

CHAPTER 85

FOREST LAW

**A Law For The Preservation And Control Of Forests In Ebonyi State
Of Nigeria.**

E.R.N. 41 of
1955, 5 of 1957,
3 of 1958,
E.N.L.N. 79 of
1961, L.E.N.
Cap. 55, 1963,
Edict No. 4 of
1987 Imo State.

[1st April, 1956]

PART I-PRELIMINARY

Short title.

1. This Law may be cited as the Forest Law.

2. In the Law:

"Assistant Conservator" means an Assistant Conservator of Forests in the Forest Division;

"Cattle" includes sheep, goats, swine, horses, mules, donkeys and camels;

"Chief Conservator" means the Chief Conservator of Forests in the Forest Division;

"Communal lands" means lands in Ebonyi State of Nigeria at the disposal of a community or of any chief on behalf of the community;

"Community" means any group of persons occupying any lands in accordance with, and subject to, local law and custom;

"Council" means a local government council established under, and in accordance with, the provisions of the Local Government Law;

Interpretation.

"Enclave" means an area completely surrounded by a forest reserve and not forming part of the forest reserve;

"Forest" includes forest reserves, protected forests or, where placed, in accordance with section 30, under the protection, control and management of the Commissioner, forest plantations or forest reserves established under the Local Government Law;

"Forest growth" includes anything growing in a forest or any tree protected under this Law;

"Forest officer" means any officer of the Forest Division or any officer appointed, under section 5, for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of this Law;

"Forest Division" means the Forest Division of the Ministry of Agriculture; and food.

"Forest produce" includes:

- (a) whether found in or brought from a forest or not, timber, firewood, charcoal, rubber, gutta percha, latex, wood oil, gum, resin, natural varnish, tanning extracts, tanning barks, fruits, fibres, bark and lac, and
- (b) when found in or brought from a forest,
 - (i) trees and all other parts or produce of trees not otherwise herein mentioned;
 - (ii) plants, including climbers and grasses, creepers and all parts or produce of plants;
 - (iii) wood ashes;
 - (iv) peat, surface soil and minerals other than minerals within the meaning of any Act or Law, regulating the working of minerals;
 - (v) gravel, limestone, rock and laterite;
 - (vi) honey, beeswax, guano, silk-cocoons, humus, and all produce from animals;

"forest property" includes any stock, stores or materials owned by the Government or a council and used or intended to be used in any forest operations or any forestry work, and also boundary marks and pillars, boundary or survey beacons or signs, name plates, machinery, scientific instruments, implements, tools, buildings, tents, fences, vehicles, roads, bridges and cattle;

"Forest reserve" means an area constituted or deemed to have been forest reserve under this Law which shall not have ceased to be forest reserve under any enactment;

- "Gazette" means the Ebonyi State of Nigeria Gazette;
- "Girth" means the circumference of a tree measured either at a height of four feet six inches from the ground, or (if the tree is buttressed above that height) measured at one foot above where the highest buttress merges with the bole;
- "Government" means the Government of Ebonyi State of Nigeria; "lands at the disposal of the Government" includes any lands which the State has acquired or may acquire by agreement or otherwise and also lands leased to the Government;
- "Commissioner" means the Commissioner for the time being charged with responsibility for Agriculture; and food.
- "Minor forest produce" means any forest produce other than timber;
- "Protected forest" means any area declared by notice in the Gazette, in accordance with the provisions of section 7 or 8, to be a protected forest;
- "Protected tree" or "protected minor forest produce" means any tree or any minor forest produce declared to be such in accordance with regulations made under this Law;
- "Timber" includes all trees, whether standing, fallen, or felled, stumps of trees and all wood, whether or not cut up or fashioned or hollowed out for any purpose;
- "to take minor forest produce" includes to cut, collect, gather or remove that produce;
- "to take timber" includes to fell, lop or girdle trees, or to carry away any timber from the lands upon which the trees have fallen or been felled, whether the trees have been felled by cutting or by removing the soil from the roots or by any other method or combination of methods;
- "Treasury" means, unless the context otherwise requires, the Government Treasury or a Sub-Treasury thereof in the State.
- "tree" includes palm;
- "working plan" means, in relation to any forest, any plan of operations or work so decided upon and described as such and approved by the Commissioner.

PART II.-GENERAL PROVISIONS

3. The Commissioner may, by notice in the Gazette, and either for the period mentioned in the notice, or without any period assigned, withdraw from the operation of all or any of the provisions of this Law any class of persons, tribe or part of a tribe or any area specified therein.

Power to exempt
certain persons,
tribe or area.

