

Coastal and Marine Wetlands

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Coastal and Marine Wetland TWG

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Issues and Concerns:
National Wetlands Action Plan
(1993)

ISSUES and CONCERNS (1993)

- **Destruction of Wetlands:**

- *Mangroves*

- Conversion to brackish water fishponds
- Wood chipping
- Charcoal and firewood production
- Extraction of building and construction materials
- Pollution from mining and industry
- Changed hydrology due to earthworks behind the mangroves

ISSUES and CONCERNS (1993)

- **Destruction of Wetlands:**

- *Estuaries and Mudflats*

- Little attention to protecting estuaries and mudflats; Low level of awareness
- Location, extent and significance of important areas are not adequately known
- No protected areas gazetted for the values of estuaries and mudflats

ISSUES and CONCERNS (1993)

- **Destruction of Wetlands:**
 - *Seagrass Beds*
 - Little knowledge of the location, extent and significance of seagrass beds
 - No areas have been set aside specifically to protect seagrasses

ISSUES and CONCERNS (1993)

- **Destruction of Wetlands:**

- *Coral Reefs*

- Overfishing and the use of destructive fishing methods
- Siltation caused by unsuitable agricultural practices, mining tailings, and logging in the water catchments
- Shell and coral extraction for sale
- Quarrying of coral for use as building material

ISSUES and CONCERNS (1993)

- **Uses of Wetlands:**
 - *Aquaculture (Brackish Water Fish/Prawn Ponds)*
 - Destruction of mangrove forests
 - Switch from production of milkfish to shrimp
 - Effluent and discharges from aquaculture ponds
 - Dilution of seawater with freshwater leading to saltwater intrusion, reduced availability of freshwater

ISSUES and CONCERNS (1993)

- **Uses of Wetlands:**

- *Tourism*

- Inhibited realization of the social and economic benefits which can be derived from wetland tourism and recreation
- Limited finance and manpower
- Deleterious impacts of tourism (or ecotourism) to wetlands



Priority Sites for Action
National Wetlands Action Plan
(1993)

PRIORITY SITES of ACTION

Code Entries:

Cabulao Bay (CB)

Olango Island (OI)

Inabanga Coast (IC)

Malampaya Sound (MS)

Siargao Island (SI)

Balayan Bay (BB)

Buguey Wetlands (BW)

Tayabas Bay (TB)

Talabong Island & Bais Bay (TI)

Panguil Bay (PB)

Ulugan Bay (UB)

Manila Bay (MB)

ISSUES AND CONCERNS (1993)	C B	O I	I C	M S	S I	B B	B W	T B	T I	P B	U B	M B
Overexploitation of mangrove resources	■	■	■		■				■		■	
Overexploitation of coastal resources			■			■				■		■
Mangrove conversion	■		■			■	■	■		■		
Gleaning of reef flats		■										
Destructive fishing methods		■						■				
Hunting of shorebirds and waterfowl		■					■	■				
Population growth				■								
Pollution (power plant)						■						
Pollution (sugar mill)									■			
Pollution (domestic)										■		■
Pollution (oil pollution)											■	
Pollution (other industrial effluents)												■
Pesticide poisoning of birds							■					

Source: National Wetlands Action Plan (1993)



Conservation Initiatives

Coastal and Marine Wetlands

TREATIES and CONVENTIONS

- *Wetlands of international importance recognized under Ramsar Convention (under coastal/ marine)*
 - Tubbataha Reef Marine National Park,
 - Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary,

TREATIES and CONVENTIONS

- *The Philippines is signatory to the ff:*
 - International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil (1964)
 - Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping Wastes and Other Matters (1973)
 - Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (1991)
 - Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 (1992)
 - Basel Convention (1993)
 - UNCLOS (1994)

PROJECTS and PROGRAMS

- Coastal Environmental Program, CMMO (1993-pres).
- Integrated Coastal Resource Management Project, DENR-ADB
- Coastal Resource Management Project, DENR-USAID (1996-2002).
- PEMSEA: Manila Bay Project, GEF-UNDP-IMO
- Fisheries Resource Management Project, DA-BFAR-ADB (1998-2003)
- Community-Based Resource Management Project (CBRMP), DoF-WB in partnership with 88 LGUs and 740 POs. (1998-2007)



RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES

Coastal and Marine Wetlands

- Coordinate programs and actions
- Repository of information and documents on coastal and marine wetlands
- Focus efforts on priority management issues and areas
- Integrated programs that would tackle across ecosystem types
- Data on mudflats and estuaries is needed
- Sustain national resource inventory/assessment of coastal and marine wetlands
- Continue and strengthen partnerships (among agencies, local government units, NGOs, POs, academe)
- Increase community participation and involvement in coastal and marine wetland management
- Sustain trainings of local-based agencies and organizations
- information and education campaigns

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Major Source Documents:

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