NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )
First Regular Session )



23 MAY 25 P2:58

### SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 90

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Finance on <a href="MAY 2 5 2023">MAY 2 5 2023</a>.

Re : Senate Bill No. 355.

Recommending the approval of Senate Bill No. 355 with amendments, taking into consideration House Bill No. 7322.

Sponsor : Senator Cynthia A. Villar

#### MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Finance to which were referred **Senate Bill No. 355**, introduced by Senators Villar (C.) and Legarda, entitled:

#### "AN ACT

DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVA VALENCIA IN THE PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS, A PROTECTED AREA WITH THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREA SYSTEM, TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE TAKLONG AND TANDOG GROUP OF ISLANDS NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

and **House Bill No. 7322**, introduced by Representatives Nava, Barzaga and Co (E.), entitled:

#### "AN ACT

DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVA VALENCIA IN THE PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS, A PROTECTED AREA, WITH THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM, TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE TAKLONG AND TANDONG GROUP OF ISLANDS NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

have considered the same and have the honor to report back to the Senate with the recommendation that Senate Bill No. 355, taking into consideration House Bill No.22, be approved with the following amendments:

- On pages 3 to 6, Section 5 (Scope and Coverage), delete the boundaries and technical descriptions stated and adopt the boundaries and technical descriptions as described in the attached Certification, dated April 3, 2023, which is duly certified accurate by the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) and be made an integral part hereof;
- On page 6, line 10, delete the phrase "and comprises" and in lieu thereof, replace it with the phrase "THE POINT OF BEGINNING CONTAINING AN AREA OF";
- 3. On page 7, line 2, after the word "Guimaras", delete the punctuation mark comma "," and the phrase "as Co-Chairperson" and in lieu thereof, replace it with the phrase "OR A DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE";
- 4. On the same page, line 4, after the word "duly", delete the word "designated" and in lieu thereof, replace it with the word "AUTHORIZED";
- 5. On the same page, line 11, after the word "duly", delete the word "authorized" and in lieu thereof, replace it with the word "**DESIGNATED**";
- 6. On page 10, lines 10 to 12, after the acronym "TTGINP", delete the phrase ": *Provided,* That in the appointment of all PAMO staff, highly qualified residents of

- the Province of Guimaras, living proximate to the TTGINP, shall be given priority";
- 7. On page 12, line 8, between the words "projects" and "of", insert the phrase "AND SUSTAINING THE OPERATION";
- 8. On the same page, line 10, after the word "fees", insert the phrase "AND CHARGES"; and
- 9. On the same page, line 25, after the word "full", delete the adverb "as" and in lieu thereof, replace it with the preposition "IN".

Respectfully submitted:

Chairpersons:

SEN. SONNY ANGARA

Committee on Finance

SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance

Senior Vice Chairpersons:

# **SEN. PIA S. CAYETANO**

Committee on Finance
Vice Chairperson, Committee on
Environment, Natural Resources and
Climate Change

# **SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS**

Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

- the Province of Guimaras, living proximate to the TTGINP, shall be given priority";
- 7. On page 12, line 8, between the words "projects" and "of", insert the phrase "AND SUSTAINING THE OPERATION";
- 8. On the same page, line 10, after the word "fees", insert the phrase "AND CHARGES"; and
- 9. On the same page, line 25, after the word "full", delete the adverb "as" and in lieu thereof, replace it with the preposition "IN".

Respectfully submitted:

Chairpersons:

**SEN. SONNY ANGARA**Committee on Finance

SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance

Senior Vice Chairpersons:

SEN. PIA S. CAYETANO

Pra S. Caylans

Committee on Finance Vice Chairperson, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS

Committee on Finance

*Member,* Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

# Vice Chairpersons:

SEN. RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

Committee on Finance

Member, Committee on Environment,

Natural Resources and Climate Change

SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

SEN. CHRISTOPHER "BONG" GO

Committee on Finance *Member,* Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

SEN RISA HONTIVEROS

Committee on Finance Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

SEN. MARIA LOURDES NANCY S.

**BINAY** 

Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change **SEN. GRACE POE** 

Committee on Finance

SEN. FRANCIS "TOL" N.

**TOLENTINO** 

Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change SEN. MARK VILLAR

Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

SEN. JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

Committee on Finance

Member, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change

Members:

SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance

SEN. MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance

SEN. RØBINHOOD C. PADILLA

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA JR.

