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Beach Safety Practices and Preservation Management Strategies of the Selected Beach Resorts in Occidental Mindoro

Aezenette C. Agkis[1*], Ferdinand II E. Andres[2], John Aero P. Caraan[3], Queenz Rhovie D. Jualan[4] and John Carlo R. Rivadenera[5]

National University-Philippines- College of Tourism and Hospitality

Corresponding Author: John Paul G. Buenaventura, Liberty B. Gutierrez
jpgbuenaventura@national-u.edu.ph

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A B S T R A C T

The purpose of this study is to understand the protective measures of safety management strategies for selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro. These include tourists' risk perception, environmental considerations directly related to COVID-19, and safety management strategies designed to limit the risk of contagion on the beach. The study, therefore, identifies research prospects in these areas, additionally pointing out other questions, such as new carrying capacity methods, with the opportunity given by the arising situation of COVID-19 in the estimation of the assessment of beach safety practices and preservation management strategies. This research study will use quantitative descriptive correlation research. The researcher will gather data from eighty (80) respondents from the two (2) selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro, Maslud Cove and Paradise Beach.

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Over the recent times, beaches around the world represent attractive places for holiday tourism and recreational activities among many people (Roca, 2019). For most people, the presence and good quality of the beach is one of the attractive factors for choosing the holiday or spending quality time with families. On the other hand, use of beaches and related tourism is promising activity for local economies in turn started to show signs of degrading the local environment that can affect ecological status and the recreational experience of people using beaches (Choudr, 2019). With large population located on the coasts, it is evident that negative influence on the beaches is caused by anthropogenic activity. In fact, beaches represent valuable and productive ecosystems, providing favorable outdoor opportunities, and are natural environments that are sensitive to anthropogenic loads (Al-Busaidi, 2019).

To improve beach quality and provide better facilities, beach management is needed considering beach user's preferences and priorities because it allows development of more specific recommendations and guarantees user satisfaction (Yu, 2019). One of the broad goals of perception studies is to understand interactions between people and physical environments. Perception can provide valuable information related to group of people who use natural resources within the ecosystem (Hisham, 2017). Therefore, understanding beach management practices and preservation strategies are important for managing natural resources and may be used to design beach environments according to users' needs and desires (Baawan, 2019). According to many researchers, opinions and perceptions of public need as well as preferences with regard to environmental quality should be added to studies in order to produce a better informed and context-based process.

The objective of this paper is to provide a scientific basis for understanding the levels of beach safety practices and preservation management strategies. These include tourists' risk perception, environmental considerations directly related to COVID-19, and safety management strategies designed to limit the risk of contagion on the beach. The contribution of this paper lies in its interdisciplinary approach to deliver the latest findings, from psychology and health and environmental sciences that are highly relevant to beach tourism and the challenges presented by COVID-19. Particular attention was given to identifying knowledge gaps evident in the areas of COVID-19 risk perception, with the drivers explaining the risk-taking behavior and the safety protective strategies employed by beachgoers. Gaps were also found in areas such as presence of SARS-CoV-2 in bathing waters and the sand, the potential of contaminated sand being a viable route of transmission and the impact of the use of chemical disinfectants on the marine environment and on bathers. The study therefore identifies research prospects in these areas, additionally pointing out other questions, such as new carrying capacity methods, with the opportunity given by the arising situation of COVID19 in estimation of the assessment of beach safety practices and preservation management strategies.

Occidental Mindoro lies on the western part of the seventh-largest island in the Philippines. It is located south of the province of Batangas in Southern

Luzon and northeast of the Visayas. This is directly facing the China Sea. The province is bounded on the east by its sister province of Oriental Mindoro. It is separated from the eastern sector by a central chain of mountains from Cape Calavite in the north to Mt. Alibug in the south. Including the smaller islands, it has a land area of 588,350 hectares. This is approximately four times bigger than Bataan or twice the size of Tarlac province. It is about twelve and five-tenths (12.5) of the total land area of Region IV-A. The province is composed of eleven (11) municipalities: Abra de Ilog, Calintaan, Looc, Lubang, Magsaysay, Mamburao (capital), Paluan, Rizal, Sablayan, San Jose and Sta. Cruz. Sablayan is the largest municipality in the Philippines in point of the area.

Review of Related Literature and Study

Beach tourism is one of the most popular types of tourism on a global scale and is a key economic driver for destinations (Alves, 2019). Beaches are prime recreational grounds that attract people to the water and therefore business to the surrounding area (Amyot & Grant, 2017). Recent trends in tourism include tourists becoming more environmentally conscious when travelling, seeking higher quality products and services, and possessing a greater desire to visit destinations that gave them a unique experience (Alegre & Cladera, 2018). In the past, tourism operators propagated mass tourism, where large groups of tourists with limited travel motives were targeted collectively (Alegre & Garu, 2018). This approach is no longer as effective, as tourists demand new and improved products and services, which require tourism marketers to develop new marketing techniques aimed at targeting smaller, more specific tourists' segments based on their demographic profile and preferences (Williams, 2017; Walsh & Dodds, 2017).

