

1 **NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF FISHING CAPACITY**  
2 **(NPOA-FISHING CAPACITY)**  
3

4 **I. BACKGROUND**

5 The Philippines is undeniably rich in aquatic resources, which accounts for its prominence as a  
6 producer of aquatic products globally. It was eighth in the world in terms of the output of many  
7 aquatic commodities in 2018, including seaweed (BFAR 2021). Despite this situation, overfishing is  
8 a concern in many fisheries causing declines in the nation's production, with production trends in  
9 municipal and commercial marine fisheries were noticeably declining from 2010 to 2021 (PSA,  
10 2021).

11 Overfishing is the removal of a species of fish (i.e. fishing) from a body of water at a rate greater than  
12 that the species can replenish its population. Stock indicators based on assessments made by the  
13 National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP) suggests overfishing for many stocks in various fishing  
14 grounds (Guanco et al. 2009; Belga et al. 2017; Bendaño et al. 2017; De Guzman et al. 2017; Gaerlan  
15 et al. 2017; Mesa et al. 2017; Ramos et al. 2017; Villanueva 2017; Calicdan et al. 2017; Francisco et al.  
16 2017). However, it is also recognized the need to strengthen capacity in stock assessment, improve  
17 awareness in order to buy-in and build confidence and consensus among the stakeholders in  
18 managing fishing capacity.

19 The country's archipelagic geography, the characteristics of fleets, the extent of stakeholders'  
20 participation and collaboration, potential loopholes in current fisheries and national legislation, and  
21 lax law enforcement in some regions make overfishing a significant issue that requires an immediate  
22 response. Similarly, the prevalence of poverty and overpopulation may encourage individuals to  
23 engage in illegal fishing activities. In 2020, the extent of Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU)  
24 fishing in the country was estimated indicating 27-40% of the captured fisheries from the  
25 commercial and municipal are produced from illegal fishing (BFAR and USAid Fishright, 2021). It  
26 was also found that 30%-47% (80,000 -125,000) of the municipal fishing vessels are unregistered  
27 and about 20-33% (1,600-2,700) of the commercial fishing vessels are unregistered or incorrectly  
28 registered (Miraflor 2021).

29 Based on FishR, there are 2,078,913 registered municipal fisherfolk, about 49.54% are involved in  
30 capture fisheries. Other livelihoods include gleaning (11.88%), aquaculture (11.24%), fish vending  
31 (6.25%), and fish processing (1.88%) (BFAR 2022). FishR is a type of registration system govern by  
32 BFAR in close coordination with the LGU. By looking at the nature, percent share, and impact of the  
33 types of livelihoods on fisheries, capture fisheries have the greatest impact concerning fishing  
34 capacity. Capture fisheries refer to the harvest of aquatic organisms from the aquatic environment  
35 with the aid of fishing gears and fishing vessels.

36 Fishing in the country is categorized as municipal or commercial. Municipal fishing refers to fishing  
37 within municipal waters using fishing vessels of three (3) gross tons or less, or fishing not requiring  
38 the use of fishing vessels while commercial fishing refers to fishing with passive or active gear  
39 utilizing fishing vessels more than 3 GT, further classified as small-scale (3.1 to 20 GT), medium scale  
40 (20.1 to 150 GT), and large-scale (> 150 GT).

41  
42 There are 336,780 registered municipal fishing boats, about 71% of which are motorized while 29%  
43 are non-motorized. The major fishing gears used are gill net (24%), simple handline (17%), bottom

44 set gill net (12%), and multiple handline (10%) (BFAR-BoatR 2022). There are however challenges  
45 in the program, including connectivity in the system and recognized that there are still a significant  
46 number of municipal fishing boats that are yet to be registered.

47 Meanwhile, there are 8,050 registered commercial fishing vessels (CFV). The small-scale CFVs forms  
48 the bulk at 53%, medium-scale 43% and large-scale (5%). The major fishing gears of CFVs are hook  
49 and line/handline/long line, ring net, and purse seine (BFAR-FRLD 2022). Technically speaking, CFVs  
50 are comprised of catcher vessels and support boats, which is why they are referred to as fleets. The  
51 number of support vessels, such as fish carriers, lightboats, escort boats, sonar boats, skiff boats, and  
52 ranger boats generally increases as the gross tonnage of the CFV increase. It also recognized that a  
53 number of CFVs remain to be unregistered and unauthorized to fish that should be addressed in order  
54 to manage fishing capacity.

