



DEC 23 2021

DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

No. 2021- 44

SUBJECT: DESIGNATION OF BACUIT-EL NIDO BAY AS WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA (WQMA) AND CREATION OF ITS GOVERNING BOARD

Pursuant to Section 5 of R.A. 9275 otherwise known as the "*Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004*", DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2005-10 or the "*Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 9275*", and DENR Memorandum Circular 2009-15 or "*Procedural Manual for the Designation of Water Quality Management Areas*", and considering the critical importance to El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area and the Municipality of El Nido, Bacuit-El Nido Bay is hereby designated as Water Quality Management Area (WQMA).

SECTION 1. Policies and Objectives. It is the policy of the State to pursue economic growth in a manner consistent with the protection, preservation and revival of the quality of our fresh, brackish and marine water. Pursuant to this policy statement, this Order aims at protecting and improving the water quality of Bacuit and El Nido Bays for sustaining its resources for the people of the Municipality of El Nido, consistent with the following water quality management objectives:

- a) To improve and maintain the water quality of Bacuit and El Nido Bays and thereby contribute to the enhancement of El Nido as tourism and economic destinations, and serve the best interest of the communities and stakeholders;
- b) To formulate a WQMA program which recognizes that water quality management issues are inherently related and cannot be detached from concerns on water sources, ecological protection, water supply, public health and quality of life.
- c) To mobilize, encourage and support civil society and other sectors, including the academe and businesses engaged in environment-related activities in their efforts to organize, educate and motivate the people in addressing pertinent environmental issues and problems in the WQMA;
- d) To promote inter-LGU and stakeholder collaboration and cooperation through coordinated efforts in protecting and sustaining acceptable quality of water in Bacuit and El Nido Bays;
- e) To harness locally available resources to support rehabilitation and protection efforts for Bacuit and El Nido Bays.

SECTION 2. Scope and Coverage. The Bacuit-El Nido Bay WQMA has a total area of 776 square kilometers. This covers the waters of Bacuit Bay, coastal waters of El Nido Bay, all natural or man-made tributaries in El Nido that drain into the coastal waters of Bacuit and El Nido Bays including the land embraced by the hydrologic unit identified through various maps.

The WQMA is bounded by the following geographic coordinates which are consistent with the map in Annex A:

