



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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MEMORANDUM

TO :

The Undersecretary
Field Operations – Luzon, Visayas and Environment
Field Operations – Mindanao

The Deputy Administrator
National Mapping Resource and Information Authority

The Assistant Director
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Ecosystems and Research Development Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau
Forest Management Bureau
Land Management Bureau
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

The Director
Policy and Planning Service
Foreign Assisted and Special Projects Service

The Assistant General Manager
Laguna Lake Development Authority

The Deputy Executive Director
National Water Resources Board
Palawan Council for Sustainable Development
River Basin Control Office

FROM :

The Undersecretary
Integrated Environmental Science and
Head, Geospatial Database Office

SUBJECT :

**REQUEST FOR INPUT ON THE DRAFT DENR
MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR ON GUIDELINES ON
STANDARD ATTRIBUTES, SYMBOLOGY, AND PROJECTION
OF ENR SPATIAL DATASETS**

This refers to the draft DENR Memorandum Circular on the Guidelines on Standard Attributes, Symbology and Projection of ENR Spatial Datasets. As per guidance of the DENR Policy Technical Working Group (PTWG), a Memorandum Circular shall be proposed

MAR 10 2023

to strengthen and institutionalize the standardization of ENR spatial datasets in the central office, regional offices, bureaus, and attached agencies.

As part of the draft DENR Memorandum Circular, the compilation of attributes and symbology shall be used to guide GIS users in the processing of ENR spatial datasets towards the establishment of the national environment and natural resources spatial database. This compilation shall serve as a guide in standardizing ENR spatial datasets for the development, implementation and monitoring of DENR programs and projects. The Compilation is available through this link: Attributes (<https://bit.ly/CompilationAttributes>) and Symbology (<https://bit.ly/CompilationSymbology>)

In this regard, we would like to request input on the draft DENR Memorandum Circular on or before 17 March 2023. You may edit the said document through this link: (https://bit.ly/DMC_GuidelinesonStandards).

For further clarification/inquiries, you may contact Geospatial Database Office at geospatial@denr.gov.ph or VOIP 1202.

For your appropriate action, please.


CARLOS PRIMO C. DAVID, Ph.D



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**DENR MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR
NO. 2023 - _____**

**SUBJECT : GUIDELINES ON STANDARD ATTRIBUTES, SYMBOLOGY,
AND PROJECTION OF ENR SPATIAL DATASETS**

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 192 dated 10 June 1987 otherwise known as the Reorganization Act of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Presidential Decree 705 (Forestry Code of the Philippines), Republic Act 7586 (National Integrated Protected Areas System), Republic Act 11038 (Expanded National Integrated Protected Area System (ENIPAS) Act of 2018), Republic Act 7942 (The Philippine Mining Act of 1995), Presidential Decree 1586 (Environmental Impact Statement System), Republic Act 4850 (creation of the Laguna Lake Development Authority), Presidential Decree 1067 (The Water Code of the Philippines), and other applicable laws, rules and regulations pertaining to the management of the environment and natural resources, the following guidelines and standards on attributes, symbology and projection of ENR spatial datasets is hereby issued for the guidance of all concerned:

SECTION 1. Objectives. The general objective of this Circular is to prescribe a standard in the creation of environment and natural resources spatial datasets that will be used for evidence-based planning and decision-making and monitoring of programs and projects. Specifically, it aims to:

- 1.1 Standardize attributes and symbology for the preparation of maps to be uploaded in the DENR Control Map Portal;
- 1.2 Improve quality and consistency of spatial data for data sharing and interoperability;
- 1.3 Prescribe the use of standard projection;

SECTION 2. Scope and Coverage. This Circular shall provide guidance on adopting the document entitled compilation of symbology and attributes as a policy tool within the DENR, its bureaus, and attached agencies.

- a. DENR Central Office
- b. DENR Regional Offices
- c. EMB Regional Offices
- d. MGB Regional Offices
- e. Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Offices (PENROs)
- f. Community Environment and Natural Resources Offices (CENROs)
- g. Biodiversity Management Bureau
- h. Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau
- i. Environmental Management Bureau
- j. Forest Management Bureau
- k. Laguna Lake Development Authority
- l. Land Management Bureau
- m. Mines and Geosciences Bureau
- n. National Mapping and Resource Information Authority
- o. National Water Resources Board
- p. Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff
- q. River Basin Control Office

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. As used in this Circular, the following terms shall be defined as:

- 3.1 Attribute – non-spatial information that describes a geographic feature. In GIS, it is usually stored in a table and linked to the feature by a unique identifier (Source: ESRI).
- 3.2 DENR Control Map – a repository of maps and ENR datasets produced and maintained by the DENR, its bureaus, attached agencies and field offices based on their specific mandates and functions, compliant to the standards defined in this DAO, presented in an online platform.
- 3.3 Symbology – a graphic used to represent a geographic feature or class of features. Symbols can look like what they represent (trees, railroads, houses), or they can be abstract shapes (points, lines, polygons) or characters (ESRI).
- 3.4 Geographic Coordinate Systems – uses a three-dimensional spherical surface to define locations on the earth. It includes an angular unit of measure, a prime meridian, and a datum (based on a spheroid) (ESRI).
- 3.5 Projected Coordinate System – defined on a flat, two-dimensional surface and locations are identified by x,y coordinates on a grid, with the origin at the center of the grid. A projected coordinate system is always based on a geographic coordinate system that is based on a sphere or spheroid (ESRI).
- 3.6 Reference System – is a set of prescription and conventions together with the modeling required to define at any time a triad of coordinate axes (International Earth Rotation and Reference System Services).

SECTION 4. Standardization of Spatial data. This Memorandum Circular provides guidance to GIS users in the processing and presentation of uploaded maps in the DENR Control Map Portal.

4.1 Use of Compilation of Symbology and Attributes of ENR Spatial Datasets. The concerned offices shall use the Compilation of Symbology (Appendix A) and Compilation of Attributes for ENR Spatial Datasets (Appendix B) for updating, maintaining, and managing spatial datasets to ensure the consistency and reliability of the data being shared.

4.2 Use of Standard Projection and Reference System. The standard projection and reference system to be used shall be the Philippine Reference System of 1992 (PRS92) or any succeeding standard projection system that will supersede Executive Order No. 321, series of 2004.

SECTION 5. Effectivity Clause. This Circular shall take effect immediately and shall supersede and/or amend other related issuances that are inconsistent herewith.

MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA
Secretary