

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **7183**



Introduced by Representatives Gil P. Acosta, Frederick F. Abueg, Franz Josef George E. Alvarez, Anthony M. Bravo, Sabiniano S. Canama

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Seven Line Reef within the Municipality of Aborlan and the City of Puerto Princesa, Province of Palawan as a component of the National Integrated Protected Areas System under the category of a protected seascape.

The National Integrated Protected Areas System Act provides the legal framework for the establishment and management of protected areas in the country. The system consists of all areas or islands in the Philippines proclaimed, designated, or set aside, pursuant to a law, presidential decree, presidential proclamation, or executive order as natural park, game refuge, bird and wildlife sanctuary, wilderness area, strict nature reserve, watershed, mangrove reserve, fish sanctuary, and protected and managed landscape and seascape.

A protected seascape refers to a protected area where the interaction of people and nature over time has produced an area of distinct character with significant ecological, biological, cultural and scenic value and where safeguarding the integrity of this interaction is vital to protecting and sustaining the area and its associated nature conservation and other values.

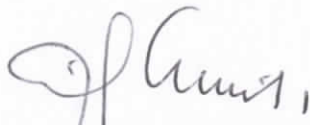
The Seven Line Reef begins on the southeastern coast of Puerto Princesa City, traverses the northeast portion of Aborlan's municipal waters, and ends in the national waters of the Sulu Sea. Roughly half of the Seven Line Reef is in the municipal waters of Aborlan. The coral reefs of Seven Line measure a total of 12,399 hectares with 229 fish species. Nomenclature aside, Aborlan's rich Seven Line Reef has become a prized local fishing ground that

has come under threat from outsiders and their destructive illegal fishing practices.

Given the richness of the natural beauty and the importance of the Seven Line Reef to the ecological and socio-economic development of the local communities, it is therefore necessary to give primary consideration and protection of this area.

The participation of all the stakeholders of the Seven Line Reef Protected Seascape, especially the local communities headed by the concerned local government agencies shall also be maximized to ensure efficient and effective management of the protected area.

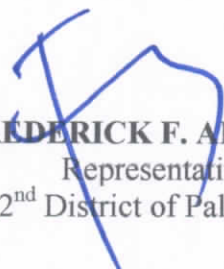
In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



GIL P. ACOSTA
Representative
3rd District of Palawan



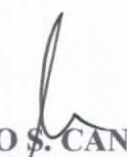
FRANZ JOSEF GEORGE E. ALVAREZ
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Representative
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1 **AN ACT DECLARING THE SEVEN LINE REEF IN THE PROVINCE**
2 **OF PALAWAN AS A PROTECTED SEASCAPE, PURSUANT TO**
3 **REPUBLIC ACT 7586, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL**
4 **INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT OF 1992**
5 **AND PROVIDING FUNDS FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR**
6 **OTHER PURPOSES**

7
8
9 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
10 Philippines in Congress assembled:

11
12 **Article I – Title, Policies and Scope**

13
14 **SECTION 1. Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “ SEVEN LINE
15 REEF PROTECTED SEASCAPE ACT OF 2018.”

16
17 **SEC.2. Statement of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
18 ensure the protection and conservation of the globally significant economic,
19 biological, sociocultural, educational, and scientific values of the Seven Line
20 Reef for the enjoyment of present and future generations. These objectives shall
21 be pursued through sustainable and participatory management, in accordance
22 with Republic Act No. 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas System
23 (NIPAS) Act of 1992 and international conventions to which the Philippines is a
24 signatory.

25
26 **SEC. 3. Declaration.** – Pursuant to the above policy, the NIPAS Act and as
27 provided herein, the Seven Line Reef, which shall cover an approximate area of
28 nine thousand six hundred fifteen (9,615) hectares, including its islets, seabed
29 and airspace, comprising the Malunao Island, Putting Buhangin, Gusong Reef,
30 Kalaparan Reef, Kalayungan Reef, Puntod Sanctuary in the Municipality of

31 Aborlan, and the waters in front of barangays Kamuning and Inagawan, Puerto
32 Princesa City in the Province of Palawan, is hereby declared and established as
33 a protected area under the category of a protected seascape to be known as the
34 Seven Line Reef Protected Seascape.

35
36 Sec. 4. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act, the following terms are
37 hereby defined:

- 38
39 (a) “SLRPS” or “protected area” shall refer to the Seven Line Reef
40 Protected Seascape as established herein;
41 (b) “Genetically Modified Organisms” or GMO means any living organism
42 that possesses a combination of genetic material obtained through the use
43 of modern biotechnology through in vitro nucleic acid techniques,
44 including recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) and direct injection
45 of nucleic acid into cells or organelles, or fusion of cells beyond the
46 taxonomic family, that overcome natural physiological reproductive or
47 recombination barriers that are not techniques used in traditional breeding
48 and selection.
49 (c) “LGUs” shall pertain to local government units within the SLRPS;
50 (d) “PAMB” shall refer to the SLRPS Protected Area Management Board;
51 (e) “PAMO” shall refer to the Protected Area Management Office;
52 (f) “PASO” shall refer to the Protected Area Superintendent Office
53 comprised of the PASu and his/her staff;
54 (g) “PASu” refers to the Protected Area Superintendent;
55 (h) “PSCD” shall refer to the Palawan Council for Sustainable
56 Development as created under Republic Act No. 7611, otherwise known
57 as the “Strategic Environmental Plan for Palawan Act.”
58 (i) “Protected species” shall refer to any plant or animal declared protected
59 under Philippine laws and international conventions, including species
60 listed under the Convention on International Trade of Endangered
61 Species (CITES) and all Annexes, the Bonn Convention on Migratory
62 Species, the Red-list Categories of the World Conservation Union
63 (IUCN), or any plant or animal which the PAMB may deem critical for
64 the conservation and preservation of the BVNP.
65 (j) “Protected Seascape shall refer to areas of national significance which are
66 characterized by the harmonious interaction of man and nature while
67 providing opportunities for public enjoyment through recreation, tourism,
68 and other economic activities.

69
70 Sec.5. Scope. – The Seven Line Reef Protected Seascape (SLRPS) shall
71 cover the Malunao Island, Putting Buhangin, Gusong Reef, Kalaparan
72 Reef, Kalayungan Reef, Puntod Sanctuary in the Municipality of
73 Aborlan, and the waters in front of barangays Kamuning and Inagawan,

Puerto Princesa City in the Province of Palawan including its islets, seabed and airspace, containing an approximate area of nine thousand six hundred fifteen (9,615) hectares subject to ground survey with the following technical description:

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTIONS				
STA	BEARING	DISTANCE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
1	S48-20-52 E	34100.472 M	9 ⁰ 32' 45.383" N	118 ⁰ 39' 13.021" E
2	S41-39-8 W	30000.000 M	9 ⁰ 20' 23.580" N	118 ⁰ 53' 4.428
3	N 48-21-4 W	29999.477 M	9 ⁰ 8' 17.303" N	118 ⁰ 42' 7.589" E
4	N 33-43-43 E	1533.102 M	9 ⁰ 19' 9.490" N	118 ⁰ 29' 56.130" E
5	N71-24-23 E	436.192 M	9 ⁰ 19' 50.876" N	118 ⁰ 30' 24.205" E
6	S48-32-2 E	392.937 M	9 ⁰ 19' 55.346" N	118 ⁰ 30' 37.774" E
7	N 63-16-44 E	421.328 M	9 ⁰ 19' 46.835" N	118 ⁰ 30' 47.387" E
8	N 8-3-32 E	858.748 M	9 ⁰ 19' 52.949" N	118 ⁰ 30' 59.746" E
9	N 41-13-34 E	394.826 M	9 ⁰ 20' 20.609" N	118 ⁰ 31' 3.811" E
10	N 10-27-39 E	789.34 M	9 ⁰ 20' 30.238" N	118 ⁰ 31' 12.381" E
11	N 31-35-56 E	1208.668 M	9 ⁰ 20' 55.485" N	118 ⁰ 31' 12.381" E
12	N 75-13-36 E	946.204 M	9 ⁰ 21' 28.905" N	118 ⁰ 31' 38.089" E
13	S 25-27 13 E	470.339 M	9 ⁰ 21' 36.629" N	118 ⁰ 32' 8.109" E
14	N 55-24-44 E	260.831 M	9 ⁰ 21' 22.777" N	118 ⁰ 32' 14.673" E
15	N8-2-20 E	441.779 M	9 ⁰ 21' 27.566" N	118 ⁰ 32' 21.732" E
16	N 44-52-17 W	347.179 M	9 ⁰ 21' 41.795" N	118 ⁰ 32' 23.820" E

