



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MATAG-OB

Item No.: **28**

Date: **11.8.2025 NOW**

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte
RECEIVED
BAGONG PILIPINAS
Date: **NOV 11 2025**
By: *[Signature]*

SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte on October 06, 2025.

[Signature]
ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

[Signature]
HON. ARTEMIO T. ALMOROTO
Senior SB Member

[Signature]
HON. JOEL N. DENOY
SB Member

[Signature]
HON. EVANGELINE C. CARNO
SB Member

[Signature]
HON. RICARDO L. GIVA
SB Member

[Signature]
HON. RODOLFO N. SUNIR
SB Member

[Signature]
HON. LUZ M. BOLDERO
SB Member

[Signature]
HON. JOSE B. YAP
SB Member

[Signature]
HON. EDUARDO I. TOLEDO
SB Member

[Signature]
HON. ANA LOVE D. BORDEN
Ex-Officio Member, SK Fed. Pres.

[Signature]
HON. JOEL G. TACOY
Ex-Officio Member, LNB
President

[Signature]
HON. ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
Municipal Vice-Mayor
Presiding Officer

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 15th REGULAR SESSION OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE FOR THE TERM PERIOD COVERED FROM JUNE 30, 2025 TO JUNE 30, 2028 HELD AT THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION HALL ON OCTOBER 06, 2025.

RESOLUTION NO. 25-117
Proponent: Hon. Eduardo I. Toledo

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE DECLARATION OF THE PALOMPON WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE (PWFR) AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT, AND INSTEAD FAVORING ITS DISESTABLISHMENT, INSOFAR AS IT AFFECTS VARIOUS AREAS WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE.

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) conducted a **Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA)** from **August 11–16, 2025**, and subsequently presented the data collected during a **consultation meeting held on October 03, 2025**, at the **2nd Floor, Municipal Hall, Palompon, Leyte**, as part of the process for the proposed declaration of the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) under Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E-NIPAS) Act of 2018;

WHEREAS, part of the PWFR lies within the territorial jurisdiction of Barangays Cambadbad, Sta. Rosa, and Malazarte, all within the territorial jurisdiction of the Municipality of Matag-ob, Province of Leyte, and any declaration affecting these areas directly impacts the rights, responsibilities, and welfare of the local community;

WHEREAS, during the said PASA, key informant interviews revealed that 60.75% of respondents expressed negative responses (either strongly disagreed or disagreed) toward the declaration of PWFR as a protected area, citing fears of relocation, disruption of livelihood, and other socio-economic concerns that could adversely affect the communities already mentioned;





REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF MATAG-OB



SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte on October 06, 2025.

ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

HON. ARTEMIO T. ALMOROTO
Senior SB Member

HON. JOEL N. DENOY
SB Member

HON. EVANGELINE C. CARNO
SB Member

HON. RICARDO L. GIVA
SB Member

HON. RODOLFO N. SUNIR
SB Member

HON. LUZ M. BOLDERO
SB Member

HON. JOSE B. YAP
SB Member

HON. EDUARDO I. TOLEDO
SB Member

HON. ANA LOVE D. BORDEN
Ex-Officio Member, SK Fed. Pres.

HON. JOEL G. TACOY
Ex-Officio Member, LNB
President

HON. ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
Municipal Vice-Mayor
Presiding Officer

WHEREAS, key findings from the data collected through a thorough DENR-led survey during the PASA revealed that the biodiversity within the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) does not meet the ecological and scientific criteria required for protected area designation, in accordance with the standards set forth in BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2016-04;

WHEREAS, the Municipality of Matag-ob is guided by the Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP), which serves as a strategic framework to efficiently and effectively manage forest and forest lands in accordance with the environmental laws of the Republic of the Philippines, thereby reinforcing their shared commitment to responsible land use, sustainable development, and environmental governance;

WHEREAS, the barangays concerned and the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte respectively have enacted ordinances and policies aligned with national environmental regulations, demonstrating proactive governance and commitment to sustainable resource management;

