

**DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER
NO. 54**

SUBJECT: Establishment of a National Bird Banding Scheme

Pursuant to the provisions of the 1986 Constitution Articles II and XII, Sections 16 and 2, respectively, and Executive Order No. 192 dated 30 January 1987, and in line with the sustainable resource development policy of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, and to effectively protect the endangered, rare and threatened wildlife species, a National Bird Banding Scheme is hereby established.

Section 1. General Policy – To achieve the national objectives of conservation, preservation, protection and management of our natural resources, a bird banding scheme is hereby established in order to protect endangered species especially of migratory birds and to base the case for the conservation of wetlands specially those important as waterfowl habitats.

Section 2. Objectives – The objectives of the scheme are:

- 2.1 To coordinate bird banding activities in the country;
- 2.2 To promote conservation of migratory birds and their habitats;
- 2.3 To enter into and promote international cooperation in the protection and conservation of migratory birds;
- 2.4 To monitor species composition, age structure, migration routes of migrating birds; and
- 2.5 To formulate conservation methods and strategies needed to safeguard and enhance migratory bird populations.

Section 3. Participants – The Department of Environment and Natural Resources is designating the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau, the Ecosystem Research and Development Bureau and the DENR Regional Offices as implementing agencies. Non-governmental groups, universities and other agencies, and volunteers are also encouraged to participate.

Section 4. Scheme Administration – The Bird Banding Scheme shall be administered and implemented by National and Regional Committees the composition of which are as follows:

- 4.1 National Committee – The National Committee shall be based at the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau Office. It is tasked with coordinating the activities at the regional offices of the DENR and other non-governmental bird banding groups. The committee shall be composed of:

4.1.1 National coordinator

4.1.2 Assistant coordinator

4.1.3 Researchers

4.1.4 Clerk/Typist

4.2 Regional Committees – The Regional Committees shall be composed of banding officers who shall be assigned in each region and duly authorized by the National Coordinator.

Section 5. Activities of Banding Scheme –

5.1 The National Committee shall undertake the following:

5.1.1 Establish a filing/reference system for banding information;

5.1.2 Develop a registration or licensing system for banders;

5.1.3 Collect and compile all existing information on bird banding in the Philippines including all available records from Migratory Animal Pathological Surveys (MAPS) programme.

5.1.4 Organize/coordinate regular training in the Philippines or overseas on bird banding techniques;

5.1.5 Coordinate funding for bird banding;

5.1.6 Develop procedures for data recording and management;

5.1.7 Undertake or coordinate analysis of banding data and dissemination of results;

5.1.8 Establish links with other banding schemes in the Asia-Pacific region and provide regular information flow.

5.2 The Regional Committee shall undertake the following:

5.2.1 Collect and collate regional bird banding field data.

5.2.2 Encourage the participation of non-governmental groups, universities and other agencies and volunteers in their region of concern.

5.2.3 Coordinate and conduct bird banding activities in their respective regions.

5.2.4 Analyze bird banding data and disseminate results for public conservation education.

Section 6. Technical and other necessary assistance and sources – The National Coordinator shall seek and solicit technical assistance and services from the Asian Wetland Bureau (AWB), University of Malaya Bird Ringing Program, Australia Bird and Bat Ringing Program and other banding organization in the Asia-Pacific Region.

Section 7. Additional Guidelines – The National Coordinator may issue additional rules and regulations, instructions, orders and/or circulars as may be deemed necessary to effectively carry out and implement the objectives.

Section 8. Funding – The Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau shall provide funds to conduct the different activities of the Banding Scheme. An annual appropriation amounting to P100,000.00 shall be included in the Budget Work Plan of the Bureau to effectively carry-out the objectives of the scheme.

Section 9. Effectivity – This Order shall take effect immediately.

FULGENCIO S. FACTORAN, JR.
Secretary

Signed on June 20, 1989