

**[DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 98-67, S.
1998, December 09, 1998]**

**GUIDELINES FOR THE IDENTIFICATION, DECLARATION AND
AWARD OF AREAS SUITABLE FOR SALT PRODUCTION**

Section 1. Statement of Policy. — Pursuant to Section 6, paragraph d of Republic Act No. 8172 otherwise known as ASIN Law and to ensure the sustainable production of salt. The following guidelines are hereby promulgated.

Section 2. Objectives. —

1. To provide criteria and guidelines for the identification, classification and awarding of areas suitable for salt production purposes.
2. To encourage salt production and support the food security program of the government.
3. To generate and develop job opportunities to help the low income earner in the countryside.
4. To provide procedures and mechanisms for monitoring and adoption of anti-pollution control measures by salt producers/manufacturers.
5. To register and enlist all salt producers or public land engaging in the production of salt in the country.

Section 2. Definition of Terms. — For purposes of this Order, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

1. *Iodized Salt* — contain small amount of iodine which is the most cost-effective way of preventing iodine deficiency that can cause goiter, mental retardation and congenital physical defects;
2. *Manufacturer/Producer* — one who produces, imports, trades in, or distributes salt;
3. *Salt Iodization* — the addition of iodine to salt intended for human or animal consumption in accordance with specifications as to form, fortificant, method, manner and composition as may be prescribed by the Bureau of Food and Drug Administration;
4. *Saltfarm* — refers to any foreshore areas devoted/utilized for salt production.
5. *Salt Production Sharing Agreement (SPSA)* — is a contract entered into between the DENR and a person/corporation, association, or partnership for

the use of public lands for salt production;

6. *Table salt* — is a white crystalline substance consisting of sodium chloride that occurs abundantly in nature both in solid and liquid form.

Section 3. Areas Available for Salt Production. — The areas available for salt production includes:

- a. Areas currently devoted to salt production and areas with natural salt deposits.
- b. Foreshore areas free from mangrove vegetation, corals and seagrass population.

Except, for the following areas;

- a. Foreshore areas delineated for bathing purposes,
- b. Areas designated as municipal fishery reserves and its equivalent, or areas designated as core and buffer zones of the Protected Area System and similar reservations.
- c. Areas designed as type SD of water classification pursuant to DAO 34's 1990
- d. Areas covered by existing and valid tenurial instruments.

Section 4. Criteria for Identification and Prioritization of Areas suitable for Salt Production. — The criteria for identifying areas suitable and available for salt production are the following:

- a. *Topography* — The area should be an extensive tidal flat, with good drainage (has ability to drain off water during normal low tide), situated at least 100 meters from any river mouth, and free from floods and storm surge. It should also have a generally flat or gently sloping peripheral terrain at least 1 kilometer from its boundaries.
- b. *Climatic Conditions* —The area should preferably be situated within a climatic type I of Corona's classification, and exposed to the north-east and easterly winds and with a below normal precipitation level.
- c. *Water Quality*—The salinity of water for salt production period should be at least parts per thousand (ppt.); the higher the better. The water quality of area should be free from contamination sewage and industrial and agricultural run-off/pollutants. The tidal fluctuations preferably should vary within a 1 meter range.
- d. *Soil Type and Characteristics*—The soil characteristics should range from silty clay to clay loam, with pH value of slightly acidic or within the pH range of 6-7.
- e. *Other consideration for suitability*—The proposed salt production area should be situated at most 4 kms. but not less than 2 kms. from settlements for manpower requirements. It should have source of freshwater (without competing with the local population), accessible all year through and have access to ready source of materials.

Section 5. Identification and Declaration of Salt Production. —

1. *Procedure for identification and declaration of potential Salt Production Area (SPA)* — All CENROs shall identify areas suitable for existing salt production areas within public domain, and areas with natural/rock salt deposits. The report shall cover the following concerns.

1. Actual area used
2. Total leased area
3. Optimum production volume/year
4. Actual production volume
5. Direct beneficiaries
6. Tenurial Status
7. Awarding and expiry dates

The reports should be submitted to the Task Force Mangrove/Asin for compilation and publication.

2. *Validation and Site Appraisal of Identified Potential Salt Production Areas (SPA)* — For the first three (3) years, potential areas for salt production shall be validated by the Task Force Mangrove/Asin. The task force shall prioritize areas covering at least 100 hectares. The task force shall prepare a validation report to include the following concerns:

1. Potential environmental risk.
2. Municipal Development Plan for the area and its immediate environment.
3. Assessment of the current use of the area and the impact of possible displacement.
4. Conduct a public dialogue with affected communities related to the classification of the area.

For areas covering less than 10 has., the regional offices shall dispatch a validation team composed of representatives from the Regional CEP Coordinator, EMPAS, ERDS, FMS and ORED which shall perform the aforementioned activities. Validation report shall be submitted to the Task Force. All reports concerning potential SPA shall be completed and endorsed by the task force for declaration of the Secretary.

3. *Publication of Areas Available for Salt Production* — The Secretary shall declare areas available for salt production purposes, which shall be published on newspaper of general circulation.

Section 6. Application procedure for Salt Production Sharing Agreement. —

1. *Who are Qualified to Apply*

- a. Any Filipino citizen of legal age;
- b. Any corporation, association or cooperative duly constituted under the laws of the Philippines, sixty percent 60% of the capital of which is owned by Filipino citizens.

Preference shall be given to applicants who are residents of the area, community based organizations, and those corporations which practice environmental