17	N11-52-50 E	239.270 M	9 ⁰ 21' 49.839" N	118 ⁰ 32' 15.827" E
18	N 53-55-49 E	303.843 M	9 ⁰ 21' 57.453" N	118 ⁰ 32' 17.475" E
19	S74-50-56 E	234.692 M	9 ⁰ 22' 3.241" N	118 ⁰ 32' 25.550" E
20	N 31-37-31 E	398.305 M	9 ⁰ 22' 1.212" N	118 ⁰ 32' 32.966" E

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTIONS

STA	BEARING	DISTANCE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
21	N 21-40-4 W	231.793 M	9 ⁰ 22' 12.222" N	118 ⁰ 32' 39.860" E
22	S 61-37-18 W	272.713 M	9 ⁰ 22' 19.246" N	118 ⁰ 32' 37.086" E
23	N 80-51-50 W	384.767 M	9 ⁰ 22' 15.061" N	118 ⁰ 32' 29.203" E
24	S 43-45-23 W	213.499 M	9 ⁰ 22' 17.104" N	118 ⁰ 32' 16.761" E
25	N 33-20-14 W	221.046 M	9 ⁰ 22' 12.105" N	118 ⁰ 32' 11.899" E
26	N 2-48-13 M	1399.962 M	9 ⁰ 22' 18.134" N	118 ⁰ 32' 7.944" E
27	N-19-36-14 E	843.802 M	9 ⁰ 23' 3.638" N	118 ⁰ 32' 10.389" E
28	N 37-51-48 E	1452.583 M	9 ⁰ 23' 29.471" N	118 ⁰ 32' 19.783" E
29	N 24-57-48 E	1264.635 M	9 ⁰ 24' 6.671" N	118 ⁰ 32' 49.171" E
30	N 45-21-47 E	579.175 M	9 ⁰ 24' 43.912" N	118 ⁰ 33' 6.832" E
31	N 79-18-35 E	636.439 M	9 ⁰ 24' 57.098" N	118 ⁰ 33' 20.400" E
32	N 25-49-53 E	438.257 M	9 ⁰ 25' 0.850" N	118 ⁰ 33' 40.917" E
33	N39-56-4 W	353.010 M	9 ⁰ 25' 13.662" N	118 ⁰ 33' 47.234" E
34	N 21-40-55 E	464.246 M	9 ⁰ 25' 22.506" N	118 ⁰ 33' 39.846" E
35	N 45-44-9 E	874.866 M	9 ⁰ 25' 36.522" N	118 ⁰ 33' 45.531" E
36	N 24-10-28 E	1006.789 M	9 ⁰ 25' 56.307"	118 ⁰ 34' 6.158"

			N	E
37	N 50-58-43 E	734.968 M	9 ⁰ 26' 26.143" N	118 ⁰ 34' 19.809" E
38	N85-29-58 E	480.561 M	9 ⁰ 26' 41.121" N	118 ⁰ 34' 38.596" E
39	S 43-49-22 E	503.324 M	9 ⁰ 26' 42.278" N	118 ⁰ 34' 54.306" E
40	N 61-5-47 E	281.631 M	9 ⁰ 26' 30.406" N	118 ⁰ 35' 5.677" E

