

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **979**



Introduced by **Rep. ANGELO MARCOS BARBA**
2nd District, Ilocos Norte

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Paoay Lake is one of the largest natural lakes in the Province of Ilocos Norte. It is located within the municipality of Paoay. By virtue of Republic Act No. 5631, this freshwater lake and the areas surrounding it was declared a national park. It covers an area of 386 hectares. Paoay Lake is inhabited by phytoplankton, macrophytes and zooplanktons¹, such as copepods, cladocerans and rotifers². Paoay Lake National Park is also a home to common and endangered species, including some migratory birds that need protection and conservation.

In 2011, due to the increasing number of fish cages in the areas surrounding Paoay Lake, the Ilocos Norte Water District collected water samples in five communities—villages of Nanggujudan, Nanggujudan Centro, Sungadan, Suba and Nagbacalan. Test results confirmed the presence of *E. coli*, ranging from 2,840 hpc. (heterotrophic plate count) in one sampling point to 5,780 hpc in another point—way above the normal level of 500 hpc.³ Measures were taken by the provincial government to cleanup Paoay Lake, including the removal of fish cages which caused pollution in the area. While Paoay Lake was declared pollution-free in 2013, the continuous impact of human activities on our natural environment must be recognized.

Hence, this bill.

This bill seeks to declare the Paoay Lake National Park (PLNP) a protected landscape to regulate the utilization of terrestrial and marine resources. It seeks the conservation, protection, and preservation of a national park such as the PLNP in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7586, otherwise known as the “National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992” as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Area System (ENIPAS) Act of 2018.

¹ Paoay Lake. Retrieved on January 2, 2021 from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paoay_Lake

² Aquino, M.R.Y et. al (2008) Zooplankton composition and diversity in Paoay Lake, Luzon Is., Philippines Retrieved on January 4, 2021 from <https://agris.fao.org/agris-search/search.do?recordID=PH2009001083>

³ Arzadon, C. (13 February 2013). Legendary Paoay Lake comes alive. Retrieved on January 4, 2021 from <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/357651/legendary-paoay-lake-comes-alive>

The measure will ensure the use and enjoyment of this area is consistent with the principles of biological diversity and sustainable development. The creation of a Protected Area Management Board is likewise proposed in order to carry out and properly implement the proposed Act.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angelo Marcos Barba', with a stylized, flowing script.

ANGELO MARCOS BARBA

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Introduced by **Rep. ANGELO MARCOS BARBA**
2nd District, Ilocos Norte

AN ACT
DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
PAOAY IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, A PROTECTED AREA
WITH THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE UNDER THE
NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREA SYSTEM, TO BE
REFERRED TO AS THE PAOAY LAKE PROTECTED LANDSCAPE,
PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

Section 1. *Short Title.* – This act shall be known as the “*Paoay Lake Protected Landscape Act*”.

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – Cognizant of the profound impact of human activity on all components of the natural environment, it is the policy of the State to secure for the Filipino people of present and future generations, the perpetual existence of all native plants and animals through the declaration of protected areas under the National Integrated Protected Areas Systems (NIPAS) within the classification of national park as provided for in the Constitution.

In recognition of the richness of the biological resources, both flora and fauna, that are native and distinct to Paoay Lake, as well as their aesthetic and ecological importance, a parcel of land located in Barangays Nanguyudan, Nagbacalan, Suba and Sungadan in the Municipality of Paoay, Province of Ilocos Norte, is hereby declared a protected area under the category of protected landscape, and shall hereinafter be referred to as the Paoay Lake Protected Landscape (PLPL). As such, the State shall ensure the conservation, protection, management and rehabilitation of the area. It is likewise recognized that effective administration of this area is

possible only through cooperation among national government, local government units (LGUs), concerned nongovernment organizations (NGOs), private entities and local communities. The use and enjoyment of this area must be consistent with the principles of biological diversity and sustainable development.

