

FISHERIES ADMINISTRATIVE)
ORDER NO. 137 :
Series of 1982.)

1982-02-23

SUBJECT: Establishing a closed season of five (5) years for the operation of trawl and purse seine in the waters of Palawan

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 4 and 7 of Presidential Decree No. 704, as amended, otherwise known as "Fisheries Decree of 1975," and Section 1 of Presidential Decree No. 1015, the following rules and regulations are hereby promulgated for the conservation and protection of fish and fishery/aquatic resources in Palawan.

SECTION 1. Definition of Terms - For the purpose of this Administrative Order, the following terms shall mean:

- (a) Trawl - is a fishing gear consisting of nets made in the form of a conical bag with the mouth kept open by various devices (as otter boards/doors, wooden or iron beam, two boats and extra long ropes) and the entire gear towed, trailed, or trawled, usually on the bottom of the sea, to capture bottom species.
- (b) Purse Seine - is a fishing gear consisting of nets having the bunt or landing piece located in any part of the net, and the whole net provided with a pursing device, which consists of a series of purse rings attached to the footrope by straps or ring bridles. A pursing line rove through the rings closed the bottom of the seine when pulled thereby forming a trap or purse.


SECTION 2. Prohibition - It shall be unlawful during the five-year closed season established herein for any natural or juridical person to operate commercial trawl and purse seine using fishing boats more than three (3) gross tons within a distance of seven (7) kilometers (3.78 nautical miles) from the shorelines of Palawan.

SECTION 3. Gratuitous Permit - Notwithstanding the preceding Section to the contrary, the Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources may grant free of charge, a gratuitous permit to any government research and educational institution, to catch or take fish or aquatic life using the gear otherwise prohibited in this Administrative Order, only for scientific and educational purposes, subject to such conditions as he may deem proper to impose.

SECTION 4. Penal Clause - Violation of any provision of this Order shall subject the offender to a fine of not less than Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) to not more than Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) or imprisonment from six (6) months to four (4) years, or both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the Court: Provided, that the Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources is hereby empowered to impose upon the offender an administrative fine of not more than Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) including the confiscation of the gear and other fishing paraphernalia used therein.

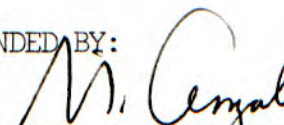
SECTION 5. Repealing Clause - All existing administrative orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 6. Effectivity - This Administrative Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette and/or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.


TEODORO Q. PEÑA
Minister

Ministry of Natural Resources

RECOMMENDED BY:


FELIX R. GONZALES
Director

Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources