



## MEMORANDUM FROM THE SECRETARY

TO : All Regional Executive Directors

SUBJECT : **AUTHORIZING THE USE OF REPLOTTED LAND CLASSIFICATION MAPS AS BASIS IN THE VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION OF LAND CLASSIFICATION STATUS**

DATE : JUN 15 2021

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In reference to the issues and concerns regarding correct interpretation of the Land Classification (LC) Maps of the Field Offices on the verification and issuance of land certification status within their area of jurisdiction, all CENROs are hereby instructed to use the Replotted Land Classification Maps as an official document for said verification and certification.

Said Replotted LC Maps should be based on topographic map consistent with the provision of the Section 17 of Presidential Decree No. 1559 "*Further Amending Presidential Decree No. 705, Otherwise Known as the "Revised Forestry Code of The Philippines"*" dated 11 June 1978 which states that:

*Section 17. Establishment of boundaries of forest lands. All boundaries between permanent forests and alienable or disposable lands shall be clearly marked and maintained on the ground, with infrastructure or roads, or concrete monuments at intervals of not more than five hundred (500) meters in accordance with established procedures and standards, or any other visible and practicable signs to insure protection of the forest.*

*"In all cases of boundary conflicts, reference shall be made to the Philippine Coast and Geodetic Survey Topo Map."* (emphasis supplied)

Relative thereto, all land classification maps nationwide which were prepared during pre-war and post-war periods, where precise survey instruments and base maps of higher accuracies are not available, shall be reviewed, georeferenced and replotted by the National Mapping and resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) using the topographic maps as base maps. Should there be a need, verification and/or validation on the ground shall be conducted together with the concerned Regional Offices. The NAMRIA shall develop the Procedures on the Use of Replotted Land Classification Maps as basis in the Verification and Certification of LC Maps.

The final replotted land classification maps together with the draft Administrative Orders on the matter shall be reviewed and endorsed by the Forest Management Bureau (FMB) through channels to the Office of the Secretary for approval.

Only approved replotted LC maps shall be used by the CENROs as basis for the verification and issuance of land certification status. All DENR concerned offices shall be provided copies of the said maps and will serve as an official reference for all Land Classification certifications.

The issuance of the land certification status shall be referenced to the Land Classification Maps of the subject area as replotted and georeferenced on topographic map.

**FOR STRICT COMPLIANCE.**

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ROY A. CIMATU

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