55 The National Plan of Action (NPOA) for the Management of Fishing Capacity aims to consolidate and  
56 harmonize all actions for the guidance of all concerned stakeholders in order to formulate and  
57 implement measures to achieve the multi-objectives of fisheries management. It is designed using  
58 the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) and Fisheries Management Area  
59 framework which is a science-based, an all-inclusive approach that values the participation and  
60 cooperation of stakeholders to address pressing issues in fisheries and fishing capacity.

## 61 II. LEGAL BASIS

62 The development of the NPOA-fishing capacity was guided by the principles of the International Plan  
63 of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity (IPOA-Fishing Capacity), FAO Code of Conduct for  
64 Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), Regional Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity  
65 (RPOA-Fishing Capacity) and the Amended Fisheries Code (Republic Act No. 8550 as amended by the  
66 Republic Act 10654).

## 67 III. DEFINITION AND MEASUREMENT OF FISHING CAPACITY

68 The following definitions and measurements are considered :

- 69 1) **Fishing capacity** is the ability of a vessel or fleet of vessels to catch fish. Fishing  
70 capacity (**capacity output**) can be expressed more specifically as the maximum amount of  
71 fish over a period of time (year, season) that can be produced by a fishing fleet if fully  
72 utilized, given the biomass and age structure of the fish stock and the present state of the  
73 technology.
- 74 2) **Capacity utilization** can be defined in this context as the ratio of actual output (catch,  
75 landings) to some measure of potential output (capacity output) for a given fleet and  
76 biomass level. It is essentially a short-run concept.
- 77 3) **Target fishing capacity** is the maximum amount of fish over a period of time (year,  
78 season) that can be produced by a fishing fleet if fully utilized while satisfying fishery  
79 management objectives designed to ensure sustainable fisheries. It follows that excess  
80 capacity can be expressed by comparing current and target capacity output.
- 81 4) **Optimal capacity**
- 82 5) **Overcapacity** a situation where capacity output is greater than target output.

83 6) **Limit capacity** is the maximum amount of fish that can be produced on a sustainable basis  
84 by a fully-utilized fleet, corresponding to MSY.

#### 85 **IV. INDICATORS OF CAPACITY AND OVERCAPACITY**

- 86
- 87 1) Elements
- 88 a. number of vessels in each fleet exploiting a stock
- 89 b. mean catch rates for each fleet, and the amount of time actually spent fishing
- 90
- 91 2) Target capacity (long-term), specify a target stock biomass.
- 92 3) Start with a TAC (either current or a long-term projection). The maximum that a given fleet
- 93 could potentially catch (capacity output) divided by the target TAC is a measure of excess
- 94 (or under) capacity. Target fishing capacity can be evaluated in reference to both the
- 95 current and long-term target biomass.
- 96 4) The potential catch in the fishery is the sum of potential catches by all fleets. The potential
- 97 catch by each fleet under current stock conditions can be estimated as the product of
- 98 number of vessels and mean catch rate, scaled up to a full-time equivalent based on the
- 99 ratio of maximum time available to the actual time fished.

100 The sum of potential catches can be compared to the TAC to give an indication of

101 overcapacity by the current fleet. The indicator can be calculated under current stock

102 conditions (TAC and CPUE corresponding to current biomass) and for long-term target

103 conditions (TAC and CPUE corresponding to target biomass).

104 Another measure is based on calculating, using the same information, the minimum

105 number of vessels needed to take the TAC. This approach may be particularly useful when

106 there are several fleets that cannot meaningfully be aggregated into a single measure. The

107 minimum fleet size required to take the entire TAC is calculated for each fleet. These

108 minima can be compared to the actual size of each fleet to provide perspective on

109 overcapacity. If any of the actual fleet size is close or higher than the minimum required,

110 there will be strong evidence of overcapacity. Otherwise, further assessment would

111 require calculating a composite index of boats needed by using a fishery-wide average

112 catch rate. The method can be applied to current and long-term target conditions.

#### 113 **V. MANAGEMENT OF FISHING CAPACITY**

114 The management of fishing capacity in the country shall adhere to the provisions of the

115 Amended Fisheries Code (RA 8550 as amended by RA 10654) including the principles of

116 Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM), as provided in the Philippine Fisheries

117 legislation.

