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MEMORANDUM

TO : ALL Regional Executive Directors
(Except National capital Region)

FROM : **THE UNDERSECRETARY**
Field Operations and Environment

SUBJECT : **GUIDELINES FOR THE SEARCH FOR THE R.I.V.E.RS
FOR LIFE**

DATE : NOV 17 2020

Provided herewith are the amended guidelines for the Search for the R.I.V.E.Rs for Life (Recognizing Individuals/Institutions towards Vibrant and Enhanced Rivers) Award. Please submit required documents on or before November 30, 2020. Provide advance soft copy to officeofuseccuna@denr.gov.ph. The tentative schedule of awarding is on New Year's Call.

For your compliance, please


ATTY. JUAN MIGUEL T. CUNA, *CESO I*

MEMO NO. 2020 - 594

**SEARCH FOR THE 2020
R.I.V.E.Rs FOR LIFE (RECOGNIZING INDIVIDUALS/INSTITUTIONS
TOWARDS VIBRANT AND ENHANCED RIVERS)**

1. OBJECTIVES OF THE AWARD

- To raise awareness on the need to protect and conserve the country's rivers as the lifeblood of the Earth and human civilization
- To tap concerted action to protect the country's rivers from degradation and pollution and assure their suitability, sustainability and further improvement for their designated use or classification
- To come up with appropriate mitigation measures and interventions to help address the continued worsening condition of river systems nationwide
- To recognize CENROs and PENROs that have responsibly implemented DENR policies, programs, project and activities and enforced ENR laws and regulations in their AOR

2. CRITERIA

- The DENR Regional Committee (DENR, MOB and EMB) shall select one nominee from the list of officially classified class C rivers located in an urban area.
- The list of activities/interventions undertaken by the concerned PENRO / CENRO on their nominated river shall include, among others the following CY 2019 data:
 - Aesthetic and Water Quality. A data indicating actual conduct of monthly water quality sampling for one (1) year should be available as reference to compliance to its classification.
 - Solid Waste Management. A baseline data indicating the monthly volume of waste collected for one year
 - Partnership and Community Mobilization. List of Memorandum of Agreements (MOAs) , partnership, and other documented engagements.
 - Information and Education Campaign. List of conducted activities with complete documentation and copies of IEC materials produced.
 - Other activities interventions and innovation

3. COVERAGE

- The contest is open to all incumbent Supervising and Implementing PENROs together with their respective CENROs.
- All reports from the Regional Committees shall be submitted to Central Office/Undersecretary for Field Operations not later than November 30, 2020.

4. AWARDING

The awards shall be given on January 2021

5. MECHANICS/ REQUIREMENTS

- Cascading of Secretary Cimatú's directive on 8 January 2018 to the PENROs and CENROs. A memorandum, other written orders or any actions implementing the Secretary's directive is required to be submitted by the region to quality. A checklist of mandatory requirements as identified above shall be accomplished. Absence or late issuance/action automatically disqualifies all PENROs/CENROs in the region from participating in the award.
- The participating Supervising/ Implementing PENROs together with their CENROs shall only enroll entries from the attached list of "Class C" rivers located in an urban area within their respective AOR for the Search for the R.I.V.E.Rs. for Life Award. In case of multiple "Class C" rivers in the AOR, the Supervising/Implementing PENROs together with their CENROs shall select only one for their entry.
- For regions that qualified, a Regional Committee (RC) for the Search for the R.I.V.E.Rs for Life Award 2020 shall be convened. It shall be chaired by the Regional Executive Director of DENR with the Regional Directors of EMB and MGB as members. The RC shall be tasked to deliberate and select one entry to the R.I.V.E.Rs for Life Award based on the following:
 - Inventory of all existing rivers (classified or unclassified)
 - List of documented interventions undertaken by participating offices to improve river water quality and other qualifying criteria of their selected "Class C" river
- An orientation of the RC members shall be conducted by the Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations/Awards Committee regarding the Search for the R.I.V.E.Rs for Life Award.

- The RC shall determine the extent of compliance and thoroughness and quality of work demonstrated by the Supervising/ Implementing PENROs together with their CENROs concerned on the Secretary's directive. It shall also highlight innovations, if any (innovations can be replicated nationwide). Expected, among others, are concrete actions and efforts made by the Supervising/ Implementing PENROs together with their CENROs concerned to maintain or improve the water quality. However, the supervising/Implementing PENROs together with their CENROs shall have completed all the list of requirements/prerequisites using the Criteria on the Search for (R.I.V.E.Rs) for Life Award (Annex B) to be eligible. Otherwise, the RC shall not proceed any further and terminate the determination of the region's candidate for the award.
- The RCs that have completed the process shall inform the Supervising/Implementing PENROs together with their CENROs the result of the selections for the award. The RCs thru a resolution shall submit the respective official nominees/entries to the Office of the Undersecretary for Field Operations, for endorsement to the DENR Executive Committee (or an Awards Committee that may be created for the purpose) together with the process documents in selecting their entry. The DENR Executive Committee (or Awards Committee), in turn, shall validate and affirm the results, for the grant of awards.

