



Republic of the Philippines
Province of Leyte
MUNICIPALITY OF MACARTHUR

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Office of the Sangguniang Bayan

(Page 1 of 4, Resolution No. 2026-106)

Item No.:

21

Date: 25 2026 AUG

Sangguniang Panlalawigan
Province of Leyte

RECEIVED

Date: AUG 18 2026
By: [Signature]

Attested:

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:

RAUL E. MUNDALA
SB Member

IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member

RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member

TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member

VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member

GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member

JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay

RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:

RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 52ND REGULAR SESSION OF
THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN OF MACARTHUR, LEYTE HELD ON 13
JULY 2026 AT THE MUNICIPAL SESSION HALL.

PRESENT:

Honorable Jesus A. Baranda	Vice Mayor, Presiding
Honorable Raul E. Mundala	SB Member
Honorable Ireneo G. Remanes Jr.	SB Member
Honorable Ronald Dominic B. Babante	SB Member
Honorable Trina C. Burawis	SB Member
Honorable Jonathan T. Barquin	SB Member
Honorable Victoriano T. Lazar	SB Member
Honorable Xandrix P. Pantin	SB Member
Honorable Gwendolyn M. Beriso	SB Member
Honorable Jose A. Baranda	Ex-Officio Member
	President, Liga ng mga Barangay
Honorable Ralph Martin P. Egos	Ex-Officio Member
	SKF President

ABSENT: None

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-106

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AND ADOPTING THE PROPOSED MT.
MAHAGNAO - NABURAC- GUMDALITAN - MALAJITA CRITICAL
HABITAT FOR THE PHILIPPINE EAGLE (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*) AND
OTHER WILDLIFE SPECIES, AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR) TO
DECLARE THE AREA AS A CRITICAL HABITAT PURSUANT TO
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9147

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution
declares that the State shall protect and advance the right of the people
to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and
harmony of nature;

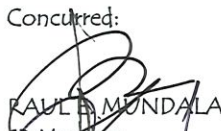
WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local
Government Code of 1991, empowers local government units to

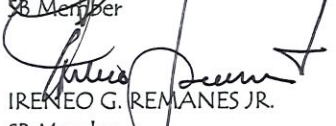
Public Service Above Self

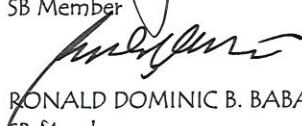
Attested:


JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:


RAUL B. MUNDAYA
SB Member


IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member


RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member


TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

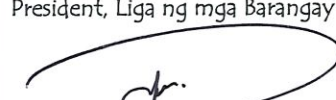

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member


VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

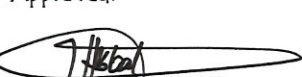

XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member


GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member


JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay


RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

promote ecological balance, conserve natural resources, and protect the environment within their territorial jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9147, otherwise known as the "Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act," provides for the conservation and protection of wildlife resources and their habitats and authorizes the designation of Critical Habitats for threatened wildlife species outside protected areas;

WHEREAS, DENR Memorandum Circular No. 2007-02 defines Critical Habitats as areas outside protected areas established under Republic Act No. 7586, as amended by Republic Act No. 11038, that are known habitats of threatened species and designated based on scientific data taking into consideration species endemicity and/or richness, presence of man-made pressures or threats to the survival of wildlife living in the area, among others;

WHEREAS, Section 25 of Republic Act No. 9147 and DENR Memorandum Circular No. 2007-02 prescribe the procedures for the establishment and management of Critical Habitats, including the authority of Local Government Units to initiate the establishment of Critical Habitats through a Sanggunian Resolution or Ordinance, in coordination with the DENR, after completion of the required rapid biodiversity assessment, habitat evaluation, and stakeholder consultations;

WHEREAS, the proposed Mt. Mahagnao-Naburac-Gumdalitan-Malajita Critical Habitat, with an estimated area of approximately 1,691.96 hectares, is situated within portions of the Municipality of MacArthur, Province of Leyte, and forms part of the Anonang-Lobi Mountain Range Key Biodiversity Area;