118 **A. VISION.** *Vision describes the future situation of fisheries in 10 years.*

119 **To be crafted during the consultation**

120 Example :

121 “A progressive and resilient Philippine fishery that is sustainably managed using  
122 Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management.”

123 **B. ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN MANAGING FISHING CAPACITY**

124 To be identified/validated in the consultation

125 Possible areas of discussions :

- 126 1) Overcapacity and overfishing
- 127 i. Status of fish stocks
- 128 ii. Inventory of effort/fleet
- 129 2) Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated Fishing (IUUF)
- 130 3) Overlapping Multiple Species and Fleets
- 131 4) Resource Use Competition Due to the Absence of Legal Guidelines on the  
132 Delineation of Municipal Waters
- 133 5) Lack or insufficient safety net to the sectors affected by fishing regulation.

134 **C. THE GOALS & OBJECTIVES OF MANAGING FISHING CAPACITY**

135 The goals are classified into short-term and medium-term. The short-term goal is aimed  
136 to be achieved in 1-2 years while the medium-term is within 3-5 years. Since the  
137 National Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity (NPOA-Fishing Capacity)  
138 will be reviewed and amended after five years, most of the management actions and  
139 benchmarks are aimed to be achieved within five years only. See Annex 2.

140 Goals and Objectives will be crafted during the consultation

141 **D. GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGIES**

142 Principles and strategies shall be validated during the consultation

143 The marine fisheries resources in the country can be generally categorized according to  
144 species group as demersal, small pelagic and oceanic/straddling/highly migratory fish.  
145 The management of fishing capacity include measures to manage number and size of  
146 fishing vessels according to fisheries and relative to these species/group species.

147 As a guiding principle, Reference Points (RP) such as Maximum sustainable Yield (MSY),  
148 Maximum Economic Yield (MEY), Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and Total Allowable Effort  
149 (TAE), or other measurements and indicators as maybe determined in setting up the  
150 target capacity.

151 The RPs that can be considered are Limit Reference Point (LRP) or the level that should  
152 be avoided, which shall be determined by scientists, and the Target Reference Point  
153 (TRP) the level based on multi-objectives of fisheries management with considerations  
154 on conservation and sustainable fish production, food security, and social and economic  
155 conditions of fisherfolks and industry. The TRP shall be a decision by fisheries managers  
156 through the process of consultation with stakeholders.

157 The Amended Fisheries Code also prescribes specific actions in Rule 8.2 when the LRP is  
158 met.

159 Likewise, as indicated in FAO 263, the management of fishing capacity can be taken at  
160 FMA level, however as also provided in Section 2 of the said FAO, the management of  
161 straddling and highly migratory fish stock under the RFMOs shall be considered as  
162 national level.

## 163 E. ASSESSMENT OF FISHING CAPACITY

### 164 1) Inventory of effort / fleet

#### 165 i) Domestic by FMA (Municipal & Commercial)

##### 166 *Municipal*

- 168 • Promote the improvement of the Improve of BoatR coverage and  
169 contents
- 170 • Promote the improvement of the Improve BoatR database system  
171 (access) in collaboration with LGU.

##### 172 *Commercial*

- 173 • Establish historical CFV capacity (vessel and gear type; number  
174 and tonnage)
- 175 • Update on current valid licenses
- 176 • Update of pending applications for renewal
- 177 • Estimate of unlicensed vessels
- 178 • Validation of vessel size (Re-admeasurements)

#### 179 ii) Distant water

##### 180 *Other coastal states*

##### 181 *High seas*

- 182 • Establish historical CFV capacity (vessel and gear type; number  
183 and tonnage)
- 184 • Update on current valid licenses
- 185 • Update of pending applications for renewal
- 186 • Estimate of unlicensed vessels

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- 188 2) **Establish Harvest Strategies/Management Procedure (Reference Points**  
189 **(RPs) & Harvest Control Rules (HCRs))**
- 190 *i) Tropical tunas/highly migratory and straddling fish stocks at various*  
191 *scale*
- 192 • Western and Central Pacific Ocean
  - 193 • National
  - 194 • Fisheries Management Areas (FMA)
- 195 *ii) Small Pelagic*
- 196 • Fisheries Management Areas (FMA)
- 197 *iii) Demersal*
- 198 • Fisheries Management Areas (FMA)
  - 199 • Sub/FMAs

