

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1303**



Introduced by HONORABLE LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Watersheds are known to support life in all forms in the habitats that are found within them from the lush vegetation in forests to the microorganisms that belong in the narrowest of streams all the way to bigger bodies of water which the collected water channels into. The critical benefits that human beings derive from watersheds are undeniable especially in an agricultural country with abundant river systems like the Philippines.

The water may be redirected to irrigate farmlands or be accessed through more modern urban waterworks for consumption and various other forms of utilization. For example, the Magat Watershed in Isabela plays an important role in supplying water for irrigation requirements of vast areas of rice lands in Luzon and the hydropower supply for this region as well. Another example would be the Manupali Watershed that traverses the upper part of the Pulangui River Basin that drains water to the Pulangui River that is a source of irrigation water and hydro-electricity for Bukidnon residents.

Right now, the Philippines has 143 watersheds supporting 165 components of the National Irrigation System with a total area of about 4,318,172 hectares. The water that comes from these watershed areas and flows to the river systems provides irrigation water to rice lands and other agricultural lands planted to different crops.

There are only about 483,820 hectares, more or less, being serviced by the 143 River Watersheds, but based on NIA data, 868,509 hectares of agricultural land are being irrigated and roughly 368,000 hectares of these have existing facilities but need restoration and rehabilitation. There seems to be a conflict on the actual figures, but what is important is to ensure that water will flow in these facilities once they have been rehabilitated, taking into account the denudation of the watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System.

In the Philippines, the agricultural sector has suffered a lot due to the devastation caused by flash floods and rising levels of waters due to excessive surface run-offs from forests and other watersheds that can no longer be contained by the river systems. The damages wrought by the rampaging waters to agriculture and livelihood are immeasurable. The changing weather patterns that bring damages to livelihood and agriculture are being attributed to global warming and climate change is the simplest answer being given every time there is havoc brought about by the increasing volume of rainfall.

However, it cannot be denied that our groundwater resources are facing serious threats from unregulated development and forest degradation in watershed areas. There are man-made actions that are directly contributory to the devastations brought about by flooding, e.g., man's insensitivity to his environment, the uncontrolled use of our forests and watersheds resources and the indiscriminate use of land resources that should have been reserved for forest use only.

*"Deforestation and the large scale transformation of the original vegetation of the country's forest to non-forestry purposes, coupled with inappropriate land use practices, have in effect disrupted the hydrological conditions of watersheds. These have brought about to some extent, flash floods and prolonged drought. Other adverse consequences are accelerated soil erosion, siltation of water bodies and reservoirs, and poor water quality. Sedimentation has likewise reduced the storage capacity of the country's major reservoirs. These situations caused considerable reduction in the productivity of forests, agricultural lands and fisheries and decreased returns from major investments in domestic, hydroelectric power generation and irrigation systems."* (Occasional Paper prepared by FMB-Watershed Division)

The forest cover of the Philippines declined vastly in span of almost half a century. Watersheds in the Philippines used to be characterized by abundant rainforests which reached an estimated 17 million hectares in 1934.<sup>1</sup> In 1969, after the completion of the first nationwide forest inventory, the forest cover had declined to 10.4 million hectares. The second National Forest Inventory which was done in 1988 revealed that forest cover had further decreased to 6.461 million hectares.

Out of the estimated 30 million hectares of land area of the Philippines, 15,805,325 hectares were classified as forestland and 14,194,675 hectares were declared alienable and disposable and were subjected to private ownership. Of the 15,805,325 hectares classified as forestland, only 3,270,146 hectares were declared as Established Forest Reserves. Out of this, only 1,561,128 million hectares have been proclaimed as watershed forest reserves. There are 135 proclaimed watershed forest reserves scattered all over the country which cannot be touched by logging or mining.

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<sup>1</sup> Nera, 1999, Sustainable Management of Philippine Forests: Progress Towards Achieving ITTO Year 200 Objective.

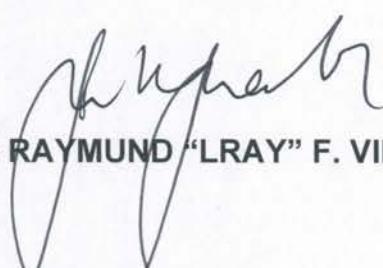
The difference or the remainder which is about 1,709,018 hectares, are the watersheds which are neither proclaimed, designated or set aside, pursuant to a law, presidential proclamation, decree or executive order. Most of these areas have been classified by the Forest Management Bureau as permanent forest or forest lands in the course of establishing specific limits of lands of the public domain especially forestlands and national parks pursuant to the provision of Section 4 of the Constitution, which states (Source-2008 Phil forestry Statistics):

*Section 4. The Congress shall, as soon as possible determine by law the specific limits of forest lands and national parks, marking clearly their boundaries on the ground. Thereafter, such forest lands and national parks shall be conserved and may not be increased nor diminished except by law. The congress shall provide, for such period as it may determine measures to prohibit logging in endangered forests and watershed areas.*

The 143 watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System form part of these unprotected 1,709,018 million hectares and these watershed areas are the ones providing water to irrigate farms and other uses which ultimately redound in sustaining our life support system and ensuring continuous food supply.

This measure is therefore crafted to ensure the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of the watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System. It is only through an enactment of a law that will protect, preserve and rehabilitate these watersheds that we can be assured that these areas cannot be touched by man's insensitivity to nature and his environment.

The foregoing premises considered, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

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Introduced by HONORABLE LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

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**AN ACT FOR THE PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND REHABILITATION OF WATERSHEDS SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION SYSTEM (NIS) TO ENSURE CONTINUOUS SUPPLY OF WATER FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD AND PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE**

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

**CHAPTER I**

**SECTION 1. Title** - The Act shall be known as the "Protection of Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System Act of 2016".

**SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy**- In line with the concept of *National Patrimony* as embodied in Article XII Section 1 and 2 that all natural resources are owned by the State and its peoples and in consonance with Section 4 of the Constitution that provides that *Congress shall, as soon as possible determine by law the specific limits of forest lands and national parks, marking clearly their boundaries on the ground. Thereafter, such forest lands and national parks shall be conserved and may not be increased nor diminished, except by law.*"

Also, it is expressly provided in Sec. 12 of RA 8435 (AFMA) that *all watersheds that are sources of water for existing and potential irrigable areas and recharge areas of major aquifers identified by the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Environment and Natural resources shall be preserved as such at all times.* And as such, the watershed being the basic forestland management unit that plays an important role in sustaining the country's life support system, the State hereby adopts

*an Act for the Protection, Conservation and Rehabilitation of Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System.*

Further, the State recognizes the need to protect, conserve and provide the funding thereof for these watershed areas that are considered environmentally critical areas, to guarantee a continuous supply of water for irrigation purposes and for other functions to ensure food production.

Also, the State shall adopt rehabilitation and development measures to preserve and restore these areas in their original status as much as possible and shall prohibit environmentally critical projects and practices and all other activities that are inconsistent or shall endanger the environmental stability and hydrological integrity of these watersheds areas that can cause disruption of their productive conditions.

**SECTION 3. Coverage**-This Act shall cover all 143 Identified Watersheds supporting The National Irrigation System (NIS) and portions of classified forest lands which have neither been proclaimed, designated nor set aside, pursuant of a law, presidential proclamation, decree or executive order and all other watershed areas that are supporting water base infrastructure that may be proclaimed before and after the passage of this Act. The identified watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System that form part of the established forest reserves and/or established timberland, shall not be subjected to disestablishment proceeding pursuant to the provision of Section 7 of the NIPAS ACT or R.A. 7586.

**SECTION 4. Basic Policies**-The Philippine Strategy for Sustainable Development stresses the need to achieve economic growth without degrading environmental quality and despoiling natural resources. The State hereby adopts the policies to ensure the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of watersheds supporting the National Irrigation Systems environmentally critical areas and stop the incessant denudation of watershed, indiscriminate use of forest resources, degradation of the hydrological balance thru logging and mining and other activities that can lead to irreversible damage to the environment that in the end will affect the socio-political and economic lives of every Filipino.

- (a) The State shall protect, conserve and rehabilitate all the Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System to ensure continuous supply of water for irrigation to sustain food production.
- (b) The State shall recognize the rights of Indigenous Cultural Communities to their ancestral lands to ensure their economic, social, and cultural well-being in the event that such lands are inside the Watersheds Supporting National Irrigation System.
- (c) The State shall protect the Indigenous Peoples occupying the areas inside the Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System even in the absence of proof that such areas are parts of their ancestral domain.

- (d) The State shall respect and protect the rights of rural women, whose productive and reproductive roles are integral to household and national food security, and whose status arising from prevailing gender inequalities add to their vulnerability to impacts of climate change, calamities and disasters, and non-protection of their sources of subsistence such as watersheds.
- (e) The State shall prohibit the encroachment of settlers/emigrants, and loggers, to prevent the cutting of trees and denudation of the forest covers that would endanger the hydrological balance of the watersheds and shall permanently ban kaingin making or the slash and burn method of farming.
- (f) The State shall prohibit all kinds of mining operations and environmentally critical projects within the Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System to prevent the destruction of headwaters, natural waterways and aquifers and to preserve the integrity of the water resources.
- (g) The State shall be guided by the principle that all Filipinos own all the natural resources and these are part of their heritage. As owners of the national patrimony, everyone has a social responsibility to protect, conserve and develop it for the benefit of all and the generations to come.
- (h) The State shall institute measures for the creation of a National Comprehensive Watershed Management or an Integrated Watershed Management Plan to ensure the development of a sustainable management plan that can be adapted to all the Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System.
- (i) The State shall ensure that watershed as an ecosystem and a basic planning and watershed management unit shall be protected, conserved and developed in a holistic, scientific, rights-based, technology-based, community-based and collaborative manner for the highest and widest public benefit and based on the inherent productive capacity and sustainable use of these resources for the present and future generations.
- (j) The State shall ensure the sustainability of water resources, by encouraging a meaningful and active participation of stakeholders especially those who are directly benefited and therefrom, establish a sustainable and multi-institution capable of addressing natural resources issues in a watershed.
- (k) The State shall inculcate the importance of watersheds in building people's resilience to address the effects of climate change.

#### **SECTION 5. *Definition of Terms.* -**

- (a) Ancestral domain – area generally belonging to indigenous cultural communities/indigenous peoples (ICCIs/IPs) comprising land, inland

waters, coastal areas occupied or possessed by ICCs/IPs, by themselves or through their ancestors, communally or individually since time immemorial, continuously through the present except when interrupted by war, force majeure, deceit, stealth, as a consequence of government projects or any other voluntary dealings entered into by government and private individuals/corporations, which are necessary to ensure their economic, social, and cultural welfare. (RA 8371-IPRA)

- (b) Ancestral land – refers to all lands exclusively and actually possessed, occupied, or utilized by indigenous cultural communities by themselves or through their ancestors in accordance with their customs and traditions since time immemorial and as may be defined and delineated by law. (RA 7942-Phil. Mining Act.)
- (c) Communal Irrigation System (CIS) is an irrigation system that is managed by a bona fide Irrigators Association.
- (d) Conservation – Protection of plant and animal habitats including the management of renewable natural resources with the objective of sustaining its productivity in perpetuity while providing for human use compatible with sustainability of the resource.
- (e) Critical Watershed – A drainage area of a river system supporting existing and proposed hydroelectric power, irrigation works or existing water facilities needing immediate protection and rehabilitation to minimize erosion and improve water yield. (*The above definition is grounded on Presidential Declaration 1559, amending PD 705 or the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines 1978. It is also provided under DAO 1996-40 or in the Revised IRR of the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 (RA 7942).*)
- (f) Encroachment – The act or action of using forest land contrary to the provisions provided for in forestry laws and regulations with regard to forest land uses.
- (g) Environmentally Critical Areas - Area delineated as environmentally sensitive such that significant environmental impact are expected if certain types of proposed projects or programs are located, developed or implemented in it.
- (h) Environmentally critical project – Project or program that has high potential for significant negative environmental impact.
- (i) Forest Degradation – Changes within the forest whether natural or human-induced that negatively affect the structure or function of the stand or site, and thereby lower the capacity to supply products and/or services resulting to a degraded forest.
- (j) Forest Land – Includes public forest, permanent forest or forest reserves, and forest reservations.

- (k) Forest Reserves or Permanent Forest – Refers to those lands of the public domain that have been the subject of the present system of classification and declared to be needed for forest purposes (PD 1559); Forest land which has been reserved by the President of the Philippines for any specific purpose or purposes.
- (l) Forest Resources – Includes soil and all elements found on it, above and below the ground in an area classified as forest land.
- (m) Headwaters - The upper reaches of a stream or river.
- (n) Integrated Watershed Management - The process of guiding and organizing land and other resource use in a watershed to provide desired goods and services without affecting adversely soil and water resources (Brooks et.al. 1990). It involves multiple natural resources and requires understanding of the relationship among land-use, soil, water and linkages between uplands and downstream areas.
- (o) Irrigable Lands - refers to lands which display marked characteristics justifying the operation of an irrigation system.
- (p) Irrigated Lands - refers to lands services by natural irrigation or irrigation facilities.
- (q) Irrigation System – refers to a system of irrigation facilities covering contiguous areas
- (r) Irrigation water – Portion of a run off that is being used in irrigation. The intentional application of water to the soil usually for the purpose of crop production.
- (s) Kaingin making – A farming system based on shifting, or slash and burn clearing of forest for the planting of agricultural and agro-forestry crops.
- (t) Mining operation – means mining activities involving exploration, feasibility, development, utilization and processing. (RA 7942)
- (u) National Irrigation System (NIS)- refers to a major irrigation system managed by the National Irrigation Administration.
- (v) Public forest- the mass of lands of the public domain which has not been subject to the present system of classification for the determination of which lands are needed for forest purposes.
- (w) Water Resources – Refers to the quality and quantity of water produced naturally as one of the earth's major resources.
- (x) Watershed - A land area drained by a stream or fixed body of water and its tributaries having a common outlet for surface-runoff. *"Areas that have been identified and evaluated to provide critical and vital natural,*

*ecological, environmental and physical beneficial services such as water, biodiversity, energy, irrigation, social and cultural, among others to a specific area or community and whose existing biophysical condition demands immediate rehabilitation, protection and management to prevent its further denudation, deterioration and exploitation" (as contained in the definition under HB 4382- NLUA Bill).*

- (y) Watershed Management - The process of guiding and organizing land and other resource uses in a watershed to provide desired goods and services without adversely affecting soil and water resources.
- (z) Watershed reservation – a forest land reservation established to protect or improve the conditions of water yield thereof or reduce sedimentation.

