



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8854

---

BY REPRESENTATIVE GORRICETA, CASTRO (F.H.), ROA-PUNO, HOFER, ORTEGA (V.N.), PALMA, NOEL, PIMENTEL, SAVELLANO, ROBES, FORTUN, BAGATSING, PADUANO, ABAYON, CAMPOS, SALON, LOPEZ (B.), MATUGAS, BELARO, ACOPI, LIMKAICHONG, TEJADA, LACSON, DURANO, LEACHON, DATOL, MERCADO, TREÑAS, MANGAOANG AND CHAVEZ, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1069

---

AN ACT DECLARING THE BUCARI AREA IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LEON AND ALIMODIAN, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE THE BUCARI ECOTOURISM COUNCIL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

1           SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the  
2 “Bucari Ecotourism Zone Act”.

3           SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the  
4 policy of the State to protect the right of the people to a balanced  
5 and healthful ecology and to promote a viable and sustainable  
6 ecotourism industry in order to attract local and foreign tourists  
7 that will generate employment and investment opportunities for  
8 local communities while ensuring environmental protection and  
9 preservation of the area.

1           Towards this end, fourteen (14) barangays in the Municipality  
2 of Leon and seven (7) adjoining barangays in the Municipality of  
3 Alimodian, Province of Iloilo shall be accorded priority development  
4 as ecotourism zone.

5           SEC. 3. *Technical Description.* – The technical description of  
6 the Bucari Area being declared an ecotourism zone are as follows:

7           1. MBM 39 = corner 40 coordinates, North Latitude =  
8  $10^{\circ}54'45.72''$ , East Longitude =  $122^{\circ}16'12.09''$ , beginning at corner  
9 40=MBM 39 bounded Brgy. Bobon, Leon, CAD 1317-D and  
10 Municipal of Alimodian, PCS-26, bearing  $S.68^{\circ}10'E.$ , with a distance  
11 of 2,753.78 meters and ending at a corner 1=MBM 40.

12           2. MBM 40 = corner 1 coordinates, North Latitude =  
13  $10^{\circ}54'12.60''$ , East Longitude =  $122^{\circ}17'36.35''$ , beginning at corner  
14 1=MBM 40 bounded Brgy. Bobon, Bulwang, Cabunga-an and  
15 Cabulo-an, Leon, CAD 1317-D and Municipal of Alimodian, PCS-26,  
16 bearing  $S.54^{\circ}43'E.$ , with a distance of 3,886.50 meters and ending at  
17 a corner 12=MBM 41.

18           3. MBM 41 = corner 12 coordinates, North Latitude =  
19  $10^{\circ}52'59.78''$ , East Longitude =  $122^{\circ}19'20.99''$ , beginning at corner  
20 12=MBM 41 bounded Brgy. Cabulo-an, Lampaya and Banagan,  
21 Leon, CAD 1317-D and Municipal of Alimodian, PCS-26, bearing  
22  $S.77^{\circ}22'E.$ , with a distance of 3,040.49 meters and ending at a  
23 corner 82=MBM 42.

24           4. MBM 42 = corner 82 coordinates, North Latitude =  
25  $10^{\circ}52'38.35''$ , East Longitude =  $122^{\circ}20'58.73''$ , beginning at corner  
26 82=MBM 42 bounded Brgy. Banagan, Leon, CAD 1317-D and

1 Municipal of Alimodian, PCS-26, bearing  $S.54^{\circ}15'E.$ , with a distance  
2 of 918.84 meters and ending at a corner 1=MBM 43.

3 5. MBM 43 = corner 1 coordinates, North Latitude =  
4  $10^{\circ}52'20.93''$ , East Longitude =  $122^{\circ}21'23.32''$ , beginning at corner  
5 1=MBM 43 bounded Brgy. Banagan and Ticuan, Leon, CAD 1317-D  
6 and Brgy. Cunsad, Alimodian, PCS-26, bearing  $S.31^{\circ}48'E.$ , with a  
7 distance of 1,495.06 meters and ending at a corner 61=MBM 44.

8 6. MBM 44 = corner 61 coordinates, North Latitude =  
9  $10^{\circ}51'39.63''$ , East Longitude =  $122^{\circ}21'49.34''$ , beginning at corner  
10 61=MBM 44 bounded Brgy. Ticuan, Leon, CAD 1317-D and Brgy.  
11 Cunsad and Abang-Abano, Alimodian, PCS-26, bearing  $S.49^{\circ}18'E.$ ,  
12 with a distance of 690.34 meters and ending at a corner  
13 62=MBM 45.

14 7. MBM 45 = corner 62 coordinates, North Latitude =  
15  $10^{\circ}51'25.01''$ , East Longitude =  $122^{\circ}22'6.61''$ , beginning at corner  
16 62=MBM 45 bounded Brgy. Ticuan, Leon, CAD 1317-D and Brgy.  
17 Abang-Abano and Bangko, Alimodian, PCS-26, bearing  $S.03^{\circ}19'W.$ ,  
18 with a distance of 475.56 meters and ending at a corner  
19 63=MBM 46.

