FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

7 NO -4 POLI

SENATE

Senate Bill No. $1067^{\text{NECE (VED } DV)}$

Introduced by SENATOR COMPANERA PIA S. CAYETANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park in the municipalities of Valencia, Sibulan and San Jose in Negros Oriental as a protected area.

The Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park, which covers 8,016.05 hectares, is considered as the only remaining rainforest in the island of Negros. The Park hosts a significant number of threatened endemic wildlife species such as the Visayan spotted deer, Asian leopard cat, Flame-templed babbler, Writhed-billed hornbills and bare-backed bats. Lake Balinsasayao has also been recorded as one of the remaining habitat of the critically-endangered Philippine tube-nosed fruit bat, one of the few striped bats in the world.

Recognizing the value of the area, it was proclaimed as a protected area by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 414 on November 21 2000.

This bill, therefore, seeks to declare the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park as a protected area in order to protect it from indiscriminate exploitation and to be able to maintain its ecological balance.

Given the importance of biodiversity, it is deemed crucial that we act on this now to ensure that our children and the succeeding generations will inherit a living earth with all of its bountiful natural resources and vibrant wildlife.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly urged.

SENATÖŘ ⊄OMPANERA PIA S. CAYETANO

	2	CENATE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY	
FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES	} }		
First Regular Session	}	7 JUL -4 P2:	
SI	ENATÉ	N	
S. No	o. <u>1067</u>	HECEIVED BY:	

Introduced by Senator Pia S. Cayetano

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE BALINSASAYAO TWIN LAKES LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF VALENCIA, SIBULAN AND SAN JOSE, PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Title*. – This Act shall be known as the "Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. Land Classification. – All lands of the public domain comprising the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park shall fall under the classification of National Park as provided for in the Philippine Constitution.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms are defined as follows:

- (a) "Biodiversity" shall refer to the variety and variability among all living organisms and the ecological complex in which they occur.
- (b) "Biological resources" shall include genetic resources, organisms or parts thereof, population, or any other biotic component of ecosystems with actual or potential use or value for humanity.
- (c) "Bioprospecting" shall mean the research, collection and utilization of biological and genetic resources for purposes of applying the knowledge derived therefrom solely for commercial purposes.
- (d) "Buffer zones" shall refer to identified areas outside the boundaries of the designated Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park that need special development and control in order to provide an extra layer around the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park where restrictions may apply, and managed according to the Management Plan and applicable rules and regulations issued as provided for in this Act and related statutes.

(e) "By-product or derivatives" shall mean any part taken or substance extracted from wildlife, in raw or in processed form. This includes stuffed animals and herbarium specimens.

- (f) "Collection or collecting" is the act of gathering or harvesting wildlife, its byproducts or derivatives.
- (g) "Conservation" shall mean preservation and sustainable utilization of wildlife, and/or maintenance, restoration and enhancement of the habitat.
- (h) "Ecosystem" shall mean the dynamic complex of plant, animal and microorganism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit.
- (i) "Endangered species" shall refer to species or subspecies that is not critically endangered but whose survival in the wild is unlikely if the causal factors continue operating.
- (j) "Endemic species" shall mean species or subspecies of flora and fauna which is naturally occurring and found only within specific areas in the country.
- (k) "Exotic species" shall mean species or subspecies of flora and fauna which do not naturally occur within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park at present or in historical time.
- (I) "Habitat" shall mean a place or type of environment where a species or subspecies naturally occurs or has naturally established its population.
- (m) "Hunting" shall refer to collection of wild fauna for food and/or recreational purposes with the use of weapons such as guns, bow and arrow, spear and the like.
- (n) "Management Plan" shall refer to the fundamental plan, strategy and/or scheme which shall guide all activities relating to the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park in order to attain the objectives of this Act.
- (o) "Mineral" shall refer to all naturally occurring inorganic substance in solid, gas, liquid, or any intermediate state including energy materials such as coal, petroleum, natural gas, radioactive materials, and geothermal energy.
- (p) "Multiple-Use Zone" shall refer to an area where settlement, traditional and/or sustainable land use, including agriculture, agro-forestry, extraction activities and other income generating or livelihood activities, may be allowed to the extent prescribed in the IPAP/PAMP.
- (q) "National Integrated Protected Areas System" is the classification and administration of all designated protected areas to maintain essential ecological processes and life-support systems, to preserve genetic diversity, to ensure sustainable use of resources found therein, and to maintain their natural conditions to the greatest extent possible.
- (r) "National Park" shall refer to the land of the public domain classified as such in the 1987 Constitution which include all areas under the National Integrated Protected

Areas System (NIPAS) pursuant to R.A. 7586 primarily designated for the conservation of native plants and animals, their associated habitats and cultural diversity.

- (s) "Natural park" shall refer to a relatively large area not materially altered by human activity, where extractive resource uses are not allowed and maintained to protect outstanding natural and scenic areas of national or international significance for scientific, educational and recreational use.
- (t) "Non-governmental organization (NGO)" shall refer to an agency, institution, foundation or a group of persons whose purpose is to assist people's organizations/associations in various ways including, but not limited to, organizing, education, training, research and/or resource accessing.
- (u) "People's Organization" shall refer to a group of organized migrant communities and or interested indigenous peoples which may be an association, cooperative, federation, or other legal entity, established to undertake collective action to address community concerns and needs, and mutually share the benefits of the endeavor.
- (v) "Protected area (PA)" shall refer to identified portions of land and water set aside by reason of their unique physical and biological significance, managed to enhance biological diversity and protected against destructive human exploitation.
- (w) "Protected Area Management Board" shall refer to a multi-sectoral policy-making body for protected areas created in accordance with RA 7586 or the NIPAS Act of 1992.
- (x)"Quarrying" shall mean the process of extracting, removing and disposing quarry resources found on or underneath the surface of private or public land.
- (y) "Strict protection zone" shall refer to a natural area with high biodiversity value which shall be closed to all human activity except for scientific studies and/or ceremonial or religious use by the indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples; may include habitats of threatened species, or degraded areas that have been designated for restoration and subsequent protection, even if these areas are still in various stages of regeneration.
- (z) "Sustainable use" shall mean the use of components of biological diversity in a way and rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.
- (aa) "Tenured migrants" shall refer to forest occupants who have actually and continuously occupied a portion of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park and is solely dependent therein for subsistence. A Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park occupant is understood to be "solely dependent for subsistence" when everything indispensable for survival for the household, including food, clothing, shelter and health,

comes only from the utilization of resources from the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural
Park.

- (bb) "Threatened Species" shall refer to a general term to denote species or subspecies of flora and fauna considered as critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or other accepted categories of wildlife whose population is at risk of extinction.
- (cc) "Wildlife" shall mean wild forms and varieties of flora and fauna, in all developmental stages, including those which are in captivity or are being bred or propagated.
- SEC. 4. Scope and Coverage. The Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park shall cover certain parcels of land situated in the Municipalities of Valencia, Sibulan and San Jose, Province of Negros Oriental. Its boundaries, subject to ground demarcation, are as follows:

Beginning at a corner marked "1" on the map being identical to MBM No. 14, Project No. 15, A and D LC Map 225;

16	Thence N 71° 25' W 282.40 m.	to corner 2;	
17	Thence N 72° 27' W 705.70 m.	to corner	3;
18	Thence S 20° 52' W 337.90 m.	to corner	4;
19	Thence S 74° 41' W 491.00 m.	to corner	5;
20	Thence S 46° 19' W1,376.00 m.	to corner	6;
21	Thence S 70° 50' W 400.00 m.	to corner	7;
22	Thence N 71° 25' W 756.50 m.	to corner	8;
23	Thence S 32° 11' W 875.00 m.	to corner	9;
24	Thence S 58° 12' W1,190.40 m.	to corner	10;
25	Thence N 64° 15' W8,092.30 m.	to corner	11;
26	Thence DUE W 670.28 m.	to corner	12;
27	Thence N 39° 30' E 5,954.47 m.	to corner	13;
28	Thence S 80° 21' E 4,173.80 m.	to corner	14;
29	Thence N 45° 43' E 4,166.40 m.	to corner	15;
30	Thence DUE S 226.00 m.	to corner	16;
31	Thence S 45° 19' W 785.70 m.	to corner	17;
32	Thence S 25° 47' E 193.20 m.	to corner	18;
33	Thence N 50° 45' E 303.60 m.	to corner	19;
34	Thence S 47° 01' E 489.10 m.	to corner	20;
35	Thence S 20° 40' E 289.20 m.	to corner	21;
36	Thence N 18° 36' E 481.70 m.	to corner	22;
37	Thence N 40° 44' E 510.00 m.	to corner	23;
38	Thence DUE E 208.00 m.	to corner	24;

1	Thence N 35° 46' E	409.60 m.	to corner	25;
2	Thence S 70° 39' E	346.80 m.	to corner	26;
3	Thence S 25° 47' E	289.90 m.	to corner	27;
4	Thence N 48° 44' E	283.80 m.	to corner	28;
5	Thence S 60° 53' E	690.30 m.	to corner	29;
6	Thence S 31° 10' W	310.90 m.	to corner	30;
7	Thence S 65° 59' W	299.10 m.	to corner	31;
8	Thence S 41° 19' W	587.40 m.	to corner	32;
9	Thence S 20° 52' E	289.60 m.	to corner	33;
10	Thence S85°10'E	278.50 m.	to corner	34;
11	Thence DUE S	240.00 m.	to corner	35;
12	Thence S 31° 55' E	213.20 m.	to corner	36;
13	Thence S 33° 57' E	436.70 m.	to corner	37;
14	Thence S 77° 34' W	882.60 m.	to corner	38;
15	Thence S 15° 31' E	298.30 m.	to corner	39;
16	Thence N 61° 58' E	301.30 m.	to corner	40;
17	Thence N 48° 44' E	293.40 m.	to corner	41;
18	Thence S 10° 22' E	240.30 m.	to corner	42;
19	Thence S 50° 00' E	588.40 m.	to corner	43;
20	Thence S 20° 32' W	190.00 m.	to corner	44;
21	Thence DUE S	288.00 m.	to corner	45;
22	Thence S 60° 53' E	345.10 m.	to corner	46;
23	Thence N 64° 47' E	398.00 m.	to corner	47;
24	Thence S 85° 31' E	280.70 m.	to corner	48;
25	Thence S 30° 04' E	387.50 m.	to corner	49;
26	Thence S 31° 10' W	291.50 m.	to corner	50;
27	Thence S 08° 10' E	230.50 m.	to corner	51;
28	Thence DUE E	346.20 m.	to corner	52;
29	Thence S 15° 40' W	173.30 m.	to corner	53;
30	Thence S 31° 10' W	242.90 m.	to corner	54;
31	Thence S 61° 07' W	218.70 m.	to corner	55;
32	Thence N 79° 39' W	201.30 m.	to corner	56;
33	Thence S 32° 11' W	272.20 m.	to corner	57;
34	Thence S 15° 31' E	481.10 m.	to corner	58;
35	Thence S 31° 10' W	291.50 m.	to corner	59;
36	Thence S 78° 32' W	280.90 m.	to corner	60;
37	Thence N 27° 12' W	371.70 m.	to corner	61;
38	Thence S41°19'W	195.80 m.	to corner	62;

1	Thence S 20° 40' E	366.40 m.	to corner	63;
2	Thence S 64° 16' W	221.10 m.	to corner	64;
3	Thence S 14° 29' E	154.00 m.	to corner	65;
4	Thence S 16° 36' E	192.60 m.	to corner	66;
5	Thence S 61° 07' W	447.40 m.	to corner	67;
6	Thence S 20° 52' W	202.70 m.	to corner	68;
7	Thence S 20° 40' E	570.50 m.	to corner	69;
8	Thence S 41° 01' E	370.30 m.	to corner	70;

Thence S 31° 10′ W 291.50 m. to corner1, the point of beginning, containing an area of eight thousand sixteen and five hundredths (8,016.05) hectares, more or less.

The technical descriptions provided in this Act will be subject to ground survey and verification to be conducted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). Any modification of the coverage of this Act due to such factors as changing ecological situations, new scientific or archeological findings, or discovery of traditional boundaries not previously taken into account shall be made through an act of Congress, after consultation with the affected public and concerned government agencies.

- SEC. 5. Management of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park There is hereby created a PAMB which shall have jurisdiction, power and authority over the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park for all matters that may affect biodiversity conservation, protection and sustainable development. It shall be composed of:
- (a) The Regional Executive Director (RED) of the DENR-Region VII, as the chairperson;
- (b) The Provincial Planning and Development Officer (PPDO) of the Province of Negros Oriental;
- (c) The Municipal Mayors of Valencia, Sibulan and San Jose in the Province of Negros Oriental, or their duly designated representatives;
- (d) One representative from each barangay covering the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park;
- (e) One representative from each department or national government agency directly involved in the protected area or has long term projects or permanent facility located therein;
- (f) At least three (3) representatives from accredited NGOs with stakes in the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park, chosen from among themselves;
- (g) At least two (2) representatives from local POs with stakes in the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park, chosen from among themselves; and
- (h) One representative from academic institutions directly involved in the conservation of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park.

Each member of the PAMB shall serve for a term of five (5) years and shall be considered to represent his or her sector and deemed to carry the vote of such sector in all matters. In the case of members who are government officials, their appointment shall be co-terminus with their term of office.

The members of the PAMB shall be appointed by the Secretary of the DENR in conformity with the provisions of the NIPAS Act. As a transitory provision, the initial members of the PAMB shall be nominated from the current members of the interim PAMB of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park. Their nominations shall be conducted in a joint meeting of the current members of the interim PAMB duly called for the purpose: *Provided*, That the members shall include a number of women.

In the selection of representatives of POs and the NGOs, preference shall be accorded to those organizations that are involved in the conservation, protection and development of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park. Representation shall be by institution and shall aim to achieve balance in representation by geographic location or areas.

The representatives from local government units (LGUs) and national agencies in the PAMB shall include among their duty to appraise their respective constituents, office or sector, to ensure that the provisions of this Act are consistent with the Local Government Code of 1991 (R. A. No. 7160), other relevant statutes and ordinances, and local and national development plans and projects. Failure to comply with the foregoing shall subject such representative to disciplinary action as the PAMB may provide.

The members of the Board shall not receive any salary but shall be entitled to reimbursements for actual and necessary expenses incurred, either in their attendance in meetings of the Board or in connection with other official business authorized by a resolution of the Board, subject to existing rules and regulations.

- SEC. 6. Powers and Functions of the PAMB. The PAMB of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park-shall have the following powers and functions, in addition to those provided under RA 7586 or the NIPAS Act of 1992 and its implementing rules and regulations:
- (1) Issue rules and regulations to prohibit acts that may be prejudicial to the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park and to the declaration of policy set forth under the NIPAS;
- (2) Issue rules and regulations for the resolution of conflicts through appropriate and effective means;
- (3) Adopt rules and procedures in the conduct of business, including the creation of committees to which its powers may be delegated;

(4) Approve the management plan and oversee the office of the Protected Area Superintendent (PASu);

- (5) Establish criteria and set fees for the issuance of permits for activities regulated by this Act or the management plan;
- (6) Recommend the deputization of appropriate individuals for the enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations governing the conduct or management of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park;
- (7) Approve fees and charges in accordance with DAO 51, Series of 2000 and raise funds for the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park;
- (8) Manage the allocation of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park Fund, and other funds for the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park, ensure their proper administration and render accounting; and
- (9) Recommend appropriate policy changes to the DENR and other government authorities.

The DENR, through the RED, shall ensure that the PAMB acts within the scope of its powers and functions. In case of conflict between administrative orders issued by the DENR pursuant to the NIPAS Act and resolutions issued by the PAMB, such conflict shall be referred by PAMB to the DENR Secretary who shall decide whether to apply the rule or withdraw its application in the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park.

- SEC. 7. Protected Area Superintendent (PASu Office). There is hereby established a PASu Office in charge of the management, protection and administration of the PASu and shall be supported by the existing personnel of the DENR. The PASu shall be the Chief Operating Officer of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park and shall be accountable to the RED of the DENR-Region VII and the PAMB. The PASu shall have the following duties and responsibilities, in addition to those provided under RA 7586 or the NIPAS Act of 1992 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations:
- (1) Establish, operate, and maintain a database management system as a decision support tool;
 - (2) Prepare the management plans as herein defined;
- (3) Provide a Secretariat for the PAMB and supply the PAMB with all the information necessary to make appropriate decisions for the implementation of this Act;
- (4) Enforce the laws, rules and regulations relevant to the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park and institute and file legal action independently or in collaboration with other government agencies or organizations and assist in the prosecution of offenses committed in violation of this Act;
- (5) Monitor all activities within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park to ensure its conformity with the management plan;

- (6) Recommend the issuance of permits based on terms, conditions and criteria established by the PAMB;
- (7) Ensure the integration of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park management policies, regulations, programs and projects at all the concerned national and Local Government Unit levels; and
 - (8) Perform such other functions as the PAMB may delegate.

The PASu shall be supported by a sufficient number of personnel, who shall be performing day-to-day management, protection and administration of Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park. Upon the recommendation of the PAMB, the DENR Regional Director shall deputize local community leaders and environment and natural resource officers.

SEC. 8. Tenured Migrants.and Other Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park Occupants – Tenured migrants shall be eligible to become stewards of portions of lands within the allowable zones. The PAMB shall identify, verify and review all tenurial instrument, land claims and issuance of permits for resource use within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park and recommend the issuance of the appropriate tenurial instrument consistent with the zoning provided in the management and its successor plans.

Should areas occupied by tenured migrants be designated as zones in which no occupation or other activities are allowed pursuant to the attainment of sustainable development, provision for the transfer of said tenured migrants to multiple-use zones or buffer zones shall be accomplished through just and humane means.

In the event of termination of a tenurial instrument for cause or by voluntary surrender of rights, the PASu shall take immediate steps to rehabilitate the area in order to return it to its natural state prior to the cultivation or other act by the tenured migrant.

- SEC. 9. Prohibited Acts and Penalties. The following prohibitions and penalties are applicable to the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park, in addition to the prohibited acts as provided in the NIPAS Act and its pertinent rules and regulation:
- (A) The penalties in Articles 309 and 310 of the Revised Penal Code, in addition to the prohibited acts as provided in the NIPAS Act and its pertinent rules and regulations:
- (1) Takes, destroys, collects, disturbs or possesses any wild terrestrial or aquatic plants or animals, flora or fauna, sand, rocks or by- products derived therefrom, within particularly identified regulated or prohibited areas or zones in the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park including private lands without the necessary permit, authorization or exemption: *Provided*, That hunting of animals shall be absolutely except for prohibited for scientific research;
- (2) Cuts, gathers, removes or collects timber or any forest products within particularly identified prohibited areas or zones in the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural

Park area including private lands, without the necessary permit, authorization or exemption;

- (3) Undertakes mineral exploration or extraction within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park;
- (4) Possesses or transports, within or outside the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park any timber, forest products, wild terrestrial or aquatic plants, animals, flora or fauna or by-product derived therefrom which are ascertained to have been taken from the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park.
- (5) Hunts, collects, removes or destroys endangered or protected species, except when collection or removal is for scientific research and exempted from the prohibition by the PAMB.
- (6) Engages in quarrying of sand, gravel, guano, limestone or any material within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park;
- (7) Conducts bioprospecting within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park without prior PAMB approval in accordance with existing guidelines; or
- (8) Establishes or introduces exotic species within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park which are detrimental to endemic species or without prior PAMB approval.
- (B) A fine of not less than Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) nor more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00) and/or imprisonment from one (1) year but not more than six (6) years shall be imposed upon any person who:
- (1) Violates any rules and regulations in the management plan or by the PAMB or agreements reached before the PAMB in the exercise of adjudicative functions;
- (2) Erects any structure on land or on water for any purposes outside the management plan: *Provided*, That large-scale private infrastructure and other projects such as medium to high density residential subdivisions, medium to large commercial and industrial establishments, golf-courses, heavily mechanized commercial and non-traditional farming, and other activities that cause increased in-migration, pollution and resource degradation are absolutely prohibited;
- (3) Possesses a chainsaw, hacksaw and other mechanized equipment within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park without a permit;
- (4) Throws, dumps or causes to be dumped into the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park any non-biodegradable material or waste whether liquid, solid or gas;
- (5) Uses, dumps, places or causes to be placed into the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park toxic chemicals, including pesticides and other hazardous substances, unless the same is expressly allowed in the protection and conservation plan;
- (6) Prospects, hunts or otherwise locate hidden treasures within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park;

- (7) Informally occupies or dwells in any land within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park without clearance from the PAMB:
- (8) Posseseses or uses blasting caps or explosives anywhere within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park;
- (9) Destroys, excavates, vandalizes or, in any manner, damages any natural formation on land, religious, spiritual, historical sites, artifacts and other objects of natural or scenic value;
 - (10) Alters, removes or destroys boundary marks or signs;

- (11) Engages in kaingin, or, in any manner, causing forest fires inside the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park; or
- (12) Purchases, or sells, mortgages or leases lands or other portions of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park which are covered by any tenurial instrument.

Valuation of the damage shall take into account biodiversity and conservation considerations, as well as aesthetic and scenic value. Valuation by the DENR or the concerned government agency shall be presumed correct unless proven otherwise by preponderant 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, equipments, 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, equipments, 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 Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park Fund. Procedure for 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 will be in addition to the penalties contained in RA 9072 (National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act), RA 9147 (Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act), and other related laws.

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.

