

## Office of the Governor

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 34

Series of 2023

AN ORDER ADOPTING THE PHILIPPINE EAGLE (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*), ISABELA ORIOLE (*Oriolus isabellae*), AND JADE VINE (*Strongylodon macrobotrys*) AS FLAGSHIP SPECIES FOR FAUNA AND FLORA OF THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA, PROVIDING PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS TO SUPPORT AND ENSURE THEIR CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION

**WHEREAS,** Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Constitution provides that it is a State Policy to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accordance with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7586, otherwise known as the National Integrated Area System (NIPAS) Act of 1992, further amended by Republic Act No. 11038 or the ENIPAS Act of 2018, provides that it shall be the policy of the state to preserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, explicitly provides that Local Government Units (LGUs) shall share with the national government the responsibility in the management and maintenance of ecological balance within its territorial jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, Section 35 of Republic Act No. 9147, otherwise known as the Wildlife Act of 2001, provides that local government units shall initiate conservation measures for endemic species in their areas, and for this purpose, may adopt flagship species, which shall serve as emblems of conservation for local government concerned;

WHEREAS, laid along the Sierra Madre Mountain Ranges, the Province of Isabela is home to the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park (NSMNP), Tumauini Watershed Natural Park (TWNP), and Fuyot Spring National Park (FSNP); all protected areas that shelter various endemic species of plants and animals;

WHEREAS, endemic to Luzon, the Philippine Eagle, Isabela Oriole and Jade Vine which have confirmed sightings in the forest areas of Isabela, were identified by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) with conservation status as critically endangered both for the fauna, and vulnerable for the flora;

**WHEREAS**, the Provincial Government recognizes the valuable contribution of endemic species and their habitats in maintaining ecological balance in the Province of Isabela, thus the need for their conservation and protection.

SABELA



**NOW THEREFORE, I, RODOLFO T. ALBANO III,** Governor of Isabela, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby adopt the Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*), Isabela Oriole (*Oriolus isabellae*), and Jade Vine (*Strongylodon macrobotrys*) as flagship species for fauna and flora of the Province of Isabela, providing programs and projects to support and ensure their conservation and protection.

**Further**, for this Order, the Provincial Government of Isabela also includes the following list of endemic flora and fauna as species with special function being among the flagship species of NSMNP and FSNP, and thru the Isabela Environment and Natural Resources Office (ENRO), shall include programs and projects supporting their conservation and protection, to wit:

- 1. Chelonia mydas (green sea turtle)
- 2. Crocodylus porosus (Estuarine crocodile)
- 3. Macaca fascicularis philippinensis (Philippine Long-Tailed Macaque)
- 4. Phloeomys pallidus (Northern Luzon giant cloud rat)

**Furthermore**, the Provincial Government through ENRO shall recommend strategies and initiatives, allocate necessary funding, resources and staff to support the effective implementation of wildlife resources conservation and protection, and submit periodic reports to the Office of the Governor.

Let copies hereof be furnished to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of the province of Isabela for the Body's reference and adoption, all LGUs for their guidance and initiative and concerned national government offices for their information.

Issued this <u>1st</u> day of <u>December 202</u>3 in the City of Ilagan, Isabela.