WHEREAS, the proposed Critical Habitat forms part of the Philippine Eagle Reintroduction Program in Leyte, wherein monitoring of released Philippine Eagles has demonstrated the ecological importance of the area as suitable habitat contributing to the recovery and long-term conservation of the Critically Endangered Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*);

WHEREAS, surveys and biodiversity assessments conducted by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, together with partner institutions and conservation organizations, confirmed that the proposed Critical Habitat serves as an important habitat for the Critically Endangered Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*), as well as numerous threatened, endemic, and native wildlife species requiring long-term habitat protection;

WHEREAS, the proposed Critical Habitat also functions as an ecological corridor connecting the Mahagnao Volcano Natural Park with adjacent forest ecosystems, thereby maintaining landscape connectivity,

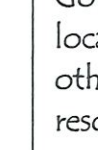
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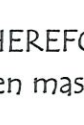

JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

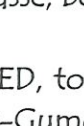
Concurred:


RAUL E. MUNDALA
SB Member

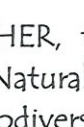

IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member

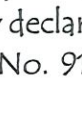

RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
SB Member

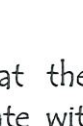

TRINA C. BURAWIS
SB Member

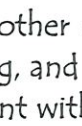

JONATHAN T. BARQUIN
SB Member


VICTORIANO T. LAZAR
SB Member

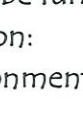

XANDRIX P. PANTIN
SB Member


GWENDOLYN M. BERISO
SB Member


JOSE A. BARANDA
Ex-Officio Member
President, Liga ng mga Barangay


RALPH MARTIN P. EGOS
Ex-Officio Member
SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

watershed integrity, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience within the Municipality of MacArthur and neighboring local government units;

WHEREAS, the Municipal Government of MacArthur recognizes the ecological, economic, cultural, and environmental significance of conserving the remaining natural forests and wildlife habitats within its jurisdiction for the benefit of present and future generations;

WHEREAS, the establishment of the proposed Critical Habitat will strengthen collaborative conservation efforts among the DENR, Local Government Units, Indigenous Cultural Communities where applicable, local communities, academic institutions, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders in the sustainable management of biodiversity resources;

WHEREFORE, on motion of Honorable Gwendolyn M. Beriso seconded by en masse, be it

RESOLVED, to SUPPORT AND ADOPT the proposed Mt. Mahagnao-Naburac-Gumdalitan-Malajita Critical Habitat for the Philippine Eagle and Other Wildlife Species as an official conservation initiative of the Municipality of MacArthur,

RESOLVED FURTHER, to endorse and request the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, through the DENR Regional Office VIII and the Biodiversity Management Bureau, to process the establishment and officially declare the proposed area as a Critical Habitat pursuant to Republic Act No. 9147 and DENR Memorandum Circular No. 2007-02;

RESOLVED FURTHERMORE, that the Municipal Government of MacArthur commits to collaborate with the DENR, Barangay Local Government Units, People's Organizations, Indigenous Peoples, private landowners, academic institutions, and other conservation partners in the protection, management, monitoring, and sustainable conservation of the proposed Critical Habitat consistent with existing environmental laws and policies;

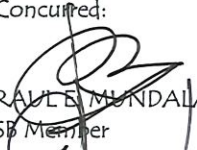
RESOLVED FINALLY, that copies of this Resolution be furnished to the following for their information and appropriate action:

1. Office of the Secretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources;
2. Biodiversity Management Bureau;
3. DENR Regional Office VIII;
4. PENRO Leyte;
5. CENRO Palo;
6. Provincial Government of Leyte;
7. Office of the Municipal Mayor, MacArthur;

Attested:


JESUS A. BARANDA
Municipal Vice Mayor

Concurred:


RAUL E. MUNDALA
SB Member


IRENEO G. REMANES JR.
SB Member


RONALD DOMINIC B. BABANTE
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SKF President

Approved:


RUDIN T. BABANTE
Municipal Mayor

8. Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office, MacArthur
9. Concerned Barangay Local Government Units; and
10. Other concerned government agencies and stakeholders.

Approved unanimously.

I HEREBY CERTIFY to the correctness of the foregoing resolution.


MARIE STEPHANIE DE LA CRUZ- PULGA
Secretary to the Sanggunian