

What is the Fish Farm Management Study all about?

The Fish Farm Management Study was conducted to profile fish farm owners/operators and identify fish farm management practices in Valenzuela City and in Meycauayan City, Obando, and Marilao in Bulacan.

The study aimed to:

1. Update the list of operational fish farms in the four cities/municipalities;
2. Characterize fish farm owners/operators, their households, and their fish farms;
3. Determine their current fish farm management practices;
4. Determine their concerns/problems in fish farming; and
5. Discuss remediation technologies they used to address their water pollution concerns.

It also aimed to make health advisories and a local policy to promote adoption of remediation technologies and best practices in fishpond management.



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Results of the Fish Farm Management Study (FFS)

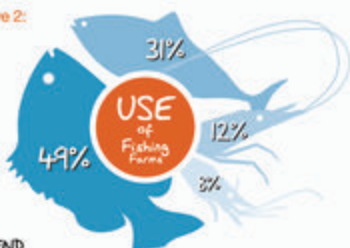
Fish Farms in MMORS

Objective 1:

Most of the fish farm owners in the MMORS are male, married, and 60 years old or older.



Objective 2:



LEGEND

■ Growing Tilapia ■ Growing Bangus ■ Growing Prasin ■ Growing Shrimp

Stock	Primary Source
Tilapia	Bulacan
Bangus	Bulacan
Shrimp	Zaragoza, Bulacan, Batangas, Cavite
Prasin	Batangas, Bulacan, Cavite, Zaragoza, Pangasinan, Quezon



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Objective 3:

Harvest production per cycle



Bulk purchasing of the harvest is dominant among the fish farms in the MMORS. The marketing strategies observed were:

- Wholesale through secret oral bidding;
- Open bidding; and
- Contract selling.

Different factors affect prices of their harvest:

- Supply and demand;
- Size of harvest; and
- Freshness of produce.



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Results of the Fish Farm Management Study (FFS)

Objective 4:

Problems identified in fish farms along MMORS

- Flooding due to changing climate patterns;
- Poor water quality due to pollution that resulted in fish kill and reduced fish catch;
- Invasive species;
- Pests;
- Collapsed dike; and
- Lack of institutional support (e.g., high rental fees and taxes, lack of programs and support for fish farmers and aquaculture industry).

Objective 5:

Very few fisherfolk use techniques to improve water quality. A few fish farm owners used "sodium" to treat the water. The in-flow and out-flow of water to and from the pond help in the regulation of the water quality inside the pond.

Several suggestions were also proposed to address problems in the MMORS:

- Controlling pollution at source;
- Enforcing laws, especially on solid wastes;
- Conducting river clean-up;
- Organizing meetings and IEC campaigns;
- Organizing the Bantay Ilog;
- Improving rehabilitation projects;
- Asking support from other organizations; and
- Putting up landfill facilities.



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Cleaning of MMORS

The government has started clean-up efforts, such as removal of water lilies, conduct of IEC campaigns, river dredging, dike and landfill construction, and better enforcement of laws in waste management.

Simultaneous with this, Blacksmith Institute Philippines, in partnership with the Water Quality Management Area Board, has also started the following activities in the area:

- Series of research and on-site studies;
- River quality monitoring;
- Pilot Remediation efforts;
- Eco-camps; and
- Workshops with fisherfolk.



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