preparation, all identified participants, through the Education Program Supervisor (EPS) in Science, are requested to provide the name of the participants and check-in confirmation at <https://bit.ly/SaribuhayPax>.

6. Learner-participants who will participate in the event shall secure parental consent and shall be subjected to make-up classes, advanced classes, and/or alternative delivery mode, whichever is applicable, to ensure that intended competencies are covered within their period of participation.

7. Apart from the quiz bowl, the participating students will also join the screening of the 45-minute award-winning documentary, "To Save our Eagles" and the highly-anticipated "Bantay Bukid" – a documentary about our Forest Guards in Mt. Apo. There will also be lectures from prominent researchers and conservationists. An exhibit featuring the culture-based conservation of the PEF and the milestones on Philippine eagle conservation in Caraga over the years will also be mounted in SM City Butuan.

8. Attached in this Memorandum are the schedule of activities and the contest information.

9. The top three (3) winners will compete at the national level quiz bowl in Ormoc City in November 2023.

10. Immediate and wide dissemination of this Memorandum to all concerned is highly desired.

MARIA INES C. ASUNCION

Director III
Officer-in-Charge
Office of the Regional Director

BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR:

JOEL B. ROSALES
Chief, ASD

Encl/s.: As stated.

Reference/s: Communication Letter of PEF dated Sept. 1, 2023

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index

under the following subjects:

CONTESTS SCIENCE

CLMD/khzs
09/29/2023



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PHILIPPINE EAGLE FOUNDATION

September 1, 2023

MARIA INES C. ASUNCION

Regional Director

Department of Education Region XIII

DEAR MA'AM MARIA INES C. ASUNCION,

Warm greetings from the Philippine Eagle Foundation! First and foremost, we want to wish you, your loved ones, and your colleagues in DepEd a good state of well-being.

Caraga Region is blessed with stunning and spectacular biocultural diversity. The region is an area where many species' distributions come together and overlap, making this spot a bull's eye of biodiversity. Also, many of the threatened species in Mindanao and Eastern Visayas can be found in Mt. Hilong-Hilong including our critically endangered national bird – the Philippine Eagle. This is also where the Mamanwa and Manobo Indigenous Peoples thrive.

In order to instill environmental consciousness among the youth and young students of the region, we would like to host the first-ever **"SARIBUHAY – Caraga Region Wildlife Quiz Bowl"** on **October 14-15, 2023** at **SM City Butuan**. The event aims to develop an ethics of wildlife conservation among sixty (60) High School students from thirty private and public schools in the provinces of Agusan del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Sur, and Surigao del Norte. Two (2) students and one (1) coach will be the composition of the team. The target is to subsidize the participants for the 2-day event. The top three (3) winners will compete at the national level quiz bowl in Ormoc City in November 2023.

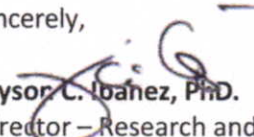
Apart from the quiz bowl proper, the participating students will also join the screening of the 45-minute award-winning documentary, **"To Save our Eagles"** and the highly-anticipated **"Bantay Bukid"** – a documentary about our Forest Guards in Mt. Apo. There will also be lectures from prominent researchers and conservationists. An exhibit featuring the culture-based conservation of the PEF and the milestones on Philippine eagle conservation in Caraga over the years will also be mounted in SM City Butuan.

With this, the PEF, together with Cantilan Bank, Inc. and Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, invites the **Department of Education Region XIII to be a CO-PRESENTER** of this event. With this, we request your good office to issue a memorandum endorsing the activity to the school divisions of the region. We also request a provision of "service credits" among teachers/coaches who will participate in the activity considering that it will be conducted on a weekend. Also, it will be our absolute pleasure if you can join us during the opening ceremony and give an inspirational message before our delegates and other esteemed guests.

If you have questions or clarifications regarding this invitation, please contact our **CEPA Officer, Irick Francisco**, through his mobile **(0956-762-9622)**.

We are sincerely hoping for your positive response. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,


Jayson C. Ibanez, PhD.

Director – Research and Conservation

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SARIBUHAY 2023: CARAGA REGION WILDLIFE QUIZ BOWL

October 14-15, 2023

SM City Butuan

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

DATE	ACTIVITY	PERSONS INVOLVED
October 13, 2023	Arrival of Participants/Check in/Registration	Secretariat
October 14, 2023		
• 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Opening Ceremony • National Anthem • Ecumenical Prayer • Caraga Hymn	AVP
	Welcome Messages	Engr. Ronnie Vicente C. Lagnada <i>City Mayor, Butuan</i>
		Kristine Joy. Y. Baritua <i>Mall Manager, SM City Butuan</i>
	Inspirational Messages	Lt. Gen. William K. Hotchkiss III (Ret.) <i>President and Chairman, Cantilan Bank Inc.</i>
		Nonito M. Tamayo, CESO III <i>Regional Executive Director, DENR Caraga</i>
		Maria Ines C. Asuncion <i>Regional Director,</i>

		Department of Education Region XIII
	Event Overview	Dennis I. Salvador, <i>Executive Director, PEF</i>
	Unveiling of Event Poster and Photo Walk	All Guests and Participants
• 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Screening of “To Save our Eagles”	PEF
	Talkback/Abstraction	Host
• 2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Lecture 1	
	Question & Answer	
• 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM	Screening of “Bantay Bukid”	PEF
	Talkback/Abstraction	Host
• 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Lecture 2	
	Question & Answer	
	Distribution of Evaluation Sheets	PEF
END OF DAY 1		
October 15, 2023		
• 10:00 AM – 10:20 AM	Opening Ceremony - National Anthem - Ecumenical Prayer	AVP
	Rationale	Dr. Jayson C. Ibañez, <i>Director for Research and Conservation,</i> PEF
• 10:20 AM – 11:30 AM	Quiz Bowl Proper	Quiz Masters

11:30 AM – 12:00 NN	Awarding Ceremony	
	Closing Remarks	Lisa Paguntalan <i>Executive Director,</i> PhilBio
HOMEWARD BOUND		

SARIBUHAY (Unity in Diversity) – Caraga Region Wildlife Quiz Bowl

October 14-15, 2023

Venue: SM City Butuan

Identifying Information

Proponents: Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF), Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation, Inc. and Cantilan Bank, Inc.

Project Short Name: SARIBUHAY: Caraga Region Wildlife Quiz Bowl

Contacts:

Jayson Ibanez, PhD,
Director – Research & Conservation
ibanez.jayson@gmail.com

Irick Francisco
CEPA Officer
irickfrancisco.work@gmail.com

Target Participants: Junior and Senior High School Students of Agusan del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Sur, and Surigao del Norte

Executive Summary

The Philippines is among the 17 mega-diversity countries of the world. But it is also one of the most biologically devastated island archipelagoes in the world. It's ancient vegetation, the tropical forests that harbor a large proportion of this unique biological diversity, has been devastated. Creating a generation of forest and wildlife-friendly citizens that takes into account biodiversity needs in their personal decisions is therefore important if we are to sustain healthy forest ecosystems and human well-being into the future.



The Davao Region Wildlife Quiz Bowl hosted by PEF in May 2023 at Mapua Malayan Colleges Mindanao.

The **SARIBUHAY Wildlife Quiz Bowl** contributes to building wildlife conservation awareness and behavior among participating youth. This event is intended to achieve the following: (i) enhance forest and wildlife conservation awareness and knowledge of high school students, teachers and academic institutions, (ii) encourage the study and learning of Philippine forests, its unique wildlife, and its conservation at the high school level, and (iii) engage academic institutions on biodiversity conservation and awareness activities.

Background and Rationale

The Philippines is one of only 17 megadiversity countries in the world, and it owes much of its terrestrial biological diversity to its tropical forest ecosystem. Estimates suggest that more than 90 % of the total land area of the Philippines is covered with forests of various types prior to Spanish colonization. Tropical forests – one of the most biologically rich habitats in the world – therefore, is the country's ancient vegetation.

