

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5291



Introduced by **HON. PETER B. MIGUEL**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The bill seeks to ensure the long-term protection and conservation of the Allah Valley Watershed Forest Reserve (AVWFR), declared as a public watershed forest reserve pursuant to Presidential Proclamation No. 2455 on 24 September 1985, through establishing it as a Protected Area under the category of Protected Landscape pursuant to Republic Act No. 7586, as amended by Republic Act No. 11038 or known as the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018. The proposed Allah Valley Protected Landscape (AVPL) is situated in the Municipalities of Lake Sebu, Tboli, and Surallah in the Province of South Cotabato and Municipality of Bagumbayan in the Province of Sultan Kudarat.

The mountain ranges surrounding the Allah Valley provide a source of water used for domestic, agriculture, and industry in South Cotabato and neighboring provinces. It has supported agriculture and tourism, which has formed the backbone of Southern Mindanao's growing economy. Tourism in the AVPL draws on both its diverse natural assets and unique cultural heritage, being the home of Tboli and Obo indigenous peoples. The harmonious relationship between people and nature in the AVPL has shaped the customs and traditions widely known here and abroad.

The AVPL covers at least 27,417.6 hectares or 23.6% of the Mount Busa Key Biodiversity Area (KBA 196), an extremely high conservation priority site in the Philippines. The forests of Allah Valley are home to more than 850 species of wildlife, of which 603 species are flora and 262 species are vertebrate fauna. At least 250 species are only found in the Philippines and nowhere else. Notable species include the Guttman's stream frog (*Pulchrana guttmani*)—the rarest amphibian in the Philippines—which was rediscovered in the AVPL after being lost for almost three decades¹. Its forests are home to the world's only known living population of this species, which is needing urgent protection and conservation.

¹ Pitogo KME, Saavedra AJL. 2021. Rediscovery of Guttman's Stream Frog, *Pulchrana guttmani* (Brown, 2015) from the mountains of southern Mindanao, Philippines. *Herpetology Notes* 14: 163–167

There are 100 species or 11.7% of AVPL's wildlife species considered threatened in the landscape according to Philippine Red List, 9 of which are critically endangered. The most notable and in need of conservation attention is the Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*), which inhabits the vast forested areas in the landscape. The KBA 196 is among the strongholds of Philippine eagle populations in Mindanao, and thus an important area for their continued existence. Other threatened species worthy of conservation attention in the AVPL are the Tboli pitcher plant (*Nepenthes tболи*), Mindanao lorikeet (*Saudareos johnstoniae*), Pinsker's hawk-eagle (*Nisaetus pinskeri*), spider orchid (*Arachnis flos-aeris*), Mindanao tarictic hornbill (*Penelopides affinis*), among others. There are also at least 120 species in the landscape that are considered economically important. The rich biodiversity of the proposed protected area is unfortunately threatened by several issues, including but not limited to timber poaching, forest land conversion, unsustainable agricultural practices, wildlife poaching, and pollution—all these call for the urgency of this bill.

The establishment of AVPL supports the implementation of the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2028 and the country's Nationally Determined Contributions. More importantly, this bill protects and advances the constitutional right of the Filipino people—present and future generations—to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature (Sec. 16, Art. II of the 1987 Constitution).

In view of the importance and urgency of this matter, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



HON. PETER B. MIGUEL

Representative

2nd District, South Cotabato

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
_____ *Regular Session*

HOUSE BILL NO. 5291

Introduced by **HON. PETER B. MIGUEL**

AN ACT ESTABLISHING ALLAH VALLEY WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE, SITUATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LAKE SEBU, TBOLI, AND SURALLAH, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, AND MUNICIPALITY OF BAGUMBAYAN, PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT, AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586 AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11038 OR KNOWN AS THE EXPANDED NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM ACT OF 2018, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, FUNDS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the Allah Valley Protected Landscape (AVPL) Act of 2021

Section 2. State Policy. – The significant ecological, cultural, and economic importance of the Allah Valley Watershed Forest Reserve (AVWFR), which exemplifies a life living in harmony with nature, behooves the State to undertake steps to secure for the Filipino people of present and future generations the protection and conservation of the AVWFR in accordance with Republic Act No. 7586, as amended by Republic Act No. 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 2018 and international conventions to which the Philippines is signatory.

Section 3. Declaration of Policy – Pursuant to the declared policy of the State, the Allah Valley Watershed Forest Reserve (AVWFR) situated in the Municipalities of Lake Sebu, Tboli, and Surallah in the Province of South Cotabato and Municipality of Bagumbayan in the Province of Sultan Kudarat is hereby declared and established as Protected Area under the category of Protected Landscape.

Section 4. *Definition of Terms.* - For purpose of this Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- (a) "Biological diversity" or "biodiversity" refers to the variability among the living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems;
- (b) "Bioprospecting" refers to the research, collection, and utilization of biological and genetic resources for purposes of applying the knowledge derived therefrom solely for commercial purposes;
- (c) "Buffer zones" refers to identified areas outside the boundaries of and immediately adjacent to designated protected areas that need special development control in order to avoid or minimize harm to the protected area;
- (d) "By-products or Derivatives" refers to parts taken or substances extracted from wildlife, in raw or in processed form;
- (e) "Collecting" refers to the act of gathering or harvesting of wildlife and its by-products or derivatives;
- (f) "Conveyance" refers to every kind of vessel, including motorized or non-motorized vehicles, non-displacement crafts and seaplanes that are used or may be used as a means of transportation on land or water. It shall include everything found therein except personal effects;
- (g) "Demarcation" refers to the establishment of the boundaries of protected areas and their buffer zones using visible markers, monuments, buoys in case of marine areas, and known natural features and landmarks, among others, as a result of the actual ground delineation;
- (h) "Ecosystem goods and services" refers to the multitude of material and nonmaterial provisions and benefits from healthy ecosystems necessary for human sustenance, well-being, and survival including support processes, provisioning and environment regulating services, and cultural resource preservation services;
- (i) "Exotic species" refer to the species or subspecies of flora and fauna which do not naturally occur within the protected area at present or in historical time;
- (j) "Exploration" refers to the act of searching or prospecting for mineral resources, as defines by law, by geological, geochemical or geophysical surveys, remote sensing, test pitting, trenching, drilling, shaft sinking, tunneling, or any other means, for the purpose of determining the existence, extent, quantity, and quality of resources in an area, and the feasibility of utilizing these resources for profit;
- (k) "Genetically modified organism (GMO)" refers to any living organism that possesses a novel combination of genetic material through the use of modern biotechnology;
- (l) "Hunting" refers to the killing or catching of wild fauna for food and recreational purposes, with the use of weapons such as guns, bow and arrow, spears, traps and snares, and the like;

- (m) “Indigenous Cultural Community (ICC)/Indigenous People (IP)” refers to a group of people sharing common bonds of language, customs traditions, and other distinctive cultural traits, and who have, since time immemorial occupied, possessed and utilized a territory;
- (n) “Integrated Protected Area Fund (IPAF)” refers to the special account established for the purpose of financing projects of the NIPAS and individual protected areas;
- (o) “Invasive alien species” refers to species introduced deliberately or unintentionally outside their natural habitats where they have the ability to establish themselves, invade, outcompete native species, and take over the new environment;
- (p) “Kaingin” refers to the slash-and-burn cultivation of vegetated land in a protected area, whether occupied or not, shifting and permanent with little or no provision to prevent soil erosion;
- (q) “Multiple-use zone” refers to the area where settlement, traditional and sustainable land use including agriculture, agroforestry, extraction activities, and income generating or livelihood activities, and may be allowed to the extent prescribed in the protected area management plan;
- (r) “National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS)” refers to the classification and administration of all designated protected areas to maintain essential ecological processes and life-support systems, to preserve genetic diversity, to ensure sustainable use of resources found therein, and to maintain their natural conditions to the greatest extent possible;
- (s) “National park” refers to the lands of the public domain classified as such in the Constitution which include all areas under the NIPAS pursuant to this Act, primarily designated for the conservation of native plants and animals, their associated habitats and cultural diversity;
- (t) “Occupying” refers to a continuous stay of individuals or groups within a protected area, whether residing or engaging in the cultivation of land or fishing for more than twenty-four (24) hours;
- (u) “Poaching” refers to gathering, collecting, or possessing products or natural resources from the protected area by any individual person, corporation or entity whether local or foreign; in the case of marine protected areas, operating any foreign fishing vessels by any person, corporation, or entity without a permit;
- (v) “Protected area” refers to identified portions of land and/or water set aside by reason of their unique physical and biological diversity and protected against destructive human exploitation;
- (w) “Protected Area Occupants” refers to persons who are residing, utilizing, and cultivating areas within the protected area. These include private owners, IPs, tenured migrants and informal settlers;
- (x) “Protected Area Retained Income Account” refers to the trust fund maintained by any protected area and administered by the respective Protected Area Management Boards

(PAMB) created pursuant to this Act representing the seventy-five percent (75%) of revenues generated from the protected area to support its operation and management;

(y) "Protected landscapes" refer to areas of national significance which are characterized by the harmonious interaction of man and land while providing opportunities for public enjoyment through recreation, tourism, and other economic activities;

(z) "Protected species" refers to plants or animals declared protected under Philippine laws, rules, and regulations. These shall include all species listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and all its Annexes, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS), those specified under the red-list categories of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (DENR), PAMB or any government agency may deem necessary for conservation and preservation in the protected area;

(aa) "Quarrying" refers to the process of extracting, removing, and disposing sand gravel, guano, limestone, and all other resources used as building and construction materials that are found within the protected area;

(bb) "Tenured migrants" refer to protected area occupants who have been actually, continuously and presently occupants who have been actually, continuously and presently occupying a portion of the protected area for five (5) years before the proclamation or law establishing the same as a protected area, and are solely dependent therein for subsistence;

(cc) "Wildlife" refers to the wild forms and varieties of flora and fauna, in all developmental stages, including those who which are in capacity or are being bred, fed, or propagated.

Section 5. Scope and Coverage. – The Allah Valley Protected Landscape (AVPL) shall cover parcels of land located in the Municipalities of Lake Sebu, Tboli, and Surallah in the Province of South Cotabato and Municipality of Bagumbayan in the Province of Sultan Kudarat containing an area of SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED NINETY-NINE and 36/100 (76,699.36) HECTARES, more or less, subject to actual ground survey and demarcation, to be fully and finally determined by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), with the following technical descriptions:

Beginning at a point marked "1" on the Map, being S42° 34'24" W, 4305.611 meters from PRS92 Control Monument "CTS-3104" with geographic coordinates of 6° 27' 1.48972" latitude and 124° 38'25.31971" longitude located at Brgy. Manuel Roxas, Santo Niño, South Cotabato:

thence	S 43°17'25" W	233.13	meters	to corner 2
thence	S 21°54'53" W	230.62	meters	to corner 3
thence	S 64°43'20" E	293.73	meters	to corner 4
thence	S 84°38'39" E	237.13	meters	to corner 5
thence	N 79°17'13" E	185.22	meters	to corner 6
thence	N 54°51'57" E	243.58	meters	to corner 7
thence	S 32°25'1" E	199.56	meters	to corner 8
thence	S 28°18'3" W	145.24	meters	to corner 9
thence	S 22°13'47" W	305.53	meters	to corner 10

thence	S 35°9'59" E	264.74	meters	to corner 11
thence	S 83°47'32" E	352.52	meters	to corner 12
thence	S 66°48'5" W	224.75	meters	to corner 13
thence	S 5°57'5" W	320.21	meters	to corner 14
thence	S 25°29'21" W	234.31	meters	to corner 15
thence	S 23°43'42" W	244.46	meters	to corner 16
thence	S 10°31'58" W	248.89	meters	to corner 17
thence	S 23°50'19" W	231.23	meters	to corner 18
thence	S 19°17'24" W	260.56	meters	to corner 19
thence	S 47°11'19" E	273.22	meters	to corner 20
thence	S 28°39'26" W	241.02	meters	to corner 21
thence	S 22°0'3" W	262.59	meters	to corner 22
thence	S 9°0'17" W	227.83	meters	to corner 23
thence	S 6°57'11" E	203.16	meters	to corner 24
thence	S 4°21'25" E	121.96	meters	to corner 25
thence	S 4°21'25" E	60.24	meters	to corner 26
thence	N 58°39'15" E	1.58	meters	to corner 27
thence	S 5°42'38" E	81.50	meters	to corner 28
thence	N 77°28'16" W	215.61	meters	to corner 29
thence	S 56°42'23" W	234.32	meters	to corner 30
thence	S 31°45'34" W	161.75	meters	to corner 31
thence	S 69°4'32" W	212.43	meters	to corner 32
thence	S 24°2'39" E	208.07	meters	to corner 33
thence	S 36°10'5" W	525.06	meters	to corner 34
thence	S 27°56'14" W	218.39	meters	to corner 35
thence	N 83°17'25" W	50.04	meters	to corner 36
thence	S 30°48'12" W	127.45	meters	to corner 37
thence	S 81°18'49" E	298.28	meters	to corner 38
thence	N 49°42'28" E	246.97	meters	to corner 39
thence	N 1°44'9" E	270.41	meters	to corner 40
thence	N 76°48'34" E	269.20	meters	to corner 41
thence	S 29°14'56" E	234.68	meters	to corner 42
thence	S 66°58'28" E	355.98	meters	to corner 43
thence	N 54°39'36" E	276.12	meters	to corner 44
thence	N 53°29'55" E	254.73	meters	to corner 45
thence	N 35°35'4" E	292.07	meters	to corner 46
thence	N 28°57'4" E	219.97	meters	to corner 47
thence	N 4°53'57" E	287.72	meters	to corner 48
thence	N 18°42'42" W	268.07	meters	to corner 49
thence	N 0°26'3" E	270.29	meters	to corner 50
thence	N 9°54'15" E	261.90	meters	to corner 51
thence	N 29°17'29" E	192.52	meters	to corner 52
thence	N 67°18'22" E	244.14	meters	to corner 53
thence	S 20°46'20" E	254.04	meters	to corner 54
thence	S 5°16'26" E	267.32	meters	to corner 55
thence	S 6°52'54" E	239.25	meters	to corner 56
thence	S 7°16'30" E	194.04	meters	to corner 57
thence	S 13°17'55" E	231.45	meters	to corner 58
thence	S 33°58'35" W	227.17	meters	to corner 59
thence	S 23°19'4" W	258.65	meters	to corner 60
thence	S 38°0'29" E	247.40	meters	to corner 61
thence	N 45°30'25" E	261.79	meters	to corner 62

thence	S 9°12'40" E	245.61	meters	to corner 63
thence	S 40°16'48" E	253.37	meters	to corner 64
thence	S 62°45'53" E	250.56	meters	to corner 65
thence	S 53°7'48" E	147.43	meters	to corner 66
thence	S 19°10'44" E	239.34	meters	to corner 67
thence	S 44°12'29" W	251.38	meters	to corner 68
thence	S 4°17'21" E	262.83	meters	to corner 69
thence	S 19°26'24" E	236.25	meters	to corner 70
thence	S 9°54'34" E	276.04	meters	to corner 71
thence	S 5°57'52" E	220.70	meters	to corner 72
thence	S 7°44'1" E	267.81	meters	to corner 73
thence	S 66°30'5" W	287.58	meters	to corner 74
thence	S 68°11'55" W	247.00	meters	to corner 75
thence	S 39°3'11" W	223.60	meters	to corner 76
thence	S 0°45'14" W	249.01	meters	to corner 77
thence	S 41°52'3" W	233.17	meters	to corner 78
thence	S 28°15'29" W	297.56	meters	to corner 79
thence	S 35°8'3" E	108.16	meters	to corner 80
thence	S 18°26'6" E	207.21	meters	to corner 81
thence	S 47°17'26" E	231.85	meters	to corner 82
thence	S 74°55'1" E	239.21	meters	to corner 83
thence	S 86°25'25" E	262.61	meters	to corner 84
thence	S 8°55'50" E	232.15	meters	to corner 85
thence	S 30°6'5" E	261.30	meters	to corner 86
thence	S 28°1'9" E	242.82	meters	to corner 87
thence	S 42°25'15" E	237.35	meters	to corner 88
thence	N 39°52'58" E	287.39	meters	to corner 89
thence	N 18°11'57" E	232.14	meters	to corner 90
thence	N 10°32'21" E	264.26	meters	to corner 91
thence	N 17°6'10" E	246.54	meters	to corner 92
thence	N 55°28'19" E	229.18	meters	to corner 93
thence	N 60°31'27" E	239.44	meters	to corner 94
thence	N 18°26'6" W	95.53	meters	to corner 95
thence	N 24°46'30" W	129.76	meters	to corner 96
thence	S 70°58'28" W	185.34	meters	to corner 97
thence	S 76°13'6" W	164.86	meters	to corner 98
thence	N 37°45'47" W	271.32	meters	to corner 99
thence	N 26°4'31" E	158.08	meters	to corner 100
thence	N 24°56'3" E	189.90	meters	to corner 101
thence	N 43°46'52" W	200.84	meters	to corner 102
thence	N 44°22'13" W	194.40	meters	to corner 103
thence	N 22°42'52" E	281.65	meters	to corner 104
thence	N 45°59'16" W	247.83	meters	to corner 105
thence	N 13°6'10" E	179.90	meters	to corner 106
thence	N 8°40'23" E	180.30	meters	to corner 107
thence	N 42°2'57" E	207.48	meters	to corner 108
thence	N 7°55'37" E	240.96	meters	to corner 109
thence	N 8°11'6" W	222.80	meters	to corner 110
thence	N 7°21'8" W	188.85	meters	to corner 111
thence	N 14°25'15" W	218.35	meters	to corner 112
thence	N 24°22'35" W	212.27	meters	to corner 113
thence	N 6°46'20" W	243.38	meters	to corner 114