On a global scale, the increasing desire to move away from mass tourism and package vacations due to increasing over tourism (Dodds & Butler, 2019) is forced destinations to identify new tourism opportunities within their region that are attractive, profitable, and sustainable (Priporas, 2020). In seeking these new marketing strategies, destinations will be better equipped to set themselves apart from other destinations that possess similar attributes. For example, Ibrahim and Gill (2018) found that while the primary reason tourists visit Barbados is because it has tropical sandy beaches, what really sets Barbados apart from similar beach destinations is the friendly local people, relaxing atmosphere, aquatic life and availability of water sports and activities. Priporas (2018) also proposes that businesses should segment their marketing to reach all the various possible markets so as to fully capitalize on their market share. In order for tourism operators to identify market segments and new tourism opportunities, it is important to understand first the profiles and segments of tourists, tourists' perception of a destination, and level of satisfaction and safety among tourists (Bajs, 2017).

Preservation Management Strategies

Ocean and coastal resources provide substantial ecosystem goods and services including food security and livelihoods for millions of people around

the world (FAO, 2018). Declining fish catches in some parts of the world and a high dependence on these resources has led to an active field of research and projects supported by academic institutions, international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and foundations, international aid organizations, and others. The growing impact on the world's marine ecosystems has led to increasing concern and support for marine conservation initiatives (Halpern, 2018; Toropova et al., 2019). Global initiatives have focused on implementing marine protected areas (MPAs) to protect ocean ecosystems and habitat. At the regional and local level MPAs are used as a tool to protect or recover local fish populations and coral reef habitat. In the Philippines, integrated coastal management (ICM) initiatives and community-based marine protected areas have been implemented to manage marine resources.

The first indicator is Marine Environmental and Governance. Communitybased Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) have been used to address problems of decline in fisheries and the destruction of coral reefs (White et al. 2020). The first MPAs were established in the Philippines in the 1970s, two of the best known being the MPAs at Sumilon and Apo Islands (Alcala & Russ, 2019). MPAs are defined as any area of inter tidal or sub tidal terrain, together with its overlying water and associated flora, fauna, historical, and cultural features, which has been reserved by law or other effective means to protect part of or all of the enclosed environment (IUCN, 2019). Currently there are more than 1,000 MPAs nationwide. They vary by type and level of protection. In a sanctuary, extractive uses are prohibited, and these small no-take areas commonly range in size from 10 to 100 hectares. No-take areas are surrounded or buffered by "traditional fishing reserves" with gear type restrictions.

Statement of the Problem

This study would determine the levels of beach safety practices and preservation management strategies among the selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro. Specifically, it answered the following questions:

1. What is the demographic profile of respondents in terms of:
    - 1.1 Age
    - 1.2 Gender
    - 1.3 Employment Status
    - 1.4 Frequency of visit
    - 1.5 Purpose of visit
2. What is the level of beach safety practices of the selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro in terms of:
    - 2.1 Environment
    - 2.2 Accessibility
    - 2.3 Habitation/Accommodation
    - 2.4 Facilities/Safety Parameters
3. What is the level of preservation management strategies of the selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro in terms of:
    - 3.1 marine environment and governance;
    - 3.2 coastal resource use and management
    - 3.3 community awareness of marine protected areas;

3.4 openness to scaling up marine protected areas; and,
3.5 openness to establishing new marine protected areas?

4. Is there a significant relationship between beach safety practices and preservation management strategies among the selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro?

Hypothesis

The following null hypothesis is tested at 0.05 levels of significances: There is no significant relationship between the beach safety practices and preservation management strategies among the selected beach resorts

THEORETICAL REVIEW

This study is anchored on the Theory of Reasoned Action (TRA) which was developed by (Ajizen and Fishbein, 1975) to study consumer behaviour. In fact, the TRA is considered one of the pioneering theories in the research field of consumer behaviour when choosing a particular type of goods or services. The TRA theory shows that the intention determines consumer behaviour did that behaviour (Ajzen, 1988). The Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) was developed by Ajzen (1991) from the improvement of the Theory of Reasoned Action. According to the TPB, motivation or intention is a fundamental motivator of human consumption behaviour. The motives or intentions driven by the three basic prefixes are attitudes, subjective norms, and cognitive behavioural control. The more resources and opportunities had, the fewer obstacles would have and the greater the cognitive control of behaviour.