20 8. Stake 4 = corner 2 coordinates, North Latitude =  
21  $10^{\circ}53'58.62''$ , East Longitude =  $122^{\circ}15'43.32''$ , beginning at corner  
22 2=Stake 4 bounded Brgy. Camandag and Bobon, Leon CAD. 1317-D,  
23 bearing  $S.80^{\circ}27'E.$ , 3,416.59 meters, to corner 9=BBM 15.

24 9. BBM 15 = corner 9 coordinates, North Latitude =  
25  $10^{\circ}46'1.52''$ , East Longitude =  $122^{\circ}24'11.44''$ , beginning at corner  
26 9=BBM 15 bounded Brgy. Camandag and Bobon, Leon CAD.  
27 1317-D, bearing  $N.60^{\circ}30'E.$ , 744.11 meters, to corner 33=BBM 13.

- 1           10. BBM 13 = corner 33 coordinates, North Latitude =  
2   10°53'52.41", East Longitude = 122°14'55.61", beginning at corner  
3   33=BBM 13 bounded Brgy. Camandag and Bobon, Leon CAD.  
4   1317-D, bearing S.33°09'E., 197.72 meters, to corner 40=BBM 14.
- 5           11. BBM 14 = corner 40 coordinates, North Latitude =  
6   10°46'16.27", East Longitude = 122°24'12.01", beginning at corner  
7   40=BBM 14 bounded Brgy. Camandag and Bulwang, Leon CAD.  
8   1317-D, bearing S.24°53'W., 944.44 meters, to corner 59=BBM 16.
- 9           12. BBM 16 = corner 59 coordinates, North Latitude =  
10  10°45'38.06", East Longitude = 122°24'15.87", beginning at corner  
11  59-BBM 16 bounded Brgy. Camandag and Bulwang, Leon CAD.  
12  1317-D, bearing S.36°45'E., 247.18 meters, to corner 71=BBM 130.
- 13          13. BBM 130 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°53'12.68", East  
14  Longitude = 122°17'51.05", beginning at BBM 130 bounded Brgy.  
15  Camandag and Bulwang, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing S.22°15'W.,  
16  758.37 meters, to corner BBM 131.
- 17          14. BBM 131 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°52'49.81", East  
18  Longitude = 122°17'41.65", beginning at BBM 131 bounded Brgy.  
19  Camandag, Bulwang, and Bacolod, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing  
20  S.42°31'W., 395.63 meters, to corner BBM 109.
- 21          15. BBM 109 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°52'49.81", East  
22  Longitude = 122°17'41.65", beginning at BBM 109 bounded Brgy.  
23  Camandag, Bucari, and Bacolod, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing  
24  S.47°25'E., 480.65 meters, to corner BBM125.
- 25          16. BBM 125 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°52'29.74", East  
26  Longitude = 122°17'44.54", beginning at BBM 125 bounded Brgy.

- 1 Bucari, and Bacolod, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing S.23°26'E., 330.99  
2 meters, to corner BBM 124.
- 3 17. BBM 124 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°52'19.87", East  
4 Longitude = 122°17'48.90", beginning at BBM 124 bounded Brgy.  
5 Bucari, Mali-ao, and Bacolod, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing  
6 S.70°03'E., 1,298.71 meters, to corner BBM 110.
- 7 18. BBM 123 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°51'49.33", East  
8 Longitude = 122°17'20.73", beginning at BBM 123 bounded Brgy.  
9 Bucari, and Cagay, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing N.86°31'E., 570.31  
10 meters, to corner BBM 122.
- 11 19. BBM 122 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°51'50.50", East  
12 Longitude = 122°17'39.47", beginning at BBM 122 bounded Brgy.  
13 Bucari, and Cagay, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing S.50°30'E., 1,884.71  
14 meters, to corner BBM 66.
- 15 20. BBM 117 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°51'59.75", East  
16 Longitude = 122°17'13.85", beginning at BBM 117 bounded Brgy.  
17 Ingay, Danao and Cagay, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing N.07°57'E.,  
18 1,537.62 meters, to corner BBM 123.
- 19 21. BBM 118 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°50'50.73", East  
20 Longitude = 122°17'10.16", beginning at BBM 118 bounded Brgy.  
21 Ingay, Danao, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing N.22°08'E., 298.94  
22 meters, to corner BBM 117.
- 23 22. BBM 133 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°53'11.53", East  
24 Longitude = 122°18'55.19", beginning at BBM 133 bounded Brgy.  
25 Cabunga-an, Cabuloan and Mali-ao, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing  
26 S.28°12'E., 1,044.69 meters, to corner BBM 132.

