



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KAGAWARAN NG KAPALIGIRAN AT LIKAS NA YAMAN



JAN 15 2025

**DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 2025 - 08**

SUBJECT: GUIDELINES ON THE ESTABLISHMENT, OPERATION, MANAGEMENT, MAINTENANCE, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM OF WORK OF THE MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH STATIONS (MSRS)

Pursuant to Article XII, Section 2 of 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines, particularly in accordance with the Republic Act No. 2067 or the Science Act of 1958, Republic Act No. 7586 otherwise known as the "National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act" as amended by RA No. 11038 or the Expanded NIPAS Act of 2018, RA No. 8550, as amended by RA No. 10654 or the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998, RA No. 8435 or the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997, Republic Act No. 11995 otherwise known as the "Philippine Ecosystem and Natural Capital Accounting System (PENCAS) Act" of 2024, PD No. 705 or the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines of 1975, RA No. 9072 or the Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act of 2001, RA No. 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001, Republic Act No. 9729 or the Climate Change Act of 2009, Republic Act No. 10121 or the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, Republic Act No. 11293 or the Philippine Innovation Act of 2018, Republic Act No. 8371 or the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997, RA No. 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991, aligned with relevant national frameworks on biodiversity and climate action – the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, National Climate Change Action Plan, National Adaptation Plan, and National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan, in view of the Philippine Development Plan, in adherence to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Sendai Framework of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Strategic Plans of the Ramsar Convention, Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS) and other relevant global frameworks, the following guidelines on the establishment, operation, management, maintenance and implementation of the program of work of the MSRS is hereby issued:

SECTION 1. Basic Policy. It is the policy of the State to protect the nation's coastal and marine wealth and exclusive economic zone, reserve its use for Filipino citizens, and promote the right to a healthful and balanced ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

SECTION 2. Objectives. The general objective of this Order is to guide stakeholders in ensuring sustainable use, management, protection, and conservation of coastal and marine resources and foster collaborations, innovation, and

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development among communities through the **DENR Marine Scientific Research Stations (MSRS)**. These MSRS will serve as conducive research hubs for select marine biogeographic regions of the country, thereby promoting stewardship of the coastal and marine ecosystems for the welfare of the present and future generations.

Specifically, the establishment and operation of DENR MSRS aims to:

- 2.1 Generate baseline information fundamental for optimal and sustained utilization, management, protection, and conservation of coastal and marine resources;
- 2.2 Establish partnerships supporting the operationalization of the marine scientific research stations and provide research opportunities to scientists, students, and other stakeholders;
- 2.3 Serve as a training ground in marine science methodologies, promote environmental awareness, and encourage stewardship of coastal and marine ecosystems;
- 2.4 Contribute to economic development through sustainable fisheries and ecotourism; and
- 2.5 Provide a scientific basis to support the development of policies and regulations that promote marine conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources.

Moreover, the comprehensive execution of the MSRS work will be guided by the following:

Vision Statement: A knowledge lighthouse at the forefront of innovation and action for the protection, conservation, and sustainable use of marine resources for current and future generations.

Mission Statement: To secure, discover, and understand the coastal and marine environment for informed decision-making, management, and sustainable development toward an inclusive and climate-resilient future.

MSRS Goals: *Each MSRS should have specified goals that cater to and are unique to their respective biogeographic regions. These goals shall be formulated together with partners and stakeholders on the ground, anchored to the Vision, Mission, and Objectives.*

SECTION 3. Scope and Coverage. This Order shall apply to the establishment of the MSRS, under DENR or government-owned land in Regions II, III, VIII, IX, XII, CALABARZON, and MIMAROPA. This Policy shall also apply to all MSRS establishments as deemed necessary, accompanied by the allocation of the corresponding budget in subsequent years.

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SECTION 4. Definition of Terms. For purposes of these guidelines, the following operational definitions of terms shall be used:

- 4.1 Biogeographic Regions** - geographical areas defined by the species or group of species they house, providing invaluable information to understanding large-scale processes affecting the species and ecosystem interaction.
- 4.2 Blue Carbon** - the amount of atmospheric carbon dioxide dissolved in the ocean.
- 4.3 Blue Economy** - a practical ocean-based economic model using green infrastructure and technologies, innovative financing mechanisms, and proactive institutional arrangements for meeting the twin goals of protecting our oceans and coasts and enhancing its potential contribution to sustainable development, including improving human well-being, and reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities.¹
- 4.4 Coastal ecosystems** - unique habitats found in coastal areas such as salt marshes, mangroves, intertidal mudflats and seagrass beds, coral reefs, and other marine areas no deeper than six (6) meters at low tide.
- 4.5 Coral Reefs** - a natural aggregation of coral skeleton, with or without living coral polyps, occurring in intertidal and subtidal marine waters.²
- 4.6 Fourth and fifth industrial revolutions (4IR/5IR)** - periods of major industrialization and innovation such as rapid technological advancement enabling man and machine to work together. This includes the use of Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning tools, the Internet of Things (IoT), and Robotics, among others.
- 4.7 Locally-Managed Marine Protected Areas (LMMPAs)** - Marine Protected Areas managed locally by Local Government Units (LGUs) and concerned coastal communities.³
- 4.8 Mangroves** - a type of tree or shrub growing in the intertidal zone with adaptations to salt water, wet soils, and tidal fluctuations.
- 4.9 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)** - a defined area of the sea established and set aside by law, administrative regulations, or any other effective means to conserve and protect a part of or the entire enclosed environment through the establishment of management guidelines. It is considered a generic term that includes all declared areas governed by specific rules or guidelines to protect and manage activities within the enclosed area.⁴
- 4.10 Marine Protected Areas Network (MPAN)** - the collection of individual MPAs under a common management system based on all or any of the physical, biological, governance, and socio-

¹ Blue Economy Bill authored by Sen. Loren Legarda, specifically Section 3 (c)

² Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998, specifically Section 4 (13)

³ DAO 2016-26, specifically Section 5 (5.2)

⁴ DAO 2016-26, specifically Section 5 (5.3)

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economic connectivities.⁵

- 4.11 Marine Scientific Research Station (MSRS)** - the hub for any research activities that are conducted for exclusively peaceful purposes, to increase scientific knowledge about the marine environment, including all-natural resources, biodiversity, and water quality for the benefit of mankind.⁶
- 4.12 Nature-based solutions** - systems or actions that are supported and inspired by nature focusing on sustainable management and utilization of natural processes in addressing socio-environmental issues such as climate change.
- 4.13 Partner Principal Investigator (PI)** - an individual affiliated with the partner Academe/Higher Education Institution responsible for providing input and feedback for particular research under the MSR Station.
- 4.14 Seagrass beds** - a type of marine ecosystem growing in salty and brackish waters typically along tidal flats and gently sloping coastlines.
- 4.15 Sustainable finance** - an investment decision with considerations to environmental, societal, and governance factors.
- 4.16 Technological and knowledge products** - material objects designed and developed by people through technological practices and expertise that may serve a wide range of purposes and functions. Different types of technological products also include information, protocols, physical products, and services.

SECTION 5. Foundational Pillars. The operation and management of the MSRS shall be guided by the following pillars:

- 5.1 Research** - Create a center of excellence for coastal and marine biodiversity research to support protection and conservation practices, initiatives, and monitoring and assessment activities. Research activities are focused on blue ecosystem science fields, and inter-/multidisciplinary fields, for a holistic approach to emphasize the importance of ecosystem interconnectedness and interdependence of all components (e.g. ridge-to-reef models, climate change mitigation & adaptation; knowledge, attitudes, and practices studies, research on economic ventures, Natural Capital Accounting, etc). This includes but is not limited to, basic and applied research that encompasses environmental, economic, and social aspects.

Furthermore, the marine research stations shall also be an incubator for nature-based climate solutions and initiatives that drive capital towards environmentally sustainable projects and business, fostering resilience, mitigating risks, strategizing

⁵ DAO 2016-26, specifically Section 5 (5.4)

⁶ Blue Economy Bill, authored by Sen. Loren Legarda, specifically Section 3 (I)

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adaptations to current changes, and promoting responsible economic growth in a changing climate; all of which are products of their research.

- 5.2 Innovation** - Exhibits technological innovation that addresses the nation's Blue Economy and promotes continuous technological and innovational advancement in coastal and marine protection and conservation—facilitation of technological product development, technology transfer, and extension services.
- 5.3 Collaboration** - Serve as a conducive hub for science-informed communication, outreach, and ocean literacy for all. A central platform dedicated to providing information and relevant services accessible to all stakeholders. Provides engaging content that informs individuals about the importance of ocean health, biodiversity, and the interconnectedness of marine ecosystems with human well-being. Venue for experts, practitioners, and other stakeholders to engage in transdisciplinary action research to address complex coastal and marine biodiversity issues.

SECTION 6. Operational Framework. To realize the vision and mission, the MSRS must build strategic partnerships and collaborate with stakeholders in adopting ecosystem-based approaches to identify, map, secure, observe, monitor, and evaluate the state of coastal and marine resources. Significant activities for outlining the status of the coastal and marine ecosystems include but are not limited to, biodiversity surveys/assessments, geospatial mapping and remote sensing, regulatory measures and restoration projects, citizen science, water quality monitoring, and impact assessments.

On the operations side, the conservation and management work of the MSRS shall be consistent with the Department Administrative Order No. 2016-26 or the Guidelines for the Implementation of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Program (CMEMP), and the MSRS activities shall contribute and support the implementation of new and developing programs relevant to the execution of all three pillars of work for the MSRS. This includes supporting emerging initiatives such as but not limited to, the National Program for Coral Reef Conservation and Recovery, National Blue Carbon Action Partnership, and The Philippine National Plan of Action to the Coral Triangle Initiative on coral reefs, fisheries, and food security.

The MSRS shall develop and produce, *inter alia*, policy briefs, communication materials, and research publications accessible to communities through an operational Knowledge Management System, to serve as deliverables and performance indicators aligning with the objectives of the MSRS establishment. The MSRS shall then utilize standard research methods to ensure consistency, accuracy, efficiency, and reliability of collected data, promote comparability with other studies, and research transparency allowing scrutiny, replication, and peer review which are important aspects of scientific processes.

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SECTION 7. Site Selection. The Marine Scientific Research Stations are strategically located to represent the six marine biogeographic regions of the Philippines, namely: the North Philippine Sea, South Philippine Sea, Visayan Sea, Celebes Sea, Sulu Sea, and West Philippine Sea. The new stations are in the Provinces of Cagayan, Aurora, Batangas, Palawan, Eastern Samar, Zamboanga, and Sarangani, respectively under the jurisdiction of DENR field offices in Regions II, III, CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, VIII, IX, and XII. The following are basic considerations to guide the selection of the specific locations which shall also serve as reference guides for the establishment of future MSRS in other provinces, regions, and biogeographic areas of the country:

7.1 Suitable for scientific research and monitoring

- 7.1.1 Easy access to the ocean to enable the deployment of research vessels, conduct fieldwork, and deploy oceanographic instruments;
- 7.1.2 Secure working environment to ensure the safety of researchers by considering weather conditions, marine traffic, and potential hazards like strong currents, rough seas, storm surges, etc.;
- 7.1.3 Site environmental conditions shall align with the MSRS research goals and agenda, encompassing water quality and tidal patterns. The site shall feature a range of coastal and marine habitats, ecosystems, and biodiversity for extensive opportunities for studies, temperature fluctuations, and seasonal variations;
- 7.1.4 Site features a range of flagship/priority species, marine habitats, ecosystems, and biodiversity for extensive opportunities for studying various aspects of coastal and marine life, habitats, ecological processes, etc.; and
- 7.1.5 Preferably in proximity to research institutions, universities, or scientific communities to foster collaboration, resource sharing, and access to expertise.

7.2 Established on government-owned property

The MSRS must be built on government-owned land. Areas under the jurisdiction of the DENR are preferred. In instances where the appropriate site falls beyond the DENR's authority, if feasible, a memorandum of agreement or understanding, deed of donations, or other legally binding instruments shall be executed, to facilitate an arrangement.

7.3 Access to communication and internet connectivity

Dependable connectivity and communication networks are required for transmitting data, accessing online resources, and maintaining communication with key offices, partners, research institutions, and collaborators. Internet connectivity shall be from a satellite-

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based provider to ensure coverage in remote locations where traditional internet infrastructure is limited or unavailable.

7.4 Availability of logistical support

Transportation services, along with the availability of local amenities such as medical facilities and convenience stores must be ensured. This significantly enhances the efficiency and effectiveness of research operations.

7.5 Conducive for visitor accessibility

The stations must feature immersive and enriching experiences for visitors to foster a deeper appreciation for marine ecosystems and research endeavors conducted in field settings. This is a prospective revenue stream that can be optimized to support the maintenance and improvement of MSRS operations.

