

Review of: "Culture Lockdown, Nature Freedom: Respite for Biodiversity during the COVID Pandemic – A Limited Case Study in La Union, Philippines"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper dwells on a predictable but important premise that links nature and anthropogenic activities. While human-induced interference puts pressure on biodiversity causing its decline, the COVID time witnessed a remarkable reversal across different regions.

The current paper tries to correlate/ establish this in the Philippines by evidence-based method applied at three different scales, as explained by the author. However, other than the FCC satellite image, the readers do not gain much understanding of the habitat of the BK and its 'activities'. The same stands for the meso- and micro-scale studies and their consequent observations.

The paper is cursory in its present form. It barely talks about the lower consumer categories and how these too may have benefitted from the 'cultural lockdown', contributing to a healthier eco-system. A system approach may help in getting a well-rounded view in this specific context.

In short, the paper will benefit from better clarity with respect to the research objectives and research questions, and detailed discussion of the research methods and research results within the chosen spatio-temporal backdrop.

As the author admits that this is a preliminary study only, readers look forward to more in-depth and inclusive insights being brought to the table.

Since it may not be possible to isolate nature from humanity, it would be interesting to learn about the author's recommendations/ perceptions on the connected aspects of nature conservation, environmental protection and management plan/s in the context of the Baroro delta.

Thanks and best wishes to the author!