

**DENR Administrative Order  
No. 97-37  
December 22, 1997**

**SUBJECT : Declaring Certain Portions of the Public Forest as Forestland for Permanent Forest Purposes and as Alienable or Disposable for Cropland and Other Purposes, Under LC Project No. 39, Malvar and LC Project No. 40, Balete, Both of Batangas Province**

Pursuant to Section 13 of PD 705, otherwise known as the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines, as amended, I hereby declare as permanent forest the forestland block covering an area of 207 hectares and further declare and certify an aggregate area of 1,724 hectares, more or less, as alienable or disposable for cropland and other purposes under the Public Land Act, which parcels of land are located in the abovenamed municipalities and province and as shown and described in Map No. LC-3601, which is attached to and forms an integral part of this order, subject to the following conditions:

- a. In the area herein declared as alienable or disposable, a strip of 15 meters in width on each side of any public trail herein used as outlet for timber and other forest products if any there be, are reserved as forestland;
- b. The strip of 20 meters in width of land on each side of the water systems of the whole project covering an area of 107 hectares, more or less, are delineated and declared as forestland for stream bank protection and must be rehabilitated and maintained under permanent forest cover to sustain water within the project;

- c. The extraction and utilization of any forest products remaining in the area herein declared and certified as alienable and disposable land shall be subject to Forest and Internal Revenue Laws and Regulations and any present holder of timber and other forest products issued by this Department shall continue to enjoy the privileges extended under those licenses until the purpose for which they were issued shall have been achieved.

This Order is issued pursuant to the policy to delineate permanent forests from unclassified public forests and in accordance with the principles of environmental conservation and protection and ecological balance.

This Order shall take effect upon approval.

**(Sgd.) VICTOR O. RAMOS**  
Secretary