Towards this end, the State shall ensure the full implementation of this Act, the mobilization of resources for the institutional mechanisms herein established, and the full scientific and technical support needed for the conservation of biodiversity and the integrity of the ecosystems, and cultural and indigenous practices.

Section 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

- a. *Buffer zones* refer to identified areas outside the boundaries of and immediately adjacent to designated protected areas that need special development control in order to avoid or minimize harm to the protected area;
- b. *Conservation* refers to any act of acts of preservation and sustainable utilization of wildlife or maintenance, restoration and enhancement of habitats;
- c. *Indigenous cultural communities/Indigenous peoples* refer to groups of people sharing common bonds and language, customs, traditions, and other distinctive cultural traits, and who have, since time immemorial occupied, possessed and utilized a territory;
- d. *National park* refers to land of public domain classified as such in the Constitution which includes all areas under the NIPAS, primarily designated for the conservation of native plants and animals, their associated habitats and cultural diversity;
- e. *Protected area* refers to an identified portion of land and water set aside by reason of unique physical and biological significance, managed to enhance biological diversity and protected against destructive human exploitation;
- f. *Protected landscape* refers to an area of national significance which is characterized by the harmonious interaction of human and land and water

while providing opportunities for enjoyment through recreation, tourism, and other economic activities;

- g. *Tenured migrants* refer to protected area occupants who are presently occupying, and have been actually and continuously occupying, a portion of the protected area for five (5) years before the same was established by proclamation or law as a protected area, and are solely dependent therein for submission.

Section 4. Classification as a National Park. The PLPL is comprised of a parcel of land of the public domain located in the Municipality of Paoay, in the Province of Ilocos Norte. All lands of the public domain within the coverage and scope of the PLPL shall fall under the classification of national park as provided for in Article XII, Section of the Constitution.

Section 5. Scope and Coverage. – The boundaries of the PLPL are more particularly described as the area beginning at a point marked “1” on the Map, being N 42° 59’ 14” W, 390.62 meters from PRS92 Control Monument “ILN-3040” with a geographic coordinates of 18° 6’ 59.771 latitude and 120° 33’ 12.468” longitude located at Nanguyudan, Paoay, Ilocos Norte,

thence	S 88° 14’ 49” W	4.68	meters to corner	2;
thence	N 0° 40’ 30” W	49.29	meters to corner	3;
thence	N 67° 18’ 54” W	94.77	meters to corner	4;
thence	S 24° 25’ 20” W	106.83	meters to corner	5;
thence	N 66° 34’ 17” W	20.76	meters to corner	6;
thence	S 30° 12’ 29” W	126.63	meters to corner	7;
thence	S 83° 27’ 57” E	111.84	meters to corner	8;
thence	S 73° 50’ 14” E	26.52	meters to corner	9;
thence	S 9° 16’ 8” E	38.76	meters to corner	10;
thence	S 64° 1’ 44” E	26.95	meters to corner	11;
thence	N 47° 5’ 51” E	61.00	meters to corner	12;
thence	S 36° 56’ 4” E	65.11	meters to corner	13;
thence	S 2° 11’ 54” W	58.13	meters to corner	14;
thence	S 36° 19’ 29” E	29.13	meters to corner	15;
thence	S 14° 16’ 21” W	14.15	meters to corner	16;
thence	S 75° 45’ 21” W	74.54	meters to corner	17;
thence	S 31° 22’ 32” E	27.82	meters to corner	18;
thence	S 57° 25’ 23” W	74.81	meters to corner	19;
thence	N 76° 22’ 12” W	85.55	meters to corner	20;
thence	N 34° 4’ 22” W	91.46	meters to corner	21;
thence	N 62° 30’ 36” W	54.85	meters to corner	22;

