



SULU FUND FOR MARINE CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, Inc.

NEWSLETTER
(bi-annual)

In collaboration With



February 2000
Issue no. 4

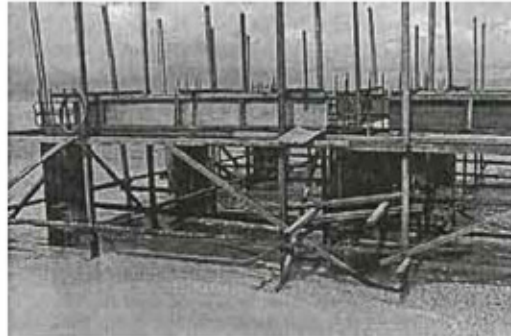
Field Projects in Palawan and Batangas

Ranger Station in Tubbataha, Palawan

In December 1999 the foundation of a new ranger station was finished. The entire structure will be done in March 2000. Funds granted by the Marine Parks Center of Japan of US\$11,500 have been utilized to supplement cost of the construction of the ranger station in Tubbataha as designed by the Philippine Navy and other partners in the management of the park. In addition, the funds have been used to raise awareness of visitors to the park and for monitoring of the area.

The old ranger station (photo below) was collapsing and the Philippine Navy needed a stable place to reside in to protect the only national marine park of the Philippines. Our appreciation for support goes to the Marine Parks Center of Japan, the Province of Palawan under Governor Socrates, SAGUDA Palawan and of course our board member Angelique Songco for coordinating the construction with Navy.

It is to the credit of the Armed Forces of the Philippines through the Western Command in Palawan that Tubbataha is being guarded from illegal fishing activities. The new ranger station will make it easier to maintain a presence there and provide improved living conditions for Navy personnel and others visiting the station.



Status of new ranger station, December 1999 (top); Almost complete, January 2000 (middle); Old ranger station (right)



Tubbataha Reefs National Marine Park Educational Campaign

This project supported by the CORAL Reef Alliance has been successfully completed. Through the efforts of Angeliq Songco and her staff, this project has helped increase awareness of Palawan-based fishermen and tourism operators about the need to conserve Tubbataha Reefs National Marine Park. A video based on the existing footage of Tubbataha reef ecology and management, dubbed in Tagalog, was shown in ten fishing communities. A flip chart about Tubbataha reefs in English and Tagalog was used to educate fishing villages, communities and divers on board the various live-aboard dive boats. A follow-up activity to this project will be continued briefings for divers visiting Tubbataha.



Mayor Atienza of Tingloy, Batangas signing a memorandum of Agreement with the CRMP and Sulu Fund (A. White) jointly with KKP (Ed Tongson)

Reef Management in Tingloy, Batangas

Funds from the Coral Reef Alliance, Kabang Kalikasan ng Pilipinas (KKP) and donor Richard Hirsch amounting to P423,000 are supporting this project. Activities started in late 1998 with an initial dissemination of information on the need for marine conservation in the area. Ongoing activities this year (2000) include: 1) installation of several anchor buoys using appropriate, practical and cheap designs and involving local residents in their installation; 2) supporting community management of marine sanctuaries; and 3) the development of an integrated plan for the Mabini-Tingloy tourism and traditional use area.

In December 1999, Daniel Ocampo, the project field worker, organized an exhibit "Ang Kalayaan ng Ating Yaman-Dagat" in Barangay Santo Tomas together with KKP and Haribon Foundation. It was well attended and the exhibit is still on display in the house of the Barangay captain (see photos).

In February 2000, Daniel Ocampo organized a study tour for about 10 members of the Santo Tomas community to visit San Salvador Island, Zambales and Bolinao, Pangasinan. It is hoped that this trip will catalyze interest on the part of the barangay group to initiate a marine sanctuary in their area to protect important reef resources.

This project site is also an expansion area of the Coastal Resource Management Project (CRMP) supported by the United States Agency for International Development. Mayor Atienza of Tingloy, late last year, signed a memorandum of agreement with CRMP, Sulu Fund and KKP to work together on coastal management activities. The mayor's enthusiasm for protecting coral reefs in this area is encouraging so that it is expected that year 2000 will be productive for improving coastal management in Tingloy Municipality.



