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Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU**

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MAY 15 2017

**TECHNICAL BULLETIN**  
NO. 2017 - 09

**SUBJECT: ADOPTING THE USER MANUAL ON BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING SYSTEM FOR TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS**

Further to the issuance of Biodiversity Management Bureau-Technical Bulletin (BMB-TB) No. 2016-05, *Guidelines on Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring System for Terrestrial Ecosystems*, the attached User Manual is hereby adopted to supplement the said Guidelines. Provided that, in order to conform to the prescriptions in the Manual, the following provisions of TB No. 2016-05 are amended as follows:

- 1) The term "Permanent Monitoring Plot" as indicated in *Section 4. Complementarity of BAMS with other Assessment and Monitoring Tools/Systems* shall now be referred to as "Permanent Biodiversity Monitoring Area (PBMA)." The PBMA shall refer to areas that contain ecologically and economically important species and which are assumed to be free from human disturbance.
- 2) *Section 7. Biodiversity Monitoring of Terrestrial Ecosystems* shall be re-stated as: At the minimum, each protected area, shall establish one two-hectare PBMA selected from the two-kilometer transect line established for the assessment of each forest formation type, the selection of which is based on the highest diversity indices computed considering also the number of threatened and endemic species.

Flora monitoring shall be conducted regularly **every five (5) years** after the baseline survey, however, documenting of basic information such as flowering, fruiting, clearing, cutting and other disturbances and changes at the ecosystem level may be conducted on a monthly basis, particularly for threatened species, depending on the availability of funds and manpower.

Fauna monitoring shall be conducted **at least every three (3) years** when time, financial and manpower resources permit, or at the most every five (5) years, covering both wet and dry seasons, following the methods and procedures prescribed in the Manual.

Monitoring shall be conducted at the start of each protected area management plan period. In cases of catastrophic events such as, but not limited to, strong typhoons and volcanic eruptions, flora and fauna monitoring should be done immediately thereafter.

All other provisions of TB No. 2016-05 shall remain in force.

This Technical Bulletin shall take effect immediately and shall be circulated for the information and guidance of all concerned.

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Director