Boundary Control Point	LGU with Jurisdiction	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
1	Brgy. Bucana (Lalutaya Island)	11° 22' 25.43" N	119° 24' 51.28" E
2	Brgy. Bucana	11° 20' 55.67" N	119° 27' 10.10" E
3	Brgy. Teneguiban	11° 20' 31.21" N	119° 27' 10.10" E
4	Brgy. Teneguiban	11° 20' 21.61" N	119° 29' 10.37" E
5	Brgy. San Fernando	11° 18' 53.06" N	119° 30' 11.08" E
6	Brgy. Sibaltan	11° 17' 38.59" N	119° 31' 6.39" E
7	Brgy. Sibaltan	11° 16' 45.33" N	119° 31' 6.39" E
8	Brgy. Villa Paz	11° 15' 22.62" N	119° 30' 30.65" E
9	Brgy. Villa Libertad (Cauayan Island)	11° 17' 29.22" N	119° 20' 30.3" E
10	Brgy. Bebeladan (Tapuitan Island)	11° 12' 57.107" N	119° 12' 58.053" E
11	Brgy. Bebeladan (Tapuitan Island)	11° 13' 17.70" N	119° 13' 1.63" E
12	Brgy. Bebeladan (Guntao Island)	11° 7' 56.346" N	119° 12' 58.053" E
13	Brgy. Bebeladan (Guntao Island)	11° 5' 50.684" N	119° 16' 17.367" E
14	Brgy. Villa Libertad	11° 13' 7.32" N	119° 28' 28.05" E
15	Brgy. Villa Libertad	11° 10' 20.16" N	119° 26' 54.10" E
16	Brgy. New Ibajay	11° 10' 21.75" N	119° 29' 21.57" E
17	Brgy. Corong Corong, So. Danat	11° 8' 44.09" N	119° 26' 51.15" E
18	Brgy. Mabini	11° 7' 6.5" N	119° 28' 30.51" E
19	Brgy. Manlag	11° 6' 2.69" N	119° 27' 56.32" E
20	Brgy. Aberawan	11° 2' 52.97" N	119° 27' 45.90" E
21	Brgy. Aberawan	11° 4' 3.73" N	119° 28' 19.28" E
22	Brgy. Bebeladan	11° 5' 51.20" N	119° 19' 20.58" E
23	Brgy. Bebeladan	11° 4' 6.87" N	119° 20' 10.99" E
24	Brgy. Bebeladan	11° 2' 52.76" N	119° 21' 19.05" E
25	Brgy. Bebeladan	11° 0' 51.61" N	119° 24' 5.48" E
26	Brgy. Bagong Bayan	10° 59' 30.80" N	119° 26' 55.9" E
27	Brgy. Bagong Bayan	10° 59' 30.80" N	119° 26' 4.11" E
28	Sitio Kaalan	11° 11' 20.5" N	119° 23' 34.7" E
29	Cadlao Island	11° 11' 16.5" N	119° 23' 27.0" E
30	Brgy. Masagana	11° 11' 12.5" N	119° 23' 28.8" E
31	Brgy. Masagana	11° 11' 1.20" N	119° 23' 32.27" E
32	Brgy. Maligaya	11° 10' 52.80" N	119° 23' 26.10" E
33	Brgy. Maligaya	11° 10' 56.0" N	119° 23' 26.1" E
34	Brgy. Buena Suerte	11° 10' 49.70" N	119° 23' 18.90" E
35	Brgy. Buena Suerte	11° 10' 52.6" N	119° 23' 19.0" E
36	Brgy. Buena Suerte - Pier	11° 10' 55.3" N	119° 23' 11.6" E
37	Sitio Cabigsing	11° 10' 52.0" N	119° 23' 11.2" E
38	Sitio Tandol	11° 10' 55.7" N	119° 23' 9.5" E
39	Brgy. Corong Corong	11° 10' 8.2" N	119° 23' 36.6" E

40	Sitio Lugadya	11°09'21.6" N	119°23'44.6" E
41	Sitio Lugadya	11°09'49.50" N	119°23'47.60" E
42	Pinagbuyutan Island	11° 07' 14" N	119° 23' 40" E
43	Cathedral Cave	11° 04' 29" N	119° 23' 03" E
44	Snake Island	11° 05' 39" N	119° 20' 25" E
45	Codugnun Island	11° 05' 03" N	119° 21' 10" E
46	Entalula Island	11° 07' 42" N	119° 20' 11" E
47	Simizu Island	11° 08' 18" N	119° 19' 08" E
48	Big Lagoon	11° 09' 08" N	119° 19' 29" E
49	Small Lagoon	11° 09' 20" N	119° 19' 18" E
50	Seven Commando Island	11° 10' 24" N	119° 23' 44" E
51	Helicopter Island	11° 11' 45" N	119° 20' 16" E
52	Pasandigan Beach	11° 12' 12" N	119° 21' 29" E
53	Paradise Island	11° 12' 02" N	119° 22' 23" E
54	Bukal Beach	11° 12' 30" N	119° 22' 41" E
55	Cadlao Lagoon	11° 12' 51" N	119° 22' 42" E
56	Hidden Beach	11° 11' 28" N	119° 16' 58" E
57	Matinloc Shrine	11° 12' 8" N	119° 16' 29" E
58	Talisay Beach	11° 11' 43" N	119° 16' 19" E
59	Secret Beach	11° 10' 37" N	119° 16' 50" E
60	Secret Lagoon	11° 8' 43" N	119° 18' 46" E
61	Papaya Beach	11° 10' 22" N	119° 22' 53" E
62	Sitio Caalan	11°11'13"N	119°23'35"E
63	Caalan Beach	11°11'29"N	119°23'47"E
64	Lio Runway	11°12'27"N	119°24'53"E
65	Lio Port	11°12'29.0"N	119°24'54"E
66	Lio Beach	11°12'36"N	119°24'59.0"E
67	Peaceful Beach	11°13'50"N	119°25'19"E
68	Calitang Beach	11°18'29.0"N	119°25'5"E
69	Twin Beach	11°18'43"N	119°25'8"E
70	Nacpan Port	11°18'52"N	119°25'22"E
71	Nacpan Beach	11°19'1"N	119°25'30"E

