SUBJECT: Establishing a closed season of five (5) years for the operation of commercial fishing boats including the operation of a gear known as "buli-buli" within the water portions of Lamon Bay, Lopez Bay and Calauag Bay, Quezon.

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 4 and 7 of Presidential Decree No. 704, as amended, otherwise known as the "Fisheries Decree of 1975", and Section 1 of Presidential Decree No. 1015, the following rules and regulations are hereby promulgated for the protection and conservation of fisheries and aquatic resources within the water portions of Lamon Bay, Lopez Bay and Calauag Bay, Quezon.

SECTION 1. Definition. - For the purpose of this administrative order, the following terms shall mean:

a) Water portions of Lamon Bay, Lopez Bay and Calauag Bay - refer to bodies of water SW and SE of Alabat Island, surrounding Quezon Province within the portions of Lamon Bay, Lopez Bay and Calauag Bay, bounded on the North by Lamon Bay, on the East, South and West by shoreline of the Municipalities of Calauag, Lopez, Gumaca, Plaridel, Atimonan and Mauban, Quezon. Beginning at a point mark 1 on Map being Saley point part of Mauban, Quezon with latitude 14°14'45" N longitude 121°45'30"E to point 2; Gerardo Point part of Perez, Quezon with latitude 14°14'15"N longitude 121°55'45" E to point 3; San Miguel point part of Quezon, Quezon with latitude 14°05'21" N longitude 122°07'37" E to point 4; Pangao point part of Calauag, Quezon with latitude 14°09'45" N longitude 122°10'00"E traversing along the coastlines of Calauag then to Lopez, Gumaca, Plaridel, Atimonan, Mauban to the point of beginning, as shown in the sketch plan attached hereto and made as an integral part of this Order.
b) "Buli-Buli" (hulbot-hulbot) - refers to a fishing gear consisting of a conical shaped net with a pair of wings, the ends of which are connected to two ropes with buri, plastic strips or any similar materials to serve as scaring/herding device with hauling ropes passing through a metallic ring permanently attached to a tom weight (linggote) when hauled into a fishing boat.

SEC. 2. Prohibition. - It shall be unlawful for any person, partnership, association, cooperative or corporation to operate commercial fishing boats of more than three (3) gross tons including the use of a fishing gear known as "buli-buli" within the water portions of Lamon Bay, Lopez Bay and Calauag Bay, Quezon during the five (5) year closed season from the effectivity of this Order: Provided, That the Secretary of Agriculture may, upon the recommendation of the Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, suspend, lift or terminate earlier the declared closed season period and allow certain fishing gear to operate in the prohibited water areas as determined by scientific studies through proper monitoring, assessment and evaluation of the resource by the Department of Agriculture Regional Office No. IV.

SEC. 3. Penal Clause. - Violation of the foregoing prohibition shall subject the offender to a fine of not less than Five Hundred (P500.00) Pesos but not more than Five Thousand (P5,000.00) Pesos or imprisonment from six (6) months to four (4) years, or both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the Court: Provided, That the Director of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources is hereby empowered to impose upon the offender an administrative fine of not more than Five Thousand (P5,000.00) Pesos including the confiscation of the fish caught, gear and other fishing paraphernalia used therein.

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. - All existing administrative orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Order are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 5. Effectivity. - This Order shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette and/or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

RECOMMENDED BY:

[Signatures]