1           23. BBM 108 coordinates, North Latitude = 10°52'16.11", East  
2     Longitude = 122°19'35.50", beginning at BBM 108 bounded Brgy.  
3     Lampaya, Tunguan and Mali-ao, Leon CAD. 1317-D, bearing  
4     S.56°02'E., 846.20 meters, to corner BBM 105.

5           SEC. 4. *Ecotourism Zone.* – The Bucari Area, consisting of  
6     fourteen (14) barangays in the Municipality of Leon, namely:  
7     Bobon, Bucari, Bulwang, Camandag, Cabunga-an, Caboloan,  
8     Bacolod, Lampaya, Maliao, Danao, Cagay, Inggay, Tagsing and  
9     Igcadios; and seven (7) barangays in the Municipality of Alimodian  
10    namely: Uminggan, Lico, Dao, Cabacanan Rizal, Cabacanan Proper,  
11    Manasa and Tabug, in the Province of Iloilo, is declared an  
12    ecotourism zone, to be known as the Bucari Ecotourism Zone. The  
13    Ecotourism Development Plan for the Bucari Ecotourism Zone shall  
14    be incorporated in the overall National Tourism Development Plan  
15    of the Department of Tourism (DOT) pursuant to Republic Act  
16    No. 9593, otherwise known as the "Tourism Act of 2009", and shall  
17    be jointly implemented by the municipalities of Leon and Alimodian  
18    and the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority  
19    (TIEZA).

20           The Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
21    (DENR), in coordination with the TIEZA and the municipalities of  
22    Leon and Alimodian, shall delineate well-defined geographic areas  
23    within the Bucari Ecotourism Zone and coordinate the integrated  
24    development of the area for the optimum use of its natural assets  
25    and attractions. The development shall ensure the preservation of  
26    the flora and fauna and perpetuate the historic significance of the  
27    identified tourist attractions.

1           SEC. 5. *Ecotourism Council.* – An ecotourism council, to be  
2 known as the Bucari Ecotourism Council, herein referred to as the  
3 Council, shall be created, which shall be composed of the following  
4 members:

5           (a) The Governor of Iloilo or a duly authorized representative,  
6 as Chairperson;

7           (b) The Congressman of the 2<sup>nd</sup> District of Iloilo or a duly  
8 authorized representative, as Co-Chairperson;

9           (c) The DOT Regional Director for Region VI, as  
10 Vice Chairperson

11           (d) The DENR Regional Director for Region VI, as  
12 Co-Vice Chairperson

13           (e) The Mayor of the Municipality of Leon or a duly  
14 authorized representative;

15           (f) The Mayor of the Municipality of Alimodian or a duly  
16 authorized representative;

17           (g) The Barangay Chairperson of Barangay Bucari or a duly  
18 authorized representative; and

19           (h) One (1) representative from each of the following sectors:  
20 nongovernment organizations and people's organizations engaged in  
21 ecotourism; the academe; the business sector; and the private  
22 sector.

23           The Provincial Government of Iloilo shall provide a  
24 Secretariat for the Council including the funding necessary to cover  
25 the expenses for the performance of its official functions and  
26 activities.

1           SEC. 6. *Ecotourism Zone Administration.* – The Council  
2 shall appoint an Administrator who shall serve as its executive  
3 officer in exercising its powers and functions and in implementing  
4 the plans, programs, and projects approved by the Council pursuant  
5 to the objectives of this Act.

6           SEC. 7. *Powers and Functions of the Council.* – The Council  
7 shall exercise the following powers and functions:

8           (a) Appoint an Administrator;

9           (b) Adopt, and from time to time update, the Bucari  
10 Ecotourism Master Plan;

11           (c) Supervise the implementation of the plans, programs and  
12 activities in the Bucari Ecotourism Zone;

13           (d) Assess and evaluate the potential impact of development  
14 to the environmental safety and well-being of the Bucari Ecotourism  
15 Zone;

16           (e) Conduct consultations with the local residents of the  
17 Bucari Ecotourism Zone who will be affected by ecotourism  
18 development and consider the assimilation of their cultural values  
19 and beliefs in the master plan and other programs;

20           (f) Provide technical and financial assistance to communities  
21 in the Bucari Ecotourism Zone; and

22           (g) Perform such other functions as may be necessary to carry  
23 out the objectives of this Act.

24           SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of the DOT shall  
25 include in the Department's program the implementation of the  
26 Tourism Development Plan in Bucari area, the funding of which



1 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act and  
2 internally generated funds of the DOT.

3       SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty  
4 (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DOT,  
5 in consultation with the DENR and the local government units of  
6 the municipalities of Leon and Alimodian, shall promulgate the  
7 necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of  
8 this Act.

9       SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* – In the event that any  
10 provision of this Act or parts thereof be declared unconstitutional,  
11 such declaration shall not affect the validity of the other provisions.

12       SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, orders, decrees, rules  
13 and regulations and other issuances, or parts thereof which are  
14 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
15 accordingly.

16       SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
17 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper  
18 of general circulation.

Approved,

O