200 **3) Establish Reference Points and Harvest Control Rules**  
201

202 **F. MANAGEMENT OF CAPACITY FOLLOWING FMA FRAMEWORK (FMA-based**  
203 **licensing)**  
204

205 **1) Tropical Tuna and other Highly Migratory and Straddling Fish Stocks**  
206 **(National Level). These stocks which are under RFMOs shall be manage according**  
207 **to scale as follows:**  
208

209 *i) Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) –the management measures*  
210 *shall be based on the harvest strategies, Reference Points (RPs), and*  
211 *Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) promulgated by the Western and Central*  
212 *Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), Indian Ocean Tuna Commission*  
213 *(IOTC) and International Convention Conservation of Atlantic Tuna*  
214 *(ICCAT).*  
215

216 *ii) National-* the stocks shall be manage at the National level consistent with  
217 the Section 2 of FAO 263 s. 2019. Consequently, in managing the capacity  
218 at national level, the national interest shall be considered subject to the  
219 agreed allocations or limits (Harvest strategies and Harvest Control Rules)  
220 as provided in the Conservation and Management Measures  
221 (CMMs)/Resolutions of relevant Regional Fisheries Management  
222 Organization (RFMOs) in the following areas:  
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- 224 • Beyond National jurisdictions (High Seas and other coastal states)
- 225 • Philippine Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)
- 226 • Archipelagic, Territorial Seas and Municipal Waters
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228 For this purpose, the RPs and HCRs of the above areas shall be based on the agreed  
 229 allocations or limits (Harvest strategies and HCRs), and NSAP assessment.

230 **2) Small pelagic (FMA level)**

- 231 • FMA SAG Review and recommend RPs and HCRs
- 232 • FMA MB Formulate and adopt relevant HCMs
- 233 • Implement at FMA/Municipal level.

234 **3) Demersal by (FMA/Sub-FMA level)**

- 235 • FMA/Sub-FMA SAG Review and recommend RPs and HCRs
- 236 • FMA/Sub-FMA MB Formulate and adopt relevant HCMs
- 237 • Implement at FMA/Sub-FMA/Municipal level.

238 **VI. ISSUES, OBJECTIVES, BENCHMARKS, MANAGEMENT ACTIONS AND TIMELINE**

239  
 240 Table 1. The issues, objectives, benchmarks and management actions in managing fishing capacity  
 241 including the timeline

ISSUES	OBJECTIVES	BENCHMARKS	MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	TIMELINES
<p>Example</p> <p>Overcapacity and overfishing</p>	<p>Example</p> <p>Adopt a national Harvest Strategy (RPs); Establish a target fishing capacity by end of 2023</p> <p>-Interim tropical tuna HS by end of 2023</p> <p>-Small pelagics, ___% of FMAs by 2023 ___% in 3 yrs, 100% in 5 yrs.</p> <p>-Demersal, ____, ___% of FMAs by 2023 ___% in 3</p>		<p>Example</p> <p>1) Establish &amp; adopt status of major fish stocks</p> <p>2) Establish and adopt current level of effort</p> <p>3) Adopt measures/limits for tropical tunas by fisheries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Purse seine/ ringnet</li> <li>- Longline</li> <li>- Handline (large fish)</li> <li>- Hook &amp; line</li> </ul> <p>4) Determine target fishing capacity and adopt measu :</p> <p>4) mplement measure to manage fishing capacity at target fi</p>	<p>Example</p> <p>End of 2022</p> <p>End of 2022</p>

	yrs, 100% in 5 yrs.		Conduct inventory by fleet/gear @ national, @ FMA@Region@LGU	
Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUUF)				
Overlapping Multiple Species and Fleets				
Resource Use Competition				
Lack or insufficient safety net				

242 **VII. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN**

243 The monitoring and evaluation strategies are based on short-term and medium-term goals. The  
 244 identified methods include assessment, survey, reporting, and stakeholder consultation.  
 245 Moreover, the determined frequency of monitoring is yearly. The goals and objectives are only  
 246 limited to five years to give just enough time to evaluate their strength and weaknesses and  
 247 possible amendment or revision of the plan if there is a need to do so.

