



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS YAMAN



MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Director**
 Legal Affairs Service
 Land Management Bureau

The Assistant Secretary and Director, in concurrent capacity
 Forest Management Bureau
 Biodiversity Management Bureau

The Regional Executive Director
 DENR Region VIII
 Sto. Niño Extension
 Tacloban City

FROM: **The Office of the Undersecretary**
 Legal and Administration
 Supervising Undersecretary for LMB and BMB


SUBJECT: **REQUEST OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (COMMITTEE ON**
 NATURAL RESOURCES) FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE
 UPDATES/STATUS OF VARIOUS LAND CONCERNS

DATE : **SEP 06 2024**

Respectfully referred is the attached letter dated August 12, 2024, from the Chairperson of the Committee on Natural Resources, House of Representatives, Hon. Alfredo D. Marañon III, requesting for the submission of various updates/status in relation to the deliberation of House Resolution No. 778, entitled "***A Resolution Urging the House Committee on Natural Resources to Conduct Inquiry, In Aid of Legislation, into the Gaps and Inconsistencies of Land Use and Environmental Management Laws and Subsequent Misuse and Abuse, Leading to Gross Soil, Water and Air Pollution in Forestlands, Watershed and Buffer Zones in the Municipality of Palompon, Province of Leyte***", authored by Rep. Richard I. Gomez, DPA. Congressman Marañon is also requesting information on the classification of the subject land and any patents issued within the area.

Further, we are forwarding a copy of the letter of Atty. Robert Anthony P. Yu, Regional Director of DAR-Region 8 regarding the Certificates of Land Ownership Awards (CLOAs) issued covering portions of the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve for information and/or appropriate action.

Thank you.


ATTY. GENEVIEVE E. SEVIDAL

Copy Furnished:
Undersecretary for Special Concerns and Legislative Affairs
Office of the Secretary

MEMO NO. 2024 - 803



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Committee on Natural Resources

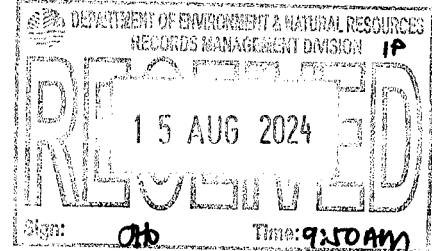
✉ Committee Affairs Department, 3/F Speaker Ramon V. Mitra Building, Batasan Complex, Quezon City
☎ +63 (2) 8931-5001 local 7161; Telefax: +63(2) 8951-3003
committee.naturalresources@house.gov.ph, naturalresources.hrep@gmail.com

12 August 2024

HON. MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA

Secretary

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DENR Bldg. Visayas Avenue, Diliman,
Quezon City



Dear Honorable Secretary Yulo Loyzaga:

The Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives is in the process of deliberating House Resolution No. 778, entitled "A Resolution Urging The House Committee On Natural Resources To Conduct An Inquiry, In Aid Of Legislation, Into The Gaps And Inconsistencies Of Land Use And Environmental Management Laws And Subsequent Misuse And Abuse, Leading To Gross Soil, Water And Air Pollution In Forestlands, Watershed And Buffer Zones In The Municipality Of Palompon, Province Of Leyte", authored by Rep. Richard I. Gomez, DPA.

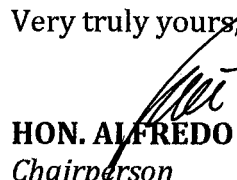
During the last committee meeting held on November 15, 2023, there were discussions on the classification of land subject matter of the inquiry. It was also stated that free patents were issued in the area covered by Proclamation No. 212, January 29, 1988, entitled "Establishing As Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve A Parcel Of Land Of The Public Domain Situated In The Municipalities Of Palompon And Villaba, Province Of Leyte, Philippines."