- Delegation of powers by Commissioner. 4. (1) The Commissioner may, by notice in the Gazette and subject to such conditions, exceptions and qualifications as he may specify, depute any person, by name or office, to exercise or perform on his behalf, such of the powers and duties conferred upon him by this Law as he may specify and thereupon, or from the date specified in the notice, the person so deputed shall have and exercise such powers and perform such duties subject as aforesaid.
- (2) The Commissioner may, in the like manner, revoke any such notice, and may exercise any powers or perform any duties conferred upon him by this Law, notwithstanding the delegation by him of such powers or duties.
- Appointment of officers. 5. The Public Service Commission may appoint such officers as may be necessary for giving effect to the provisions of this Law.
- Improvement of forest generally. 6. Any forest officer, not below the rank of Assistant Conservator of Forests, may enter upon any land and, with any necessary workmen, may cut out and destroy any diseased, dead or dying tree or any tree likely to cause damage to any forest property or to life or property.
- PART III.-CONSTITUTION OF FOREST RESERVES AND
DECLARATION OF PROTECTED FORESTS**
- Commissioner may constitute forest reserves and declare protected forests. 7. (1) The Commissioner may constitute, as forest reserves, any of the following lands:
- (a) lands at the disposal of the Government.
- (b) any lands in respect of which it appears to the Commissioner that the forest growth on such lands should be protected or reserved or forest growth be established.
- (2) The Commissioner may, by notice in the Gazette, declare any such lands to be a protected forest.
- Preliminary notification of intention to create a reserve and declare protected forests. 8. (1) Before constituting any lands as a forest reserve, the Commissioner shall publish in the Gazette a notice
- (a) specifying, as nearly as may be, the situation and the limits of the lands;
- (b) declaring that the lands now form a protected forest;

- (c) declaring whether the lands are at the disposal of the Government or are lands coming within paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 7;
 - (d) declaring that it is intended to constitute the lands a forest reserve, either for the general purposes of the Government or for the particular use and benefit wholly or in part of any class or persons or for the benefit of any community; and
 - (e) appointing an officer, hereinafter referred to as a "reserve settlement officer," to inquire into and determine the existence, nature and extent of any rights, claimed by or alleged to exist in favour of any persons or communities or brought to the knowledge of the said officer, affecting the lands or any other rights in or over the lands which it is proposed to constitute a forest reserve.
- (2) (a) If, for any reason, the reserve settlement officer appointed under this section is unable to perform his duties, the Commissioner may, by notice in the Gazette, appoint any person to act on his behalf or as his successor.
- (b) The notice so appointing may have retrospective effect for a period not exceeding one month.
- (3) The Commissioner may, by notice in the Gazette, revoke any notice under section 7 or 8.
9. Upon publication of the notice aforesaid, the reserve settlement officer shall:
- (a) immediately cause the particulars contained therein to be made known in the areas under the jurisdiction of the councils in which the lands are situated by causing the same to be read and interpreted in the local language in every customary court in the said areas under the jurisdiction of the councils, and also as far as he considers essential, by informing in writing the chiefs of the communities dwelling on, and the councils having jurisdiction over, the lands aforesaid; and
 - (b) fix, and in the manner aforesaid, make known a period within which, and a place to or at which, any person or community claiming any right or rights in or over or affecting the lands which it is proposed to constitute a forest reserve shall either send in a written statement of claims to him or appear before him and state orally the nature and extent of his or its alleged rights.

Notice of inquiry.

Duty of reserve
settlement officer
at inquiry.

10. (1) As soon as possible after the expiration of the period fixed by the reserve settlement officer, he shall:
- (a) inquire into and determine the limits of the lands specified in the notice aforesaid; and
 - (b) determine the nature and extent of any claims or alleged rights affecting the lands which have been preferred or brought to his notice.
- (2) The reserve settlement officer shall keep a record in writing of:
- (a) all such claims and alleged rights;
 - (b) all objections which may be made to such claims or alleged rights; and
 - (c) any evidence in support of or in opposition to any claim or alleged right.

Reserve
settlement officer
to have judicial
powers.

11. For the purposes of the inquiry, the reserve settlement officer shall have all the powers conferred by law upon a magistrate.

Reserve
settlement officer
may join or sever
claims.

12. The reserve settlement officer may, at any time during the inquiry, join any number of claims or sever any claims joined and, in his findings, may join any number of claims or sever any claims which were formerly joined.

Submission of
reserve
settlement
officer's findings
on completion of
inquiry.

