



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Elliptical Road, Diliman
1100 Quezon City

MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 25
Series of 2021

SUBJECT: REQUIRING AFRICAN SWINE FEVER INSPECTION CLEARANCE OF LOCAL COMMERCIAL FISHING BOATS FROM MASBATE TO VISAYAS

WHEREAS, Act No. 3639 s.1929 mandates the Bureau of Animal Industry to institute measures to control and eradicate important animal diseases in order to prevent the introduction and spread of disease in the country;

WHEREAS, outbreaks of African Swine Fever (ASF) in the country are continuing since its first confirmed incidence on 30 August 2019, gradually spreading to the island provinces/regions of Luzon such as Masbate and in the islands of Visayas and Mindanao;

WHEREAS, the current ASF infected zones in the towns of Aroroy and Milagros in Masbate pose a significant threat to the disease free areas in the Visayas regions and provinces due to its geographical proximity as well as the frequent fishing and trading practices between to and from these areas;

WHEREAS, there is a need to arrest the spread of ASF to protect remaining disease-free areas by enhancing current biosecurity protocols;


NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. DAR, Secretary, Department of Agriculture, by the authority vested in me by law hereby directs the following:

1. All local fishing boats from the island of Masbate bound to the islands of Visayas shall pass through African Swine Fever (ASF) inspection clearance for presence of prohibited commodities such as live swine or pork products. The Bureau of Animal Industry - Veterinary Quarantine Station Region V in coordination with the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), DA Regional Field Office and Local Government Office will facilitate the inspection and issuance of ASF inspection clearance. This document shall be presented at the port of transit/dock in the Visayas.
2. The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) in coordination with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) shall only issue a Certificate of Clearance and Local Transport Permit to fishing boats with ASF inspection clearance.

All existing Orders and Issuances inconsistent herewith are revoked, repealed and/or amended accordingly.

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately and shall remain enforced unless revoked in writing. All orders inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 25th day of March 2021.


WILLIAM D. DAR, Ph.D.
Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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