WHEREAS, in collaboration with the Local Government Unit (LGU) of Matag-ob, and the Barangay Local Government Units (BLGUs) of Barangay Cambadbad, Barangay Sta. Rosa, and Barangay Malazarte, initiated and implemented local programs focused on environmental protection, conservation, and rehabilitation, further affirming its capacity for responsible ecological stewardship;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) empowers barangays to protect and manage their local environment and natural resources, and these BLGUs have demonstrated its capability and commitment to environmental stewardship without the need for external designation;

WHEREAS, the declaration of the area as a protected zone may impose restrictions on land use, livelihood activities, and development initiatives that are vital to the socio-economic well-being of the residents;

NOW THEREFORE, the Sangguniang Bayan, on motion of the Honorable Eduardo I. Toledo, with the unanimous accord of all other members present, be it:

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"The Town of United and Happy People"

Res. #25-117

October 06, 2025





SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to EXPRESS STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE DECLARATION OF THE PALOMPON WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE (PWFR) AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT, AND INSTEAD FAVORING ITS DISESTABLISHMENT, INSOFAR AS IT AFFECTS VARIOUS AREAS WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF MATAG-OB, LEYTE.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that based on the ecological assessment and the criteria outlined in BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2016-04, and the interpretation of the Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) key informant interviews, the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) does not meet the required standards for protected area designation, and is therefore not suitable to be declared as a protected area under the NIPAS Act;

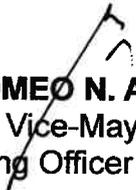
RESOLVED FINALLY, that this resolution be transmitted to the DENR Regional Office, the Municipal Government of Matag-ob, Leyte, the Provincial Government of Leyte, and other relevant agencies for their information and appropriate action;

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true and accurate copy of the resolution duly adopted by the Sangguniang Bayan of Matag-ob, Leyte on October 06, 2025.


ANA MARIA SANORIA-ECIJA
 Secretary to the Sanggunian

**ATTESTED AND CERTIFIED
 TO BE DULY ADOPTED:**


HONORABLE ROMEO N. ALBARIDA
 Municipal Vice-Mayor
 Presiding Officer


HONORABLE BERNARDINO G. TACOY
 Municipal Mayor

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
Municipality of Matag-ob
Barangay Malazarte

BARANGAY RESOLUTION NO. 154
SERIES OF 2025

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE DECLARATION OF THE PALOMPON WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE (PWFR) AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT, AND INSTEAD FAVORING ITS DISESTABLISHMENT, INSOFAR AS IT AFFECTS THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF BARANGAY MALAZARTE, MATAG-OB, LEYTE.

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) conducted a Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) from August 11–16, 2025, and subsequently presented the data collected during a consultation meeting held on October 03, 2025, at the 2nd Floor, Municipal Hall, Palompon, Leyte, as part of the process for the proposed declaration of the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) under Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E-NIPAS) Act of 2018;

WHEREAS, part of the PWFR lies within the territorial jurisdiction of Barangay Malazarte, Municipality of Matag-ob, Province of Leyte, and any declaration affecting this area directly impacts the rights, responsibilities, and welfare of the local community;

WHEREAS, during the said PASA, key informant interviews revealed that 60.75% of respondents expressed negative responses (either strongly disagreed or disagreed) toward the declaration of PWFR as a protected area, citing fears of relocation, disruption of livelihood, and other socio-economic concerns that could adversely affect the community of Barangay Malazarte;

WHEREAS, key findings from the data collected through a thorough DENR-led survey during the PASA revealed that the biodiversity within the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) does not meet the ecological and scientific criteria required for protected area designation, in accordance with the standards set forth in BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2016-04;

WHEREAS, both the Municipality of Matag-ob and Barangay Malazarte are guided by the Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP), which serves as a strategic framework to efficiently and effectively manage forest and forest lands in accordance with the environmental laws of the Republic of the Philippines, thereby reinforcing their shared commitment to responsible land use, sustainable development, and environmental governance;

WHEREAS, both the Municipal Government of Matag-ob and Barangay Malazarte have enacted ordinances and policies aligned with national environmental regulations, demonstrating proactive governance and commitment to sustainable resource management;

WHEREAS, in collaboration with the Local Government Unit (LGU) and the Barangay Local Government Unit (BLGU), Barangay Malazarte has initiated and implemented local programs

focused on environmental protection, conservation, and rehabilitation, further affirming its capacity for responsible ecological stewardship;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) empowers barangays to protect and manage their local environment and natural resources, and the community of Barangay Malazarte has demonstrated its capability and commitment to environmental stewardship without the need for external designation;

WHEREAS, the declaration of the area as a protected zone may impose restrictions on land use, livelihood activities, and development initiatives that are vital to the socio-economic well-being of the residents of Barangay Malazarte;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of Barangay Kagawad Praxedes C. Eguio, duly seconded by Barangay Kagawad Camilo P. Bongbong Jr, be it:

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the Sangguniang Barangay of Malazarte, Matag-ob, Leyte, formally expresses its strong opposition to the proposed declaration of the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve as a protected area under the NIPAS Act;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that based on the ecological assessment and the criteria outlined in BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2016-04, and the interpretation of the Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) key informant interviews, the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) does not meet the required standards for protected area designation, and is therefore not suitable to be declared as a protected area under the NIPAS Act;

RESOLVED FURTHERMORE, that this resolution be transmitted to the DENR Regional Office, the Municipal Government of Matag-ob, the Provincial Government of Leyte, and other relevant agencies for their information and appropriate action;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the Barangay Malazarte reiterates its commitment to sustainable environmental management and calls for recognition of its local autonomy and capacity to protect its natural resources in accordance with law.

Approved unanimously this 04th day of October, 2025 at Barangay Malazarte, Matag-ob, Leyte.

Prepared by:

JUVERIZA B. SAMSON
Brgy. Secretary

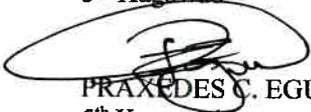
Approved by:


SHERWEN B. NUÑEZ
Punong Barangay

Attested:


MIGUEL E. DAGSAAN
1st Kagawad


LINA L. RAGAS
3rd Kagawad


PRAXEDES C. EGUIO
5th Kagawad


GERALDINE A. FLORES
7th Kagawad


ARMANDO F. NUÑEZ
2nd Kagawad


CAROLINA R. BONGBONG
4th Kagawad


CAMILO P. BONGBONG JR.
6th Kagawad


ALDRINE SOSMEÑA
SK Chairman



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
Municipality of Matag-ob
Barangay Cambadbad

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OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY

**BARANGAY RESOLUTION NO. 024
SERIES OF 2025**

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE DECLARATION OF THE PALOMPON WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE (PWFR) AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT, AND INSTEAD FAVORING ITS DISESTABLISHMENT, INsofar AS IT AFFECTS THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF BARANGAY CAMBADBAD, MATAG-OB, LEYTE.

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) conducted a Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) from August 11–16, 2025, and subsequently presented the data collected during a consultation meeting held on October 03, 2025, at the 2nd Floor, Municipal Hall, Palompon, Leyte, as part of the process for the proposed declaration of the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) under Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E-NIPAS) Act of 2018;

WHEREAS, part of the PWFR lies within the territorial jurisdiction of Barangay Cambadbad, Municipality of Matag-ob, Province of Leyte, and any declaration affecting this area directly impacts the rights, responsibilities, and welfare of the local community;

WHEREAS, during the said PASA, key informant interviews revealed that 60.75% of respondents expressed negative responses (either strongly disagreed or disagreed) toward the declaration of PWFR as a protected area, citing fears of relocation, disruption of livelihood, and other socio-economic concerns that could adversely affect the community of Barangay Cambadbad;

