



Republic of the Philippines  
*Ministry of Natural Resources*  
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER

21 January 1983

MNR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

NO.         
Series of 1983

SUBJECT : Deputizing the Provincial Governors, and Vice-Governors, Municipal Mayors, Vice-Mayors, and Barangay Captains in areas critical for the protection of Marine Turtles in the Philippines as Conservation Officers.

Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order No. 542 dated June 26, 1979, MNR Administrative Order No. 12 dated November 15, 1979, BFD Administrative Order No. 1 dated July 10, 1974, MNR Memorandum Order No. 6 dated April 29, 1982, the above-mentioned officials are hereby deputized as Conservation Officers of the Ministry of Natural Resources/Task Force Pawikan, to take effect immediately.

In view of the nature of the purpose of this Order and in line with MNR Administrative Order No. 18, declaring certain areas as marine turtle sanctuaries and/or the intensity of turtle egg collection and/or the harvest of marine turtles for commercial purposes, the areas critical for marine turtle conservation are listed as follows: Tawi-Tawi, Palawan, Antique, Sulu, Zamboanga del Sur, Zamboanga del Norte, Samar, Cebu, Quezon, Iloilo, Albay, Catanduanes, Masbate, Pangasinan and La Union.

By virtue of this deputation, the above deputized Conservation Officers are hereby authorized to enforce laws, rules and regulations on marine turtles as administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources/Task Force Pawikan, specifically by way of the following:

- a) To detect violations of such laws, rules and regulations on marine turtles and to arrest, even without warrant, any person who has committed or is committing in their presence any of the offenses indicated in the aforementioned Executive Order, Administrative Orders and Memorandum Orders.
- b) To seize/confiscate the boats, gears, tools, equipment and other paraphernalia used in the commission of the offenses, as instruments of the crime, including the catch thereof as proceeds of the crime, pursuant to Article 45 of the Revised Penal Code.

In all instances of detention, arrest, apprehension and/or the confiscations/seizures, aforesaid Deputized Conservation Officers, observing the period prescribed by law from the time of arrest and seizure shall file the proper complaint with the appropriate officials designated by law to conduct preliminary investigation and cause the filing of the proper information in court by the Fiscal's Office.

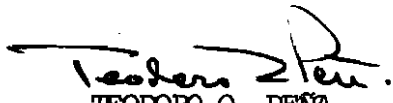
They shall submit a monthly report on the activities undertaken hereunder to the Chairman or his authorized/designated representatives.

This designation shall be co-terminus with the tenure of office of the officials concerned.

  
ARNOLD B. CHILLI  
Chairman

Task Force Pawikan Council

Noted/Approved:

  
TEODORO Q. PEÑA  
MINISTER