



MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Directors,**
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau
Forest Management Bureau
Land Management Bureau
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

FROM : **The OIC-Director,**
Policy and Planning Service

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR CONCURRENCE TO THE DRAFT DMC RE:
ADDITIONAL LIST OF CLASSIFIED CAVES FOR 2020 AND
ERRATUM ON DMC 2014-03 AND DMC 2018-09**

DATE : **04 MAR 2021**

This refers to the draft DENR Memorandum Circular (DMC) re: *“Additional List of Classified Caves for 2020 and Erratum on DMC 2014-03 and DMC 2018-09.”*

BACKGROUND

1. Pursuant to Section 12 of DAO 2003-29 or the “Implementing Rules and Regulations of the National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act,” cave classification is conducted by DENR to determine the appropriate use of caves and resources therein.
2. Caves are classified into three Categories. Class I Caves are caves with delicate and fragile geological formations, threatened species, archaeological and paleontological values and extremely hazardous conditions. Allowable use is limited to mapping, photography, educational and scientific purposes. Class II Caves are Caves with areas or portions which have sections that have hazardous conditions and contain sensitive geological, biological, archeological values or high-quality ecosystem. Sections of these caves may be closed seasonally or permanently and is open only to experienced cavers or guided educational tours/ visits. Class III Caves are generally safe even to inexperienced visitors. These caves harbor no known threatened species and have little to no significant cultural, historical, or geological value. Resources such as guano and edible birds nest may be collected.
3. The draft DMC attached herewith is the most recent list endorsed by the Biodiversity Management Bureau. Sixty-nine (69) caves are proposed to be classified.

4. The draft DMC has undergone review by the Policy Technical Working Group (PTWG). It has also incorporated the agreements made during the PTWG Meeting No. 2021-02 on 10 February 2021.

ACTION REQUESTED

In view of the above, may we request **for your concurrence (or comments) to the said draft DAO, on or before 09 March 2021. Otherwise, we will take it to mean as concurrence on your part if we fail to receive feedback on the said date.**

For your information and appropriate action.


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DENR Memorandum Circular
No. 2021 - _____

**SUBJECT : ADDITIONAL LIST OF CLASSIFIED CAVES FOR 2020
AND ERRATA ON DMC 2014-03 AND 2018-09**

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 9072 otherwise known as the “National Caves and Cave Management and Protection Act”, its Implementing Rules and Regulations as provided under DAO 2003-29, and in accordance with Section 4 of DENR Memorandum Circular No. 2007-04 (Procedure in Cave Classification), the list of classified caves for CY 2020 is hereby established for the information and guidance of all concerned. The classified caves listed herein is automatically included to the list of classified caves enumerated/ provided for under DENR Memorandum Circular Nos. 2020-08, 2018-09, 2018-02, 2016-05, 2015-08, 2014-03 and 2012-03.

SECTION 1. Objective. This Circular aims to provide guidance to the DENR and other concerned agencies responsible for the management of caves on the appropriate use of caves listed herein.

SECTION 2. Cave Classification. Caves are classified according to the following categories:

Class I. Caves with delicate and fragile geological formations, threatened species, archeological and paleontological values and extremely hazardous conditions. Allowable activities are limited to mapping, photography, educational and scientific purposes and closed for ecotourism activities.

Class I caves are further classified into.:

- Class 1^A Caves with delicate and fragile geological formations/archaeological values/paleontological values;
- Class 1^B Caves with threatened species;
- Class 1^C Caves with extremely hazardous conditions (e.g. bad air, unstable ceiling, presence of rock fall/breakdown... etc);
- Class 1^D Caves with A, B, and C;
- Class 1^E Caves with A and B;
- Class 1^F Caves with A and C; and
- Class 1^G Caves with B and C

Class II. Caves with areas or portions which have hazardous conditions and contain sensitive geological, archeological, cultural, historical and biological values or high quality ecosystem. It may be necessary to close sections of these caves

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seasonally or permanently. It is open to experienced cavers or guided educational tours/ visits.

Class III. Caves with no known threatened species and archeological, geological, natural history, cultural and historical values. It is safe to inexperienced visitors but should still be accompanied by cave guide/s. The caves may also be utilized, when appropriate, for other economic purposes such as guano extraction and edible birds nest collection.