Danny Ocampo working with the children in preparation for the exhibit (photo below). Barangay Captain posing with the exhibit in his house; people looking at the exhibit wonderfully prepared by Sulu Fund, KKP, and Haribon Foundation (photo above).

Other Field Projects

Bohol Marine Triangle

The Sulu Fund together with the Coastal Resource Management Project were asked by the Foundation for Philippine Environment to assist in the design of a large marine conservation program for the Bohol Marine Triangle which includes Panglao, Balicasag and Pamilacan Islands off southern Bohol Island. Thomas Bayer and Alan White have been working on this project design together with the Silliman University Marine Laboratory and the Bohol Integrated Development Foundation (BIDEF). The project proposal will be submitted for final review by the United Nations Development Programme and the Global Environment Facility in March 2000. If all goes well with the review and it is approved, it is possible that funding could be made available of US\$750,000 by the end of this year. The ultimate project will be implemented by the Foundation for Philippine Environment with assistance from its partners in the design process along with the local governments and communities of the area.

Saving Philippine Reefs Tubbataha Expedition on May 21-30, 2000

We are preparing for this upcoming research expedition (May 21-30, 2000 in Tubbataha). We will conduct the expedition in cooperation with CRMP to update baseline data on Tubbataha Reefs collected in 1984, 1989, 1992 and 1996. Paying volunteers are mostly the past Earthwatch divers. Angelique Songco will be one of the divemasters on board. Jonathan Apurado of the University of San Carlos will be the technical divemaster. Any interested party please contact Sulu Fund. Two slots are still available.

Board Members for year 2000

President	Alan White
Vice President Coordinator	Lori Tan (Publication)
Treasurer/Secretary	Evangeline White
Batangas Coordinator	Albert Salamanca
Palawan Coordinator	Angelique Songco
Journalism/Writer (Publication)	Yasmin Arquiza
Research Support	Maria Carmel Meyer

We would like to welcome Mrs. Maria Carmel Meyer as our newly elected board member. Maria has been very active both in research and financial support to Sulu Fund. She is Filipino by birth and resides in New York, USA and is very enthusiastic about becoming a board member for Sulu Fund.

We thank Mr. Gaudencio Peña for his support as board member for the past 2 years and his participation in various CRMP initiated projects in the Cebu area.

Information Projects

Bookmark (publisher) is printing the "Tales from Tubbataha, Natural History, Resource Use, and Conservation of the Tubbataha Reefs Palawan, Philippines" book (Authors are Yasmin Arquiza and Alan White). The book will be launched in Manila on February 29, 2000 and again in Puerto Princesa in late March 2000.

"Philippine Coral Reefs: A Natural History Guide" is being revised. This book is overdue for improvements and reprinting. It was first published in 1987 by New Day Publishers and is now out of print.

We would like to thank in advance the following people who have donated their wonderful slides to the revised edition.

David Cook, (Australia)
Lynn Funkhouser, (Chicago, USA)
Eduardo CuUnjieng, (Philippines)
Christy Gavitt, (Arizona, USA)
Toni Paras, (Miami, USA)
Mike Ross, (Cebu City, Philippines)
Stephen Castillo, (Cebu City, Philippines)
Louella Dolar-Perrin, (California, USA)
Nida Calumpong, (Negros, Philippines)
Teodulo Luchavez, (Negros, Philippines)
John Randall, (Hawaii, USA)
Steven Leatherwood
Myron Wang, (Kansas, USA)
William Perrin, (California, USA)

Ms. Gel Alvarado, our research assistant is cheerfully assisting with the photo captions and editing among many other chores. Since the layout process is beginning, we hope to finish all by the year 2000. As with all such projects of the Sulu Fund, the proceeds from the book publication will be used to support field projects in marine conservation.

Lori Tan (also Sulu Fund board member and owner of Bookmark) is assisting to publish the two books. We intend to submit to the Publisher by April 2000.