6. ELIGIBILITY OF ENTRIES

- Only entries that has not been declared and awarded as one of the top three (3) (First Place, Second Place and Third Place) winners from previous R.I.V.E.Rs for Life Award are considered qualified.

River Description

Type of Data	Components
Maps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topographic Map • Drainage Map • Coordinates • Length • River Tributaries
	LGU covered
	Land Use Maps (Updated Land Use of each LGU) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present • Planned
Major Threats to water, Sources of Pollution and other related data	Water Quality Problems/Concerns
	Water Quality Monitoring Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parameters • Monitoring Stations • Classification
	Pollution Sources Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location • List of establishments identified
Other Data	Census and Socio-economic Data including Indigenous People (IPs)
	Runoff Rate, Water level, River Discharge Data
	Water Usage
	River Cross-Section
Common Interest	Water Quality-related Development Programs
	Existing Management Areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) • Marine Protected Area (MPA) • Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC) and Watershed Council • Others
Stakeholder Support	Stakeholder Resolutions

ANNEX B
Criteria on the Search for
Recognizing Individuals/Institutions towards Vibrant and Enhanced Rivers
(R.I.V.E.Rs) for Life Award

Name of Class C River: _____

Location (Municipality and Province): _____

Length of River: _____

Geographic Position of River (Coordinates): _____

City/ies and Municipality/ies Covered: _____

Description of the River (Attach a NAMRIA map with 1:50,000 scale)

Development Partners (Private/Public/Individuals): _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____

Contact Numbers/Email address: _____

LGU Partner/s and other partners: _____

Duration of Partnership: _____

Name of River Management Council or Equivalent: _____

(use separate sheet if necessary)

1. Aesthetics and Water Quality Improvement (35%)

- a) Geotagged Photo of the River (10%)
 (High Resolution in jpeg format before and after photo indicating dates and taken at the same angle. If possible monthly photos to better appreciate progress in the interventions being implemented)
- b) Improvement/within water quality criteria (in terms of DISSOLVED OXYGEN, BIO-CHEMICAL OXYGEN DEMAND). (50%)
- c) Well-maintained river with flowing water. (If possible, determine discharge flow "Q") (15%)
- d) Presence of infrastructure/engineering interventions (e.g. greening, dredging, riprapping, linear parks, etc.). (Attach documentation of such including plan, map, photos, attendance, and reports, if any) (25%)

2. Solid Waste Managements (25%)

- a) Absence of all kinds of litters in the rivers and its tributaries (35%)
- b) Compliance on the schedule of waste-collections in the communities. (Cite method of waste collection, segregation at source, waste classification and volume collected, including the list of names of involved stakeholders. (15%)
- c) Preparation and adoption of a city/municipal/barangay ordinance in the area on anti-dumping and littering. (Attach copy of the ordinance and record of violator's name vis-à-vis penalty-imposed if there is any) (15%)
- d) Linkages with junkshops in addressing recyclable materials. (Submit list of existing junk shop operators within the area and the corresponding volume of recyclables collected per type/month) (10%)
- e) Presence of an operational Materials Recovery Facility or System (Attach MRF project description including process flow, drawings, pictures, and volume of waste collected per type) (15%)
- f) Presence of composting facility/ies (Submit photo documents and records of composting facility/ies) (10%)

3. Partnership/Community Mobilization (25%)

- a) Sustained partnership and community clean-ups since the adoption of the river. (Attach approved MOA, partnership, photo-documentations, reports and attendance) (40%)
- b) Presence of livelihood programs in the community/ies. (Attach list of programs including names of stakeholders) (30%)
- c) Presence of garden and open spaces using geo-tagged photos. (20%)
- d) Presence of an active River Management Council or similar organization. (Attach list of existing Management Council/organization including its members, responsibilities and documented projects/interventions) (10%)

4. Information and Education Campaign (15%)

- a) Conduct of regular training on community/ies citing the topic of the training, resource persons and names of concerned stakeholders. (Documented) (35%)
- b) Presence of signages along the river. Attach pictures, details/plans/drawings. (Documented) (35%)
- c) Production of information materials on anti-littering and anti-dumping. (Documented) (15%)
- d) Dissemination of information materials on anti-littering and anti-dumping. (Documented) (15%)