

POLICY ISSUANCES

To support the major programs and thrusts of the Department, the Secretary signed 19 policies in CY 2020.

Manila Bay Clean Up Program

In support of the Manila Bay Clean Up Program which aims to restore the water quality of Manila Bay to class SB in accordance with the Writ of Continuing Mandamus of the Supreme Court, the management of the Pasig River Coordinating and Management Office (PRCMO) was transferred to DENR Central Office. This is provided under **DAO 2020-02** entitled, "Establishment of the Pasig River Coordinating and Management Office (PRCMO) at the DENR Central Office."

Clean Air Program

In order to further improve and maintain air quality that meets the National Air Quality Guidelines for Criteria Pollutants throughout the Philippines, the **DAO 2020-14** was issued establishing the Breakpoints for Particulate Matter 2.5 (*PM_{2.5}*) Air Quality Index (*AQI*) and Amending Section 5(a) of DAO 2013-13 "Establishing the Provisional National Ambient Air Quality Guideline Values for Particulate Matter 2.5 (*PM_{2.5}*)."

Forest Management

The following policies were issued to further improve the management, protection and conservation of the country's forest land areas:

1. **DAO No. 2020-06** – Amending Certain Provisions and Expanding the Provisions of DAO No. 2018-16 or the "Guidelines in the Processing and Issuance of Permits on the Removal and Relocation of Trees Affected by DPWH Projects"
2. **DAO No. 2020-04** – Amending Section 6 of DAO No. 99-53 entitled, "Regulations Governing the Integrated Forest Management Program (IFMP)"
3. **DAO No. 2020-18** – Promoting Tree Plantation Development and Liberalizing Harvesting and Transport of Planted Trees and Tree Derivatives for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development

Enhanced Biodiversity Conservation

Policies dealing with the conservation and protection of wildlife, and/or maintenance, restoration, and enhancement of their habitats were issued, particularly the following:

1. **DAO 2020-10** – Transfer of the Palawan Wildlife Rescue and Conservation Center from the Biodiversity Management Bureau to the Natural Resources Development Corporation
2. **DAO 2020-13** – Adopting the Wildlife Law Enforcement Action Plan (WildLEAP) 2018-2028, as the National Roadmap in Addressing Wildlife Crimes
3. **DAO 2020-17** – Declaring Certain Forest Area within the Zambales Mountain Range in the Municipality of Mangatarem, Province of Pangasinan as Critical Habitat for the Endemic and Threatened Species of Wild Fauna and Flora which shall be known as the "Mangatarem Critical Habitat"
4. **Joint DA-DENR-DILG Administrative Order 2020-01** – Defining the Roles and Responsibilities of Agencies Concerned in the Local Trade and Transport of Wildlife Under the Jurisdiction of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
5. **Joint DOT-DA-DILG-DENR Memorandum Circular No. 01 s. 2020** – Rules and Regulations Governing the Conduct of Marine Wildlife Tourism Interactions in the Philippines
6. **Joint DENR-DA Administrative Order 2020-02** – Adopting the National Invasive Species Strategy and Action Plan-Philippines: 2020-2030 as the National Framework for the Management of Invasive Alien Species in the Country
7. **Joint DOH-DA-DENR - Administrative Order No. 2020-02** – Guidelines to Operationalize the Philippine Inter-Agency Committee on Zoonosis
8. **DMC 2020-08** – Additional List of Classified Caves and Errata on DMC 2016-05 and DMC 2018-02

Geohazard, Groundwater Assessment and Responsible Mining

In support to this program, the DENR issued the following guidelines rationalizing dredging activities in vital river channels:

1. **DAO 2020-07** – Rationalizing Dredging Activities in Heavily-Silted River Channels Pursuant to the DENR-DPWH-DILG-DOTR Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1 Series of 2019
2. **DAO 2020-12** – Rationalizing Dredging Activities in Heavily-Silted River Channels within the Province of Occidental Mindoro Pursuant to the DENR-DPWH-DILG-DOTC Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1 Series of 2019
3. **DAO 2020-15** – Amending Certain Provisions of DENR Administrative Order No. 2020-07, “Rationalizing Dredging Activities in Heavily-Silted River Channels Pursuant to DENR-DPWH-DILG-DOTC Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1 Series of 2019”

Improved Land Administration and Management

Several policies on land management and disposition were issued thereby also hastening the processing of land cases. These are the following:

1. **DAO No. 2020-16** – Guidelines on the Disposition of Lands Formed by Accretion Adjacent to Agricultural Lands (A&D) and Management of Islets in River Channels, Dried Creeks and Dried River Beds
2. **DAO No. 2020-08** – Guidelines in the Preparation of Standard Parcellary Survey Maps of Right of Way (ROW) for Government Infrastructure Projects for Submission and Approval by the DENR
3. **DMC 2020-14** – Conduct of Nationwide Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program every December in Celebration of the ADR Day

In consonance with the health protocol brought about by the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Department issued eight (8) policies.

1. **DMC 2020-01** – Health Advisory on 2019 Novel Corona Virus (2019-nCoV) Acute Respiratory Disease
2. **DMC 2020-02** – Guidelines on Alternative Working Arrangements to Ensure Safety of Personnel and the Continued Delivery of Essential Services under Covid-19 Threat Situation
3. **DMC 2020-03** – Addendum to Memorandum Circular No. 2021-02 dated March 16, 2020 Regarding Guidelines on Alternative Working Arrangements to Ensure Safety of Personnel and the Continued Delivery of Essential Services under Covid-19 Threat Situation
4. **DMC 2020-04** – Addendum No. 2 to Memorandum Circular No. 2020-02 dated March 16, 2020 Regarding Guidelines on Alternative Working Arrangements to Ensure Safety of Personnel and the Continued Delivery of Essential Services under Covid-19 Threat Situation
5. **DMC 2020-05** – Adoption of Measures to Ensure Safety of Personnel and the Continued Delivery of Essential Services under Covid-19 Threat Situation
6. **DMC 2020-07** – Supplemental Guidelines in view of Inter-Agency Task Force Resolution No. 35 dated 11 May 2020
7. **DMC 2020-297** – Guidelines in the Deployment of Skeleton (Skeletal) Workforce
8. **DMC 2020-10** – Guidelines in the Investigation of COVID-19 Cases and Contact Tracing of Closer Contacts