

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC }  
OF THE PHILIPPINES }  
Second Regular Session }



'15 MAR 17 P7:26

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: *J*

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 117

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and on Finance on  
~~MAR 17 2015~~

Re : Senate Bill No. 2712

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 326, 327, 329, 697, 762, 1044, 1045, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1407, 1487, 1643, 1654 and 1901, taking into consideration House Bill Nos. 4125, 4418, 4419, 4505, 4506, 4534, 4535, 4806, 5103, and 5173.

Sponsor : Senator Legarda

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Environment and Natural Resources and on Finance to which were referred Senate Bill No. 320, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**"AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE PASONANCA WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE  
SITUATED IN ZAMBOANGA CITY AS A PROTECTED AREA, UNDER THE  
CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

Senate Bill No. 321, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**"AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE BESSANG PASS NATURAL MONUMENT/LANDMARK IN  
THE MUNICIPALITY OF CERVANTES, ILOCOS SUR AS PROTECTED AREA  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

Senate Bill No. 322, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**"AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE LIDLIDDA-BANAYOYO PROTECTED LANDSCAPE IN  
THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LIDLIDDA AND BANAYOYO, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS  
SUR AS A PROTECTED AREA, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES"**

Senate Bill No. 323, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**"AN ACT**

**ESTABLISHING THE SIARGAO GROUP OF ISLANDS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF BURGOS, DAPA, DEL CARMEN, GEN. LUNA, PILAR, SAN BENITO, SAN ISIDRO, STA. MONICA AND SOCORRO, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE AS A PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES PURSUANT TO R.A. 7586"**

Senate Bill No. 324, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**"AN ACT**

**ESTABLISHING THE EL NIDO-TAYTAY MANAGED RESOURCE PROTECTED AREA LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF EL NIDO AND TAYTAY, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

Senate Bill No. 326, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**"AN ACT**

**ESTABLISHING THE AREA COVERED BY THE NORTHERN NEGROS FOREST RESERVE SITUATED IN THE CITIES OF TALISAY, SILAY, VICTORIAS, CADIZ, SAGAY AND SAN CARLOS AND THE MUNICIPALITIES OF E.B. MAGALONA, MURCIA, TOBOSO, CALATRAVA AND DON SALVADOR BENEDICTO, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL AS A PROTECTED AREA PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT PURSUANT TO R.A. 7586 (NIPAS ACT OF 1992) AND SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE NORTHERN NEGROS NATURAL PARK"**

Senate Bill No. 327, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**"AN ACT**

**ESTABLISHING THE MT. HILONG-HILONG RANGE SITUATED IN THE CITIES OF BUTUAN AND CABADBARAN AND IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF REMEDIOS T. ROMUALDEZ AND SANTIAGO IN THE PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL NORTE AS A PROTECTED LANDSCAPE PURSUANT TO R.A. 7586, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

Senate Bill No. 329, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**"AN ACT**

**ESTABLISHING THE MALAMPAYA SOUND SITUATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TAYTAY AND SAN VICENTE, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

Senate Bill No. 697, introduced by Senator Escudero, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING THE TAAL VOLCANO ISLAND NATIONAL PARK, PROVINCE OF  
BATANGAS, ISLAND OF LUZON, AND ITS WATERSHED AREAS, A  
PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE  
AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES AS  
MANDATED FOR BY THE NIPAS ACT OF 1992”**

Senate Bill No. 762, introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
TO ESTABLISH THE MALAMPAYA SOUND SITUATED IN THE  
MUNICIPALITIES OF TAYTAY AND SAN VICENTE, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN,  
AS A PROTECTED AREA PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586 (NIPAS  
ACT OF 1992) PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1044, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING THE AGUSAN MARSH WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF  
TALACOGON, SAN FRANCISCO, ROSARIO, BUNAWAN, LORETO AND LAPAZ  
IN THE PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR AS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY  
PURSUANT TO R.A. 7586 PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1045, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**“AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING TURTLE ISLANDS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY IN THE PROVINCE  
OF TAWI-TAWI AS PROTECTED AREA, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1047, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**“AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE MT. BALATUKAN RANGE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF  
GINGOOG AND IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CLAVERIA, MEDINA, AND  
BALINGASAG, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL, AS A  
PROTECTED AREA, UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE,  
PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1048, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**“AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE AGOO-DAMORTIS PROTECTED SEASCAPE AND  
LANDSCAPE IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF AGOO, STO. TOMAS AND ROSARIO,**

**IN THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION AS A PROTECTED AREA, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1049, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**“AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE APO REEF IN SABLAYAN, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK AND ITS PERIPHERAL WATERS AS BUFFER ZONES, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1050, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**“AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE ALIWAGWAG FALLS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF BOSTON AND COMPOSTELA, PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND ITS PERIPHERAL AREAS AS BUFFER ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1051, introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.), entitled:

**“AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE BALINSASAYAO TWIN LAKES LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF VALENCIA, SIBULAN AND SAN JOSE, PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1407, introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING THE ISLANDS OF SIARGAO AND BUCAS GRANDE AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPES AND SEASCAPES”**

Senate Bill No. 1487, introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING THE SAMAR ISLAND NATURAL PARK (SINP), SITUATED IN THE PROVINCES OF SAMAR, NORTHERN SAMAR AND EASTERN SAMAR, AS PROTECTED AREAS AND ITS PERIPHERAL AREAS AS BUFFER ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1643, introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING THE MT. BALATUKAN RANGE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF GINGOOG AND IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CLAVERIA, MEDINA AND BALINGASAG, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL, AS A**

**PROTECTED AREA AND ITS PERIPHERAL AREAS AS BUFFER ZONE,  
PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1654, introduced by Senator Binay, entitled:

**“AN ACT**

**DECLARING THE NORTHWEST PANAY PENINSULA LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NABAS, MALAY AND BURUANGA, PROVINCE OF AKLAN, AND IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LIBERTAD AND PANDAN, PROVINCE OF ANTIQUE AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

Senate Bill No. 1901, introduced by Senator Legarda, entitled:

**“AN ACT**

**DECLARING AS PROTECTED AREAS AND BUFFER ZONES THE PARCELS OF LAND DESIGNATED AS SUCH BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT, PROVIDING FOR THEIR MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 4125, introduced by Representatives Haresco, Matugas and Ungab, entitled:

**“AN ACT**

**DECLARING THE NORTHWEST PENINSULA LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF NABAS, MALAY AND BURUANGA, PROVINCE OF AKLAN AND IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LIBERTAD AND PANDAN, PROVINCE OF ANTIQUE AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

House Bill No. 4418, introduced by Representatives Rodriguez (I.), Matugas and Ungab, entitled:

**“AN ACT**

**DECLARING PAMITINAN CAVE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF RODRIGUEZ, PROVINCE OF RIZAL AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

House Bill No. 4419, introduced by Representatives Evardone, Matugas and Ungab, entitled:

**“AN ACT**

**DECLARING THE SAMAR ISLAND NATURAL PARK (SINP), SITUATED IN THE PROVINCES OF SAMAR, NORTHERN SAMAR AND EASTERN SAMAR AS A PROTECTED AREA AND ITS PERIPHERAL AREAS AS BUFFER ZONE, AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

House Bill No. 4505, introduced by Representatives Ramos (D.), Matugas and Ungab, entitled:

**“AN ACT**

**DECLARING THE BULUSAN VOLCANO LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF BARCELONA, BULUSAN, CASIGURAN, IROSIN AND JUBAN, PROVINCE OF**

**SORSOGON AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

House Bill No. 4506, introduced by Representatives Macrohon-Ñuno, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING THE PASONANCA WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE LOCATED IN ZAMBOANGA CITY AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

House Bill No. 4534, introduced by Representatives Mellana, Matugas and Ungab, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING THE AGUSAN MARSH SITUATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TALACOGON, SAN FRANCISCO, ROSARIO, BUNAWAN, LORETO AND LA PAZ, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF WILDLIFE SANCTUARY AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

House Bill No. 4535, introduced by Representatives Eriguel, Matugas and Ungab, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING THE AGOO-DAMORTIS PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE IN THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION AS A PROTECTED AREA AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

House Bill No. 4806, introduced by Representatives Singson Jr., Matugas and Ungab, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING THE BESSANG PASS NATURAL MONUMENT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CERVANTES, ILOCOS SUR AS A PROTECTED AREA, AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

House Bill No. 5103, introduced by Representatives Hernandez Jr., Acharon Jr., Matugas and Ungab, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING MT. MATUTUM LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF POLOMOLOK, TAPAKAN AND TUPI, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF MALUNGON, PROVINCE OF SARANGANI AS A PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

and House Bill No. 5173, introduced by Representatives Madrona, Matugas and Ungab, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
DECLARING MT. GUITING-GUITING NATURAL PARK, LOCATED IN THE ISLAND OF SIBUYAN, PROVINCE OF ROMBLON, A PROTECTED AREA AND ITS PERIPHERAL AREAS AS A BUFFER ZONES AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT”**

have considered the same and have the honor to report these bills back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, Senate Bill No. 2712 prepared jointly by the Committees, entitled:

**“AN ACT  
AMENDING, THEREBY STRENGTHENING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS  
SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT OF 1992, DECLARING AND ESTABLISHING AS  
PROTECTED AREAS AND BUFFER ZONES THE PARCELS OF LAND  
DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586, PROVIDING FOR THEIR  
MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

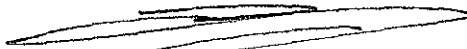
be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 326, 327, 329, 697, 762, 1044, 1045, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1407, 1487, 1643, 1654 and 1901, taking into consideration House Bill Nos. 4125, 4418, 4419, 4505, 4506, 4534, 4535, 4806, 5103, and 5173, with Senators Cayetano (P.), Escudero, Ejercito Estrada, Binay, and Legarda as authors.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairpersons:

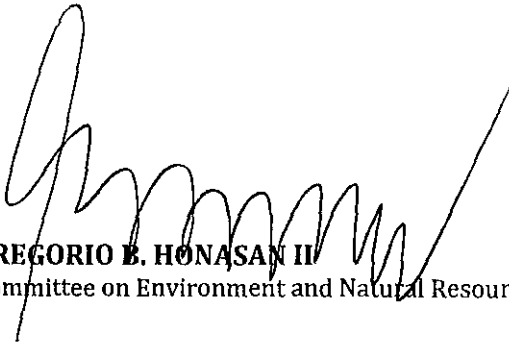


**FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO**  
Committee on Finance  
*Member, Committee on Environment and Natural Resources*



**LOREN LEGARDA**  
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
*Member, Committee on Finance*

Vice-Chairpersons:



**GREGORIO B. HONASAN II**  
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources



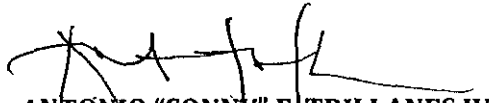
**CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**  
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*Member, Committee on Finance*



**SERGIO R. OSMEÑA III**  
Committee on Finance



Members:



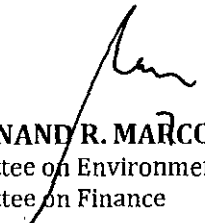
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Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

**PAOLO BENIGNO "BAM" AQUINO IV**  
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

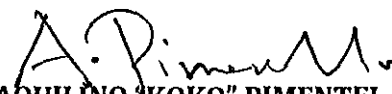
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Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Committee on Finance

**GRACE POE**  
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Committee on Finance


**PIA S. CAYETANO**  
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Committee on Finance




**FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.**  
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Committee on Finance



**AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III**  
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Committee on Finance

**TEOFISTO L. GUINGONA III**  
Committee on Finance

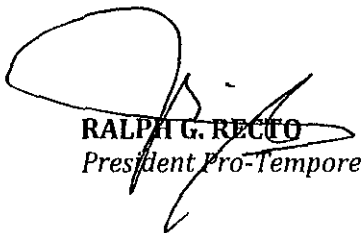
**MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO**  
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**MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID**  
Committee on Finance

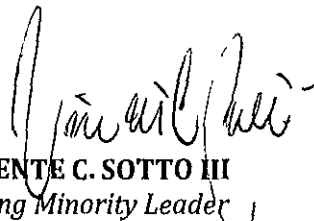
**JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**  
Committee on Finance

Ex-Officio Members:



**RALPH G. RECTO**  
*President Pro-Tempore*

**ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO**  
*Majority Leader*



**VICENTE C. SOTTO III**  
*Acting Minority Leader*  
Member, Committee on Environment and  
Natural Resources  
Committee on Finance

**JUAN PONCE ENRILE**  
*Minority Leader*

**Hon. FRANKLIN M. DRILON**  
*President*  
Senate of the Philippines  
Pasay City

15 MAR 17 P7:26

SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 2712

RECEIVED BY: 

(In substitution of SBN 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 326, 327, 329, 697, 762, 1044, 1045, 1047, 1048, 1049, 1050, 1051, 1407, 1487, 1643, 1654 and 1901, taking into consideration HBN 4125, 4418, 4419, 4505, 4506, 4534, 4535, 4806, 5103, and 5173)

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Prepared jointly by the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and on Finance with Senators Cayetano (P.), Escudero, Ejercito Estrada, Binay, and Legarda as authors

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AN ACT

**AMENDING, THEREBY STRENGTHENING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT OF 1992, DECLARING AND ESTABLISHING AS PROTECTED AREAS AND BUFFER ZONES THE PARCELS OF LAND DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586, PROVIDING FOR THEIR MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

1           **SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2                   “SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known and referred to as the  
3                   “**EXPANDED** National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of [1992] 2015”.

