

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
FORESTS AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

NOTIFICATION

Dated Shillong, the 1st November, 2017.

No.ENV.1/2007/Pt/110:- In pursuance of Rule 5 (1) of the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017 issued by the Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests Climate Change vide its Notification No. G.S.R.1203 (E) dated 26th September, 2017, the Governor of Meghalaya is hereby pleased to notify the State Wetlands Authority for the State of Meghalaya with the following members.

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|--|---|-------------------|
| 1. Minister in-charge of Forests and Environment Department,
Govt. of Meghalaya. | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Chief Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya, | - | Vice –Chairperson |
| 3. Senior most Secretary of the Forests and Environment
Department. | - | Member |
| 4. Senior most Secretary of the Urban Affairs Department. | - | Member |
| 5. Senior most Secretary of the Community and Rural
Development Department. | - | Member |
| 6. Senior most Secretary of the Water Resources Department | - | Member |
| 7. Senior most Secretary of the Fisheries Department | - | Member |
| 8. Senior most Secretary of the Irrigation and Flood Control
Department. | - | Member |
| 9. Senior most Secretary of the Tourism Department | - | Member |
| 10. Senior most Secretary of the Revenue and Disaster Management
Department. | - | Member |
| 11. Director, North Eastern Space Application Centre, Umiam. | - | Member |
| 12. Chief Wildlife Warden | - | Member |
| 13. Member Secretary, Meghalaya State Biodiversity Board. | - | Member |
| 14. Member Secretary, Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board | - | Member |
| 15. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests of the Regional.
Office of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change. | - | Member |
| 16. One expert each in the field of wetland ecology, hydrology,
fisheries, Landscape planning and socio economies to be
nominated by the State Government. | - | Member |
| 17. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & HoFF,
Meghalaya, Shillong. | - | Member Secretary. |

1. The State Wetlands Authority may co-opt other members, exceeding three in number, if required.
2. The powers and function of the State Wetlands Authority shall be as specified in Rule 5 (4), (5) and (6) of the Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.
 - (a) prepare a list of all wetlands of State within three months from the date of publication of the aforesaid.
 - (b) prepare a list of wetlands to be notified, within six months from the date of publication of the aforesaid rules taking into cognizance any existing list of wetlands prepare/notified under other relevant State Acts;
 - (c) recommend identified wetlands, based on their Brief Documents, for regulation under these rules;
 - (d) prepare a comprehensive digital inventory of all wetlands within a period of one year from the date of publication of these rules and upload the same on a dedicated web portal to be developed by the Central/Government for the said purpose: the inventory to be updated every ten years;
 - (e) develop a comprehensive list or activities to be regulated and permitted within the notified wetlands and their zone of influence;
 - (f) recommend additions, if any, to the list of prohibited activities for specific wetlands;
 - (g) define strategies for conservation and wise use of wetlands within their jurisdiction; wise use being a principle for managing these ecosystems which incorporates sustainable uses (such as capture fisheries at subsistence level or harvest of aquatic plants) as being compatible with conservation, if ecosystem function (such as water storage, groundwater recharge, flood buffering) and values (such as recreation and cultural) are maintained or enhanced;
 - (h) review integrated management plan for each of the notified wetlands (including trans-boundary wetlands in coordination with Central Government), and within these plans consider continuation and support to traditional uses of wetlands which are harmonized with ecological character;
 - (i) in cases wherein lands within boundary of notified wetlands or wetlands complex have private tenancy rights, recommend mechanisms for maintenance of ecological character through promotional activities;
 - (j) identify mechanisms for convergence of implementation of the management plan with the existing State level development plans and programmes;
 - (k) ensure enforcement of these rules and other relevant Acts; rules and regulations and on half yearly basis (June and December of each calendar year) inform the concerned State Government or Central Government on the status of such notified wetlands through a reporting mechanisms;
 - (l) coordinate implementation of integrated management plans base on wise use principle through various line departments and other concerned agencies;
 - (m) function as nodal authority for all wetland specific authorizes within the State.
 - (n) issue necessary directions for conservation and sustainable management of wetlands to the respective implementing agencies;
 - (o) undertake measures for enhancing awareness within stakeholders and local communities on values and functions of wetlands; and
 - (p) Advise on any other matter suo-motu, or as referred by the State Government.

3. The Authority shall constitute.
 - (a) a technical committee to review brief documents, management plans and advise on any technical matter referred by the Wetland Authority; and
 - (b) a grievance committee consisting of four members to provide a mechanism for hearing and forwarding the grievances raised by public to the Authority.
4. The Committees referred to in sub-rule (6) of the Wetlands (conservation & Management) Rules 2017 shall meet at least once in every quarter to perform their functions.
5. The Authority shall meet at least thrice in a year.
6. The term of non-official members of the Authority nominated by State Government shall be for a period not exceeding three years.

The Notification of the State Wetlands Authority issued by this Department vide No.ENV.1/2007/384 dated 27-01-2016 is hereby cancelled.

Sd/-

(R.V. Suchiang, IAS)

Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Forests & Environment Department

Memo No.ENV.1/2007/Pt/110-A

Dated Shillong, the 1st November, 2017.

Copy forwarded to :-

1. The P.S. to the Chief Minister, Govt. of Meghalaya for information of the Chief Minister.
2. The P.S. to the Minister, i/c. Forests & Environment Department, Govt. of Meghalaya for information of the Minister.
3. The Additional Secretary, Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road, Aliganj, New Delhi-110003
4. The P.S. to the Chief Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya for information of the Chief Secretary.
5. The Principal Secretary/Commissioner & Secretary/Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
6. The Scientist 'D', NRCD, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan (1st floor), CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
7. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, North Eastern Regional Office, Law-U-Sib, Lumbatngen, Shillong-793014.
8. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and HoFF, Meghalaya, Shillong.
9. The Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Wildlife and Chief Wildlife Warden), Meghalaya, Shillong.
10. The Director, North Eastern Space Application Centre, Umiam.
11. The Member Secretary, Meghalaya State Biodiversity Board O/o Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and HoFF, Meghalaya, Shillong.
12. The Member Secretary, Meghalaya State Pollution Control Board, 'Arden' Lumpyngngad, Shillong-793014.
13. The Director of Printing and Stationery, Meghalaya, Shillong for favour of publication in the Meghalaya Gazette.
14. Members.

By order etc.,

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Forests & Environment Department