thence	N 8°14'8" W	231.99	meters	to corner 115
thence	N 34°18'54" W	230.43	meters	to corner 116
thence	N 40°59'9" W	244.12	meters	to corner 117
thence	N 10°43'28" W	202.93	meters	to corner 118
thence	N 0°54'34" E	190.35	meters	to corner 119
thence	N 2°25'10" E	214.68	meters	to corner 120
thence	N 83°3'56" W	225.20	meters	to corner 121
thence	N 14°2'10" W	161.93	meters	to corner 122
thence	N 33°1'26" W	180.15	meters	to corner 123
thence	N 46°25'56" E	170.95	meters	to corner 124
thence	N 27°48'5" E	187.84	meters	to corner 125
thence	N 24°5'15" W	281.28	meters	to corner 126
thence	N 15°49'9" W	188.39	meters	to corner 127
thence	N 14°15'25" W	190.14	meters	to corner 128
thence	N 17°56'58" E	225.46	meters	to corner 129
thence	N 52°2'45" W	191.56	meters	to corner 130
thence	S 85°9'22" W	178.88	meters	to corner 131
thence	N 18°26'6" W	95.53	meters	to corner 132
thence	N 43°1'30" W	247.94	meters	to corner 133
thence	N 28°0'6" W	215.56	meters	to corner 134
thence	N 47°12'9" E	222.32	meters	to corner 135
thence	N 55°18'17" E	191.06	meters	to corner 136
thence	S 83°25'5" E	158.13	meters	to corner 137
thence	N 1°22'49" W	250.81	meters	to corner 138
thence	N 6°16'38" W	151.96	meters	to corner 139
thence	N 22°31'14" E	134.09	meters	to corner 140
thence	S 65°28'49" E	189.26	meters	to corner 141
thence	N 38°55'39" E	97.49	meters	to corner 142
thence	N 38°55'39" E	104.44	meters	to corner 143
thence	N 71°3'13" E	482.32	meters	to corner 144
thence	N 71°3'13" E	373.68	meters	to corner 145
thence	N 63°5'38" E	340.46	meters	to corner 146
thence	N 71°50'26" E	397.42	meters	to corner 147
thence	N 58°48'54" E	268.38	meters	to corner 148
thence	S 80°44'14" E	356.59	meters	to corner 149
thence	N 72°38'45" E	151.92	meters	to corner 150
thence	S 65°56'34" E	185.27	meters	to corner 151
thence	S 16°5'27" W	163.50	meters	to corner 152
thence	S 11°18'36" W	323.49	meters	to corner 153
thence	S 4°7'29" E	315.00	meters	to corner 154
thence	S 54°34'59" E	333.62	meters	to corner 155
thence	N 89°24'11" E	290.03	meters	to corner 156
thence	N 71°13'55" E	328.64	meters	to corner 157
thence	N 66°26'5" E	309.81	meters	to corner 158
thence	S 83°39'35" E	136.78	meters	to corner 159
thence	S 35°39'19" E	427.57	meters	to corner 160
thence	S 56°18'36" E	511.94	meters	to corner 161
thence	S 87°55'30" E	417.17	meters	to corner 162
thence	S 2°36'9" E	166.33	meters	to corner 163
thence	S 1°21'11" W	383.77	meters	to corner 164
thence	S 1°6'37" W	389.78	meters	to corner 165
thence	S 89°5'26" E	190.35	meters	to corner 166

thence	S 0°25'51" E	401.80	meters	to corner 167
thence	S 85°23'22" E	187.91	meters	to corner 168
thence	N 84°38'39" E	194.19	meters	to corner 169
thence	S 1°13'39" W	211.52	meters	to corner 170
thence	S 0°47'5" W	220.55	meters	to corner 171
thence	S 0°0'0" W	196.36	meters	to corner 172
thence	S 1°18'7" W	199.44	meters	to corner 173
thence	S 0°55'27" W	187.33	meters	to corner 174
thence	S 0°0'0" W	250.74	meters	to corner 175
thence	S 1°56'29" E	178.34	meters	to corner 176
thence	S 3°13'52" W	187.60	meters	to corner 177
thence	N 88°32'59" E	477.47	meters	to corner 178
thence	S 1°56'29" W	178.34	meters	to corner 179
thence	S 0°52'5" W	199.41	meters	to corner 180
thence	S 1°41'5" E	205.52	meters	to corner 181
thence	S 2°6'20" E	205.57	meters	to corner 182
thence	S 0°52'53" W	196.39	meters	to corner 183
thence	S 2°21'41" E	293.28	meters	to corner 184
thence	S 41°59'14" E	223.54	meters	to corner 185
thence	S 39°14'15" E	234.02	meters	to corner 186
thence	S 36°31'44" E	203.01	meters	to corner 187
thence	S 43°51'15" E	213.66	meters	to corner 188
thence	S 43°17'6" W	178.45	meters	to corner 189
thence	S 17°47'46" W	257.00	meters	to corner 190
thence	S 14°2'10" E	224.21	meters	to corner 191
thence	S 16°41'57" W	220.78	meters	to corner 192
thence	S 29°36'16" E	229.32	meters	to corner 193
thence	S 26°52'41" E	247.24	meters	to corner 194
thence	S 41°18'31" W	265.43	meters	to corner 195
thence	S 48°8'42" E	194.68	meters	to corner 196
thence	S 24°24'56" E	252.14	meters	to corner 197
thence	S 26°33'54" E	263.45	meters	to corner 198
thence	S 9°40'24" W	269.68	meters	to corner 199
thence	S 10°51'0" W	184.56	meters	to corner 200
thence	S 46°0'18" E	243.56	meters	to corner 201
thence	S 32°35'33" E	218.72	meters	to corner 202
thence	N 73°12'37" E	366.04	meters	to corner 203
thence	S 73°13'44" E	230.33	meters	to corner 204
thence	N 46°40'6" E	220.12	meters	to corner 205
thence	S 60°6'48" E	303.14	meters	to corner 206
thence	S 57°49'59" E	283.72	meters	to corner 207
thence	S 33°11'24" E	480.12	meters	to corner 208
thence	S 61°41'57" E	312.23	meters	to corner 209
thence	S 67°30'13" E	323.71	meters	to corner 210
thence	S 25°29'21" W	431.73	meters	to corner 211
thence	S 31°17'35" W	360.60	meters	to corner 212
thence	S 72°38'46" W	455.77	meters	to corner 213
thence	S 1°9'26" E	299.14	meters	to corner 214
thence	S 56°31'25" W	224.55	meters	to corner 215
thence	S 22°20'53" E	293.97	meters	to corner 216
thence	S 38°28'49" E	301.01	meters	to corner 217
thence	S 9°24'11" W	480.75	meters	to corner 218

thence	S 33°6'41" E	331.81	meters	to corner 219
thence	S 32°3'27" W	352.89	meters	to corner 220
thence	S 49°37'21" W	503.64	meters	to corner 221
thence	S 53°40'23" W	382.47	meters	to corner 222
thence	S 30°39'2" E	284.44	meters	to corner 223
thence	N 79°41'43" E	270.21	meters	to corner 224
thence	S 14°40'35" E	393.48	meters	to corner 225
thence	S 21°12'33" E	217.11	meters	to corner 226
thence	S 6°33'9" E	225.02	meters	to corner 227
thence	S 86°56'1" E	169.42	meters	to corner 228
thence	N 78°13'54" E	222.18	meters	to corner 229
thence	N 66°8'23" E	343.54	meters	to corner 230
thence	S 51°35'48" E	316.11	meters	to corner 231
thence	S 53°40'23" E	382.47	meters	to corner 232
thence	S 43°13'5" E	240.43	meters	to corner 233
thence	S 56°35'32" E	170.09	meters	to corner 234
thence	S 20°9'27" E	254.23	meters	to corner 235
thence	S 67°39'34" W	238.43	meters	to corner 236
thence	S 42°14'40" W	199.96	meters	to corner 237
thence	S 75°57'50" W	435.95	meters	to corner 238
thence	S 2°1'17" E	256.94	meters	to corner 239
thence	S 5°32'28" E	203.36	meters	to corner 240
thence	S 34°7'43" W	328.45	meters	to corner 241
thence	S 55°18'17" E	191.06	meters	to corner 242
thence	S 62°29'17" E	326.99	meters	to corner 243
thence	S 50°33'2" E	342.32	meters	to corner 244
thence	S 51°11'19" E	356.68	meters	to corner 245
thence	N 82°43'30" E	286.28	meters	to corner 246
thence	N 67°45'4" E	359.04	meters	to corner 247
thence	N 78°56'37" E	267.80	meters	to corner 248
thence	N 4°23'55" W	236.33	meters	to corner 249
thence	N 51°1'7" E	336.16	meters	to corner 250
thence	N 7°20'19" E	402.06	meters	to corner 251
thence	N 14°12'57" E	233.73	meters	to corner 252
thence	N 18°41'14" E	542.15	meters	to corner 253
thence	N 27°41'18" E	344.58	meters	to corner 254
thence	S 48°40'4" E	333.92	meters	to corner 255
thence	N 52°47'32" E	204.83	meters	to corner 256
thence	S 85°18'5" E	221.28	meters	to corner 257
thence	S 67°30'2" E	552.61	meters	to corner 258
thence	S 62°47'2" E	178.35	meters	to corner 259
thence	S 73°34'15" E	245.67	meters	to corner 260
thence	S 65°51'16" E	192.02	meters	to corner 261
thence	S 88°29'33" E	229.67	meters	to corner 262
thence	S 12°18'2" E	411.23	meters	to corner 263
thence	S 48°2'31" E	664.21	meters	to corner 264
thence	N 0°28'39" E	725.06	meters	to corner 265
thence	N 21°56'19" W	234.49	meters	to corner 266
thence	N 35°4'26" E	173.49	meters	to corner 267
thence	N 26°58'59" W	1481.44	meters	to corner 268
thence	N 28°22'8" W	171.67	meters	to corner 269
thence	N 36°6'20" E	407.57	meters	to corner 270

thence	N 40°50'25" E	471.20	meters	to corner 271
thence	S 37°31'9" E	213.30	meters	to corner 272
thence	S 43°6'43" E	194.50	meters	to corner 273
thence	S 42°16'25" E	224.55	meters	to corner 274
thence	S 39°14'15" E	234.02	meters	to corner 275
thence	S 38°9'26" E	215.15	meters	to corner 276
thence	S 83°2'49" W	124.78	meters	to corner 277
thence	N 48°21'59" W	145.51	meters	to corner 278
thence	S 83°39'35" W	109.42	meters	to corner 279
thence	S 48°17'21" W	186.15	meters	to corner 280
thence	S 68°50'19" E	100.42	meters	to corner 281
thence	S 54°9'44" W	134.15	meters	to corner 282
thence	N 68°52'31" W	142.50	meters	to corner 283
thence	S 20°43'32" E	239.02	meters	to corner 284
thence	S 26°53'30" E	237.11	meters	to corner 285
thence	S 48°7'20" E	235.33	meters	to corner 286
thence	S 41°38'1" E	145.51	meters	to corner 287
thence	S 32°33'0" E	336.89	meters	to corner 288
thence	S 71°27'57" E	275.61	meters	to corner 289
thence	N 33°50'43" E	309.18	meters	to corner 290
thence	N 46°26'39" E	254.28	meters	to corner 291
thence	S 70°42'36" E	192.04	meters	to corner 292
thence	S 24°35'59" W	275.77	meters	to corner 293
thence	S 27°49'27" W	245.95	meters	to corner 294
thence	S 15°22'34" W	125.33	meters	to corner 295
thence	S 46°28'8" E	83.34	meters	to corner 296
thence	S 25°6'53" W	106.77	meters	to corner 297
thence	S 83°14'47" E	231.20	meters	to corner 298
thence	N 75°15'23" E	237.41	meters	to corner 299
thence	N 20°5'43" E	263.78	meters	to corner 300
thence	N 80°32'16" E	202.14	meters	to corner 301
thence	N 66°48'5" E	138.04	meters	to corner 302
thence	S 78°15'41" E	118.79	meters	to corner 303
thence	N 50°52'10" E	229.77	meters	to corner 304
thence	N 36°31'44" E	203.01	meters	to corner 305
thence	S 64°1'32" E	131.06	meters	to corner 306
thence	S 2°36'9" W	266.12	meters	to corner 307
thence	S 65°46'20" W	198.77	meters	to corner 308
thence	S 24°42'9" W	166.26	meters	to corner 309
thence	S 0°0'0" W	193.34	meters	to corner 310
thence	S 26°57'57" E	193.20	meters	to corner 311
thence	S 82°52'30" E	267.92	meters	to corner 312
thence	N 86°35'0" E	202.77	meters	to corner 313
thence	S 42°40'59" E	184.93	meters	to corner 314
thence	S 10°58'50" E	206.18	meters	to corner 315
thence	S 48°55'6" E	156.30	meters	to corner 316
thence	S 25°27'48" W	140.53	meters	to corner 317
thence	S 75°41'59" W	159.00	meters	to corner 318
thence	N 68°37'46" W	373.06	meters	to corner 319
thence	N 59°14'14" W	295.32	meters	to corner 320
thence	N 53°1'21" W	321.43	meters	to corner 321
thence	S 68°33'47" W	264.51	meters	to corner 322

thence	S 11°42'45" E	252.99	meters	to corner 323
thence	S 64°43'20" E	240.54	meters	to corner 324
thence	S 58°34'14" E	254.91	meters	to corner 325
thence	S 18°0'15" E	254.12	meters	to corner 326
thence	S 27°52'19" E	177.71	meters	to corner 327
thence	S 40°43'2" W	486.27	meters	to corner 328
thence	S 43°5'27" W	128.24	meters	to corner 329
thence	N 30°4'7" W	265.30	meters	to corner 330
thence	N 39°36'39" W	227.44	meters	to corner 331
thence	S 63°43'7" W	272.91	meters	to corner 332
thence	N 63°49'45" W	294.53	meters	to corner 333
thence	S 28°10'43" W	191.92	meters	to corner 334
thence	N 84°8'38" W	118.44	meters	to corner 335
thence	S 21°32'28" E	123.42	meters	to corner 336
thence	S 28°26'35" W	164.91	meters	to corner 337
thence	S 27°16'10" W	329.68	meters	to corner 338
thence	N 74°6'36" E	430.32	meters	to corner 339
thence	N 39°5'38" E	124.56	meters	to corner 340
thence	S 33°24'28" E	170.09	meters	to corner 341
thence	S 45°25'51" E	284.12	meters	to corner 342
thence	S 47°59'9" W	368.32	meters	to corner 343
thence	S 43°12'36" E	273.56	meters	to corner 344
thence	S 54°37'11" E	255.66	meters	to corner 345
thence	S 54°7'49" E	484.64	meters	to corner 346
thence	N 55°31'40" E	245.52	meters	to corner 347
thence	S 79°57'2" E	242.38	meters	to corner 348
thence	S 12°22'9" W	176.29	meters	to corner 349
thence	S 23°31'24" W	280.06	meters	to corner 350
thence	S 46°48'31" W	203.04	meters	to corner 351
thence	S 45°0'0" W	260.61	meters	to corner 352
thence	S 40°17'32" W	273.28	meters	to corner 353
thence	S 45°56'21" W	130.32	meters	to corner 354
thence	S 57°39'9" W	214.55	meters	to corner 355
thence	S 78°1'26" E	305.73	meters	to corner 356
thence	S 48°24'31" E	341.32	meters	to corner 357
thence	N 31°13'6" E	233.14	meters	to corner 358
thence	N 30°18'40" E	227.46	meters	to corner 359
thence	S 88°56'21" E	163.16	meters	to corner 360
thence	N 29°17'29" E	426.06	meters	to corner 361
thence	S 79°22'49" E	98.36	meters	to corner 362
thence	S 36°7'10" W	138.37	meters	to corner 363
thence	S 3°41'29" E	93.85	meters	to corner 364
thence	S 17°16'53" E	142.37	meters	to corner 365
thence	S 7°25'53" E	140.14	meters	to corner 366
thence	S 41°54'21" E	158.31	meters	to corner 367
thence	S 39°10'25" E	105.22	meters	to corner 368
thence	S 17°49'8" E	88.85	meters	to corner 369
thence	S 83°17'25" E	206.84	meters	to corner 370
thence	N 65°32'15" E	386.65	meters	to corner 371
thence	S 22°30'50" E	2639.07	meters	to corner 372
thence	S 28°56'5" W	3365.58	meters	to corner 373
thence	S 58°52'39" W	374.07	meters	to corner 374

thence	S 70°26'53" W	514.54	meters	to corner 375
thence	S 65°54'20" W	532.80	meters	to corner 376
thence	S 15°25'41" W	482.62	meters	to corner 377
thence	S 49°31'29" W	297.85	meters	to corner 378
thence	S 79°29'42" W	231.97	meters	to corner 379
thence	S 30°10'25" W	450.79	meters	to corner 380
thence	N 88°58'37" W	169.20	meters	to corner 381
thence	S 75°57'50" W	224.21	meters	to corner 382
thence	S 23°37'46" E	211.04	meters	to corner 383
thence	N 82°29'16" E	277.29	meters	to corner 384
thence	S 49°5'8" E	119.93	meters	to corner 385
thence	S 40°9'22" E	189.73	meters	to corner 386
thence	S 71°19'24" E	226.41	meters	to corner 387
thence	S 47°1'17" E	181.69	meters	to corner 388
thence	S 38°12'40" W	180.70	meters	to corner 389
thence	S 67°47'47" E	159.88	meters	to corner 390
thence	S 32°30'27" E	182.69	meters	to corner 391
thence	S 36°12'34" E	209.67	meters	to corner 392
thence	S 48°17'21" E	186.15	meters	to corner 393
thence	S 20°12'37" E	292.95	meters	to corner 394
thence	S 5°49'35" W	297.59	meters	to corner 395
thence	N 36°23'4" E	213.89	meters	to corner 396
thence	N 46°37'5" E	378.25	meters	to corner 397
thence	S 12°19'21" E	1274.00	meters	to corner 398
thence	N 86°18'31" E	281.54	meters	to corner 399
thence	N 52°31'26" E	342.60	meters	to corner 400
thence	S 62°50'30" E	456.67	meters	to corner 401
thence	S 66°59'7" E	370.89	meters	to corner 402
thence	S 71°33'54" E	248.38	meters	to corner 403
thence	S 45°49'49" E	368.53	meters	to corner 404
thence	S 59°55'53" E	265.30	meters	to corner 405
thence	S 67°14'6" E	366.93	meters	to corner 406
thence	S 88°43'37" E	135.98	meters	to corner 407
thence	S 30°0'36" E	202.34	meters	to corner 408
thence	S 59°35'20" E	161.13	meters	to corner 409
thence	S 59°22'53" E	172.01	meters	to corner 410
thence	S 51°55'38" E	230.25	meters	to corner 411
thence	S 42°39'30" E	287.55	meters	to corner 412
thence	S 52°37'27" E	273.71	meters	to corner 413
thence	N 70°1'1" E	388.96	meters	to corner 414
thence	N 34°12'57" E	274.00	meters	to corner 415
thence	N 1°28'8" E	235.71	meters	to corner 416
thence	N 43°15'51" W	141.05	meters	to corner 417
thence	N 11°6'47" W	172.41	meters	to corner 418
thence	N 43°4'10" W	190.23	meters	to corner 419
thence	N 37°57'15" E	191.56	meters	to corner 420
thence	N 42°47'7" E	193.47	meters	to corner 421
thence	N 54°42'48" E	240.56	meters	to corner 422
thence	N 51°47'20" E	180.70	meters	to corner 423
thence	S 16°31'4" E	456.90	meters	to corner 424
thence	S 86°49'13" E	326.77	meters	to corner 425
thence	S 35°28'48" E	348.72	meters	to corner 426

