

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*Second Regular Session* )

Office of the Secretary

24 FEB 14 P5:56

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



S. No. 2550

---

Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

---

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF PRESIDENT MANUEL A. ROXAS, KATIPUNAN AND SERGIO OSMEÑA IN THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE, A PROTECTED AREA WITH THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE MT. GUTOM PROTECTED LANDSCAPE (MGPL), PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As of January 2024, there are already 114 protected areas in the Philippines that have been so declared through legislation. And yet, based on the records and various suitability assessments by the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), there are still numerous sites in the country that have to be given 'protected area' status, by legislative action, in order to ensure its conservation.

The proposed Mount Gutom Protected Landscape is one of the remaining natural forests, hosts the different species of flora and fauna and is one of the most important watersheds in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Zamboanga del Norte Province. It has a total land area of 5,464 hectares with the biggest portion encompassing the two barangays of President Manuel A. Roxas (Barangay Panampalay and Barangay Tantingon), a small portion of the Municipality of Katipunan (Barangay Malasay and Barangay Fimagas), and Barangay Dumugok of the Municipality of Siayan. It is

dominated by dipterocarp forest which include old and secondary growth trees, and a mossy and Pine Forest at the summit.

Based on the result of the Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA), a total of 384 species of flora were documented in the area. Of these, 9 species are critically endangered, 3 endangered species, 14 threatened species, and 16 vulnerable species. The Philippine Tarsier (*Carlito syrichra*), Philippine Deer (*Rusa marianna*), Philippine Warty Pigs (*Sus philippensis*), Philippine Monkeys (*Macaca fascicularis philippensis*) were also documented. The proposed protected area also serves as a source for domestic water supply to various municipalities.

However, the rich and diverse biological resources of the proposed protected area are threatened as anthropogenic activities such as illegal logging/timber poaching, conversion of forest into agricultural area, continuous encroachment of upland dwellers, wildlife poaching/hunting were observed which resulted to deforestation and/or habitat degradation.

Thus, to protect Mount Gutom from deforestation and habitat degradation, there is a need for Mount Gutom to be given a "protected area" status for the benefit of the future generation.

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



**MARK A. VILLAR**

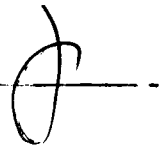
NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*Second Regular Session* )

Office of the Secretary

24 FEB 14 P5:56

**SENATE**

RECEIVED BY



**S. No. 2550**

---

Introduced by **SENATOR MARK A. VILLAR**

---

**AN ACT**

**DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF PRESIDENT MANUEL A. ROXAS, KATIPUNAN AND SERGIO OSMEÑA IN THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE, A PROTECTED AREA WITH THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE MT. GUTOM PROTECTED LANDSCAPE (MGPL), PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**ARTICLE I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1 Section 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known and referred to as the "Mt. Gutom  
2 Protected Landscape Act".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - Cognizant of the profound impact of human  
4 activities on all components of the natural environment particularly the effect of  
5 increasing population, resource exploitation and industrial advancement, and  
6 recognizing the critical importance of protecting and maintaining the natural biological  
7 and physical diversities of the environment notably on areas with biologically unique  
8 features to sustain human life and development, as well as plant and animal life, it is  
9 hereby declared the policy of the State to secure for the Filipino people of present and  
10 future generations the perpetual existence of all native plants and animals through

1 the establishment of protected areas within the classification of national park as  
2 provided for in the Constitution.

3 To acknowledge the distinct, rich and diverse biological resources of both flora  
4 and fauna that are endemic and unique to Mt. Gutom, as well as their aesthetic and  
5 ecological importance, a parcel of land located in the municipalities of President  
6 Manuel A. Roxas, Katipunan and Sergio Osmeña is hereby declared a protected area  
7 with the category of protected landscape, and shall hereinafter be referred to as Mt.  
8 Gutom Protected Landscape (MGPL). As such, the State shall ensure the preservation,  
9 conservation, protection and sustainable management of the area. It is likewise  
10 recognized that effective administration of this area is possible only through  
11 cooperation among national government agencies, local government units (LGUs),  
12 concerned non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private entities and local  
13 communities. The use and enjoyment of this area must be consistent with the  
14 principles of biological diversity and sustainable development.