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTIONS

STA	BEARING	DISTANCE	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
41	N 21-51-27 E	411.676 M	9 ⁰ 26' 34.801" N	118 ⁰ 35' 5.677" E
42	N 48-36-58 W	474.257 M	9 ⁰ 26' 47.214" N	118 ⁰ 35' 18.861" E
43	N 0-6-8 E	794.631 M	9 ⁰ 26' 57.472" N	118 ⁰ 35' 7.243" E
44	N 56-1-5 E	960.950 M	9 ⁰ 27' 23.336" N	118 ⁰ 35' 7.407" E
45	S 56-17-33 E	310.136 M	9 ⁰ 27' 40.700" N	118 ⁰ 35' 33.610" E
46	N 50-35-47 E	524.986 M	9 ⁰ 27' 35.060" N	118 ⁰ 35' 42.042" E
47	N79-9-55 E	462.783 M	9 ⁰ 27' 45.846" N	118 ⁰ 35' 55.390" E
48	N 19-23-10 E	535.664 M	9 ⁰ 27' 48.610" N	118 ⁰ 36' 10.304" E
49	N 53-31-29 E	259.589 M	9 ⁰ 28' 5.030" N	118 ⁰ 36' 16.210" E
50	N 15-24-57 E	1847.432 M	9 ⁰ 28' 10.021" N	118 ⁰ 36' 23.076" E
51	N 62-42-44 E	498.420 M	9 ⁰ 29' 7.915" N	118 ⁰ 36' 39.446" E
52	S 59-10-10 E	191.755 M	9 ⁰ 29' 15.286" N	118 ⁰ 36' 54.003" E
53	N 69-30-21 E	353.555 M	9 ⁰ 29' 12.062" N	118 ⁰ 36' 59.386" E
54	N 41-46-22 E	471.637 M	9 ⁰ 29' 16.041" N	118 ⁰ 37' 10.263" E
55	N 18-8-45 E	281.133 M	9 ⁰ 29' 27.442" N	118 ⁰ 37' 20.617" E

56	N 20-24-25 W	746.959 M	9 ⁰ 29' 36.124" N	118 ⁰ 37' 23.529" E
57	N 45-36-13 E	276.605 M	9 ⁰ 29' 58.950" N	118 ⁰ 37' 15.097" E
58	N 43-54-22 W	294.976 M	9 ⁰ 30' 5.218" N	118 ⁰ 37' 21.606" E
59	N 24-9-27 E	526.726 M	9 ⁰ 30' 12.167" N	118 ⁰ 37' 14.932" E
60	S 58-26-17 E	169.589 M	9 ⁰ 30' 27.777" N	118 ⁰ 37' 22.073" E
61	N 53-52-13 E	439.300 M	9 ⁰ 30' 24.865" N	118 ⁰ 37' 26.797" E
62	S 57-28-12 E	278.047 M	9 ⁰ 30' 33.242" N	118 ⁰ 37' 38.470" E
63	N 57-45-14 E	238.001 M	9 ⁰ 30' 28.339" N	118 ⁰ 37' 46.133" E
64	S 20-50-56 W	218.558 M	9 ⁰ 30' 32.442" N	118 ⁰ 37' 52.753" E
65	S 72-1-40 E	288.426 M	9 ⁰ 30' 25.806" N	118 ⁰ 37' 50.171" E
66	S 21-24-8 E	288.123 M	9 ⁰ 30' 22.867" N	118 ⁰ 37' 59.152" E
67	N 86-55-40 E	388.328 M	9 ⁰ 30' 14.120" N	118 ⁰ 38' 2.558" E
68	N 13-26-5 E	696.550 M	9 ⁰ 30' 14.738" N	118 ⁰ 38' 15.274" E
69	N 42-26-45 E	660.651 M	9 ⁰ 30' 36.764" N	118 ⁰ 38' 20.685" E
70	N 14-26-38 E	850.815 M	9 ⁰ 30' 52.562" N	118 ⁰ 38' 35.380" E
71	N 3-34-59 W	667.182 M	9 ⁰ 31' 19.347" N	118 ⁰ 38' 42.466" E
72	N 36-13-56 E	803.958 M	9 ⁰ 31' 41.026" N	118 ⁰ 38' 41- 203" E
73	N 36-13-52 E	557.681 M	9 ⁰ 32' 2.060" N	118 ⁰ 38' 56.884" E
74	N 10-1-22 E	897.235 M	9 ⁰ 32' 16.650" N	118 ⁰ 39' 7.762" E