**SECTION 6.** Scope - This Act shall cover all 143 identified watersheds supporting the 165 components of the National Irrigation System of the National Irrigation Administration, to wit:

## CAR

1. **Chico River Watershed** -supporting the Lower Chico and Upper Chico River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Mt. Province, Ifugao, Kalinga and Apayao, covering the municipalities of Bauko, Sabangan, Bontoc, Sagada, Sandangan, Barlig, Tinoc, Hugdungan, Tanudan, Lubuagan, Tinglayan, Pinukpuk, Tabuk, Balbalan, Pasil and Coner with an area of **330,000 hectares**, more or less.
2. **Mallig River Watershed**- supporting the Mallig River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Kalinga and Mt. Province, covering the municipalities of Tanudan, Tabuk, and Paracelis, with an area of **45,580 hectares**, more or less
3. **Abulog River Watershed** - supporting the Abulog-Apayao River Irrigation System, located in the province of Apayao, covering the municipalities of Calanasan, Kabugao, Putol, Flora and Coner, with an area of **205,000 hectares**, more or less.
4. **Manucotae River Watershed** - supporting the Pamplona River Irrigation System, located in the province of Cagayan and Apayao, covering the municipalities of Pamplona and Luna, with an area of **1,920 hectares**, more or less.

## REGION 1

5. **Bulu River Watershed**- supporting the Bulu River Irrigation System, located in the province of Ilocos Norte, covering the municipality of Bangui, with an area of **17,200 hectares**, more or less.

6. **Laoag River Basin, Magalis-Papa River Watershed and Cura River Watershed**- supporting Bonga Pump No. 1 and 2 and 3, Dingras and Cura River Irrigation System, located in the province of Ilocos Norte, covering the municipalities of Sarrat, San Nicolas, and Laoag City, Espiritu, Nueva Era and Pinili, with an area of **69,700 hectares**, more or less.
7. **Vintar River Watershed**- supporting the Laoag-Vintar River Irrigation System and NMC PasuquinRIS, located in the province of Ilocos Norte, covering the municipalities of Vintar, Burgos and Bangui, with an area of **29,000 hectares**, more or less.
8. **Sta Maria River Watershed**- supporting the Sta Maria-Burgos River Irrigation System, located in the province of Ilocos Sur, covering the municipalities of Burgos, Santiago, Banyuyom, Lidlida and San Emilio, with an area of **16,400 hectares**, more or less.
9. **Buaya River Watershed**-supporting the Buaya River Irrigation System, located in the province of Ilocos Sur, covering the municipalities of Candon, Sta Lucia, Gregorio del Pilar, Sta Lucia, Salcedo, Sta Cruz, Suyo and Sigay., with an area of **16,800 hectares**, more or less.
10. **Amburayan River Watershed and Chico-Paduquit River Watershed**- supporting Amburayan and Tagudin River Irrigation System, respectively, located in the provinces of Ilocos, Sur, La Union and Benguet, covering the municipalities of Tagudin, Sugpon, Sudipen, Atok, Kibungan, Bakun, Tublay, Kapangan, Bugias, Suyo, Alilem,Sigay, Cervantes and Bakun with an area of **99,300 hectares**more or less.
11. **Aringay River Watershed**- supporting Masalip River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of La Union and Benguet, covering the municipality of Aringay, Tubao, Pugo, Sablan, Tuba and Baguio City, with an area of **27,300 hectares**, more or less.
12. **Bued River Watershed**- supporting the San Fabian River Irrigation System, located in the province of Pangasinan, La Union and Benguet, covering the municipalities of San Fabian, San Jacinto, Pozorrubio, Sison, Pugo, Rosario, Tuba and Itogon with an area of **29,700 hectares**, more or less.
13. **Dumuloc River Watershed**- supporting the Dumuloc River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Pangasinan and Zambales, covering the municipalities of Bugallon and Sta Cruz, with an area of **8,200 hectares**, more or less.
14. **Agno River Watershed**- supporting the Agno River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Benguet, Pangasinan and Nueva Viscaya, covering the municipalities of Bugias, Kabayan, Bokol, La Trinidad, Itogon, Baguio City, Sta Maria, San Nicolas, Sto Tomas, Asingan, Tayug, San Manuel and Kayapa, with an area of **228,400 hectares** more or less.

15. **Ambayoan River Watershed**- supporting the Ambayoan River Irrigation System and ADRIS Extension, located in the provinces of Pangasinan, Nueva Viscaya and Benguet, covering the municipalities of San Nicolas, Sta Fe, Kayapa and Itogon, with an area of **5,900 hectares**, more or less.
16. **Dipalo River Watershed**- supporting the Dipalo River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Pangasinan and Nueva Ecija, covering the municipalities of Umingan and Lupao, with an area of **4,200 hectares**, more or less.
17. **Agno-Banawan River Watershed**- supporting the Lower Agno-Totonogen River Irrigation System, located in the province of Pangasinan with an area of more or less.
18. **Agno-Sinucalan-Tuboy Watershed**- supporting the Agno-Sinucalan River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Pangasinan and Benguet, covering the municipalities of San Manuel and Itogon with an area of **152,350 hectares**, more or less.

## **REGION 2**

19. **Magat River Watershed**- supporting the Magat River Irrigation System (MARIS) located in the provinces of Nueva Viscaya, Isabela and Ifugao, covering the municipalities of Dupax del Norte, Dupax del Sur, Aritao, Bayombong, Solano, Bagabag, Diac, Ramon, Naguilian, Ilagan, Gamu, Lagawe and Mayayao with an area of **412,300 hectares**, more or less.
20. **Baua River Watershed (Convergence WFR)**- supporting the Baua River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Cagayan, covering the municipality of Gonzaga, with an area of **5,000 hectares**, more or less.
21. **Dummun River Watershed**- supporting the Dummon River Irrigation System, located in the province of Cagayan, covering the municipality of Capissayan, with an area of **20,600 hectares**, more or less.
22. **Pared River Watershed**- supporting Baggao River Irrigation System located in the province of Cagayan, covering the municipality of Baggao and Peñablanca, with an area of **20,950 hectares**, more or less.
23. **Zinundungan River Watershed**- supporting Zinundungan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Cagayan, covering the municipality of Sto. Nino, with an area of **21,500 hectares**, more or less.
24. **Pinacanauan de Tuguegarao River Watershed**- supporting Pinacanauan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Cagayan, covering the municipalities of Peñablanca and Maconancon, with an area of **12,920 hectares**, more or less.

