



Republic of the Philippines  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
 Elliptical Road, Diliman 1100 Quezon City  
 +63(2) 8928-8741 to 64 and +63(2) 8273-2474

**SPECIAL ORDER**

No. 610  
 Series of 2024

**SUBJECT: AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT AND PARTICIPATE IN THE ORIENTATION OF FISHING OPERATORS, CREWS AND FISHERIES OBSERVERS OF TUNA HANDLINE FISHING VESSELS FOR THE CONDUCT OF PRELIMINARY IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF FISH AGGREGATING DEVICES (FADS) ON BY CATCH, ENDANGERED, THREATENED AND PROTECTED SPECIES (ETP) WITHIN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AREAS 2 AND 3.**

In the exigency of service, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources-National Marine Fisheries Development Center (BFAR-NMFDC) is hereby authorized to conduct the *“Orientation of Fishing operators, Crews and Fisheries observers of Tuna Handline Fishing Vessels for the Conduct of Preliminary Impact Assessment of Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) on By Catch, Endangered, Threatened and Protected Species (ETP) within Fisheries Management Areas 2 and 3”* in General Santos City or vicinities in support to the request of FFSAPI-SARGEN Fishport Tuna Handline Fishing Association Incorporated and SoCSKSarGen Federation of Fishing and Allied Industries, Inc. The said activity is scheduled on April 22-24, 2024.

The activities aim to inform fishing operators, crews of tuna handline fishing vessels, and fisheries observers who will be deployed on handline fishing vessels about the conduct of impact assessments on Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) regarding bycatch, endangered, threatened, and protected species (ETP) within Fisheries Management Areas 2 and 3. It will provide them with information regarding the project objectives, methodology implementation, and data gathering, as well as the duties and responsibilities of the parties involved, with the purpose of providing baseline data for the improvement of the Tuna Handline Fishery in the Philippines.

In line with this, the following BFAR Divisions/Centers/Offices/Units and members of the fishing industry are hereby authorized to attend the said capacity-building/training:

| Agency/Sector  | Number of Participants |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. National Marine Fisheries Development Center (NMFDC)  | 8                      |
| 2. Capture Fisheries Division (CFD)  | 1                      |
| 3. FFSAPI-SARGEN Fishport Tuna Handline Fishing Association Incorporated ) (General Santos City) | 5                      |
| 4. BFAR RFO No. XII – General Santos City  | 1                      |
| 5. Fishermen and Crew of Tuna Handline Fishing Vessels – General Santos City                     | 28                     |

| Agency/Sector  | Number of Participants |
|--|------------------------|
| 6. Department of agriculture Office of the Secretary Staff | 3                      |
| 7. Fisheries Observers                                     | 10                     |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>56</b>              |

The National Marine Fisheries Development Center (NMFDC) shall serve as the organizer, coordinator and secretariat in the activity as part of its official mandates/functions, with assistance from Capture Fisheries Division and BFAR RFO No. XII as the host region.

Expenses such as food, venue, and accommodation relative to the conduct of the above activity shall be chargeable against NMFDC, BFAR Funds, while travelling expenses and per diem and incidental expenses of the participants are chargeable against their respective office's funds, subject to the availability of funds and in accordance with the existing accounting rules and regulations.

This Order shall take effect immediately and shall be considered revoked upon completion of the activity. All orders, memoranda, and issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby revoked.

Done this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of APRIL 2024.

  
**FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL, JR.**  
 Secretary A



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