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Article II – Management, Management Plan and Zoning

86 **Sec. 6. Management of the SLRPS.** – The management and
87 administration of the SLRPS shall be vested with the PAMB; provided, that the
88 management zones to be established within the SLRPS shall be consultative and
89 participatory.

90
91 The PAMB shall be responsible for the planning, resource protection and
92 general administration of the SLRPS in accordance with the approved
93 Management Plan.

94
95 **Sec. 7. Management Plan.** There shall be a Management Plan which
96 shall serve as the long-term basic framework for the management of the SLRPS,
97 govern all activities within the SLRPS, and guide the preparation of the annual
98 operations plan and budget. The Management Plan shall be consistent with this
99 Act and the nature of the SLRPS as a protected area under the category of a
100 protected seascape. A Manual containing the Management Plan and other
101 supporting data shall be prepared in accordance with the implementing rules of
102 the NIPAS Act.

103
104 Within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, the PASO in
105 coordination with the local community and various stakeholders, the PCSD, the
106 municipal government of Aborlan, City Government of Puerto Princesa and the
107 Provincial Government of Palawan with the assistance from the Department of
108 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of
109 Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR) shall
110 prepare the Management Plan in accordance with the General Management
111 Planning Strategy as provided in the implementing rules of the NIPAS Act. It
112 shall contain among others, the following:

- 113
114 (a) A period of applicability for ten (10) years subject to review every five
115 (5) years;
116 (b) Key management issues;
117 (c) Goals and objectives of management in support of Section 2 hereof;
118 (d) Zoning in accordance with Section 8 hereof;
119 (e) Management programs to include enforcement laws, habitat and wildlife
120 management, ecotourism, sustainable use, management, infrastructure
121 development and maintenance, fire prevention and pest control;
122 (f) Sustainable and non-destructive livelihood activities;
123 (g) Regulations in furtherance of the preservation and conservation aims of
124 the SLRPS such as allowable activities, resource-use restrictions, among
125 others; and
126 (h) Other relevant conservation matters.

The Management Plan shall be reviewed and approved by the PAMB and submitted to the PCSD and DENR. The Management Plan shall not be revised or modified without prior consultation with the PAMB. It shall be reviewed and updated every (5) years.

Two (2) years prior to the expiration of the current Management Plan, the PASO shall cause the publication of notices for comments and suggestions on the New Management Plan that will succeed the old one in a newspaper of general circulation and the posting thereof in the provincial, municipal/city and barangay halls of the LGUs comprising the SLRPS, and in three (3) other conspicuous areas frequented by the public within the SLRPS. At least two (2) public hearings shall be conducted on the proposed successor plan and shall be made available for public perusal at the PASO.

The Management Plan and all its successor plans shall be prepared in English and Filipino, plainly written and made accessible to the public at the PASO.

Sec. 8.Zoning – Strict Protection Zone and Multi-Use Zone shall be established within the SLRPS giving primary consideration to its protection and conservation. Zoning shall also take into account the tenurial and livelihood concerns of communities to ensure the efficient protection of habitats, fragile ecosystems and unique areas.

The establishment and management of zones must involve the community concerned by undertaking such steps as dialogues, consultations and land and resource-use mapping. Zones shall be demarcated on the ground and indicated on maps with the participation of communities, LGUs, and other stakeholders. Buffer zone shall also be established within the peripheral areas of the SLRPS in accordance with the Management Plan to serve as a social fence where tenurial and sustainable resources-use rights may be granted to qualified groups and individuals.