25. **Pinacanauan de San Pablo Watershed**- supporting the San Pablo-Cabagan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Isabela, covering the municipalities of San Pablo and Maconancon, with an area of **13,450 hectares**, more or less.
26. **Pinacanauan de Tumauini River Watershed**- supporting the Tumauini River Irrigation System, located in the province of Isabela, covering the municipalities of Tumauini, Cabagan, Divilacan, and Maconancon, with an area of **17, 630 hectares**, more or less.

### **REGION 3**

27. **Tarlac River Watershed and Odonell Watershed**- supporting Tarlac, Odonell and San Miguel River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Tarlac and Zambales, covering the municipalities of Capas, Bamban, Tarlac City and Botolan, with an area of **54,850 hectares**, more or less.
28. **Camiling River Watershed**- supporting Camiling River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Tarlac and Zambales, covering the municipalities of Mayantoc, Candelaria and Masinloc with an area of **8,580 hectares** more or less.
29. **Upper Pampanga River Watershed and Coronnel River Watershed** - supporting UPRIS-II and UPRIS III- (Aulo Watershed) located in the province of Nueva Ecija, covering the municipalities of Pantabangan, Caranglan, Palayan City and Bongabon with an area of more or less.
30. **Caulaman River Watershed**- supporting the Caulaman River Irrigation System located in the provinces of Zambales and Pampanga, covering the municipalities of San Marcelino, Castillejos, Subic and Floridablanca with an area of **1,800 hectares** more or less.
31. **Nayom River Watershed**- supporting the Nayom River Irrigation System located in the provinces of Zambales and Pangasinan, covering the municipalities of Sta Cruz, Infanta and Bugallon with an area of **14,450 hectares**, more or less.
32. **Cabaluan River Watershed**- supporting the BaytoRiver Irrigation System located in the province of Zambales, covering the municipalities of Sta Cruz and Candelaria with an area of **11,260 hectares**, more or less.
33. **Sto. Tomas River Watershed**- supporting the Sto Tomas River Irrigation System located in Zambales, covering the municipality of San Narciso with an area of **18,100 hectares**, more or less.
34. **Bucao River Watershed**- supporting Bucao River Irrigation System, located in the province of Zambales, covering the municipalities of Botolan, Cabangan,

San Felipe, Iba and San Marcelino with an area of **55,320 hectares**, more or less.

35. **Porac-Gumain River Watershed**-supporting the Porac-Gumain River Irrigation System, located in the province of Pampanga, covering the municipalities of Porac and Floridablanca with an area of **22,500 hectares**, more or less.
36. **Angat-Maasim River Watershed**- supporting the Angat-Maasim RIS, located in the provinces of Bulacan and Pampanga, covering the municipalities of Angat, Norzagaray, San Ildefonso, San Rafael and San Luis with an area of **61,300 hectares**, more or less.
37. **Angat-Ipo River Watershed** (Convergence WFR)- supporting the Ipo Dam (MWSS), located in the provinces of Bulacan and Rizal, covering the municipalities of Norzagaray, San Jose del Monte, and Rodriguez (Montalban) with an area of **6,600 hectares**, more or less.
38. **Pinulot River Watershed**-supporting the Colo River Irrigation System located in the provinces of Bataan and Zambales, covering the municipalities of Dinalupihan, Hermosa, Morong, Olongapo City and Subic with an area of **8,850 hectares**, more or less.
39. **Dingalan Watershed** - located in the province of Aurora, covering the municipality of Dingalan.

#### **REGION 4A**

40. **Balanac River Watershed**-supporting the Balanac River Irrigation System, located in the province of Laguna, Quezon covering the municipalities of Magdalena, Majayjay, Lusiana, and Lucban with an area of **6,600 hectares**, more or less.
41. **Mabacan River Watershed**-supporting the Mabacan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Laguna, with an area of **4,900 hectares**, more or less.
42. **Llano River Watershed**- supporting the Mayor River Irrigation System located in the provinces of Laguna and Quezon, with an area of **3,300 hectares**, more or less.
43. **Sta Cruz River watershed**- supporting Sta Cruz River Irrigation System, located in the province of Laguna with an area of **8,000 hectares**, more or less.
44. **San Antonio River Watershed**-supporting Sta Maria River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Laguna, Rizal and Quezon, with an area of **1,150 hectares**, more or less.

**45. NPC Tailrace and Lewin Creek**-supporting the Lumban River Irrigation System, located in the province of Laguna, with an area of **1,350 hectares**, more or less.

**LAGUNA FLIS - 30,630 hectares, more or less**

**46. Macabiling River Watershed**-supporting the Macabiling River Irrigation System, located in the province of Laguna, covering the municipality of Cabuyao.

**47. San Cristobal River Watershed**-supporting Cabuyao East River Irrigation System, San Cristobal RIS and Diezmo River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Laguna and Cavite, covering the municipalities of Cabuyao, Canlubang, Calamba, Silang and Tagaytay City.

**48. San Juan River Watershed**- supporting the San Juan River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Laguna and Batangas, covering the municipalities of Calamba, Sto Tomas, Tanauan and Malvar.

**CAVITE FLIS - 52,900 hectares, more or less**

**49. Maragondon River Watershed**- supporting the Balayugan A Dam, Balayugan B Dam, located in the province of Cavite, covering the municipality of Naic.

**50. Caisobo River Watershed**- supporting the Culong-Culong Dam, located in the province of Cavite, covering the municipality of Indang.

**51. Labac-Alemang River Watershed**- supporting the Sahing Dam and Bancud Dam, located in the province of Cavite, covering the municipalities of Naic and Indang.

**52. Timalam River Watershed**- supporting the Tres Cruses Dam, located in the province of Cavite, covering the municipality of Tanza.

**53. Canas River Watershed**- supporting the Bayan Dam, Plucena Dam, Matanda A Dam, and Matanda B Dam, all located in the province of Cavite, covering the municipalities of General Trias, and Tanza.

**54. Ylang-Ylang River Watershed**- supporting the Pasong Kastila Dam, Butas Marcelo Dam, San Agustin Dam and Butas Navarro Dam, all located in the province of Cavite, covering the municipalities of Imus, General Trias, and Dasmariñas.

**55. LasongCamachile River Watershed**- supporting the ButasLawangBato Dam, located in the province of Cavite, covering the municipality of General Trias.