thence	S 49°5'8" E	239.86	meters	to corner 427
thence	S 34°19'30" E	340.20	meters	to corner 428
thence	S 71°33'54" E	248.38	meters	to corner 429
thence	S 76°11'6" E	189.77	meters	to corner 430
thence	N 88°11'29" E	287.14	meters	to corner 431
thence	N 6°4'21" W	142.79	meters	to corner 432
thence	N 19°9'37" W	377.38	meters	to corner 433
thence	N 85°41'44" E	281.75	meters	to corner 434
thence	N 86°55'21" E	281.36	meters	to corner 435
thence	N 35°19'53" W	585.07	meters	to corner 436
thence	N 21°40'14" W	490.86	meters	to corner 437
thence	N 41°49'13" W	462.12	meters	to corner 438
thence	N 24°17'38" W	477.29	meters	to corner 439
thence	N 28°33'35" W	271.72	meters	to corner 440
thence	N 2°14'13" W	193.49	meters	to corner 441
thence	S 88°54'44" E	477.40	meters	to corner 442
thence	S 64°23'23" E	405.36	meters	to corner 443
thence	S 65°53'9" E	695.06	meters	to corner 444
thence	S 60°19'54" E	561.50	meters	to corner 445
thence	N 66°13'25" E	472.07	meters	to corner 446
thence	S 63°26'6" E	243.18	meters	to corner 447
thence	N 80°2'23" E	314.39	meters	to corner 448
thence	S 84°37'24" E	257.92	meters	to corner 449
thence	S 83°33'2" E	349.63	meters	to corner 450
thence	S 82°10'48" E	355.25	meters	to corner 451
thence	S 62°9'43" E	304.06	meters	to corner 452
thence	S 53°17'9" E	222.35	meters	to corner 453
thence	S 82°15'59" E	246.95	meters	to corner 454
thence	N 15°56'43" W	109.97	meters	to corner 455
thence	N 70°10'4" W	195.90	meters	to corner 456
thence	N 45°37'47" E	194.40	meters	to corner 457
thence	N 51°45'58" E	253.83	meters	to corner 458
thence	N 31°45'34" W	223.84	meters	to corner 459
thence	N 42°2'57" W	207.48	meters	to corner 460
thence	N 42°6'32" W	69.97	meters	to corner 461
thence	S 71°29'50" E	1128.68	meters	to corner 462
thence	S 70°23'6" E	2534.83	meters	to corner 463
thence	S 9°26'13" W	3176.36	meters	to corner 464
thence	S 21°26'40" E	1539.11	meters	to corner 465
thence	S 21°26'40" E	72.24	meters	to corner 466
thence	S 14°34'15" W	1923.09	meters	to corner 467
thence	S 62°55'41" W	2013.55	meters	to corner 468
thence	S 77°50'13" W	2998.62	meters	to corner 469
thence	N 47°50'24" W	1543.38	meters	to corner 470
thence	S 68°36'21" W	4462.57	meters	to corner 471
thence	S 64°37'49" W	3294.57	meters	to corner 472
thence	S 77°4'56" W	2546.09	meters	to corner 473
thence	N 62°21'40" W	3938.55	meters	to corner 474
thence	S 48°19'51" W	761.97	meters	to corner 475
thence	N 41°56'45" W	2341.71	meters	to corner 476
thence	N 39°3'36" W	2800.17	meters	to corner 477
thence	N 26°54'34" W	1905.33	meters	to corner 478

thence	N 48°47'37" W	2980.83	meters	to corner 479
thence	N 13°34'26" W	3249.76	meters	to corner 480
thence	N 33°28'25" W	3343.58	meters	to corner 481
thence	N 36°39'2" W	1635.28	meters	to corner 482
thence	N 17°43'54" W	1906.27	meters	to corner 483
thence	N 23°46'55" W	2201.89	meters	to corner 484
thence	N 62°34'47" W	1705.66	meters	to corner 485
thence	N 9°54'15" W	1820.06	meters	to corner 486
thence	N 42°56'51" W	2360.02	meters	to corner 487
thence	S 53°2'57" W	2816.91	meters	to corner 488
thence	S 64°5'37" W	1661.04	meters	to corner 489
thence	S 62°11'44" W	3648.53	meters	to corner 490
thence	N 4°18'16" W	1592.52	meters	to corner 491
thence	N 4°54'15" W	3561.92	meters	to corner 492
thence	N 52°12'39" W	1667.36	meters	to corner 493
thence	N 39°19'33" W	1261.91	meters	to corner 494
thence	N 0°19'39" E	1494.14	meters	to corner 495
thence	N 31°0'21" E	2662.93	meters	to corner 496
thence	N 4°55'6" W	1925.25	meters	to corner 497
thence	N 41°7'57" E	2864.10	meters	to corner 498
thence	N 16°45'16" W	1411.75	meters	to corner 499
thence	N 32°21'32" E	2004.62	meters	to corner 500
thence	N 28°56'13" W	1076.39	meters	to corner 501
thence	N 53°14'24" E	2078.10	meters	to corner 502
thence	N 73°46'36" E	2658.67	meters	to corner 503
thence	S 84°46'9" E	2434.87	meters	to corner 504
thence	S 48°51'13" E	778.54	meters	to corner 505
thence	N 89°27'40" E	907.89	meters	to corner 506
thence	N 57°45'56" E	1056.45	meters	to corner 507
thence	N 52°29'20" E	347.84	meters	to corner 508
thence	S 41°25'25" E	98.89	meters	to corner 509
thence	S 30°2'0" E	181.81	meters	to corner 510
thence	S 2°46'0" W	331.16	meters	to corner 511
thence	S 23°11'55" W	206.02	meters	to corner 1

the point of beginning, containing an area of SEVENTY-SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED NINETY-NINE AND 36/100 (76,699.36) hectares, more or less.

The DENR shall likewise appropriately mark on the ground the technical descriptions provided in this Act with clearly visible markers and shall prepare appropriate maps therefore. Any modification of the coverage of this Act due to such factors as changing ecological situations, new scientific or archaeological findings, or discover of traditional boundaries not previously taken into account shall be made through an act of Congress, after consultation with the affected stakeholders and concerned government agencies.

All lands comprising the AVPL shall fall under the classification of National Park as provided for in the Philippine Constitution subject to prior right.

Section 6. *Management Plan.* -Within one (1) year from the establishment of the Allah Valley Protected Landscape (AVPL) there shall be a management plan to be formulated to serve as

the basic long-term framework plan for the management of the AVPL and guide in the preparation of its annual operations plan and budget.

The management plan shall, at the minimum, promote the adoption and implementation of innovative management techniques including, when necessary, zoning, buffer zone management, habitat conservation and rehabilitation, diversity management, community organizing and development, socioeconomic and scientific researches, site-specific policy development, climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk reduction and management, waste sewerage and septic management, and gender and development, among others.

The plan shall be harmonized with the Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan (ADSDPP) required under Republic Act No. 8371, or 'The Indigenous People's Right Act of 1997', the respective Comprehensive Land Use Plans (CLUPs) of local governments required under Republic Act No. 7160 or the 'Local Government Code of 1991' and other local plans."

Section 7. Protected Area Management Board of Allah Valley Protected Landscape (AVPL)

- Within three (3) months after the effectivity of this Act, a PAMB shall be created for AVPL. The Board shall be composed of the following:

- (a) DENR Regional Executive Director of DENR Region 12, as Chairperson;
- (b) Governors of the South Cotabato Province and Sultan Kudarat Province or duly designated representatives;
- (c) A Senator of the Republic of the Philippines who is a duly registered resident of Region XII, or a duly authorized representative, unless the Senator declines membership in the PAMB;
- (d) District Representatives of the 2nd District of South Cotabato and 2nd District of Sultan Kudarat, or duly designated representatives, unless the District Representatives decline membership in the PAMB;
- (e) Mayors of Lake Sebu, Tboli and Suralah, South Cotabato Province, and Mayor of Bagumbayan, Sultan Kudarat Province, or their duly designated representative/s;
- (f) Chairperson/s of the barangay/s covering the area of the AVPL;
- (g) Regional Directors of the following government agencies, namely: the Department of Agriculture (DA), the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Philippine National Police (PNP), Office of Civil Defense (OCD); and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);
- (h) Three (3) representatives from either an NGO or PO, duly accredited both by the DENR and the provincial government. The NGO or PO represented should have been in existence for at least five (5) years and with track record in or related to protected area management;

(i) At least one (1) but not more than three (3) representatives from all the IPs/ICCs present in the area and recognized by the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);

(j) One (1) representative from an academic institution, preferably from a university or college in South Cotabato or Sultan Kudarat, with proven track record in or related to the protected area management; and

(k) One (1) representative from the private sector, preferably a resident of South Cotabato or Sultan Kudarat, who is distinguished in a profession or field of interest relevant to the protected area management.