Article III – Institutional Mechanism, Roles, and Functions

Sec. 9. PAMB – (a) There shall be a Protected Area Management Board which shall serve as the highest policy-making body of the SLRPS. It shall be composed of the following:

- (a) the Regional Executive Director (RED) of Region IV-B of the DENR, to serve as co-chairperson;
- (b) the chairperson of the PCSD or his/her representative, to serve as co-chairperson;
- (c) the members of the House of Representatives who represent the congressional districts of Palawan or their representatives;
- (d) the governor of the Province of Palawan or his/her representative;
- (e) the mayor of the Municipality of Aborlan or his/her representative;
- (f) the mayor of the City of Puerto Princesa or his/her representative;
- (g) the chairperson of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee of the Sangguniang Bayan of Aborlan;
- (h) the chairperson of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Puerto Princesa;
- (i) the district commander of the Coast Guard District of Palawan;
- (j) a representative from the Department of Tourism;
- (k) the Provincial Fishery Officer of the DA – BFAR in Palawan or his/her representative;
- (l) at least two (2) representatives from the academe;
- (m) at least three (3) representatives from PO/NGOs involved in the conservation and management of the SLRPS;

Every member of the PAMB shall serve for a term of five (5) years, renewable for another (5) years; Provided, that he/she remains connected with the office or sector he/she is supposed to represent; Provided further that the LGU representatives must present the necessary endorsement from their respective Sanggunians. Whenever a vacancy occurs during the term of a non-government PAMB member, a new member shall be chosen in the same manner as the original selection process and only for the remaining term.

Sec. 10. Powers and Functions of the PAMB – The PAMB shall decide by majority vote and shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) Issue rules and regulations to control, prohibit and regulate all acts that may be prejudicial to the SLRPS pursuant to the policy declarations herein set forth, including the imposition of fines to a maximum of Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) and issuance of cease and desist orders, whenever justified;
- (b) Possess authority to issue permits and conditions thereto and determine and collect fees for the utilization and enjoyment of the SLRPS and the resources therein; Provided, that the PAMB may delegate to the PASu the authority to issue permits and collect fees for

- 212 temporary access to the SLRPS such as visiting or diving, subject to
213 the limits as may be determined by the PAMB: Provided however that
214 the entry into the SLRPS for emergency reasons shall not be subject to
215 permit and user's fees
- 216 (c) Review, approve and adopt a Management Plan for SLRPS;
- 217 (d) Recommend through the PASu the deputation of individuals or
218 groups for the enforcement of laws, rules, and regulations governing
219 conduct within the SLRPS and its buffer zones and prescribe the
220 necessary qualifications;
- 221 (e) Approve contracts and agreements consistent with the purpose of this
222 Act;
- 223 (f) Accept donations and grants;
- 224 (g) Review and approve proposals for funding, financial and work plans,
225 and exercise accountability over all funds that may accrue to the
226 SLRPS;
- 227 (h) Promulgate rules and regulations on the conduct of its business;
- 228 (i) Monitor and evaluate the performance of all PASO personnel;
- 229 (j) Retain legal counsel to defend cases against the PAMB, the PASO
230 staff and deputized individuals whenever they are used in connection
231 with the performance of their duties and functions under this Act, and
232 to assist in other PAMB legal matters; and
- 233 (k) Initiate and file suits against persons or entities whose business or
234 activities are detrimental to the protected area.
- 235

236 **Sec. 11. Protected Area Superintendent's Office** – There is hereby
237 created a Protected Area Superintendent's Office (PASO) which shall
238 perform the day-to-day management, protection and administration of
239 the SLRPS. It shall be headed by the Protected Area Superintendent
240 (PASu) as its chief operating officer who shall directly be accountable
241 to the PAMB and the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources
242 Officers of the DENR (PENRO-DENR) in Aborlan and Puerto
243 Princesa City. The PASu shall coordinate his/her activities with the
244 CENRO with regard to DENR programs that are related to protected
245 area management.

246

247 The PASO shall be staffed by a sufficient number of personnel
248 with functions and qualifications as provided for by the PAMB. The
249 PASO staff shall preferably be hired from the residents of Aborlan
250 and Puerto Princesa City, unless otherwise not qualified.