thence	S 65° 45' 56" W	67.78	meters to corner	23;
thence	N 75° 0' 40" W	53.24	meters to corner	24;
thence	N 31° 7' 17" W	16.83	meters to corner	25;
thence	N 8° 56' 30" E	103.52	meters to corner	26;
thence	N 82° 58' 21" W	8.83	meters to corner	27;
thence	S 10° 38' 54" W	211.77	meters to corner	28;
thence	S 8° 54' 25" E	84.36	meters to corner	29;
thence	S 31° 54' 23" E	70.43	meters to corner	30;
thence	S 15° 3' 42" W	52.78	meters to corner	31;
thence	S 23° 23' 6" W	68.26	meters to corner	32;
thence	S 20° 55' 16" E	14.04	meters to corner	33;
thence	S 66° 57' 13" E	31.62	meters to corner	34;
thence	S 15° 23' 36" E	53.30	meters to corner	35;
thence	S 20° 30' 56" W	28.02	meters to corner	36;
thence	S 74° 48' 32" W	26.50	meters to corner	37;
thence	S 73° 44' 36" W	107.07	meters to corner	38;
thence	S 56° 47' 36" W	55.66	meters to corner	39;
thence	S 16° 49' 8" W	31.66	meters to corner	40;
thence	S 37° 35' 12" E	49.64	meters to corner	41;
thence	S 9° 5' 0" E	32.81	meters to corner	42;
thence	S 26° 38' 41" W	32.18	meters to corner	43;
thence	S 67° 52' 18" W	24.74	meters to corner	44;
thence	S 39° 58' 57" W	34.98	meters to corner	45;
thence	S 23° 33' 47" W	83.87	meters to corner	46;
thence	S 46° 14' 29" W	116.07	meters to corner	47;
thence	N 58° 37' 11" W	42.46	meters to corner	48;
thence	N 37° 20' 50" W	69.40	meters to corner	49;
thence	N 14° 33' 0" W	13.26	meters to corner	50;
thence	N 53° 0' 4" W	31.95	meters to corner	51;
thence	N 25° 51' 49" W	43.83	meters to corner	52;
thence	N 12° 23' 59" E	101.70	meters to corner	53;
thence	S 71° 44' 28" E	49.58	meters to corner	54;
thence	N 17° 31' 41" E	79.80	meters to corner	55;
thence	N 6° 57' 47" E	43.72	meters to corner	56;
thence	N 29° 5' 34" E	50.24	meters to corner	57;
thence	N 24° 23' 37" E	83.39	meters to corner	58;
thence	N 17° 45' 52" E	54.05	meters to corner	59;
thence	N 14° 56' 11" W	27.60	meters to corner	60;
thence	N 80° 12' 10" W	82.49	meters to corner	61;
thence	N 22° 35' 17" W	23.67	meters to corner	62;
thence	N 76° 22' 12" W	106.64	meters to corner	63;
thence	S 85° 54' 42" W	69.42	meters to corner	64;
thence	S 63° 26' 19" W	56.90	meters to corner	65;
thence	S 70° 58' 35" W	56.33	meters to corner	66;
thence	S 58° 51' 2" W	47.67	meters to corner	67;
thence	N 74° 0' 34" W	57.46	meters to corner	68;
thence	N 49° 53' 41" W	63.41	meters to corner	69;
thence	N 15° 14' 57" W	28.13	meters to corner	70;
thence	N 23° 35' 59" W	51.18	meters to corner	71;
thence	N 10° 14' 50" W	66.51	meters to corner	72;
thence	N 21° 0' 41" W	61.94	meters to corner	73;

