

Republic of the Philippines
Ministry of Natural Resources
OFFICE OF THE MINISTER
Diliman, Quezon City

FISHERIES ADMINISTRATIVE)
ORDER NO. 124 :
Series of 1979.)

1979-09-03

SUBJECT: Regulating the gathering/catching/taking/
removing of marine tropical aquarium fishes

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 7 of Presidential Decree No. 704, otherwise known as the "Fisheries Decree of 1975," the following rules governing the gathering/catching/taking/removing of marine tropical aquarium fishes from Philippine waters are hereby promulgated:

SECTION 1. Definitions. - As used in this Order, the following words shall mean:

- a) Minister - Minister of Natural Resources
- b) Director - The Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
- c) Bureau - The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
- d) FARRO - Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Regional Office.

SECTION 2. Prohibition against the gathering/catching/taking/removing of aquarium fishes. - It shall be unlawful for any person to gather, catch, take, or remove from Philippine waters as defined under Section 3 of Presidential Decree No. 704, marine tropical aquarium fishes unless a permit therefor from the Bureau is first secured.

SECTION 2. Restricted areas. - The Minister, upon recommendation of the Director, may from time to time designate restricted areas in Philippine waters where gathering/fishing is prohibited for the purpose of conserving or propagating marine tropical aquarium fishes.

SEC. 4. Filing of application. - An application to gather, catch, take or remove marine tropical aquarium fishes shall be filed with the Bureau, thru the FARRO concerned, and shall be accompanied by a permit fee of one (1) peso.

SEC. 5. Issuance of permit. - A permit to gather, catch, take or remove marine tropical aquarium fishes may be issued to any qualified person for a period of one (1) year.

SEC. 6. Exportation. - The exportation of marine tropical aquarium fishes gathered or collected pursuant to the provisions of this Order may be allowed upon application for commodity clearance duly filed on official form prescribed under the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 930, at least five (5) days before the date of exportation, subject to inspection, quality control and other administrative and technical services and the payment of the inspection and quality control fees in the amount of one-half of one per cent ($\frac{1}{2}$ of 1%) of the declared value (FOB) of the aquarium fishes.

SEC. 7. Removal and/or confiscation of product. - If, upon inspection, the aquarium fishes sought to be exported does not meet the quality requirements prescribed by the Bureau or gathered in violation of the existing fishery laws, rules and regulations, or prohibited fish are included in the exportation, the same shall be removed immediately and, in case of the latter circumstance, said fish shall be confiscated, without prejudice to the criminal liability of the exporter under the provisions of P.D. No. 704.

SEC. 8. Penalty. - Violation of this Order shall subject the offender/s to the penalty prescribed under Section 38 (d) of Presidential Decree No. 704, as amended.

SEC. 9. Repealing clause. - Fisheries administrative orders inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed.

SEC. 10. Effectivity. - This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette and/or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

(SGD.) JOSE J. LEIDO, JR.
Minister
Ministry of Natural Resources

Recommended by:

(SGD.) FELIX R. GONZALES
Director
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and Aquatic Resources