251

252 The PASu shall prepare an annual accomplishment report on all
253 activities undertaken in the protected area for PAMB review and
254 submission to the DENR Secretary.

Sec.12. Local Government Units – The LGUs of Aborlan, Puerto Princesa and Palawan shall participate in the management of the SLRPS through their representation in the PAMB and shall have the following functions:

- (a) Apprise their respective constituents, office and sector on activities and programs for the protected area;
- (b) Ensure consistency in the implementation of all activities in the protected area;
- (c) Retain their ordinance making powers over the protected area; Provided, that on matters relating to biodiversity, protection and sustainable development, the ordinances shall be consistent with the Management Plan;
- (d) In the formulation of their development plan, LGUs shall consider the SLRPS Management Plan;
- (e) Assist the PAMB in the implementation of the overall programs, including but not limited to the imposition, collection and utilization of fees, enforcement of policies, rules and regulations and other similar activities;
- (f) Accredite people's organizations, NGOs and other entities and groups involved in activities within the SLRPS; and
- (g) Provide the PAMB with relevant information and data for the effective management of the protected area.

Sec. 13. Role of the DENR and the PCSD. – The DENR and the PCSD shall coordinate closely to ensure the sound management and conservation of the SLRPS, provide technical and financial assistance to the SLRPS as may be needed and appoint representatives to the PAMB.

Article IV – Utilization of Resources

Sec. 14. Utilization of Resources – Except upon prior approval of the PAMB and consistent with the Management Plan, the use of natural resources within the SLRPS shall not be allowed. However, the sustainable use of resources by tenured migrants for their domestic needs or for subsistence shall not be restricted except protected species and whenever highly detrimental to the ecosystem.

298
299 **Article V – Prohibited Acts**
300

301 **Sec. 15. Prohibited Acts** – The following acts are prohibited
302 within the SLRPS with their respective penalties:
303

304 (a) The penalties and qualifications prescribed in Articles 309 and
305 310 of the Revised Penal Code, depending on the value of the
306 resources involved in connection with the prohibited act or a
307 fine of at least triple the value of the said resources, or both
308 shall be imposed upon any person who:
309

310 (1) Collects, takes, destroys, traps, disturbs or otherwise
311 possesses any wild plant, animal or product, including
312 genetic resources, derived from the SLRPS without prior
313 PAMB permit; Provided, that such permit can only be given
314 for scientific purposes and necessary for protected area
315 management;

316 (2) Engages in illegal fishing activities in the SLRPS;
317

318
319 (b) A fine of not less than two hundred thousand pesos
320 (P200,000.00) but not more than one million pesos
321 (P1,000,000.00) or imprisonment for more than one (1) year but
322 not more than six (6) years, or both, shall be imposed upon any
323 person who:
324

325 (1) Uses or possesses motorized equipment, explosives or any
326 noxious substances anywhere within the strict protection
327 zones of the SLRPS as delineated by the PAMB;

328 (2) Discharges, leaves or dumps any waste product or substance
329 deleterious to the SLRPS ecosystem or to any of the flora
330 and fauna therein;

331 (3) Alters, removes, destroys or deface boundaries, marks or
332 signs;

333 (4) Enters the SLRPS without prior PAMB permit for purposes
334 of spelunking and other recreational activities;
335

336 (c) A fine not less than one million pesos (P1,000,000.00 but not
337 more than five million pesos (5,000,000.00) or imprisonment
338 from six (6) years but not more than twelve (12) years or both
339 shall be imposed upon any person who:
340

(1) Introduces exotic species or genetically modified organisms within the SLRPS; and

(d) Administrative fines not less than five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) but not exceeding fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) shall be imposed for the violation of any rules and regulations in the management plan or by the PAMB or agreements reached before the PAMB in the exercise of adjudicative functions; provided, that, if the area requires rehabilitation or restoration as determined by the court, the offender shall be required to restore or compensate for the restoration to the damages that shall accrue to the Protected Area Fund: provided, further, that the court shall order the eviction of the offender and the forfeiture in favour of the government of all species collected or removed including all equipment, devices, and firearms used in connection therewith, and any construction or improvement made thereon by the offender. If the offender is an association or corporation, the President or Manager shall be directly responsible for the Act of his employees and laborers : provided, finally that the DENR may impose administrative fines and penalties consistent with this Act. Valuation of the damage for this Act shall take into account biodiversity and conservation considerations as well as aesthetic and scenic value. Valuation assessed by the DENR, in coordination with other concerned government agencies shall be presumed correct unless otherwise proven by preponderance of evidence.