thence	N 11° 19' 45" W	88.47	meters to corner	74;
thence	N 47° 49' 0" W	160.68	meters to corner	75;
thence	N 39° 34' 59" E	26.00	meters to corner	76;
thence	N 53° 37' 7" W	122.27	meters to corner	77;
thence	S 82° 17' 56" W	68.34	meters to corner	78;
thence	S 52° 12' 0" W	38.03	meters to corner	79;
thence	S 33° 38' 3" W	38.89	meters to corner	80;
thence	S 1° 31' 50" E	44.54	meters to corner	81;
thence	S 7° 18' 52" W	32.35	meters to corner	82;
thence	S 27° 19' 29" W	55.31	meters to corner	83;
thence	S 52° 1' 33" W	46.31	meters to corner	84;
thence	S 47° 46' 11" W	31.60	meters to corner	85;
thence	S 35° 39' 57" W	89.37	meters to corner	86;
thence	S 39° 14' 50" W	88.92	meters to corner	87;
thence	S 38° 43' 37" W	126.67	meters to corner	88;
thence	S 77° 41' 45" E	50.89	meters to corner	89;
thence	S 55° 9' 58" E	27.36	meters to corner	90;
thence	N 89° 33' 48" E	9.19	meters to corner	91;
thence	S 21° 30' 39" E	94.57	meters to corner	92;
thence	S 4° 20' 49" W	163.08	meters to corner	93;
thence	S 23° 21' 58" W	198.99	meters to corner	94;
thence	S 29° 38' 18" W	176.56	meters to corner	95;
thence	S 15° 44' 19" W	131.94	meters to corner	96;
thence	S 26° 15' 12" E	18.90	meters to corner	97;
thence	S 80° 5' 33" E	95.49	meters to corner	98;
thence	S 7° 1' 50" W	63.64	meters to corner	99;
thence	S 15° 52' 4" W	17.96	meters to corner	100;
thence	S 27° 12' 42" W	40.37	meters to corner	101;
thence	N 89° 12' 27" W	171.38	meters to corner	102;
thence	N 50° 42' 38" W	28.88	meters to corner	103;
thence	N 37° 43' 36" W	54.81	meters to corner	104;
thence	N 7° 13' 33" W	50.02	meters to corner	105;
thence	N 9° 44' 2" W	48.70	meters to corner	106;
thence	N 9° 44' 5" W	38.00	meters to corner	107;
thence	N 23° 30' 3" W	23.67	meters to corner	108;
thence	N 39° 47' 13" W	70.66	meters to corner	109;
thence	N 14° 1' 21" W	40.24	meters to corner	110;
thence	N 18° 55' 9" E	46.44	meters to corner	111;
thence	N 38° 15' 39" E	36.58	meters to corner	112;
thence	N 12° 49' 0" E	27.00	meters to corner	113;
thence	N 17° 54' 1" W	40.32	meters to corner	114;
thence	N 21° 1' 59" W	162.83	meters to corner	115;
thence	N 30° 47' 48" W	171.36	meters to corner	116;
thence	N 28° 50' 17" W	108.83	meters to corner	117;
thence	N 37° 34' 59" W	81.63	meters to corner	118;
thence	N 20° 38' 53" W	160.87	meters to corner	119;
thence	N 19° 43' 40" W	64.62	meters to corner	120;
thence	N 72° 40' 27" W	148.73	meters to corner	121;
thence	N 70° 24' 30" W	100.68	meters to corner	122;
thence	N 20° 30' 12" E	16.24	meters to corner	123;
thence	N 36° 59' 8" E	30.73	meters to corner	124;