7.6 Construction of MSRS in existing buildings owned by DENR

Funds intended for the construction of marine stations may also be utilized for rehabilitation and renovation of existing buildings owned by DENR. Where the cost of rehabilitation and renovation will be financed through support from private sector and other partners, the funds intended for the construction of MSRS, may be utilized for equipment and furnishings needed in the operation of the MSRS.

SECTION 8. Basic Facilities. Amenities for conducting marine research, facilitating collaboration, and promoting scientific discovery and innovation in marine science and conservation efforts are crucial. The stations should have the following:

- 8.1 Offices and Conference Rooms** – Including a Staff Office to serve as a dedicated workspace for all MSRS Personnel, a Conference Room for technical meetings, discussions, and lectures, and a Library to serve as a physical and digital repository for scientific literature, references, data, and related digital storage equipment.
- 8.2 Laboratories** – Including an Outdoor Laboratory for preparation of field equipment pre-processing and analyses of specimens or samples, a Wet laboratory for specimen handling, and a Dry laboratory for data analysis, with customized technical and scientific equipment.
- 8.3 Equipment and Storage Rooms** – Designated Indoor Storage/Maintenance Room for research equipment, scientific instruments, and samples including refrigerated or frozen storage, and an Outdoor Storage/Maintenance Area for SCUBA Dive gears and accessories, and a Dive tank storage and refilling area.
- 8.4 Receiving Area** – An open area that can temporarily accommodate

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guests with official business in the MSRS, or other visitors.

- 8.5 Living Quarters** – Cabins or housing accommodations for station managers, researchers, staff, and visiting scientists, facilitating overnight stays during research expeditions or prolonged fieldwork.
- 8.6 Pantry, Kitchen, and Mess Hall** - Communal space for storing, preparing, and enjoying meals.
- 8.7 Watercraft Docking Area and Shed** – Support facility for safe and efficient launching and mooring of research vessels utilized for field work, sample collection, and oceanographic surveys.
- 8.8 Clinic** - Area for first-aid, medical, and preventive care for preventing or addressing injury/ies, aiding recovery, and maintaining the wellness of the staff and researchers.
- 8.9 Utilities and Infrastructure** – Essential infrastructure for water supply, waste management, electricity, and sewage treatment, alongside backup power generators and emergency response systems to ensure operational resilience.
- 8.10 Recreational and Other Support Facilities** – Recreational amenities like communal areas and outdoor spaces for relaxation, social interaction, and community-building among researchers and staff members.

Other specialized facilities may be added later on depending on the specific focus areas and research objectives of the marine research station, and improvements and innovations in science and technology, such as but not limited to nurseries, aquaria for behavioral studies, and research boats/vessels.

SECTION 9. Design and Construction. A design shall be developed for all new DENR MSRS to ensure uniformity and brand. It shall blend seamlessly with the coastal landscape and natural surroundings, utilizing materials, colors, and forms that complement the environment.

Scalable design solutions and modular construction techniques adapting to international standards that can accommodate evolving research needs, technological advancements, and changes in programmatic requirements overtime shall be considered. This will also allow for future expansion and adaptation. Construction either involves prefabrication or on-site assembly using locally sourced materials.

The DENR MSRS for enhancement shall follow the architectural design and construction of the new MSRS.

SECTION 10. Station Personnel. The MSRS' minimum staffing shall include the following:

- 10.1 MSR Station Manager - acts as the overall station manager
- 10.2 Senior Science Research Specialist

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- 10.3 Science Research Specialist II - at least one (1) personnel
- 10.4 Science Research Specialist I - at least one (1) personnel
- 10.5 Administrative Support - at least two (2) personnel

The above MSRS Staff shall be composed of Plantilla positions, with priority given to the recruitment of qualified Marine Scientists. For Science Research Specialist positions, candidates with specialized training and demonstrable experience in coastal and marine environments will be prioritized. The hiring of personnel with specific expertise and training may be considered, contingent on the proposed research program, station objectives, and the available budget (Terms of Reference attached in the Annex).

The implementing PENRO or PAMO, in consultation with the BMB and Personnel Division/Human Resource Development Service of the DENR, shall prepare the financial and human resources requirements for the establishment of MSRS plantilla staff, for submission to the Department of Budget and Management.

