



DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES

MAR 25 1992

DENR SPECIAL ORDER  
NO. 224  
Series of 1992

**SUBJECT : Creation of a Special Task Force responsible for the acceptance, identification, evaluation, and delineation of ancestral land claims in the Province of Bukidnon.**

1. In the interest of the service and consistent with the Constitutional mandate for the recognition and protection of the rights of the indigenous cultural communities to their ancestral lands to ensure their economic, social and cultural well-being, a Special Task Force that is responsible for the acceptance, identification, evaluation, and delineation of ancestral land claims in the Province of Bukidnon is hereby created to be composed of the following:

Michael E. Montalban - Chairman  
Community Development Officer III  
Indigenous Community Affairs Division  
Special Concerns Office

Adolfo L. Galam - Vice-Chairman  
Provincial Environment and  
Natural Resources Officer  
Malaybalay, Bukidnon

Avelino M. Labis - Member  
Land Management Officer  
PENRO Bukidnon

All concerned CENR Officers - Member  
in Bukidnon

Enrique A. Dagawasan - Member  
Provincial Officer, OSCC

NGO Representative - Member

2. The Special Task Force shall accept, identify and evaluate all applications/petitions of ancestral land claims in the Province of Bukidnon and if found valid, delineate the same by actual ground survey for plotting in the compilation map.
3. The Special Task Force shall coordinate with the Indigenous Community Affairs Division, Special Concerns Office; DENR project components; and other actively involved concerned government agencies, local government units, private and/or non-governmental organizations on the verification of the authenticity of all ancestral land claims by taking into consideration the indigenous customs and practices regarding land use, ownership, and management.

4. The Special Task Force shall prepare separate guidelines in the acceptance, identification, evaluation and delineation of ancestral land claims and shall classify the same based on the prepared guidelines.
5. The Special Task Force after evaluating and delineating all ancestral land claims shall recommend en banc to the Secretary of the DENR through the Regional Executive Director of Region 10 and the Indigenous Community Affairs Division, Special Concerns Office, the issuance of Certificates of Ancestral Land Claims over those areas determined to be ancestral.
6. There is hereby created in every CENR Office as part of the Task Force a three (3) man committee composed of the Community Environment and Natural Resource Officer concerned; one (1) Community Development Assistant or Social Forestry Officer; and one (1) Land Investigator who shall receive, evaluate and investigate applications for ancestral land claims in behalf of the Task Force under their respective area of jurisdiction and shall submit report to the Task Force for final deliberations.
7. In the performance of its functions, the Chairman shall delineate the function of each member of the Task Force and attached personnel and shall approve their Travel Order and other pertinent documents except the Vice-chairman whose Travel Order shall be approved by the Regional Executive Director.
8. The Special Task Force is hereby authorized to avail of the services of any employee of the Department and/or any of the Department's Bureaus and Offices and available equipment in the official discharge of its functions.
9. In the conduct of actual ground survey and plotting in the compilation map of all identified ancestral lands, the Special Task Force may request the concerned claimants to contract a private surveyor and submit the survey returns to the Task Force for indorsement to the Regional Executive Director for verification and approval.
10. Members of the Special Task Force shall be entitled to travelling expenses, per diems and other incidental expenses chargeable against the Special Funds allocated for such purpose subject to usual accounting rules and regulations.
11. This Order shall take effect immediately and supersedes/amends all orders/memoranda inconsistent herewith.

  
FULGENCIO S. FACTORAN, JR.  
Secretary