Ex officio members or members of the PAMB by virtue of their elective or appointive government positions as specified in the immediately preceding subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), and (g), shall serve for the duration of their respective terms of office in their respective elective or appointive government positions.

On the other hand, the members of the PAMB specified under subparagraphs (h), (i), (j), and (k) of this section shall be appointed by the DENR Secretary after the conduct of a transparent and fair selection process. They shall each serve a term of three (3) years and may be reappointed for another term.

The members of the PAMB shall serve without compensation, except for the actual and necessary traveling and subsistence expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, either in their attendance in meetings of the PAMB or in connection with other official business authorized through a resolution of the PAMB, subject to existing rules and regulations. Each member shall have the full capacity and accountability for decisions binding to the member's sector.

The PAMB members duly appointed prior to the effectivity of this Act shall continue their term until the expiration of their appointment. Thereafter, members of the management board shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of this Act: *Provided*, That the Regional Executive Director of the DENR Region XII shall ensure that the relevant members of the PAMB are duly appointed by the DENR Secretary: *Provided, further*, That at least forty percent (40%) of the PAMB members shall be women, pursuant to Republic Act No. 9710 or 'The Magna Carta of Women'.

A member of the PAMB may be removed for any of the following grounds:

(1) More than three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from regular meetings of the management board;

(2) Commission of acts prejudicial to the management of protected areas as embodied in Section 20 hereof and/or other existing rules and regulations governing protected areas;

(3) Disassociation from the office or organization being represented;

(4) Termination of relationship with the office or organization being represented; or

(5) Conviction by final judgment of any criminal act.

Section 8. Powers and Functions of the PAMB. - The PAMB shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) Oversee the management of the protected area;
- (b) Approve policies, plans and programs, proposals, agreements, and other related documents for the management of the protected areas;
- (c) Approve the management plan of the protected area and ensure its harmonization and integration with the ADSDPP, land use plan and other development plan public or private, and its implementation;
- (d) Adopt a manual of operations to include rules of procedures in the conduct of business, and the creation of committees and their respective terms of reference;
- (e) Recommend the deputation of appropriate agencies and individuals for the enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations governing the management of protected area;
- (f) Allocate financial resources for the implementation of the management plan and manage the Protected Area Retention Income Account and other funds in accordance with the accounting and budgeting rules and regulations;
- (g) Set fees and charges in accordance with the existing guidelines;
- (h) Issue rules and regulations for the resolution of conflicts through appropriate and effective means;
- (i) Recommend appropriate policy changes to the DENR and other governing authorities;
- (j) Monitor and assess the performance of the Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) and other protected area personnel and compliance of partners with the terms and conditions of any undertaking, contract or agreement;
- (k) Recommend from among a shortlist of qualified candidates, the designation or appointment of the PASu; and
- (l) Assess the effectiveness of the management of the protected area: *Provided*, That the members of the management board representing the LGUs and national agencies in the PAMB shall inform their respective constituents, offices or sectors, of PAMB-approved or other relevant policies, rules, regulations, programs, and projects and shall ensure that the provisions of this Act and its implementing rules and regulations are complied with, and used as reference and framework in their respective plans, policies, programs, and projects. Failure to comply with the foregoing shall be the basis for disciplinary action against such member according to administrative rules and regulations and such penalties as the PAMB may provide: *Provided, further*, that the DENR, through the Regional Executive Director, shall ensure that the PAMB acts within the scope of its powers and functions. In case of conflict between the resolutions issued by the PAMB and the existing administrative orders of national application, the latter shall prevail.

Section 9. The Protected Area Management Office (PAMO). - There is hereby established a Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) to be headed by a Protected Area Superintendent

(PASu) with a permanent plantilla position who shall supervise the day-to-day management, protection and administration of the protected area. A sufficient number of support staff with permanent plantilla position shall be appointed by the DENR to assist the PASu in the management of the protected area.

The PASu shall be primarily accountable to the PAMB and the DENR for the management and operations of the AVPL. Pursuant thereto, the PASu shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (a) Prepare the management plan, in consultation with the stakeholders, including the annual work and financial plans and ensure its implementation;
- (b) Ensure the integration of the protected area management plans, programs, projects, and policies with relevant national and LGUs' plans and programs;
- (c) Provide secretariat services to the PAMB and its committees and ensure the availability of relevant and timely information for decision-making;
- (d) Formulate and recommend to the PAMB proposed policies, rules, regulations, and programs;
- (e) Establish, operate, and maintain a database management system which shall be an important basis for decision-making;
- (f) Enforce the laws, rules and regulations relevant to the protected area. Commence and institute administrative and legal actions in collaboration with other government agencies or organizations, and assist in the prosecution of offenses committed in violation of this Act;
- (g) Monitor, evaluate, and report the implementation of management activities of AVPL;
- (h) Request for and receive any technical assistance support or advice from any agency or instrumentality of the government as well as academic institutions, NGOs, and the private sector, as may be necessary for the effective management, protection and administration of AVPL;
- (i) Issue permits and clearances for activities that implement the management plan and other permitted activities in accordance with terms, conditions, and criteria established by the PAMB: *Provided*, That all permits for extraction activities, including collection for research purposes, shall also continue to be issued by relevant authorities, subject to prior clearance from the PAMB, through the PASu, in accordance with the specific acts to be covered;
- (j) Collect and/or receive pertinent fees, charges, donations, and other income for the protected area: *Provided*, That such fees, charges, donations, and other income collected /received shall be reported regularly to the PAMB and the DENR in accordance with existing guidelines;
- (k) Prepare and recommend to the PAMB, approval of annual work and financial plans of the protected area based on the management plan; and
- (l) Perform such other functions as the PAMB and the DENR may assign.

The PAMO may be augmented by the deputized local environment and natural resources officers upon the recommendation of the PAMB and approval of the DENR.

Section 10. *Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).* – Considering that AVPL is an environmentally critical area, the proponent of development projects and activities with potentially significant adverse impacts as determined by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), whether or not these projects or activities are included in the management plan, shall secure an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) in accordance with the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) System: *Provided*, That for development projects and activities that are not environmentally critical, an initial environmental examination (IEE) shall be undertaken instead of a full-blown EIA. No project or activity may be undertaken by any project proponent without prior clearance from the PAMB. The DENR shall require the submission of the PAMB clearance, among others, before issuing an ECC to a project proponent.

No actual implementation of such activities shall be allowed without the required ECC under the Philippine EIA System. Violations of environmental laws, rules and regulations, including those under the EIA System, shall be penalized accordingly.

Section 11. *Ancestral Domain and Customary Rights.* – Ancestral domains and customary rights shall be accorded due recognition.

As part of heritage preservation and pursuant to the need to conserve biologically significant areas, the territories and areas occupied and conserved for and by IPs and communities shall be recognized, respected, developed, and promoted.

The ICCs and IPs concerned shall have the responsibility to govern, maintain, develop, protect, and conserve such areas, in accordance with their indigenous knowledge systems and practices and customary law, with full and effective assistance from the NCIP, DENR, and other concerned government agencies.

A mechanism for coordination and complementation between the indigenous traditional leadership and governance structures and the NCIP, DENR, government agencies, concerned LGUs and civil society organizations shall be created.

Section 12. *Energy Resources.* – Consistent with the policies declared in Section 2 hereof, the exploration for energy sources may be allowed in AVPL only for the purpose of gathering data and information and only if such activity is carried out with the least damage to surrounding areas.

Survey for non-renewable energy projects shall be conducted only in accordance with a program approved by the DENR, and the result of such surveys shall be made available to the public and submitted to the President who shall make the appropriate recommendations to Congress.

Renewable energy projects may be allowed within the AVPL by the PAMB with the concurrence of the DENR Secretary: *Provided*, That renewable energy projects, which shall be located outside the strict protection zone, shall undergo the EIA as provided by law, and shall

adopt reduced impact technologies so as not to be detrimental to ecosystem functions, biodiversity, cultural practices and traditions: *Provided*, That sufficient bond shall be remitted by the proponent to the DENR. The amount of which will be based on damage estimation upon decommissioning and projected cost of rehabilitation. It shall be released to the depositor upon the satisfactory decommissioning of all equipment, structures and improvements and the rehabilitation of the site according to the zones and objectives of the management plan as attested to by the PAMB.

Section 13. *Integrated Protected Area Fund (IPAF)*. - There is hereby established a trust fund to be known as Integrated Protected Area Fund (IPAF) for purpose of financing the projects and sustaining the operations of AVPL. Income generated from the operation and management of AVPL shall accrue to the AVPL-IPAF. The income shall be derived from fees and charges from the use of resources and facilities of AVPL; contributions from industries and facilities directly benefiting from the AVPL; and such other fees and income derived from the operation of the AVPL.

