Republic of the Philippines



LAGUNA LAKE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines Tel. Nos.:332-2346, 376-4039, 376-4072, 376-4049, 376-061

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 540 Series of 2018

A RESOLUTION REVISING THE LAGUNA DE BAY FISHERY ZONING AND MANAGEMENT PLAN OF 1999, SETTING SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE ALLOCATION MECHANISMS, DECLARING CERTAIN ACTS AS PROHIBITED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Section 1. Title - This Resolution shall be known as the Laguna De Bay Fishery Zoning and Management Guidelines (ZOMAG) of 2018.

Section 2. Statement of Policy

Pursuant to the 2016 State of the Nation Address of President Rodrigo R. Duterte expressing that "the Laguna de Bay shall be transformed into a vibrant economic zone showcasing ecotourism by addressing the negative impact of the watershed destruction, land conversion and pollution, and pronouncing that the poor fishermen will have priority in its entitlements", it is hereby a declared policy of the Authority to:

- 2.1. Ensure the comprehensive and systematic development of the Laguna de Bay through ecologically balanced methods that will rationalize the utilization of the lake and its resources;
- 2.2. Promote the socio-economic well-being of the people in the region by setting up zoning and management guidelines that is legally compliant in keeping with ecologically sustainable and equitable environmental principles;
- 2.3. Continue its multi-use policy for a more effective institutional management of the aquaculture activities in the region with the end in view of ensuring food security and eventually contributing to the national economic growth;
- 2.4. Encourage marginal fisherfolk to organize themselves into groups or associations to enhance their capabilities for self-empowerment;
- 2.5. Encourage participation of local government units and other stakeholders to strengthen the regulatory and enforcement functions of the Authority;

Section 3. Definition of Terms

For the purpose of this resolution:

3.1. Access lane - a narrow passageway that is also used to separate individual aquaculture structures within a designated fish pen or fish cage block, which is designated primarily for access of small, non-commercial boats.

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- 3.2. Authority refers to the Laguna Lake Development Authority.
- 3.3. Fish cage refers to an enclosure, which is either stationary or floating, made up of nets or screens sewn or fastened together and installed in the water with opening at the surface or covered and held in a place by various types of anchors and floats.
- 3.4. Fisherfolk/Fishermen one directly, personally and physically engaged in taking and/or culturing and processing fishery and/or aquatic resources.
- 3.5. Fish pen an artificial enclosure constructed within a body of water for culturing fish and fishery/aquatic resources, made up of nets and poles closely arranged to form an enclosure.
- 3.6. Laguna de Bay Region comprises the whole provinces of Rizal and Laguna; the towns of Tanauan, Sto. Tomas and Malvar in Batangas, Silang, General Mariano Alvarez (GMA) and Carmona and the city of Tagaytay in Cavite; the town of Lucban in Quezon; and the cities of Pasay, Caloocan, Quezon, Manila, Marikina, Pasig, Taguig, Muntinlupa and the town of Pateros in Metro Manila.
- 3.7. Merging occurs when two or more fish pen or fish cage structures are operated as one aquaculture structure. This includes the manner of obstructing, interfering or preventing passage of any other watercraft to the access lane, which is an area separating the individual aquaculture structures, by putting up blockages, whether temporary or permanent, at the entrance and/or exit of said lane, without prior clearance from the Authority.
- 3.8. Navigational lane is a regularly used route for navigation, propelling or maneuvering of any watercraft in the lake. As used in this ZOMAG, the navigational lanes include the main lake area within Two Hundred (200) Meters from and parallel to the shore, the established routes linking one port to another, the area in between the designated fish pen and/or fish cage blocks for purposes of navigation, propelling and maneuvering of watercrafts.
- 3.9. Watercraft any vessel, boat, barge, sailboat, speedboat or any similar devise, except seaplane, used or useable for carrying or transporting persons, good or services within the lake.

Section 4. Allowable Area and Allocation for Aquaculture

The total area allowed for aquaculture structures is Nine Thousand Two Hundred (9,200) Hectares, based on the natural carrying capacity of the Laguna de Bay for aquaculture, in accordance with Section 51 of the Fisheries Code of 1998.

Given this limitation and guided by the President's pronouncement of prioritizing the underprivileged fishermen in its entitlements, the Authority hereby sets an allocation on a 60%:40% ratio to be distributed under the following scheme:

4.1. For the 60% allocation:

4.1.1 Individual Permittee - the allowable area per fish cage will be limited to a minimum size of Two Hundred (200) Square Meters and maximum of One (1) Hectare, while the allowable area per fish pen will be limited to a minimum of One (1) Hectare and a maximum of Five (5) Hectares.

4.2. For the 40% allocation:

4.2.1. For corporations, partnerships or cooperatives duly organized under the laws of the Philippines and persons/entities forming themselves into a joint venture that intend to be jointly and severally responsible for a particular contract – the allowable area per fish pen will be limited to blocks of Ten (10) Hectares or Twenty (20) Hectares.