WHEREAS, key findings from the data collected through a thorough DENR-led survey during the PASA revealed that the biodiversity within the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) does not meet the ecological and scientific criteria required for protected area designation, in accordance with the standards set forth in BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2016-04;

WHEREAS, both the Municipality of Matag-ob and Barangay Cambadbad are guided by the Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP), which serves as a strategic framework to efficiently and effectively manage forest and forest lands in accordance with the environmental laws of the Republic of the Philippines, thereby reinforcing their shared commitment to responsible land use, sustainable development, and environmental governance;

WHEREAS, both the Municipal Government of Matag-ob and Barangay Cambadbad have enacted ordinances and policies aligned with national environmental regulations, demonstrating proactive governance and commitment to sustainable resource management;

WHEREAS, in collaboration with the Local Government Unit (LGU) and the Barangay Local Government Unit (BLGU), Barangay Cambadbad has initiated and implemented local programs focused on environmental protection, conservation, and rehabilitation, further affirming its capacity for responsible ecological stewardship;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) empowers barangays to protect and manage their local environment and natural resources, and the community of Barangay Cambadbad has demonstrated its capability and commitment to environmental stewardship without the need for external designation;

WHEREAS, the declaration of the area as a protected zone may impose restrictions on land use, livelihood activities, and development initiatives that are vital to the socio-economic well-being of the residents of Barangay Cambadbad;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of Barangay Kagawad Hon. Jorge D. Flores, duly seconded by Barangay Kagawad Hon. Mark R. Aunzo, be it:

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the Sangguniang Barangay of Cambadbad, Matag-ob, Leyte, formally expresses its strong opposition to the proposed declaration of the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve as a protected area under the NIPAS Act;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that based on the ecological assessment and the criteria outlined in BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2016-04, and the interpretation of the Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) key informant interviews, the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) does not meet the required standards for protected area designation, and is therefore not suitable to be declared as a protected area under the NIPAS Act;

RESOLVED FURTHERMORE, that this resolution be transmitted to the DENR Regional Office, the Municipal Government of Matag-ob, the Provincial Government of Leyte, and other relevant agencies for their information and appropriate action;

RESOLVED FINALLY, that the Barangay Cambadbad reiterates its commitment to sustainable environmental management and calls for recognition of its local autonomy and capacity to protect its natural resources in accordance with law.

Approved unanimously this 6th day of October, 2025 at Barangay Cambadbad, Matag-ob, Leyte.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.


JACKIE T. AUNZO
Barangay Secretary

Approved:

SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY MEMBERS

HON. PATERNO M. SOCO



HON. JORGE D. FLORES



HON. SUSANA D. AUNZO



HON. MARK R. AUNZO



HON. FRANK ANTHONY F. RODRIGUEZ



HON. JESSICA I. BATION
SK Chairperson



Attested:


HON. MAREVIC D. BATION
Punong Barangay



**Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
Municipality of Matag-ob
Barangay Sta. Rosa**

EXCERPTS from the minutes of the Regular Session of Barangay Sta. Rosa, Matag-ob, Leyte at Barangay Hall on October 3, 2025 at 2:00 PM.

**BARANGAY RESOLUTION NO. 07
SERIES OF 2025**

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE DECLARATION OF THE PALOMPON WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE (PWFR) AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT, AND INSTEAD FAVORING ITS DISESTABLISHMENT, INSOFAR AS IT AFFECTS THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF BARANGAY STA. ROSA, MATAG-OB, LEYTE.