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance

**SEN. RAFFY T. TULFO** 

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance SEN. FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance

SEN. ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

Committee on Finance

Members:

SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance

SEN. MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance

SEN. ROBINHOOD C. PADILLA

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance

SEN, RAMON BONG REVILLA JR.

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance

**SEN. RAFFY T. TULFO** 

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance SEN. FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Committee on Finance

SEN. ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

Committee on Finance

Ex Officio Members:

SEN. LOREN LEGARDA

President Pro Tempore
Senior Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance

**SEN. JOEL VILLANUEVA** 

Majority Leader

SEN. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

Minority Leader

HON. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

Senate President



# Republic of the Philippines Department of Environment and Natural Resources NATIONAL MAPPING AND RESOURCE INFORMATION AUTHORITY www.namria.gov.ph

03 APR 2023

# CERTIFICATION

# TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the attached technical description (TD) of Senate Bill No. 355, which is also referred to as the "Taklong and Tandog Group of Islands Natural Park Act", is correct in terms of general location and total area, compliant with the standard bearing-distance format and PRS92 requirement. Further, its linear error of closure is within the allowable limit. The said TD is subject to ground delineation and demarcation.

This Certification is issued upon the request of the Senate Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, Senate, Pasay City.

Usec. PETER N. TIANGCO, PhD, CESO I
Administrator

# TAKLONG AND TANDONG GROUP OF ISLANDS NATURAL PARK ACT Seante Bill No. 355

# TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point marked "1" on the Map, which is S 34° 41' W, 528.49 meters from PRS 92 "GMS 3114" with geographic coordinates of 10°26'16.53" Latitude and 122°30'45.26" Longitude, located at Barangay San Roque, Municipality of Nueva Valencia, Province of Guimaras,

thence	S 45°22' E	87.84	meters to corner	2;
thence	N 86°28' E	86.93	meters to corner	3;
thence	S 54°43' W	32.81	meters to corner	4;
thence	S 29°53' E	78.64	meters to corner	5;
thence	S 41°20' W	34.08	meters to corner	6;
thence	S 15°33' W	202.6	meters to corner	7;
thence	S 86°34' W	224.9	meters to corner	8;
thence	S 41°22′ W	47.65	meters to corner	9;
thence	S 21°22' W	63.21	meters to corner	10;
thence	S 03°52' W	136.3	meters to corner	11;
thence	S 09°46′ W	277.8	meters to corner	12;
thence	N 76°31' E	139.3	meters to corner	13;
thence	N 84°05' E	34.16	meters to corner	14;
thence	S 87°04' E	43.31	meters to corner	15;
thence	S 72°31' E	73.45	meters to corner	16;
thence	S 30°42' W	83.1	meters to corner	17;
thence	S 00°47′ E	97.65	meters to corner	18;
thence	S 33°38' E	93.91	meters to corner	19;
thence	S 63°15′ E	23.35	meters to corner	20;
thence	S 63°04′ W	160.6	meters to corner	21;
thence	S 14°39' W	133.9	meters to corner	22;
thence	S 54°21' E	102.4	meters to corner	23;
thence	N 43°18' E	170.3	meters to corner	24;
thence	S 78°00' E	159.8	meters to corner	25;
thence	N 17°50' E	243.4	meters to corner	26;
thence	S 73°17' E	118.8	meters to corner	27;
thence	S 34°28' W	25.34	meters to corner	28;
thence	S 61°20′ E	85.85	meters to corner	29;
thence	N 68°51' E	55.93	meters to corner	30;
thence	S 15°47' W	51.03	meters to corner	31;
thence	S 40°37′ E	105.1	meters to corner	32;
thence	S 03°55' W	71.28	meters to corner	33;
thence	S 56°23' W	36.08	meters to corner	34;
thence	S 38°18' W	58.56	meters to corner	35;
thence	S 08°30' E	95.06	meters to corner	36;

thence	S 02°44' W	245.9	meters to corner	37;
thence	S 89°21' W	182.4	meters to corner	38;
thence	S 43°50' W	280.9	meters to corner	39;
thence	S 11°35' W	104	meters to corner	40;
thence	S 15°30' W	101	meters to corner	41;
thence	S 38°44' E	79.5	meters to corner	42;
thence	S 68°22' E	58.84	meters to corner	43;
thence	S 71°50′ E	148.3	meters to corner	44;
thence	N 60°35' E	82.56	meters to corner	45;
thence	S 28°27' E	92.3	meters to corner	46;
thence	S 33°21' W	221.8	meters to corner	47;
thence	S 03°43′ E	152.4	meters to corner	48;
thence	S 11°57′ E	119.4	meters to corner	49;
thence	N 49°48' E	125.8	meters to corner	50;
thence	N 71°32′ E	217.6	meters to corner	51;
thence	S 46°05′ E	253.2	meters to corner	52;
thence	S 00°00' E	826	meters to corner	53;
thence	S 90°00' W	3650	meters to corner	54;
thence	N 00°00' E	3636	meters to corner	55;
thence	S 89°51' E	2785	meters to corner	1,

from the point of beginning containing an area of **ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FORTY-ONE (1,141)** hectares, more or less. Bearings and distances of line were derived using the PRS92 Philippine Zone IV coordinate system, subject to ground delineation and demarcation.

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )
First Regular Session )



"22 JUL 12 A11:12

SENATE

s. No. \_355

RECEIVED BY.

# Introduced by SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

### **AN ACT**

DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVA VALENCIA IN THE PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS, A PROTECTED AREA, WITH THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM, TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE TAKLONG AND TANDOG GROUP OF ISLANDS NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Under the 1987 Philippine Constitution, it is a declared state policy that the 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." In line with safeguarding a healthful ecology, the Constitution likewise provides that Congress shall determine the national parks, which shall be conserved and may not be increased nor diminished, except by law.<sup>2</sup>

Pursuant to the said constitutional provisions, the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) was established by virtue of Republic Act (RA) No. 7586, as amended by RA No. 11038, otherwise known as the "Expanded NIPAS Act of 2018". Cognizant of the exacting impact of diverse human activities on all components of the natural environment, the NIPAS Act declared it 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 establishment of a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Article II, Section 16, 1987 Philippine Constitution

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Article XII, Sec. 3, 1987 Philippine Constitution

comprehensive system of integrated protected areas within the classification of national park as provided for in the Constitution." The system shall encompass ecologically rich, unique and biologically important areas that are habitats of threatened species of plants and animals, biogeographic zones and related ecosystems, whether terrestrial, wetland or marine, all of which shall be designated as 'protected areas'.<sup>3</sup>

Presently, as of July 1, 2022 there are already 113 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.

Guimaras has one protected area under the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS) as amended by Expanded National Integrated Protected Area System Act of 2018, the Taklong Island National Marine Reserve (TINMR). Located in the Municipality of Nueva Valencia at the southern tip of the island, TINMR covers 46 islets and the coastline barangays of La Paz and San Roque (Presidential Proclamation No. 525 s.1990). It has an aggregate area of approximately 1,143.45 hectares consisting of 183.0000 hectares of terrestrial area and 960.45 hectares of brackish and marine water.<sup>4</sup>

TINMR is rich in biodiversity. It prides itself with 64 spcies of birds, 16 species of reptiles, 8 species of mammals, 114 species of hard corals, 17 species of species of soft corals, 9 species of seagrasses and 26 species of mangroves including *Rhizophora x lamarckii* ehich can be found only in Guimaras, Bohol and Masbate. The islets are covered with indigenous plant species such as Molave, Magtalisay, Pandan Dagat, Kamachile, Batino, Passi, Duhat and Pitogo. Among the mangrove forests are Bacauan spp., Avicennia spp. such as Api-api and Bungalon, Pagatpat and BAntigue. Wildlife species found in the area are: Island Flying Fox, Western Visayas Water Monitor and bird species that include Philippine Pied Fantail, Yellow-

<sup>3</sup> Section 2, RA No. 7586, as amended by RA 11038

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Explanatory Note, HB No. 8335, filed by Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava in the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress

vented Bulbul, Olive-backed Sunbird, Pink-necked Green Pigeon, Pied Triller, White-collared Kingfisher, Asian Glossy Starling, Buff-eared Brown Dove, Large-billed Crow, Blue Rock Thrush, Common Emerald Dove, White-breasted Woodswallow, Philippine Coucal, Philippine Night Jar and Black-naped Tern. Among these birds are some threatened species as the Philippine Megapode or Tabon Scub Fowl which is often observed foraging and laying eggs in Taklong and in Apugan Islands with their nesting sites sighted in Kaliruhan. Notable also in the presence of the endemic Philippine Ducks or *Anas Iuzonica* especially in the early morning at Suba Malawig mangrove area. The islets are also covered with secondary growth and indigenous plant species and some planted trees and agricultural crops by previous settlers.<sup>5</sup>

