

[DENR Administrative Order No. 2015-10, May 29, 2015]

GUIDELINES ON THE DELINEATION AND DEMARCATION OF BOUNDARIES OF PROTECTED AREAS UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS)

*Adopted: 29 May 2015
Date Filed: 05 June 2015*

Pursuant to Section 4, Article XII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, Republic Act No. 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992, DENR Administrative Order No. 2008-26 or the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the NIPAS Act, and other pertinent laws, rules and regulations, the following guidelines and procedures on the delineation and demarcation of boundaries of protected areas are hereby prescribed for the guidance and compliance of all concerned.

Section 1. Basic Policy. It is the policy of the State to secure for the Filipino people of the present and future generations the perpetual existence of all native plants and animals through the establishment of a comprehensive system of integrated protected areas within the classification of National Parks as provided in the Philippine Constitution.

Section 2. Objective. This Order aims to provide the specific guidelines and procedures for the survey, delineation and demarcation of boundaries of all protected areas under the NIPAS.

Section 3. Scope and Coverage. This Order shall apply to all protected areas established and to be established pursuant to the NIPAS Act of 1992. Protected areas designated through Presidential Proclamation shall be delineated while areas already covered by Congressional Act shall be demarcated on the ground. Provided, however, that areas identified as initial components of the NIPAS will be excluded in the delineation activities until they had undergone all the requirements for establishment as protected areas.

Section 4. Definition of Terms. As used in this Order, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

1. Boundary marker - the monuments and markings such as concrete monuments, buoys, deciduous trees, big rocks/stones, PVC stakes and the likes established and painted to identify the boundaries of the protected areas as prescribed in Section 7 hereof;
2. Delineation - the conduct of site investigation, field reconnaissance and staking using standard signages and identifying or installing prescribed

markers/monuments on the ground or setting prescribed stainless steel spherical buoys on the surface, if bodies of water, to mark the boundaries of areas declared protected through presidential proclamation and verified in the field in accordance with the criteria set forth in the establishment of protected areas under the NIPAS;

3. Demarcation - the establishment of the boundaries of a national park or legislated protected area by installing visible markers/monuments, buoys in case of marine areas, and known natural features/landmarks, among others, as a result of actual ground delineation;
4. Final map - map generated from the delineation and demarcation of the protected area with technical descriptions at a scale of 1:50,000;
5. NIPAS - the classification and administration of all designated protected areas to maintain ecological processes and life-support systems, to preserve genetic diversity, to ensure sustainable use of resources found therein; and to maintain their natural conditions to the greatest extent possible;
6. Preliminary map - initial map generated out of the protected area map and overlaid with other ground maps such as topographic map, land classification map and other necessary maps, to be used as reference for the boundary delineation and demarcation of protected areas;
7. Protected area - identified portion of land and/or water set aside by reason of their unique physical and biological significance, managed to enhance biological diversity and protected against destructive human exploitation; and
8. Strategic places - vantage points adjacent to local communities, traverse in riverbanks and streams, roadsides and entry points where monitoring of illegal activities can take place.

Section 5. Implementation Structure. To provide guidance and ensure effective and efficient implementation of the delineation and demarcation of protected areas, the following Committees/Groups are hereby created, the functional structure of which are shown below:

- 5.1 National Delineation and Demarcation Committee (NDDC) - The NDCC shall set the policy directions in the implementation of boundary delineation and demarcation activities of protected areas. It shall convene regularly to review and evaluate the results of the survey, delineation and demarcation of protected areas and endorse the survey results including the final map of the protected area, for approval of the Secretary.

Chairperson: Undersecretary for Field Operations

Vice- : Director, Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB)

Chairperson

Members:

Director, Policy and Planning Service

Director, Remote Data Analysis Branch, NAMRIA Director,
Mines and Geosciences Bureau Director, Forest
Management Bureau

Director, Lands. Management Bureau

Representative, DENR Legal Affairs Service Office

Secretariat : BMB Staff

- 5.2 Regional Delineation and Demarcation Committee (RDDC) - A Regional

Delineation and Demarcation Committee which will be headed by the Regional Director (RD) shall be created to oversee and coordinate the activities under this guideline. The RDDC shall also organize the Regional Delineation and Demarcation Team (RDDT) through a Special Order to be issued by the RD. The RDDC shall have the following members:

Chairperson: Regional Director

Vice-Chairperson: Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services (ARDTs)

Members: One representative each from the Regional Land Evaluation Party (LEP), concerned Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), Legal Division, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division (LPDD), Surveys and Mapping Division (SMD), and Mines and Geosciences Bureau Regional Office

Secretariat: Conservation and Development Division (CDD) Chief and the concerned Protected Area Superintendent

5.3 Regional Delineation and Demarcation Team (RDDT) - The Regional Delineation and Demarcation Team (RDDT) shall conduct the actual survey and field delineation/demarcation. The ARDTs shall be designated as the RDDT Coordinator with the following members:

a. Terrestrial Protected Areas:

- Team Leader - Land Evaluation Party (LEP) Registered Geodetic Engineer
- Three (3) Crew Members (Concerned Protected Area Superintendent, 2 Survey Aides)
- At most 10 laborers (2 brushers, 1 transit carrier, 2 manufacturers, 4 haulers, 1 planter)

a. Marine Protected Areas:

- Team Leader - Registered Geodetic Engineer
- Crew Members (2 Marine Biologists or technical personnel of appropriate training and qualifications),
- Survey Aides (at most 5)
- Representative from the Philippine Coast Guard

Section 6. Delineation and Demarcation of Protected Areas. Upon establishment of the Protected Area through presidential proclamation pursuant to the NIPAS Act of 1992, its boundaries shall be delineated using standard signages. Upon legislation or establishment through congressional act, its boundaries shall be located or relocated and demarcated on the ground with concrete monuments or other prominent physical landmarks or features. An index of station numbers shall be engraved on the monuments or markers to serve as reference. Appropriate markers shall be used where the boundary of the protected area is on water.

6.1 *Preparatory Phase.* Prior to the conduct of the actual ground survey, the following shall be compiled to generate the preliminary map which will be used as reference for the boundary delineation and demarcation: