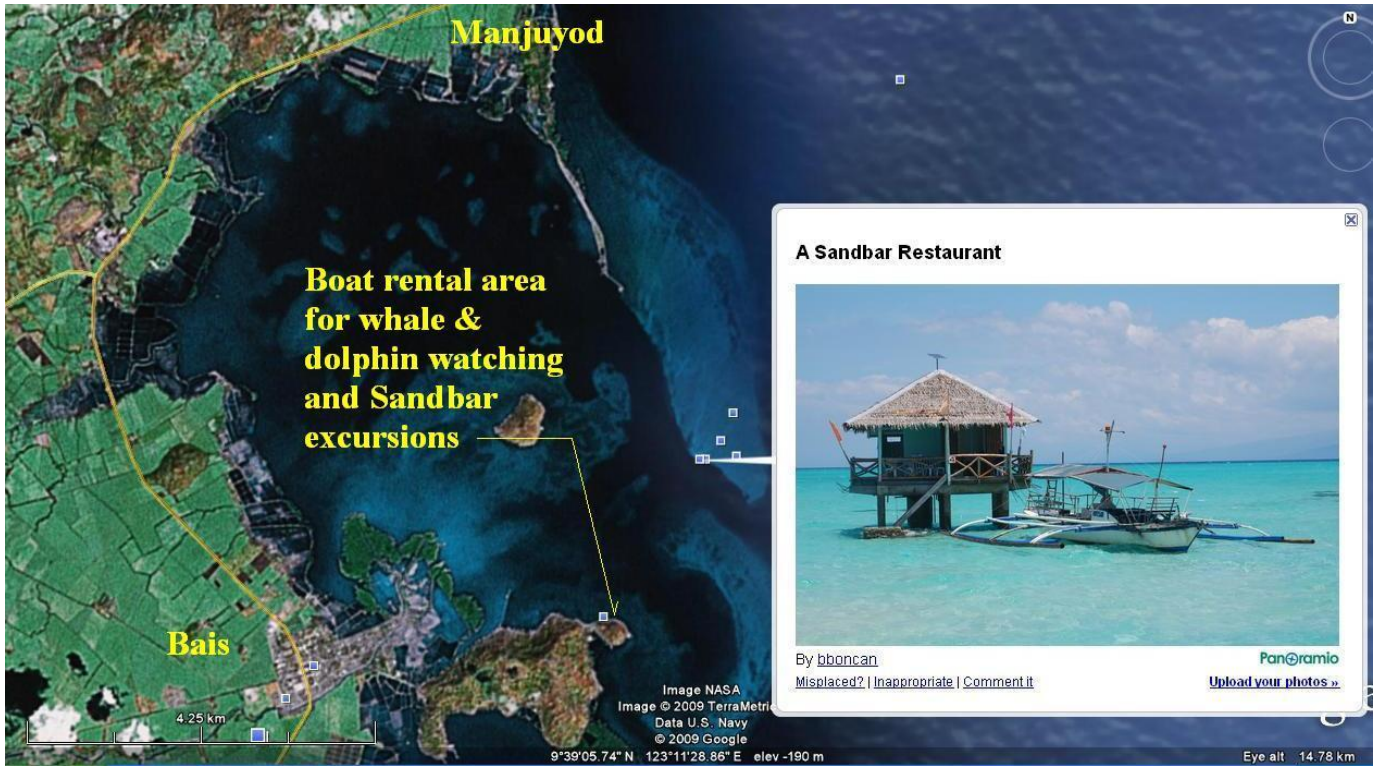


# STATUS REPORT A – TANJAY’S WHITE SAND PROJECT



The City of Bais for quite some time now has had its tourist trappings, as shown in the Google map & inset.

Now, it seems Tanjay wants a piece of the action. Below is a map showing the “White Sand” project which purportedly will draw tourists to this planned resort area with a hot spa, boardwalk, restaurant, pier, etc.



We certainly hope for the best, but this requires lots of optimism. The following photos below tell the story.



The 5 km plus approach road from the highway is narrow and unpaved, meandering through fields and mangrove swamps.



The white sand area really is not white, but light brown, and is very small in area. Note the high-tide line. Not farfetched to think that one day, it may be washed away.



The line of wooden poles demarcate where the boardwalk is to run among mangrove trees, curving back to the left. Further out will be a pier for the boats to dock.



But as the three photos above show, work definitely has started. I was brought there yesterday by my friend Wolfgang, pictured further above beside his red SUV. He knows so many more of the makers and shakers of the City and even the Province. Photo on the right is what has become of a city project constructed during the time of the previous administration: a swimming pool and spa that reportedly drew water from a natural hot spring in the area. It now is abandoned and useless, obviously a white elephant. This is mainly because the hot water source has dried up, and the location is too far. Yet, the present project, which is almost a kilometer further away, plans to draw its hot water from this same source. What makes a more interesting story is what old superstitious folk say: that when the former mayor Hon Salma dug up that spring, he disturbed the spirits, who not only shut off the tap, but eventually snuffed him out, too (may he RIP). I certainly don't believe in that, but nonetheless hope that the new batch of city officials in charge of this project take heed in the logistics and practicality of all aspects, and act accordingly, superstition notwithstanding.



Later that night, much in contrast, there was a highly successful city event: an International Dance Extravaganza with contingents from Sri Lanka, China, Singapore and various Philippine troupes. The photos above capture the program, with the last showing the opening ceremonies given by no less than our city official Hon Tiavelo Napao.