Pending the finalization of Plantilla positions for funding of the DBM, the implementing PENRO or PAMO shall act as Interim Personnel responsible for the overall management and operations of the MSRS, with augmentation through Job Order Arrangement and/or Contractualization.

SECTION 11. Institutional Linkages with the Academe/Higher Education Institutions. The overall work within the MSRS shall be executed in partnership with local Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), especially with those in proximity to the stations. The MSRS shall be responsible for the formation of strategic partnerships with HEIs, and securing their assistance, support, and guidance in the conduct of relevant, up-to-date, and impactful scientific and research activities for the coastal and marine environment, biodiversity, and climate change.

11.1 The role of DENR MSRS in forming Institutional Linkages with the Academe/HEIs. In particular, the role of the DENR MSRS in forming Institutional Linkages with the Academe/HEIs includes:

11.1.1 Strategic Partnerships with HEIs and Partners. The DENR MSRS shall facilitate the formation of strategic partnerships with HEIs and Partners through the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the conduct of relevant scientific activities and research on the coastal and marine environment and biodiversity, and climate change. The support to be solicited from the Academe/HEIs and Partners through these partnerships may be in the form of the following:

11.1.1.1 Informing the formulation and implementation of

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research programs and design;

- 11.1.1.2 Collecting, organizing, securing, and analyzing significant data supporting research development;
- 11.1.1.3 Developing research extension activities;
- 11.1.1.4 Administering relevant capacity-building activities among concerned partners;
- 11.1.1.5 Conducting relevant educational and outreach programs;
- 11.1.1.6 Informing assessment and monitoring activities (such as but not limited to water quality, biodiversity assessment and monitoring, habitat monitoring, etc.); and
- 11.1.1.7 Providing other support activities as may be deemed relevant.

11.1.2 Identification and designation of a Principal Investigator. Each MSRS shall also identify and designate a Principal Investigator, affiliated with an academic institution that is accessible to, or in proximity to, the respective DENR MSRS and possesses a strong academic background in Marine Biology, Oceanography, Environmental Science, or other related fields, which shall provide the following forms of support to the MSRS:

- 11.1.2.1 Provide guidance in the conduct of research activities between their institution, other HEIs, and the DENR MSRS;
- 11.1.2.2 Participate in key meetings, consultations, and capacity-building activities related to the research agenda of the MSRS; relevant to their role as a Principal Investigator; and
- 11.1.2.3 Closely work with and coordinate with respective Regional and Field Offices and the BMB to ensure alignment of research efforts with the DENR's overall research agenda.

11.1.3 Providing relevant coastal and marine biodiversity, ecosystems, and climate change-related research

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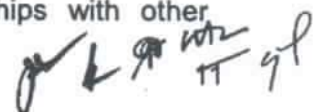
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topics. The DENR MSRS shall also provide relevant research topics related to the coastal and marine environment and biodiversity, and climate change for researchers based on contextual knowledge and experience of the marine biogeographic areas covered, towards informing conservation actions, management, and policy formulation; and

11.1.4 Providing access to MSRS facilities, resources, and equipment. Subject to compliance and alignment with the respective MSRS Operational Plans and Research Agenda, providing access to the MSRS Facilities & Equipment, such as:

- 11.1.4.1 Boats/Vessels
- 11.1.4.2 Weather stations
- 11.1.4.3 Sensor and instruments
- 11.1.4.4 Ocean sensors
- 11.1.4.5 AIS receivers
- 11.1.4.6 Internet
- 11.1.4.7 Other available relevant facilities and equipment

11.2 The role of the BMB in forming institutional linkages with the Academe/HEIs. At the national level, the DENR, through the Biodiversity Management Bureau, shall act as the principal coordinator responsible for forming partnerships with HEIs at the national level to support the overall development, operations, and management of the MSRS, and shall maintain close coordination, cooperation, and partnerships with the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute (especially through its National Academic Research Fleet), De La Salle University, and other academic institutions that possess expertise on marine science and associated behavioral/social science and government agencies such as the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Department of Science and Technology (including the National Academy of Science and Technology). Partnerships with other institutions and agencies are encouraged, as deemed necessary to ensure success in the operation of the stations. The DENR, through the BMB, shall also form a partnership with UP MSI as the overall Principal Investigator for the Research Agenda Development and MSRS Operationalization Assisting Institution, and form other strategic partnerships with other



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supporting institutions HEIs as may be identified to assist in shaping the research agenda, facility development, and capacity-building initiatives of MSRS.