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) conducted a Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) from August 11–16, 2025, and subsequently presented the data collected during a consultation meeting held on October 3, 2025 at 8:00 AM, at the 2nd Floor, Municipal Hall, Palompon, Leyte, as part of the process for the proposed declaration of the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) under Republic Act No. 11038, otherwise known as the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E-NIPAS) Act of 2018;

WHEREAS, part of the PWFR lies within the territorial jurisdiction of Barangay Sta. Rosa, Municipality of Matag-ob, Province of Leyte, and any declaration affecting this area directly impacts the rights, responsibilities, and welfare of the local community;

WHEREAS, during the said PASA, key informant interviews revealed that 60.75% of respondents expressed negative responses (either strongly disagreed or disagreed) toward the declaration of PWFR as a protected area, citing fears of relocation, disruption of livelihood, and other socio-economic concerns that could adversely affect the community of Barangay Sta. Rosa;

WHEREAS, key findings from the data collected through a thorough DENR-led survey during the PASA revealed that the biodiversity within the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) does not meet the ecological and scientific criteria required for protected area designation, in accordance with the standards set forth in BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2016-04;

WHEREAS, both the Municipality of Matag-ob and Barangay Sta. Rosa are guided by the Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP), which serves as a strategic framework to efficiently and effectively manage forest and forest lands in accordance with the environmental laws of the Republic of the Philippines, thereby reinforcing their shared commitment to responsible land use, sustainable development, and environmental governance;

WHEREAS, both the Municipal Government of Matag-ob and Barangay Sta. Rosa have enacted ordinances and policies aligned with national environmental regulations, demonstrating proactive governance and commitment to sustainable resource management;

WHEREAS, in collaboration with the Local Government Unit (LGU) and the Barangay Local Government Unit (BLGU), Barangay Sta. Rosa has initiated and implemented local programs **focused on** environmental protection, conservation, and rehabilitation, further affirming its capacity for responsible ecological stewardship;

WHEREAS, the Local Government Code of 1991 (Republic Act No. 7160) empowers barangays to protect and manage their local environment and natural resources, and the community of Barangay Sta. Rosa has demonstrated its capability and commitment to environmental stewardship without the need for external designation;

WHEREAS, the declaration of the area as a protected zone may impose restrictions on land use, livelihood activities, and development initiatives that are vital to the socio-economic well-being of the residents of Barangay Sta. Rosa;

NOW THEREFORE, on motion of Barangay Kagawad Riza B. Entod, duly seconded by Barangay Kagawad Rosalia A. Bandino, be it:

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the Sangguniang Barangay of Sta. Rosa, Matag-ob, Leyte, formally expresses its strong opposition to the proposed declaration of the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve as a protected area under the NIPAS Act;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that based on the ecological assessment and the criteria outlined in BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2016-04, and the interpretation of the Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) key informant interviews, the Palompon Watershed Forest Reserve (PWFR) does not meet the required standards for protected area designation, and is therefore not suitable to be declared as a protected area under the NIPAS Act;

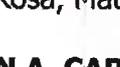
RESOLVED FURTHERMORE, that this resolution be transmitted to the DENR Regional Office, the Municipal Government of Matag-ob, the Provincial Government of Leyte, and other relevant agencies for their information and appropriate action;

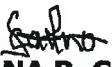
RESOLVED FINALLY, that the Barangay Sta. Rosa reiterates its commitment to sustainable environmental management and calls for recognition of its local autonomy and capacity to protect its natural resources in accordance with law.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.

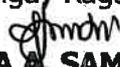

JESSIBEL A. HALAYAHAY
Barangay Secretary

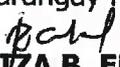
APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Sangguniang Barangay this October 3, 2025 at Barangay Sta. Rosa, Matag-ob, Leyte.


RYAN A. CARNO
Barangay Kagawad

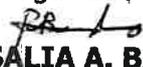

SUSANA B. CARNO
Barangay Kagawad

PEDRO LUBIANO Jr.
Barangay Kagawad


ELMA A. SAMSON
Barangay Kagawad


RIZA B. ENTOD
Barangay Kagawad

MARIBETH G. BONGBONG
Barangay Kagawad


ROSALIA A. BANDINO
Barangay Kagawad


ALEX T. MEJOS
SK Chairperson

Approved by:

ANALIZA V. PANTANO
Punong Barangay