The PAMB shall retain seventy-five percent (75%) of all revenues raised through the above means, which shall be deposited in the Protected Area-Retained Income Account (PA-RIA) in any authorized government depository bank within the locality: *Provided*, That disbursement out of such deposits shall be used solely for the protection, maintenance, administration, and management of the AVPL and implementation of duly approved projects of the PAMB.

Grants, donations, and endowments from various sources, domestic or foreign, shall be deposited in full in a special account in the National Treasury to be used for the purpose specified in the deeds and instruments covering them.

Voluntary or legislated payments for ecosystem goods and services, including fines, penalties, and compensation for damages from AVPL offenses shall accrue fully to the PA-RIA and shall be managed by the PAMB.

The remaining twenty-five percent (25%) of revenues shall be deposited as a special account in the General Fund in the National Treasury for purposes of financing the projects of the System.

The use of the IPAF shall be in accordance with existing accounting, budgeting, and auditing rules and regulations: *Provided, further*, that the IPAF shall not be used to cover personal services expenditures.

The DENR shall submit to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Department of Finance (DOF) quarterly reports on the financial and physical accomplishments on the utilization of the IPAF and other documents as may be required by the DBM, and shall furnish a copy of the same to the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance."

Section 14. *Tax Exemption*. - All grants, bequests and endowments, donations and contributions made to the protected area fund to be used actually, directly, and exclusively by the AVPL, shall be exempted from donor's tax and shall be considered as allowable deduction

from the gross income of the donor for the purpose of computing the taxable income of the donor in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

Section 15. *Field Officers.* – All officials, technical personnel and forest guards employed in the integrated protected area service or all persons deputized by the DENR, upon recommendation of the PAMB shall be considered as field officers and shall have the authority to investigate and search premises and buildings and make arrests in accordance with the rules on criminal procedure for the violation of laws and regulations relating to protected areas. Persons arrested shall be brought to the nearest police precinct for investigation .

Nothing herein mentioned shall be construed as preventing regular enforcers and police officers from arresting any person in the act of violating said laws and regulations.

Section 16. *Special Prosecutors and Retained Counsel.* - Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Justice (DOJ) shall appoint special prosecutors to prosecute violations of laws, rules and regulations in AVPL. The special prosecutors shall coordinate with the PAMB and the PASu in the performance of duties and assist in the training of wardens and rangers in arrest and criminal procedures. The PAMB may retain the services of counsel to prosecution of cases under the direct control and supervision of the regular or special prosecutor. Said counsel shall also represent and defend the members of the PAMB, PASu and the staff, or any DENR-deputized individual and volunteer, against any legal action arising from the performance of their powers, functions and responsibilities as provided in this Act.

Section 17. *Prohibited Acts.* - Except as may be allowed by the nature of their categories and pursuant to rules and regulations governing the same, the following acts are prohibited within AVPL:

- (a) Poaching, killing, destroying, disturbing of any wildlife including in private lands within the AVPL;
- (b) Hunting, taking, collecting, or possessing of any wildlife, or by-products derived therefrom, including in private lands within AVPL without the necessary permit, authorization or exemption: *Provided*, That the PASu as authorized by the PAMB shall issue a permit, authorization or exemption only for culling, scientific research, the exemptions provided under Section 27(a) of Republic Act No. 9147 (Wildlife Resources, Conservation and Protection Act) or harvests of non-protected species in multiple-use zones by tenured migrants and IPs;
- (c) Cutting, gathering, removing or collecting timber within AVPL including private lands therein, without the necessary permit, authorization, certification of planted trees or exemption such acts are done in accordance with the duly recognized practices of the IPs/ICCs for subsistence purposes;

- (d) Possessing or transporting outside AVPL any timber, forest products, wildlife, or by-products derived therefrom which are ascertained to have been taken from AVPL other than exotic species, the culling of which has been authorized under an appropriate permit;
- (e) Using any harvesting tool or any variations that destroys terrestrial habitat as may be determined by the DA or the DENR; *Provided*, That mere possession of such tools within AVPL shall be prima facie evidence of their use;
- (f) Dumping, throwing, using, or causing to be dumped into or places in AVPL of any toxic chemical, noxious or poisonous substance or non-biodegradable material, untreated sewage or animal waste or products whether in liquid, solid or gas state, including pesticides and other hazardous substances as defined under Republic Act No. 6969, otherwise known as the 'Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Control Act of 1990' detrimental to AVPL, or to the plants and animals or inhabitants therein;
- (g) Operating any motorized conveyance within AVPL without permit from the PAMB, except when the use of such motorized conveyance is the only practical means of transportation of IPs/ICCs in accessing their ancestral domain/land;
- (h) Altering, removing, destroying or defacing boundary marks or signs within AVPL;
- (i) Engaging in 'kaingin' or, any manner, causing forest fires inside AVPL;
- (j) Mutilating, defacing, destroying, excavating, vandalizing or, in any manner damaging any natural formation, religious, spiritual, historical sites, artifacts and other objects of natural beauty, scenic value or objects of interest to IPs/ICCs;
- (k) Damaging and leaving roads and trails in damaged condition;
- (l) Littering or depositing refuse or debris on the ground or in bodies of water/river system;
- (m) Possessing or using blasting caps or explosives anywhere within AVPL;
- (n) Occupying or dwelling in any public land within AVPL without clearance from the PAMB;
- (o) Constructing, erecting, or maintaining any kind of structure, fence or enclosure, conducting any business enterprise within AVPL without prior clearance from the PAMB and permit from the DENR, or conducting these activities in a manner that is inconsistent with the management plan duly approved by the PAMB;
- (p) Undertaking mineral exploration or extraction within AVPL;
- (q) Engaging in commercial or large-scale quarrying within AVPL;
- (r) Establishing or introducing exotic species, including GMOs or invasive alien species within AVPL;
- (s) Conducting bioprospecting within AVPL without prior PAMB clearance in accordance with existing guidelines: *Provided*, That in addition to the penalty provided herein, any commercial use of any substance derived from non-permitted bioprospecting

within a protected area will not be allowed and all revenue earned from illegal commercialization thereof shall be forfeited and deposited as part of the IPAF;

- (t) Prospecting, hunting or otherwise locating hidden treasure within AVPL;
- (u) Purchasing or selling, mortgaging or leasing lands or other portions of AVPL which are covered by any tenurial instrument; and
- (v) Constructing any permanent structure within the forty (40)-meter easement from any natural body of water (river) or issuing a permit for such construction pursuant to Article 51 of Presidential Decree No. 1067.

Section 18. *Penalties.* - Violation under this Act shall be subject to the following penalties:

- (a) A fine of not less than Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000) but not more than One million pesos (P1,000,000) or imprisonment from one (1) year but not more than six years, or both, plus damages of triple the value of the said resources, or both, shall be imposed upon any person who violates paragraphs (a) to (e) of Section 20 NIPAS Act as amended;
- (b) A fine of not less than Two hundred thousand pesos (200,000) but not more than One million pesos (P1,000,000) or imprisonment from one (1) year but not more than six years, or both, shall be imposed upon any person who violates paragraphs (f) to (p) of Section 20 NIPAS Act as amended;
- (d) A fine of Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000) daily shall be imposed on the owner of existing facilities within a protected area under Section 24 of this Act, if the existence of the same and its future plans and operations will be detrimental to AVPL. For every continuing violation, or if the violation continues to be committed for thirty (30) days and upon reaching a total fine of Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000), the PAMB through the PASu and other deputized government entities, shall cause the cessation of operation and either forfeit in favor of the PAMO or demolish the facility at the cost of its owner. If the facility is government-owned, the agency in charge shall submit a plan for a substitute facility that complies with the protected area standards and, within one (1) year, execute the approved protected area management plan;
- (e) Administrative fines of not less Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000), but not exceeding Five million pesos (P5,000,000), shall be imposed by the DENR Secretary for the violation of any rule, regulation, or provision of any agreement reached with the PAMB: *Provided*, That if an area which has sustained damage from any activity conducted therein requires rehabilitation or restoration as determined by the court, the offender shall be required to restore or pay compensation for damage, which payment shall accrue to the IPAF.

On the basis of a court order, the DENR shall cause the eviction of an offender from the AVPL: *Provided*, that in cases of emergency, the DENR Secretary may order the immediate exit or departure of the offender from AVPL. The DENR Secretary may call on other enforcement agencies to assist in executing the order to vacate.

An *emergency* occurs when there is a demonstrated impending threat to human life and biodiversity or to species found within the ecosystem of the AVPL.

All minerals, timber or species collected or removed from the AVPL, including all equipment, devices, conveyances, and firearms used in connection therewith, shall be forfeited in favor of the government, and any construction or improvement made thereon by the offender shall be subject to confiscation by the PAMO, subject to the application of due process.