This is supported by Holbrooke and Batra (1987) who developed a Cognition- Affect- Behavioural Paradigm model (C-A-B) was explained how the cognitive buyers behave. This model can explain the cause-and-effect relationship of customer behaviour. Based on this theory, we can assume what the visitors think and trust about the destination information would affect how they feel and can control their intentions of returning to the destination. Jones and Sasser (1995) suggested that there would be acquisition behaviour if consumers were satisfied after purchase process.

According to Weber's (1996) approach, the customer satisfaction is one of the most important factors of the marketing theory and has an important influence on customers purchase intentions in future, through the Word of mouth (WOM) channel. Oliver (1997) showed that the loyalty was a behavioural commitment toward buying products or using services in the future. Kotler and Armstrong (1999) also point out that if consumers are satisfied with the quality of service provided by the company (or even higher than expected consumers expect), the consumers would repurchase or introduce others.

METHODOLOGY

This chapter dealt with the methods and processes for the conduct of the study. It aimed to present the research design, research locale, population and sample, research instrument, data collection, statistical tools, and ethical consideration of research respondents.

Instrumentation and Sampling Technique

This study utilized adopted stationery. This is the main tool that will be used in gathering the data needed for the study. It was designed according to the variables reflected in this study. The first part is about beach safety practices adopted from the study of Lincoln (2010). The reliability of the original scale obtained a Chronbach's alpha value of 0.91, while the local scale had a 0.92 alpha value. The instrument was composed of 21 statements and used a five-point Likert scale with the following ranges of means:

Range of Mean	Descriptive Level	Interpretation
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are never manifested.

The second part of the instrument concerns the preservation management strategies adopted from the study of Fan (2016). This questionnaire had a total of 38 statements. The reliability of the original scale obtained a Chronbach's alpha value of 0.85, while the local scale had a 0.976

alpha value. The questionnaire used a 5point Likert scale and determined based on the following ranges of means:

Range of Mean	Descriptive Level	Interpretation
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are sometimes manifested .
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are never manifested.

Research and Respondents Sampling

The respondents of the study were 80 of the 5 selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro. In choosing the respondents, this study employed a universal sampling technique. This technique referred to the selection of a sample where not all the people in the population have the same profitability of being included in the sample and for each one of them, the probability of being selected was unknown (Margaret, 2017).

This sampling method was utilized by the researcher to exhibit no bias and minimal spread. This was a unique method since it used a single random value to sample all of the solutions by choosing the respondents at evenly spaced intervals.

Statistics and Sample Data

The researcher planned and identified the purpose of the test and the target group. In this step, the researcher had identified the purpose of the test, specified the content area that was studied, and identified the target group. The second step of phase one was to, again, review the literature to be certain no instruments already exist for the evaluation of the variables of interest.

Also, the researcher constructed and identified the objectives of the instrument and developed a table of specifications. Those specifications narrowed the purpose and identified the content areas. Each variable was associated with a concept and an overarching theme in the specification process. Furthermore, the researcher had included the administration of a pilot study to a representative sample. It was helpful to ask the participants for feedback to allow further refinement of the instrument. The pilot study provided quantitative data that the researcher can test for internal consistency

by conducting Cronbach's alphas. The reliability coefficient can range from 0.00 to 1.00, with values of 0.70 or higher indicating acceptable reliability. The instrument that was used to predict future behavior, the instrument administered to the same sample at two different time periods, and the responses were correlated to determine concurrent validity. These measurements were examined to aid the researcher in making informed decisions about revisions to the instrument.

Phase four was validation. In this phase, the researcher should conduct a quantitative pilot study and analyze the data. It was helpful to ask the participants for feedback to allow for further refinement of the instrument. The pilot study provides quantitative data that the researcher tested for internal consistency by conducting Cronbach's alphas. The researcher determined that the concept of validity is important to establish validity.

The following statistical tools were used in the interpretation of data.

Mean and Standard Deviation. These were used to determine the levels of beach safety management and preservation management strategies among beach resorts. Pearson-r This was used to determine the significant relationship between beach safety management and preservation management strategies among beach resorts.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter illustrates and explains the discussion of the problems uphold through analyzing and presenting collected information obtained from the perspectives of the respondents and gathered data utilized based on statistical treatment with corresponding analysis and interpretation arranged in sequence of the problems.

Sub Problem No. 1 Socio Demographic Profile of the Tourists in terms of:

Age	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
21-25 years old	61	76.25
26 - 30 years old	9	11.25
31 - 35 years old	4	5
36 years old and above	6	7.5
Total	**80**	**100**

Table 1. Age

Table 1 shows the demographic profile of the respondents in terms of age. It can be noticed that there are 61 or 76.25% of the respondents whose age ranges from 21 - 25 years old. There are 9 or 11.25% of the respondents whose age ranges from 26 - 30 years old. There are 6 or 7.5% of the respondents whose age ranges from 36 years old and above. And the remaining 4 or 5% of the respondents has age that ranges from 31 - 35 years old. In general, majority of the respondents has age that ranges from 21 - 25 years old.