56. **Imus River Watershed**- supporting the Julian Dam, Makuling Dam, Luksuhin Dam and Embarcadero Dam, all located in the province of Cavite, covering the municipality of Imus, Dasmarinas.
57. **Zapote River Watershed**- supporting the Molino Dam located in the province of Cavite, covering the municipality of Bacoor.
58. **Palico River Watershed**-supporting the Palico RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Batangas, covering the municipalities of Tuy and Nasugbu, with an area of **11,800 hectares**, more less.
59. **Lagnas River Watershed**- supporting the Lagnas RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Quezon, covering the municipality of Candelaria, with an area of **1,860 hectares**, more or less.
60. **Hanagdong River Watershed**- supporting the Hanagdong RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Quezon, covering the municipalities of Candelaria and Sariaya, with an area of **1,360 hectares**, more or less.
61. **Dumacao River Watershed**- supporting Dumacao RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Quezon, covering the municipality of Tayabas, with an area of **8,500 hectares**, more or less.
62. **Agos River Watershed**- supporting Agos RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Quezon and Rizal,covering the municipalities of General Nakar, Infanta, Real, Tanay, and Teresa, with an area of **91,260 hectares**, more or less.
63. **Marikina River Watershed (Convergence WFR)**- Supporting the Wawa Dam, located in the province of Rizal, covering the municipalities of Tanay, Montalban, Antipolo, Baras and Teresa, with an area of **18,966 hectares**, more or less.

#### **REGION 4B**

64. **Bansud River Watershed** -supporting the Bansud RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Mindoro Oriental, covering the municipalities of Bongabong and Pinamalyan, with an area of **7,000 hectares**, more or less.
65. **Baco-Bocayao River Watershed**-supporting the Baco River Irrigation System, located in the province of Mindoro Oriental and Mindoro Occidental, covering the municipalities of Baco, Naujan, San Teodoro, Sablayan and Sta Cruz, with an area of **26,000 hectares**, more or less.
66. **Pula River Watershed**-supporting the Pulas RiverIrrigation System, located in Mindoro Oriental, covering the municipality of Pinamalyan, with an area of **12,970 hectares**, more or less.

- 67. Mag-asawang Tubig-Mapalo Rivers Watershed**-supporting Mag-asawang Tubig RIS, located in the province of Mindoro Oriental and Mindoro Occidental, covering the municipalities Naujan and Sablayan, with an area of **19,565 hectares**, more or less.
- 68. Pagbahan River Watershed**- supporting the Pagbahan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Mindoro Oriental and Mindoro Occidental, covering the municipalities of San Teodoro, Puerto Galera, Mamburao and Sta. Cruz. With an area of **23,380 hectares**, more or less.
- 69. Amnay-Patrick River Watershed**-supporting Amnay-Patrick River Irrigation System, located in the province of Mindoro Occidental and Mindoro Oriental, covering the municipalities of Sta. Cruz, Sablayan, Baco and San Teodoro, with an area of **20,750 hectares**, more or less.
- 70. Mongpong River Watershed**-supporting the Mongpong River Irrigation System, located in the province of Mindoro Occidental, covering the municipality of Sablayan, with an area of **22,300 hectares**, more or less.
- 71. Cagaray River Watershed**-supporting the Cagaray River Irrigation System, located in the province of Mindoro Oriental and Mindoro Occidental, covering the municipalities of Mansalay, Bulalacao and San Jose with an area of **12,900 hectares**, more or less.
- 72. Lumintao River Watershed**-supporting the Lumintao River Irrigation System, located in the province of Mindoro Occidental, covering the municipality of Sablayan, with an area of **38,600 hectares**, more or less.
- 73. Malasgao River Watershed**-supporting the Malasgao River Irrigation System, located in the province of Palawan, covering the municipalities of Quezon and Aborlan, with an area of **6,360 hectares**, more or less.

## **REGION 5**

- 74. Ponso River Watershed**-supporting the Hibiga River Irrigation System, located in the province of Albay, covering the municipalities of Pulangui and Oas, with an area of **10,900 hectares**, more or less.
- 75. Basay River Watershed**-supporting the Mahaba River Irrigation System located in the province of Albay, covering the municipality of Liago and Oas.
- 76. Nasisi River Watershed**-supporting the Nasisi River Irrigation System, located in the province of Albay, covering the municipalities of Ligao and Guinobatan.
- 77. Bubluson Watershed**-supporting the Ogsong River Irrigation System, located in the province of Albay, covering the municipalities of Guinobatan and Camalig.

78. **Buhi-Iriga River Watershed**-supporting the Buhi-Lalo and Lake Buhi River Irrigation System, located in the province of Camarines Sur and Albay, covering the municipalities of Buhi, Nabua, Iriga City, Tiwi, with an area of **41,350 hectares**, more or less.
79. **Nabua River Watershed**-supporting the Barit (Rida) River Irrigation System, located in the province of Camarines Sur, covering the municipalities of Bao, Buhi and Iriga City with an area of **19,500 hectares**, more or less.
80. **Daet River Watershed**-supporting the Daet River Irrigation System, located in the province of Camarines Norte, covering the municipalities of Daet, San Vicente, and Basud, with an area of **6,320 hectares**, more or less.
81. **Talisay River Watershed**-supporting the Talisay River Irrigation System, located in the province of Camarines Norte, covering the municipalities of Daet and San Vicente, with an area of **2,820 hectares**, more or less.
82. **Sipocot –Pulantuna Watershed**-supporting the Libmanan-Cabusao River Irrigation System, located in the province of Camarines Sur and Camarines Norte covering the municipalities of Libmanan, Sipocot, Lupi, Ragay del Gallego, and Daet, with an area of **54,000 hectares**, more or less.
83. **Pili River Watershed**- supporting the Pili River Irrigation System, located in the province of Camarines Sur, covering the municipality of Pili, with an area of **2,680 hectares**, more or less.
84. **Tigman River Watershed**-supporting the Tigman Dam, located in the province of Camarines Sur, covering the municipalities of Calabanga and Tinambac, with an area of **8,990 hectares**, more or less.
85. **Hinagyanan River Watershed**-supporting the Hinagyanan Dam.
86. **Inainigan/Inarihan Watershed**-supporting the Inarihan Dam.
87. **Sabang River Watershed**-supporting the San Francisco River Irrigation System, located in the province of Sorsogon.
88. **Tubugan River Watershed**-supporting the San Ramon River Irrigation System, located in the province of Sorsogon, covering the municipalities of Bulan, Irosin, and Matnog, with an area of **1,590 hectares**, more or less.

## **REGION 6**

89. **Tipuluan River Watershed (Convergence WFR)** -supporting the Sibalom-San Jose River Irrigation System, located in the province of Antique, covering

the municipalities of Sibalom and San Jose, with an area of **61,600 hectares**, more or less.