To further elucidate on the issues, may we respectfully request the submission of the following:

1. Update on the status/classification of the pertinent land (including details such elevation, protected area suitability assessment, and geo-hazard assessment);
2. Update on the reversion cases for the free patent issued on the pertinent lots;
3. Update on the communication between the DENR and Department of Agrarian Reform on the pertinent lots;
4. Update on Forest Land Use Plan of the area; and
5. A copy of DENR Administrative Order 2016-29.

We would like to request the submission of the said requirements or updates on the measures on or before **28 August 2024**. Attached herewith is a copy of the House Resolution, for your kind reference.

Very truly yours,

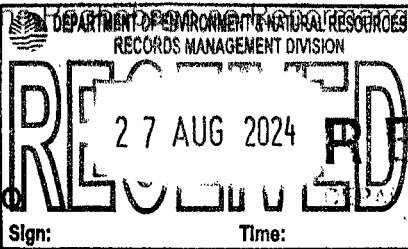

HON. ALFREDO D. MARAÑON III
Chairperson
Committee on Natural Resources



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM

Tunay Agraryo

August 13, 2024



E-2721
RELEASED
DATE: 20 AUG 2024
TIME: 1:06 PM
NAME/SIG.:

Ms. LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO
Regional Executive Director
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Sto. Niño Extension Street, Tacloban City

Dear Director Claudio,

This refers to your letter dated July 30, 2024, regarding your request to conduct cancellation proceedings of the issued forty-three (43) Certificates of Land Ownership Awards (CLOAs) located within the forestland area of Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR).

As per DAR Administrative Order (AO) No. 1, Series of 2021, titled "Revised Guidelines and Procedures on the Parcelization of Landholdings with Collective Certificate of Land Ownership Award, provides the following clarifications:

1. CCLOA Scope:

- o Paragraph 3.6.2.d of the AO stipulates that the timberland/inalienable and/or unclassified public forests shall remain within the CCLOA.
- o The unclassified public forest portion of the CCLOA will proceed with the generation, registration, and issuance of e-titles by the Register of Deeds (ROD).

2. Timberland/Inalienable Portion:

- o Paragraph 3.6.2.e of the same AO emphasizes that no CCLOAs shall be canceled for the timberland/inalienable portion of the landholding that remains in the CCLOA.

In light of the above, our office seeks guidance from DARCO Officials on the specific procedures for handling these cases. Should you require further clarification or assistance, please feel free to contact the DAR Provincial Office of Leyte-Biliran or the Regional Office in Tacloban City. Additionally, you can visit our website at www.dar.gov.ph for additional information.

Thank you, and we hope this clarifies the matter. More power to you.

Very truly yours,

ATTY. ROBERT ANTHONY P. YULO/CESE
Regional Director

DAR Regional Office VIII
Sto. Niño Extn. Tacloban City



Copy furnished:

Sec. Maria Antonia Yulo-Loyzada
Department of Environmental and Natural Resources

Sec. Conrado M. Estrella III
Department of Agrarian Reform

Hon. Congressman Richard I. Gomez
4th District Representative
Province of Leyte



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Region VIII - Eastern Visayas



30 July 2024

ATTY. ROBERT ANTHONY P. YU
Regional Director
Department of Agrarian Reform, Region VIII
Sto. Niño Extension, Tacloban City

RECEIVED
4:08 PM

Dear Director Yu,

Isang Maka-Diyos, Maka-tao, Makakalikasan, Makabansa at Maka-Bagong Pilipinas na pagbati po sa inyo!


This refers to the enclosed letter to you dated 02 October 2023, pertaining to the issued forty-three (43) Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOAs) located within the forestland area of Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR), an initial component under Republic Act (RA) 7586 otherwise known as the *National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act as amended by RA 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) Act of 2018*. This Office requested for the conduct of cancellation proceedings according to your Office rules and regulations.

In this regard, may we respectfully request for any update on the actions taken by your good Office. This is in connection to the issues and concerns raised during the Congressional Inquiry in aid of legislation on House Resolution No. 778!