13. Upon the completion of the inquiry, the reserve settlement officer shall submit to the Chief Conservator for the consideration of the Commissioner his findings, describing the limits of the lands specified in the notice under section 8 and setting forth, with all such particulars as may be necessary to define their nature, duration, incidence and extent, all claims and alleged rights preferred or brought to his knowledge in respect of the lands and admitting or rejecting the same wholly or in part.

Right may be
extinguished or
modified by
Commissioner.

14. Where the reserve settlement officer has admitted wholly or in part any right or claim and, in the opinion of the Chief Conservator, the exercise of such right or claim or any part thereof:
- (1) would stultify the objects of the proposed forest reserve;
 - (2) would seriously hinder the efficient working of the proposed forest reserve; or
 - (3) would do serious damage to the proposed forest reserve;

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- (a) may extinguish any such rights or claims and shall either give monetary compensation or grant in exchange similar rights on other similarly situated land either within or without the final boundaries of the forest reserve;
- (b) may confine or restrict any such rights or claims to certain areas either within or without the final boundaries of the forest reserve or the exercise of such rights to certain times of the year ;
- (c) may make an enclave or so amend the boundaries of the proposed forest reserve so as to exclude, from the forest reserve, any areas over which such rights or claims have been admitted;
- (d) may add such additional rights as he shall consider it just and equitable to allow, notwithstanding that the reserve settlement officer has not admitted such rights; or
- (e) may adopt wholly, or in part, anyone or any combination of the above methods of dealing with the matter

Provided that, in altering the external boundaries of the proposed forest reserve, the Commissioner shall not include any area which lies outside the original limits set out in the notice published in accordance with the provisions of section 8.

- 15. (1) The Commissioner shall, thereupon, publish a notice in the Gazette specifying:
 - (a) the lands which it is finally intended to constitute a forest reserve;
 - (b) the rights which may be exercised within the proposed forest reserve; and
 - (c) any other special conditions affecting the proposed forest reserve.
- (2) The notice shall be made known in the same manner as the notice published under section 8 and to every person who, and the representative of any community which, preferred any claim or in respect of which any claim was brought to the knowledge of the reserve settlement officer.

Notification of
lands to be
reserved and
rights admitted

- 16. (1) Any person who has made a claim on his own behalf or, where a claim has been made on the behalf of a community, the representative of that community, may, within three months of the date of publication of the notice

Appeals from
notice specifying
lands to be
reserved and
rights admitted.

- under section 15 appeal to the High Court in whose area of jurisdiction the proposed forest reserve is situated against that portion of the notice which affects his claim or the claim made on the behalf of the community which he represents.
- (2) The Chief Judge of the High Court may make rules in respect of appeals and may in the rules prescribe fees to be paid in respect of appeals.
- (3) The decision on appeal of the High Court shall be final.
- Order of Commissioner constituting a forest reserve.
17. (1) After the time limited under section 16 for appealing to the High Court has elapsed or, if there has been an appeal, after the determination of the appeal, the Commissioner may, after taking into consideration the decision on appeal of the High Court, make an order constituting as a forest reserve the lands in respect of which an inquiry has been held.
- (2) The order shall set forth:
- (a) the limits of the lands which constitute the forest reserve; and
- (b) all rights affecting the same, as set forth in the notice published under section 13, or established by the court upon appeal against such notice.
- (3) The order shall be published in the Gazette and made known in the same manner as the notice published under section 8.
- (4) From the date of the publication of the order in the Gazette such lands shall be a forest reserve.
- Revision or modification of orders constituting a forest reserve.
18. (1) Any order made under section 17 may be revised or modified by the Commissioner and such revision or modification may be given retrospective effect.
- (2) In any revision or modification made under this section the Commissioner may, after further inquiry, if such be deemed necessary;
- (a) exercise the powers conferred on him by section 14;
- (b) add such additional rights as he shall consider it just and equitable to allow, notwithstanding that such rights had not been admitted in the notice published under section 15;
- (c) provide for any two or more contiguous forest reserves being joined to form one forest reserve.