248 Table 2. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

INDICATOR	MONITORING FREQUENCY	MONITORING METHOD	EVALUATION (NOTES ON PROGRESS)

249 **VIII. COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION STRATEGY/PLAN**

250 Communication and information strategy/plan will be drafted during the consultation



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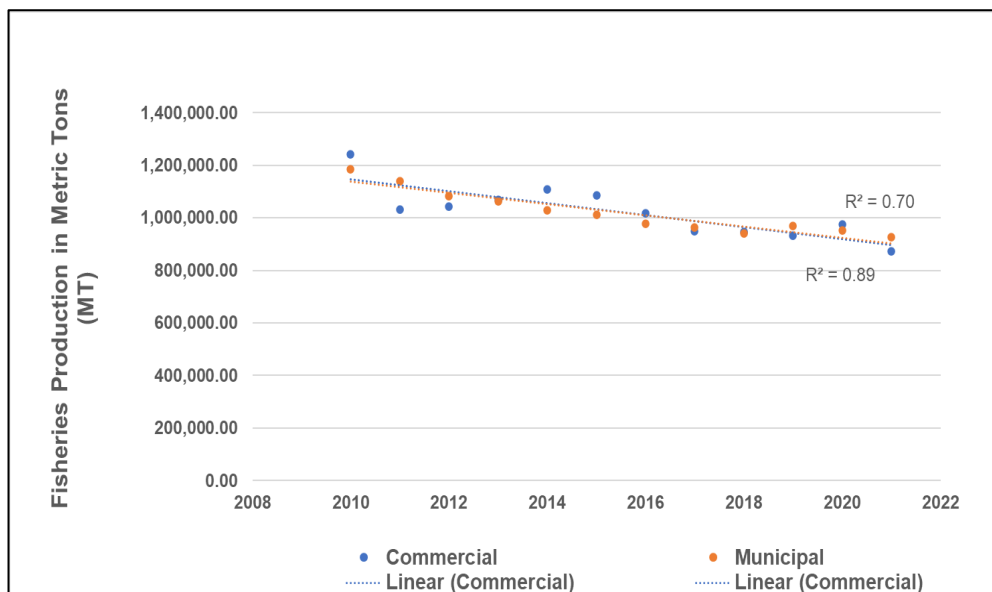
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333 X. ANNEXES



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335 Annex 1. The trend of marine fisheries production from CY 2010 to 2021 in the Philippines (PSA  
 336 2022).  
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338 Annex 2. The goal in managing fishing capacity.

Time Frame	Goals
Short-term (1 year)	A harmonized fishing capacity management system that is comprehensive, reliable, and responsive.
Medium-term (2-5 years)	A slowly recovering fishery that is managed using science-based information and participatory governance.

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340 Annex 3. Current Measures To Regulate Fishing Capacity

341 A. GENERAL

342 The following are the current measures to regulate the fishing capacity:

- 343 1. **FAO 263 s. 2019.** Establishment of Fisheries Management Areas (FMA) for the Conservation  
 344 and Management of Fisheries in Philippine Waters.

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- **Section 12.** FMA Management System, Reference Points (RPs), Harvest Control Rules (HCRs). In establishing a management system, RPs, and HCRs for the FMA, the MB may consider established management models, among others for example Framework for Integrated Stock and Habitat Evaluation (FISHE), Harvest Strategies (HS), and Management Procedures (MP), depending on the best available scientific data and needs of the FMA.
2. **FAO 244 s. 2012.** National Tuna Fish Aggregating Device (FAD) Management Policy
  3. **FAO 201 s. 2000.** Ban on fishing with active gear in municipal waters, bays and Fishery Management Areas
  4. **Republic Act No. 10654.** The Philippines Fisheries Code of 1998 as amended by Republic Act No. 10654, entitled “An Act to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing.”
    - *Sec. 7. Access to Fishery Resources.* The Department of Agriculture shall issue such number of licenses and permits for the conduct of fishery activities subject to harvest control rules and reference points as determined by scientific studies or best available evidence. Preference shall be given to resource users in the local communities adjacent or nearest to the municipal waters.
    - *SEC. 8. Harvest Control Rules and Reference Points.* The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture may establish reference points and harvest control rules in a fishery management area or for a fishery: *Provided, however,* That in municipal waters and fishery management areas, and waters under the jurisdiction of special agencies, Harvest Control Rules and Reference Points may be established upon the concurrence and approval or recommendation of such special agency and the concerned LGU in consultation with the FARMC for conservation or ecological purposes.
    - *Chapter VI. Prohibitions and Penalties.*
      - *Sec. 86. Unauthorized Fishing.* (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to capture or gather or to cause the capture or gathering of fish, fry or fingerlings of any fishery species or fishery products without license or permit from the Department or LGU. Except in cases specified under this Code, it shall also be unlawful for any commercial fishing vessel to fish in municipal waters. (b) It shall be unlawful for any person not listed in the registry of municipal fisherfolk to engage in any commercial fishing activity in municipal waters.

