



Republic of the Philippines

**Department of Environment and Natural Resources**

**BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU**

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**BMB Technical Bulletin**

No. 2020 - 06

**SUBJECT: GUIDE ON THE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF MARKERS  
AND SIGNS FOR RAMSAR SITES**

Pursuant to the DENR Administrative Order 2009-09 *Standard Design and Specification of Signs, Buildings, Facilities and other Infrastructures that may be Installed and/or Constructed within Protected Areas*, BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2016-03 *Standard and Climate Resilient Design of Protected Area Information Center and Signs and Markers*, and in fulfillment of the country's commitments as Contracting Party to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, consistent with its *Guidance on Signs for Ramsar Sites 2017*, this Technical Bulletin is hereby issued for the guidance of all concerned.

**Section 1. Objective.** This Technical Bulletin aims to provide field implementers with the standard designs and specifications, including the materials to be used, for markers and signs for Ramsar Sites to ensure uniformity as well as increase visibility of the existence and importance of Ramsar Sites..

**Section 2. Scope and Coverage.** This Bulletin shall apply to all Philippine Ramsar Sites or those wetlands which were already included in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar List).

**Section 3. Standard Design and Specifications of Ramsar Site Marker and Signs.**

**3.1.** A Ramsar Site shall be identified by a marker installed at the vicinity of the office of the management body responsible for the site. Additionally, signs shall be installed at strategic places along the entrance to the Ramsar Site, at observation areas or points of interest within the Ramsar Site and at exhibit sites within the Protected Area or for tourism purposes.

For Ramsar Sites which are within national protected areas (NIPAS area), markers/signs could be placed at the vicinity of the Protected Area Management Office or at the visitor entrance of the Protected Area.

For Ramsar Sites which are locally-managed, markers/signs could be placed at the vicinity of the office of the concerned local government unit (Provincial, Municipal or City Hall) or at the visitor entrance of the Ramsar Site.

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**3.2. Ramsar Site marker and signs shall have the following common elements:**

- a) *Wetland Name.* The name of the Ramsar Site listed in the Ramsar List.
- b) *Ramsar Site Number.* The identification number provided by the Ramsar Secretariat upon listing.
- c) *Rationale and date of designation.* The format and texts should be as stated below:  
  
The  (name of wetland)  is designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on  (date of designation)  to promote the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands globally.
- d) *Name and contact information of responsible entity.* This include the address, contact numbers, and e-mail address of the responsible agency or management authority. A QR code and other social media contacts (such as web address, facebook, twitter, or instagram) may be included, if available.
- e) *Ramsar logo.* This should conform with the specifications for the Ramsar Convention logo based on the *Ramsar Logo and Brand Guidelines 2017* downloadable from: <https://www.ramsar.org/resources/logo-library>.
- f) *Implementor logos.* As much as possible, logos of all agencies which compose the management authority for the Ramsar Site should be included. At the minimum, the DENR logo, and the logo/s of the largest implementing local government unit/s (provincial or municipal/city) should be shown.
- g) *Logo of the responsible management body or entity* (e.g. Protected Area Management Board [PAMB] logo), if available.

**3.3. The design of Ramsar Site marker and signs will have four types, with standard specifications, as follows:**

Type of Marker/Sign	Panel Size	Installed Height	Where to Install
A. Large Marker	H – 134 cm W – 220 cm	Height of stand: 190 cm	- within the site of Protected Area Management Office, and/or - within the site of the Office of the

			responsible Local Government Unit
B. Medium Sign	H – 100 cm W – 80 cm	Height of stand: Min – 160 cm Max – 180 cm	- Visitor entrance to the Ramsar Site; or - observation site or site of interest within the Ramsar Site
C. Inclined Table Sign	H – 100 cm W – 80 cm	Height of table:  Short legs - 80 cm Tall legs - 130 cm	- Visitor entrance to the Ramsar Site; or - observation site or site of interest within the Ramsar Site
D. Totem Pole Sign	2 to 4 panels with H – 134 cm W – 42 cm	Height of stand: 180 cm	- exhibit areas, or - narrow entrances to observation site

Details of the design of the types of Ramsar Site marker and signs are illustrated in **Annexes A and B**.

**3.4.** Construction materials to be used shall conform with DAO 2009-09. Parts of the marker/sign shall be made up of the following materials:

- Panel or board: any durable, long-lasting material such as concrete, metal, wood, polyvinyl chloride or acrylic glass
- Stand or pole: concrete, wood or stainless steel
- Ink/Paint: sustainable, environment-friendly variant

**3.5.** Depending on the substrate at the installation site, a 90-cm high concrete foundation may also be constructed to support the Ramsar Site marker/sign. Optionally, the base of the poles may be separately lodged inside two concrete foundations of maximum 30-cm height.