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19. Every right in or over land in respect of which no claim shall have been made to the reserve settlement officer or of which no knowledge shall have been acquired by that officer shall be extinguished:
 Provided that if any person shall, within one year of the date of the publication in the Gazette of the notice under section 8, claim, and satisfy the Commissioner that he was possessed of, a right in respect of which he might have made a claim and that, through ignorance of the fact that an inquiry was being held or for other sufficient reason, he failed to make such claim, the Commissioner may direct:
- (1) that such right shall be revived;
 - (2) that such right shall be modified; or
 - (3) extinguished in accordance with the provisions of section 14.
20. During the period between the dates of the publication under section 8 of the notice of the intention to create a forest reserve and of the order under section 17 constituting the forest reserve:
- (1) no right shall be acquired in or over the lands comprised within such notice otherwise than by succession or under a grant or contract in writing entered into with the approval of the Commissioner; and
 - (2) no act or thing shall be done in contravention of section 42 except that any right admitted in the notice published under section 15 may be exercised, to the extent and in the manner described therein, by the communities or persons to whom it was admitted, without prejudice to any subsequent revision or modification as provided for in this Law.
21. (1) Without the consent of the Commissioner first obtained, it shall be unlawful for any person or community to alienate, by sale, mortgage or transfer, any right admitted in an order made under section 17.
 (2) Any sale, mortgage or transfer effected without consent shall be null and void.
22. Any right in a forest reserve admitted in an order made under section 17 and not exercised for a period of ten years shall be deemed to be extinguished.

Extinguishment
and revival of
rights.

No new right
be acquired
without appr
in lands to be
constituted a
forest reserve

Rights in fore
reserves may
be alienated
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Non-exercis
rights.

Rights of way
and watercourses
may be closed.

23. Provided that another right of way or watercourse is available, the Commissioner may, by notice in the *Gazette*, close any right of way or watercourse in a forest reserve.

Lands and rights
may be granted
absolutely to
Government.

24. Notwithstanding any customary law to the contrary, any person, and the chief or head of any community on behalf of the community, shall be entitled to enter into any agreement to grant and convey absolutely to the Government any lands, and any rights in and over any lands, owned by him or it, which it is proposed to constitute a forest reserve under the provisions of this Law.

Marking of
boundaries.

25. The Commissioner may require any person, with any necessary workmen, to enter upon any lands for the purpose of erecting any beacons or demarcating or cutting any boundary lines within and around any lands which it is proposed to constitute a forest reserve or a protected forest and around any portions of lands included as enclaves.

Power to de-
reserve.

26. The Commissioner may, by notice in the *Gazette*, direct that; from a date named therein, any lands or any part thereof, constituted a forest reserve under section 17, shall cease to be a forest reserve or part of that reserve and, thereupon, from that date such lands shall cease to be a forest reserve or part of such reserve:
Provided that the rights, if any, which may have been extinguished therein, shall not revive in consequence of the cessation.

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PART IV.-ADMINISTRATION OF FOREST RESERVES AND PROTECTED FORESTS

Control of forest
reserves and
protected forests.

27. The protection, control and management of forest reserves and protected forest shall be exercised and directed protected by the Commissioner.

Working plans.

28. Where there is a working plan the Commissioner shall publish a notice in the *Gazette* setting out:
- (a) the name and nature of the working plan;
 - (b) a general description of the area covered by the working plan; and
 - (c) the place or places at which a copy of the plan may be inspected by any interested person.

29. The Commissioner may cause to be taken, from any forest reserve or protected forest, any forest produce, which may be required for public purposes upon payment of a fair and public reasonable price therefor, which price shall not exceed the amount of such fees and royalties as may be specified in regulations made under this Law and are generally applicable in respect of the reserve or protected forest whence the forest produce was taken.

Forest produce required for public purposes may be taken.

PART V.-LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANTATIONS AND FOREST RESERVES

30. At the request of a council, a forest plantation or forest reserve constituted under and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Law may, on notification to the effect being published by the Commissioner in the Gazette, be placed, temporarily, under the protection, control and management of the Commissioner.

Control of local government forest plantations and forest reserve. (Cap. 79)

PART VI.-LICENCES

31. (1) The Commissioner may grant licences, in such form and in such terms as he may decide, for the taking of forest produce in forest reserves.
(2) Except with the approval of the Commissioner, no licence shall be transferred.

Grant of licences by Commissioner.

PART VII.-DISPOSAL OF FEES AND ROYALTIES

32. (1) All fees received under this Law shall be paid by the officer receiving them into the Treasury.
(2) Royalties received under this Law in respect of forest produce shall, when individual ownership of the lands from which the forest produce has been taken can be proved, be paid to the individual owner.
(3) In all other cases such royalties shall be deposited in the Treasury of a district council in the name of the local councils having jurisdiction in the area in trust for and on behalf of such village, community or group of persons as is specified by the Commissioner.

Disposal of fees and royalties

(4) A local council shall not withdraw any sum so deposited or pay any such sum to any village, community or group of persons other than in accordance with a direction from the Commissioner charged with responsibility for Local Government.

(5) Before giving a direction under subsection (4) the Commissioner shall consult with the inhabitants of the village, the community or the group of persons concerned.

PART VIII.-REGULATIONS

Power of
Commissioner to
make regulations
and prescribe
penalties for
contravention
thereof.