Through the creative powers of evolution, at least six types of Philippine forests (i.e. mangrove, beach, molave, dipterocarp, pine and mossy forests) gave rise to the country's unique wildlife. But the primordial vegetation of the ancient Philippines, is down to only less than 20 % of the country's land area. It's primary dipterocarp forests – the richest in terms of plant and animal diversity it contains – is down to less than 10 % of the original. Such loss has consequences to the forests' wildlife inhabitants, the ecosystems they form and the many ecological, cultural and economic services it provides to humanity.



Forest walk at ALI Davao Carbon Forest with Harold Kim Manla, PEF Forest Restoration Marketing Officer at Representatives from ThinnkFarm.

Public knowledge and awareness about Philippine Forest biodiversity and its values (material and non-material) among the Filipino youth remains limited. For example, the western education system that we've been exposed to have used exotic animals in foreign ecosystems such as tigers of Asian forests, bears of northern continents and the elephants of African savannahs in text books; not the endemic Philippine eagles, Philippine crocodiles and Philippine deer of Philippine tropical forests. These "Filipino" wildlife are comparable (if not better) icon animals. Indeed, the integration of our unique biodiversity and its conservation into the formal education curriculum as mandated by the law remains weak.



Tour at the Philippine Eagle Center of students and coaches

There are also very little experiential forest and wildlife learning opportunities provided by our formal education institutions for our youth. Field trips to or off-campus activities in natural places to experience wildlife are often deprioritized for fear of students' safety, particularly in private schools where parents and teachers are over-protective of their students. Experiential learning theories (see Kolb 1984) predict that the lack of meaningful and processed experiences reduces youth access to practical life lessons and skills.

Additionally, Caraga Region By itself, CARAGA or Region 13 (Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Norte and Agusan del Sur) has a rich ecosystem and hosts a unique community of plant and animal species. Agusan Marsh has been declared a Wildlife Sanctuary and one of the 10 priority protected areas in the Integrated Protected Areas System. Siargao Island, Bocas Grande and other smaller adjacent islands and islets were declared as a unit having a Protected Landscape and Seascape status. In terms of conservation status in the region, several threatened species are found in the region, including the Philippine Eagle, Philippine Cockatoo, the Golden-crowned flying fox, and the Philippine crocodile. At least 31 floral species are threatened.

The quiz bowl targets junior and senior high school students from different public and private schools across Caraga Region. Cognitive learning theories predict that youth within this particular age-bracket already has the ability to make decisions based on knowledge of options and their consequences. At these ages, they also tend to build skills to become self-sufficient, and they seek increased power over their own lives. We predict that youth participation to the quiz bowl, the tedious and disciplined preparation that comes with it, and the talks and learning sessions on-site, contributes to molding young leaders who will embrace wildlife conservation as a citizen obligation. All of these are consistent with the legal mandate of the National Environmental Awareness and Education Act or RA 9512.

Overall Project Goal. The project's over-all goal is to develop an ethics of forest and wildlife conservation among Filipino youth. To achieve this long-term goal, the project will be guided by specific objective.

Objectives. Support the acquisition of forest and wildlife conservation knowledge and experiences among high school students from across the Philippines who are participating in the quiz bowl.

Expected Result	Indicator of Success	Means of Verification	Assumption
a) Sixty high school students from 30 private and public schools across Caraga Region participated	All 60 students rating the event as very satisfactory at the very least	Likert scale evaluation sheets	All students turn in their evaluation sheets
b) Sixty high school students from 30 private and public schools across Caraga Region join the film screenings and lectures	- All 60 students rating the films as very satisfactory at the very least - At most 10 students giving talkbacks/reflections about the film	Likert scale evaluation sheets Documentation	All students turn in their evaluation sheets The students' statements are recorded and transcribed

Methods

The annual National Wildlife Quiz Bowl started in 2015 with the intention of raising awareness and appreciation of the wildlife and biodiversity of the Philippines among secondary schools. But in order for schools to join this national competition, they should belong to the top three winners of any regional wildlife quiz bowl competition. South Davao which encompasses the provinces of Davao Occidental and Davao del Sur and the city of Digos, and the province of Apayao already had their respective entries for the national level in Ormoc City in November 2023.

