

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agriculture and Commerce
Office of the Secretary

Manila

FISHERIES ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER)

No. 12-1)

SUBJECT: Re-establishing close season of 5 years
in certain waters of Rizal, Laguna, Batangas
and Mindoro, for the conservation of aquatic
resources.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 79(B) of the Revised Administrative Code and of Sections 4, 7, 8, 9 and 19 of Act No. 4003, entitled "An Act to Amend and Compile the Laws Relating to Fish and Other Aquatic Resources of the Philippine Islands, and for other purposes," as amended, and for the protection and conservation of aquatic resources in the Province of Rizal, Laguna, Batangas and Mindoro, the following rules and regulations are hereby promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

1. Five years close season. - There is hereby established a close season of five years from the date this Administrative Order takes effect, during which period the taking of any species of aquatic animals and plants or their parts or portions thereof from all the waters described below is prohibited:

(a) All the waters at the mouth of Pansipit River, 200 meters wide from the general coast line, and extending 200 meters on each side of the mouth thereof, within the jurisdiction of the Municipalities of Lemery and Taal, Batangas.

(b) That portion of Balayan Bay, 200 meters wide from the general coast line and extending 100 meters on each side of the entrance or mouth of the Palanas Creek, including the entire tidal water of the said creek and its tributaries, to its junction with the Pansipit River, within the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Lemery, Batangas.

(c) All the waters at the mouth of the Butas River, 200 meters wide from the general coast line and extending 200 meters on each side of the mouth thereof, within the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Naujan, Mindoro.

(d) All the waters around Paniquian Island, 200 meters wide from the general coast line, within the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Puerto Galera, Mindoro.

(e) All the waters of the Diablo Passor Navetas between a west to east line from Tipao Point on the Morong Peninsula or the South and an east to west line from Cawit Point on the Is-

land of Talim on the North, approximately 105 hectares, within the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Binangonan, Rizal.

(f) All the waters between a straight line from Sitio Matiquio on the Jalajala Peninsula to the mouth of Pagsanjan River on the North and another straight line from the mouth of Pilar River to Jalajala Point on the South, approximately 7,800 hectares, within the jurisdiction of the Municipality of Jalajala, Rizal and Pila and Pagsanjan, Laguna.

2. Prohibitions. - It shall be also unlawful at all times during the close season for any person, association or corporation:

(a) To disturb or drive away from the areas described in sub-sections (a) to (c) of the preceding section or in any manner, take, kill or catch or cause to be killed, caught, or taken from these waters, purchase, sell, offer or expose for sale any aquatic animals or plants taken therefrom dead or alive, or have in possession any part of same, except as provided in Section 3 of this Administrative Order.

(b) To disturb or take snails, particularly the susong-pangpang, mostly referable to Vivipera angularis (Miller) and the susong-buele, the three species of Melania, namely: M. pantherina, Von dem Busch, M. lateritia Lea, and M. scabra (Miller) from the areas described in sub-sections (c) and (f) of the preceding section.

3. Exemptions. - (a) For scientific, educational, or propagation purposes, any person, association, institution or corporation of good repute may be granted by the Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce, free of charge, a permit to catch or take or cause to be caught or taken fishes of all sizes of aquatic animals and plants otherwise prohibited in this Administrative Order, subject to such conditions as the Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce may deem wise to impose for the proper conservation of the fisheries.

(b) Any person who shall catch fish under these licenses but uses same for purposes other than those mentioned herein above shall be subject to the same penalties as if no permit had been granted.

4. Enforcement. - For the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Administrative Order and of such regulations relating to fisheries, as may hereafter be promulgated, fishery inspectors, agents or officers; members of the Philippine Constabulary; members of municipal and municipal district police; members of the secret service force, inspectors, guards, wharfingers of the Customs Service; Internal Revenue officers and agents; officers of Coast Guard cutters and lighthouse keepers; and such other competent officials, employees or persons, as

may be designated in writing by the Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce, are hereby made deputies of said Department Head and empowered (a) to arrest any person found committing or attempting to commit an offense against the provisions of Act No. 4003, and of this Administrative Order; (b) to seize, when deemed necessary, for evidence or for such purposes as the Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce or his duly authorized representative may consider advisable, any fishing gear or apparatus used or which may be used to catch, kill or take any protected fish or other aquatic animals or plants and fish caught or killed or aquatic animals taken or found in possession of any person in violation of the laws and regulations; (c) to administer oaths and to take testimony in any official matter or investigation conducted by them touching any matter under the authority of the Fisheries Act and this Administrative Order; and (d) to file the necessary complaint in Court and report such violations to the Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce, for appropriate action. (Sec. 5, Act No. 4003, as amended).

5. Penalty. - Any violation of the provisions of this Administrative Order shall subject the offender to prosecution and, upon conviction, he shall suffer the penalty provided in Section 83 of Act No. 4003 which is a fine of not more than two hundred pesos, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both, in the discretion of the Court.

6. Repealing provisions. - All administrative orders and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Administrative Order, are hereby revoked.

7. Effectivity. - This Administrative Order shall take effect sixty (60) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Mariano Garchitorena
MARIANO GARCHITORENA
Secretary of Agriculture
and Commerce

3/25/47

APPROVED:

By authority of the President:

N. Roxas
N. ROXAS
Acting Executive Secretary

5/12/47