SEC. 10-. Special Prosecutor and Retained Counsel. – Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Justice (DOJ) shall appoint a special prosecutor to whom all cases of violation of laws, rules and regulations in the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park shall be assigned. Such Special Prosecutor shall coordinate with the PAMB and the PASu in the performance of his/her duties and assist in the training of wardens and rangers in arrest and criminal procedures. The PAMB may retain the services of a counsel to prosecute and/or assist in the prosecution of cases under the direct control and supervision of the regular or special prosecutor and to defend the members of the PAMB, the PASu and the staff, or any person assisting in the protection, conservation and sustainable development of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park, against any legal action related to their powers, functions and responsibilities as provided in this Act or as delegated or tasked by the PAMB.

SEC. 11. Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park Fund. – There is hereby established a trust fund to be known as the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park Fund for purposes of financing projects of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park. Seventy-five percent (75%) income generated from the operation of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park or management of wild flora and fauna in the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park shall accrue to the fund. The remaining twenty-five percent (25%) shall go to the Integrated Protected Areas Fund (IPAF) as established in the NIPAS Act of 1992.

Income shall be derived from visitor/tourist fees, fees from permitted sale and export of flora and fauna and other resources from the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park, proceeds from the registration and lease of multiple-use areas, including tourism concessions, fees, proceeds, and contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting from the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park, and such other fees and income derived from the operation of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park.

The PAMB may impose and charge reasonable fees, such as but not limited to water users fee for water extracted by commercial water extractors/distributors sourced and generated from the protected area. Such fee structure may change as the PAMB may see fit.

The fund may be augmented by grants, donations, endowment from various sources, domestic or foreign for purposes related to their functions: *Provided*, That disbursements therefrom shall be made solely for the protection, maintenance, administration and management of the system, and duly approved projects endorsed by the PAMB in accordance with existing accounting and budgeting 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 and rentals of LGUs facilities: *Provided*, That the LGUs shall not impose property tax and issue tax declaration for areas or properties located in timberland areas or areas previously classified as national parks. Furthermore, LGUs may charge add-ons to fees imposed by the PAMB: *Provided*, *Further*, That such add-ons shall be determined based on the contribution of the LGUs in the maintenance and protection of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park.

SEC. 12. Existing Facilities Within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park. – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, major existing facilities such as roads, buildings, water systems, transmission lines, communication facilities, heavy equipment, and irrigation facilities existing within the boundaries of the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park shall submit project description to the PAMB through the PASu.

The PAMB, with the assistance of the DENR, shall determine whether the existence of such facility and its future plan and operations will be detrimental to the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park or whether conditions for its operation shall be imposed. If any such conditions are violated, the owner of the facility shall be liable to pay a fine of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) for every violation. Upon reaching a total fine of Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00), the PAMB through the PASu and deputizing other government entities, shall cause the cessation and demolition of the facility at the cost of its owner.

Existing facilities allowed to remain within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park may be charged a reasonable royalty by the DENR. All income from such royalty shall accrue to the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park Fund.

SEC. 13. *Utilization of Resources.* – Any exploitation of or utilization of nonrenewable resources within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park shall not be allowed. Energy projects within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park shall be allowed only through an Act of Congress except energy from wind, sun and water sources and not more than one (1) megawatt capacity for mini- hydro power. *Provided,* That these renewable energy projects are established outside the strict protection zone, adopt reduced impact technologies and undergo the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) system as provided by law; *Provided Further,* That the PAMB endorsement has been obtained.

SEC. 14. Reporting Responsibility. – The PASu, through the PAMB, shall submit an annual accomplishment report to the Secretary of the DENR on the activities undertaken in the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park.

SEC. 15. Appropriations. – The Secretary shall immediately include in the DENR's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 16. Construction and Suppletory Application of Existing Laws. The provisions of this Act shall be construed liberally in favor of achieving biodiversity conservation, protection and sustainable development Provisions of Republic Act No. 7586, otherwise known as the National Integrated Protected Areas Management Act of 1992 and existing forestry laws, and their corresponding rules and regulations not inconsistent hereto shall have the suppletory effect in the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 17. Separability Clause. – If, for any reason, any part or section of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, such other parts not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 18. Repealing Clause. –All laws, decrees, proclamations, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 19. *Transitory Provision.* – In order to ensure the recovery and restoration of biological diversity and to develop sustainable livelihood opportunities for tenured migrants, the DENR shall henceforth cease to issue concessions, licenses, permits, clearances, compliance documents or any other instrument that allows exploitation and utilization of resources within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park, until the management plan shall have been put into effect.

All existing land use and resource use permits within the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park shall be reviewed and shall not be renewed upon their expiration, unless consistent with the management plan and approved by the PAMB.

SEC. 20. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation available in the Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park. Approved,