Gender	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Male	37	46.25
Female	43	53.75
Total	**80**	**100**

Table 2. Gender

Table 2 shows the demographic profile of the respondents in terms of gender. It can be noticed that there are 37 or 46.25% of the respondents who are male. There remaining 43 or 53.75% of the respondents are female. In general, majority of the respondents are female.

Employment Status	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Employed	20	25.00
Unemployed	60	75.00
Total	80	100

Table 3. Employment Status

Table 3 shows the demographic profile of the respondents in terms of employment status. It can be noticed that 60 or 75.00% of the respondents are unemployed. The remaining 20 or 25.00% of the respondents are employed. In general, majority of the respondents are unemployed.

Frequency of Visit	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Yearly	10	12.5
Occasionally	59	73.75
Monthly	6	7.5
Weekly	5	6.25
Total	80	100

Table 4. Frequency of Visit

Table 4 shows the demographic profile of the respondents in terms of frequency of visiting beaches. It can be noticed that there are 59 or 73.75% of the respondents who visit beaches occasionally. There are 10 or 12.5% of the respondents who visit beaches yearly. There are 6 or 7.5% of the respondents who visit beaches monthly. The remaining 5 or 6.25% of the respondents' visits beaches weekly. In general, majority of the respondents visit beaches occasionally.

Purpose of Visit	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Others	17	21.25
Day trip to the beach	23	28.75
Beach Camping	2	2.5
Beach Sports Tournament	1	1.25
Beach Vacation	37	46.25
Total	80	100

Table 5. Purpose of Visit

Table 5 shows the demographic profile of the respondents in terms of purpose of visiting beaches. It can be noticed that there are 37 or 46.25% of the respondents who visit beaches because of vacation. There are 23 or 28.75% of the respondents who visit beaches because of day trip. There are 17 or 21.25% of the respondents who visit beaches due to other reasons. There are 2 or 2.5% of the respondents who visit beaches because of camping. And the remaining 1

or 1.25% of the respondents who visit beaches because of sports tournament. In general, majority of the respondents visit beaches because of vacation.

Sub Problem No. 2 Level of Beach Safety Practices of the Selected Beach Resorts in Occidental Mindoro in terms of:
Environment

Table 1. Level of Beach Safety Practices of the Selected Beach Resorts in Occidental Mindoro in terms of Environment

Level of Beach Safety Practices Environment	Mean	Verbal Interpretation
1. The beach resort is surrounded with well-established public services such as primary schools, religious centre(s), banks, post office(s), internet cafes, hospitals (Paluan Community Hospital/Occidental Mindoro Provincial Hospital) and well-marked central business district.	3.91	Agree
2. The Beach resort promotes use of biodegradable products and recyclable materials	4.16	Agree
3. The resort's location has a good weather condition with two distinct weather types (rainy and dry types)	4.45	Strongly Agree
4. The location is favorable for stay (free from noise and public disturbances)	4.40	Strongly Agree
5. The cleanliness of the place is well maintained.	4.20	Strongly Agree
General Weighted Mean	4.23	Strongly Agree

Table 1 shows the level of beach practices in terms of environment. The respondents ranked first the indicator number 3 which states "The resort's location has a good weather condition with two distinct weather types (rainy and dry types)" with mean of 4.45. It was followed by indicator number 4 which states "The location is favorable for stay (free from noise and public disturbances)" with mean of 4.40. Then, it was followed by indicator number 5 which states that "The cleanliness of the place is well maintained." with a mean of 4.20. It means that the respondents strongly agreed in these indicators.

The indicator number 2 which states "The Beach resort promotes use of biodegradable products and recyclable materials." ranked fourth with a mean of 4.16. It was followed by indicator number 1 which states "The beach resort is surrounded with well-established public services such as primary schools, religious centre(s), banks, post office(s), internet cafes, hospitals (Paluan Community Hospital/Occidental Mindoro Provincial Hospital) and well-marked central business district." with a mean of 3.91 that ranked last which

means that the respondents agreed in these indicators. In general, the respondents strongly agreed in these indicators with a mean of 4.23.

This coincides with Micallef (2017) who mentioned that the second criteria of the people in terms of beach vacation is the accessibility of the beach in all wellestablished public services such as schools, religious centres, post office, and hospitals and other well marked central business district. He also categorized the sites into remote, rural, village, urban, and resort beaches, and analyzed the differences amongst each. The results of this study indicated that visitors were highly satisfied with the communication and availability of information at the resort and urban beaches, and less satisfied with this component at remote and rural beaches.

Legend:

Range of Mean	Descriptive Level	Interpretation
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are never manifested.