4           **SEC. 2.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5                   “SEC. 2.     *Declaration of Policy.* – Cognizant of the profound impact of  
6                   [man's] **HUMAN** activities on all components of the natural environment  
7                   particularly the effect of increasing population, resource exploitation and  
8                   industrial advancement and recognizing the critical importance of protecting  
9                   and maintaining the natural biological and physical diversities of the  
10                  environment notably on areas with biologically unique features to sustain  
11                  human life and development, as well as plant and animal life, it is hereby  
12                  declared the policy of the State to secure for the Filipino people of present and  
13                  future generations the perpetual existence of all native plants and animals  
14                  through the establishment of a comprehensive system of integrated protected

1 areas within the classification of national park as provided for in the  
2 Constitution.

3 It is hereby recognized that these areas, although distinct in features,  
4 possess common ecological values that may be incorporated into a holistic plan  
5 representative of our natural heritage; that effective administration of these  
6 areas is possible only through cooperation among national government, local  
7 government and concerned private organizations; that the use and enjoyment of  
8 these protected areas must be consistent with the principles of biological  
9 diversity and sustainable development.

10 To this end, there is hereby established a National Integrated Protected  
11 Areas System (NIPAS)[,] which shall encompass outstandingly remarkable areas  
12 and biologically important public lands that are habitats of rare and endangered  
13 species of plants and animals, biogeographic zones and related ecosystems,  
14 whether terrestrial, wetland or marine, all of which shall be designated as  
15 "protected areas".

16 **THE STATE SHALL ENSURE THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS**  
17 **ACT, THE MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES FOR THE INSTITUTIONAL**  
18 **MECHANISMS HEREIN ESTABLISHED, AND THE FULL SCIENTIFIC AND**  
19 **TECHNICAL SUPPORT NEEDED FOR THE CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY**  
20 **AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE ECOSYSTEMS, CULTURE AND SPIRITUAL**  
21 **PRACTICES."**

22 **SEC. 3.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

23 "SEC. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following  
24 terms shall be defined as follows:

25 (a) "National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS)" is the  
26 classification and administration of all designated protected areas to maintain

1 essential ecological processes and life-support systems, to preserve genetic  
2 diversity, to ensure sustainable use of resources found therein, and to maintain  
3 their natural conditions to the greatest extent possible;

4 (b) "Protected Area" refers to identified portions of land and water set  
5 aside by reason of their unique physical and biological significance, managed to  
6 enhance biological diversity and protected against destructive human  
7 exploitation;

8 (c) "Buffer zones" are identified areas outside the boundaries of and  
9 immediately adjacent to designated protected areas pursuant to Section 8 that  
10 need special development control in order to avoid or minimize harm to the  
11 protected area;

12 (d) "Indigenous cultural community" refers to a group of people  
13 sharing common bonds of language, customs, traditions and other distinctive  
14 cultural traits and who have since time immemorial, occupied, possessed and  
15 utilized a territory;

16 (e) "National park" refers to [a forest reservation essentially of natural  
17 wilderness character which has been withdrawn from settlement, occupancy or  
18 any form of exploitation except in conformity with approved management plan  
19 and set aside as such exclusively to conserve the area or preserve the scenery,  
20 the natural and historic objects, wild animals and plants therein and to provide  
21 enjoyment of these features in such areas] **THE LANDS OF THE PUBLIC**  
22 **DOMAIN CLASSIFIED AS SUCH IN THE 1987 CONSTITUTION WHICH**  
23 **INCLUDE ALL AREAS UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED**  
24 **AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586**  
25 **PRIMARILY DESIGNATED FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATIVE PLANTS**

1       **AND ANIMALS, AND THEIR ASSOCIATED HABITATS AND CULTURAL**  
2       **DIVERSITY;**

3               (f) "Natural monuments" is a relatively small area focused on  
4       protection of small features to protect or preserve nationally significant natural  
5       features on account of their special interest or unique characteristics;

6               (g) "Natural biotic area" is an area set aside to allow the way of life of  
7       societies living in harmony with the environment to adapt to modern technology  
8       at their pace;

9               (h) "Natural park" is a relatively large area not materially altered by  
10       human activity where extractive resource uses are not allowed and maintained  
11       to protect outstanding natural and scenic areas of national or international  
12       significance for scientific, educational and recreational use;

13              (i) "Protected landscapes/seascapes" are areas of national  
14       significance which are characterized by the harmonious interaction of man and  
15       land while providing opportunities for public enjoyment through recreation and  
16       tourism within the normal lifestyle and economic activity of these areas;

17              (j) "Resource reserve" is an extensive and relatively isolated and  
18       uninhabited area normally with difficult access designated as such to protect  
19       natural resources of the area for future use and prevent or contain development  
20       activities that could affect the resource pending the establishment of objectives  
21       which are based upon appropriate knowledge and planning;

22              (k) "Strict nature reserve" is an area possessing some outstanding  
23       ecosystem, features and/or species of flora and fauna of national scientific  
24       importance maintained to protect nature and maintain processes in an  
25       undisturbed state in order to have ecologically representative examples of the  
26       natural environment available for scientific study, environmental monitoring,

1 education, and for the maintenance of genetic resources in a dynamic and  
2 evolutionary state;

3 (l) "Tenured migrant communities" are communities within protected  
4 areas which have actually and continuously occupied such areas for five (5)  
5 years before the designation of the same as protected areas in accordance with  
6 this Act and are solely dependent therein for subsistence; [and]

7 (m) "Wildlife sanctuary" comprises an area which assures the natural  
8 conditions necessary to protect nationally significant species, groups of species,  
9 biotic communities or physical features of the environment where these may  
10 require specific human manipulations for their perpetuation;

11 (N) **"BIOPROSPECTING" REFERS TO THE RESEARCH, COLLECTION**  
12 **AND UTILIZATION OF BIOLOGICAL AND GENETIC RESOURCES FOR**  
13 **PURPOSES OF APPLYING THE KNOWLEDGE DERIVED THEREFROM SOLELY**  
14 **FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES;**

15 (O) **"BY-PRODUCTS OR DERIVATIVES" REFER TO ANY PART TAKEN**  
16 **OR SUBSTANCE EXTRACTED FROM WILDLIFE, IN RAW OR IN PROCESSED**  
17 **FORM. THIS INCLUDES STUFFED ANIMALS AND HERBARIUM SPECIMENS;**

18 (P) **"COLLECTION" OR "COLLECTING" REFERS TO THE ACT OF**  
19 **GATHERING OR HARVESTING WILDLIFE, ITS BY-PRODUCTS OR**  
20 **DERIVATIVES;**

21 (Q) **"CORALS" REFER TO ALL BOTTOM DWELLING ANIMALS**  
22 **UNDER THE PHYLUM *CNIDARIA* WHICH ARE A MAJOR PART OF THE REEF**  
23 **COMMUNITY. THE DEFINITION INCLUDES FOUR (4) TYPES OF CORALS: (1)**  
24 **THOSE THAT PRODUCE A HARD SKELETON OF CALCIUM CARBONATE SUCH**  
25 **AS ALL SCLERACTINIAN CORALS, THE HYDROZOAN CORALS (FIRECORALS),**  
26 **AND THE BLUE AND RED CORALS UNDER THE GENERA *HELIOPORA* AND**

1 *TUBIPORA*; (2) THE ANTIPATHARIAN OR BLACK CORALS WITH A RIGID,  
2 CHITINOLUS SKELETON; (3) THE GORGONIANS WITH A HORNY AND/OR  
3 CALCAREOUS AXIS; AND (4) THE SOFT BODIED ANTHOZOANS SUCH AS SEA  
4 ANEMONES, AND THE SOFT CORALS UNDER THE SYSTEMATICAL GROUP OF  
5 *ALCYONARIA* OR *OCTOCORALLIA*;

6 (R) "*CONVEYANCE*" SHALL INCLUDE EVERY DESCRIPTION OF  
7 VESSEL, INCLUDING MOTORIZED OR NON-MOTORIZED VEHICLES, NON-  
8 DISPLACEMENT CRAFTS AND SEAPLANES, USED OR CAPABLE OF BEING  
9 USED AS A MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION ON LAND OR WATER. IT SHALL  
10 INCLUDE EVERYTHING FOUND THEREIN, EXCEPT PERSONAL EFFECTS;

11 (S) "*DELINEATION*" REFERS TO THE ACTUAL GROUND SURVEY OF  
12 THE BOUNDARIES OF PROTECTED AREAS AND/OR THEIR BUFFER ZONES  
13 AND MANAGEMENT ZONES USING GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS) OR  
14 OTHER APPLICABLE SURVEYING INSTRUMENTS AND TECHNOLOGIES  
15 WITH THE INTENTION TO COME UP WITH A MAP OF THE AREA;

16 (T) "*DEMARICATION*" REFERS TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
17 BOUNDARIES OF PROTECTED AREAS AND/OR THEIR BUFFER ZONES AND  
18 MANAGEMENT ZONES USING VISIBLE MARKERS/MONUMENTS, BUOYS IN  
19 CASE OF MARINE AREAS, AND KNOWN NATURAL FEATURES/LANDMARKS,  
20 AMONG OTHERS, AS A RESULT OF THE ACTUAL GROUND DELINEATION;

21 (U) "*ENDEMIC SPECIES*" REFERS TO THE SPECIES OR SUBSPECIES  
22 OF FLORA AND FAUNA WHICH ARE NATURALLY OCCURRING AND FOUND  
23 ONLY WITHIN SPECIFIC AREAS IN THE COUNTRY;

24 (V) "*EXOTIC SPECIES*" REFERS TO THE SPECIES OR SUBSPECIES OF  
25 FLORA AND FAUNA WHICH DO NOT NATURALLY OCCUR WITHIN THE  
26 PROTECTED AREA AT PRESENT OR IN HISTORICAL TIME;



1           (W) *"EXPLOITATION"* REFERS TO ANY MODE OF USE, EXTRACTION,  
2 DEVELOPMENT, UTILIZATION OR DISPOSITION OF RESOURCES, FOR  
3 WHATEVER PURPOSE, WHETHER COMMERCIAL OR OTHERWISE;

4           (X) *"EXPLORATION"* REFERS TO THE SEARCHING OR  
5 PROSPECTING FOR MINERAL RESOURCES, AS DEFINED BY LAW, BY  
6 GEOLOGICAL, GEO-CHEMICAL OR GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS, REMOTE  
7 SENSING, TEST PITTING, TRENCHING, DRILLING, SHAFT SINKING,  
8 TUNNELING OR ANY OTHER MEANS FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING  
9 THE EXISTENCE, EXTENT, QUANTITY AND QUALITY THEREOF AND THE  
10 FEASIBILITY OF MINING THEM FOR PROFIT;

11           (Y) *"EXPLOSIVES"* REFER TO DYNAMITE OR OTHER CHEMICAL  
12 COMPOUNDS THAT CONTAIN COMBUSTIBLE ELEMENTS OR INGREDIENTS  
13 WHICH UPON IGNITION BY FRICTION, CONCUSSION, PERCUSSION OR  
14 DETONATION OF ALL OR PARTS OF THE COMPOUND WILL KILL, STUPEFY,  
15 DISABLE OR RENDER UNCONSCIOUS ANY SPECIES. IT ALSO REFERS TO ANY  
16 OTHER SUBSTANCE AND/OR DEVICE, INCLUDING BLASTING CAPS OR ANY  
17 OTHER COMPONENT OR PART OF DEVICES, WHICH CAUSES AN EXPLOSION  
18 THAT IS CAPABLE OF PRODUCING THE SAID HARMFUL EFFECTS ON ANY  
19 RESOURCES AND CAPABLE OF DAMAGING AND ALTERING THE NATURAL  
20 HABITAT;

21           (Z) *"GEAR"* REFERS TO ANY INSTRUMENT OR DEVICE AND ITS  
22 ACCESSORIES UTILIZED IN TAKING, CATCHING, GATHERING, KILLING,  
23 HUNTING, DESTROYING, DISTURBING, REMOVING OR POSSESSING  
24 RESOURCES WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA;

25           (AA) *"GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOS)"* REFER TO  
26 ANY LIVING ORGANISM THAT POSSESSES A NOVEL COMBINATION OF

1 GENETIC MATERIAL OBTAINED THROUGH THE USE OF MODERN  
2 BIOTECHNOLOGY;

3 (BB) "HABITAT" REFERS TO A PLACE OR TYPE OF  
4 ENVIRONMENT WHERE SPECIES OR SUBSPECIES NATURALLY OCCURS OR  
5 HAS NATURALLY ESTABLISHED ITS POPULATION;