15 To this end, the State shall ensure the full implementation of this Act, the  
16 mobilization of resources for the institutional mechanisms herein established, the full  
17 scientific and technical support needed for the conservation of biodiversity and the  
18 integrity of the ecosystems, culture and indigenous practices.

19 *Sec. 3. Classification as a National Park.* - The MGPL is comprised of a parcel of  
20 land of the public domain located in the Municipalities of President A. Roxas, Katipunan  
21 and Sergio Osmeña in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte. All lands of the public  
22 domain within the coverage and scope of the MGPL shall fall under the classification  
23 of national park in accordance to Article XII, Section 3 of the Constitution.

24 *Sec. 4. Scope and Coverage.* - The boundaries of Mt. Gutom Protected  
25 Landscape are more particularly described as the area beginning at a point marked  
26 "1" on the Map, being S46°35'35"W, 1,025.782 meters from PRS 92 "ZGN-5852" with  
27 geographic coordinates of 08°22'44.13038" Latitude and 123° 10' 10.020" Longitude  
28 located in Barangay Panampalay, Municipality of Pres. Manuel A. Roxas, Province of  
29 Zamboanga del Norte:

1	thence	S 22°43'53" E	651.73	meters to corner	2;
2	thence	S 68°13'51" W	790.92	meters to corner	3;
3	thence	S 63°24'8" E	1120.38	meters to corner	4;
4	thence	N 1°40'0" W	360.72	meters to corner	5;
5	thence	N 63°19'4" E	112.61	meters to corner	6;
6	thence	S 49°18'32" E	139.41	meters to corner	7;
7	thence	N 43°53'21" E	203.96	meters to corner	8;
8	thence	S 83°58'25" E	592.97	meters to corner	9;
9	thence	N 21°58'16" E	684.61	meters to corner	10;
10	thence	N 31°7'45" E	476.16	meters to corner	11;
11	thence	N 55°20'36" E	521.27	meters to corner	12;
12	thence	S 86°54'12" E	175.84	meters to corner	13;
13	thence	N 54°12'59" E	638.93	meters to corner	14;
14	thence	N 35°9'26" W	372.3	meters to corner	15;
15	thence	N 52°28'8" E	602.9	meters to corner	16;
16	thence	S 13°26'25" W	383.08	meters to corner	17;
17	thence	S 15°37'56" W	258.98	meters to corner	18;
18	thence	S 9°52'56" E	395.94	meters to corner	19;
19	thence	S 58°36'19" W	624.75	meters to corner	20;
20	thence	S 16°26'19" E	336.67	meters to corner	21;
21	thence	S 68°16'1" E	309.43	meters to corner	22;
22	thence	N 67°37'18" E	364.95	meters to corner	23;
23	thence	S 70°27'42" E	217.66	meters to corner	24;
24	thence	S 60°38'26" E	121.47	meters to corner	25;
25	thence	S 29°22'52" E	640.48	meters to corner	26;
26	thence	S 89°17'32" E	1353.99	meters to corner	27;
27	thence	N 16°52'48" E	1306.47	meters to corner	28;
28	thence	S 44°3'6" E	773.09	meters to corner	29;
29	thence	S 16°16'15" E	866.82	meters to corner	30;
30	thence	N 82°2'51" W	592.13	meters to corner	31;
31	thence	S 61°48'11" W	1195.31	meters to corner	32;

