



**1837**

THE INSPECCION GENERAL DE MINAS is created through a Royal Decree under the Spanish regime. It is in charge of the administration and disposition of minerals and mineral lands in the Philippines.

**1863**

THE INSPECCION GENERAL DE MONTES in the Philippines is created by virtue of a Spanish Royal Decree. Its functions and responsibilities include several concerns related to the management of a wide range of natural resources such as forest inventory and protection, land classification, watershed protection, water, biodiversity, and mineral resources conservation.

**1886**

THE INSPECCION GENERAL DE MINAS is abolished, and its functions and personnel are merged to General Directorate of Civil Administration.

**1898**

THE DEPARTAMENTO DE FOMENTO or the DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE is established by a decree signed by Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo. One of its divisions is the INDUSTRY & AGRICULTURE DIVISION, and one of its sections is the MINES AND MOUNTAINS SECTION.

**1900**

The Americans came and re-organized the government, resulting to the implementation of GENERAL ORDER NO. 31 which creates the MINING BUREAU.

**1916**

The Philippine Government issues ACT NO. 2666, "AN ACT TO REORGANIZE THE EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS," transferring the functions and authority regarding agriculture and natural resources from the Department of Interior to the DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DANR).

Bureaus under its supervision include Agriculture, Forestry, Lands, Science, and Weather.

**1901**

THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR is created and vested with powers and authority on matters that included natural resources.



**1932**

A new reorganization act is passed, renaming the DANR to the DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE (DAC) with the addition of the Bureau of Commerce. It also splits the BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE into the BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY and the BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY.

**1933**

The following entities are organized and placed under the direct control and supervision of the DAC Secretary: Divisions of Accounts and Property, Statistics and Publications, MINERAL RESOURCES, Industrial Engineering, Home Economics and Navigation, FISH AND GAME ADMINISTRATION, Fiber Inspection Service, and Scientific Library.



**1934-1938**

The following divisions are reorganized and placed under the BUREAU OF SCIENCE: MINERAL RESOURCES, Industrial Engineering, Home Economics, FISH AND GAME ADMINISTRATION, and Scientific Library. The Division of Accounts and Property is abolished. The BUREAU OF MINES (out of the Division of Mineral Resources) is created by virtue of COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 136.

**1966**

The LAGUNA LAKE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (LLDA) is established by the virtue of REPUBLIC ACT (RA) NO. 4850



**1953**

The BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION is added to the DANR.



**1947**

Reorganization brings back the name DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DANR).



**1938-1941**

The FISH AND GAME ADMINISTRATION is separated, with functions related to fish and fisheries placed under the DIVISION OF FISHERIES of DAC, while those relating to game administration are placed under the BUREAU OF FORESTRY.



**1974**

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE (PD) NO. 461 reorganizes the DANR into the DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) AND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR).

The following line bureaus and attached agencies are placed under the DNR: BUREAU OF FOREST DEVELOPMENT (BFD), BUREAU OF MINES (BM), BUREAU OF LANDS (BL), BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES (BFAR), NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION AND SURVEY OPERATIONS (INACOMESCO), PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE ON WOOD INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT (PCWID), FISHERY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (FIDC), SURIGAO MINERAL RESERVATIONS BOARD (SMRB), AND THE PRESIDENTIAL ACTION COMMITTEE ON LAND PROBLEMS (PACLAP).

PD 607 establishes the FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE (FORI) and attaches it to the DNR.

PD 424 creates the NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL, which is presently the NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD.

**1976**

PD 977 creates the PHILIPPINE FISH MARKETING AUTHORITY (PFMA).

On the other hand, PD 1041 establishes the NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT CENTER



**1985**

Fish and fisheries concerns are transferred to the MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, leaving the MNR with only three bureaus aside from the attached entities.

**1982**

EXECUTIVE ORDER (EO) NO. 786 creates the NATURAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (NRDC) as the corporate arm of the MNR.

**1979**

PD 1281 renames the Bureau of Mines as the BUREAU OF MINES AND GEOSCIENCES and makes it more responsive to its varied functions.

**1978**

PD 1305 establishes the MINERAL RESERVATION DEVELOPMENT BOARD (MRDB), which takes over the powers and functions of the abolished SMRB.

**1977**

PD 1121 creates the NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COUNCIL (NEPC).

EO 131 IS ISSUED ON JANUARY 30, CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DEENR), TAKING THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE MNR.

IT ALSO INCORPORATES THE EMERGING CRITICAL CONCERNS ABOUT ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT. THE EO IS, HOWEVER, NOT IMPLEMENTED.

THE GOVERNMENT ISSUES EO 192 ON JUNE 10, REORGANIZING THE DEENR AND RENAMING IT AS THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR) WHILE TRANSFERRING ENERGY MATTERS TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

THE BUREAUCRACY IS DECENTRALIZED WITH THE TRANSFORMATION OF FORMER LINE BUREAUS TO STAFF BUREAUS AND MOST OF THE LINE FUNCTIONS TO THE REGIONAL AND FIELD OFFICES.