Accessibility

Table 2. Level of Beach Safety Practices of the Selected Beach Resorts in Occidental Mindoro in terms of Accessibility

Level of Beach Safety Practices Accessibility	Mean	Verbal Interpretation
6. The beach resort is accessible by any modes of transportation (Modes of transportation going to and from the beach resort are available 24 hours)	4.19	Agree
7. The beach resort is freely open to the public but entrance fee may be encountered.	4.16	Agree
8. The beach resort is visually appealing with improved sidewalks pathways and hallways.	4.13	Agree
9. The operation hours of beach resort facilities are convenient to the guests.	4.39	Strongly Agree
10.The beach resort is located on a traffic congested area.	3.57	Agree
General Weighted Average	4.22	Strongly Agree

Table 2 shows the level of beach practices in terms of accessibility. The respondents ranked first the indicator number 9 which states "The operation hours of beach resort facilities are convenient to the guests." with mean of 4.39. It means that the respondents strongly agreed in this indicator.

It was followed by indicator number 6 which states "The beach resort is accessible by any modes of transportation (Modes of transportation going to and from the beach resort are available 24 hours)." with mean of 4.19. Then, it was followed by indicator number 7 which states that "The beach resort is freely open to the public but entrance fee may be encountered." with a mean of 4.16. Then, it was followed by indicator number 8 which states that "The beach resort is visually appealing with improved sidewalks pathways and hallways." with a mean of 4.13. Lastly, it was followed by indicator number 10 which states that "The beach resort is located on a traffic congested area" with a mean of 3.57 "It means that the respondents agreed in these indicators. In general, the respondents strongly agreed in these indicators with a mean of 4.22.

Relative to the findings Koskela, (2017), Freire and Alarcon (2018 Constructing a facility is often a lengthy process involving many interrelated and complex activities. Design entails, in part, the process of creating plans and specifications for the construction of a facility. Furthermore, the design process is one of the early steps in a facility's lifecycle that considerably influences the outcome of a project. The design of the project can affect worker productivity, construction schedule, work quality, and many other economic and technical factors.

Legend:

Range of Mean	**Descriptive Level**	**Interpretation**
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are never manifested.

Level of Beach Safety Practices Habitation/ Accommodation	**Mean**	**Verbal Interpretation**
11. The beach resort has large-scale residential accommodation units	4.03	Agree

place hotel/apartment complex accommodation for visitors.	
12. The beach resort provides correct and complete information about their services	
13. The beach resort accommodation has a high speed WIFI	
14. The beach resort is uninhabited for a radius of at least 500m. May have very limited temporary summer housing.	
15. The beach resort has a small-scale residential accommodation plus bed and breakfast for visitors.	
General Weighted Mean	
1.00 – 1.79	

Habitation/Accommodation

Table 3. Level of Beach Safety Practices of the Selected Beach Resorts in Occidental Mindoro in terms of Habitation/Accommodation

Table 3 shows the level of beach practices in terms of habitation/accommodation. The respondents ranked first the indicator number 12 which states "The beach resort provides correct and complete information about their services." with mean of 4.20. It means that the respondents strongly agreed in this indicator.

It was followed by indicator number 11 which states "The beach resort has large-scale residential accommodation units place hotel/apartment complex accommodation for visitors." with mean of 4.03. Then, it was followed by indicator number 15 which states that "The beach resort has a small-scale residential accommodation plus bed and breakfast for visitors." with a mean of 3.81. It was followed by indicator number Lastly, indicator number 14 which states that "The beach resort is uninhabited for a radius of at least 500m. May have very limited (0-5 if any) temporary summer housing." with a mean of 3.80. Lastly, it was followed by indicator number 13 which states that "The beach resort accommodation has a high speed WIFI." with a mean of 3.71. It means that the respondents agreed in these indicators. In general, the respondents agreed in these indicators with a mean of 3.91.

Relative to the findings Zohar (2018) suggested that the perception of an employee to safety in the workplace is important. Therefore, the term safety

climate is introduced as a 'summary of molar perceptions that employees share about their work environments' which may affect their behavior.

Legend:

Range of Mean	Descriptive Level	Interpretation
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are never manifested.

Facilities/Safety Measures

Table 4. Level of Beach Safety Practices of the Selected Beach Resorts in Occidental Mindoro in terms of Facilities/Safety Parameters

Level of Beach Safety Practices Facilities/Safety Parameters	Mean	Verbal Interpretation
16. The beach resort has restaurants, public toilets, showers and litter bins, parking spaces and good access.	4.21	Strongly Agree
17. It has a variety of safety measures (safe bathing environment, lifeguards, bather/boating zonation buoys, fixed safety equipment, first aid post(s), beach safety warning notices and emergency telephones.	4.04	Agree
18. There are good facilities/safety equipment expected.	4.15	Agree
19. The beach resort has a high-powered generator capable of providing sufficient lighting for all guest rooms, hallways, public areas, operating elevators, food refrigeration and water services.	4.06	Agree
20. It has safety facilities expected include bather/boating zonation buoys, fixed safety-related warning notices and emergency telephones	4.19	Agree
General Weighted Mean	4.13	Agree

Table 4 shows the level of beach practices in terms of facilities/safety parameters. The respondents ranked first the indicator number 16 which states "The beach resort has restaurants, public toilet, showers and litter bins, parking

spaces and good access." with mean of 4.21. It means that the respondents strongly agreed in this indicator.