The conveyance, equipment, paraphernalia, implements, tools, and similar devices used in the commission of the crime shall be dealt with in accordance with Part 4, Rule 12 (Custody and Disposition of Seized Items, Equipment, Paraphernalia, Conveyance and Instruments) of Administrative Matter No. 09-6-8-SC (Rules of Procedures for Environmental Cases) issued by the Supreme Court. However, in no case shall any confiscated or rescued protected animal species be sold or in any manner disposed of but shall be immediately turned over to the PAMO for rehabilitation and release to its natural habitat, subject to existing regulations. Valuation of the damages shall take into account biodiversity and conservation considerations as well as aesthetic and scenic value. The valuation and assessment by the DENR, in coordination with other concerned government agencies, shall be presumed regular, unless otherwise proven by the preponderance of evidence.

If the offender is an association or corporation, the president or manager, who is proven to have participated in or have actual knowledge of any violation against the provisions of this Act shall be directly liable for the act of the employees and laborers: *Provided, finally*, That the DENR may impose administrative fines and penalties consistent with this Act.

Any person who shall induce another or conspire to commit any of the acts prohibited in this Act, or force their workers to commit any of the same, shall be liable as principal.

The penalties specified in this section shall be in addition to the penalties provided in Republic Act No. 9072 or the National Caves and Cave Resources Management and Protection Act', Republic Act No. 9147 or the 'Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act', Republic Act No. 8550 or the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998' and other related laws.

The conviction of a public officer of the law whether from the LGU or any national government agency for any violation of the provisions of this Act shall carry the accessory penalty of perpetual; disqualification from public office."

Section 19. Existing Rights. - All property and private rights within the AVPL and its buffer zones already existing and/or vested upon the effectivity of this Act shall be protected and respected in accordance with existing laws: *Provided*, that the exercise of such property and private rights shall be harmonized, as far as practicable, with the provisions of this Act. Notwithstanding this Act, all existing rights, contracts, or agreements entered into by government for utilization of natural resources within AVPL shall continue to be recognized and governed by Philippine laws.

The renewal of permits, contracts, and agreements shall be subject to the provisions of this Act. If the permits, contracts, agreements are not renewed, such areas shall be rehabilitated or restored by the permit holders within the period provided by the pertinent laws and shall revert to the national parks classification. As such, all holders of permits, contracts, and

agreements are required to prepare and submit a rehabilitation plan to the PAMB: *Provided*, That upon renewal, a sufficient bond shall be remitted by the proponent to the DENR to be released to the depository bank in the event of damage by a closure of the establishment after satisfactory rehabilitation according to the zones and objectives of the management plan as attested to by the PAMB.

The occupation of the LGUs and communities within the AVPL shall be respected. Within ninety (90) days after the creation of the PAMB, the Board shall assess the physical occupation of said LGUs and communities within AVPL and recommend to proper authorities measures to ensure the protection of their well-being. Municipalities with existing townships and town centers within the AVPL shall continue to occupy such townships and town centers: *Provided*, That in the development of their CLUPs and barangay development plans, due consideration shall be given to the intended for conservation and biodiversity as well as the objectives for AVPL to keep human habitation and environmental conservation in harmony.

Section 20. *Tenured Migrants and Other AVPL Occupants.* - Tenured migrants shall be eligible to become stewards portions of lands within multiple-use zones. The PAMB shall identify, verify and review all tenurial instruments, land claims, issuances of permits for resource use within the AVPL and recommend the issuance of the appropriate tenure instrument consistent with the zoning provided in the management plan and the provisions of this Act.

Should areas occupied by tenured migrants be designated as zones in which no occupation or other activities are allowed pursuant to the attainment of sustainable development, the provision for the transfer of the tenure migrants to multiple-use zones or buffer zones shall be accomplished through just and humane means: *Provided*, That AVPL occupants who are not qualified as tenured migrants shall be resettled outside the AVPL.

The rights of the tenured migrants may be transferred only to the spouse or one of their direct descendants listed at the time of the survey. In the event of termination of a tenurial instrument for cause or by voluntary surrender of rights, the PASu shall take immediate steps to rehabilitate the area.

Following the protected area occupants survey required under Section 5(c)(1) of NIPAS Act as amended, the DENR Regional Executive Director shall submit to the BMB within two (2) years from the passage of this Act, the final list of tenured migrants, which shall be the basis for tenured migrants recognition and issuance of tenurial instruments. Within the two (2)-year period, the DENR Regional Executive Director shall submit accomplishment report every six (6) months.

The DENR through the BMB shall issue guidelines for the determination of the reckoning period for the recognition of the tenured migrants.

Section 21. *Existing Facilities Within the AVPL.* Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, an inventory of all existing facilities such as roads, buildings and structures, water systems, transmission lines, communication facilities, heavy equipment, and irrigation facilities, among others, within AVPL shall be conducted.

The DENR Regional Executive Director shall submit the inventory of the facilities with corresponding descriptions and an assessment report containing the appropriate recommendations to the DENR Secretary through the BMB.

The PAMB, with the assistance of the DENR, may impose conditions for the continuous operation of a facility found to be detrimental to the AVPL until its eventual relocation. If the conditions are violated, the owner of the facility shall be made liable pursuant to Section 21 (d) of NIPAS Act as amended.

Existing facilities allowed to remain within the AVPL shall be charged a reasonable fee by the PAMB based on existing guidelines. Structures found within the forty (40)-meter easement shall be demolished unless proven necessary to protect the river and mitigate habitat destruction. The PAMB shall levy a reasonable fee for the use of such easement for their continued operations.

Section 22. *Special Uses Within Protected Area.* - Consistent with Section 2 hereof, special uses may be allowed within AVPL except in strict protection zones. The PAMB may recommend the issuance of tenurial instrument subject to compliance to ECC and payment of corresponding user fee equivalent to five percent (5%) of the zonal value of commercial land within the nearest barangay or municipality where the project is located multiplied by the area of development plus one percent (1%) value of improvement as premium: *Provided*, That the activity shall not be detrimental to ecosystem functions and biodiversity, and cultural practices and traditions.

A sufficient bond shall be remitted by the proponent to the DENR to be released to the depository bank in the event of damage by or closure of the establishment after the satisfactory rehabilitation according to the zones and objectives of the management plan as attested by the PAMB."

Section 23. *Local Government Units. (LGUs).* - The LGUs within AVPL shall participate in its management through representation in the PAMB as provided for in NIPAS Act as amended. Said LGUs may appropriate portions of their share from the annual internal revenue allotment and other income for use of the AVPL: *Provided*, that all funds directly coming from the LGUs shall be exempted from twenty-five percent (25%) remittance requirement for the IPAF under Section 16 of NIPAS Act as amended.

The LGUs shall continue to impose and collect other fees not enumerated under Section 16 of NIPAS Act as amended which they have traditionally collected, such as business permits and rentals of LGU facilities: *Provided*, That the LGUs shall not impose property tax on properties owned by the government nor issue any tax declarations for areas covered by the protected area. Furthermore, LGUs may charge add-ons to fees imposed by the PAMB: *Provided*, that such add-ons shall be based on the contribution of the LGUs in the maintenance and protection of AVPL.

LGUs with territory in AVPL shall align their CLUPs, local development plans, disaster risk reduction management plans and other required plans according to the objectives specified herein and in the protected area management plans. Within six (6) months from the approval of the protected area management plan, the PAMB and the PASu shall collaborate with the

LGU concerned in the formulation of the CLUP and other local plans and in the enforcement thereof. The concerned LGU official shall be held administratively and criminally liable for failure to enforce and/or implement the provisions of this Act.

Section 24. *Reporting Responsibility.* - The PASu, through the PAMB, shall submit an annual accomplishment report of AVPL to the Secretary of DENR through the BMB. A report on the conditions and benefits of the biological resources and ecosystem services of AVPL shall also be submitted by the PASu, through channels, to the Secretary of the DENR every five (5) years. Consequently, the BMB shall likewise prepare a National State of Protected Areas (NSPAs) report every five (5) years and shall submit the same to the President, the senate and the House of Representatives.

Section 25. *Appropriations.* - The Secretary of the DENR shall immediately include in the DENR's program the implementation of Allah Valley Protected Landscape (AVPL) Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act of the DENR.

Section 26. *Construction and Interpretation.* - The provisions of this Act shall be construed liberally in favor of the protection and rehabilitation of AVPL and the conservation and restoration biological diversity taking into account the needs and interests of qualified tenured migrants, vested rights, IPs and local communities, and the benefits from ecosystem services and functions of AVPL, for present and future generations: *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed as a diminution of local autonomy or in derogation of ancestral domain rights under the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997.

Section 27. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee.* - To monitor and oversee the implementation of this Act, a Joint Congressional Oversight Committee is hereby created. It shall be composed of the Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and the House Committee on Natural Resources as Chairperson and Co-chairperson, respectively, five (5) members each from the Senate and the House of Representatives as members: *Provided*, That two (2) of the five (5) members are nominated by the respective minority leaders of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Section 28. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the DENR shall prepare the IRR of this Act.

Section 29. *Transitory Provision.* - In order to enhance biological diversity and to develop sustainable livelihood opportunities for tenure migrants, the DENR shall henceforth cease to issue concessions, licenses, permits, clearances, compliance documents or other instruments that allow utilization of resources within the AVPL until the management plan shall have been put into effect.

All existing land use and resource use permits issued for purposes which are authorized within the AVPL shall be reviewed and shall not be renewed upon their expiration unless consistent with the management plan and approved by the PAMB.

Section 30. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 31. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 32. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,