thence	N 19° 8' 47" E	4.33	meters to corner	125;
thence	N 68° 35' 43" W	29.78	meters to corner	126;
thence	S 17° 42' 38" W	7.00	meters to corner	127;
thence	N 71° 2' 24" W	8.62	meters to corner	128;
thence	S 21° 22' 17" W	38.49	meters to corner	129;
thence	N 27° 58' 10" W	20.85	meters to corner	130;
thence	N 9° 9' 32" W	55.06	meters to corner	131;
thence	N 7° 12' 22" W	50.24	meters to corner	132;
thence	N 26° 57' 20" E	38.19	meters to corner	133;
thence	N 82° 17' 14" E	110.50	meters to corner	134;
thence	N 34° 23' 5" W	40.50	meters to corner	135;
thence	S 87° 19' 21" W	64.50	meters to corner	136;
thence	S 59° 43' 21" W	15.47	meters to corner	137;
thence	N 9° 26' 18" W	54.34	meters to corner	138;
thence	N 12° 57' 51" E	30.98	meters to corner	139;
thence	N 38° 12' 2" E	40.91	meters to corner	140;
thence	N 41° 53' 45" E	41.92	meters to corner	141;
thence	N 55° 45' 49" E	19.20	meters to corner	142;
thence	N 26° 58' 36" E	38.60	meters to corner	143;
thence	N 34° 53' 15" E	49.90	meters to corner	144;
thence	N 44° 51' 28" E	62.78	meters to corner	145;
thence	N 64° 39' 45" E	73.89	meters to corner	146;
thence	N 23° 3' 43" E	76.05	meters to corner	147;
thence	N 27° 0' 51" E	264.65	meters to corner	148;
thence	N 42° 35' 47" E	115.26	meters to corner	149;
thence	N 37° 54' 56" E	113.14	meters to corner	150;
thence	N 26° 49' 10" E	116.17	meters to corner	151;
thence	N 26° 26' 28" E	119.42	meters to corner	152;
thence	N 34° 42' 7" E	90.25	meters to corner	153;
thence	N 26° 16' 13" E	70.80	meters to corner	154;
thence	N 25° 8' 42" E	60.62	meters to corner	155;
thence	N 14° 33' 32" E	96.51	meters to corner	156;
thence	N 42° 59' 53" E	122.86	meters to corner	157;
thence	S 71° 8' 23" E	77.16	meters to corner	158;
thence	S 75° 12' 52" E	97.78	meters to corner	159;
thence	S 57° 23' 17" E	100.23	meters to corner	160;
thence	S 66° 55' 56" E	84.09	meters to corner	161;
thence	N 85° 39' 48" E	27.46	meters to corner	162;
thence	S 3° 34' 23" W	51.22	meters to corner	163;
thence	S 72° 42' 50" E	36.28	meters to corner	164;
thence	S 22° 40' 0" E	47.03	meters to corner	165;
thence	S 52° 44' 4" E	46.99	meters to corner	166;
thence	S 12° 53' 56" E	138.28	meters to corner	167;
thence	S 23° 52' 30" E	61.16	meters to corner	168;
thence	S 12° 18' 18" W	81.08	meters to corner	169;
thence	S 4° 41' 38" W	74.86	meters to corner	170;
thence	S 25° 59' 25" E	99.17	meters to corner	171;
thence	S 39° 5' 8" E	91.88	meters to corner	172;
thence	S 33° 19' 25" E	52.41	meters to corner	173;
thence	N 86° 30' 49" E	151.63	meters to corner	174;
thence	N 41° 7' 4" E	129.92	meters to corner	175;