SECTION 12. Private Sector Participation and Collaboration. The DENR shall actively encourage and facilitate private sector participation in the establishment, operation, and maintenance of the MSRS. Engagement with the private sector to collaborate shall be accompanied by a relevant legally binding agreement that caters to the specifics of the collaboration, and with the appropriate safeguards for each party. Engagements with the private sector shall be cleared by the Secretary, through the Undersecretary for Field Operations, endorsed by the Biodiversity Management Bureau.

Such participation may include but is not limited to:

- 12.1 Providing financial and in-kind support through grants, donations, or sponsorships for the construction, equipping, and operational expenses of the MSRS;
- 12.2 Collaborating with private sector entities for research projects, technology development, and capacity-building initiatives related to marine conservation and sustainable resource management;
- 12.3 Promotion of engagement with interested private sector expertise and resources in the planning, design, and implementation of programs and projects undertaken by the MSRS;
- 12.4 Facilitating partnerships and agreements between the DENR and private sector entities for the management and utilization of marine research facilities and resources; and
- 12.5 Recognizing and promoting private sector contributions to marine research and conservation efforts through appropriate mechanisms such as awards, commendations, and publicity.

SECTION 13. Institutional Arrangement. Members of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Regional and Field Offices including Protected Area Management Offices shall support the establishment, operations, and management of marine stations under their area of jurisdiction. On the other hand, members of the Biodiversity Management Bureau shall provide extensive technical assistance to the Regional and Field Offices throughout the development and management of the MSRS.

- 13.1 Specifically, the **responsibilities of DENR Regional and Field Offices** are as follows (such as, but not limited to):
 - 13.1.1 Identify and secure the area where the marine station is established;
 - 13.1.2 Coordinate with other DENR Regional Offices for detailed assessments such as water quality analysis from the

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Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) and Geologic Scoping and the preparation of the Engineering, Geologic, and Geohazard Assessment Report (EGGAR) and/or Geologic Certification of the proposed sites by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB);

- 13.1.3 Create the Marine Station Operational Plan;
- 13.1.4 Procure consultancy services for the establishment of the marine stations; and
- 13.1.5 Facilitate meetings, organizing and conducting capacity-building activities relevant to the optimal management of marine stations

13.2 The responsibilities of the Biodiversity Management Bureau are as follows (such as, but not limited to):

- 13.2.1 Supervise the overall establishment, operations, and management of the MSRS
- 13.2.2 Provide technical assistance in developing and implementing research programs and designs;
- 13.2.3 Assist in collecting and analyzing significant research data;
- 13.2.4 Develop capability-building activities and facilitate consultancy meetings relevant to the development of MSRS;
- 13.2.5 Assist in conducting monitoring activities (such as but not limited to water quality, biodiversity assessment and monitoring, habitat monitoring, etc.); and
- 13.2.6 Serve as the clearinghouse for the MSRS Operational Plans

SECTION 14. Monitoring and Reporting. The Manager of the MSRS shall prepare and submit periodic reports, that is quarterly and annually, on the progress and status of Program implementation; if inside a Protected Area, to the Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) and if outside a Protected Area, to the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO). The PAMO or PENRO shall submit the report to the Regional Executive Director who will then submit it to the Undersecretary for Field Operations copy furnished to the Director, BMB.

The BMB shall submit to the Office of the Secretary the consolidated individual MSRS report per Region every three years from the effectivity of this Order.

SECTION 15. Issuance of Clarificatory Guidelines. The BMB shall develop and issue clarificatory guidelines to effectively carry out the research programs of each of the stations that may be deemed necessary.

SECTION 16. Funding and Budgetary Requirements. The DENR shall allocate sufficient funds to support the full implementation of the MSRS. All relevant agencies may also allocate funds for research initiatives.

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SECTION 17. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Order shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the other portions or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 18. Repealing Clause. All Orders and similar issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby revoked, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 19. Effectivity. This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation and upon acknowledgment of receipt of a copy thereof by the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR) of UP Law Center.

MARIA ANTONIA DE LOYZAGA
Secretary



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March 14, 2025

Acknowledgement: ONAR, U.P. Law Center
March 19, 2025