It was followed by indicator number 20 which states "It has safety facilities expected include bather/boating zonation buoys, fixed safety-related warning notices and emergency telephones with mean of 4.19. Then, it was followed by indicator number 18 which states that "There are good facilities/safety equipment expected." with a mean of 4.15. It was followed by indicator number Lastly, indicator number 19 which states that "The beach resort has a high-powered generator capable of providing sufficient lighting for all guest rooms, hallways, public areas, operating elevators, food refrigeration and water services." with a mean of 4.06. Lastly, it was followed by indicator number 17 which states that "It has a variety of safety measures (safe bathing environment, lifeguards, bather/boating zonation buoys, fixed safety equipment, first aid post(s), beach safety warning notices and emergency telephones." with a mean of 4.04. It means that the respondents agreed in these indicators. In general, the respondents agreed in these indicators with a mean of 4.13.

Relative to the findings (Micallef et al., 2017) a major concern amongst beach users at all five beach types, was a lack of safety related information (i.e., safe swimming conditions, water quality results, and first aid information). Visitors at all beach types, aside from village beaches, reported to be highly satisfied with water quality and cleanliness. Visitors of remote beaches were the most satisfied overall across all categories of safety, cleanliness, facilities, scenery, and water quality. Furthermore, overall, the majority of beaches (56%) received low overall satisfaction scores, and only 11% of all the beaches in this study received high scores in overall beach satisfaction

Legend:

Range of Mean	**Descriptive Level**	**Interpretation**
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of beach safety practices are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of beach safety practices are never manifested.

Sub Problem No. 3 What is the level of preservation management strategies of the selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro in terms of:

Marine Environment and Governance

Table 5 Marine Environment and Governance

Level of Preservation Management Strategies Marine Environment and Governance	Mean	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
1. It is essential to understand community perceptions of coastal resource management institutions and governance.	4.36	Strongly Agree	1
2. Only the government is responsible for conservation.	3.15	Agree	5
3. The beach resort is helpful in protecting the environment.	4.14	Agree	2
4. There has been a decline in fish availability in this resort over the past few years.	3.60	Agree	4
5. The beach resort provides protection against the effects of strong currents & big waves.	3.79	Agree	3
General Weighted Mean	3.81	Agree	

Table 5 shows the level of preservation management in terms of facilities/safety parameters. The respondents ranked first the indicator number 1 which states "It is essential to understand community perceptions of coastal resource management institutions and governance." with mean of 4.36. It means that the respondents strongly agreed in this indicator.

It was followed by indicator number 3 which states the beach resort is helpful in protecting the environment." with mean of 4.14. Then, it was followed by indicator number 5 which states that "The beach resort provides protection against the effects of strong currents & big waves." with a mean of 3.79. It was followed by indicator number Lastly, indicator number 4 which states that "There has been a decline in fish availability in this resort over the past few years." with a mean of 3.60. Lastly, it was followed by indicator number 2 which states that "Only the government is responsible for conservation." with a mean of 3.15. It means that the respondents agreed in these indicators. In general, the respondents agreed in these indicators with a mean of 3.81.

The findings jibe with (Halpern, 2018; Toropova et al., 2019). who mentioned that the ocean and coastal resources provide substantial ecosystem goods and services including food security and livelihoods for millions of people around the world (FAO, 2018) and declining fish catches in some parts of the world and a high dependence on these resources has led to an active field of research and projects supported by academic institutions, international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and foundations, international aid organizations, and others. The growing impact on the world's marine

ecosystems has led to increasing concern and support for marine conservation initiatives

Legend:

Range of Mean	Descriptive Level	Interpretation
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are never manifested.

Coastal Resources Use and Management

Table 6. Coastal Resources Use and Management

Level of Preservation Management Strategies Coastal Resource Use and Management	Mean	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
6. Understanding current community coastal resource management perceptions and behaviour can aid in management initiatives.	4.23	Strongly Agree	3
7. When people have a high cognizance and appreciation of the value of marine resources.	4.24	Strongly Agree	1.5
8. The beach resort supports marine protected areas and associated restrictions such as limiting fishing effort, while few participate in enforcement activities.	4.24	Strongly Agree	1.5
9. Enforcement of fisheries and Marine Protected Areas rules is recognized as a challenge to successful management	4.14	Agree	5
10. The beach resort is more likely to act in support of marine conservation initiatives	4.16	Agree	4

General Weighted Mean	4.20	Strongly Agree

Table 6 shows the level of preservation management in terms of coastal resources use and management. The respondents ranked 1.5 the indicator numbers 7 and 8 which state "When people have a high cognizance and appreciation of the value of marine resources." and "The beach resort supports marine protected areas and associated restrictions such as limiting fishing effort, while few participate in enforcement activities." with mean of 4.24. It was followed by indicator number 6 which states "Understanding current community coastal resource management perceptions and behaviors can aid in management initiatives." with a mean of 4.23. It means that the respondents strongly agreed in these indicators.