6 (CC) "HUNTING" REFERS TO THE COLLECTION OF WILD FAUNA  
7 FOR FOOD AND/OR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES WITH THE USE OF  
8 WEAPONS SUCH AS GUNS, BOW AND ARROW, SPEARS, TRAPS AND SNARES  
9 AND THE LIKE;

10 (DD) "INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES" REFERS TO SPECIES  
11 INTRODUCED DELIBERATELY OR UNINTENTIONALLY OUTSIDE THEIR  
12 NATURAL HABITATS WHERE THEY HAVE THE ABILITY TO ESTABLISH  
13 THEMSELVES, INVADE, OUT-COMPETE NATIVES AND TAKE OVER THE  
14 NEW ENVIRONMENTS;

15 (EE) "KAYAKAS" REFERS TO THE FISHING METHOD KNOWN AS  
16 THE LOCAL VERSION OF THE MURO-AMI BUT SMALLER IN SIZE, USING  
17 BAMBOO OR TRUNK TREES AS SCARING DEVICES ASIDE FROM COCONUT  
18 OR OTHER LEAVES OR MATERIALS TO DRIVE THE FISHES AND OTHER  
19 MARINE RESOURCES OUT OF THE CORAL REEFS, AT THE SAME TIME  
20 POUNDING THE CORALS;

21 (FF) "MANAGEMENT PLAN" REFERS TO THE FUNDAMENTAL  
22 FRAMEWORK WHICH SHALL GUIDE ALL ACTIVITIES RELATING TO EACH  
23 PROTECTED AREA IN ORDER TO ATTAIN THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS ACT;

24 (GG) "MINERAL" REFERS TO ALL NATURALLY OCCURRING  
25 INORGANIC SUBSTANCE IN SOLID, GAS, LIQUID, OR ANY INTERMEDIATE

1 STATE EXCLUDING ENERGY MATERIALS SUCH AS COAL, PETROLEUM,  
2 NATURAL GAS, RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS, AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY;

3 (HH) "MULTIPLE-USE ZONE" REFERS TO THE AREA WHERE  
4 SETTLEMENT, TRADITIONAL AND/OR SUSTAINABLE LAND USE,  
5 INCLUDING AGRICULTURE, AGRO-FORESTRY, EXTRACTION ACTIVITIES  
6 AND OTHER INCOME GENERATING OR LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES, MAY BE  
7 ALLOWED TO THE EXTENT PRESCRIBED IN THE MANAGEMENT PLAN;

8 (II) "MURO-AMI" REFERS TO THE METHOD USED IN REEF  
9 FISHING CONSISTING OF A MOVABLE BAGNET, DETACHABLE WINGS AND  
10 SCARELINES HAVING PLASTIC STRIPS AND IRON/STEEL/STONE WEIGHTS,  
11 EFFECTING FISH CAPTURE BY SPREADING THE NET IN AN ARC AROUND  
12 REEFS OR SHOALS AND, WITH THE USE OF THE SCARELINES, A CORDON OF  
13 PEOPLE DRIVE THE FISH TOWARDS THE WAITING NET WHILE POUNDING  
14 THE CORALS BY MEANS OF HEAVY WEIGHTS LIKE IRON/STEEL/STONE OR  
15 ROCK MAKING IT DESTRUCTIVE TO CORALS;

16 (JJ) "NONGOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION (NGO)" REFERS TO  
17 THE AGENCY, INSTITUTION, FOUNDATION OR A GROUP OF PERSONS  
18 WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO ASSIST PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS/ASSOCIATIONS  
19 IN VARIOUS WAYS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ORGANIZING,  
20 EDUCATION, TRAINING, RESEARCH AND/OR RESOURCE ACCESSING;

21 (KK) "NONRENEWABLE RESOURCES" REFER TO THOSE  
22 RESOURCES THAT CANNOT BE REMADE, REGROWN OR REGENERATED ON  
23 A SCALE COMPARATIVE TO ITS CONSUMPTION;

24 (LL) "NOXIOUS OR POISONOUS SUBSTANCES" REFER TO ANY  
25 SUBSTANCE, PLANT EXTRACTS OR JUICE THEREOF, SODIUM CYANIDE  
26 AND/OR CYANIDE COMPOUND OR, OTHER CHEMICALS EITHER IN RAW OR  
27 PROCESSED FORM, HARMFUL OR HARMLESS TO HUMAN BEINGS, WHICH

1 WILL KILL, STUPEFY, DISABLE OR RENDER UNCONSCIOUS ANY ORGANISM  
2 AND CAPABLE OF DAMAGING AND ALTERING THE NATURAL HABITAT;

3 (MM) "*PARK OPERATIONS SUPERINTENDENT (PASU)*" REFERS TO  
4 THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR)  
5 CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF THE PROTECTED AREA;

6 (NN) "*PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION (PO)*" REFERS TO THE GROUP  
7 OF ORGANIZED MIGRANT COMMUNITIES AND/OR INTERESTED  
8 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES WHICH MAY BE AN ASSOCIATION, COOPERATIVE,  
9 FEDERATION, OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITY, ESTABLISHED TO UNDERTAKE  
10 COLLECTIVE ACTION TO ADDRESS COMMUNITY CONCERNS AND NEEDS,  
11 AND MUTUALLY SHARE THE BENEFITS OF THE ENDEAVOR;

12 (OO) "*POACHING*" REFERS TO THE GATHERING, COLLECTING  
13 OR POSSESSING ANY PRODUCTS OR NATURAL RESOURCES FROM THE  
14 PROTECTED AREA, OR IN THE CASE OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS,  
15 OPERATING ANY FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS BY ANY PERSON,  
16 CORPORATION OR ENTITY THEREIN WITHOUT A PERMIT;

17 (PP) "*PROTECTED AREA OCCUPANTS*" REFERS TO PERSONS  
18 WHO ARE RESIDING, UTILIZING AND/OR CULTIVATING AREAS WITHIN  
19 THE PROTECTED AREA; THEY MAY BE CLASSIFIED AS PRIVATE OWNERS,  
20 TENURED MIGRANTS OR INFORMAL SETTLERS;

21 (QQ) "*PROTECTED AREA RETENTION INCOME ACCOUNT*" REFERS  
22 TO THE ACCOUNT EACH PROTECTED AREA SHALL ESTABLISH AND  
23 MAINTAIN FOR THE SEVENTY-FIVE (75%) OF INCOME GENERATED BY THE  
24 PROTECTED AREA AUTHORIZED TO BE RETAINED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT  
25 NO. 10629;

26 (RR) "*PROTECTED SPECIES*" REFERS TO ANY PLANT OR ANIMAL  
27 DECLARED PROTECTED UNDER PHILIPPINE LAWS, RULES AND

1 REGULATIONS. THIS SHALL INCLUDE ALL SPECIES LISTED UNDER THE  
2 CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF  
3 WILD FAUNA AND FLORA AND ALL ITS ANNEXES, THE CONVENTION ON  
4 THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES, THOSE SPECIFIED UNDER  
5 THE RED LIST CATEGORIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR  
6 CONSERVATION OF NATURE, OR ANY PLANT OR ANIMAL WHICH THE  
7 PAMB OR ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY MAY DEEM NECESSARY FOR  
8 CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION IN THE PROTECTED AREA;

9 (SS) "*RESOURCES*" REFER TO ALL NATURAL ENDOWMENTS,  
10 WHETHER AQUATIC OR TERRESTRIAL, LIVING OR NON-LIVING, FOUND IN  
11 THE PROTECTED AREA;

12 (TT) "*QUARRYING*" REFERS TO THE PROCESS OF EXTRACTING,  
13 REMOVING AND DISPOSING SAND, GRAVEL, GUANO, LIMESTONE OR ANY  
14 MATERIAL RESOURCES FOUND ON OR UNDERNEATH THE SURFACE OF  
15 PRIVATE OR PUBLIC LAND;

16 (UU) "*THREATENED SPECIES*" REFERS TO A GENERAL TERM TO  
17 DENOTE SPECIES OR SUBSPECIES CONSIDERED AS CRITICALLY  
18 ENDANGERED, ENDANGERED VULNERABLE OR OTHER ACCEPTED  
19 CATEGORIES OF WILDLIFE WHOSE POPULATION IS AT RISK OF  
20 EXTINCTION;

21 (VV) "*WASTE*" REFERS TO THE DISCARDED ITEMS OF SOLID,  
22 LIQUID, CONTAINED GASEOUS OR SEMI-SOLID FORM, FROM WHATEVER  
23 SOURCE, WHICH MAY CAUSE OR CONTRIBUTE TO THE DETERIORATION OF  
24 THE RESOURCES OR HABITATS IN THE PROTECTED AREA; AND

25 (WW) "*WILDLIFE*" REFERS TO THE WILD FORMS AND VARIETIES  
26 OF FLORA AND FAUNA, IN ALL DEVELOPMENTAL STAGES, INCLUDING

1       **THOSE WHICH ARE IN CAPTIVITY OR ARE BEING BRED, FED OR**  
2       **PROPAGATED.”**

3       **SEC. 4.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4               “SEC. 5.     *Establishment and Extent of the System* – The establishment  
5       and operationalization of the System shall involve the following:

6               (a)     All areas or islands in the Philippines proclaimed, designated or  
7       set aside, pursuant to a law, presidential decree, presidential proclamation or  
8       executive order as national park, game refuge, bird and wildlife sanctuary,  
9       wilderness area, strict nature reserve, watershed, mangrove reserve, fish  
10      sanctuary, natural and historical landmark, protected and managed  
11      landscape/seascape as well as identified virgin forests before the effectivity of  
12      this Act are hereby designated as initial components of the System. The initial  
13      components of the System shall be governed by existing laws, rules and  
14      regulations, not inconsistent with this Act;

15              (b)     Within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, the DENR  
16      shall submit to the Senate and the House of Representatives a map and legal  
17      descriptions or natural boundaries of each protected area initially comprising  
18      the System. Such maps and legal description shall, by virtue of this Act,  
19      constitute the official documentary representation of the entire System, subject  
20      to such changes as Congress deems necessary;

21              (c)     All DENR records pertaining to said protected areas, including  
22      maps and legal descriptions or natural boundaries, copies of rules and  
23      regulations governing them, copies of public notices of, and reports submitted to  
24      Congress regarding pending additions, eliminations, or modifications shall be  
25      made available to the public. These legal documents pertaining to protected  
26      areas shall also be available to the public in the respective DENR Regional  
27      Offices, Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Offices (PENROs) and

1 Community Environment and Natural Resources Offices (CENROs) where NIPAS  
2 areas are located;

3 (d) Within three (3) years from the effectivity of this Act, the DENR  
4 shall study and review each area tentatively composing the System as to its  
5 suitability or non-suitability for preservation as protected area and inclusion in  
6 the System according to the categories established in Section 3 hereof and  
7 report its findings to the President as soon as each study is completed. The study

8 **[must include in] FOR each area SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

9 (1) A forest occupants survey;

10 (2) An ethnographic study;

11 (3) A protected area resource profile;

12 (4) Land use plans done in coordination with the respective  
13 Regional Development Councils; and

14 (5) Such other background studies as will be sufficient bases for  
15 selection.

16 The DENR shall:

17 (i) Notify the public of proposed action through publication in a  
18 newspaper of general circulation, and such other means as the System deems  
19 necessary in the area or areas in the vicinity of the affected land thirty (30) days  
20 prior to the public hearing;

21 (ii) Conduct public hearings at **[the]** locations nearest to the area  
22 affected;

23 (iii) At least thirty (30) days prior to the date of hearing, advise all  
24 Local Government Units (LGUs) in the affected areas, national agencies  
25 concerned, people's organizations and non-government organizations and invite

1 such officials to submit their views on the proposed action at the hearing not  
2 later than thirty (30) days following the date of hearing; and

3 (iv) Give due consideration to the recommendations at the public  
4 hearing; and provide sufficient explanation for his recommendations contrary to  
5 the general sentiments expressed in the public hearing;

6 (e) Upon receipt of the recommendations of the DENR, the President  
7 shall issue a presidential proclamation designating the recommended areas as  
8 protected areas and providing for measures for their protection until such time  
9 when Congress shall have enacted a law finally declaring such recommended  
10 areas as part of the integrated protected area systems; [and]

11 (f) Thereafter, the President shall send to the Senate and the House  
12 of Representatives his recommendations with respect to the designations as  
13 protected areas or reclassification of each area on which review has been  
14 completed, together with maps and legal description of boundaries. The  
15 President, in his recommendation, may propose the alteration of existing  
16 boundaries of any or all proclaimed protected areas, addition of any contiguous  
17 area of public land of predominant physical and biological value. Nothing  
18 contained herein shall limit the President to propose, as part of his  
19 recommendation to Congress, additional areas which have not been designated,  
20 proclaimed or set aside by law, presidential decree, proclamation or executive  
21 orders as protected area/s[.]; AND

22 (G) PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NIPAS ACT,  
23 THE FOLLOWING PARCELS OF LAND ARE HEREBY DECLARED AND  
24 ESTABLISHED AS PROTECTED AREAS, THE PUBLIC LANDS THEREIN  
25 WITHIN THE LAND CLASSIFICATION OF NATIONAL PARK:

26 Name of Protected Area Proclamation Number Proclamation



1		Number	Date
2	1. Abasig-Matogdon Mananap Natural Biotic Area	318	May 31, 2000
3	2. Agoo-Damortis Protected Landscape and Seascape	277	April 23, 2000
4	3. Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary	913	October 31, 1996
5	4. Albuquerque-Loay-Loboc Protected Landscape/Seascape	293	April 23, 2000
6	5. Aliguay Island Protected Landscape and Seascape	106	May 6, 1999
7	6. Aliwagwag Protected Landscape	139	April 5, 2011
8	7. Amro River Protected Landscape	274	April 23, 2000
9	8. Apo Island Protected Landscape/Seascape	438	August 9, 1994
10	9. Apo Reef Natural Park	868	September 6, 1996
11	10. Baliangao Protected Landscape and Seascape	418	November 22, 2000
12	11. Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park	414	November 21, 2000
13	12. Basilan Natural Biotic Area	321	May 31, 2000
14	13. Bataan Natural Park	192 and	November 27, 1987 and
15		24	December 1, 1945
16	14. Bessang Pass Natural Monument/ Landmark	284	April 23, 2000
17	15. Bicol Natural Park	43	December 29, 2000
18	16. Bigbiga Protected Landscape	290	April 23, 2000
19	17. Biri Larosa Protected Landscape/Seascape	291	April 23, 2000
20	18. Bongsanglay Natural Park	319	May 31, 2000
21	19. Buenavista Protected Landscape	294	April 23, 2000
22	20. Bulusan Volcano Natural Park	421	November 27, 2000
23	21. Buug Natural Biotic Park	63	December 22, 1998
24	22. Calbayog-Pan-As Hayiban Protected Landscape	1158	February 3, 1998
25	23. Camotes Island Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserve	2152	December 29, 1981
26	24. Casecnan Protected Landscape	289	April 23, 2000
27	25. Catanduanes Watershed Forest Reserve	123	June 23, 1987
28	26. Chico Island Wildlife Sanctuary	272	April 23, 2000
29	27. Chocolate Hills Natural Monument	1037	July 1, 1997

1	28. Cuatro Islas Protected Landscape/Seascape	270	April 23, 2000
2	29. Dinadiawan River Protected Landscape	278	April 23, 2000
3	30. Dumanquilas Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape	158	August 10, 1999
4	31. El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area	32	October 8, 1998
5	32. Guiuan Protected Landscape/Seascape	469	September 26, 1994
6	33. Hinulugan Taktak Protected Landscape	412	November 17, 2000
7	34. Initao-Libertad Protected Landscape and Seascape	260	September 16, 2002
8	35. Jose Rizal Memorial Protected Landscape	279	April 23, 2000
9	36. Kalbario-Patapat Natural Park	1275	April 20, 2007
10	37. Lagonoy Natural Biotic Area	297	April 24, 2000
11	38. Lake Danao Natural Park	1155	February 3, 1998
12	39. Libunao Protected Landscape	280	April 23, 2000
13	40. Lidlidda Protected Landscape	266	April 23, 2000
14	41. Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape	316	May 31, 2000
15	42. Mahagnao Volcano Natural Park	1157	February 3, 1998
16	43. Malabugot Protected Landscape and Seascape	288	April 23, 2000
17	44. Malampaya Sound Protected Landscape and Seascape	342	July 12, 2000
18	45. Manleluag Spring Protected Landscape	576	March 10, 1994
19	46. Marinduque Wildlife Sanctuary	696	August 17, 2004
20	47. Masinloc and Oyon Bay Marine Reserve	231	August 18, 1993
21	48. Mati Protected Landscape	912	September 6, 2005
22	49. Maulawin Spring Protected Landscape	295	April 23, 2000
23	50. Mayon Volcano Natural Park	413	November 21, 2000
24	51. Mt. Balatukan Range Natural Park	1249	May 6, 2007
25	52. Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary	292	April 23, 2000
26	53. Mt. Guiting-Guiting Natural Park	746	February 20, 1996
27	54. Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park	557	May 8, 1969
28	55. Mt. Inayawan Range Natural Park	1344	July 30, 2007
29	56. Mt. Isarog Natural Park	214	June 20, 2002

1	57. Mt. Kalatungan Range Natural Park	305	May 5, 2000
2	58. Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape	1815	June 23, 2009
3	59. Mt. Matutum Protected Landscape	552	March 20, 1995
4	60. Mts. Palay-Palay and Mataas na Gulod Protected Landscape	1315	June 27, 2007
5	61. Mt. Timpoong and Hibok-Hibok Natural Monument	570	March 9, 2004
6	62. Mount Timolan Protected Landscape	354	August 14, 2000
7	63. Murcielagos Island Protected Landscape and Seascape	281	April 23, 2000
8	64. Naro Island Wildlife Sanctuary	317	May 31, 2000
9	65. Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center	723	October 25, 2004
10	66. Northern Negros Natural Park	895	August 15, 2005
11	67. Northwest Panay Peninsula Natural Park	186	April 18, 2002
12	68. Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary	903	May 14, 1992
13	69. Palaui Island Marine Reserve	447	August 28, 1994
14	70. Pamitinan Protected Landscape	901	October 10, 1996
15	71. Panglao Island Protected Seascape	426	July 22, 2003
16	72. Pasonanca Natural Park	132	July 5, 1999
17	73. Peñablanca Protected Landscape and Seascape	484	October 6, 2003
18	74. Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park	212	November 12, 1999
19	75. Pujada Bay Protected Landscape/Seascape	431	July 31, 1994
20	76. Quezon Protected Landscape	394	June 2, 2007
21	77. Quirino Protected Landscape	779 and	February 3, 2005 and
22		548	February 9, 2004
23	78. Rajah Sikatuna Protected Landscape	287	April 23, 2000
24	79. Rasa Island Wildlife Sanctuary	1000	February 15, 2006
25	80. Roosevelt Protected Landscape	273	April 23, 2000
26	81. Salcedo Protected Landscape	296	April 23, 2000
27	(formerly Santa Lucia Protected Landscape)		
28	82. Salinas Natural Monument	275	April 23, 2000
29	83. Samar Island Natural Park	442	August 13, 2003

1	84. Sarangani Bay Protected Seascape	756	March 5, 1996
2	85. Selinog Island Protected Landscape and Seascape	276	April 23, 2000
3	86. Siargao Islands Protected Landscape and Seascape	902	October 10, 1996
4	87. Sibalom Natural Park	282	April 23, 2000
5	88. Simbahan-Talagas Protected Landscape	267	April 23, 2000
6	89. Siocon Resource Reserve	84	February 24, 1999
7	90. Taal Volcano Protected Landscape	923	November 19, 1996
8	91. Talaytay Protected Landscape	283	April 23, 2000
9	92. Talibon Group of Islands Protected Landscape/Seascape	131	July 5, 1999
10	93. Tañon Strait Protected Seascape	1234	May 27, 1998
11	94. Tumauni Watershed Forest Reserve	355	April 4, 1994
12	95. Turtle Islands Wildlife Sanctuary	171	August 26, 1999
13	96. Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape	296	November 24, 2011

14                   **THE LOCATION AND BOUNDARIES OF EACH PROTECTED AREA AS**  
15                   **DESCRIBED IN THE ATTACHED ANNEX WHICH SHALL FORM AN INTEGRAL**  
16                   **PART OF THIS ACT, ARE HEREBY ADOPTED.**

17                   **THE DENR, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER GOVERNMENT**  
18                   **AGENCIES IF NECESSARY, SHALL DELINEATE AND DEMARCATE ON THE**  
19                   **GROUND THE BOUNDARIES OF EACH PROTECTED AREA WHICH SHALL**  
20                   **NOT BE MODIFIED EXCEPT BY AN ACT OF CONGRESS.”**

21                   **SEC. 5.** Section 8 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

22                   “SEC. 8. *Buffer Zones.* - [For each protected area, there shall be  
23                   established peripheral buffer zones when necessary, in the same manner as  
24                   Congress establishes the protected area, to protect the same from activities that  
25                   will directly and indirectly harm it. Such buffer zones shall be included in the  
26                   individual protected area management plan that shall prepared for each  
27                   protected area. The DENR shall exercise its authority over protected areas as  
28                   provided in this Act on such area and designated as buffer zones.] **BUFFER**

1 ZONES SURROUNDING THE PROTECTED AREAS SHALL BE ESTABLISHED BY  
2 THE PAMB, WHEN NECESSARY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING AN  
3 EXTRA LAYER OF PROTECTION WHERE RESTRICTIONS CAN APPLY AND  
4 COMMUNITIES CAN ASSIST IN REPELLING THREATS TO THE PROTECTED  
5 AREA WITHOUT NEED FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION. SUCH BUFFER ZONES  
6 MAY INCLUDE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE LANDS. MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION  
7 OF THE BUFFER ZONES SHALL BE INCLUDED AS A COMPONENT OF THE  
8 PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN.”

9 SEC. 6. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 “SEC. 9. *Management Plans.* – THERE SHALL BE A MANAGEMENT  
11 PLAN PROMULGATED FOR EACH PROTECTED AREA THAT SHALL SERVE AS  
12 THE BASIC LONG-TERM FRAMEWORK PLAN IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE  
13 PROTECTED AREA AND GUIDE IN THE PREPARATION OF ITS ANNUAL  
14 OPERATIONS PLAN AND BUDGET.

15 [There shall be a general management planning strategy to serve as  
16 guide in formulating individual plans for each protected area.] The  
17 [management planning] strategy FOR THE MANAGEMENT PLAN shall, at the  
18 minimum, promote the adoption and implementation of innovative  
19 management techniques including if necessary, the concept of zoning, buffer  
20 zone management for multiple use and protection, habitat conservation and  
21 rehabilitation, diversity management, community organizing, socioeconomic  
22 and scientific researches, site-specific policy development, pest management,  
23 and fire control. [The management planning strategy] IT shall also provide  
24 guidelines for the protection of indigenous cultural communities, other tenured  
25 migrant communities and sites for close coordination between and among local  
26 agencies of the Government as well as the private sector.

1           Each component area of the System shall be planned and administered  
2 to further protect and enhance the permanent preservation of its natural  
3 conditions. A management manual shall be formulated and developed which  
4 must contain the following: an individual management plan [prepared by three  
5 (3) experts], basic background information, field inventory of the resources  
6 within the area, an assessment of assets and limitations, regional  
7 interrelationships, particular objectives for managing the area, appropriate  
8 division of the area into management zones, a review of the boundaries of the  
9 area, and a design of the management programs.

10           **WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, THE**  
11 **MANAGEMENT PLAN SHALL BE PUT INTO EFFECT FOLLOWING THE**  
12 **GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING STRATEGY PROVIDED FOR UNDER**  
13 **THE NIPAS ACT AND ACCORDING TO THE PROCEDURE HEREIN SET FORTH.**

14           **THE MANAGEMENT PLAN SHALL BE PREPARED BY THE PASU IN**  
15 **COORDINATION WITH THE APPROPRIATE OFFICES OF THE NATIONAL**  
16 **GOVERNMENT SUCH AS THE DENR, NATIONAL COMMISSION ON**  
17 **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (NCIP), IF APPLICABLE, DEPARTMENT OF**  
18 **AGRICULTURE (DA), LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, PRIVATE SECTOR, CIVIL**  
19 **SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, AND LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS CULTURAL**  
20 **COMMUNITIES/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (ICCS/IPS). IT SHALL BE REVIEWED**  
21 **AND APPROVED BY THE PAMB AND ENDORSED, THROUGH THE**  
22 **BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU (BMB), TO THE SECRETARY OF THE**  
23 **DENR. THE MANAGEMENT PLAN SHALL TAKE EFFECT AFTER THIRTY (30)**  
24 **DAYS FROM THE DATE OF RECEIPT THEREOF BY THE SECRETARY OF THE**  
25 **DENR: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE DENR, MAY**  
26 **REVISE AND MODIFY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN BEFORE THE EXPIRATION**

1 OF THE SAID 30-DAY PERIOD TO ENSURE CONFORMITY WITH APPLICABLE  
2 LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS.

3 THE MANAGEMENT PLAN SHALL BE MODIFIED AND UPDATED  
4 REGULARLY AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH STUDIES, SIMILAR RESOURCES  
5 ASSESSMENTS AND SURVEYS AS WELL AS RELEVANT DEVELOPMENTS ON  
6 BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION. THE MANAGEMENT PLAN SHALL BE  
7 DISTRIBUTED TO OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
8 UNITS, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, PRIVATE SECTOR, AND  
9 INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES, WITH THE GOAL OF PROPER  
10 COORDINATION AND UNIFORM MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS. ALL  
11 CONCERNED LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS SHALL INTEGRATE AND  
12 MAINSTREAM THE MANAGEMENT PLAN INTO THEIR POLICIES, PROGRAMS  
13 AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROCESS. THE BMB SHALL  
14 MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN TO  
15 ENSURE COMPLIANCE AND CONSISTENCY WITH BIODIVERSITY  
16 CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES.