thence	N 23° 58' 49" E	76.21	meters to corner	176;
thence	N 21° 40' 16" E	122.01	meters to corner	177;
thence	N 44° 45' 12" E	88.71	meters to corner	178;
thence	N 83° 44' 24" E	40.99	meters to corner	179;
thence	N 6° 54' 52" W	79.66	meters to corner	180;
thence	N 27° 21' 36" E	68.32	meters to corner	181;
thence	N 17° 16' 4" E	34.16	meters to corner	182;
thence	N 20° 40' 54" W	36.58	meters to corner	183;
thence	N 4° 37' 36" E	55.04	meters to corner	184;
thence	N 41° 34' 48" W	26.81	meters to corner	185;
thence	N 5° 21' 4" W	45.90	meters to corner	186;
thence	N 4° 25' 16" E	61.97	meters to corner	187;
thence	N 23° 11' 54" E	24.18	meters to corner	188;
thence	N 76° 15' 3" E	44.80	meters to corner	189;
thence	S 32° 9' 53" E	66.62	meters to corner	190;
thence	S 34° 36' 14" W	23.82	meters to corner	191;
thence	S 18° 1' 59" E	49.13	meters to corner	192;
thence	S 76° 59' 48" E	93.91	meters to corner	193;
thence	N 56° 33' 19" E	36.77	meters to corner	194;
thence	S 42° 47' 2" E	68.67	meters to corner	195;
thence	N 50° 21' 20" E	38.26	meters to corner	196;
thence	S 47° 56' 47" E	56.40	meters to corner	197;
thence	N 27° 16' 0" E"	42.30	meters to corner	198;
thence	S 72° 5' 51" E	27.25	meters to corner	199;
thence	N 48° 11' 58" E	8.59	meters to corner	200;
thence	S 44° 59' 13" E	52.78	meters to corner	201;
thence	S 59° 28' 13" E	46.00	meters to corner	202;
thence	N 74° 6' 46" E	22.89	meters to corner	203;
thence	N 23° 53' 11" E	23.36	meters to corner	204;
thence	S 68° 56' 51" E	76.29	meters to corner	205;
	S 44° 27' 24"			
thence	W	19.40	meters to corner	206;
thence	S 22° 27' 6" W	38.28	meters to corner	207;
	S 28° 38' 44"			
thence	W	113.58	meters to corner	208;
	S 71° 16' 36"			
thence	W	357.54	meters to corner	209;
	S 23° 49' 20"			
thence	W	223.37	meters to corner	210;
thence	S 47° 38' 1" W	43.70	meters to corner	211;
	S 25° 16' 19"			
thence	W	107.61	meters to corner	212;
thence	S 7° 57' 57" E	121.73	meters to corner	213;
thence	S 23° 3' 11" E	229.02	meters to corner	214;
thence	N 80° 29' 48" E	64.32	meters to corner	215;
thence	S 63° 54' 28" E	141.44	meters to corner	216;
thence	N 0° 21' 13" E	104.04	meters to corner	217;
thence	S 68° 6' 31" E	29.96	meters to corner	218;
thence	N 5° 44' 45" E	139.40	meters to corner	219;
thence	N 82° 0' 0 E"	109.89	meters to corner	220;
thence	S 13° 28' 11" W	121.38	meters to corner	221;
thence	S 37° 19' 54" E	22.82	meters to corner	222;

thence	N 84° 36' 39" E	27.95	meters to corner	223;
thence	N 42° 47' 57" E	117.29	meters to corner	224;
thence	N 47° 38' 29" E	71.81	meters to corner	225;
thence	N 45° 32' 37" E	115.53	meters to corner	226;
thence	S 55° 20' 54" E	58.54	meters to corner	227;
thence	S 38° 35' 7" W	130.53	meters to corner	228;
thence	S 48° 18' 29" W	78.79	meters to corner	229;
thence	S 21° 34' 55" E	67.67	meters to corner	230;
thence	S 61° 12' 5" E	43.13	meters to corner	231;
thence	S 41° 36' 51" E	91.17	meters to corner	232;
thence	N 35° 48' 33" E	103.03	meters to corner	233;
thence	S 65° 50' 11" E	138.89	meters to corner	234;
thence	S 46° 23' 50" E	58.00	meters to corner	235;
thence	S 28° 6' 47" W	82.76	meters to corner	236;
thence	S 4° 36' 38" W	62.20	meters to corner	1;

Section 6. *Establishment of Buffer Zones.* – The Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), upon the recommendation of the Protected Area Management Board created under Section 7 of this Act, may designate areas surrounding the PLPL as buffer zones for the purpose of providing an extra layer of protection where restrictions may be applied: *Provided, That in cases where the designated buffer zone would cover private lands, the owners thereof shall be required to design their development with due consideration to the protected area management plan.*

ARTICLE II MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS

Section 7. *Protected Area Management Board.* – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, a Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) shall be created to oversee the management of the PLPL. The PAMB shall be composed of the following:

- a. DENR Regional Executive Director of Region 1, as the Chairperson;
- b. Governor of the Province of Ilocos Norte or a duly authorized representative;
- c. Senators of the Republic of the Philippines who are duly registered residents of the Province of Ilocos Norte, or their duly designated representatives, unless the Senators decline the membership in the PAMB;