SECTION 3. List of 2020 Classified Caves. Based on the results of assessments as provided under DMC 2007-04, the following sixty-nine (69) caves constitute the additional list of classified caves:

REGION/ PROVINCE	NAME OF CAVE	LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION
CAR (6)			
Apayao	Allabang Cave	Brgy. Zumigui, Luna	Class II
	Bellang Cave	Brgy. Ili, Conner	Class II
	Malayugan Avvu	Brgy. Malayugan, Flora	Class II
Ifugao	Aki Cave	Brgy. Baguinge, Kiangan	Class II
Mountain Province	Balangagan Cave	Brgy. Tacong/ Suyo, Sagada	Class II
	Lumiang Cave	Brgy. Ambasing, Sagada	Class II
NCR (1)	Apugan Cave	La Mesa Watershed Reservation, Quezon City	Class II
Region 1 (5)			
Ilocos Norte	Tantanem Cave (Tanap Watershed Forest Reserve)	Brgy. Tanap, Burgos	Class I ^D
	Balong Cave (Ilocos Norte Watershed Forest Reserve)	Brgy. Sapat, Pasuquin	Class II
	Simmimbaan Cave (Metropolitan Ilocos Norte Watershed Forest Reserve)	Brgy. Sulongan, Pasuquin	Class II
	Immanasaas Cave (Ilocos Norte Watershed Forest Reserve)	Brgy. Sulongan, Pasuquin	Class I ^E

REGION/ PROVINCE	NAME OF CAVE	LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION
	Abot Cave (Metropolitan Ilocos Norte Watershed Forest Reserve)	Brgy. Tadao, Pasuquin	Class I ^F
Region 2 (10)			
Cagayan	Namilagan Cave	Brgy. Namuac, Sanchez Mira	Class II
	Ari-zero Cave	Brgy. Aridowen, Sta. Teresita	Class III
	Bangalau Cave	Brgy. Luga, Sta. Teresita	Class II
	Tabaco Cave	Brgy. Luga, Sta. Teresita	Class III
	Nato Cave	Brgy. Luga, Sta. Teresita	Class II
	Karkarato Cave	Brgy. Mission, Sta. Teresita	Class I ^C
	Maquera Cave	Brgy. Mission, Sta. Teresita	Class I ^C
	Marciano Cave	Brgy. Mission, Sta. Teresita	Class II
Batanes	Pavulawan Cave (Batanes Protected and Seascape)	Brgy. Malakdang, Sabtang	Class III
Quirino	Ligaya Cave	Brgy. Ligaya, Aglipay	Class II
Region 4A (3)			
Laguna	Butas Kabag Cave II	Brgy. San Diego, Luisiana	Class I ^C
Batangas	Kamantigue Cave	Brgy. Biga, Lobo	Class I ^C
Quezon	Malaog Cave	Brgy. Apasan, Sampaloc	Class II
Region 5 (18)			
Albay	Malobago Cave	Sitio Goyoran, Brgy. Malobago, Guinobatan	Class II
	Libon Cave	Brgy. Macabugos, Libon	Class II
	Tambo Cave	Brgy. Tambo, Libon	Class II
Catanduanes	Bot-bot Cave	Brgy. Datag, San Andres	Class II
	Dagindingan Cave	F. Tacorda Village, Virac	Class II
Camarines Sur	San Antonio Cave	Sitio San Antonio, Brgy. Manangale, Sipocot	Class II
	Udalo Cave	Brgy. Bikal, Libmanan	Class II