Sulu Fund Members and Donors

1. CORAL Reef Alliance	13. Richard Vokes	25. Benson Dakay	Board Members:
2. Maria Meyer	14. Steven Nakashima	26. Owen Jones	
3. Thure Meyer	15. George Aiken	27. Jane Jones	36. Alan White
4. Dorothy White	16. Dean White	28. Vittoria Thornley	37. Lori Tan
5. David Green	17. Kris White	29. Richard Tobin	38. Albert Salamanca
6. Siona Bennet	18. Nelia Forest	30. Carol Achabal	39. Angelique Songco
7. Safia Bayer	19. Aliaa Pollock	31. Dale Achabal	40. Yasmin Arquiza
8. Tom Bayer	20. Stanley Mieth	32. Mary Gleason	41. Maria Carmel Meyer
9. Edie Their	21. Eleanore Mieth	33. Mr. and Mrs Richard Hirsch	42. Evangeline White
10. Al Their	22. Patrick Christie	34. Robert Dean	
11. Joe Atchue	23. Vilma Kohn	35. Mr. & Mrs. Mike Ross	
12. Sachi Itagaki	24. Bea Eklof		Honorary Members:

43. Mikhail Lee Maximo
44. Stephen Colwell
45. Shawn Reifsteck
46. Catherine Courtney
47. CRMP-Philippines
48. CRMP-Indonesia
49. Earthwatch Volunteers
50. Gaudencio Peña

Financial Report of the Sulu Fund

The Sulu Fund began in June 1997 with a major Earthwatch Expedition conducted in the Mabini, Batangas area. The financial summary (Income Statement) which follows reflects the revenues and expenses of this Expedition as well as all activities up to the present.

Income Statement (Pesos and US Dollars)		Grand Total Transactions in	
Foe July 1, 1997-December 31, 1999	Transactions in US\$ Account	Peso Account	In US\$
			(40=1US\$)
Operating Revenue			
Sales	1,593.00	86,586.93	3,757.67
Membership	1,623.00	14,000.00	1,973.00
Honorarium received by Alan White	5,246.00	14,650.00	5,612.33
Marine Parks Center of Japan	11,501.10		
Earthwatch (EW) Expedition Fund, 97	1,035.00	400,140.00	11,038.50
Others (EW Volunteer local), 97	943.00	4,500.00	1,055.50
Earthwatch (EW) Expedition Fund, 99	24,750.00		24,750.00
Cash from US\$ account		1,485,750.00	37,143.75
KKP		175,000.00	4,375.00
Donation from Richard Hirsch		10,000.00	250.00
Donation from Richard Tobin	200.00		200.00
CRMP Indonesia	12,866.75		12,866.75
Coral Reef Alliance, first grant	7,000.00		7,000.00
Coral Reef Alliance, second grant	5,000.00		5,000.00
Study Tour		88,226.34	2,205.66
FPE Fund for Bohol Marine Triangle May 2000 Expedition		195,000.00	4,875.00
Net Operating revenue	71,757.93	2,473,853.27	133,604.26
Operating Expenses			
Earthwatch (EW) Trip Expense '97		313,920.50	7,848.01
Earthwatch Report Expense '97		3,622.75	90.57
Additional Earthwatch Expense '97		28,900.00	722.50
Earthwatch '99		716,716.75	17,917.92
Salaries Expense		212,179.58	5,304.49
SEC registration		2,433.75	60.84
Office overhead		43,408.65	1,085.22
Books for sale		81,916.25	2,047.91
Coral Reef Book Writing Expense		5,610.00	140.25
Tales form Tubbataha Writing Expense		25,000.00	625.00
Batangas Project		245,014.00	6,125.35
Palawan Educational Project		113,238.75	2,830.97
Tubbataha Ranger Station Project		250,000.00	6,250.00
Indonesian Study Tour	9,066.75		9,066.75
US\$ Fund transfer to Peso Account	39,500.00		39,500.00
Bohol Marine Triangle Project		3,471.60	86.79
Bank charges	24.00	986.40	48.66
May 2000 Expedition			
Total Operating Expense	48,590.75	2,046,418.98	99,751.22
Net Income from Operations	23,167.18	427,434.29	33,853.04
Net Income (Cash in bank)	23,167.18	427,434.29	33,853.04