The topics covered in the contest centers on (i) basic biology, ecology, and diversity of Philippine wildlife, (ii) Philippine biogeography, (iii) environmental laws, (iv) environmental events and (v) new discoveries, among others. The event is also an opportunity for participants to visit and learn about the Philippine environment and cultural diversity by exposing them to the culture-based conservation mechanism of the PEF and the milestones on Philippine eagle conservation in Caraga through a gallery walk at SM City Butuan.

Regional Wildlife Quiz Bowl. Participants to the quiz bowl must be registered Junior and/or Senior High school students from the recognized public and private high schools in the region. Only two students with one teacher-coach will represent each school. These students should be endorsed by the school principal and should also show parent consent. The top three winners would then compete in the National Wildlife Quiz in November.

Below are the important competition mechanics:

COMPETITION MECHANICS

- This quiz bowl shall be open to public and private high schools of Caraga Region. A certificate of endorsement from the school principal and parent consents must be submitted by the participating students on the day of the quizbowl.
- Each participating school shall be represented by one team of two *bona fide* students and one teacher-coach.
- The questions used in this quiz bowl are based on the subjects of basic biology, ecology, Philippine wildlife, Philippine biogeography, environmental laws, and environmental issues.
- This quiz bowl shall have three rounds namely Easy/Elimination, Average, and Difficult Round.
- Wrong spelling is considered a wrong answer.
- Scientific names should be written properly.
- Cheating in any form shall automatically disqualify a team.
- Clarifications, questions, and protests should be addressed to the Board of Judges before the next question is asked otherwise these shall be considered void.
- The decision of the Board of Judges shall be final and irrevocable.

Wildlife Talks. Expert academics or forest/wildlife conservation practitioners will be invited to give popular talks (TED talk style) to the students. We will particularly concentrate on species unique to Caraga Region and the measures to conserve them. Each speaker will be given 30 minutes, including time for a short talk-back.

Film Showing. The film showing will be instrumental to the integration of the affective aspect of learning amongst students. Two films featuring two entities representative of each other – the Philippine eagle and the Bantay Bukid volunteers will be screened during the first day.

Project Team Composition

Jayson Ibañez and Lisa Paguntalan	Event Chairs	Jayson and Lisa will ensure that the Caraga Region event conforms to the standards of the National Quiz bowl hosting. They will be responsible for the sound implementation of the quiz bowl.
Irick Francisco	Event Coordinator (PEF)	He will be responsible for the over-all design and execution of the quiz bowl. He will also supervise the work of other committees and staff.
Christian Casio	Event Coordinator (PhilBio)	He will be responsible for the provision of technical assistance to PEF, and

		provision of the necessary documents for the quiz bowl.
Julia Lynne Allong	Accommodations Facilitator	She will ensure that Accommodation arrangements are covered and executed. She will also be responsible in monitoring the whereabouts of the participants.
Harold Kim Manla	Technical Facilitator	He is responsible for the overall technical work throughout the course of the activity. He will make sure that the flow of the program aligns with the audio and visual presentations.
Gliceria Ibañez	Logistics Coordinator	She will ensure that all logistical needs of the event are covered and provided
Sheila Yu	Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator	She will ensure that the event assessments and learning gains pre- and post-test assessments are executed and summarized

List of Partner Organizations and Agencies

Name	Type of Organization	Tasks
Philippine Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc	NGO	Major Project Collaborator
Cantilan Bank, Inc.	Corporation	Major Project Collaborator
SM City Butuan	Corporation	Major Project Collaborator
Department of Education Region XIII	Government Organization	Major Project Collaborator

Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

We will employ standard activity assessments for each of the major components. For example, for each talk, there will be talk assessment forms that will be sent out to know degree of satisfaction by the audience of the talks. Learning gains will also be assessed for the film screenings as part of the affective learning component of the activities.