Please be with us in protecting the PWFR for this generation and posterity.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

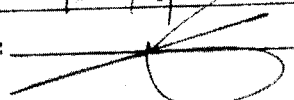

LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO, CESO III
Regional Executive Director

Copy furnished:

SECRETARY MARIA ANTONIA YULO-LOYZAGA
Department of Environmental and Natural Resources

SECRETARY CONRADO M. ESTRELLA III
Department of Agrarian Reform

HON. CONGRESSMAN RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DPA
4th District Representative
Province of Leyte

E-8-2-2024-2321
RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM
REGIONAL OFFICE NO. 8
DATE: 02 AUG 2024
TIME: 12:48 PM
NAME/SIG.: 



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
Baras Palo, Leyte
Tel. No. 832-4283
Email Address:

MEMORANDUM

FOR : **THE Regional Executive Director**
DENR RO-VII
Tacloban City, Leyte

THRU : ARD for Technical Services

FROM : **The PENR Officer**
Province of Leyte
Baras, Palo, Leyte

SUBJECT : **ELECTRONIC COPY OF GEOSPATIAL DATA OF
PROJECTED LOTS COVERED BY CLOA AND FREE PATENT
WITHIN THE TIMBERLAND AREA INSIDE THE PALOMPON
WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE**

DATE : **SEPTEMBER 26, 2023**

9/27/23
10:50

Respectfully forwarded to your end the geospatial data of the issued CLOA and Free Patent projected within the Timberland Area within the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR).

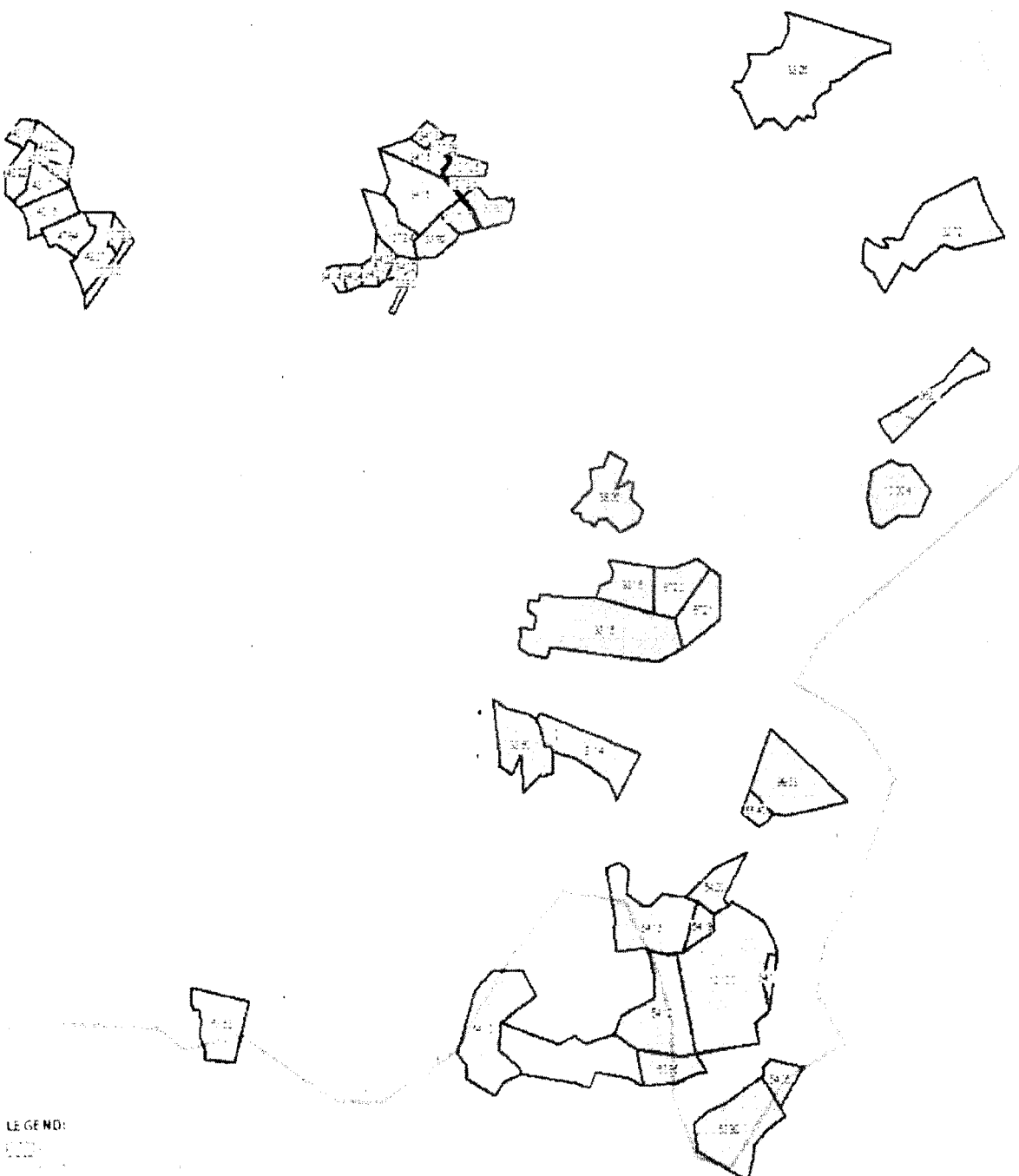
Please click the herein link to access the "shapefile" of the aforesaid geospatial data for reference.

For her information, review and further appropriate action

ALEJANDRO K. BAUTISTA
OIC-PENR Officer

FOR THE PENR OFFICER:

**GEO-SPATIAL MAP OVERLAY OF ISSUED CLOA AND FREE PATENT WITHIN THE
TIMBERLAND AREA INSIDE THE PALOMPON WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE**



LEGEND:



LC 6471MID/PRJ_31 BLK1 4 25 27 31

R32
R33
R34
R35
R36

GEO-SPATIAL MAP OVERLAY OF ISSUED CLOA AND FREE PATENT WITHIN THE TIMBERLAND AREA INSIDE THE PALOMPON WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE

LEGEND:

- Free patent with portion within timberland
- Free Patent with portion within ASD
- CLOA with portion within timberland
- CLOA with portion within ASD
- ASD
- TIMBERLAND

Palompon_Watershed_Forest_Reserve_Grading

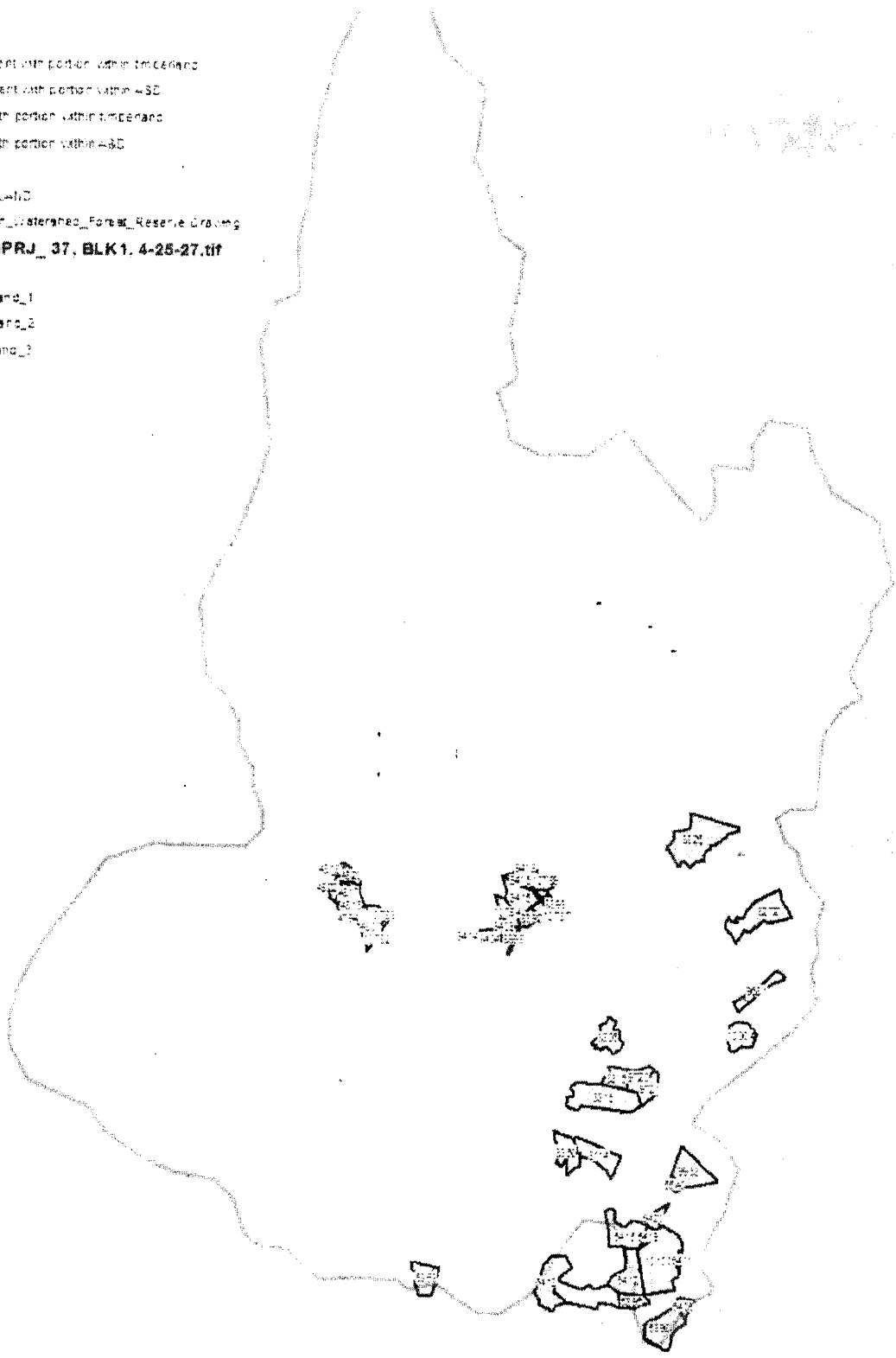
LC-647(MD)PRJ_37_BLK1_4-25-27.tif

RGB

Red_Band_1

Green_Band_2

Blue_Band_3





Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Region VIII - Eastern Visayas

03 OCT 2023

frd
PTE

02 October 2023

ATTY. ROBERT ANTHONY P. YU
Regional Director
Department of Agrarian Reform, Region 8
Sto. Niño Extension, Tacloban City, 6500, Leyte

RE: LANDS WITHIN THE FORESTLAND OF THE PALOMPON WATERSHED
FOREST RESERVE (PWFR) THAT WERE ISSUED WITH CERTIFICATES
OF LAND OWNERSHIP AWARD (CLOA)

Dear Director Yu:

Isang makakalikasang araw po sa inyo!

This refers to the Congressional Inquiry in aid of legislation on House Resolution No. 778.

The Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) Leyte submitted their report stating that there are lots in Palompon, Leyte that were issued with Certificates of Land Ownership Award (CLOA) which are found to be within the timberland area inside the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR), an initial component of the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS). The protection of the forestland within the protected area is important to ensure acceptable environmental quality and sustainable use of resources found therein. Please see attached list of lots for your ready reference.

In view thereof, may we respectfully request from your good office to conduct cancellation proceedings according to your office rules and regulations.

Thank you and please be with us in the protection of our environment and natural resources for this generation and posterity.

Respectfully yours,


LORMELYN E. CLAUDIO, CESO IV
Regional Executive Director