

## Office of the Governor

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 27-A

Series of 2024

ENCOURAGING ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA TO INTEGRATE AND MAINSTREAM WILDLIFE RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION IN LOCAL PLANS AND POLICIES; AND MAY ADOPT FLAGSHIP SPECIES TO PROMOTE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR ENDEMIC SPECIES IN THEIR AREAS OF JURISDICTION

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, spread along the Sierra Madre Mountain Ranges where the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park is located, the Province of Isabela is home to various endemic species of plants and animals;

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.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, RODOLFO T. ALBANO III,** Governor of Isabela, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby encourage all Local Government Units in the Province of Isabela to integrate and mainstream wildlife resources conservation and protection in local plans and policies; and may adopt flagship species to promote biodiversity conservation measures for endemic species in their areas of jurisdiction.



Further, the Isabela Environment and Natural Resources Office (Isabela ENRO) shall coordinate with the Cities/Municipalities through their respective City/Municipal ENRO for the effective implementation of this Executive Order. The Isabela ENRO shall recommend to the Provincial Governor, strategies and initiatives for wildlife conservation and submit periodic reports to the Office of the Governor.

This Order shall take effect immediately and let copies be furnished to all concerned for their information, reference and guidance.

Issued this <u>22nd</u> day of <u>March 2024</u> in the City of Ilagan, Province of Isabela.