33. (1) The Commissioner may make regulations for all or any of the purposes following and may specify the area or areas to which all or any of the regulations shall apply:
- (a) providing for the management, protection and utilization of forest reserves;
 - (b) providing for the protection of forest produce in forest reserves by:
 - (i) prescribing the time at which and the manner in which the rights set forth in the order constituting the reserve may be exercised;
 - (ii) prohibiting the taking or destruction of any specified kind of timber or minor forest produce in the exercise of such rights as aforesaid; and
 - (iii) prohibiting the exercise of all or any of such rights as aforesaid in any specified part of a forest reserve;
 - (c) regulating or prohibiting the destruction of, or any act which may tend to the destruction of or cause injury to, any forest produce or forest growth or forest property in any forest reserve or on lands at the disposal of the Government;
 - (d) providing for the control of protected forests and the protection of forest produce in a protected forest *mutatis mutandis* as if such protected forest were a forest reserve;
 - (e) regulating the kindling of fires for any purpose within a protected forest or a forest reserve, and

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- prescribing the persons who may declare the period during which fires may or may not be allowed for any purpose;
- (f) prohibiting or regulating the taking of forest produce or of any specified kind of forest produce on lands at the disposal of the Government;
- (g) prohibiting the possession, sale or purchase of forest produce, or of any specified kind of forest produce, by any person other than the holders of licences and permits granted under this Law or by any other persons or by any classes of persons to be specified in the regulations;
- (h) regulating the grant, issue of and prescribing the form that any licence or permits may take in any particular case:
 - (i) to take forest produce in forest reserves or on lands at the disposal of the Government;
 - (ii) to sell or purchase forest produce; or
 - (iii) to erect or operate sawmills or other manufacturing plant using wood as a raw material;
- (i) prescribing the procedure for fixing, and making known to the public, the fees to be paid on the application for, and the grant of, any licence or permit and the royalties and fees to be paid by the holders thereof;
- (j) prescribing the persons who may declare any specified kind of tree to be a protected tree and any specified kind of minor forest produce to be protected minor forest produce under this Law, and the procedure thereof;
- (k) providing for, and imposing conditions in respect of the collection, payment and disposal of fees, royalties, tolls and cost of survey and demarcation;
- (l) providing for the cancellation, forfeiture, termination or revocation of licences and permits;
- (m) providing for the remission or reduction by a forest officer of any royalty, fee or toll charged or payable under the provisions of this Law;
- (n) requiring the holders of licences and permits to render returns and accounts and to submit their books for inspection;
- (o) authorizing the payment of grants and bonuses out of the public revenue for the encouragement of forestry;
- (p) regulating the collection, preparation and taking of forest produce;
- (q) regulating the marking of timber, the registration of marks and the manufacture, possession or use of marking instruments;

- (r) regulating the transit by land and water of forest produce and by different means and classes of transport;
 - (s) providing for the examination, marking, reporting or stoppage of timber or other forest produce in transit;
 - (t) providing for the establishment, management or control of checking stations to which timber or other forest produce shall be taken for examination by those in charge of it; and the conditions under which such timber or other forest produce shall be brought to, stored at or removed from the checking stations;
 - (u) regulating the salving and disposal of drift timber;
 - (v) prohibiting any act which may cause the obstruction of any waterway or cause danger to navigation;
 - (w) providing for the survey, and demarcation, of any lands for giving effect to the purposes of this Law;
 - (x) providing for the establishment and maintenance of nurseries and for the afforestation of lands, the preservation and production of forest produce and the introduction of new species of trees or other forest produce;
 - (y) generally for giving effect to the purposes of this Law;
- (2) The regulations may provide that any contravention thereof shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding twenty five thousand naira or imprisonment not exceeding twelve months or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Power to exclude
area from
regulations.

34. The Commissioner may, by notice in the Gazette, exclude any area from the operation of any regulations made under this Law.

Prevention of
offences.

- PART IX.-OFFENCES AND LEGAL PROCEDURE**
35. Any forest officer, administrative officer or police officer may prevent the commission of any offence under this Law.

Inspection of
forest produce.

36. A forest officer, administrative officer or police officer may stop any vehicle, vessel or raft engaged in transporting or moving any forest produce on any road or inland waterway for the purpose of inspecting the produce.