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- *Sec. 89. Unreported Fishing.* It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in unreported fishing or to fail to comply with the reportorial requirements in Section 38 (commercial fishing vessels shall keep a daily record of fish catch and spoilage, landing points, and quantity and value) of this Code.
  - *Sec. 90. Unregulated Fishing.* It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in unregulated fishing in waters within and beyond national jurisdiction.
  - *Sec. 93. Use of Fine Mesh Net.* It shall be unlawful to engage in fishing using nets with mesh smaller than that which may be determined by the Department: *Provided,* That the prohibition on the use of fine mesh net shall not apply to the gathering of fry, glass eels, elvers, tabios, and *alamang* and other species that by their nature are small but already mature, as identified in the implementing rules and regulations by the Department of Agriculture.
  - *Sec. 94. Fishing in Overexploited Fishery Management Areas.* It shall be unlawful for any person to fish in fishery management areas declared as overexploited.
  - *Section 97. Ban on Muro-ami, Other Methods and Gear Destructive to Coral Reefs and Other Marine Habitat.* It shall be unlawful for any person, natural or juridical, to fish with gear or method that destroys coral reefs, seagrass beds, and other fishery marine life habitat as may be determined by the Department. 'Muro-ami' and any of its variation, and such similar gears and methods that require diving, other physical or mechanical acts to pound the coral reefs and other habitat to entrap, gather or catch fish and other fishery species are also prohibited.
  - *Sec. 100. Fishing During Closed Season.* It shall be unlawful to fish during closed season.
  - *Sec. 101. Fishing in Marine Protected Areas, Fishery Reserves, Refuge and Sanctuaries.* It shall be unlawful to fish in marine protected areas, fishery reserves, refuge, or fish sanctuaries as declared by the Department or the LGUs.
  - *Sec. 106. Violation of Harvest Control Rules.* It shall be unlawful for any person to fish in violation of harvest control rules as determined by the Department.
  - *Sec. 119. Noncompliance with Vessel Monitoring Measures.* No municipal, commercial or distant water fishing vessel shall engage in fishing activity without complying with the vessel monitoring measures promulgated by

436 the Department in coordination with the LGUs: *Provided*, that for vessels  
437 operating in Philippine waters, only the catcher vessel shall be covered  
438 by this requirement. It shall also be unlawful to intentionally tamper with,  
439 switch off or disable the vessel monitoring system.  
440

## 441 B. COMMERCIAL

442

- 443 1. **FAO 266 s. 2020.** Rules and regulations on the implementation of Vessel Monitoring  
444 Measures (VMM) and Electronic Reporting System (ERS) for commercial Philippine  
445 flagged fishing vessel amending FAO 260 series of 2018.  
446
- 447 2. **BFAR Administrative Circular (BAC) No. 255 s. 2014.** Closed-season for the  
448 conservation of Sardines in East Sulu Sea, Basilan Strait, Sibuguey Bay.  
449
- 450 3. **DA-DILG JAO No. 1 s. 2015.** Closed fishing season for galunggong in Northeastern  
451 Palawan.  
452
- 453 4. **FAO 167-3 s. 2013.** Visayan Sea Closed season  
454
- 455 5. **DA-DILG JAO No. 2 s. 2014.** Establishing a Closed Season for the Conservation of Small  
456 Pelagic in Davao Gulf  
457
- 458 6. **BFAR Administrative Circular (BAC) No. 253-1 s. 2018.** Moratorium on the Issuance  
459 of Commercial Fishing Vessel and Gear License and Other Clearances  
460
- 461 7. **FAO 246-1 s. 2018.** Amending FAO No. 246 on the Banning of the operation of Danish  
462 Seine and Modified Danish Seine in Philippine Waters  
463
- 464 8. **FAO 245-4 s. 2018.** Regulations and Implementing Guidelines on Group Tuna Purse  
465 Seine Operations in High Seas Pocket Number 1 as a Special Management Area  
466  
467 *Section 2. Scope and Application.* The Administrative Order covers the 36  
468 Philippine registered traditional group seine fishing vessels granted access to  
469 the HSP1-SMA, having gross tonnage of not more than 250 GT issued with the  
470 International Fishing Permits, and listed in the WCPFC record of fishing  
471 vessels.
- 472 9. **FAO 236-3 s. 2014.** Extension of FAO 236-2 Series of 2013 on the Rules and Regulations  
473 on the Operation of Purse Seine and Ring Net Vessels Using Fish Aggregating Devices  
474 (FADs) locally known as Payaos during the FAD Closure Period as Compatible Measures  
475 to WCPFC CMM 2013-01.  
476
- 477 10. **FAO 232 s. 2010.** Limiting Commercial Fishing in Manila Bay  
478
- 479 11. **FAO 198-1 s. 2018.** Amended Rules and Regulations on Registration and Licensing of  
480 Commercial Fishing Vessels, Fishing Gears and Fish workers.  
481

482 12. **Republic Act No. 10654.** The Philippines Fisheries Code of 1998 as amended by Republic  
483 Act No. 10654, entitled "An Act to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and  
484 Unregulated Fishing."

485 *Rule 95.2. Exceptions.* Active gears such as purse seine or "pangulong", ring net  
486 or "taksay" and such other gears that do not touch the sea bottom, used by  
487 small and medium commercial fishing vessels authorized by the LGU pursuant  
488 to Section 18 of this Code and pertinent rules,<sup>3</sup> to fish in the 10.1 to 15 km. of  
489 municipal waters only, as reckoned from the general coastline.

490 13. **FAO 237 s. 2010.** Regulations Requiring the Installment of Juvenile and Trash fish  
491 Excluder Device (JTED) in Trawls in Philippine Waters.

492  
493 **C. MUNICIPAL**

494  
495 b) **Republic Act No. 10654.** The Philippines Fisheries Code of 1998 as amended by  
496 Republic Act No. 10654, entitled "An Act to Prevent, Deter, and Eliminate Illegal,  
497 Unreported and Unregulated Fishing."

498  
499 *Sec. 95. Use of Active Gear in Municipal Waters, Bays and Other Fishery Management*  
500 *Areas.* It shall be unlawful to engage in fishing in municipal waters and in all bays as  
501 well as other fishery management areas using active fishing gears as defined in this  
502 Code.

503 • *Rule 4.1. Additional Terms.* Drift gillnet as provided for in Item 45 (a) of  
504 Section 4, refers to a large-scale drift gill net which is more than 500 meters  
505 in length and has an impact on the by-catch of threatened, protected and  
506 endangered species.

507  
508 • *Rule 95.2. Exceptions.*

509  
510 ○ Gill nets, other than bottom-set gill nets, not more than 500  
511 meters in length per boat used by registered municipal  
512 fisherfolk, which shall be regulated by the LGU.

513  
514 ○ "Sudsud" or push net used to catch *Acetes* sp. "alamang" and  
515 *Stolephorus* sp. "dilis," which is operated by a registered  
516 municipal fisherfolk/fisherfolk cooperative/association,  
517 either manually or by the use of a registered and licensed  
518 municipal motorized boat with single piston engine of not  
519 more than sixteen (16) horsepower, during approved fishing  
520 season for the species, and covered by a management plan  
521 duly approved by the LGU.

522 *Sec. 19. Registry of Municipal Fisherfolk.* The LGU shall maintain a registry of municipal  
523 fisherfolk, who are fishing or may desire to fish in municipal waters for the purpose  
524 of determining priorities among them, of limiting entry into the municipal waters, and  
525 of monitoring fishing activities and/or other related purposes. Likewise, the LGU shall

526 maintain a registry of municipal fishing vessels by type of gear and other boat  
527 particular with the assistance of the FARMC.

528 • *Rule 19.1. National Registration Program.* The DA-BFAR, in coordination with  
529 the M/CFARMC, shall continue to assist the LGUs in implementing the  
530 national program for the registration of municipal fishing vessels, gears,  
531 fisherfolk, and fishery operators.

532  
533 ○ Development of database on fishers and fishing boats (FishR  
534 and BoatR). FishR database is designed for municipal fisherfolk  
535 registry while BoatR database is designed for municipal fishing  
536 vessels and gear registration system.

537  
538 c) **DA-DILG Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) No. 03, 2018.** Guidelines on  
539 Strengthening the Implementation of the Ban on Bottom Trawl Operations Within  
540 Municipal Waters.

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