17 A YEAR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE PERIOD OF THE  
18 APPLICABILITY OF THE PLAN IN EFFECT, THE PASU SHALL CAUSE  
19 PUBLICATION OF NOTICES ON THE SUCCESSOR PLAN IN TWO (2)  
20 NEWSPAPERS OF GENERAL AND LOCAL CIRCULATION IN THE CONCERNED  
21 LOCALITIES. NOTICES SHALL ALSO BE POSTED IN THE PROVINCIAL HALL,  
22 CITY AND/OR MUNICIPAL HALLS COVERING THE PROTECTED AREA AS  
23 WELL AS IN THE BARANGAY HALLS BOUNDING OR IMMEDIATELY  
24 ADJACENT TO THE PROTECTED AREA. THE PROPOSED PLAN SHALL BE  
25 MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE PERIOD FOR COMMENT  
26 AND A FINAL PLAN SHALL LIKEWISE BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC  
27 PERUSAL AT THE OFFICES OF THE PASU AND THE DENR-REGIONAL

1           DIRECTOR UPON THE APPROVAL OF THE PAMB: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE  
2           PLANS SHALL BE PLAINLY WRITTEN IN A LANGUAGE UNDERSTANDABLE  
3           IN THE AREA: *PROVIDED FURTHER*, THAT THESE SHALL BE POSTED AND  
4           UPLOADED ON THE WEBSITES OF THE DENR REGIONAL OFFICES.

5           **SEC. 7.** Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6                     “SEC. 11. *Protected Area Management Board.* – There shall be a Protected  
7           Area Management Board for each of the established protected area, **AS WELL AS**  
8           **AREAS THAT ARE STILL TO BE DESIGNATED**, and shall be composed of the  
9           following: the Regional [Executive] Director under whose jurisdiction the  
10          protected area is located, **AS CHAIRPERSON**; one (1) representative from the  
11          autonomous regional government, if applicable; **GOVERNOR/S OF THE**  
12          **PROVINCE/S COVERING THE PROTECTED AREA**; the Provincial **PLANNING**  
13          **AND Development COORDINATORS (PPDC) OF THE PROVINCE/S COVERING**  
14          **THE PROTECTED AREA**; [one (1) representative from the municipal  
15          government]     **MAYOR/S     OF     THE     CITY/CITIES     AND/OR**  
16          **MUNICIPALITY/MUNICIPALITIES COVERING THE PROTECTED AREA OR**  
17          **THEIR DULY DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE/S**; [one (1) representative  
18          from each barangay] **THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE BARANGAYS** covering the  
19          protected area **OR THEIR DULY DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES**; one (1)  
20          representative from each [tribal] **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/INDIGENOUS**  
21          **CULTURAL communit[y]IES**, if applicable; at least [three (3)] **ONE BUT NOT**  
22          **MORE THAN FIVE (5)** representatives from non-government organizations  
23          (NGOs)/local community organizations duly accredited by the DENR or the local  
24          government unit operating in the protected area, which has been existing for  
25          five (5) years with track records related to the protection and management of



1 the protected area; AT LEAST ONE BUT NOT MORE THAN THREE (3)  
2 REPRESENTATIVES FROM ACCREDITED PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS (POS)  
3 OPERATING IN THE PROTECTED AREA, WHICH HAS BEEN EXISTING FOR  
4 FIVE (5) YEARS WITH PROVEN TRACK RECORD RELATED TO THE  
5 PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PROTECTED AREA; ONE  
6 REPRESENTATIVE FROM AN ACADEMIC INSTITUTION WITH PROVEN  
7 TRACK RECORD RELATED TO THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF  
8 THE PROTECTED AREA; AND one (1) representative from other departments  
9 or national government agencies involved in **THE PROTECTION AND**  
10 **MANAGEMENT OF** protected areas [management] **OR HAS LONG-TERM**  
11 **PROJECTS OR A PERMANENT FACILITY LOCATED THEREIN;**

12 THE PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
13 OFFICER (PENRO) OR A PROVINCIAL OFFICER HOLDING AN EQUIVALENT  
14 POSITION SHALL BE AN *EX OFFICIO* MEMBER OF THE PAMB.

15 The Board shall, by a majority vote, decide the allocations for budget,  
16 approve proposals for funding, decide matters relating to planning, peripheral  
17 protection and general administration of the area in accordance with the general  
18 management strategy. The members of the Board shall serve for a term of five  
19 (5) years without compensation, except for the actual and necessary traveling  
20 and subsistence expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, **EITHER**  
21 **IN THEIR ATTENDANCE IN MEETINGS OF THE PAMB OR IN CONNECTION**  
22 **WITH OTHER OFFICIAL BUSINESS AUTHORIZED BY A RESOLUTION OF THE**  
23 **PAMB, SUBJECT TO EXISTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. EACH MEMBER**  
24 **SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO REPRESENT HIS OR HER SECTOR AND IS**  
25 **DEEMED TO CARRY THE VOTE OF SUCH SECTOR IN ALL MATTERS. IN THE**  
26 **CASE OF MEMBERS WHO ARE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, THEIR**

1           **APPOINTMENT SHALL BE CO-TERMINUS WITH THEIR TERM OF OFFICE.**  
2           **THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD [they]** shall be appointed by the Secretary of  
3           the DENR as follows:

4                   (a) A member who shall be appointed to represent each local  
5                   government down to barangay level whose territory or portion is included in  
6                   the protected area. Each appointee shall be the person designated by the head of  
7                   such LGU, except for the Provincial Development Officer who shall serve ex  
8                   officio;

9                   (b) A member from non-government organizations who shall be  
10                  endorsed by heads of organizations which are preferably based in the area or  
11                  which have established and recognized interest in protected areas;

12                  (c) The RED/s in the region/s where such protected area lies shall sit  
13                  as ex officio member of the Board and shall serve as adviser/s in matters related  
14                  to the technical aspect of management of the area; and

15                  (d) The RED shall act as chairman of the Board. When there are two  
16                  (2) or more REDs in the Board, the Secretary shall designate one (1) of them to  
17                  be the Chairman. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original  
18                  appointment.

19                  **AS A TRANSITORY PROVISION, THE INITIAL MEMBERS OF THE**  
20                  **PAMB SHALL BE NOMINATED FROM THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE**  
21                  **EXISTING PAMB OF THE PROTECTED AREA: *PROVIDED*, THAT AT LEAST**  
22                  **TWENTY (20%) OF THE PAMB MEMBERS SHALL BE WOMEN PURSUANT TO**  
23                  **REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9710 OR THE MAGNA CARTA OF WOMEN.**

24                  **A MEMBER MAY BE REMOVED FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING**  
25                  **GROUND:**

1           **(A) MORE THAN THREE (3) CONSECUTIVE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES**  
2 **DURING REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF THE MANAGEMENT**  
3 **BOARD;**

4           **(B) COMMISSION OF ACTS PREJUDICIAL TO THE MANAGEMENT OF**  
5 **PROTECTED AREAS AS EMBODIED IN SECTION 20 OF THE NIPAS ACT OR**  
6 **OTHER EXISTING RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING PROTECTED**  
7 **AREAS;**

8           **(C) DISASSOCIATION FROM THE OFFICE OR ORGANIZATION**  
9 **BEING REPRESENTED;**

10           **(D) DISSOLUTION OF THE OFFICER OR ORGANIZATION BEING**  
11 **REPRESENTED; AND**

12           **(E) CONVICTION BY FINAL JUDGMENT OF ANY CRIMINAL ACT.**

13           **THE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS**  
14 **(LGUS) AND NATIONAL AGENCIES IN THE PAMB SHALL INFORM THEIR**  
15 **RESPECTIVE CONSTITUENTS, OFFICES OR SECTORS, OF PAMB-APPROVED**  
16 **OR OTHER RELEVANT POLICIES, RULES, REGULATIONS, PROGRAMS AND**  
17 **PROJECTS AND TO ENSURE THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, THE**  
18 **NIPAS ACT AND ITS IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS ARE**  
19 **OBSERVED, COMPLIED WITH, AND USED AS REFERENCE AND FRAMEWORK**  
20 **IN THEIR RESPECTIVE PLANS, POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.**  
21 **FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE FOREGOING SHALL SUBJECT SUCH**  
22 **REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION AS THE PAMB MAY**  
23 **PROVIDE."**

24           **SEC. 8. Insert three (3) new sections after Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7586 to read as**  
25 **follows:**

26           **"SEC. 11.1. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE PAMB. – THE PAMB OF**  
27 **THE PROTECTED AREA, WHICH SHALL DECIDE BY CONSENSUS OR**

1 MAJORITY VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM  
2 OF MAJORITY OF ALL THE MEMBERS, SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING  
3 POWERS AND FUNCTIONS:

4 (A) ISSUE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE RESOLUTION OF  
5 CONFLICTS THROUGH APPROPRIATE AND EFFECTIVE MEANS;

6 (B) ADOPT RULES OF PROCEDURES IN THE CONDUCT OF  
7 BUSINESS, INCLUDING THE CREATION OF COMMITTEES TO WHICH ITS  
8 POWERS MAY BE DELEGATED;

9 (C) APPROVE THE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ANNUAL WORK AND  
10 FINANCIAL PLANS, ALLOCATE RESOURCES AND OVERSEE THE OFFICE OF  
11 THE PASU;

12 (D) ESTABLISH CRITERIA AND SET FEES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF  
13 PERMITS FOR ACTIVITIES REGULATED BY THIS ACT OR THE  
14 MANAGEMENT PLAN;

15 (E) RECOMMEND THE DEPUTIZATION OF APPROPRIATE  
16 AGENCIES AND INDIVIDUALS FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS,  
17 RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CONDUCT OR MANAGEMENT  
18 OF THE PROTECTED AREA;

19 (F) APPROVE FEES AND CHARGES IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
20 EXISTING GUIDELINES AND RAISE FUNDS FOR THE PROTECTED AREA;

21 (G) MANAGE THE ALLOCATION OF THE PROTECTED AREA  
22 RETENTION INCOME ACCOUNT, AND OTHER FUNDS FOR THE PROTECTED  
23 AREA, ENSURE THEIR PROPER ADMINISTRATION AND RENDER  
24 ACCOUNTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 16 OF THIS ACT; AND

25 (H) RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE POLICY CHANGES TO THE DENR  
26 AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES;

1 PAMBS WITH OVER TWENTY-FIVE (25) MEMBERSHIPS MAY  
2 CREATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES (EXECOMS) WHICH SHALL PERFORM  
3 ALL THE ABOVE FUNCTIONS. EACH MEMBER OF THE EXECOM SHALL ACT  
4 AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PAMB AS A WHOLE AND ARE  
5 ANSWERABLE TO THE PAMB *EN BANC*. IN SUCH CASES, THE PAMB *EN*  
6 *BANC* SHALL RETAIN THE RIGHT TO RATIFY THE FOLLOWING DECISIONS:

- 7 (1) APPROVAL OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN;  
8 (2) APPROVAL OF ANNUAL WORK AND FINANCIAL PLANS; AND  
9 (3) APPROVAL OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR USE OF PROTECTED  
10 AREA RESOURCES.

11 THE DENR, THROUGH THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR, SHALL ENSURE  
12 THAT THE PAMB ACTS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF ITS POWERS AND  
13 FUNCTIONS. IN CASE OF CONFLICT BETWEEN THE RESOLUTIONS ISSUED  
14 BY THE PAMB AND THE EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS OF  
15 NATIONAL APPLICATION, THE LATTER SHALL PREVAIL."

16 "SEC. 11.2. *THE PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT OFFICE (PAMO)*. -  
17 THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED A PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT  
18 OFFICE (PAMO) IN THE PROTECTED AREA TO BE HEADED BY A PARK  
19 OPERATIONS SUPERINTENDENT (PASU) WITH PERMANENT PLANTILLA  
20 POSITION. THE PAMO SHALL HAVE COMPLEMENT STAFF WITH  
21 PLANTILLA APPOINTMENT, SUPPORTED BY FIELD OFFICERS WHO SHALL  
22 BE PERFORMING THE DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT, PROTECTION AND  
23 ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROTECTED AREA. UPON RECOMMENDATION  
24 OF THE PAMB, THE DENR REGIONAL DIRECTOR SHALL DEPUTIZE LOCAL  
25 COMMUNITY LEADERS AND ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
26 OFFICERS.

