

Republic of the Philippines  
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD  
Diliman, Quezon City

FISHERIES ADMINISTRATIVE)

ORDER NO. 154 :

1986-03-25

Series of 1986 . . . . )

SUBJECT: Establishing a closed season of five (5) years in Malampaya Sound, Taytay, Palawan on the operation of any fishing gear, except those provided herein.

Pursuant to Sections 4 and 7 of Presidential Decree No. 704, as amended, otherwise known as the Fisheries Decree of 1975," for the protection and conservation of fish and fishery/aquatic resources in Malampaya Sound, Taytay, Paaawan, the following rules and regulations are hereby promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

SECTION 1. Definition. - For the purposes of this Order, the following terms are defined as follows:

- a) Malampaya Sound - a body of water bounded by the coastline of its Outer and Inner Sounds. The Outer Sound is a body of water bounded in the North by imaginary straight line drawn from Diente Point to Tularan Point, thence Conical Head to Signal Head, and bounded in the South by imaginary straight line drawn from Balulu Point to Calanhogan Island, thence from Canica Point to the tip of Passage Point, while the Inner Sound is a body of water bounded in the North by imaginary straight line drawn from Balulu Point to Calanhogan Island, thence, from Calanhogan Island to Canica Point, thence from Canica Point to the tip of Passage Point, and bounded in the South by the coastline of Buwaya Sound.
- b) Fish corral (baklad) - means a stationary weir or trap devised to intercept and capture fish, consisting of rows of stakes of bamboo, palma brava or other materials faced with split bamboo mattings or wire nettings with one or more enclosures, usually with easy entrance but difficult exit, and with or without leaders to direct the fish to the catching chambers or purse.

- c) Fish corral belt - a water area designated by the Director after a technical survey shall have been conducted where fish corrals may be constructed or established.
- d) Gill net for shrimps (pantihan mababaw) - means a gear composed of nettings with floats and sinkers that catches shrimps, the length of which shall not be more than 120 meters and the mesh when stretched shall not be less than three (3) centimeters.
- e) Gill net fish (pantihan malalim) - means a gear composed of nettings with floats and sinkers that catches fish by the gills, the length of which shall not be more than 250 meters and the mesh when stretched shall not be less than 3 centimeters.
- f) Gill net for sardines and herrings (largarete) - means a gear composed of nettings with floats/ sinkers that catches sardines and herrings by gilling, with or without the use of lights, the mesh of which shall not be less than three (3) centimeters.
- g) Beach seine (baling) - means a gear composed of nettings with floats and sinkers that catches anchovies (dilis) only during the season for "dilis", the length of which shall not be more than 250 meters.
- h) Director - Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

SEC. 2. Prohibition. - It shall be unlawful at all times during the five-year closed season for any person, corporation, association, partnership, or cooperative, to conduct fishing activities inside Malampaya Sound with the use of any fishing gear except (a) simple handlines (kawil), (b) spear (pana), (c) crab hook (panabo), (d) crab pot (bucatot), (e) cover pot (salakab), (f) fish trap (bubo), (g) fish pot (timing), (h) pole and line (bingwit), (i) gill net shrimp (pantihan mababaw), (j) gill net fish (pantihan malalim), (k) fish corral (baklad), (l) gill net sardines and herrings (largarete), and (m) beach seine (baling): Provided, That fishing boats less than three (3) gross tons may be allowed to operate the aforementioned exempted gear, whenever applicable: and Provided, Further, That the Director may grant, free of charge, a permit to any government research and educational institution to catch or take aquatic life in Malampaya Sound or use any fishing gear otherwise prohibited in this Order for scientific and educational purposes subject to such terms and conditions that may be imposed.

SEC. 3. Conditions/requirements for the establishment of fish corrals. - The establishment or construction of fish corrals (baklad) shall be at a distance of 200 meters from the shoreline at high tide, 200 meters from each other, and within the established fish corral belt area. The size or dimension of the leader shall not exceed 120 meters in length, 20 meters in diameter for the catching chamber or impounding area (pabahay) with a mesh size of not less than three (3) centimeters when stretched and for split bamboo matings, not be less than one (1) centimeter apart.

SEC. 4. Fish caught report. - For purposes of monitoring fish catch in Malampaya Sound, fishermen/operators fishing thereat are required to submit a monthly fish caught report to the Director or to his duly authorized representative.

SEC. 5. Penal clause. - Any violation of the provisions 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 of not less than six (6) months but not more than 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 impound the fishing boat and impose upon the offender an administrative fine of not more than five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) including the confiscation of all the fishing paraphernalia used therein.

SEC. 6. Repealing clause. - All existing administrative orders, rules and regulations or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 7. 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.

(SIGNED)  
RAMON V. MITRA, JR.  
Minister

Recommended by:

(SIGNED)  
FELIX R. GONZALES  
Director  
Bureau of Fisheries and  
Aquatic Resources

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Effectivity: May 14, 1986 to May 13, 1991