1	thence	S 6°47'59" E	581.09	meters to corner	33;
2	thence	S 36°8'46" E	748.53	meters to corner	34;
3	thence	S 49°22'8" E	575.69	meters to corner	35;
4	thence	S 81°22'8" E	393.42	meters to corner	36;
5	thence	S 4°45'55" W	637.43	meters to corner	37;
6	thence	N 66°42'29" W	314.19	meters to corner	38;
7	thence	S 56°1'14" W	844.29	meters to corner	39;
8	thence	S 20°49'6" W	516.34	meters to corner	40;
9	thence	S 20°35'26" W	335.88	meters to corner	41;
10	thence	S 24°20'42" W	1481.34	meters to corner	42;
11	thence	S 62°0'32" W	797.72	meters to corner	43;
12	thence	S 24°39'41" E	978.93	meters to corner	44;
13	thence	S 73°18'18" W	846.18	meters to corner	45;
14	thence	S 84°56'59" W	913.57	meters to corner	46;
15	thence	N 43°10'44" W	1275.4	meters to corner	47;
16	thence	N 53°24'38" W	663.54	meters to corner	48;
17	thence	S 8°23'45" E	374.48	meters to corner	49;
18	thence	N 68°50'40" W	256.36	meters to corner	50;
19	thence	S 45°43'8" W	199.08	meters to corner	51;
20	thence	N 57°55'5" W	237.64	meters to corner	52;
21	thence	S 28°4'41" W	462.96	meters to corner	53;
22	thence	N 87°35'37" W	688.73	meters to corner	54;
23	thence	N 2°34'11" E	115.9	meters to corner	55;
24	thence	N 62°40'35" W	194.76	meters to corner	56;
25	thence	N 26°29'54" W	152.86	meters to corner	57;
26	thence	N 66°30'43" W	171.5	meters to corner	58;
27	thence	N 41°53'53" W	353.39	meters to corner	59;
28	thence	S 30°15'34" W	176.73	meters to corner	60;
29	thence	N 79°58'32" W	90.5	meters to corner	61;
30	thence	N 0°1'18" W	121.04	meters to corner	62;
31	thence	N 53°37'3" E	97.64	meters to corner	63;

1	thence	N 5°9'9" E	58.13	meters to corner	64;
2	thence	N 62°31'21" W	159.57	meters to corner	65;
3	thence	N 40°23'48" W	283.23	meters to corner	66;
4	thence	N 43°39'49" W	341.8	meters to corner	67;
5	thence	N 58°57'29" W	152.99	meters to corner	68;
6	thence	N 35°49'25" W	188.18	meters to corner	69;
7	thence	N 16°18'28" E	93.23	meters to corner	70;
8	thence	N 34°21'17" W	223.06	meters to corner	71;
9	thence	N 62°2'15" W	484.85	meters to corner	72;
10	thence	N 5°51'12" W	198.06	meters to corner	73;
11	thence	N 40°30'34" W	139.5	meters to corner	74;
12	thence	S 62°28'48" W	153.18	meters to corner	75;
13	thence	N 15°5'13" W	193.59	meters to corner	76;
14	thence	N 55°32'1" W	116	meters to corner	77;
15	thence	N 40°20'51" W	583.18	meters to corner	78;
16	thence	N 8°4'45" E	178.61	meters to corner	79;
17	thence	N 58°57'17" W	499.34	meters to corner	80;
18	thence	N 55°42'56" E	170.49	meters to corner	81;
19	thence	N 19°36'2" W	150.14	meters to corner	82;
20	thence	N 49°16'2" E	92.94	meters to corner	83;
21	thence	N 35°26'55" W	173.61	meters to corner	84;
22	thence	S 84°31'10" W	106.16	meters to corner	85;
23	thence	N 68°8'17" W	189.79	meters to corner	86;
24	thence	N 66°44'12" W	191.73	meters to corner	87;
25	thence	N 3°22'16" W	86.03	meters to corner	88;
26	thence	N 53°24'11" E	144.12	meters to corner	89;
27	thence	N 0°1'6" W	65.68	meters to corner	90;
28	thence	N 85°4'17" W	292.95	meters to corner	91;
29	thence	N 4°49'7" E	522.23	meters to corner	92;
30	thence	N 13°54'0" W	531.15	meters to corner	93;
31	thence	N 51°1'10" E	931.12	meters to corner	94;

1	thence	S 83°48'18" E	1982.17	meters to corner	95;
2	thence	N 27°27'21" E	532.57	meters to corner	96;
3	thence	N 47°19'8" W	931.19	meters to corner	97;
4	thence	N 4°0'45" E	572.31	meters to corner	98;
5	thence	S 71°47'34" E	662.19	meters to corner	99;
6	thence	S 18°54'17" E	528.62	meters to corner	100;
7	thence	N 63°45'57" E	869.31	meters to corner	101;
8	thence	N 65°38'25" E	612.99	meters to corner	1

9 the point of beginning, containing an area of Five Thousand Four Hundred Sixty Eight  
10 (5,468) Hectares, more or less. Bearings and distances of lines were derived using the  
11 PRS 1992 Philippines Zone IV coordinate system, subject to ground delineation and  
12 demarcation.

13 *Sec. 5. Establishment of Buffer Zones.* - The Department of Environment and  
14 Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary, upon the recommendation of the Protected Area  
15 Management Board (PAMB) created under Section 6 of this Act, may designate areas  
16 surrounding the MGPL as buffer zones for the purpose of providing an extra layer of  
17 protection where restrictions may be applied: *Provided,* That in cases where the  
18 designated buffer zone would cover private lands, the owners thereof shall be required  
19 to design their development with due consideration to the protected area management  
20 plan.

21 **ARTICLE II**  
22 **MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS**

23 *Sec. 6. Protected Area Management Board (PAMB).* - Within ninety (90) days  
24 from the effectivity of this Act, a PAMB shall be created which will serve as a body that  
25 will allocate budget, approve proposals for funding, decide matters related to planning,  
26 peripheral protection and general administration of MGPL in accordance with the  
27 general management strategy. The PAMB shall be composed of the following;

- 28 a) DENR Regional Executive Director for Region IX as Chairperson;



- 1        b) Governor of the Province of Zamboanga del Norte or a duly designated  
2            representative;
- 3        c) Senators of the Republic of the Philippines who are duly registered residents of  
4            Zamboanga del Norte, or their duly authorized representatives, unless these  
5            Senators decline the membership in the PAMB;
- 6        d) District Representative of the Congressional District where the MGPL is located,  
7            or a duly designated representative, unless the District Representative declines  
8            the membership in the PAMB;
- 9        e) Mayors of the Municipalities of President Manuel A. Roxas, Katipunan, and  
10           Sergio Osmeña in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte or their duly designated  
11           representatives;
- 12       f) Chairpersons of all barangays with territorial jurisdiction over MGPL;
- 13       g) Regional Directors of the following government agencies, namely: Department  
14           of Agriculture (DA), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA),  
15           Department of Science and Technology, Philippine National Police (PNP),  
16           Department of National Defense (DND), and the Department of Tourism (DOT);
- 17       h) Three (3) representatives from either non-governmental organizations (NGOs),  
18           or people's organizations (POs) based in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte,  
19           duly accredited both by the DENR and provincial government. The NGOs or POs  
20           represented should have been in existence for at least five (5) years and with  
21           track record in or related to protected area management;
- 22       i) At least one (1) but not more than three (3) representatives from all the  
23           ICCs/IPs present in the area and recognized by the National Commission on  
24           Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);
- 25       j) One (1) representative from an academic institution, preferably from a  
26           university or college in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte, with proven track  
27           record in or related to protected area management; and

1 k) One (1) representative from the private sector, preferably a resident of the  
2 Province of Zamboanga del Norte, who is distinguished in a profession or field  
3 of interest relevant to the protected area management.