1           THE DENR SHALL APPOINT A PASU WHO SHALL BE PRIMARILY  
2 ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PAMB AND THE DENR FOR THE  
3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN AND OPERATIONS OF  
4 THE PROTECTED AREA. AS SUCH, THE PASU SHALL HAVE THE  
5 FOLLOWING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

6           (A) ESTABLISHES, OPERATES AND MAINTAINS A DATABASE  
7 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AS DECISION SUPPORT TOOL;

8           (B) PREPARES THE MANAGEMENT PLANS AS HEREIN DEFINED;

9           (C) PROVIDES A SECRETARIAT FOR THE PAMB AND ITS  
10 COMMITTEES AND SUPPLY THE PAMB WITH ALL THE NECESSARY  
11 INFORMATION TO MAKE APPROPRIATE DECISIONS FOR THE  
12 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT;

13           (D) FORMULATES, PREPARES AND SUBMITS TO THE PAMB THE  
14 DRAFT IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE PROTECTED  
15 AREA;

16           (E) ENFORCES THE LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS RELEVANT  
17 TO THE PROTECTED AREA, COMMENCES AND INSTITUTES LEGAL ACTION  
18 INDEPENDENTLY OR IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT  
19 AGENCIES OR ORGANIZATIONS AND ASSISTS IN THE PROSECUTION OF  
20 OFFENSES COMMITTED IN VIOLATION OF THIS ACT;

21           (F) MONITORS ALL ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA  
22 TO ENSURE ITS CONFORMITY WITH THE MANAGEMENT PLAN;

23           (G) REQUESTS FOR AND RECEIVES ANY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE,  
24 SUPPORT OR ADVICE FROM ANY AGENCY OR INSTRUMENTALITY OF THE  
25 GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS, NON-GOVERNMENT  
26 ORGANIZATIONS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR

1 THE EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT, PROTECTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF  
2 THE PROTECTED AREA;

3 (H) ISSUES PERMITS, INCLUDING CUTTING PERMITS WHEN  
4 WARRANTED, FOR ACTIVITIES THAT IMPLEMENT THE MANAGEMENT  
5 PLAN AND OTHER PERMITTED ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
6 TERMS, CONDITIONS AND CRITERIA ESTABLISHED BY PAMB: *PROVIDED*,  
7 THAT ALL EXTRACTION ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING COLLECTION FOR  
8 RESEARCH PURPOSES SHALL CONTINUE TO BE ISSUED BY RELEVANT  
9 AUTHORITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPECIFIC ACTS COVERING  
10 THEM;

11 (I) ENSURES THE INTEGRATION OF THE PROTECTED AREA  
12 MANAGEMENT POLICIES, REGULATIONS, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS TO  
13 ALL THE CONCERNED NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS LEVEL;  
14 AND

15 (J) PERFORMS SUCH OTHER FUNCTIONS AS THE PAMB MAY  
16 DELEGATE."

17 SEC. 9. Insert a new section after Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7586 to read as follows:

18 "SEC. 13.1. *RECOGNITION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL*  
19 *COMMUNITIES CONSERVED AREAS AND TERRITORIES.* - (A) PURSUANT TO  
20 SECTIONS 7(B), 9(A) AND 58 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8371, OTHERWISE  
21 KNOWN AS THE "INDIGENOUS PEOPLES RIGHTS ACT OF 1997" OR IPRA,  
22 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES CONSERVED  
23 AREAS (ICCAS) AND TERRITORIES WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA SHALL  
24 BE RECOGNIZED AND RESPECTED. THE PAMB AND PASU SHALL ASSIST  
25 ICCS/IPS CONCERNED IN THE IDENTIFICATION, MAPPING,  
26 DOCUMENTATION AND REGISTRATION OF ICCAS, AND THE PREPARATION  
27 OF COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLANS. THE IDENTIFIED ICCAS AND THE

1 COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PLANS SHALL BE HARMONIZED WITH THE  
2 PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN AND ZONING. THE PROTECTED  
3 AREAS MANAGEMENT PLAN (PAMP) SHALL INCLUDE A COMPONENT ON  
4 ICCAS. THE DOCUMENTATION AND MAPPING OF ICCAS SHALL BE  
5 UNDERTAKEN IN THE PREPARATION, MODIFICATION OR REVISION OF  
6 THE PAMP. THE PAMB SHALL LIKEWISE CONSIDER ICCA ISSUES AND  
7 CONCERNS IN ALL MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING  
8 PROCESSES. THE PAMP AND ANCESTRAL DOMAIN SUSTAINABLE  
9 DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION PLAN (ADSDPP) SHALL BE  
10 HARMONIZED TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF BIODIVERSITY,  
11 SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, AND TO MAINTAIN  
12 CULTURAL INTEGRITY.”

13 **SEC. 10.** Section 14 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14 “SEC. 14. [Survey for] *Energy Resources*. – Consistent with the policies  
15 declared in Section 2 hereof, protected areas, except strict nature reserves and  
16 natural parks, may be subjected to exploration only for the purpose of gathering  
17 information on energy resources and only if such activity is carried out with the  
18 least damage to surrounding areas. Surveys shall be conducted only in  
19 accordance with a program approved by the DENR, and the result of such  
20 surveys shall be made available to the public and submitted to the President for  
21 recommendation to Congress. Any exploitation and utilization of energy  
22 resources found within NIPAS areas shall be allowed only through a law passed  
23 by Congress.

24 ENERGY PROJECTS WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA SHALL BE  
25 PERMITTED ONLY THROUGH AN ACT OF CONGRESS EXCEPT RENEWABLE  
26 ENERGY PROJECTS ALL OF WHICH THE PAMB MAY ALLOW WITH THE



1           **CONCURRENCE OF THE DENR SECRETARY: *PROVIDED*, THAT THESE**  
2           **RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS WILL NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO**  
3           **ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION AND BIODIVERSITY, ARE LOCATED OUTSIDE THE**  
4           **STRICT PROTECTION ZONES, ADOPT REDUCED IMPACT TECHNOLOGIES,**  
5           **AND UNDERGO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) SYSTEM**  
6           **AS PROVIDED BY LAW.”**

7           **SEC. 11.** Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7586, as amended by Republic Act No. 10629, is  
8 hereby amended to read as follows:

9                         "SEC. 16. *Integrated Protected Areas Fund.* – There is hereby established  
10 a trust fund to be known as Integrated Protected Areas (IPAS) Fund for  
11 purposes of financing projects of the System. The IPAS may solicit and receive  
12 donations, endowments, and grants in the form of contributions, and such  
13 endowment shall be exempted from income or gift taxes and all other taxes,  
14 charges or fees imposed by the Government or any political subdivision or  
15 instrumentality thereof.

16                         All incomes generated from the operation of the System or management  
17 of wild flora and fauna shall accrue to the Fund and may be utilized directly by  
18 the DENR for the above purpose. These incomes shall be derived from:

19                         (a) Taxes from the permitted sale and export of flora and fauna and  
20 other resources from protected areas;

21                         (b) Proceeds from lease of multiple use areas;

22                         (c) Contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting  
23 from the protected area; and

24                         (d) Such other fees and incomes derived from the operation of the  
25 protected area.

26                         The Fund, including all donations, grants, endowments from various  
27 sources and other contributions shall be deposited in any government bank

1 within the locality where each protected area is located: *Provided*, That if there  
2 is no government bank available in the locality, an account shall be opened in a  
3 government bank nearest to the locality.

4 Disbursements from the Fund shall be made solely for the protection,  
5 maintenance, administration, and management of the System, and duly  
6 approved projects endorsed by the PAMBs, in the amounts authorized by the  
7 DENR in accordance with existing accounting, budgeting and auditing rules and  
8 regulations: *Provided, further*, That the Fund shall not be used to cover personal  
9 services expenditures."

10 **SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) OF THE FUNDS COLLECTED SHALL**  
11 **FORM PART OF THE PROTECTED AREA RETENTION INCOME ACCOUNT**  
12 **WHICH SHALL BE SOLELY DISBURSED FOR ITS USE. THE PROTECTED AREA**  
13 **RETENTION INCOME ACCOUNT SHALL LIKEWISE BE EXEMPTED FROM**  
14 **BEING DEPOSITED IN THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND SHALL BE MADE**  
15 **READILY AVAILABLE FOR DISBURSEMENT UPON PROPER APPROVAL OF**  
16 **THE PAMB AND THE DENR, SUBJECT TO THE USUAL ACCOUNTING AND**  
17 **AUDITING RULES AND REGULATIONS.**

18 **THE PROTECTED AREA RETENTION INCOME ACCOUNT MAY BE**  
19 **AUGMENTED BY GRANTS, DONATIONS, ENDOWMENT FROM VARIOUS**  
20 **SOURCES, DOMESTIC OR FOREIGN, FOR PURPOSES RELATED TO THEIR**  
21 **FUNCTIONS. ALL FINES AND PENALTIES INCLUDING COMPENSATION FOR**  
22 **DAMAGES IN THE PROTECTED AREA SHALL LIKEWISE ACCRUE TO THE**  
23 **IPAF: *PROVIDED*, THAT DISBURSEMENTS THEREFROM SHALL BE MADE**  
24 **SOLELY FOR THE PROTECTION, MAINTENANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND**  
25 **MANAGEMENT OF THE SYSTEM, AND DULY APPROVED PROJECTS**  
26 **ENDORSED BY THE PAMB IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING ACCOUNTING**  
27 **AND BUDGETING RULES AND REGULATIONS: *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT**

1 THE PROTECTED AREA RETENTION INCOME ACCOUNT SHALL NOT BE  
2 USED TO COVER EXPENDITURES FOR PERSONNEL SERVICES.

3 THE LGUS SHALL CONTINUE TO IMPOSE AND COLLECT ALL OTHER  
4 FEES NOT ENUMERATED HEREIN WHICH THEY HAVE TRADITIONALLY  
5 COLLECTED, SUCH AS BUSINESS PERMITS AND RENTALS OF LGU  
6 FACILITIES: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE LGUS SHALL NOT IMPOSE PROPERTY  
7 TAX AND ISSUE NEW TAX DECLARATION FOR AREAS COVERED BY THE  
8 PROTECTED AREA. FURTHERMORE, LGUS MAY CHARGE ADD-ONS TO FEES  
9 IMPOSED BY THE PAMB: *PROVIDED*, THAT SUCH ADD-ONS SHALL BE  
10 BASED ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE LGUS IN THE MAINTENANCE AND  
11 PROTECTION OF THE PROTECTED AREA.

12 THE PASU OR DENR-PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL  
13 RESOURCES OFFICE/REGIONAL OFFICE THROUGH THE DENR-BMB SHALL  
14 SUBMIT, IN PRINTED FORM AND BY WAY OF ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT, TO  
15 THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM) COPY  
16 FURNISHED THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND THE  
17 SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, QUARTERLY REPORTS ON THE  
18 FINANCIAL AND PHYSICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS ON THE UTILIZATION OF  
19 SAID AMOUNT INCLUDING THE LIST OF PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES AND  
20 THEIR CORRESPONDING AMOUNTS.

21 **SEC. 12.** Section 19 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

22 "SEC. 19. *Special Prosecutor[s] AND RETAINED COUNSEL.* - WITHIN  
23 THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, the Department of  
24 Justice (DOJ) shall APPOINT [designate] A special prosecutor[s] to prosecute  
25 violations of laws, rules and regulations in THE protected area[s]. SUCH  
26 SPECIAL PROSECUTOR SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE PAMB AND THE

1 PASU IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS/HER DUTIES AND ASSIST IN THE  
2 TRAINING OF WARDENS AND RANGERS IN ARREST AND CRIMINAL  
3 PROCEDURES. THE PAMB MAY RETAIN THE SERVICES OF COUNSEL TO  
4 PROSECUTE AND/OR ASSIST IN THE PROSECUTION OF CASES UNDER THE  
5 DIRECT CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF THE REGULAR OR SPECIAL  
6 PROSECUTOR AND TO DEFEND THE MEMBERS OF THE PAMB, THE PASU  
7 AND THE STAFF, OR ANY PERSON ASSISTING IN THE PROTECTION,  
8 CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROTECTED  
9 AREA, AGAINST ANY LEGAL ACTION RELATED TO THEIR POWERS,  
10 FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS PROVIDED IN THIS ACT OR AS  
11 DELEGATED OR TASKED BY THE PAMB.”

12 **SEC. 13.** Sections 20 of Republic Act No. 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 “SEC 20. *Prohibited Acts.* – Except as may be allowed by the nature of  
14 their categories and pursuant to rules and regulations governing the same, the  
15 following acts are prohibited within protected areas.

16 (a) Hunting, **TAKING, KILLING, COLLECTING**, destroying, disturbing,  
17 or [mere possession of] **POSSESSING** any **WILD TERRESTRIAL OR AQUATIC**  
18 plants or animals [or], **FLORA OR FAUNA, SAND, ROCKS, OR BY-products**  
19 derived therefrom, **INCLUDING IN PRIVATE LANDS WITHIN THE**  
20 **PROTECTED AREA** without [a] **THE NECESSARY** permit [from the  
21 Management Board], **AUTHORIZATION OR EXEMPTION: PROVIDED, THAT**  
22 **THE PASU AS AUTHORIZED BY THE PAMB SHALL ISSUE A PERMIT,**  
23 **AUTHORIZATION OR EXEMPTION ONLY FOR CULLING, SCIENTIFIC**  
24 **RESEARCH, THE EXCEPTIONS UNDER SECTION 27(A) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.**  
25 **9147 OR HARVESTS OF NON-PROTECTED SPECIES FOR SUBSISTENCE IN**  
26 **MULTIPLE USE ZONES BY PROTECTED AREA OCCUPANTS;**

1           (b)     Dumping, **THROWING, USING, OR CAUSING TO BE DUMPED**  
2     **OR PLACING INTO THE PROTECTED AREA OF any TOXIC CHEMICAL,**  
3     **NOXIOUS OR POISONOUS SUBSTANCE OR NON-BIODEGRADABLE**  
4     **MATERIAL, waste OR products WHETHER IN LIQUID, SOLID OR GAS STATE,**  
5     **INCLUDING PESTICIDES AND OTHER HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AS**  
6     **DEFINED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6969, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE**  
7     **"TOXIC SUBSTANCES AND HAZARDOUS AND NUCLEAR WASTES CONTROL**  
8     **ACT OF 1990"** detrimental to the protected area, or to the plants and animals or  
9     inhabitants therein;

10           (c)    [Use of any motorized equipment without a permit from the  
11    Management Board]; **OPERATING ANY MOTORIZED CONVEYANCE WITHIN**  
12    **THE PROTECTED AREA NOT OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED BY LAW;**

13           (d)    Mutilating, defacing, [or] destroying, **EXCAVATING,**  
14    **VANDALIZING OR, IN ANY MANNER, DAMAGING ANY NATURAL**  
15    **FORMATION ON LAND, RELIGIOUS, SPIRITUAL, HISTORICAL SITES,**  
16    **ARTIFACTS AND OTHER** objects of natural beauty, **SCENIC VALUE** or objects of  
17    interest to cultural communities [(of scenic value)];

18           (e)    Damaging and leaving roads and trails in a damaged condition;

19           (f)    [Squatting, mineral locating, or otherwise occupying any land]  
20    **OCCUPYING OR DWELLING IN ANY LAND WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA**  
21    **WITHOUT CLEARANCE FROM THE PAMB;**

22           (g)    Constructing, **ERECTING,** or maintaining any kind of structure,  
23    fence or enclosures, conducting any business enterprise without a permit **ON**  
24    **LAND OR ON WATER FOR ANY PURPOSES INCONSISTENT WITH THE**  
25    **MANAGEMENT PLAN DULY APPROVED BY THE PAMB: PROVIDED, THAT**  
26    **LARGE-SCALE INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER PROJECTS SUCH AS, BUT**  
27    **NOT LIMITED TO, MEDIUM TO HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS,**

1 MEDIUM TO LARGE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS,  
2 GOLF COURSES, HEAVILY MECHANIZED COMMERCIAL AND  
3 NONTRADITIONAL FARMING, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES THAT CAUSE  
4 INCREASED IMMIGRATION AND RESOURCE DEGRADATION ARE  
5 ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED;

6 (h) Leaving in exposed or unsanitary conditions refuse or debris, or  
7 depositing in ground or in bodies of water; and

8 (i) Altering, removing destroying or defacing boundary marks or  
9 signs.

10 (J) UNDERTAKING MINERAL EXPLORATION OR EXTRACTION  
11 WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA;

12 (K) POACHING WITHIN A PROTECTED AREA;

13 (L) CUTTING, GATHERING, REMOVING OR COLLECTING TIMBER  
14 WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA INCLUDING PRIVATE LANDS WITHOUT  
15 THE NECESSARY PERMIT, AUTHORIZATION OR EXEMPTION SUCH AS FOR  
16 CULLING EXOTIC SPECIES;

17 (M) POSSESSING OR TRANSPORTING, WITHIN OR OUTSIDE THE  
18 PROTECTED AREA ANY TIMBER, FOREST PRODUCTS, WILD TERRESTRIAL  
19 OR AQUATIC PLANTS, ANIMALS, OR BY-PRODUCTS DERIVED THEREFROM  
20 WHICH IS ASCERTAINED TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM THE PROTECTED  
21 AREA OTHER THAN EXOTIC SPECIES UNDER AN APPROPRIATE PERMIT  
22 FOR ITS CULLING;

23 (N) ENGAGING IN QUARRYING WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA  
24 FOR USE OUTSIDE THE PROTECTED AREA AND WITHOUT PERMIT;

25 (O) ENGAGING IN *KAINGIN* OR, IN ANY MANNER, CAUSING  
26 FOREST FIRES INSIDE THE PROTECTED AREA;

1           (P) ESTABLISHING OR INTRODUCING ANY EXOTIC SPECIES,  
2 INCLUDING GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS (GMOS), AND INVASIVE  
3 ALIEN SPECIES WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA WHICH ARE DETRIMENTAL  
4 TO ENDEMIC SPECIES AND THE ECOSYSTEM THEREIN;

5           (Q) CONDUCTING BIOPROSPECTING WITHIN THE PROTECTED  
6 AREA WITHOUT PRIOR PAMB APPROVAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING  
7 GUIDELINES, PROVIDED THAT IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTY HEREIN,  
8 ANY COMMERCIAL USE OF ANY SUBSTANCE TAKEN FROM A PROTECTED  
9 AREA WILL NOT BE ALLOWED AND ALL REVENUE EARNED FROM ILLEGAL  
10 COMMERCIALIZATION THEREOF WILL BE FORFEITED AND DEPOSITED IN  
11 THE IPAF;

12           (R) PROSPECTING, HUNTING OR OTHERWISE LOCATING HIDDEN  
13 TREASURES WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA;

14           (S) POSSESSING OR USING BLASTING CAPS OR EXPLOSIVES  
15 ANYWHERE WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA;

16           (T) TAKING, REMOVING, FISHING, GATHERING, KILLING,  
17 DESTROYING OR POSSESSING CORALS FROM MARINE PROTECTED AREAS,  
18 EXCEPT FOR SCIENTIFIC OR RESEARCH PURPOSES AUTHORIZED BY THE  
19 PAMB;

20           (U) USING ANY FISHING OR HARVESTING GEAR THAT DESTROY  
21 CORAL REEFS, SEAGRASS BEDS OR OTHER MARINE LIFE OR TERRESTRIAL  
22 HABITATS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THIS ACT, THE PAMB, OTHER  
23 LAWS, THE DA, OR THE DENR;

24           (V) USING OF MURO-AMI, PA-ALING, ALL KINDS OF TRAWLS  
25 (GALADGAD, NORWAY), PURSE SEINE (PANGULONG), DANISH SEINE  
26 (HULBOT-HULBOT, PAHULBOT-HULBOT, LIKISAN, LIBA-LIBA, PALISOT,  
27 PATANGKO, BIRA-BIRA, BULI-BULI, HULAHOO, ZIPPER, LAMPORNAS,

1 ETC.), RING NET (KUBKOB, PANGULONG, KALANSISI), DRIVE-IN NET  
2 (KAYAKAS), ROUND HAUL SEINE (SAPYAW, LAWAG), MOTORIZED PUSH  
3 NET (SUDDSOD), BAGNET (BASING, SAKLIT), OR ANY OF THEIR  
4 VARIATIONS, PROVIDED THAT MERE POSSESSION OF SUCH GEARS WITHIN  
5 PROTECTED AREAS SHALL BE PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF THEIR USE; OR

6 (W) PURCHASING OR SELLING, MORTGAGING OR LEASING LANDS  
7 OR OTHER PORTIONS OF THE PROTECTED AREA WHICH ARE COVERED BY  
8 ANY TENURIAL INSTRUMENT.”

9 **SEC. 14.** Section 21 of RA 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 “SEC. 21. *Penalties.* - [Whoever violates this Act or any rules and  
11 regulations issued by the Department pursuant to this Act or whoever is found  
12 guilty by a competent court of justice of any of the offenses in the preceding  
13 section shall be fined in the amount of not less than Five thousand pesos  
14 (P5,000) nor more than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000), exclusive of  
15 the value of the thing damaged or imprisonment for not less than one (1) year  
16 but not more than six (6) years, or both, as determined by the court: *Provided,*  
17 That, if the area requires rehabilitation or restoration as determined by the  
18 court, the offender shall be required to restore or compensate for the  
19 restoration to the damages: *Provided, further,* That court shall order the eviction  
20 of the offender from the land and the forfeiture in favor of the Government of all  
21 minerals, timber or any species collected or removed including all equipment,  
22 devices and firearms used in connection therewith, and any construction or  
23 improvement made thereon by the offender. If the offender is an association or  
24 corporation, the president or manager shall be directly responsible for the act of  
25 his employees and laborers: *Provided, finally,* that the DENR may impose  
26 administrative fines and penalties consistent with this Act.]



1           (A) THE PENALTIES AND QUALIFICATIONS PRESCRIBED IN  
2 ARTICLES 309 AND 310 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, DEPENDING ON  
3 THE VALUE OF THE RESOURCES INVOLVED IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
4 PROHIBITED ACT OR A FINE OF AT LEAST TRIPLE THE VALUE OF THE SAID  
5 RESOURCES, OR BOTH, SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON ANY PERSON WHO  
6 VIOLATES NOS. (1) TO (6) OF SECTION 20 HEREIN.

7           (B) A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS  
8 (P200,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE MILLION PESOS (P1,000,000.00)  
9 OR IMPRISONMENT FROM ONE (1) YEAR BUT NOT MORE THAN SIX (6)  
10 YEARS, OR BOTH, SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES  
11 NOS. (8) TO (13) OF SECTION 20 HEREIN.

12           (C) A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN 1,000,000 BUT NOT MORE THAN  
13 5,000,000 OR IMPRISONMENT FROM SIX (6) YEARS BUT NOT MORE THAN  
14 TWELVE (12) YEARS OR BOTH SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON ANY PERSON  
15 WHO VIOLATES NOS. (14) TO (20) OF SECTION 20 HEREIN.

16           (D) ADMINISTRATIVE FINES NOT LESS THAN P50,000 NOT  
17 EXCEEDING 5,000,000 SHALL BE IMPOSED FOR THE VIOLATION OF ANY  
18 RULES AND REGULATIONS IN THE MANAGEMENT PLAN OR BY THE PAMB  
19 OR AGREEMENTS REACHED BEFORE THE PAMB IN THE EXERCISE OF  
20 ADJUDICATIVE FUNCTIONS;

21           *PROVIDED*, THAT, IF THE AREA REQUIRES REHABILITATION OR  
22 RESTORATION AS DETERMINED BY THE COURT, THE OFFENDER SHALL BE  
23 REQUIRED TO RESTORE OR COMPENSATE FOR THE RESTORATION TO THE  
24 DAMAGES THAT SHALL ACCRUE TO THE PROTECTED AREA FUND:  
25           *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT COURT SHALL ORDER THE EVICTION OF THE  
26 OFFENDER FROM THE LAND AND THE FORFEITURE IN FAVOR OF THE  
27 GOVERNMENT OF ALL MINERALS, TIMBER OR ANY SPECIES COLLECTED OR

1 REMOVED INCLUDING ALL EQUIPMENT, DEVICES AND FIREARMS USED IN  
2 CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND ANY CONSTRUCTION OR IMPROVEMENT  
3 MADE THEREON BY THE OFFENDER. SHALL BE SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE  
4 AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONFISCATION, INDEPENDENT OF THE JUDICIAL  
5 PROCEEDINGS BY THE PASU OFFICE UPON APPREHENSION, SUBJECT  
6 HOWEVER TO DUE PROCESS AND SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE  
7 REQUIREMENTS. WHEN LEGAL ACTION IS HOWEVER, FILED IN THE  
8 REGULAR COURTS, THE SAID CONVEYANCES, VESSELS, EQUIPMENTS,  
9 PARAPHERNALIA, IMPLEMENTS, GEARS, TOOLS AND SIMILAR DEVICES,  
10 INDEPENDENT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS, SHALL NOT BE  
11 RELEASED UNTIL AFTER JUDGMENT HAS BEEN RENDERED. PROCEEDS OF  
12 THE SALE OF ALL OBJECTS ADMINISTRATIVELY OR JUDICIALLY  
13 CONFISCATED PURSUANT HERETO SHALL ACCRUE TO THE PROTECTED  
14 AREA FUND. PROCEDURE FOR THE SALE THEREOF SHALL BE  
15 PROMULGATED BY THE PAMB. HOWEVER, IN NO CASE SHALL ANY  
16 CONFISCATED OR RESCUED PROTECTED ANIMAL SPECIES BE SOLD OR IN  
17 ANY MANNER DISPOSED OF BUT SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY TURNED OVER  
18 TO THE PASU OFFICE FOR RELEASE IN ITS NATURAL HABITAT, SUBJECT TO  
19 EXISTING REGULATIONS. VALUATION OF THE DAMAGE FOR THIS ACT  
20 SHALL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION  
21 CONSIDERATIONS AS WELL AS AESTHETIC AND SCENIC VALUE.  
22 VALUATION ASSESSED BY THE DENR., IN COORDINATION WITH OTHER  
23 CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES SHALL BE PRESUMED CORRECT  
24 UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVEN BY PREPONDERANCE OF EVIDENCE.

25 IF THE OFFENDER IS AN ASSOCIATION OR CORPORATION, THE  
26 PRESIDENT OR MANAGER SHALL BE DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACT  
27 OF HIS EMPLOYEES AND LABORERS: PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE DENR

1 MAY IMPOSE ADMINISTRATIVE FINES AND PENALTIES CONSISTENT WITH  
2 THIS ACT.

3 ANY PERSON WHO SHALL INDUCE ANOTHER OR CONSPIRE TO  
4 COMMIT ANY OF THE ILLEGAL ACTS PROHIBITED IN THIS ACT OR SUFFER  
5 THEIR WORKERS TO COMMIT ANY OF THE SAME SHALL BE LIABLE IN THE  
6 SAME MANNER AS THE ONE ACTUALLY PERFORMING THE ACT.

7 ALL CONVEYANCES, VESSELS, EQUIPMENT, PARAPHERNALIA,  
8 IMPLEMENTS, GEARS, TOOLS AND SIMILAR DEVICES

9 THE PENALTIES SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE IN  
10 ADDITION TO THE PENALTIES CONTAINED IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9072  
11 (NATIONAL CAVES AND CAVE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND  
12 PROTECTION ACT), REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9147 (WILDLIFE RESOURCES  
13 CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION ACT), REPUBLIC ACT 10654 (REVISED  
14 PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE) AND OTHER RELATED LAWS.

15 CONVICTION FOR ANY OFFENSE UNDER THIS ACT OF A PUBLIC  
16 OFFICER OR OFFICER OF THE LAW SHALL CARRY THE ACCESSORY  
17 PENALTY OF PERPETUAL DISQUALIFICATION FROM PUBLIC OFFICE.”

18 SEC. 15. Insert ten (10) new sections after Section 21 of Republic Act No. 7586 to read  
19 as follows:

20 “SEC. 22. *EXISTING RIGHTS.* — ALL VESTED PROPERTY AND  
21 PRIVATE RIGHTS WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA AND ITS BUFFER ZONES  
22 ALREADY EXISTING AND/OR VESTED UPON THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT  
23 SHALL BE PROTECTED AND RESPECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING  
24 LAWS: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE EXERCISE OF SUCH PROPERTY AND PRIVATE  
25 RIGHTS SHALL NOT CONTRAVENE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, THE  
26 INDIVIDUAL PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION OR THE IMPLEMENTING  
27 RULES AND REGULATIONS OF EACH PROTECTED AREA.

1           **SEC. 23. TENURED MIGRANTS AND OTHER PROTECTED AREA**  
2           **OCCUPANTS. – TENURED MIGRANTS SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO BECOME**  
3           **STEWARDS OF PORTIONS OF LANDS WITHIN ALLOWABLE ZONES. THE**  
4           **PAMB SHALL IDENTIFY, VERIFY AND REVIEW ALL TENURIAL**  
5           **INSTRUMENTS, LAND CLAIMS, AND ISSUANCES OF PERMITS FOR**  
6           **RESOURCE USE WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA AND RECOMMEND THE**  
7           **ISSUANCE OF THE APPROPRIATE TENURE INSTRUMENT CONSISTENT**  
8           **WITH THE ZONING PROVIDED IN THE MANAGEMENT PLAN.**

9           **SHOULD AREAS OCCUPIED BY TENURED MIGRANTS BE**  
10          **DESIGNATED AS ZONES IN WHICH NO OCCUPATION OR OTHER ACTIVITIES**  
11          **ARE ALLOWED PURSUANT TO THE ATTAINMENT OF SUSTAINABLE**  
12          **DEVELOPMENT, PROVISION FOR THE TRANSFER OF SAID TENURED**  
13          **MIGRANTS TO MULTIPLE USE ZONES OR BUFFER ZONES SHALL BE**  
14          **ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH JUST AND HUMANE MEANS.**

15          **IN THE EVENT OF TERMINATION OF A TENURIAL INSTRUMENT FOR**  
16          **CAUSE OR BY VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF RIGHTS, THE PASU SHALL TAKE**  
17          **IMMEDIATE STEPS TO REHABILITATE THE AREA IN ORDER TO RETURN IT**  
18          **TO ITS NATURAL STATE PRIOR TO THE CULTIVATION OR OTHER ACT BY**  
19          **THE TENURED MIGRANT.**

20          **PROTECTED AREA OCCUPANTS WHO DID NOT QUALIFY AS**  
21          **TENURED MIGRANTS SHALL BE RESETTLED OUTSIDE THE PROTECTED**  
22          **AREA.**

23          **WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS FROM THE PASSAGE OF THIS ACT, THE**  
24          **PASU SHALL SUBMIT TO THE PAMB THE FINAL LIST OF TENURED**  
25          **MIGRANTS, WHICH SHALL BECOME THE OFFICIAL LIST UPON APPROVAL**  
26          **OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR.**

1           WHEN TENURIAL INSTRUMENTS LAPSE, THE PASU SHALL  
2 DETERMINE WHETHER THE GOALS OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN WERE  
3 MET IN THE ISSUANCE THEREOF TO DETERMINE IF FURTHER EXTENSIONS  
4 WILL BE ALLOWED BY THE PAMB.

5           **SEC 24. EXISTING FACILITIES WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA. –**  
6 WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, EXISTING  
7 FACILITIES SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ROADS, BUILDINGS AND  
8 STRUCTURES, WATER SYSTEMS, TRANSMISSION LINES, COMMUNICATION  
9 FACILITIES, HEAVY EQUIPMENT, AND IRRIGATION FACILITIES EXISTING  
10 WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PROTECTED AREA SHALL BE  
11 INVENTORIED AND THE INVENTORY SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE PAMB  
12 THROUGH THE PASU.

13           THE PAMB, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DENR, SHALL  
14 DETERMINE WHETHER THE EXISTENCE OF SUCH FACILITY AND ITS  
15 FUTURE PLANS AND OPERATIONS WILL BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE  
16 PROTECTED AREA OR WHETHER CONDITIONS FOR ITS OPERATION SHALL  
17 BE IMPOSED. IF ANY SUCH CONDITIONS ARE VIOLATED, THE OWNER OF  
18 THE FACILITY SHALL BE LIABLE TO PAY A FINE OF FIFTY THOUSAND  
19 PESOS (P50,000.00) FOR EVERY VIOLATION AND DESIST FROM  
20 CONTINUING THE VIOLATION IMMEDIATELY. UPON REACHING A TOTAL  
21 FINE OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000.00) OR IF THE  
22 VIOLATION CONTINUES TO BE COMMITTED FOR (30) DAYS, THE PAMB  
23 THROUGH THE PASU AND DEPUTIZING OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES,  
24 SHALL CAUSE THE CESSATION OF OPERATION, AND EITHER THE  
25 FORFEITURE IN FAVOR OF THE PAMB OR DEMOLITION OF THE FACILITY  
26 AT THE COST OF ITS OWNER. IF THE OWNER OF THE FACILITY  
27 DETRIMENTAL TO THE PROTECTED AREA IS THE GOVERNMENT, THE

1 AGENCY IN CHARGE SHALL SUBMIT A PLAN FOR A SUBSTITUTE FACILITY  
2 THAT WOULD NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE PROTECTED AREA AND  
3 UNDERTAKE THE BUILDING THEREOF WITHIN ONE YEAR FROM THE  
4 PAMB DECISION TO CEASE OPERATIONS.

5 EXISTING FACILITIES ALLOWED TO REMAIN WITHIN THE  
6 PROTECTED AREA MAY BE CHARGED A REASONABLE FEE BY THE PAMB.  
7 ALL INCOME FROM SUCH FEE SHALL ACCRUE TO THE PROTECTED AREA  
8 RETENTION INCOME ACCOUNT.

9 *SEC 25. LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS.* - THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
10 UNITS (LGUS) WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA SHALL PARTICIPATE IN ITS  
11 MANAGEMENT THROUGH REPRESENTATION IN THE PAMB AS PROVIDED  
12 UNDER SECTION 7 HEREOF. SAID LGUS MAY APPROPRIATE PORTIONS OF  
13 THEIR SHARE FROM THE ANNUAL INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT AND  
14 OTHER INCOME FOR USE OF THE PROTECTED AREA: *PROVIDED*, THAT ALL  
15 FUNDS DIRECTLY COMING FROM THE LGUS SHALL BE EXEMPTED FROM  
16 THE TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%) REMITTANCE REQUIREMENT FOR  
17 THE INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS FUND-SPECIAL ACCOUNT IN THE  
18 GENERAL FUND (IPAF-SAGF).

19 *SEC. 26. REPORTING RESPONSIBILITY.* - THE PASU, THROUGH THE  
20 PAMB, SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT TO THE  
21 SECRETARY OF THE DENR ON THE ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN IN THE  
22 PROTECTED AREA.

23 A REPORT ON THE CONDITIONS AND BENEFITS OF THE  
24 BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES OF THE PROTECTED AREA SHALL ALSO BE  
25 SUBMITTED BY THE PASU, THROUGH THE PAMB, TO THE SECRETARY OF  
26 THE DENR EVERY FIVE (5) YEARS.

1           **SEC. 27. APPROPRIATIONS.** – THE SECRETARY OF THE DENR SHALL  
2 IMMEDIATELY INCLUDE IN THE DENR’S PROGRAM THE IMPLEMENTATION  
3 OF THIS ACT, THE FUNDING OF WHICH SHALL BE INCLUDED BY THE DBM  
4 IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT.

5           **SEC. 28. CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLETORY APPLICATION OF**  
6 **EXISTING LAWS.** – THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED  
7 LIBERALLY IN FAVOR OF THE PROTECTION AND REHABILITATION OF THE  
8 PROTECTED AREA AND THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF ITS  
9 BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE NEEDS AND  
10 INTERESTS OF QUALIFIED TENURED MIGRANTS, FOR PRESENT AND  
11 FUTURE FILIPINO GENERATIONS.

12           THE PAMB SHALL PREPARE ITS OPERATIONS MANUAL WITHIN SIX  
13 (6) MONTHS FROM PASSAGE OF THIS ACT.

14           THE NIPAS ACT SHALL HAVE SUPPLETORY EFFECT IN THE  
15 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.

16           **SEC. 29. SUBSEQUENT SITE-SPECIFIC LEGISLATION.** – UPON THE  
17 GENERATION OF SITE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW LEGISLATION,  
18 THE PAMB SHALL ENDORSE THROUGH A RESOLUTION, A SITE-SPECIFIC  
19 BILL FOR CONGRESS TO ENACT IN EACH OF THE PROTECTED AREAS  
20 LISTED HEREIN TO APPROPRIATELY RESPOND TO THE DISTINCT AND  
21 PARTICULAR NEEDS AND CONSERVATION REQUIREMENTS OF THE  
22 PROTECTED AREAS IN EACH LOCALITY.

23           **SEC. 30. AUTHORITY TO ISSUE SITE-SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTING RULES**  
24 **AND REGULATIONS.** - THE PAMB SHALL, AFTER ITS REVIEW OF THE DRAFT  
25 SUBMITTED BY PASU AND THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS,  
26 ISSUE THE SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR EACH

1 PROTECTED AREA TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE PARTICULAR  
2 CIRCUMSTANCES AND CONCERNS OF EACH SITE. THE PAMB SHALL ENSURE  
3 THAT SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE APPLICABLE PRESIDENTIAL  
4 PROCLAMATION NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THIS ACT ARE ADOPTED IN  
5 THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

6 THE PAMB SHALL TRANSMIT THE ISSUED IMPLEMENTING RULES  
7 AND REGULATIONS TO THE SECRETARY OF THE DENR, THROUGH THE  
8 BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU (BMB). WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS  
9 AFTER THE DATE OF RECEIPT THEREOF, THE SECRETARY OF THE DENR  
10 SHALL REVIEW THE ISSUED IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS  
11 FOR CONSISTENCY WITH RELEVANT EXISTING LAWS, RULES AND  
12 REGULATIONS. IF THE SECRETARY OF THE DENR TAKES NO ACTION  
13 WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER RECEIPT OF SUCH ISSUED  
14 IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS, THE SAME SHALL BE  
15 PRESUMED CONSISTENT WITH LAW AND THEREFORE VALID.

16 SEC. 31. *TRANSITORY PROVISION.* - IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE  
17 RECOVERY AND RESTORATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND TO  
18 DEVELOP SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES FOR TENURED  
19 MIGRANTS, THE DENR SHALL HENCEFORTH CEASE TO ISSUE  
20 CONCESSIONS, LICENSES, PERMITS, CLEARANCES, COMPLIANCE  
21 DOCUMENTS OR ANY OTHER INSTRUMENT THAT ALLOWS UTILIZATION  
22 OF RESOURCES WITHIN THE PROTECTED AREA UNTIL THE MANAGEMENT  
23 PLAN SHALL HAVE BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT.

24 ALL EXISTING LAND-USE AND RESOURCE USE PERMITS WITHIN  
25 THE PROTECTED AREA SHALL BE REVIEWED AND SHALL NOT BE  
26 RENEWED UPON THEIR EXPIRATION UNLESS CONSISTENT WITH THE  
27 MANAGEMENT PLAN AND APPROVED BY THE PAMB.



1           **SEC. 16.** Sections 22 and 23 of Republic Act No. 7586 are hereby renumbered as  
2 Sections 32 and 33 of the Revised NIPAS Act.

3           **SEC. 17.** Section 24 of RA 7586 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4                   “SEC. 24. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete  
5 publication in the **OFFICIAL GAZETTE** or in a national newspaper of general  
6 circulation.”

7           Approved,