90. **Mambusao River Watershed**- supporting the Mambusao River Irrigation System, located in the province of Capiz and Aklan, covering the municipalities of Sapian, Jamindan, Mambusao and Altavas, with an area of **31,630 hectares**, more or less.
91. **Aganan River Watershed (joined to Tigum)**-supporting the Aganan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Iloilo, covering the municipalities of Alimodian, and Maasin with an area of **11,300 hectares**, more or less.
92. **Barotac Viejo River Watershed**-supporting the Barotac-Viejo River Irrigation System, located in the province of Iloilo, covering the municipalities of Barotac Viejo, Lemery and Ajuy, with an area of **9,150 hectares**, more or less.
93. **Jalaur River Watershed (Convergence WFR)**- supporting the Jalaur River Irrigation System, located in the province of Iloilo, covering the municipalities of Dingle, Pototan, Janiuay, Passi, Duenas, Calinog, Lambunao, Anilao, Banate and Barotac Viejo, with an area of **107,700 hectares**, more or less.
94. **Jalaur-Suage River Watershed**- supporting the Suage River Irrigation System, located in the province of Iloilo, covering the municipalities of Janiuay, Maasin, Cabatuan, and Lucena, with an area of **17,480 hectares**, more or less.
95. **Sibalom River Watershed-Sibalom-Tigbauan River Irrigation System**, located in the province of Iloilo, covering the municipalities of Leon, Alimodian and Tigbauan, with an area of **11,400 hectares**, more or less.
96. **Tigum River Watershed(joined to Aganan)**-supporting the Sta. Barbara River Irrigation System, located in the province of Iloilo and Antique, covering the municipalities of Cabatuan, Maasin, Janiuay, Valderama and San Remigio, with an area of **19,200 hectares**, more or less.
97. **Bago River Watershed (Convergence WFR)**- supporting the Bago River Irrigation System, located in the province of Negros Occidental, covering the municipalities of Bago, Murcia, Talisay, San Carlos and Calatrava, with an area of **62,500 hectares**, more or less.
98. **Pagiplan River Watershed**-supporting the Pagiplan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Negros Occidental, covering the municipalities of Binalbagan, with an area of **1,756 hectares**, more or less.
99. **Ibajay River Watershed**- supporting the Panukayan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Aklan, covering the municipality of Ibajay, with an area of **23,400 hectares**, more or less.

## **REGION 7**

100. **Caruod Watershed**-located in the province of Bohol, covering the municipalities of Ubay, Mabini and Alicia.
101. **Matutinao Watershed**-located in the province of Cebu, covering the municipality of Badian, Alegria, Malabuyoc, Alcoy and Dalaguete.

## **REGION 8**

102. **Magon-Bucan River Watershed**-supporting the Balire North River Irrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of La Paz, Mac Arthur and Inayupan, with an area of **4,500 hectares**, more or less.
103. **Bao River Watershed**-supporting the Bao RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of Ormoc City, Kananga, Capoocan and Cariagara with an area of **5,800 hectares**, more or less.
104. **Binahaan River Watershed**-supporting the Binahaan South River Irrigation System, Binahaan North RIS, and Lower Binahaan River System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the City of Ormoc, Municipalities of Jaro, Pastrana and Dagami, Tanauan and Palo with an area of **21,910 hectares**, more or less.
105. **Bito River Watershed**- supporting the Bito RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of Inayopan, Abuyog, and Baybay, with an area of **11,380 hectares**, more or less.
106. **Daguitan River Watershed**- supporting the Daguitan RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of Burauen, Albueria, and Dagami with an area of **4,300 hectares**, more or less.
107. **Gibuga River Watershed**- supporting the Gibuga RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of Burauen, Julita, Dulag, La Paz and Sta. Cruz, with an area of **5,400 hectares**, more or less.
108. **Guinarona River Watershed**- supporting the Guinarona RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of Dagami and Burauen with an area of **1,450 hectares**, more or less.
109. **Mainit River Watershed**- supporting the Mainit RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of Carigara, Jaro, and Alang-alang with an area of **3,150 hectares**, more or less.
110. **Pongso River Watershed**-supporting the Pongso RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of Carigara, Barugo, and Tunga, with an area of **4,020 hectares**, more or less.

111. **Palo River Watershed**-supporting the Suong-Tibak RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of Palo, Jaro, Sta. Fe, Alang-alang, and Tacloban City, with an area of **2,350 hectares**, more or less.
112. **Salug River Watershed**- supporting the Hindang-HilogosRiver Irrigation System, located in the province of Leyte, covering the municipalities of Hindang, Hilongos and Inopacan, with an area of **7,200 hectares**, more or less.

## **REGION 9**

113. **Dipolo River Watershed**-supporting the Dipolo Dam and Salug RiverIrrigation System, located in the provinces of Zamboanga del Sur, covering the municipality of Molave with an area of **67,200 hectares**, more or less.
114. **Labangan-Pulusan-Lantian-Tiwanan River Watersheds**-supporting the LabanganRiverIrrigation System, located in Zamboanga del Sur, covering the municipalities of Labangan, and Pagadian City with an area of **43,360 hectares**, more or less.
115. **Sibuguey-Dipili Rivers**- supporting the Sibuguey Valley River Irrigation System, located in the province of Zamboanga del Sur with an area of **21,800 hectares**, more or less.

## **REGION 10**

116. **Manupali River (Convergence WFR)**- supporting the Manupali RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Bukidnon, with an area of **13,850 hectares**, more or less.
117. **Muleta-Kulaman River Watershed (Convergence WFR)**- supporting the MuletaRiver Irrigation System, located in the Bukidnon, covering the municipality of Pangantukan and Maramag, with an area of **21,450 hectares**, more or less.
118. **RoxasKuya River Watershed**- supporting the Roxas Kuya RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Bukidnon, covering the municipality of Maramag, with an area of **9,300 hectares**, more or less.
119. **Dipolo-Maranding River Watrershed**- supporting the Maranding RiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Lanao del Norte, covering the municipalities of Nunungan and Kapatagan, with an area of **39,350 hectares**, more or less.

## **REGION 11**

120. **Batutu Watershed**-supporting the Batutu River Irrigation System, located in the province of Compostela Valley, covering the municipality of Compostela, with an area of **10,500 hectares**, more or less.
121. **Libuganon River Watershed**- supporting the Libuganon River Irrigation System, located in the province of Davao del Norte and Compostela Valley, covering the municipalities of Kapalang, Sto. Tomas, Asuncion, San Vicente, New Correla, Tagum City, Nabunturan, Moncayo and Montevista, with an area of **74,730 hectares**, more or less.
122. **Saug River Watershed**- supporting the Saug River Irrigation System, located in the province of Davao del Norte, Compostela Valley, covering the municipalities of Kapalang, Asuncion and Nabunturan, with an area of **41,100 hectares**, more or less.
123. **Lasang River Watershed**- supporting the Lasang River Irrigation System, located in the province of Davao del Norte, covering the municipalities of Kapalang, Panabo and Davao City, with an area of **39,450 hectares**, more or less.
124. **Matanao River Watershed**-supporting the Mal River Irrigation System, located in the province of Davao del Sur, covering the municipality of Digos, with an area of **35,400 hectares**, more or less.
125. **Padada River Watershed**-supporting the Padada River Irrigation System, located in the province of Davao del Sur and North Cotabato, covering the municipalities of Digos and Makilala, with an area of **81,850 hectares**, more or less.
126. **Sumlog River Watershed**- supporting the Lupon River Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Davao Oriental and Davao del Norte, covering the municipalities of Lupon, Banay-Banay, Mati and Pantukan with an area of **25,540 hectares**, more or less.
127. **Buayan-Tinagacan Rivers**- supporting the Buayan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Davao del Sur, Sarangani and South Cotabato, covering the municipalities of Malalag, Sta. Maria, Malita, Malungon, Alabel, Polomolok and General Santos City, with an area of **7,580 hectares**, more or less.