Section 5. Modification and Review of the Allowable Area and Allocation

Notwithstanding the ratio established above, the Authority reserves the right to modify the same in the event of any profound or substantial changes in the circumstances which may have occurred within a period of one (1) year from the implementation of this Resolution. For this purpose, there shall be a quarterly review to be conducted by the Authority of the total number of permittees and to determine the following:

- 5.1. If there are changes that would warrant the revision of the 60% 40% ratio allocation;
- 5.2. To assess issues arising therefrom in terms of socio-economic impact:
- 5.3. Recommend innovative schemes or programs that would ensure the implementation of a new ratio allocation maintaining the favorable distribution for the marginalized fishermen.

Section 6. Order of Preference

The allocation shall follow the sequential hierarchy of preference in granting permits:

- 6.1. Residents of the Laguna de Bay Region, who must be a natural born Filipino citizen and registered with the Authority as fishermen;
- 6.2. Cooperatives majority of whose members are fishermen registered with Authority as well as the Cooperative Development Authority, and partnerships majority of whose members are registered as fishermen with the Authority;
- 6.3. Corporations wholly-owned by Filipino citizens, registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, whose place of business is within the Laguna de Bay Region;

In the event the area allocated for fishpen and fishcages was not fully occupied, it shall be allocated to academic institutions engaged in scientific research or pilot-testing of new aquaculture technologies.

Accordingly, the abovementioned permittees shall have no record of previous violation, including delinquency in payment.

Section 7. Terms and Conditions

- 7.1. Design and materials of Fish pen and Fish cages:
 - 7.1.1. Fish pens and fish cages shall be constructed in accordance with the prescribed design and materials approved by the Authority.
 - 7.1.2. Main houses and guard houses shall observe uniformity in design and structure, including the maximum floor area thereof, construction of which shall be within the area allotted to them. Payment of fees corresponding to the areas occupied shall likewise be imposed.
 - 7.1.3. The Authority shall prescribe strict rules and regulations for waste and sanitation.

7.2. Reporting Requirements:

7.2.1. All permittees shall submit report of the actual date and quantity of fish stock, quantity and variety of fish harvested and actual volume of fish feeds consumed, in an annual basis and in accordance with LLDA-approved guidelines.

7.3. Registration:

- 7.3.1. There shall be an annual registration and submission of updated business-related permits and other documentary requirements and payment of appropriate fees and charges.
- 7.3.2. Permittees shall be issued registration plates, which shall be prominently displayed in their prescribed location.

Section 8. Prohibited Acts

The following acts shall constitute as grounds for revocation of Privilege to Operate (PTO) and/or imposition of fines/penalties and other appropriate legal actions:

- 8.1. Falsification and misrepresentation in the application for PTO;
- 8.2. Blocking the navigational and access lanes;
- 8.3. Exceeding the allocated area specified in the PTO or merging several areas covered by different PTOs;
- 8.4. Any violation of the Terms and Conditions of the Environmental Compliance Certificate, such as, but not limited to failure to submit the requirements thereto within the prescribed period;

- 8.5. Any discharge of solid wastes and raw sewage;
- 8.6. Non-posting of registration plates;
- 8.7. Transfer of Privilege to Operate;
- 8.8. Other prohibited acts that may be imposed by statutes, orders, proclamations and local municipal or city ordinances.

Section 9. Zoning Map

The Board hereby authorizes the management to prepare a new fishery zoning map for Laguna de Bay, subject the same to public consultation and thereafter submit it to the Board for final approval/ratification.

Section 10. Repealing Clause

All Board Resolutions pertaining to the Laguna de Bay Fishery Zoning and Management Plan of 1996 and 1999 are hereby repealed in so far as they are inconsistent with this Resolution. All LLDA orders, guidelines, circulars, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are likewise repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 11. Separability Clause

If any section or provision of this Resolution is held unconstitutional or invalid by any competent court, the other sections or provisions not otherwise declared as such shall continue to be valid.

Section 12. Transitory Provision

The Management shall forthwith issue the corresponding rules and regulations to implement this Resolution.

Section 13. Effectivity

Finally, the 2018 Laguna de Bay Fishery Zoning and Management Guidelines shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation and registration with the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR).

APPROVED on 30th day of April 2019 through ad referendum.

HON. ROY A. CIMATU
Secretary, Department of Environment and
Natural Resources as Chairman

HØN. JAIME C. MEDINA
General Manager, Laguna Lake Development Authority
as Vice-Cheirman

ATTY, JAIME Z. PAZ Province of Rizal as Member

HON. ROWEENAM. DALUSONG

Director, National Economic and Development
and Authority (NEDA) as Member

HON, FRISCO S. SAN JUAN, JR.
Undersecretary, Metropolitan Manila Development
Authority (MMDA) as Member

HON. ANNA PAMEVA R. DELA ROSA Mayors' League of Laguna as Member ATTY, RODEL TI PADERAYON
Province of Laguna as Member

HON. ZENAIDA C. MAGLAYA
Undersecretary, Department of Trade
Industry (DVI) as Member

HON. MICHAEL P. ONG
Deputy Executive Secretary, Office of the
President as Member

HON. RAFAEL A. TANJUATCO Mayors' League of Rizal as Member

Attested by:

ATTY: ANN MONET M. SIGUI-BACANI Corporate Secretary