

REMEMBER FOREST CAMP, THE IDYLIC RESORT TUCKED IN THE HIGHLANDS OF VALENCIA, 10 KM FROM DUMAGUETE?

Where, BEFORE the 17 Dec 2011 flood, had:

1. A foot bridge spanning the small river



2. The river with lots of swimming holes



3. With water diverted to swimming pools of varied sizes



4. And cottages and rest houses for rent



5. It was approached via a concrete road over a "bridge", similar to this shown below (this is the road to Santa Agueda, near Pamplona), where the road surface runs over simple culverts, and the surface is designed to be overrun by water in periods of heavier flow. Vehicles may ford the surface at their own risk. Last year, a foreigner in an EZ ride was carried away at a similar road at Palimpinon.



The actual Valencia bridge was flanked on both sides by swimming pools, built by the town for free use, unlike privately owned Forest Camp about 300 meters further away.

Now, AFTER the flood:

6. Bridge washed away --->



7. Upstream view with swimming pools gone and just lots of sand left over



8. Downstream view is just as bad



9. One of the houses that was spared, but only partly



I was unable to go further to see Forest Camp, but was told that the river (what was photo 2) is now like photo 7, and that the swimming pools (photo 3) are also all gone. Presumably, the rest houses and the restaurant may not have suffered such a fate, as they were further away from the river. That must be so because the owner is rebuilding. I don't know about the foot bridge.