#### **Section 4. Installation of Ramsar Site Markers and Signs.**

**4.1.** Within two years upon declaration of the Ramsar Site, a marker and any or all of the three types of Ramsar Site signs, as applicable, shall be installed.

**4.2.** The general considerations under Section 4 of DAO 2009-09 and BMB TB 2016-03 shall guide the installation of the Ramsar Site marker and signs.

**4.3.** All stakeholders should be consulted on the location of the installation site. Considerations on management zoning, visitor appreciation, exposure to hazards and low-impact should also be applied.

**4.4.** The Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) or PENRO/CENRO concerned shall conduct an inspection of the proposed installation site and submit a recommendation to the DENR Regional

Executive Director (RED). The location of the installation site should be agreed upon through a PAMB Resolution, if within a NIPAS area, or through a Resolution/s of the concerned management body, if outside a NIPAS area.

4.6. The PENRO/CENRO/PASu concerned shall conduct the installation of the marker and signs at designated sites within the Ramsar Site.

4.7. Upon installation, a ceremonial launching may be held in the area, preferably, to coincide with the World/National Wetlands Day celebration.

#### **Section 5. Assessment and Maintenance.**

5.1. The PENRO/CENRO/PASu concerned shall assess every two (2) years the state of wear-and-tear of the installed markers/signs to ensure their maintenance. For structures which have been damaged by natural disasters, the assessment shall be conducted immediately upon occurrence of the disaster.

5.2. Based on the assessment, the PENRO/CENRO/ PASu concerned shall submit a periodic report with recommendations to respective DENR RED, with copy submitted to the Director of the Biodiversity Management Bureau.

**Section 6. Existing Ramsar Site markers/signs.** The PENRO/CENRO/PASu concerned shall ensure that existing Ramsar Site markers/signs conform with the standard design and specifications as stipulated herein.

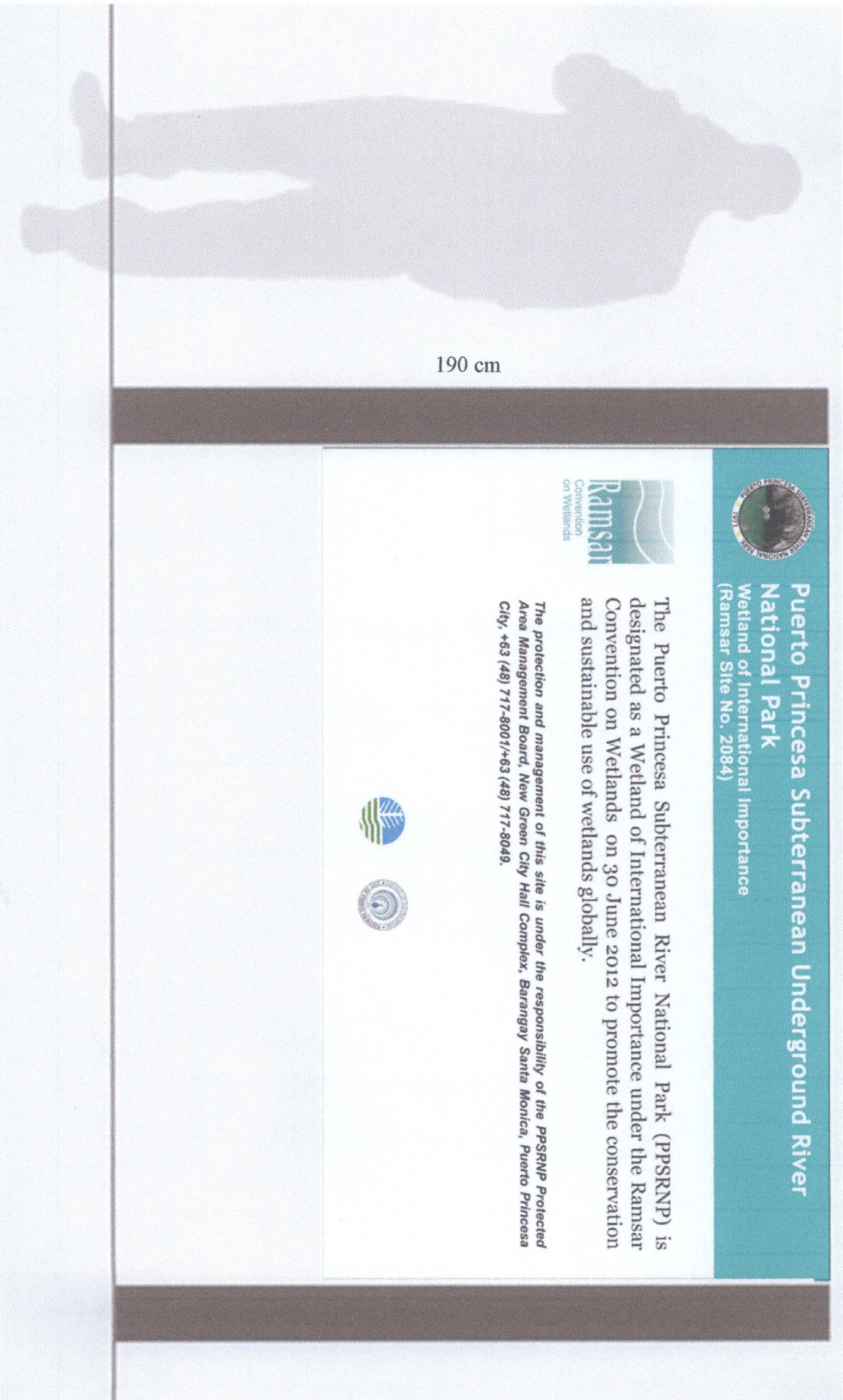
**Section 7. Budgetary Allocation.** The DENR Regional Office concerned should ensure that budget is allocated in their Work and Financial Plan for the installation, maintenance and/or repair of all Ramsar Site markers and signs. Additional funds may be sourced from other partners and / or funding institutions.