IT NAMES THE FOLLOWING AS THE AGENCY'S SECTORAL STAFF BUREAUS:

\* FOREST MANAGEMENT BUREAU (FMB), INTEGRATING AND ABSORBING MOST OF THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE BUREAU OF FOREST DEVELOPMENT AND THE WOOD INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

\* LAND MANAGEMENT BUREAU (LMB), AS THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE BUREAU OF LANDS WHILE INTEGRATING THE DISTRICT LAND OFFICES TO THE DENR FIELD OFFICES

\* MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU (MGB), ABSORBING THE FUNCTIONS OF THE BUREAU OF MINES AND GEOSCIENCES, THE ABOLISHED MINERAL RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND THE GOLD MINING INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE BOARD

\* ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU (EMB) INTEGRATING THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COUNCIL (NEPC), NATIONAL POLLUTION CONTROL COMMISSION (NPCC), AND ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES (ECP)

\* ECOSYSTEMS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BUREAU (ERDB), AS A MERGER OF THE FORMER FOREST RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND THE NATIONAL MANGROVE COMMITTEE

\* PROTECTED AREAS AND WILDLIFE BUREAU (PAWB)

**1987**

THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS ARE ALSO ATTACHED TO THE DENR:

\* NATIONAL MAPPING AND RESOURCE INFORMATION AUTHORITY (NAMRIA), WHICH WAS CREATED UNDER EO 192, AND INTEGRATES THE FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT CENTER, NATIONAL CARTOGRAPHY AUTHORITY, BUREAU OF COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY, AND THE LAND CLASSIFICATION TEAMS OF THE FORMER BUREAU OF FOREST DEVELOPMENT:

\* THE EXISTING NRDC THROUGH EO 192; AND

\* THE NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION (NEA).

**1993**

EO 149 streamlines the Office of the President and annexes the LLDA to the DENR.

**1992**

A strategic environmental plan for the province of Palawan was created through RA 7611. The plan shall be implemented under the PALAWAN COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (PCSD).

**1988**

The DENR officially puts NAMRIA under its wing through the DEPARTMENT'S ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 31.

THE FOLLOWING ARE DETACHED FROM THE THEN DEENR: THE MANILA SEEDLING BANK FOUNDATION, THE BUREAU OF ENERGY UTILIZATION, AND THE BUREAU OF ENERGY DEVELOPMENT.

THE NEA IS LATER TRANSFERRED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ENERGY.

**1995**

RA 7942 or the PHILIPPINE MINING ACT is passed, restoring the line functions of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau, and providing for the creation of its regional offices nationwide.

**1996**

EO 374 is issued, creating the PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE ON WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT (PTFWRDM). The EO tasks the PTFWRDM to coordinate projects of various government agencies and departments involved in water to ensure efficient management and development of water resources.

**1999**

RA 8749 or the PHILIPPINE CLEAN AIR ACT is passed, transforming the EMB from a staff to a line bureau and mandating it to be a lead agency in the overall implementation of the law's provisions.

THE PASIG RIVER REHABILITATION COMMISSION (PRRC) is created by the virtue of EO 54, and attached to the DENR in the same year through EO 65.



**2005**

THE GOVERNMENT ISSUES EO 366, DIRECTING AGENCIES UNDER THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO REVIEW THEIR OPERATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS, AND PROVIDING OPTIONS AND INCENTIVES FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE RATIONALIZATION OF AGENCIES AND FUNCTIONS.

**2003**

THE PHILIPPINE MINING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (PMDC) is also created under DAO 2003-38 and placed under DENR.

**2002**

EO 123 is issued, abolishing the PTFWRDM while reconstituting the NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD (NWRB), transferring it from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to the Office of the President. The EO also names the DENR Secretary as NWRB Chair.

**2006**

THE PHILIPPINE RECLAMATION AUTHORITY (PRA) is created under EO 643.



**2007**

EO 638 transfers the PHILIPPINE MINING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (PMDC), formerly the Natural Resources Mining Development Corporation, from the DENR to the Office of the President. Before the year ends, the PMDC is "returned" to the DENR by virtue of EO 689.

**2008**

EO 734 transfers the PALAWAN COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (PCSD) to the DENR.

**2009**

The PRA, formerly the Philippine Estates Authority, is transferred from the DPWH to the DENR by virtue of EO 798.

**2017**

The ERDB presence in the DENR regional offices is clustered into six centers for excellence: Watershed and Water Resources Research Center (Regions 1, 2, 3 and CAR); Land Management, Agroforestry and Upland Farming Technology Research Center (Regions 4A, 4B and 5); Forest and Timber Resources Research Center (Regions 9, 10 and 13); the Mining and Degraded Areas Rehabilitation Research Center (Regions 11 and 12); Urban, Toxic Substances and Hazardous Wastes Research Center (NCR); and Biodiversity, Coastal, Wetlands, and Ecotourism Research Center (Regions 6, 7 and 8).

**2016**

THE PAWB IS ALSO RENAMED AS THE BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU (BMB) TO REPRESENT EXPANDING RESPONSIBILITIES BEYOND PROTECTED AREAS.

**2015**

**2014**

**2013**

**2012**

**2011**

**2010**



On October 18, 2013, the DBM approves the DENR RATIONALIZATION PLAN (RATPLAN). Through the RatPlan, the DENR is able to focus on the vital and core functions of the agency, improve the quality and efficiency of its services by eliminating overlaps and duplication of functions, and promote efficient and results-oriented performance and accountability.

Among the major changes as a result of the RatPlan include: Adoption of the INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEMS MANAGEMENT (IEM) approach to achieve sustainable development of natural resources leading to the shift from the present sectoral arrangement to a functional set-up in its regional and field operations, and redefinition of the Department's role from being a "rower" to a "steerer" in natural resources utilization and management.