TINMR was placed under protected area status by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 525 signed by then President Corazon C. Aquino on February 8, 1990. Prior to its proclamation, the area was categorized as unclassified public forest. Currently, the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), based on the National Review, proposed the Marine Reserve to be renamed as Taklong and Tandog Group of Islands Natural Park.<sup>6</sup>

Filed by Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava of the Lone District of Guimaras, the house bill declaring Taklong and Tandog Group of Islands a protected area was passed by the House of Representatives on February 2, 2022 during the previous 18<sup>th</sup> Congress; however, due to lack of material time, the Senate was not able to timely act on the bill. This 19<sup>th</sup> Congress, I see the wisdom of filing a counterpart in the Senate and push for the passage of this bill.

In view of the foregoing, I recommend the approval of this measure.

CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

<sup>5</sup> Ibid

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )
First Regular Session )

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

Senate South

'22 JUL 12 A11:12

SENATE

s. No. 355

RECEIVED BY:

# Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

# **AN ACT**

DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NUEVA VALENCIA IN THE PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS, A PROTECTED AREA, WITH THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM, TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE TAKLONG AND TANDOG GROUP OF ISLANDS NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Taklong and Tandog Group of Islands Natural Park Act".

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – Cognizant of the profound impact of human activities on all components of the natural environment, it is hereby declared 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 System (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 a parcel of land located in the Municipality of Nueva Valencia in the Province of Guimaras, as well as their aesthetic and ecological importance, the said area is hereby declared a protected area with the category of natural park, and shall hereinafter be referred to as the Taklong and Tandog Group

of Islands Natural Park (TTGINP). 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 nongovernmental 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, culture and indigenous practices.

#### Sec. 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 or acts of preservation and sustainable utilization of wildlife or maintenance, restoration, and enhancement of habitats;
  - c) Indigenous cultural communities (ICCs)/Indigenous peoples (IPs) refer to groups of people sharing common bonds of 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 the 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;

- 1 e) Natural park refers to a relatively large area not materially altered by
  2 human activity where extractive resource uses are not allowed and is
  3 maintained to protect outstanding natural and scenic areas of national
  4 or international significance for scientific, educational, and recreational
  5 use;
- f) Protected area refers to an identified portion of land and water set
  aside by reason of its unique physical and biological significance,
  managed to enhance biological diversity and protected against
  destructive human exploitation; and
  - g) Tenured migrants refer to protected area occupants who have been actually, continuously and presently occupying a portion of the protected area for five (5) years before the proclamation or law establishing the same as a protected area, and are solely dependent therein for subsistence.

- Sec. 4. Classification as a National Park. The TTGINP is comprised of a parcel of land of the public domain situated in the Municipality of Nueva Valencia in the Province of Guimaras. All lands of the public domain within the coverage and scope of the TTGINP shall fall under the classification of national park as provided for in Article XII, Section 3 of the Constitution.
- Sec. 5. Scope and Coverage. The boundaries of the TTGINP are more particularly described as the area beginning at a point marked "1" on the Map, which is S 34° 41′ W, 528.49 meters from PRS 92 "GMS 3114" with geographic coordinates of 10°26'16.53" Latitude and 122°30'45.26" Longitude, situated in Barangay San Roque, Municipality of Nueva Valencia, Province of Guimaras,

25	thence	S 45°22' E	87.84	meters to corner 2;
26	thence	N 86°28' E	86.93	meters to corner 3;
27	thence	S 54°43' W	32.81	meters to corner 4;
28	thence	S 29°53' E	78.64	meters to corner 5:

1	thence	S 41°20' W	34.08	meters to corner 6;
2	thence	S 15°33' W	202.60	meters to corner 7;
3	thence	S 86°34' W	224.88	meters to corner 8;
4	thence	S 41°22' W	47.65	meters to corner 9;
5	thence	S 21°22' W	63.21	meters to corner 10;
6	thence	S 03°52' W	136.26	meters to corner 11;
7	thence	S 09°46' W	277.82	meters to corner 12;
8	thence	N 76°31' E	139.33	meters to corner 13;
9	thence	N 84°05' E	34.159	meters to corner 14;
10	thence	S 87°04' E	43.31	meters to corner 15;
11	thence	S 72°31' E	73.45	meters to corner 16;
12	thence	S 30°42' W	83.10	meters to corner 17;
13	thence	S 00°47' E	97.65	meters to corner 18;
14	thence	S 33°38' E	93.91	meters to corner 19;
15	thence	S 63°15' E	23.35	meters to corner 20;
16	thence	S 63°04' W	160.57	meters to corner 21;
17	thence	S 14°39' W	133.86	meters to corner 22;
18	thence	S 54°21' E	102.41	meters to corner 23;
19	thence	N 43°18' E	170.27	meters to corner 24;
20	thence	S 78°00' E	159.82	meters to corner 25;
21	thence	N 17°50' E	243.42	meters to corner 26;

1	thence	S 73°17' E	118.80	meters to corner 27;
2	thence	S 34°28' W	25.34	meters to corner 28;
3	thence	S 61°20' E	85.85	meters to corner 29;
4	thence	N 68°51' E	55.93	meters to corner 30;
5	thence	S 15°47' W	51.03	meters to corner 31;
6	thence	S 40°37' E	105.14	meters to corner 32;
7	thence	S 03° <b>5</b> 5' W	71.28	meters to corner 33;
8	thence	S 56°23' W	36.08	meters to corner 34;
9	thence	S 38°18' W	58. <b>5</b> 6	meters to corner 35;
10	thence	S 08°30' E	95.06	meters to corner 36;
11	thence	S 02°44' W	245.92	meters to corner 37;
12	thence	S 89°21' W	182.35	meters to corner 38;
13	thence	S 43°50' W	280.92	meters to corner 39;
14	thence	S 11°35' W	103.97	meters to corner 40;
15	thence	S 15°30' W	100.98	meters to corner 41;
16	thence	S 38°44' E	79.50	meters to corner 42;
17	thence	S 68°22' E	58.84	meters to corner 43;
18	thence	S 71°50' E	148.32	meters to corner 44;
19	thence	N 60°35' E	82.56	meters to corner 45;
20	thence	S 28°27' E	92.30	meters to corner 46;
21	thence	S 33°21' W	221.81	meters to corner 47;

1	thence	S 03°43' E	152.39	meters to corner 48;
2	thence	S 11°57' E	119.44	meters to corner 49;
3	thence	N 49°48' E	125.75	meters to corner 50;
4	thence	N 71°32' E	217.63	meters to corner 51;
5	thence	S 46°05' E	253.16	meters to corner 52;
6	thence	S 00°00' E	826.00	meters to corner 53;
7	thence	S 90°00' W	3650.00	meters to corner 54;
8	thence	N 00°00' E	3636.00	meters to corner 55;
9	thence	S 89°51' E	2785.43	meters to corner 1,

9 1

and comprises one thousand one hundred forty-one (1,141) hectares, more or less.

Sec. 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 (PAMB) created under Section 7 of this Act, may designate areas surrounding the TTGINP 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.

# 20 ARTICLE II 21 MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS

Sec. 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 TTGINP. The PAMB shall be composed of the following:

1 DENR Regional Executive Director for Region VI, as Chairperson; a) 2 b) Governor of the Province of Guimaras, as Co-Chairperson: 3 c) Senators of the Republic of the Philippines who are duly registered 4 residents of the Province of Guimaras, or their duly designated 5 representatives, unless the Senators decline the membership in the PAMB; 6 District Representatives of the Congressional Districts where the 7 d) 8 TTGINP is located, or their duly designated representatives, unless the 9 District Representatives decline the membership in the PAMB; 10 e) Mayor of the Municipality of Nueva Valencia in the Province of 11 Guimaras, or a duly authorized representative; Chairpersons of all the barangays with territorial jurisdiction over the 12 f) TTGINP; 13 14 g) Regional Directors of the following government agencies, namely: Department of Agriculture (DA), National Economic and Development 15 Authority (NEDA), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), 16 17 Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of National Defense 18 (DND) and Department of Tourism (DOT); 19 h) Three (3) representatives from either NGOs or people's organizations 20 (POs), based in the Province of Guimaras, duly accredited both by the 21 DENR and the provincial government. The NGOs or POs represented 22 should have been in existence for at least five (5) years and with track record in or related to protected area management; 23 24 i) At least one (1) but not more than three (3) representatives from all the ICC/ IP present in the area and recognized by the National 25 Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP); 26