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- 37. (1) Any administrative officer, forest officer, or police officer not below the rank of assistant superintendent of police, may himself, or by any person acting under his directions, seize any forest produce reasonably suspected of having been unlawfully obtained or being unlawfully removed and any instrument or thing reasonably suspected of having been used in the commission of any offence under this Law.
- (2) No suit shall lie against the officer, or person acting under his direction, in respect of any deterioration in quality or value of any forest produce, instrument or thing seized in accordance with the provisions of subsection (1).
- (3) Where the person suspected of having committed the offence in respect of which the forest produce has been seized has not been charged and the offence has not been compounded as provided in section 46, the officer, after obtaining an order of a magistrate, may
 - (a) sell such forest produce and pay to the Treasury the proceeds thereof, after deducting the expenses of the sale; or
 - (b) allocate such forest produce to the use of the Government; or
 - (c) destroy such forest produce.

Seizure of forest produce.

38 Any forest officer, administrative officer or police officer may arrest, without a warrant, any person who may be reasonably suspected of having committed any offence under this Law, if such person refuses to give his name and address or gives a name or address which is believed to be false, or if there is reason to believe that he will abscond:
 Provided that any person so arrested shall be taken before a court or to the nearest police station without unnecessary delay.

Arrest of suspected persons.

39. The onus of proof that any forest produce has not been taken in contravention of this Law shall lie upon the person in whose possession the forest produce is found.

Onus of proof.

40. Notwithstanding anything contained in the Survey Law, all maps, plans or diagrams made by a forest officer and approved by the Chief Conservator shall be admissible in evidence in any proceedings under this Law in a court or before a reserve settlement officer.

Admission in evidence of maps of forest officer, (Cap. 124)

Offences in respect of property and boundary marks.

41. Any person who:
- (a) forges or fraudulently uses, or aids or abets any person to forge or fraudulently use, any registered hammer or hammer mark or any mark used for denoting the ownership of any forest produce, or any other mark used by the Forest Division in Connection with the administration of the provisions of this Law or any mark similarly used by a council; or
 - (b) alters, removes, destroys or defaces any such mark placed on forest produce or any boundary mark of a forest or of any lands proposed to be included in a forest, shall be liable to a fine of twenty five thousand naira or imprisonment for two years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Offences in forest reserves.

42. Whoever, in a forest reserve, except with the authority in writing of a forest officer not below the rank of Assistant Conservator:
- (a) takes any forest produce;
 - (b) uproots, burns, strips off the bark or leaves from, or otherwise damages, any tree;
 - (c) sets fire to any grass or herbage, or kindles a fire without taking due precaution to prevent its spreading;
 - (d) smokes or lights a fire in any part of a forest reserve within which, or at a time when, smoking or the lighting of fires is prohibited;
 - (e) pastures cattle or permits cattle to trespass;
 - (f) digs, cuts, turns or cultivates the soil or makes a farm or plantation;
 - (g) trespasses in any part of a forest reserve;
 - (h) constructs any dam or weir across any river or stream or otherwise obstructs the channel of any river or stream;
 - (i) resides or erects any building;
 - (j) hunts or fishes;
 - (k) damages, in any way, or destroys any forest property, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty five thousand naira or to imprisonment for twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment and, in addition thereto, may be required by the court to pay a sum equivalent to the fees and royalties payable on any forest produce removed or damaged and also such amount, if any, as the court may consider just as compensation for any damage done.

43. Nothing in the preceding section shall prohibit the exercise by any person or community of any right in a forest reserve if such right has been recognized in the order constituting such forest reserve except such right be restricted in accordance with other provisions of this Law. Saving in respect of section 42
44. Whoever in a protected forest, except as provided in section 20 (2) or except with the authority in writing of a forest officer not below the rank of Assistant Conservator, does any act or thing prohibited in a forest reserve by section 42, shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine of twelve thousand five hundred naira or to imprisonment for six months or to both such fine and imprisonment and in addition thereto may be required by the court to pay a sum equivalent to the fees and royalties payable on any forest produce removed or damaged and also such amount, if any, as the court may consider just as compensation for any damage done. Offences in protected forest.
45. In addition to any penalty imposed for an offence against the provisions of this Law or regulations made hereunder, the court may order: Additional penalties.
- (a) the forfeiture and disposal, as the court may direct, of any forest produce in respect of which the offence was committed, or any instrument or thing with which the offence was committed;
 - (b) the destruction of any farm or plantation made in contravention of section 42 in a forest reserve, or, on the application of the Commissioner, that the produce of the farm or plantation be confiscated and thereafter disposed of in the discretion of the Commissioner.
 - (c) the cancellation of any licence or permit held under this Law;
 - (d) that, where no licence or permit has been taken out and the offender should have taken out a licence or permit, a sum equal to the amount of the fees and royalties that should have been paid in respect of the licence or permit be paid to the authority or person who would otherwise have been entitled to such fee or royalty; or
 - (e) that a portion, not exceeding one half, of any fine that may be recovered from a person convicted by the court be paid to any person or persons on whose information the offence was detected and proved.