SECTION 3. Political / Administrative Jurisdiction. As determined by the DENR – EMB MIMAROPA Region, the political / administrative jurisdiction of the Bacuit-El Nido Bay Water Quality Management Area encompasses all the four (4) urban barangays and fourteen (14) rural barangays including 36 islands and islets within Bacuit Bay in the Municipality of El Nido:

Urban Barangays	Maligaya – Zone 1	Masagana – Zone 3	
	Buena Suerte – Zone 2	Corong-Corong – Zone 4	
Rural Barangays	Aberawan	Mabini	San Fernando
	Bagong Bayan	Manlag	Teneguiban
	Barutuan	New Ibajay	Villa Libertad
	Bebeladan	Pasadeña	Villa Paz
	Bucana		
Islands and Islets	Lagen	Inabuyutan	Palilo
	Pangulasian	Inambuyod	Tambalanang
	Entalula	Paglugaban	Mitre
	Miniloc	Vigan / Snake	Bukal
	Matinloc	Pinasil	Bury
	Malpacao	Comocutuan	Emmit

Tapuitan	Popolcan	Rock of Pinasil
Guntao (North and South)	Jip Rocks	Bolog
Cadlao	Desert	Caverna
Cauayan	Sanctuary	Cathedral Cave
Lalutaya	Shimizu	Picanayas
Dibuluan	Pungtud	Dilumacad / Helicopter
	Langdel	

SECTION 4. Creation of the WQMA Governing Board. A WQMA Governing Board to be chaired by the Regional Director of the Environmental Management Bureau, MIMAROPA Region is hereby created and shall have the following members:

- a) Representative of the National Water Resources Board (NWRB)
- b) Representative of the Governor, Province of Palawan
- c) Representative of the Executive Director, Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD)
- d) The Mayor of the Municipality of El Nido
- e) Representatives of the following Regional Offices in MIMAROPA Region
 - 1) Department of Environment and Natural Resources;
 - 2) Department of Tourism;
 - 3) Department of the Interior and Local Government;
 - 4) Department of Public Works and Highways;
 - 5) Department of Health;
 - 6) Department of Trade and Industry;
 - 7) Department of Science and Technology;
 - 8) National Economic and Development Authority;
 - 9) Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources;
 - 10) Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD);
- f) Regional Representative of the following;
 - 1) Duly registered Non-Government Organization/ Local People's Organization/ Civil Society involved in Natural Resource Management or Environment Concerns
 - 2) Water Utility
 - 3) Business Industry
 - 4) Academe
 - 5) Association of Barangay Captains;
- g) Representative of the ENTMRPA PAMB or PASU
- h) Representative of the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council/s

The Board may also invite representatives from the Philippine Port Authority, Philippine Coast Guard and the Philippine National Police to participate in the deliberations of the Board as needed.

The terms, vacancy and reimbursement of expenses of the Governing Board shall be governed by DENR Administrative Order No. 2005-10. The Local Chief Executives and Head of Office may appoint/ authorize representatives to the Board, provided that he/she shall be able to

make commitments on behalf of his/her agency; Provided, further that the LGU representative in another WQMA shall also serve as its representative in the Bacuit-El Nido Bay WQMA.

Representatives from the business sector and peoples' organizations/non-government organizations/civil society shall be designated in accordance with the procedure and requirements laid down in DAO 2005-10.