## **REGION 12**

128. **Kabacan River Watershed**-supporting the Kabacan-Pagalungan River Irrigation System, located in the province of North Cotabato, covering the municipalities of Kabacan and Kidapawan with an area of **74,000 hectares**, more or less.

129. **Libungan River Watershed**- supporting the Libungan River Irrigation System, located in the province of North Cotabato, covering the municipality of Libungan, with an area of **51,700 hectares**, more or less.
130. **M'lang River Watershed**- supporting the M'lang River Irrigation System, located in the province of North Cotabato, covering the municipalities of M'lang and Makilala with an area of **20,100 hectares**, more or less.
131. **Malasila River Watershed**- supporting the Malasila River Irrigation System, located in the province of North Cotabato, covering the municipalities of Tuluran and Makilala with an area of **31,200 hectares**, more or less.
132. **Allah River Watershed**- supporting Allah I RIS and Allah II –Lambayong River Irrigation System, located in the province of South Cotabato, covering the municipalities of T'boli, Norala and Surallah, with an area of **158,290 hectares**, more or less.
133. **Banga River Watershed**- supporting the Banga River Irrigation System, located in the province of South Cotabato, covering the municipality of Banga, with an area of **28,800 hectares**, more or less.
134. **Silway River Watershed**- supporting the Silway River Irrigation System, located in the province of South Cotabato, covering the municipalities of Dadiangas, Polomolok and Koronadal, with an area of **53,300 hectares**, more or less.
135. **Palian River Watershed**- supporting the Marbel River Irrigation System 1&2, located in the province of South Cotabato, covering the municipalities of Marbel and Tupi with an area of **20,675 hectares**, more or less.
136. **Alip River Watershed**- supporting the Alip River Irrigation System, located in the province of Sultan Kudarat, covering the municipalities of Columbio, Lutavan, with an area of **37,950 hectares**, more or less.

#### REGION 13

137. **Cabadbaran River Watershed (Convergence WFR)**- supporting the Cabadbaran River Irrigation System, located in the province of Agusan del Norte, covering the municipality of Cabadbaran, with an area of **7,350 hectares**, more or less.
138. **Taguibo River Watershed**- supporting Taguibo River Irrigation System, located in the province of Agusan del Norte, covering the municipality of Butuan City and Cabadbaran with an area of **8,430 hectares**, more or less.
139. **Andanan River Watershed (Convergence WFR)**- supporting the Andanan River Irrigation System, located in the province of Agusan del Sur,

covering the municipality of Bayugan with an area of **19,200 hectares**, more or less.

140. **Simulao River Watershed**-supporting the Simulao RiverIrrigation System, located in the provinces of Agusan del Sur and Surigao del Sur, covering the municipalities of Bunawan, Trento, Bislig and Lingig with an area of **42,900 hectares**, more or less.
141. **Caracan River Watershed**- supporting the CantilanRiver Irrigation System, located in the provinces of Surigao del Sur and Agusan del Norte, covering the municipalities of Madrid and Jagupit, with an area of **12,180 hectares**, more or less.
142. **Tago River Watershed**- supporting the TagoRiver Irrigation System, located in the province of Surigao del Sur and Agusan del Sur, covering the municipalities of Tago, Cagwit and Bayugan with an area of **118,000 hectares**, more or less.

#### **ARMM**

143. **Gata River Watershed**- supporting the RugnanRiverIrrigation System, located in the province of Lanao del Sur, covering the municipalities of Maguindanao, Lumba-Bayabao, with an area of **18,500 hectares**, more or less.

**SECTION 7. Inclusions of other areas that can form part of the Watershed Supporting the National Irrigation System.**-Lands of the public domain that have been classified as forestland or timberland pursuant to Section 3 of the 1987 Constitution and unclassified forestlands that are actually, directly and found to be essential for irrigation purposes and all other watershed areas that are supporting water-based infrastructure, can be included in the list after the passage of this Act thru the following procedures:

- a) Within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, The DENR, thru the Forest Management Bureau, upon the recommendation of the Department of Agriculture thru the National Irrigation Administration, shall submit to the Office of the President, application/s for inclusion in the List of Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System, which shall contain the following:
  1. Topographic maps ascertaining the location of the watersheds to avert any trans- boundary issues especially if the watershed embraces two or more municipalities.
  2. Maps including characterization of the watershed with legal descriptions of boundaries.
  3. Sangguniang Barangay, Sanguniang Bayan, and Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolutions asserting the need for the inclusion of the

watershed in the List of Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System, for the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of the same.

4. Copy of Joint LGU Resolutions, MOA/MOU or any agreements for the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of the watershed, especially if the coverage is within two or more municipalities to avoid duplication in the filing of application and to prevent possible irritants on boundary issues.
  5. Copy of watershed management plan.
  6. Copy of a watershed resource profile, specifically, information on the following:
    - 6.1) estimated water run-off
    - 6.2) forest cover of the watershed
    - 6.3) estimated area to be serviced by the watershed (in hectares)
    - 6.4) multiple uses of water resources
- b) The President shall issue a presidential proclamation designating the recommended watershed/s to form part of the List of Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System and provide for the same protection, conservation and rehabilitation.
- c) Forest lands and timberland being primary classification of public lands pursuant to the provision of Section 3 of Article 12 of the 1987 Constitution, and the President having been vested the responsibility over primary classification of lands of the public domain pursuant to the provision of Commonwealth Act No.141 [1936], Sec. 6 and Executive Order No. 192 [1987], shall exercise such function upon the recommendation of the DENR and such classification/s does not warrant concurrence of Congress.

## CHAPTER II ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT PLANS

**SECTION 8. Jurisdiction, Control and Management of Watersheds Supporting The National Irrigation System** - The Department of Environment and Natural Resources thru the Bureau of Forests Management in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture thru the National Irrigation Authority shall have exclusive and primary jurisdiction, control and management on all identified watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System.

**SECTION 9. Creation of Watershed Management Council Supporting the National Irrigation System** - The DENR and the DA shall create a Watershed Management Council supporting the National Irrigation System, which shall be composed of the Secretary of DENR and Secretary of DA, acting as Co-Chairmen and the Director of the Forest Management Bureau and the Administrator of the National Irrigation Administration as Vice Chairmen and the following as members:

1. Department of Budget and Management
2. Department of Local Government
3. DPWH
4. Land Bank of the Philippines
5. NPC (Hydro-electric)
6. PNOC –EDC (Geothermal)
7. NWRB ( Domestic-Industrial Water)
8. LWUA (Domestic Water)
9. 4 Representatives from the affected sectors (Rotational-based on regional concern), Local Waterworks, Local Hydro-Electric Concessionaire and Local Government Unit

**SECTION 10.** *Participation of LGUs and other stakeholders in the Watershed Management Plans* - All Local Government Units where the watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System are situated shall be involved in the planning, development and implementation of a comprehensive watershed management plan that must be holistic, scientific, rights-based, technology based and community-based and that shall be done in a collaborative manner to ensure that the protection of the watershed, the conservation of its water resources and the preservation of its inherent productive capacity will be sustained to bring about the highest and widest benefit for the present and future generations. The sustainability of water resources must be ensured by encouraging the meaningful and active participation of stakeholders especially those who are directly benefited and there from, establish a sustainable and multi-institution capable of addressing natural resources issues in a watershed.

