

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 5276

Introduced by **REP. BERNADETTE "DETTE" G. ESCUDERO**

AN ACT
DECLARING PORTIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF JUBAN, BULAN AND
MAGALLANES LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF SORSOGON, AS A
PROTECTED AREA, WITH THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL BIOTIC AREA
UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM, TO BE
REFERRED TO AS THE MOUNT BINTACAN NATURAL BIOTIC AREA,
PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution declares that "[t]he State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature". Furthermore, Article XII, Section 2 of the same provides that all natural resources are owned by the State, which is mandated to ensure their exploration, development, and utilization in a manner that safeguards the environment and benefits present and future generations.

Through the years, Juban-Magallanes Watershed Forest Reserve (JMWFR) continues to face significant threats from human activities like illegal logging, poaching, and overexploitation of natural resources. These activities have led to environmental degradation, including landslides, soil erosion, and flash floods, among others. To protect the remaining resources and ensure the long-term sustainability of the area, the local communities of Sorsogon support pushing this legislation as a protected area in consonance with the aforementioned constitutional mandate to safeguard a healthful and balanced ecology and strengthen environmental protection and sustainable resource management by law.

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


HON. BERNADETTE "DETTE" G. ESCUDERO
Representative
1st District, Sorsogon

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BINTACAN NATURAL BIOTIC AREA, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Mount Bintacan Natural
2 Biotic Area Act".

3 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** The State hereby declares the Juban-Magallanes
4 Watershed Forest Reserve by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 108 dated November
5 23, 1992, as a Protected Area, with the category of Natural Biotic Area under the National
6 Integrated Protected Area System, to be referred to as the Mount Bintacan Natural Biotic
7 Area, providing for its management, and appropriating funds therefor.

8 **Sec. 3. Scope and Coverage.** The boundaries of the Mount Bintacan Natural
9 Biotic Area, formerly proclaimed as the Juban-Magallanes Watershed Forest Reserve,
10 which is categorized as a Watershed Forest Reserve within the Municipalities of Juban,
11 Magallanes, and Bulan, Province of Sorsogon, are as follows:

1	Corner	Easting	Northing
2	1	600015.6798	1414804.3835
3	2	600164.6788	1414766.3792
4	3	600320.6788	1414759.3746
5	4	600210.6821	1414877.3779
6	5	600162.6869	1415043.3795
7	6	600006.6841	1414953.3839
8	7	600006.6908	1415182.3841
9	8	599954.6965	1415379.3858
10	9	600127.6982	1415435.3809
11	10	600141.6951	1415327.3803
12	11	600401.6960	1415348.3728
13	12	600720.6915	1415185.3634
14	13	600730.6965	1415355.3633
15	14	600547.6992	1415456.3687
16	15	600613.7042	1415625.3669
17	16	600373.7044	1415639.3739
18	17	600361.7088	1415792.3744
19	18	600389.7140	1415969.3737
20	19	600652.7155	1416014.3661
21	20	600732.7211	1416204.3640

1	21	600562.7278	1416437.3691
2	22	600448.7325	1416603.3726
3	23	600533.7389	1416821.3703
4	24	600824.7249	1416329.3614
5	25	601067.7214	1416204.3543
6	26	601268.7216	1416204.3484
7	27	601393.7155	1415989.3446
8	28	601573.7122	1415868.3393
9	29	601656.7054	1415632.3366
10	30	601795.7041	1415584.3325
11	31	601784.7077	1415709.3330
12	32	601930.7066	1415667.3287
13	33	601916.7104	1415795.3292
14	34	601763.7124	1415872.3337
15	35	601666.7173	1416041.3367
16	36	601635.7243	1416284.3378
17	37	601746.7258	1416333.3347
18	38	601756.7289	1416440.3345
19	39	601583.7317	1416541.3396
20	40	601677.7354	1416665.3370
21	41	601788.7346	1416634.3337

1	42	601899.7353	1416655.3305
2	43	601954.7383	1416755.3290
3	44	601971.7425	1416901.3286
4	45	602072.7471	1417054.3259
5	46	602195.7460	1417012.3222
6	47	602316.7453	1416984.3187
7	48	602292.7412	1416846.3193
8	49	602233.7346	1416620.3208
9	50	602202.7237	1416246.3213
10	51	602302.7250	1416288.3185
11	52	602302.7223	1416194.3184
12	53	602445.7234	1416229.3143
13	54	602448.7268	1416343.3143
14	55	602587.7268	1416340.3102
15	56	602573.7317	1416509.3108
16	57	602712.7378	1416714.3070
17	58	602850.7337	1416568.3028
18	59	602874.7285	1416388.3019
19	60	602944.7229	1416194.2997
20	61	603020.7205	1416111.2975
21	62	603197.7285	1416378.2926

1	63	603270.7258	1416284.2903
2	64	603096.7194	1416069.2952
3	65	603155.7170	1415986.2934
4	66	603360.7243	1416229.2877
5	67	603672.7240	1416208.2786
6	68	603717.7217	1416128.2772
7	69	603902.7199	1416062.2718
8	70	603757.7187	1416024.2760
9	71	603673.7136	1415851.2782
10	72	603590.7096	1415716.2805
11	73	603535.7045	1415542.2820
12	74	603576.7015	1415438.2807
13	75	603698.6943	1415185.2769
14	76	603738.6910	1415071.2756
15	77	603825.6856	1414884.2729
16	78	603647.6803	1414707.2779
17	79	603500.6724	1414438.2820
18	80	603426.6698	1414351.2840
19	81	603604.6646	1414165.2787
20	82	603890.6648	1414165.2704
21	83	603881.6625	1414087.2706

1	84	603569.6555	1413853.2794
2	85	603721.6546	1413818.2750
3	86	603842.6502	1413662.2713
4	87	603550.6434	1413437.2796
5	88	603168.6492	1413649.2909
6	89	602900.6544	1413836.2988
7	90	602674.6498	1413688.3053
8	91	602436.6443	1413506.3120
9	92	602094.6609	1414087.3225
10	93	602115.6667	1414286.3221
11	94	601899.6698	1414399.3284
12	95	601760.6693	1414386.3325
13	96	601695.6657	1414265.3342
14	97	601734.6617	1414126.3330
15	98	601808.6594	1414044.3308
16	99	601643.6498	1413719.3352
17	100	601691.6468	1413615.3338
18	101	601868.6479	1413645.3286
19	102	601704.6360	1413242.3330
20	103	601363.6466	1413619.3433
21	104	601355.6407	1413415.3433

1	105	601177.6385	1413346.3484
2	106	601077.6382	1413337.3513
3	107	600960.6432	1413515.3549
4	108	600865.6380	1413337.3575
5	109	600760.6344	1413216.3604
6	110	600722.6279	1412995.3613
7	111	600618.6220	1412796.3642
8	112	600432.6142	1412532.3693
9	113	600332.6170	1412631.3723
10	114	600363.6125	1412475.3713
11	115	600267.6109	1412423.3740
12	116	600034.6129	1412499.3809
13	117	600065.6186	1412696.3801
14	118	599947.6235	1412866.3837
15	119	599985.6366	1413317.3830
16	120	599982.6435	1413556.3833
17	121	600120.6509	1413805.3796
18	122	600299.6611	1414152.3747
19	123	600160.6662	1414332.3789
20	124	600157.6686	1414412.3790
21	125	599924.6688	1414429.3858

1 **Sec. 8. Repealing Clause.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
2 regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby
3 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

4 **Sec. 9. Effectivity Clause.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
5 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation

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7 Approved;