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

9 *Sec. 7. Functions of the PAMB.* - The PAMB shall have the following powers and  
10 functions:

- 11 a) Oversee the management of the MGPL;
- 12 b) Approve policies, plans and programs, proposals, agreements, and other  
13 related documents for the management of the MGPL;
- 14 c) Approve the management plan of the MGPL and ensure its harmonization with  
15 and integration into the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and  
16 Protection Plan, land use plan and other development plans, public or private,  
17 and their implementation;
- 18 d) Adopt a manual of operations to include rules of procedures in the conduct of  
19 business and the creation of committees and respective terms of reference;
- 20 e) Recommend the deputation of appropriate agencies and individuals for the  
21 enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations governing the management of  
22 the MGPL;
- 23 f) Allocate financial resources for the implementation of the management plan  
24 and manage the Protected Area-Retention Income Account (PA-RIA) and other  
25 funds in accordance with government accounting, budgeting, and auditing rules  
26 and regulations;

- 1 g) Set fees and charges in accordance with existing guidelines;
- 2 h) Issue rules and regulations for the resolution of conflicts through appropriate  
3 and effective means;
- 4 i) Recommend appropriate policy changes to the DENR and other government  
5 authorities with respect to the management of the MGPL;
- 6 j) Monitor and assess the performance of the Protected Area Superintendent  
7 (PASu) and other protected area personnel and compliance of partners with  
8 the terms and conditions of any undertaking, contract or agreement relative to  
9 any project or activity within the MGPL;
- 10 k) Recommend from among a shortlist of qualified candidates, the designation or  
11 appointment of the PASu; and
- 12 l) Assess the effectiveness of the management of the MGPL: *Provided*, That the  
13 members of the PAMB representing the LGUs and national agencies shall inform  
14 their respective constituents, offices or sectors, of PAMB-approved or other  
15 relevant policies, rules, regulations, programs, and projects and shall ensure  
16 that the provisions of this Act and the rules and regulations issued to implement  
17 it are complied with and used as reference and framework in their respective  
18 plans, policies, programs, and projects. Failure to comply with the foregoing  
19 shall be the basis for disciplinary action against such member according to  
20 administrative rules and regulations and such penalties as the PAMB may  
21 provide: *Provided, further*, That the DENR, through the Regional Director, shall  
22 ensure that the PAMB acts within the scope of its powers and functions. In case  
23 of conflict between the resolutions issued by the PAMB and the existing  
24 administrative orders of national application, the latter shall prevail.

25 Sec. 8. *The Protected Area Management Office (PAMO)*. - There is hereby  
26 established a Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) to be headed by a PASu who  
27 shall supervise the day-to-day management, protection, and administration of the  
28 MGPL. The PASu shall hold a permanent plantilla position and shall be appointed by

1 the DENR Secretary. A sufficient number of support staff with permanent plantilla  
2 positions shall likewise be appointed by the DENR Secretary to assist the PASu in the  
3 management of the MGPL. The PASu shall be primarily accountable to the PAMB and  
4 the DENR for the management and operations of the MGPL. Pursuant thereto, the  
5 PASu shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

6 a) Prepare the management plan, in consultation with the stakeholders, including  
7 the annual work and financial plan and ensure its implementation;

8 b) Ensure the integration of the protected area management plans, programs,  
9 projects, and policies with relevant national and LGUs' plans and programs;

10 c) Provide secretariat services to the PAMB and its committees and ensure the  
11 availability of relevant and timely information for decision-making;

12 d) Formulate and recommend to the PAMB proposed policies, rules, regulations,  
13 and programs;

14 e) Establish, operate, and maintain a database management system which shall  
15 be an important basis for decision-making;

16 f) Enforce the laws, rules and regulations relevant to the protected area,  
17 commence and institute administrative and legal actions in collaboration with  
18 other government agencies or organizations, and assist in the prosecution of  
19 offenses committed in violation of the provisions of this Act;

20 g) Monitor, evaluate, and report the implementation of management activities of  
21 the MGPL;