1 One (1) representative from an academic institution, preferably from a j) 2 university or college in the Province of Guimaras, with proven track 3 record in or related to protected area management; and k) One (1) representative from the private sector, preferably a resident of 4 5 the Province of Guimaras, who is distinguished in a profession or field of interest relevant to the protected area management. 6 7 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, 8 9 otherwise known as the "National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992" as 10 amended by Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the "Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018". 11 12 Sec. 8. Functions of the PAMB. – The PAMB shall have the following powers and functions: 13 14 a) Oversee the management of the TTGINP; b) 15 Approve policies, plans and programs, proposals, agreements, and 16 other related documents for the management of the TTGINP; 17 c) Approve the management plan of the TTGINP and ensure its 18 harmonization with and integration into the Ancestral Domain 19 Sustainable Development and Protection Plan, land use plan and other development plans, public or private, and their implementation; 20 d) 21 Adopt a manual of operations to include rules of procedures in the conduct of business, and the creation of committees and their 22 respective terms of reference; 23 24 e) Recommend the deputation of appropriate agencies and individuals for the enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations governing the 25 management of the TTGINP; 26

Allocate financial resources for the implementation of the management

27

f)

- 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;

11 1

- 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 the TTGINP;
  - j) Monitor and assess the performance of the Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) and other protected area personnel and compliance of partners with the terms and conditions of any undertaking, contract or agreement relative to any project or activity within the TTGINP;
  - k) Recommend from among a shortlist of qualified candidates, the designation or appointment of the PASu; and
  - 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.

Sec. 9. The Protected Area Management Office (PAMO). — 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 TTGINP. 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 positions shall likewise be appointed by the DENR Secretary to assist the PASu in the management of the TTGINP: Provided, That in the appointment of all PAMO staff, highly qualified residents of the Province of Guimaras, living proximate to the TTGINP, shall be given priority.

9 7

The PASu shall be primarily accountable to the PAMB and the DENR for the management and operations of the TTGINP. Pursuant therete, 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 the TTGINP management plans, programs, projects, and policies with relevant national and LGUs' plans and programs;
- 22 c) Provide secretariat services to the PAMB and its committees and 23 ensure the availability of relevant and timely information for decision-24 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 the laws, rules and regulations relevant to the TTGINP, 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 TTGINP;
  - 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 TTGINP;
  - 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, including collection of wildlife, and its by-products or derivatives for research purposes, shall continue to be issued by relevant authorities, subject to prior clearance from the PAMB, through the PASu, in accordance with the specific acts to be covered;
  - j) Collect and receive pertinent fees, charges, donations, and other income for the TTGINP: Provided, That such 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 TTGINP based on the management plan; and
- 1) 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

Sec. 10. The Taklong and Tandog Group of Islands Natural Park Integrated Protected Area Fund. – There is hereby established a trust fund to be known as the Taklong and Tandog Group of Islands Natural Park Integrated Protected Area Fund (TTGINP-IPAF) for purposes of financing projects of the TTGINP and the NIPAS. All income generated from the operation and management of wild flora and fauna in the TTGINP shall accrue to the TTGINP-IPAF. The income shall be derived from fees from permitted sale and export of flora and fauna and other resources from the TTGINP, proceeds from lease of multiple-use areas, contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting from the TTGINP, and such other fees and income derived from the operation of the TTGINP.

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 TTGINP 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 in the National Treasury for purposes of financing the programs and projects of the NIPAS.

The fund may be augmented by grants, donations, endowment 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

- Sec. 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.
- 9 Sec. 12. Suppletory Application of the NIPAS Law. The provisions of 10 Republic Act No. 7586 as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, shall have suppletory 11 application to this Act.
  - Sec. 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 government of the Municipality Nueva Valencia, the provincial government of Guimaras, and concerned national government agencies, issue the corresponding rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.
  - Sec. 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.
  - Sec. 15. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, letters of instruction, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
  - Sec. 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,

× 1