Forest officer
may compound
offences.

46. (1) Where a person is reasonably suspected of having committed an offence against this Law, other than an offence under section 41, a forest officer, not below the rank of Assistant Conservator may, instead of taking proceedings against that person in court, compound the offence and receive from that person a sum of money by way of compensation for the offence that he is suspected of having committed.
- (2) On such payment being made:
- (a) the suspected person, if in custody, shall be released and no further proceedings shall be taken against that person in respect of that offence; and
 - (b) any produce seized as being liable to forfeiture shall be restored and any proceedings pending in court in respect of the same person on the same facts shall be withdrawn.
- (3) The officer compounding the offence may then give one of the following directions:
- (a) that the full amount of such compensation shall be paid into the Treasury;
 - (b) that a portion, not exceeding half the full amount of such compensation, be paid as a reward to the informer, and the balance paid into the Treasury.

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Presumption as to
ownership of
forest produce.

47. When in any proceedings taken under this Law, or in consequence of anything done under this Law, a question arises as to the ownership of any forest produce, such forest produce shall be presumed to be the property of the Government unless the contrary is proved.

Defences in
proceedings.

48. It shall be a sufficient defence to any proceedings, civil or criminal, against any forest officer, or other person acting under the directions of the Commissioner to show that the officer, or that other person, was, in good faith, purporting to carry out the provisions of this Law.

Legal
proceedings.

49. In any proceedings for an offence against any provision of this Law, the State may be represented by any forest officer not below the rank of Assistant Conservator or by any other forest officer authorized generally or specifically in relation to any particular proceedings or class of proceedings by writing under the hand of a forest officer not below the rank of Assistant Conservator.

PART X.-REPEAL AND SAVING

50. (1) Subject to the provisions of this part, the Forestry Ordinance and all regulations made thereunder, is hereby repealed in Ebonyi State of Nigeria.
- (2) All forest reserves existing at the time of the coming into force of this Law shall be deemed to have been constituted under and in accordance with the provisions of this Law.
51. (a) Any appointment, notice or notification, made or published; or
- (b) Any inquiry or the decision or judgment of any person holding such inquiry, held or given, whether at the inquiry or on appeal,
- under the provisions of the Forestry Ordinance shall be deemed to have been made or published, given or held under the provisions of this Law.

Repeal of Forestry Ordinance and saving as to existing forest reserves.

Effect of certain things done under Forestry Ordinance.

(L. of N. 1948 Cap. 78)

**FOREST LAW
SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION**

**Forest Regulations
made under section 33
Arrangement of Regulations**

E.R.L.N. 230 of 1956.
E.N.L.N. 70 of 1963.

Regulation

1. Citation and application.
2. Definitions.
3. Power of Chief Conservator with respect to rights in forest reserves.
4. Power of the Commissioner.
5. Holder of right may lease such right.
6. Protection of forest reserve and forest produce.
7. Fires and smoking.
8. Offences of selling, etc., forest produce illegally obtained.
9. Licences under section 31 of the Law.
10. Fee and Stamp duty.
11. Terms of licence.
12. A licence to take out permits.

13. Tenders.
14. Termination of licence.
15. Issue of permit.
16. Issue of permit where licence has been granted.
17. Fees and royalties payable in respect of a permit.
18. Period of permit and value, etc.
19. Permit to be produced.
20. Permit to take minor forest produce.
21. Destruction, etc., of permit.
22. Holder of permit to pay compensation.
23. Deposit may be required.
24. Timber remaining after expiry of permit.
25. Cancellation of permit.
26. Transfer.
27. Return of permits upon expiry, etc.
28. Fees and royalties.
29. Fees and royalties payable in advance.
30. Free permits to fell.
31. Firewood.
32. Marking hammers and instruments to be registered Offences.
33. Marks not to be altered or effaced.
34. List of marked trees may be annexed to permit.
35. Registration of marking hammers, etc.
36. Timber not to be moved until marked.
37. Waterways.
38. Demarcation of forest reserve.
39. Penalty.

Citation and
application.

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Forest Regulations.
- (2) These regulations shall apply to all forest reserves, protected forests and to all lands at the disposal of Government and to communal lands other than:
 - (a) any area for which a notice of withdrawal has been published under section 3 of the Law;
 - (b) any area excluded from the operation of these regulations by a notice given under section 34 of the Law; and
 - (c) any local government plantation or forest reserve placed under the guidance and direction of the Commissioner under section 30 of the Law.

