

ANNUAL REGULATORY PLAN SUMMARY

AGENCY NAME: Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB)

SECTORS REGULATED:

SECTOR	LEGAL BASIS	ROLE/RESPONSIBILITY OF THE REGULATING AGENCY TO THE REGULATED SECTOR
Marine Tourism	National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992 (Republic Act No. 7586) as amended by the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018 (RA No. 11038)	The Biodiversity Management Bureau is responsible for setting guidelines and standards in the implementation of Environmentally-Friendly Diving And Snorkeling (Eds) Practices in All National Integrated Protected Areas System – Marine Protected Areas (NIPAS-MPAs) and Other Conservation Areas

SUMMARY OF REGULATORY ACTION PLANNED FOR FY 2025:

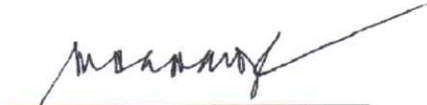
It is the policy of the State to protect the rights of the Filipino people to a balanced and healthful environment and conserve natural resources and cultural heritage for the enjoyment of present and future generations. It is likewise vital to improve socio-economic conditions through social justice, stewardship, equitable access to, and sustainable use and development of the country's natural resources and biodiversity. In doing so, the state ensures the provision of full institutional, scientific, and technical support for the conservation of biodiversity and the integrity of ecosystems in protected areas. This is achieved through the establishment of partnerships and comprehensive conservation approaches, such as the implementation of Environmentally Sustainable Diving (EDS) practices, which are aligned with the mandate of the DENR-BMB Coastal and Marine Division to protect and manage coastal and marine ecosystems for sustainable use and biodiversity conservation.

For CY 2025, the Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB) intends to propose/issue the following new regulatory-in-nature policy:

1. DENR Administrative Order on implementing Environmentally-Friendly Diving and Snorkeling (EDS) Practices

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Name of Contact Person: John Erick B. Avelino
Designation: OIC Chief, Coastal and Marine Division
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MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR.
Assistant Secretary for Biodiversity and concurrent Director
Biodiversity Management Bureau

Regulatory Notification Form

Regulation # BMB-CMD 2025-0001

A. PROPONENT AGENCY DETAILS			
1. PROPONENT AGENCY		Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB)	
2. Accountable Officer	2a. Name	Marcial C. Amaro, Jr.	
	2b. Designation	Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Concurrent OIC Director, BMB	
	2c. Phone Number	89246031 to 35	
	2d. Email	director@bmb.gov.ph	
3. Contact Officer	3a. Name	John Erick B. Avelino	
	3b. Designation	OIC Chief, Coastal and Marine Division	
	3c. Phone Number	8925 89 48	
	3d. Email	cmd@bmb.gov.ph	
4. Date			
B. REGULATION DETAILS			
1. Full Title		Guidelines on the Implementation of Environmentally-Friendly Diving and Snorkeling (EDS) Practices in All National Integrated Protected Areas System – Marine Protected Areas (NIPAS-MPAs) and Other Conservation Areas	
2. Short Title		DENR AO on implementing Environmentally-Friendly Diving and Snorkeling (EDS) Practices	
3. Regulatory Life Cycle Stage		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development of Regulation <input type="checkbox"/> Implementation <input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring, Evaluation, & Ex-Post Review	
4. Regulatory Instrument		<input type="checkbox"/> Memorandum Circular <input type="checkbox"/> Joint Memorandum Circular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department Order <input type="checkbox"/> Specify: _____	
5. Classification of Action		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Regulation <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment <input type="checkbox"/> Repeal <input type="checkbox"/> Ex-Post RIS/PIR/SCR <input type="checkbox"/> Completed	
6. Regulation Amended/ Repealed (if applicable)		N/A	
C. STAKEHOLDERS AND/OR SECTORS AFFECTED			
1. Classification		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business-Related <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Business	
1.1. For Business-Related Regulations		1.2. For Non-Business Regulations	
a. Sector ¹	Tourism	a. Stage of Life	
b. Stage of Business	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Opening/Renewing a Business <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operating a Business <input type="checkbox"/> Closing a Business	b. Life Event	
c. Case Use		c. Case Use	

¹ Philippine Standard Industrial Classification

2. Jurisdiction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional	<input type="checkbox"/> City/Municipality-wide
D. CONSULTATIONS CONDUCTED			
1. HAS THIS BEEN SUBJECTED TO STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION AND/OR COMMENTS?			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> ONGOING			
E. SUMMARY OF REGULATION			
1. PROBLEM ADDRESSED BY REGULATION / SUMMARY OF CHANGES			
<i>(Describe the nature and extent of the problem that is being addressed. Provide data on scope or coverage of the problem. List summary of changes based on "Regulation Amended/ Repealed" above.)</i>			
<p>The proposed policy will provide the needed set of standards for sustainable practices in marine tourism activities, specifically diving and snorkeling, within the National Integrated Protected Areas System – Marine Protected Areas (NIPAS-MPAs) and other marine conservation areas. The guidelines aim to promote environmentally-friendly diving and snorkeling (EDS) practices to address the need to protect and conserve marine biodiversity while ensuring that these activities contribute to the socio-economic well-being of local communities.</p> <p>The policy includes the establishment of clear guidelines for relevant authorities and stakeholders, such as DENR Regional and Field Offices, Protected Area Management Offices (PAMOs), and business sectors in the diving and snorkeling industry. The guideline seeks to facilitate community participation in conservation efforts, particularly from women, youth, and cultural groups, and to raise awareness on the sustainable use of marine resources.</p> <p>By aligning with key environmental laws and policies, such as the NIPAS Act, the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, and Executive Orders on Ecotourism and Integrated Coastal Management, this regulation shall be a comprehensive and sustainable approach to marine ecosystem management.</p>			
2. OBJECTIVE OF REGULATORY ACTION			
<i>(Identify clear and specific policy objective. State what is to be achieved. Ensure objective satisfies the SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time-bound) criteria.)</i>			
<p>To provide guidelines for DENR Regional and Field Offices, Protected Area Management Offices (PAMOs), Protected Area Management Boards (PAMBs), and management bodies for other conservation areas on the implementation of environmentally-friendly diving and snorkeling (EDS) practices;</p> <p>To require relevant business sectors and authorities in the diving and snorkeling industry to practice sustainable marine tourism practices;</p> <p>To heighten awareness and participation of communities including women, youth, and cultural communities within and around protected areas and conservation areas, on the sustainable use of biodiversity, and become effective partners in their protection and conservation;</p>			

F. TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES (ACCOMPLISHED OR TARGET)			
1. Conduct of PIA		4. Conduct of RIA	Q1-Q2 2025
2. Consultation of PIS	Click or tap to enter a date.	5. Consultation of RIS	Q1 2025
3. Submission of PIS		6. Submission of RIS	Q2 2025
G. IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS (applicable only if regulation is for repeal/amendment)			
1. Date Filed (ONAR)		3. Date Issued	Click or tap to enter a date.
2. Date Published <input type="checkbox"/> Official Gazette AND/OR <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper of General Circulation	Click or tap to enter a date.	4. Date Effective	Click or tap to enter a date.
H. CLASSIFICATION OF REGULATION			
1. Proposed Classification	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Exempted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor	2. ARTA Classification (if available)	<input type="checkbox"/> Major <input type="checkbox"/> Exempted <input type="checkbox"/> Minor
3. Justification for Exempted Regulations	<i>Cite and explain the legal basis for exemption and other supporting information on how the regulation satisfies any of the criteria listed in Annex A. If you answer 'yes' in any of the three questions, kindly provide justification and/or data to support your request for exemption.</i>		