22 h) Request for and receive any technical assistance, support, or advice from any  
23 agency or instrumentality of the government as well as academic institutions,  
24 NGOs, and the private sector, as may be necessary for the effective  
25 management, protection, and administration of the MGPL;

- 1 i) Issue permits and clearances for activities that implement the management  
2 plan and other permitted activities in accordance with terms, conditions, and  
3 criteria established by the PAMB: *Provided*, That all permits for extraction of  
4 natural resources, including collection of wildlife, and its by-products or  
5 derivatives for research purposes, shall continue to be issued by relevant  
6 authorities, subject to prior clearance from the PAMB, through the PASu, in  
7 accordance with the specific acts to be covered;
- 8 j) Collect and receive pertinent fees, charges, donations, and other income for  
9 the MGPL: *Provided*, That such fees, charges, donations, and other income  
10 collected and received shall be reported regularly to the PAMB and the DENR  
11 in accordance with existing guidelines;
- 12 k) Prepare and recommend to the PAMB, approval of the annual work and financial  
13 plans of the MGPL based on the management plan; and
- 14 l) Perform such other functions as the PAMB and the DENR may assign. The PAMO  
15 may be augmented by the deputized local environment and natural resources  
16 officers upon the recommendation of the PAMB and approval of the DENR.

17 ARTICLE III  
18 PROCEEDS AND FEES

19 *Sec. 9. The Mt. Gutom Protected Landscape Integrated Protected Area Fund*  
20 *(MGPL-IPAF).* — There is hereby established a trust fund to be known as the Mt.  
21 Gutom Protected Landscape Integrated Protected Area Fund (MGPL-IPAF)  
22 for purposes of financing projects of the MGPL and the NIPAS. All income generated  
23 from the operation and management of wild flora and fauna in the MGPL shall accrue  
24 to the MGPL-IPAF. The income shall be derived from fees from permitted sale and  
25 export of flora and fauna and other resources from the MGPL, proceeds from lease of  
26 multiple-use areas, contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting from  
27 the MGPL, and such other fees and income derived from the operation of the MGPL.

28 The PAMB shall retain seventy-five percent (75%) of all revenues raised  
29 through the above means, which shall be deposited to the Protected Area-

1 Retained Income Account (PA-RIA) in any authorized government depository bank  
2 within the locality: *Provided*, That disbursements out of such deposits shall be used  
3 solely for the protection, maintenance, administration, and management of the MGPL  
4 and the implementation of duly approved projects of the PAMB. The remaining twenty-  
5 five percent (25%) of revenues shall be deposited as a special account in the  
6 general fund in the National Treasury for purposes of financing the programs and  
7 projects of the NIPAS.

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

15 The LGU shall continue to impose taxes and collect all other fees not  
16 enumerated herein which they have traditionally collected, such as fees for business  
17 permit applications, property taxes and result fees of LGUs facilities.

18 ARTICLE IV  
19 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

20 Sec. 10. *Appropriations*. — The Secretary of the DENR shall immediately include  
21 in the Department's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall  
22 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

23 Sec. 11. *Suppletory Application of the NIPAS Law*. — The provisions of the  
24 Republic Act No. 7586, as amended by the Republic Act No. 11038, shall have  
25 suppletory application to this Act.

26 Sec. 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. — Within ninety (90) days from  
27 the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DENR shall, in consultation with the  
28 local governments of the Municipalities of President Manuel A. Roxas, Sergio Osmeña

1 and Katipunan, the Provincial Government of Zamboanga del Norte and concerned  
2 national agencies, issue the corresponding rules and regulations for the effective  
3 implementation of this Act.

4       Sec. 13. *Separability Cause.* — If any section or provision of this Act is held  
5 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining sections or provisions not affected thereby  
6 shall continue to be in full force and effect.

7       Sec. 14. *Repealing Cause.* — All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and  
8 regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of  
9 this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

10       Sec. 15. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
11 complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*