

## Marine Toad *Rhinella marina* in the Sulu faunal region, Philippines

Martin D. BUDDI & Emerson Y. SY  
[emersonsy@gmail.com](mailto:emersonsy@gmail.com)

**Observer:** Martin D. Buddi.  
**Photographs by:** Martin D. Buddi.  
**Subjects identified by:** Emerson Y. Sy.

### Sighting Record #1

**Location:** Bongao Island, Barangay Tubig-Boh, Bongao Municipality, Tawi-Tawi Province, Philippines.  
**Elevation:** 30 metres ASL.  
**Habitat:** Sidewalk of a paved road in a residential area.  
**Date and time:** 19 March 2021, 22:15 hrs.

### Sighting Record #2

**Location:** Tandubas Island, Barangay Tanggah, Tandubas Municipality, Tawi-Tawi Province, Philippines.  
**Elevation:** 1 metre ASL.  
**Habitat:** Residential area adjacent to an agricultural area.  
**Date and time:** 13 March 2022, 18:40 hrs.

### Identity of subjects:

Marine Toad, *Rhinella marina* (Amphibia: Anura: Bufonidae).



Fig. 1. An adult female Marine Toad on Bongao Island.

© M.D. Buddi



Fig. 2. An adult male Marine Toad on Tandubas Island.

© M.D. Buddi

**Remarks:**

The toads were identified as *Rhinella marina* based on (i) their large size, (ii) dorsal colour is brown with black blotches (female) or uniform yellowish brown (male), (iii) a large pair of parotid glands, (iv) tubercles on the body and limbs and (v) absence of parietal crests (Alcala and Brown, 1998).

The Marine Toad is an introduced species and has a widespread distribution in the Philippines (Pili et al., 2019). This note provides a new range extension for the Marine Toad in the Sulu faunal region (Diesmos et al., 2015).

**References:**

Alcala, A.C. & Brown, W.C. (1998). Philippine amphibians: an illustrated field guide. Bookmark, Inc. Makati City, Philippines. xii + 116pp.

Diesmos, A.C., Watters, J.L., Huron, N.A., Davis, D.R., Alcala, A.C., Crombie, R.I., Afuang, L.E., Gee-Das, G., Sison, R.V., Sanguila, M.B., Penrod, M.L., Labonte, M.J., Davey, C.S., Leone, E.A., Diesmos, M.L., Sy, E.Y., Welton, L.J., Brown, R.M. and Siler, C.D. (2015). Amphibians of the Philippines, part I: checklist of the species. Proceedings of the California Academy of Sciences series 4, 62: 457-539.

Pili, A.N., Sy, E.Y., Diesmos, M.L.L., and Diesmos, A.C. (2019). Island hopping in a biodiversity hotspot archipelago: reconstructed invasion history and updated status and distribution of alien frogs in the Philippines. Pacific Science 73(3): 321-343..