

DENR Memorandum Circular

No. 96 - 02

February 09, 1996

SUBJECT : Interim Guidelines Governing the Issuance of “Muyong” Resources Permit” in the Province of Ifugao.

1. DENR recognizes the significant role of the Indigenous communities in the Cordilleras are playing in preserving their “muyong” for livelihood, biodiversity conservation and as bufferzones against destructive human intrusions in the uplands.
2. In line with the Social Reform Agenda and the Sustainable Community-based Resources Management Program of DENR, the following guidelines on the issuance of Muyong Resources Permit (MRP) in Ifugao Province are hereby prescribed:

2.1 For purpose of this Order, **muyong** refers to a unique forest conservation practice within a small landholding in the Cordilleras. The indigenous communities because of cultural heritage recognizes the biological and physical significance of muyong for their life sustenance and therefore managed to protect and conserve these areas against destructive human exploitation. The resource extraction and disposition privilege granted to qualified individuals is called **“Muyong Resources Permit” (MRP)**.

2.2 The PENRO upon the recommendation of the CENRO concerned has the authority to issue Muyong Resources Permit (MRP).

2.3 A MRP applicant submits to the CENR Office the following requirements:

2.3.1 Location and size of the muyong and the number and plant/tree species planted within the area.

2.3.2 Certification from the Barangay Captain that the applicant is a resident of the area and practices the traditional muyong conservation technique for the past 20 years.

2.3.3 The raw material requirement of his livelihood project for carving, handicraft, manufacturing, etc. in volume/number.

The CENRO shall extend assistance to each applicant in the preparation of the requirements to be submitted especially, where the latter lack the technical know how.

2.4 Harvesting is subject to the following conditions:

2.4.1 Only the allowable volume/number of species needed as raw material for livelihood projects are allowed to be cut.

2.4.2 The permittee jointly with the CENRO concerned shall be responsible for the maintenance of the Muyong in accordance with customary conservation practices and accepted rules of the DENR.

2.5 Clear cutting of tree species within the area will be prohibited. Pine trees whether planted or naturally grown are to be preserved.

2.6 All resources harvested from the muyong shall be processed into finished products (i.e. carving, ornamental, handicrafts, novelty items, etc.) within the municipality.

2.7 All finished products produced by MRP holders will be allowed to be transported free of forest charges outside the point of origin to all market outlets.

2.8 MRP holders will undertake immediate restoration activities to maintain the original status of the muyongs.

2.9 Random checking/verification and monitoring on all MRP holders will be conducted by the CENRO concerned.

3. This Order takes effect immediately.

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Secretary