This Bulletin is hereby issued for the information and guidance of all concerned.

**RICARDO CALDERON, CESO III**  
OIC Asst. Secretary for Climate Change, and  
Director, in concurrent capacity



ANNEX A. Illustrative Diagram of Each Type of the Ramsar Site Marker/Signs upon Installation



A. Large Sign/Marker

max. height 180 cm

**Puerto Princesa Subterranean Underground River National Park**  
Wetland of International Importance  
(Ramsar Site No. 2084)

**Ramsar**  
Convention on Wetlands

The Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPSRNP) is designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on 30 June 2012 to promote the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands globally.

The protection and management of this site is under the responsibility of the PPSRNP Protected Area Management Board, New Green City Hall Complex, Barangay Santa Monica, Puerto Princesa City, 483 (48) 717-8007/483 (48) 717-8048.

B. Medium Sign

max. height 160 cm

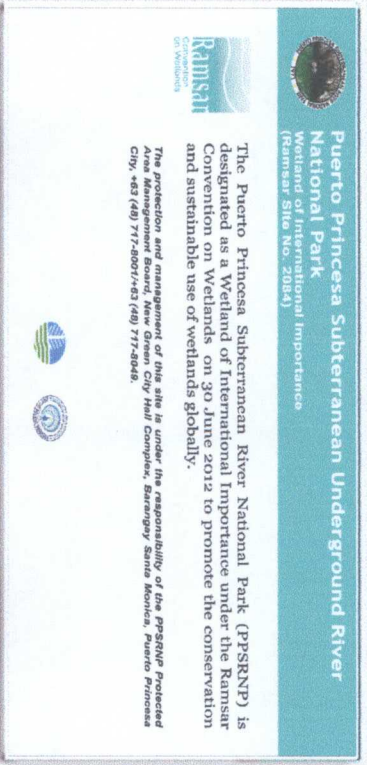
**Puerto Princesa Subterranean Underground River National Park**  
Wetland of International Importance  
(Ramsar Site No. 2084)

**Ramsar**  
Convention on Wetlands

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C. Inclined Table Sign





The sign is a rectangular panel with a teal header and a white body, mounted on a wooden frame. The header contains the title and site information. The body contains a paragraph of text and two logos. The sign is shown at an angle, with a shadow cast to its right.

**Puerto Princesa Subterranean Underground River**  
**National Park**  
Wetland of International Importance  
(Ramsar Site No. 2084)

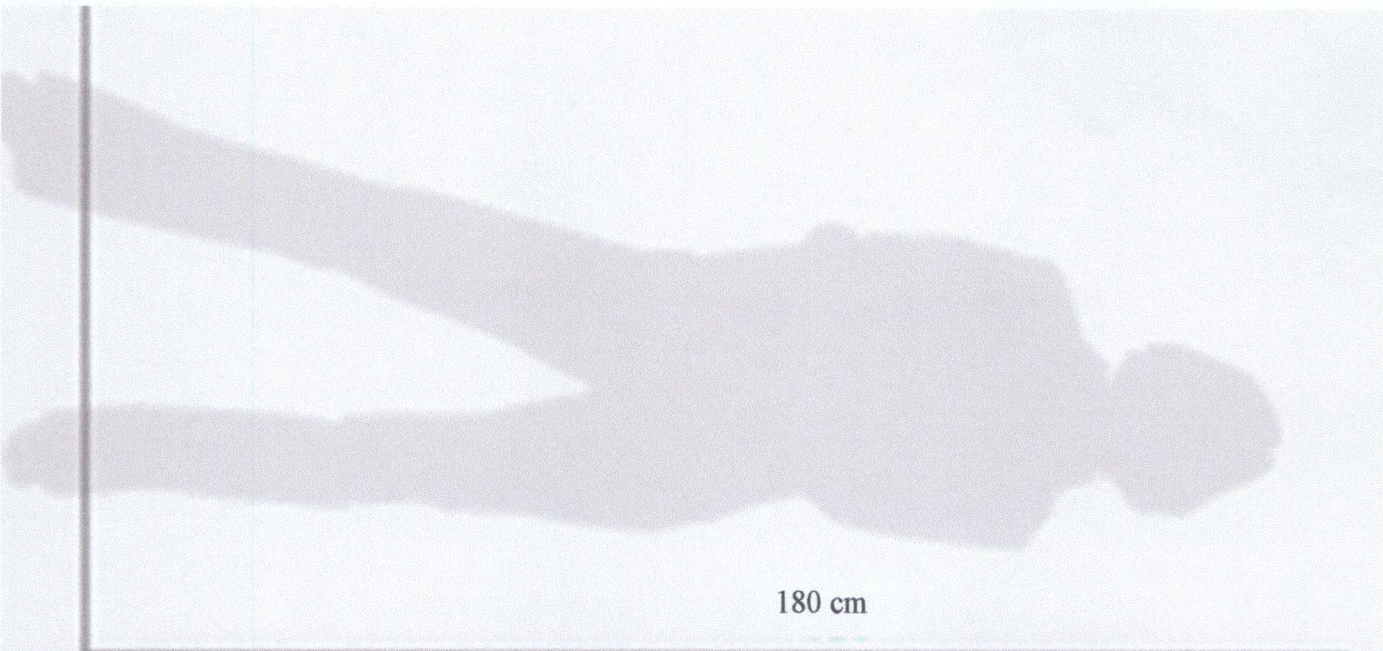
 **Ramsar**  
On Wetlands

The Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPSRNP) is designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on 30 June 2012 to promote the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands globally.

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D. Totem Pole Sign



Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park  
Wetland of International Importance  
(Ramsar Site No. 2164)

**The Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPSRNP) is designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on June 30 2012 to promote the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands globally.**

The protection and management of this site is under the responsibility of the PPSRNP Protected Area Management Board, New Green City Hall Complex, Barangay Santa Monica, Puerto Princesa City, +63(48)717-8001/+63(48)717-8049.



Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park  
Wetland of International Importance  
(Ramsar Site No. 2164)

**Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park, Neotropical Geological Site, ASEAN Heritage Park, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, World Heritage Site, New 7 Wonders of Nature and Ramsar Site.**

Wetlands connects. Unique in the biogeographic region, features connections of ecosystems from the mountain-to-the-sea, including limestone karst landscape with a complex cave system, mangrove forests, lowland evergreen tropical rainforests and fresh waters swamps.

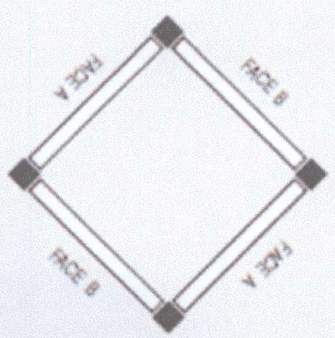
Haven of rich wildlife. Home to 800 plant and 224 animal species, including the endangered Philippine cockatoo, Chinese egret, Moorhen's greenheron, Bearcat, Palawan flying fox, Small-clawed otter and Hakebill turtle, endemic species such as the Palawan peacock pheasant and the Palawan pangolin.

**Natural treasures for people.** The 8.2 km Cadyugan River flows underground within large formations of stalactites and stalagmites. The river provides water to local communities for domestic and agricultural uses. The sustainable ecotourism provides income to the local communities.



FACE A

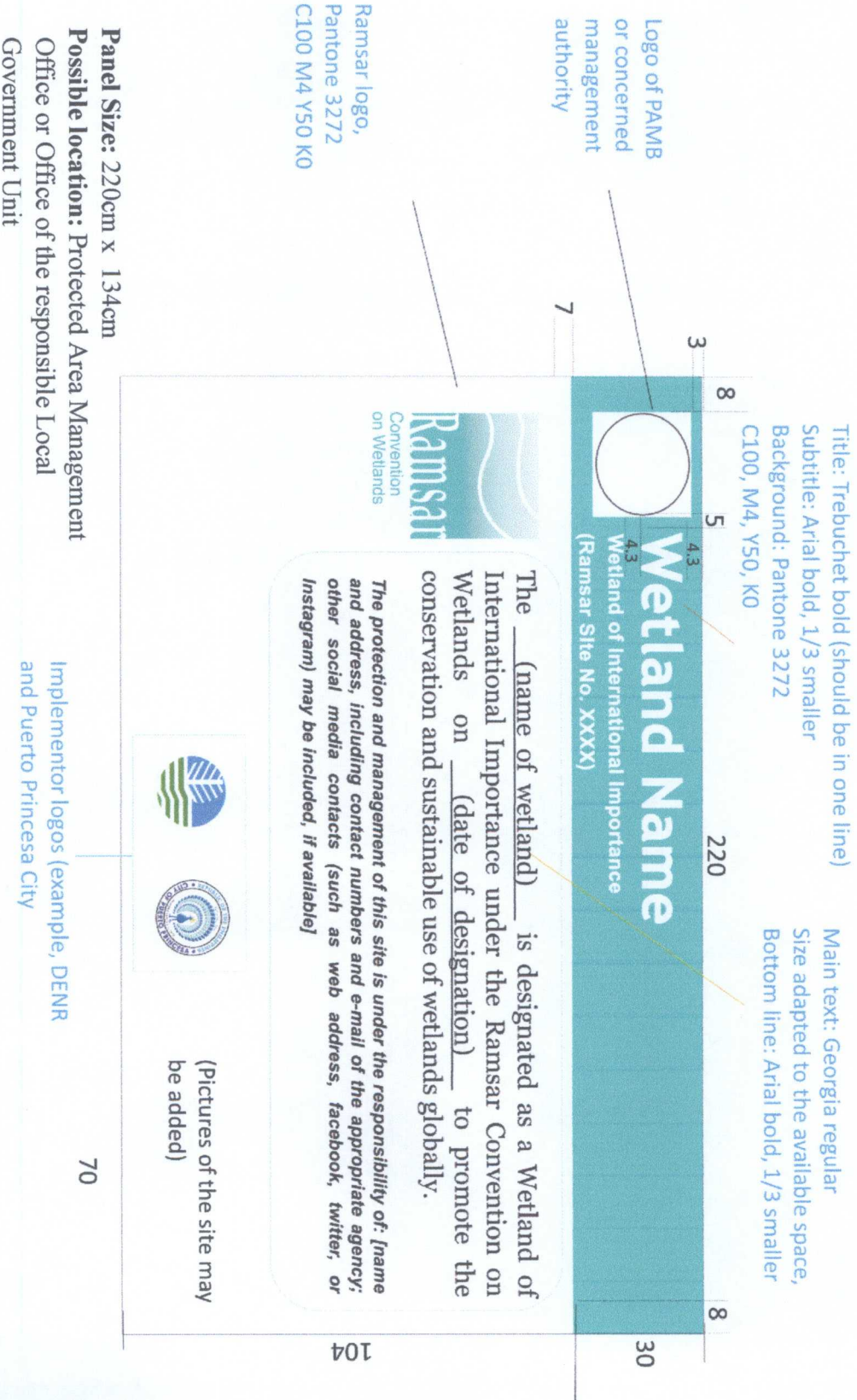
FACE B



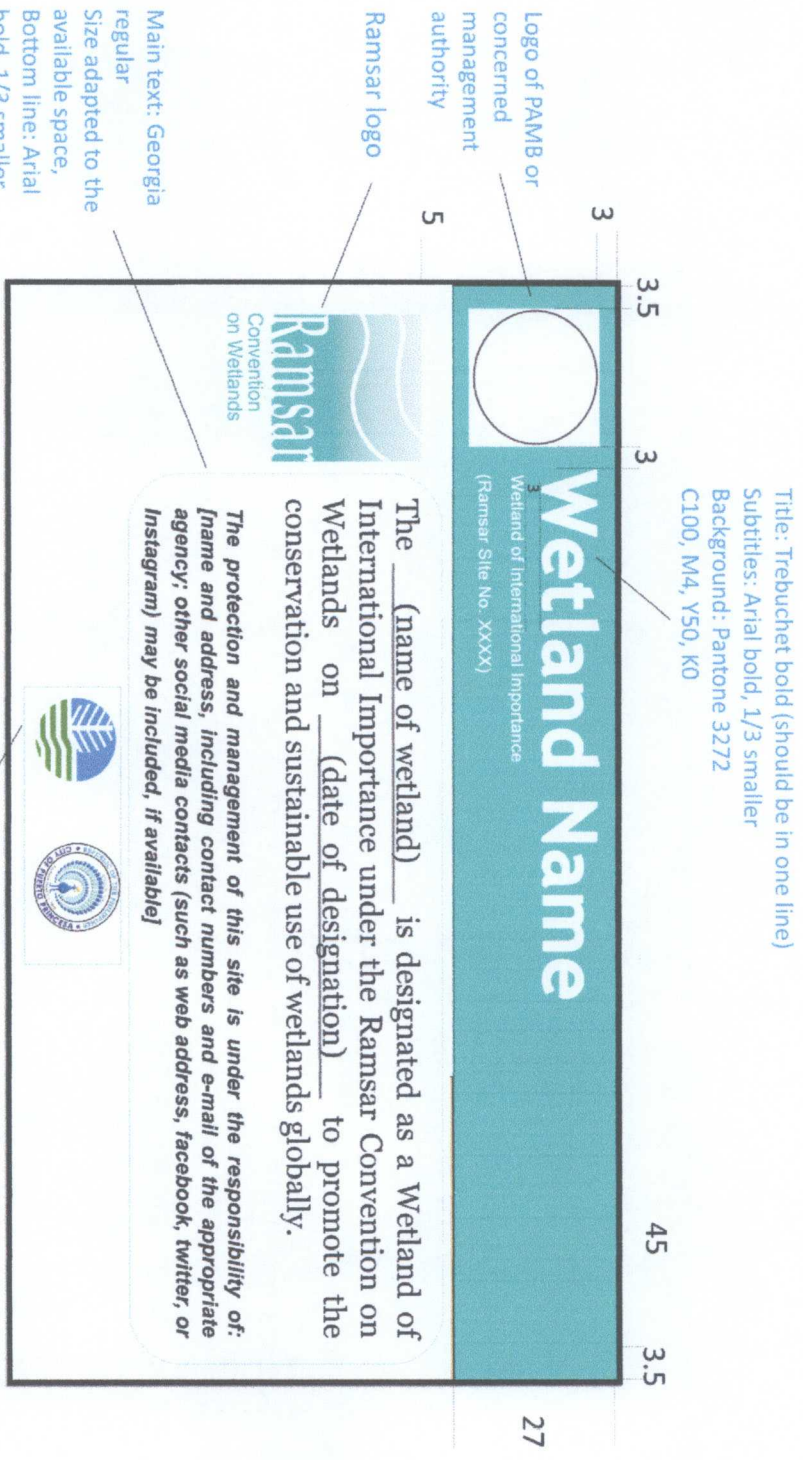


ANNEX B. Design Details per Type or Ramsar Site Marker/Sign

A. Large Marker



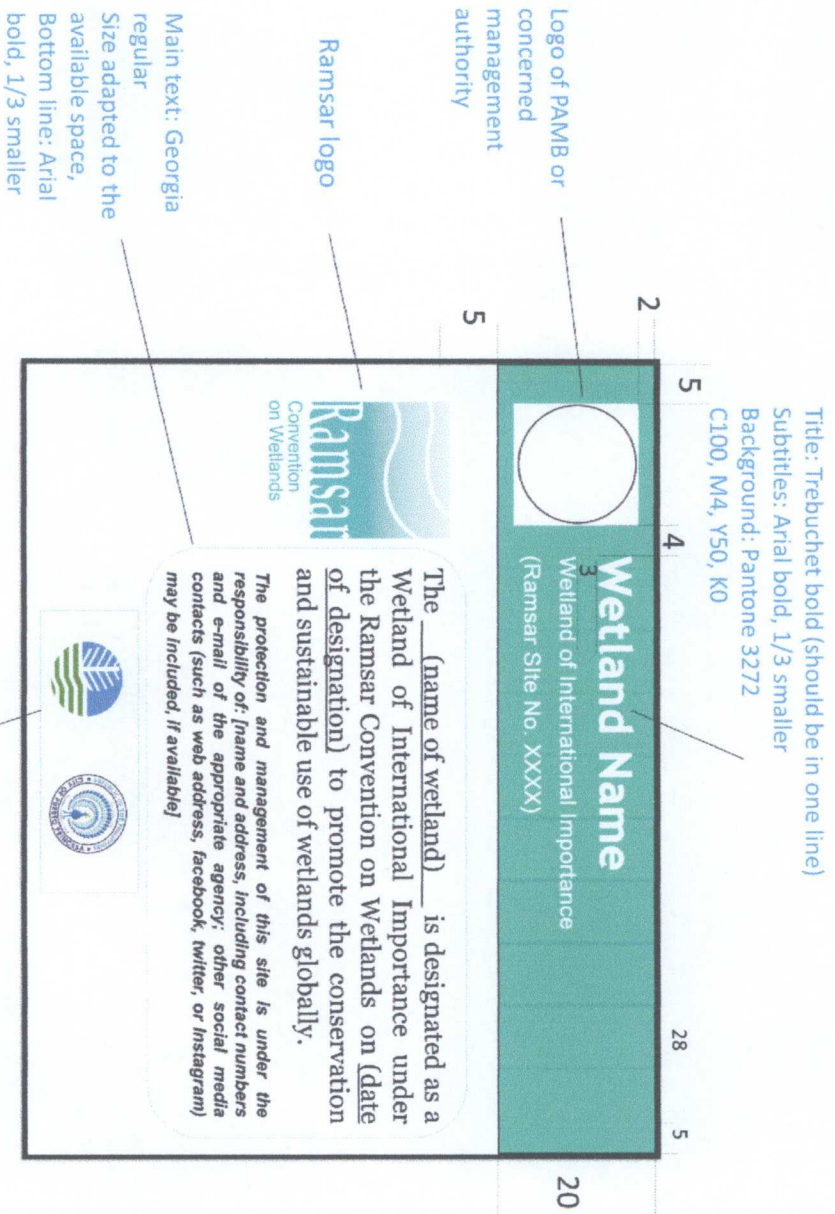
**B. Medium Sign**



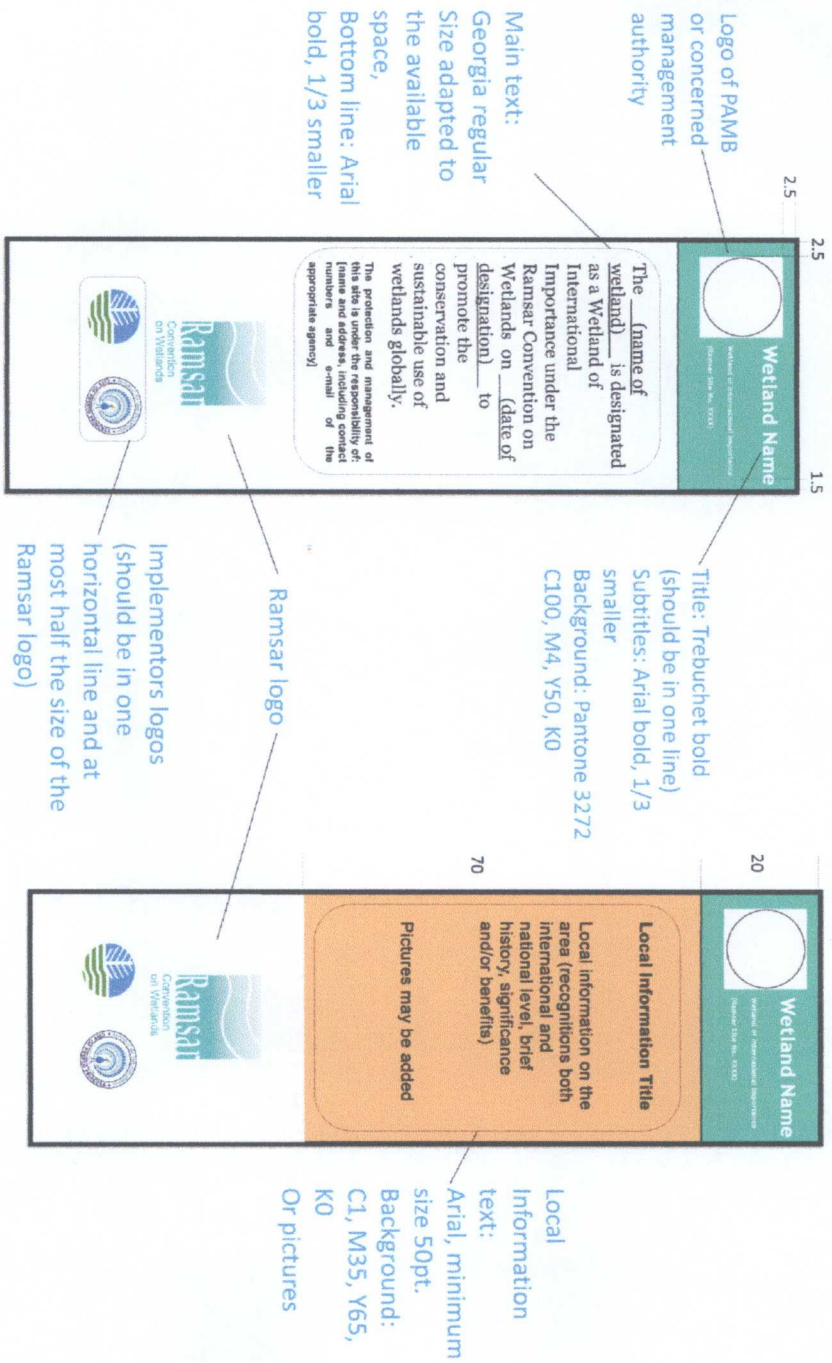
**Panel Size:** 100cm x 80cm

**Possible location:** Entrance to the Ramsar Site

**C. Inclined Table Sign**




## D. Totem Sign




**Panel Size:** 42cm x 134cm

**Possible location:** Exhibit areas, narrow entrances to observation site

ANNEX C. Sample Ramsar Site Marker and Signs for Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park Ramsar Site





**Puerto Princesa Subterranean Underground River  
National Park**  
Wetland of International Importance  
(Ramsar Site No. 2084)



The Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPSRNP) is designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on 30 June 2012 to promote the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands globally.

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A. Large Sign



**Puerto Princesa Subterranean Underground  
River National Park**  
Wetland of International Importance  
(Ramsar Site No. 2084)



The Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPSRNP) is designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on 30 June 2012 to promote the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands globally.

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B. Medium and Inclined Table Sign



## Face A.



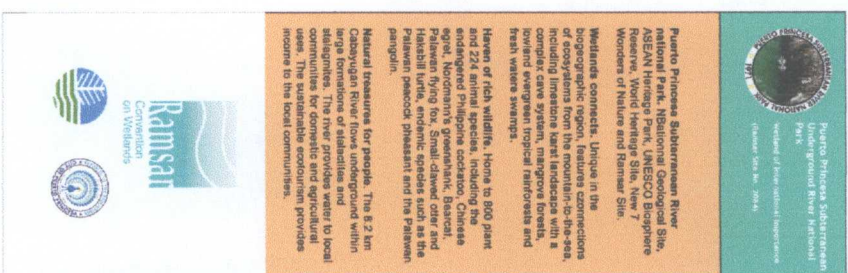
Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park  
 (Ramsar Site No. 2064)

The Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park (PPSRNP) is designated as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on June 30 2012 to promote the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands globally.

The protection and management of this site is under the responsibility of the PPSRNP Protected Area Management Board, New Green City Hall Complex, Barangay Santa Monica, Puerto Princesa City, +63(48)717-8001/+63(48)717-8049.

## Face B.





Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park  
 (Ramsar Site No. 2064)

Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park, NEI/Int'l Geol. Site, ASEAN Heritage Park, UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, World War II Memorial, and Women of Nature and Ramsar Site.

Wetlands connects: Unique in the biogeographic region, features connections of ecosystems from the mountain-to-the-sea, from the river to the sea, from the land to the complete cave system, mangrove forest, lowland emergent tropical rainforests and fresh waters swamps.

Home of rich wildlife: Home to 850 park and 221 rare species, including the critically endangered Philippine cockatoo, Chinese egret, Naboron's greenheron, Bancal, Palawan flying fox, Small-clawed otter and Hakebill turtle, endemic species such as the Palawan parakeet, pheasant and the Palawan pangolin.

Natural treasures for people: The 8.2 km Cabuyagan River flows underground within large formations of stalactites and stalagmites. The river provides water to local communities for domestic and agricultural purposes. The river also provides income to the local communities.

C. Totem Sign