

Cattle raisers laud DENR for grazing initiative

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ECHAGUE, Isabela: The Federation of Cattle Raisers Association of the Philippines (FCRAP) through the Cagayan Valley Region Ranchers Association (CVRRA) lauded the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Region 2 (Cagayan Valley) for improving the grazing management areas in the region.

Recognizing DENR Region 2, FCRAP President Martin Gomez and CVRRA President Roberto Agcaoili appreciated DENR Region 2 Executive Director Gwendolyn Bambalan for her commitment to environmental sustainability and her initiative in taking the lead for organizing the first CVRRA.

Bambalan started efforts with Forest Land Grazing Management (FLGMA) holders to ensure food security by adopting a climate-resilient and science-based grazing management approach in September 2022 during the 1st FLGMA Summit.

Also in Congress, she presented the status of the FLGMA and the agency's efforts in assisting the holders in the Cagayan Valley region where more than 19,000 hectares are allocated for grazing area.

However, Bambalan said there are only 9,000 hectares that are utilized under FLGMA with existing 52 holders as of June 2022, and to utilize the remaining allocated regional grazing management areas, she urged potential cattle raisers to apply for the 25-year grazing agreement.

She also urged FLGMA holders to join the biophysical assessment to be conducted by the DENR composite team enjoining them to start rehabilitating and improving the grazing lands awarded to them and ensure the sustainable use of these pasture lands.

During the National Cattle Congress on April 27-28, 2023 in this town, the DENR also encouraged cattle raisers to ensure food security by increasing their production in their respective areas in compliance with the DENR requirements, policies and regulations.

Bambalan also assured the DENR's support and collaboration with the Cagayan Valley region's ranchers association expecting that Region 2 will be one of the successful implementers and contributors in boosting the cattle industry in the country.