



OCT 12 2022

## MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Directors  
DENR – Regions I to XIII, CAR, CALABARZON, MIMAROPA and NCR

FROM : The OIC, Director

SUBJECT : **COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS (CBFMAs) AND CERTIFICATES OF STEWARDSHIP CONTRACTS (CSCs) WITHIN PROTECTED AREAS UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS)**

This pertains to the Community-based Forest Management Agreements (CBFMAs) and Certificates of Stewardship Contract (CSCs) that are still presently in effect within protected areas under the NIPAS.

The NIPAS Act, as amended, and its IRR provides that Protected Area Community-based Management Agreement (PACBRMA) is the appropriate tenurial instrument in protected area to be issued to People's Organization composed of tenured migrants (TMs) which shall provide them the tenurial security and incentives to develop, utilize, manage, conserve and protect Community Based Program (CBP) areas pursuant to the approved Community Resource Management Plan (CRMP). Relative thereto, guidelines have to be developed to address the existing CBFMAs and CSCs within protected areas. For this purpose, please be informed that a meeting was conducted between the National Parks Division of this Bureau and the Community Forestry Section of the Forest Management Bureau on 29 September 2022. The meeting was anchored on the following premises:

- 1) **DAO No. 2000- 44** (Article IV, Sec. 1) issued on June 06, 2000 re: "Amending Certain Provisions of DAO 96-29 and Providing Specific Guidelines for the Establishment and Management of Community-Based Projects within Protected Areas", provides that the appropriate tenurial instrument to be issued within multiple use and buffer zones of protected areas is the Community Based Forest Management Agreement (CBFMA). It further provides that, the PO which holds a CBFMA within protected areas, if it deems appropriate, may enter into an agreement or execute an assignment, designation or allocation, only among, its individual members, families, or groups, thereof, who are likewise **qualified tenured migrants** under Republic Act No. 7586.
- 2) **DAO No. 2002- 02** (Sec. 5) issued on Jan 03, 2002 re: "Establishment and Management of Community-Based Program in Protected Areas", provides that the tenurial instrument, which shall be called PACBRMA, shall be issued to POs after completion of all the requirements provided in the DAO. The Agreement shall have a duration of twenty-five (25) years and renewable for another 25 years.
- 3) In 2004 through **DAO 2004-32** the aforementioned guidelines were revised and provides that for proclaimed watersheds and mangrove reserves with CBFMAs, their implementation shall continue. Provided that the resource utilization shall conform with the PA Management Plan (Sec. 6).



- 4) **Section 23 of RA 11038 (ENIPAS Act of 2018)** provides that TMs shall be eligible to become stewards of portions of lands within multiple use zones. **The PAMB shall identify, verify and review all tenurial instruments**, land claims, and issuances of permits for resource use within the protected area and **recommend the issuance of the appropriate tenure instrument** consistent with the zoning provided in the management plan and the provisions of the ENIPAS Act.

Relative to the above-mentioned issuances, the discussions focused on the following concerns:

1. The PACBRMA is only issued to recognized POs whose members are TMs occupying the PA. According to the meeting, there are CBFMA/CSC-issued POs whose members are not TMs. In this regard, the appropriate instrument to be issued to them should be clarified.
2. There might be instances where the issued CBFMA/CSC covers the NIPAS area while the other portion is within the forestland. In this regard, should the PO be issued with a PACBRMA and CBFMA?
3. Renewal or conversion of expiring CBFMA within initial components and proclaimed PAs under the NIPAS should be clarified.
4. The detailed processes and guidelines for the conversion of CBFMA/CSC to PACBRMA should be prepared.

Based on the discussions and recommendations during the said meeting, please be informed that the participants agreed to jointly prepare guidelines addressing the above-mentioned concerns. Vital inputs in the preparatory stage of said guidelines are detailed information on CBFMAs/CSCs issued within protected areas under your jurisdiction. In this regard, may we request relevant data using the attached matrix on or before 15 November 2022. Series of consultations will be organized to gather inputs in the development of said guidelines. Should you have clarifications or concerns that need to be incorporated in the preparatory stage of the guidelines, please include them in the information to be provided to BMB.

Further, you are also advised to continue with the performance evaluation of the expiring CBFMAs whether they are qualified for renewal as provided in FMB TB 36 re: *"Technical Bulletin No. 36 Procedural Guide on the Conduct of Participatory CBFMA Holder Performance Evaluation as Requirement for the Renewal of Expiring CBFMA."*

For information and appropriate action.

  
NATIVIDAD Y. BERNARDINO

Copy furnished:

**The Director**  
Forest Management Bureau



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU



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