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DENR Administrative Order
No. 2016- 03

Subject: Designation of the Bued River System Water Quality Management Area and Creation of its Governing Board

Pursuant to Section 5 of RA 9275 otherwise known as the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2005-10 or the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 9275, and DENR Memorandum Circular 2009-15 or Procedural Manual for the Designation of Water Quality Management Areas, and considering its critical importance to Baguio City and the towns of Tuba and Itogon in Benguet and its communities, the **Bued River System is hereby designated as a Water Quality Management Area (WQMA).**

SECTION 1. Policy and Objectives. It is the policy of the State to pursue economic growth in a manner consistent with the protection, preservation, and revival of the quality of our fresh, brackish and marine waters. Pursuant to this policy statement, the Bued River System shall be managed, consistent with the following water quality management objectives:

- a) To manage sustainability through stakeholders' engagement in the Bued River and improve its water quality and thereby contribute to the enhancement of Baguio City and its neighbors Tuba and Itogon, in Benguet Province as major tourism destination of the Philippines and for long term support to domestic, agriculture, industries, and fisheries sectors dependent on the river;
- b) To formulate a WQMA program, which recognizes issues that are inherently related or cannot be detached from the concerns on water resources, ecological protection, water supply, public health, and quality of life;
- c) To encourage, support, and mobilize civil society organizations and other sectors such as the academe and businesses engaged in environment-related activities, in efforts to organize and educate people in addressing pertinent environmental issues and problems in the WQMA;
- d) To promote inter-LGU and stakeholder collaboration and cooperation through coordinated efforts in protecting and sustaining acceptable quality of water in the Bued River System; and
- e) To support the current environmental protection initiative and efforts of LGUs and other civil society organizations in the WQMA area.

