

**DENR Memorandum Order  
No 99-16  
May 17, 1999**

**SUBJECT : Special Task Force On Priority Programs And Economic Affairs Action Plan For The Rehabilitation, Development, Protection And Maintenance Of The Marikina Watershed Reservation And The Marikina Wawa River Basin; The Creation Of Task Force Marikina Watershed Development Center And Providing Funds For The Purpose**

Pursuant to the provision of PD 705 as amended, LOI 917 and 917-B and Department Order No. 6, Series of 1980 and in order to manage more effectively the Marikina Watershed and the Marikina Wawa River Basin for national welfare towards the complementation of land, air and water use, the following policy guidelines are hereby promulgated.

1. Forestland within the area shall be preserved, adequately protected and closely managed, in accordance with the multiple-use management concept with the objective of ensuring continuous, adequate and quality supply of water in its main river system, tributaries, and/or effectively minimizing soil erosion and excessive run-off.
2. Marikina River Watershed shall be thoroughly evaluated to determine its conditions and rehabilitation requirements. Priority for evaluation shall be conducted to determine its existing land uses particularly the critically denuded catchment area and channels of rivers/creeks.

3. The effective hydrologic function of the watershed that has been greatly impaired shall be the priority for rehabilitation or restoration;
4. All resources and development projects found within the area shall provide for the improvement and maintenance of the Marikina River Watershed;
5. Determine the total Environmental Impact of the watershed development program and its effect on water management and flood prevention in the immediate vicinity of the Marikina Watershed encompassing Antipolo, San Mateo and Montalban, Rizal;
6. Forest Occupancy found existing in the Marikina Watershed shall be supervised, regulated and managed. Any occupancy in these areas which will result in the sedimentation, erosion, reduction of water yield and impairment of other resources to the detriment of community and public interest shall be restricted. A full scale reforestation program shall be immediately implemented with preference to species with high water yielding and holding capacity.
7. Small-Scale Mining/Quarrying and other industrial and private economic activities in these areas shall be regulated and/or stopped with full emphasis to the protection of soil, air, water and other surface resources, prospecting shall be strictly prohibited.
8. The Marikina Wawa River Basin full rehabilitation shall immediately be implemented and funds for this purpose shall immediately be provided.

In the promulgation of this Order, the Creation of a Special Task Force to oversee the preparation/operation of a thorough

Marikina Rehabilitation Management Program is deemed necessary in order to establish permanent functional structure to implement and manage the proposed project most appropriate to the Marikina Watershed and its River Basin

Task Force members shall be organized for the purpose and prepare appropriate plans and programs. It shall likewise provide one (1) functional office under its direct supervision.

In the formulation of plans and programs, the Task Force shall prepare a 5-Year/Annual Development Action Plan for Marikina Watershed and its River Basin and conduct/prepare preliminary Budgetary Estimates for the operational activities earmarked for CY 1999-2007.

The projected cost for the rehabilitation as may be identified later on shall be determined and course through the Secretary for his approval. The Task Force shall also create a permanent operational staff, development designate officer, subject for additional personnel and Special Order when necessary. With the concurrence of the Secretary, the Task Force Marikina Watershed Development Center shall likewise draft additional Guidelines, if necessary in order to effectively, implement program of activities.

All expenses to be incurred by the Task Force shall be charged to the Special Project Fund of the Secretary, Contingency Fund and such other fund may be identified by the Special Task Force, subject to pertinent accounting, auditing rules and regulations.

This Order takes effect immediately.

**(Sgd.) ANTONIO H. CERILLES**  
Secretary