- d. District Representative of the Congressional District where the PLPL is located, or a duly designated representative, unless the District Representative declines the membership in the PAMB'
- e. Mayor of the Municipality of Paoay, in the Province of Ilocos Norte or a duly authorized representative;
- f. Chairperson of all *barangays* with territorial jurisdiction over the PLPL;
- g. Regional Directors of the following agencies, namely: Department of Agriculture, National Economic and Development Authority, Department of Science and Technology, Philippine National Police, Department of National Defense, and Department of Tourism;
- h. Three (3) representatives from either the NGOs or People's Organizations (POs) based in the Province of Ilocos Norte, duly accredited both by the DENR and the provincial government. The NGOs or Pos represented should have been in existence for at least five (5) years and with track record in or related to protected area management;
- i. At least one (1) but not more than three (3) representatives from all the indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples present in the area and recognized by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples;
- j. One (1) representative from the academic institution, preferably from a university or college in the Province of Ilocos Norte, with proven track record in or related to the protected area management; and
- k. One (1) representative from the private sector, preferably a resident of the Province of Ilocos Norte, who is distinguished in a profession or field interest relevant to the management or protected area.

The terms of office of members of the PAMB, as well as the grounds for their removal shall be in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7586, otherwise known as the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992" as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the "Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018".

Section 8. Functions of the PAMB. – The PAMB shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Oversee the management of PLPL;

- b. Approve policies, plans and programs, proposals, agreements, and other related documents for the management of PLPL;
- c. Approve the management plan of the PLPL and ensure its harmonization with and integration into the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan, land use plan and other development plans, public or private, and their implementation;
- d. Adopt a manual of operations to include rules of procedures in the conduct of business, and creation of communities and their respective terms of reference;
- e. Recommend the deputation of appropriate agencies and individuals for the enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations governing the management of the PLPL;
- f. Allocate financial resources for the implementation of the management plan and manage the Protected Area Retention Income Account and other funds in accordance with government accounting, budgeting, and auditing rules and regulations;
- g. Set fees and charges in accordance with existing guidelines;
- h. Issue rules and regulations for the resolution of conflicts through appropriate and effective means;
- i. Recommend appropriate policy changes to the DENR and other government authorities with respect to the management of PLPL;
- j. Monitor and assess the performance of the Protected Area Superintendent and other protected area personnel and compliance of partners with the terms and conditions of any undertaking, contract of agreement relative to any project or activity within the PLPL;
- k. Recommend from among a shortlist of qualified candidates, the designation or appointment of the Protected Area Superintendent; and
- l. Assess the effectiveness of the management of the protected area: *Provided, That* the members of the PAMB representing the LGUs and national agencies shall inform their respective constituents, offices or sectors, of PAMB-approved or other relevant policies, rules, regulations, programs, and projects and shall ensure that the provisions of this Act and the rules and regulations issued to implement it are complied with and used as reference and framework in their respective plans, policies,

programs, and projects. Failure to comply with the foregoing shall be the basis for disciplinary action against such member according to administrative rules and regulations and such penalties as the PAMB may provide: *Provided, further*, That the DENR, through the Regional Director, shall ensure that the PAMB acts within the scope of its powers and functions. In case of conflict between the resolutions issued by the PAMB and the existing administrative orders of national application, the latter shall prevail.

Section 9. *The Protected Area Management Office.* – There is hereby established a Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) to be headed by a Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) who shall supervise the day to day management, protection, and administration of the PLPL. The PASu shall hold a permanent plantilla position and shall be appointed by the DENR Secretary. A sufficient number of support staff with permanent plantilla position shall be appointed by the DENR to assist the PASu in the management of the protected area.

