

Memorandum Circular
No. 01
January 29, 1992

SUBJECT : Guidelines in the Monitoring and Evaluation of Reforestation Areas, Enrichment Planting and Timber Stand Improvement by TLA Holders

Sec. 1. Basic Policy. Pursuant to Department Administrative Order No. 79 dated December 28, 1987 and Department Administrative Order No. 63 dated July 13, 1988, as amended, which require Timber License Agreement (TLA) holders to reforest one (1) hectare for every hectare logged and to conduct enrichment planting and Timber Stand Improvement (TSI), the DENR hereby adopts these guidelines in order to determine the level of compliance by the TLAs.

Using the basic principles of Inspection Chart Maps (ICM), non-government organizations (NGOs) shall be contracted to conduct the evaluation of areas reforested by TLA holders. However, because of prohibitive cost of conducting a 100% counting using ICM, and in order to arrive at a more realistic result than in simple random sampling, systematic sampling method using 20% intensity shall be adopted in the evaluation.

Sec. 2. Contract for Evaluation. The evaluation of TLA reforestation areas shall be undertaken by accredited non-government organizations which the DENR regional offices have considered and ascertained to possess the integrity credibility and technical competence in carrying out previous monitoring and evaluation projects using ICM (copy of the Contract attached as Appendix A). To ensure check and balance in the evaluation, representatives from DENR Central and Regional Offices and from the TLA holders whose reforestation is being evaluated shall join the NGO in the field inspection. The NGO shall record its findings in the ICMs. The representatives of DENR and TLA holder may also prepare a separate report, especially in cases where these parties disagree with the findings of the NGO.

As a general rule, disputes should be settled through conference with the parties involved in the evaluation process. An actual field check may be done in order to justify the issue/s against the report of the NGO.

Sec. 3. Activities in Undertaking Systematic Sampling. The NGOs shall be guided by the following steps in doing systematic sampling:

1. Subdivision of the reforestation project area into 200- by 500-meter blocks with the longer side on the north-south direction and the shorter side on the east-west direction. Each block corner should be marked with a properly labelled post.
2. Identification of the first five strips. These strips shall be assigned numbers 1 to 5. Draw randomly a number out of the five.
3. The number drawn will be located on the ground. This strip will be considered the first strip and it is where the inspector starts. If # 3 was drawn, it is the strip number 3 where the inspector begins counting the seedlings.
4. After completing the "first strip", the inspector will proceed to the "fifth strip" and to every fifth strip thereafter. Thus after completing strip # 3, the inspector will proceed to strip # 8 and then to strip # 13, etc.
5. The NGOs must have a recording system in the course of the evaluation which can be transferred later to the ICM. In transferring the data, the relative locations of the strip must always be considered. Hence, strip 3 on the ground shall be recorded to the third strip in the ICM and so on.
6. Permanent structures and non-plantable areas shall also be reflected in the ICM.

The same method applies in TLA areas where reforestation is not confined to just one site.

Sec. 4. The Evaluation Schedule by NGOs. Evaluation shall be conducted immediately upon signing of the contract in accordance with the approved work and financial plan (Annex "A").

Sec. 5. Computation of Survival Rate. The computation of survival rate using systematic sampling is shown in **Appendix "B"** of this Memorandum Circular.

Sec. 6. Monitoring of Previous Reforested Area. The representatives from the DENR and TLA shall monitor the reforested/planted area since 1989 up to 1990. Report of findings shall be submitted to the DENR Secretary through the Forest Management Bureau Director.

Sec. 7. Evaluation of Enrichment Planting and TSI. In order to determine compliance of the afforested activities, the representatives from the DENR and TLA shall monitor/evaluate the enrichment planting and timber stand improvement of the TLA holders based from their annual goal. The evaluation procedures are as follows:

The team shall secure a map of the TLA and determine the locations of the TSI areas for CY 1991. In determining the extent of the area treated, the formula below shall be used at 5% intensity:

$$T = Lb \times Ls$$

where: T = Treated area

Lb = Length of baseline

Ls = Total average of length of strips.

The treatment applied shall also be indicated whether by girdling, cutting of vines, thinning, etc. In enrichment planting, the team shall see to it that log landings, logging set-ups such as cableways, etc. abandoned kaingin and all other open areas less than five (5) hectares were being enriched by the TLA concerned. The team shall indicate in the map the location/locations of these areas enriched and the species planted. They shall determine the area of enrichment planting by random sampling using 5% intensity. Each sample plot shall be measured 10m x 250m or 250 m². For every sample plot, observations shall be indicated such as condition of seedlings planted, area brushed/weeded, spacing, site preparation, etc.

Sec. 8. Schedule of Payment and Fund Source. The contractor shall be entitled to the payment of a mobilization cost of 15% of the total contract cost, to be disbursed in full upon execution of the contract. The full contract payment shall be made upon submission of the complete evaluation report.

Funds for this purpose shall be withdrawn from the interest of the Reforestation Trust Fund deposited by TLA holders.

Sec. 9. Performance Bond. The Contractor shall be required to post performance bond equivalent to 15% of the total contract cost. This bond shall be posted in favor of the DENR issued by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) callable on demand in order to guarantee the faithful performance of the contractor. It shall be released to the contractor upon acceptance of the contracted services or project.

Sec. 10. Progress Reports. All reports shall be submitted to the Secretary through the FMB Director upon completion of the evaluation. The outline of the report is herein attached as Annex "B-1" and "B-2" of the contract for M & E.

Sec. 11. Repealing Clause. This Order revises or amends all existing forestry rules and regulations which are inconsistent herewith.

Sec. 12. Effectivity. This Circular takes effect immediately.

FULGENCIO S. FACTORAN, JR.
Secretary