It was followed by indicator number 10 which states "The beach resort is more likely to act in support of marine conservation initiatives" with mean of 4.16. Then, it was followed by indicator number 9 which states that "Enforcement of fisheries and Marine Protected Areas rules is recognized as a challenge to successful management." with a mean of 4.14. It means that the respondents agreed in these indicators. In general, the respondents strongly agreed in these indicators with a mean of 4.20.

Relative to the findings (Christie et al., 2019), (Unne, 2018) who mentioned that the international conservation community must set a goal of increasing the coverage of protected areas to 10% of the world's coastal marine areas and the implementation of these goals at the local level needs to be inclusive of resource users and their dependence on ecosystem goods and services furthermore community acceptance and support have been integral to the success of community-based MPA management.

Legend:

Range of Mean	**Descriptive Level**	**Interpretation**
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are never manifested.

Community Awareness of Maritime Protected Areas

Table 7. Community Awareness of Maritime Protected Areas

Level of Preservation Management Strategies	Mean	Verbal Interpretation	Rank
Community Awareness of Marine Protected Areas			
11. The beach resort is aware of Marine Protected Areas.	4.05	Agree	1
12. The beach resort is involved in marine management activities and fishers' organizations.	3.96	Agree	3
13. The beach resort has good management committee for the Marine Protected Areas.	3.91	Agree	4
14. Employees are frequently involved in Marine Protected Area management activities.	3.89	Agree	5
15. The beach resort checks to see if an outsider has a permit to fish in the community.	3.98	Agree	2
General Weighted Mean	3.96	Agree	

Table 7 shows the level of preservation management in terms of community awareness of marine protected areas. The respondents ranked first the indicator number 11 which states "The beach resort is aware of Marine Protected Area." with mean of 4.05. It was followed by indicator number 2 which states "The beach resort checks to see if an outsider has a permit to fish in the community." with a mean of 3.98. It was followed by indicator number 12 which states "The beach resort is involved in marine management activities and fishers' organizations." Then, it was followed by indicator number 13 which states that "The beach resort has good management committee for the Marine Protected Area." with a mean of 3.91. Lastly, it was followed by indicator number 14 "Employees are frequently involved in Marine Protected Area management activities." with a mean of 3.89. It means that the respondents agreed in these indicators. In general, the respondents agreed in these indicators with a mean of 3.96.

Relative to the findings (Nanola et al., 2019), Marine protected areas (MPAs) have been set up to protect vulnerable species and ecosystems, to conserve biodiversity and minimize extinction risk, to re-establish ecosystem integrity, to segregate uses to avoid user conflicts, and to enhance the productivity of fish and marine invertebrate population

Legend:

Range of Mean	Descriptive Level	Interpretation

4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are never manifested.

Community Awareness of Maritime Protected Areas

Table 8. Coastal Resources Use and Management

Level of Preservation Management Strategies	**Mean**	**Verbal Interpretation**	**Rank**
Openness to Scaling Up Marine Protected Areas			
16. The beach resort supports creating more MPAs or making the existing Marine Protected Area larger.	3.85	Agree	5
17. They identify ecological outcomes as well as socioeconomic and governance outcomes.	4.03	Agree	4
18. They protect or increase fish.	4.09	Agree	3
19. They protect marine life and coral, and protect the sea and the environment.	4.16	Agree	1
20. They decrease illegal fishing, improve income, benefit the community, develop the village, provide fish for the future, and prevent coastal disasters.	4.15	Agree	2
General Weighted Mean	4.06	Agree	

Table 8 shows the level of preservation management in terms of openness to scaling up marine protected areas. The respondents ranked first the indicator number 19 which states "They protect marine life and coral, and protect the sea and the environment." with mean of 4.16. It was followed by indicator number 20 which states "They decrease illegal fishing, improve income, benefit the community, develop the village, provide fish for the future, and prevent coastal disasters." with a mean of 4.15. It was followed by indicator number 18 which states "They protect or increase fish." with a mean of 4.09.

Then, it was followed by indicator number 17 which states that "They identify ecological outcomes as well as socioeconomic and governance outcomes." with a mean of 4.03. Lastly, it was followed by indicator number 16 "The beach resort supports creating more MPAs or making the existing Marine Protected Area larger." with a mean of 3.85. It means that the respondents agreed in these indicators. In general, the respondents agreed in these indicators with a mean of 4.06.

This coincides with (Lowry et al., 2019) who mentioned that marine protected areas help to protect important habitats and representative samples of marine life and it can assist in restoring the productivity of the oceans and avoid further degradation. They are also sites for scientific study and can generate income through tourism and sustainable fishing.

Legend:

Range of Mean	**Descriptive Level**	**Interpretation**
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are rarely manifested.
1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are never manifested.

Openness to Establishing New Marine Protected Areas

Table 9. Openness to Establishing New Marine Protected Areas

Level of Preservation Management Strategies	**Mean**	**Verbal Interpretation**	**Rank**
Openness to Establishing New Marine Protected Areas			
21. The beach resort supports the establishment of a Marine Protected Area.	4.00	Agree	2
22. They support creating one in their community and identify potential benefits	4.16	Agree	1
23. They protect or increase fish as the reason for establishing a Marine	3.98	Agree	3

Protected Area.			
24. They increase fish and give equal benefits within the community.	3.90	Agree	4
25. They allow fishing by people outside the resort.	3.65	Agree	5
General Weighted Mean	3.94	Agree	

Table 9 shows the level of preservation management in terms of openness to establishing new marine protected areas. The respondents ranked first the indicator number 22 which states "They support creating one in their community and identify potential benefits" with mean of 4.16. It was followed by indicator number 21 which states "The beach resort supports the establishment of a Marine Protected Area." with a mean of 4.00. It was followed by indicator number 23 which states "They protect or increase fish as the reason for establishing a Marine Protected Area." with a mean of 3.98. Then, it was followed by indicator number 24 which states that "They increase fish and give equal benefits within the community." with a mean of 3.90. Lastly, it was followed by indicator number 25 "They allow fishing by people outside the resort." with a mean of 3.65. It means that the respondents agreed in these indicators. In general, the respondents agreed in these indicators with a mean of 3.94.

This coincides with (Ghuan, 2018), (Oracion et al., 2018) who mentioned the growing interest in establishing marine reserves pushes more stakeholder groups to participate in the arena). This changes the support of local communities for the marine reserve over time. This changes the support of local communities for the marine reserve over time. The increasing power of tourism actors in Mabini Reserve marginalized the local fishers whose numbers decreased significantly (320 people in 1980 to 203 in 1994. Similarly, in the Norwegian coastal reserve case, the fish farming industries took control of the marine resources away from the indigenous people.

Legend:

Range of Mean	**Descriptive Level**	**Interpretation**
4.20 - 5.00	Strongly Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are always manifested.
3.40 – 4.19	Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are oftentimes manifested.
2.60 – 3.39	Moderately Agree	The measures of preservation management strategies are sometimes manifested.
1.80 – 2.59	Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are rarely manifested.

1.00 – 1.79	Strongly Disagree	The measures of preservation management strategies are never manifested.

Sub Problem No. 4 Is there a significant relationship between beach safety practices and preservation management strategies among the selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro?

Table 10. Test of Significant Relationship between Beach Safety Practices and Preservation Management of the Respondents

	Mean	SD	Computed r	Tabular r	Decision	Interpretation
Beach Safety Practices	4.09	0.56	0.75	0.22	Reject Ho	Significant
Preservation Management	4	0.61				

Table 10 shows the significant relationship between beach safety practices and preservation management of the respondents. The table shows that the computed value of 0.75 is significant beyond the 0.05 level. Thus, the null hypothesis is rejected and infers that the level of beach safety practices and preservation management strategies among the selected beach resorts in Occidental Mindoro has significant relationship with each other

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the foregoing findings, the following are the conclusions of the study.

1. Majority of the respondents has age that ranges from 21 - 25 years old.
2. Majority of the respondents are female.
3. Majority of the respondents are unemployed.
4. Majority of the respondents visit beaches occasionally.
5. Majority of the respondent are female.
6. Based on the summary of findings, the following conclusions are drawn:
7. The indicators on the level of beach practices in terms of habitation/accommodation were strongly agreed by the respondents.
8. The indicators on the level of beach practices in terms of safety parameters were agreed by the respondents.
9. The indicators on the preservation management in terms of marine environment and governance were agreed by the respondents.
10. The indicators on the preservation management in terms coastal resources use and management were strongly agreed by the respondents.
11. The indicators on the preservation management in terms community awareness of marine protected areas were agreed by the respondents.
12. The indicators on the preservation management in terms openness to scaling up marine protected areas were agreed by the respondents.

13. The indicators on the preservation management in terms openness to establishing new marine protected areas were agreed by the respondents.
14. There is a significant relationship between the level of beach safety practices and level of preservation management of the respondents.

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