REGION/ PROVINCE	NAME OF CAVE	LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION
Sorsogon	Proviner Cave	Purok 6, Sitio Proviner, Brgy. Pineda, Pilar	Class II
	Tipon-tipon Cave	Sitio Tipon-tipon, Brgy. Pineda, Pilar	Class III
	San Jose Cave	Sitio Cagbalod, Brgy. San Jose, Pilar	Class II
	Mininahan Cave	Brgy. Manlabong, Prieto Diaz	Class II
	Pinanaan Cave	Brgy. Santo Domingo, Prieto Diaz	Class II
Masbate	Bugsok cave	Brgy. Bonifacio, Uson	Class I ^c
	Igang Cave	Brgy. Bonifacio, Uson	Class I ^c
	Ilihan Cave	Brgy. Bonifacio, Uson	Class II
	Langob Cave	Brgy. San Jose, Uson	Class II
	Natunawan Cave	Brgy. Cantorna, Monreal	Class II
	Kamitubituhan Cave	Brgy. Real, Monreal	Class I ^c
Region 6 (3)			
Aklan	Manoc-Manoc Cave	Brgy. Manoc-manoc, Boracay Island, Malay	Class I ^c
Guimaras	Bul-ogan Cave	Brgy. San Pedro, Buenavista	Class II
	Buho ni Sisto Cave	Brgy. San Pedro, Buenavista	Class II
Region 7 (6)			
Bohol	Buhong Ngitngit Cave	Brgy. Lundag, Pilar	Class II
	Buhong Atbang Cave	Brgy. Lundag, Pilar	Class II
	Buhong Lagbas Cave	Brgy. Lundag, Pilar	Class II
Cebu	Oligmat Cave	Brgy. Cabangahan, Sogod	Class II
	Mag-aso Cave	Brgy. Cabangahan, Sogod	Class II
	Langub Cave	Brgy. Langub, Sta. Fe, Bantayan Island	Class I ^B
Region 8 (4)			
Western Samar	Sinusuhotan Cave	Brgy. De-it, Matuguinao	Class II

REGION/ PROVINCE	NAME OF CAVE	LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION
Samar	Malajog Cave	Brgy. Malajog, Calbayog	Class II
Leyte	Cag-maanghit Cave	Brgy. San Isidro, Hilongos	Class II
Southern Leyte	Tawid Cave	Brgy. San Agustin, Limasawa	Class II
Region 9 (8)			
Zamboanga del Sur	Imbao Cave	Puting Bato, Brgy. Upper Sicpao Sominot	Class I ^F
	Cathedral Cave	Puting Bato, Brgy. Upper Sicpao Sominot	Class II
	Waling waling Cave	Puting Bato, Brgy. Upper Sicpao Sominot	Class II
	Banga Cave	Brgy. Sunop, Dumingag	Class I ^C
	Ferrarin Cave	Brgy. Dalapan. Guipos	Class II
Zamboanga del Norte	Pobdelu Cave	Brgy. Poblacion, Godod	Class I ^C
	Buliajung Cave	Brgy. Bungalao, Sibuco	Class III
Zamboanga Sibugay	Walo Bal-ot Cave	Brgy. Tipan, Naga	Class I ^D
Region 11 (1)			
Davao Del Sur	Su'bon Cave	Brgy. Asbang, Matanao	Class II
Region 12 (1)			
South Cotabato	Salkak Cave	Brgy. Landan, Polomolok	Class II
Region 13 (3)			
Agusan del Sur	Naegean Cave	Brgy. Valentina, La Paz	Class II
	Kaluha Cave	Brgy. Sisimon, Veruela	Class II
Agusan del Norte	Tanghawilan Cave 2	Brgy. Curva, Santiago	Class I ^G

SECTION 4. Erratum. Certain portion of Sec. 3 of DMC 2014-03 and 2018-09 are hereby rectified as follows:

A. DMC 2014-03

REGION/ PROVINCE	NAME OF CAVE	LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION
Region 2			
Batanes	Tarungan Cave (Batanes Protected Landscape and Seascape)	Sta. Lucia, Itbayat	Class II

DMC 2018-09

REGION/ PROVINCE	NAME OF CAVE	LOCATION	CLASSIFICATION
Region 13			
Dinagat Islands	Marcos Cave	Basilisa (Rizal)	Class III

The Tarungan Cave in Batanes (Region 2) and Marcos Cave in Dinagat Island (Region 13) shall be renamed as **Torongnan Cave** and **Marcus Crystal Cave**, respectively, to be consistent with the submitted cave profile and other requirements for cave classification

SECTION 5. Repealing Clause. Any provisions of previous circular, memoranda and other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby amended, superseded or repealed accordingly.

This Memorandum Circular shall take effect immediately.

ROY A. CIMATU
Secretary