Prohibiting the use of trawl and basnig in Manila Bay.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 4 of Act No. 4003, as amended, and Section 4, Paragraph (h) of Republic Act No. 3512, the prohibition of the operation of fishing by means of all kinds of trawl and basnig in Manila is hereby promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned.

SECTION 1. Definition. -- For the purpose of this Administrative Order the terms trawl and basnig as used herein shall be construed as follows:

(a) Trawl shall mean a net made in the form of conical bag with the mouth kept open by various devices and the entire gear towed, trailed, or trawled, usually on the bottom of the sea to capture bottom-dwelling species.

(b) Commercial trawl shall mean a trawl operated with a vessel more than three (3) tons gross.

(c) Baby trawl shall mean a trawl operated with a vessel three (3) tons gross or less to be operated by not more than three (3) persons.

(d) Basnig shall mean a type of light net which is neither conical, ovate in shape, or in the form of an inverted mosquito net, the upper corners and upper sides of which are connected by rope-lines (serving as pull ropes), attached to the outriggers of bancas or bamboo poles and lowered by means of weights down under the boat. This gear catches fish (that are attracted by lights operated by the boat) by lifting the net through the same outriggers or bamboo poles and pull ropes.

SECTION 2. Prohibition. — It shall be unlawful to operate commercial trawl and basnig as herein defined, within twenty-five (25) fathoms in Manila Bay from the effectivity of this Order; Provided, however, that baby trawlers shall be allowed to operate in Manila for a grace period of six (6) months upon the effectivity of this Order to give an opportunity to the operators of the baby trawlers to change its fishing devices other than trawl or basnig with the assistance from the government and/or private financing institutions. After the
six (6) months grace period, no trawl and basnig fishing of any kind shall be allowed within Manila Bay as stated above.

SECTION 3. Penalty. -- Violation of this Order shall subject the offender to the penalty provided for in Section 83 of Act No. 4003, as amended, which is a fine of not more than two hundred pesos or an imprisonment of not more than six (6) months or both, in the discretion of the Court.

SECTION 4. Repealing Clause. -- All orders and regulations or any part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Administrative Order are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. Effectivity. -- This Administrative Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

(Sgd.) FERNANDO LOPEZ
Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Recommended by:

(Sgd.) ANDRES M. MANE
Commissioner of Fisheries

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