SECTION 5. Functions of the Governing Board. The Governing Board shall have the following functions:

- a) Formulate the Governing Rules that will ensure management effectiveness of the WQMA Governing Board;
- b) Elect other officers and create working committees within the Board that are deemed necessary for the effective implementation of WQMA policies, programs, and activities;
- c) Review and adopt the WQMA Action Plan drafted by the EMB MIMAROPA Region in accordance to the Integrated Water Quality Management Framework and prepare a common and integrated compliance scheme. Thereafter, prepare the succeeding action plans for the submission to the DENR;
- d) Together with EMB MIMAROPA Region, assist the Local Government Units in preparing the LGU Compliance Scheme to implement the WQMA Action Plan and drafting legislation to protect the waters of Bacuit and El Nido Bays and promote overall environmental improvement in the WQMA;
- e) Monitor and facilitate the compliance to the WQMA Action Plan by the local governments;
- f) Formulate strategies to harmonize policies/ regulations/ local legislation necessary for the effective implementation of R.A. 9275 in accordance with those established in the Integrated Water Quality Management Framework;
- g) Recommend local and national policies that will protect the water quality of Bacuit and El Nido Bay;
- h) Coordinate relevant activities among its members and member agencies and facilitate resolution of conflicts;
- i) Undertake complementary interventions for non-point sources, considering their greater contribution to pollution;
- j) Undertake projects that will complement national and local initiatives for water pollution control;
- k) Solicit support, financial, and non-financial, from other parties, both local and international, subject to existing applicable regulations;

- l) Initiate and/or coordinate information dissemination activities pertaining to Bacuit -El Nido Bays WQMA;
- m) Prepare and publish on a regular basis, a Water Quality Status Report for the WQMA and submit a copy thereof to the EMB MIMAROPA Region and to the EMB Central Office to be consolidated into the National Water Quality Status Report; and
- n) Manage efficiently and judiciously the Area Water Quality Management Fund.

SECTION 6. Governing Rules. The Governing Board shall formulate its own Governing Rules based on applicable and pertinent laws, policies, rules and regulations. Based on the Governing Rules, the Governing Board may elect at least one Co-chair, create standing committees as may be necessary to carry out the Board's functions, and designate their respective chairs.

SECTION 7. Meetings. The Governing Board shall meet quarterly or as often as may be required pursuant to its Governing Rules.

SECTION 8. Technical Working Group and Technical Secretariat. The Governing Board, pursuant to DENR Administrative Order No. 2005-10 and under the governing rules shall form a Technical Working Group (TWG) or Committees to ensure broad-based participation of all stakeholders in the work of the Governing Board. The TWG shall perform the following functions:

- a) Provide guidance to the WQMA Governing Board in the operationalization of the designated WQMA,
- b) Assist the Governing Board in preparation of the annual work program and financial plans,
- c) Provide technical inputs in the review of the draft WQMA Action Plan (initially prepared by the EMB Regional Office), and in tracking and monitoring of compliance to the WQMA Action Plan, and
- d) Perform other functions to be assigned by the Governing Board.

The Governing Board shall likewise create a Technical Secretariat of the WQMA, which shall be based at the DENR-EMB MIMAROPA Region.


SECTION 9. Multi-Sectoral Group. In accordance with DENR Administrative Order No. 2005-10, the Governing Board shall create a Multi-Sectoral Group for water quality monitoring and surveillance network, composed of representatives nominated by the members of the Governing Board. Said group shall augment and complement monitoring and reporting efforts of the DENR/EMB.

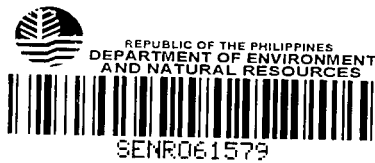
SECTION 10. Re-designation of WQMA. When necessary, and only after undertaking necessary studies and conducting consultations with relevant local government authorities, the Secretary of the DENR, upon recommendation of the EMB, shall revise the designation of WQMA, re-adjust its boundaries or reconstitute its membership for adequate representation.

SECTION 11. Amendments and Revisions. Amendments or revisions of any of the provisions of this order shall be upon consultation with the concerned stakeholders in accordance with existing policies on the matter.

SECTION 12. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Order shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the other portions or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 13. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation and upon acknowledgment of the receipt of the copy thereof by the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR).


ROY A. CIMATU
Secretary



Publication: The Manila Times
February 19, 2022

Acknowledgement: U. P. Law Center
February 22, 2022

ANNEX "A"
BACUIT-EL NIDO BAY
WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA

