

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1041, October 25, 1976]

CREATING THE NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT CENTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

WHEREAS, there is need for up-to-date and accurate information for the formulation of resource policies, as well as for the effective and efficient planning for the development and conservation of the country's natural resources and the protection of the environment;

WHEREAS, there are rapidly developing technologies for gathering and interpreting information relative to the inventory, assessment, and monitoring of the country's natural resources such as the use of aircraft and satellite-borne sensors, computerized imagery interpretation and data banking techniques;

WHEREAS, proper utilization of such technologies will enhance the capability to formulate effective plans for economic development; and

WHEREAS, in order to avail of these technologies, there is a pressing need for the creation of an agency which shall be responsible for their utilization and through which the capability of the nation to use these technologies for resource planning and monitoring can be developed.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby decree and order:

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* — It is hereby declared to be the policy of the Government (a) to utilize efficient and appropriate technologies in the inventory and management of our natural resources; (b) to enhance the capability to plan for accelerated economic growth; and (c) to make sound decisions with respect to natural resources utilization and conservation, and environmental enhancement and protection.

SECTION 2. *Creation of the Natural Resources Management Center.* — For the purpose of carrying out the above declared policy, a Natural Resources Management Center, hereinafter referred to as the NRMC, is hereby created in the Department of Natural Resources.

SECTION 3. *Management of the NRMC.* — The Secretary of Natural Resources is hereby granted authority to create such working units as may be necessary for carrying out the functions of the NRMC.

The Secretary of Natural Resources shall appoint and maintain an adequate and highly technical staff, which shall be headed by an Executive Director, assisted by a Deputy Executive Director. In view of the highly technical character of the NRMC's functions, the regular professional and technical personnel of the NRMC shall exempt from OCPC (WAPCO) rules and regulations.

SECTION 4. *Functions.* — The NRMC shall have the following functions:

- a) To conduct natural resources and environmental surveys and analysis, and keep an up-to-date inventory and assessment of the country's natural resources;