

and also serve as harbor to variety of life forms like invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and even mammals. Mangroves are also good source of timber, fuel and fodder. These can become main source of income generation for shoreline communities like fisher folk as well as potential source for recreation and tourism. These do not only save the marine diversity, which is already fast diminishing, but also help the populace through absorption of impurities and harmful heavy metals for the purification of water and absorption of pollutants in the air so people can breathe clean air

In the province of Bataan, mangrove forests were successfully established and continuously being maintained and protected by Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) with the support of various People’s Organizations in the province. Species of mangrove that can be found in the province are Bakawan lalake (*Rhizophora Apiculata*), Pagatpat (*Sonneratia Alba*), and Bugalon (*Avicennia Marina*). In year 2011, Bataan registered a total of 121.08 hectares planted to mangroves. On the other hand, City of Balanga and municipalities of Abucay and Samal were the only LGUs that performed groundtruthing activities in year 2015 while the rest of the municipalities of Bataan were targeted to follow in year 2016. Groundtruthing is useful to determine the status of a mangrove area so as to identify suitable planning strategies for the preservation of habitats and resources of Manila Bay.

Table B.10
Mangrove Coverage by Municipality/City
Province of Bataan
CY 2011 and 2015

Municipality/City	Area (hectares)	
	CY 2011	CY 2015
Abucay	17.38	29.89
City of Balanga	24.53	26.07
Limay	0.9	0.9
Orani	42.28	42.28
Orion	13.79	13.79
Pilar	14.03	14.03
Samal	8.17	13.55
Bataan	121.08	140.51

Source: Project Management Office

It can be seen in Table B.10 that the overall mangrove coverage of Bataan increased from CY 2011-2015 by 16 % due to the augmented mangrove area of Samal, Balanga City and Abucay.