Any person who shall induce another or conspire to commit any of the illegal acts prohibited in this Act or suffer their workers to commit any of the same shall be liable in the same manner as the one actually performing the act.

All conveyances, vessels, equipment, paraphernalia, implements, gears, tools and similar devices shall be subject to immediate and administrative confiscation, independent of the judicial proceedings by the PASu Office upon apprehension, subject however to due process and substantial evidence requirements. When legal action is however filed in the regular courts, the said conveyances, vessels, equipment, paraphernalia, implements, gears, tools and similar devices, independent of the administrative proceedings, shall not be released until after judgment has been rendered. Proceeds of the sale of all objects

administratively or judicially confiscated pursuant hereto shall accrue to the Protected Area Fund. Procedure of the sale thereof shall be promulgated by the PAMB. However, in no case shall any confiscated or rescued protected animal species be sold or in any manner disposed of but shall be immediately turned over to the PASu Office for release in its natural habitat, subject to existing regulations.

The penalties specified in this Section shall be in addition to the penalties contained in the provisions of Republic Act No. 7611, otherwise known as the "Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan Act;" Republic Act No. 7586, otherwise known as the "National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992;" Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998;" Republic act No. 9147, otherwise known as the "Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act;" Presidential Decree No. 979, otherwise known as the "Marine Pollution Decree of 1976;" and existing forestry laws, and their corresponding rules and regulation not inconsistent hereto.

Conviction for any offense under this Act of a Public Officer or Officer of the law shall carry the accessory penalty of perpetual disqualification from public office.

Article VI – Proceeds and Fees

Sec. 16. Integrated Protected Area Fund – The Integrated Protected Area Fund (IPAF) for SLRPS is hereby established as a special trust fund for the protection, maintenance, administration and management of the SLRPS. One hundred percent (100%) of the IPAF shall be retained by the PAMB and exempted from being deposited in the National Treasury, subject to regular accounting and audit procedures. The IPAF shall be derived from the following sources:

- (a) Fees and charges from facilities and rights directly benefiting from the protected area including rights derived therefrom;
- (b) Fines from violations inside the protected area;
- (c) Proceeds from lease of multiple use or special use areas including tourism concessions;

- 426 (d) Fees from permitted sale of flora, fauna and other forest
427 resources;
428 (e) Entrance fees and rents of facilities in Recreation Zones;
429 (f) Contribution, donations, endowments and grants from any
430 source, and;
431 (g) Other revenues as provided in this Act.
432

433 All donations, grants and endowments shall be exempted from
434 donor's tax, documentary stamp tax and all other taxes, fees, and charges
435 imposed by the government.

436 Current sources of revenue of LGUs such as business permits and
437 real property taxes shall be excluded from IPAF.
438

439 **Sec. 17. Appropriations** – In order to carry out the purposes of
440 this Act, an annual aggregate amount of One Hundred Million Pesos
441 (P100,000,000.00) shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
442 Act and allocated for the use of the SLRPS.
443

444 **Article VII - Miscellaneous Provisions**

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446 **Sec. 18. Separability Clause** – If any part or section of this Act is
447 declared unconstitutional, such declaration shall not affect in any manner
448 other parts or sections hereof.
449

450 **Sec. 19. Repealing Clause** – All laws, proclamations, rules and
451 regulations inconsistent with this Act are repealed or modified
452 accordingly.
453

454 **Sec. 20. Effectivity Clause** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
455 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of
456 general circulation.
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458 Approved,
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