The PASu shall be primarily accountable to the PAMB and the DENR for the management and operations of the PLPL. Pursuant thereto, the PASu shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Prepare the management plan, in consultation with the stakeholders, including the annual work and financial plan and ensure its implementation;
- b. Ensure the integration of relevant national and LGU plans and programs into MPL management plans, programs, projects, and policies;
- c. Provide secretariat services to the PAMB and its committees and ensure the availability of relevant timely information for decision-making;
- d. Formulate and recommend to the PAMB proposed policies, rules, regulations, and programs;
- e. Establish, operate, and maintain a database management system which shall be an important basis for decision-making;
- f. Enforce laws, rules and regulations relevant to the PLPL, commence and institute administrative and legal actions in collaboration with other government agencies or organizations, and assist in the prosecution of offenses committed in violation of the provisions of this Act;

- g. Monitor, evaluate, and report the implementation of management activities of the PLPL;
- h. Request for and receive any technical assistance, support or advice from any agency or instrumentality of the government as well as academic institutions, NGOs, and the private sector, as may be necessary for the effective management, protection and administration of the PLPL;
- i. Issue permits and clearances for activities that implement the management plan and other permitted activities in accordance with terms, conditions, and criteria established by the PAMB: *Provided*, That all permits for extraction of natural resources for research purposes, including the collection of wildlife and its by-products or derivatives, shall specify the acts to be authorized, and shall continue to be issued by relevant authorities, subject to prior clearance from the PAMB, through the PASu;
- j. Collect and receive pertinent fees, charges, donations, and other income collected and received shall be reported regularly to the PAMB and the DENR in accordance with existing guidelines;
- k. Prepare and recommend to the PAMB, approval of the annual work and financial plans of the PLPL based on the management plan; and
- l. Perform such other functions as the PAMB and the DENR may assign.

The PAMO may be augmented by the deputized local environment and natural resources officers upon the recommendation of the PAMB and approval of the DENR.

ARTICLE III

PROCEEDS AND FEES

Section 10. *The Paoay Lake Protected Landscape Integrated Protected Area Fund.* – There is hereby established a trust fund to be known as the Paoay Lake Protected Landscape Integrated Protected Area Fund (PLPL-IPAF) for purposes of financing projects of the PLPL and NIPAS. All income generated from the operation and management of wild flora and fauna in the PLPL shall accrue to PLPL-IPAF. The income shall be derived from fees from permitted sale and export of flora and fauna

and other resources from the PLPL, proceeds from the lease of multiple-use areas, contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting from the PLPL, and such other fees and income derived from the operation of the PLPL.

The PAMB shall retain seventy-five percent (75%) of all revenues raised through the above means, which shall be deposited in the Protected Area-Retained Income Account (PA-RIA) in any authorized government depository bank within the locality: *Provided*, That disbursements out of such deposits shall be used solely for the protection, maintenance, administration, and management of the PLPL and implementation of duly approved projects of the PAMB. The remaining twenty-five percent (25%) of revenues shall be deposited as a special account in the General Fund of the National Treasury for purposes of financing the projects of the NIPAS.

The fund may be augmented by grants, donations, and endowments from various sources, domestic or foreign: *Provided*, That the fund shall be deposited in full as a special account in the National Treasury and disbursements therefrom shall be made solely for the protection, maintenance, administration and management of the NIPAS and duly approved projects endorsed by the PAMB in accordance with existing accounting, budgeting and auditing rules and regulations: *Provided, further*, That the fund shall not be used to cover personal services expenditures.

The LGUs shall continue to impose and collect all other fees not enumerated herein which they have traditionally collected, such as business permits, property tax and rentals of LGUs' facilities.

ARTICLE IV

TRANSITORY AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Section 11. Appropriations. – The Secretary of the DENR shall immediately include in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 12. Suppletory Application of the NIPAS Law. – The provisions of Republic Act No. 7586, as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, shall have suppletory applications to this Act.

Section 13. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DENR shall, in consultation with

the local governments of the Municipality of Paoay, the provincial government of Ilocos Norte, and concerned national government agencies, issue rules and regulations of the effective implementation of this Act.

Section 14. *Separability Clause.* – If any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining sections or provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 15. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, issuance or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 16. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,