There shall be common responsibility from the LGU/s and the stakeholders in the implementation of the Watershed Management Plan for the conservation, protection and rehabilitation of the Watershed Supporting the National Irrigation System.

**SECTION 11.** *Creation of Provincial Watershed Co-Management Board* - To enable to sustain the effort of rehabilitation, conservation and protection of the watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System, a Provincial Watershed Co-Management Board shall be established to facilitate joint efforts in the management of the watersheds common in their areas and oversee the utilization of water resources and conduct resource accounting to ascertain the biophysical and economic viability of the watersheds.

The Watershed Co-Management Board shall be composed of:

1. Provincial Governor
2. Concerned LGUs within the province (cities, municipalities, and barangays)
3. Water Districts or Water Utility Firms operating and using the water that directly comes from the watershed thru the river systems.
4. DENR-FMB
5. DA - NIA
6. Local Stakeholders-Water consumers and concessionaires
7. NGO-PO- existing and operating within the area

8. Industrial Users
9. Academe

### CHAPTER III FUNDING SOURCE

**SECTION 12.** *Funding Allocation-* Upon the enactment of this Act, the amount needed to implement the conservation, protection and rehabilitation measures shall be taken from the budget of Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of Agriculture (DA) and shall be equivalent to no less than 5% of the annual appropriation of each Department.

**SECTION 13.** *Creation of Fund for the Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System -* In order to cover the expenses and cost of supporting the efforts to conserve, protect and rehabilitate the Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System, the yearly appropriation of 5% coming from the DENR and the DA budget shall be immediately set aside and placed in a Special Fund that will be called Watersheds Supporting The National Irrigation System Special Fund (WSNIS-Fund)

**SECTION 14.** *Management and control of the WSNIS Special Fund-* The Watershed Management Council Supporting the National Irrigation System shall be in charge of the management, control and disposition of all funds for the purpose of financing projects for the conservation, protection and rehabilitation of the watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System.

**SECTION 15.** *Additional Funds -* Additional funds are hereby authorized to be added to the special fund to augment the funding requirements to fully implement the conservation, protection and rehabilitation measures for the watersheds. Sources of funding shall include the following:

1. Collection of five (5) centavos for every peso being paid as irrigation fees.
2. Collection of five (5) centavos for every cubic meter of water based on the actual billing and collection from the local waterworks utilities that are using portion of the water for household use.
3. Collections of five (5) centavos for every kilowatt hour produced by local hydro electric cooperatives or concessionaires.
4. Proceeds from local or foreign grants, donations, endowments, solicitations and all forms of contributions.

**SECTION 16.** *Compensation of Host Communities -* Ancestral/indigenous peoples' communities and other host communities living within or on the periphery of the watersheds and found to be directly protecting the watersheds shall be compensated out of the watershed fees or from any income derive from watershed

resources or out of the use of water from the watershed. The compensation shall be determined by the Provincial and Municipal Co-Management Board.

**SECTION 17. Exemption from taxes** - All additional funds accruing to the WSNIS Special Fund shall be exempted from income taxes, charges and fees and all other taxes that may be imposed by the National Government or the Local Government where the income was derived.

All income derive as payments for value of the water resources coming from the Watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System shall be utilized solely and directly for the conservation, protection and rehabilitation of all the WSNIS.

## CHAPTER IV GENERAL PROVISIONS

**SECTION 18. Prohibitions** - In line with the provision of Section 4 of the Constitution, whereby the specific limits of forestlands shall be determined by law, marking clearly their boundaries on the ground, thereafter, such forestland shall be conserved and may not be increased nor diminished except by law. The following acts shall be prohibited:

1. Watershed as an integral part of established forest reserves shall not be subjected to disestablishment proceedings pursuant to the provision of Section 7 of the National Integrated Protected Areas Act or R.A. 7586.
2. Watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System shall not be subjected to a Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) by the PAWB, to determine their suitability or non-suitability for preservation as a protected area. Rather, watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System if found to be degraded shall be maintained, protected and rehabilitated and restore it to its former growth and vegetation.
3. The inclusion of Watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System according to the appropriate categories as protected areas under the NIPAS framework shall no longer apply.
4. Multiple uses of watershed resources shall be strictly prohibited. The water resources which are the inherent contribution of watershed must be conserved, protected and enhanced to produce its optimum capacity.

**SECTION 19. Diminution of Watershed Areas** -There shall be no diminution of Watersheds Supporting the National Irrigation System. The determination of Congress pursuant to the provisions of Sec. 4, Chapter 12 of the Constitution, of the specific limits of forest lands shall be maintained and protected when it comes to all proclaimed

watershed and WS-NIS. All attempts to re-classify and remove portion of watershed area to be converted to other uses shall not be allowed.

**SECTION 20.** *Disposition of Watershed Areas* -The following activities are considered environmentally critical projects and activities that are detrimental to the integrity of the water resources and hydrological balance of the Watersheds supporting the National Irrigation System and may bring irreversible damage to the watershed's water bearing capacity, and therefore shall not be allowed and strictly prohibited:

1. All forms of mining operations.
2. Granting of Mineral, Production Sharing Agreements (MPSA) or Financial or Technical Assistance Agreement FTAA.
3. Granting of mining permits or licenses, for extraction of minerals and Quarry Permits for the extraction and utilization of quarry resources.
4. All forms of logging operations.
5. Kaingin type of Agriculture.
6. Any form of human settlements except IP community.
7. Harvesting of trees or parts of trees for charcoal making.
8. Unlawful Occupation or encroachment or destruction of watershed

**SECTION 21.** *Penalties-* Any person who knowingly or willfully violates the provision of this Act shall be punished by imprisonment of no less than one (1) year, to not more than three (3) years or a fine of no less than five hundred thousand (500,000) pesos or both, at the discretion of the court. For tenured migrants, and settlers living inside the watershed that unknowingly violate the provisions of this Act; they shall be subjected to a month of rigid training and capability development in lieu of fines and imprisonment. Repeat of violations shall be dealt with fines or imprisonment and ejectment.

**SECTION 22.** *Supplementary Application of Existing Legislation* - The provision of Presidential Decree No. 705 (Revised Forestry Code); Republic Act 7586 (NIPAS Act); Commonwealth Act No. 141 [1936]; Phil. Clean Water Act; Water Code of the Philippines; Executive Order No. 192 Series of 1987; Executive Order 224 Series of 1987; Executive Order No. 510 Series of 2006; and other laws not inconsistent with this Act shall have supplementary effect.

**SECTION 23.** *Repealing Clause*-Section 7 and Section 5 (a) & (d) of the R. A. No. 7586 (NIPAS ACT); Executive Order No. 224; Section 18 of R.A. 7942 (Phil. Mining Act of 1995 and all other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 24.** *Separability Clause*- If for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is declared null and void, no other section, provision, or part thereof shall be affected and the same shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 25.** *Effectivity Clause*-This Act shall take effect immediately after publication in at least two (2) national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,