4.

5.

2. In these regulations:
 "the Law" means the Forest Law;
 "licence" includes any agreement contracted or authority to exploit a specified area for a specified period of time;
 "permit" means an authority to exploit specified forest produce subject to the provisions of regulation 18, or to commit specified acts in a forest reserve.

Definitions.

3. (1) The Chief Conservator may by notice in the Gazette order that free permits shall be given for the exercise of any rights set forth in an order constituting a forest reserve.
 (2) Such permit shall be obtainable from an Assistant Conservator and shall state the right, specify the kind of forest produce and define the area and the period of time within which such right may be exercised.
 (3) Any timber or forest produce taken under such a permit shall be for the domestic use of the holder of such permit only and such permit shall not authorize the holder thereof to take or destroy any protected tree nor authorize him to employ any person to assist him in taking or to take on his behalf any timber or forest produce.
 (4) Any person who, being a holder of such a permit in the exercise of the rights under such permit,
 (a) destroys any protected tree; or
 (b) employs another to assist him in taking or takes on his behalf any timber or forest produce; or
 (c) sells, exposes for sale or barter any timber taken by him, shall be guilty of an offence.

Power of Chief Conservator with respect to rights in forest reserves.

4. The Commissioner may by order prohibit the exercise of all or any rights set forth in an order constituting a forest reserve for a specified period where it appears to him that such an order would be in accordance with the provisions of a working plan: provided that the area to which such an order relates shall not exceed one-quarter of the forest reserve to which it refers.

Power of the Commissioner.

5. (1) The holder of a right in a forest reserve may lease such right with the approval of the Chief Conservator who may impose such conditions as he shall think fit.

Holder of right may lease such right.

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| | | (2) This regulation shall not apply to the holder of a free permit issued under regulation 3. | |
| Protection of forest reserve and forest produce. | 6. | Subject to the provisions of the Law, these regulations, and to the provisions of any licence or permit issued thereunder, any person who on any lands to which these regulations apply: (a) takes any timber or protected tree or any protected minor forest produce; or (b) uproots, destroys or injures any protected tree or protected minor forest produce or any tree or plant from which any protected minor forest produce is obtainable shall be guilty of an offence. | |
| Fires and smoking. | 7. | (1) An Assistant Conservator with the approval of the Chief Conservator may by notice prescribe the times at which smoking or the lighting of fires shall be prohibited in any forest reserve or protected forest and the times at which the setting of fire to forest growth shall be allowed in any forest reserve or protected forest, (2) Any such notice shall be published in the Gazette and shall be posted at the Customary Courts in the area and on the boundaries of the forest reserve or protected forest to which it relates. (3) Any person contravening the provisions of any such notice shall be guilty of an offence. | 12. |
| Offences of selling, etc., forest produce illegally obtained | 8. | Any person who is in possession of or who sells, purchases, or exports any timber or minor forest produce which has been taken in contravention of any provision of the Law shall be guilty of an offence. | 13. |
| Licences under section 31 of the Law. | 9. | Applications for the grant of any licence under the provisions of section 31 of the Law shall be made to the Chief Conservator. | |
| Fee and Stamp duty. | 10. | A licence granted under section 31 of the Law shall be registered and the licensee shall pay the fee for such registration and the appropriate stamp duty thereon. | |
| Terms of licence. | 11. | (1) Subject to the provisions of any order made under regulation 4, the grant of a licence under section 31 of the | 14. |

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Law shall not affect the right of any person to any free grant of forest produce, to which he was entitled previous to the grant of the licence and which may be required for bona fide domestic purposes, including the construction of agricultural implements, fences, vessels, holdings, bridges or other works but not for sale or barter.

(2) Any licence granted under section 31 of the Law shall be subject to the following terms:

- (a) an Assistant Conservator may order that any timber may be taken from the area to which such licence relates where it is required on behalf of Government or a local government council if the licensee is unable to supply the requirements upon reasonable commercial terms;
- (b) an Assistant Conservator may order that any tree shall be cut down and removed in the area to which such licence relates in the course of the construction or maintenance of any road, telegraph or other public work;
- (c) an Assistant Conservator may issue permits for the construction of canoes within the area to which such licence relates subject to any agreement with the licensee.

12. A licensee under section 31 of the Law shall be required to take out in advance permits in the Form 1 in the Schedule to cover the removal of specified forest produce.

A licence to take out permits. (Schedule)

13. (1) With the approval of the Commissioner, the Chief Conservator may invite tenders for or may advertise for sale by public auction a licence to exploit a specified kind of forest produce in a specified area on such terms as he shall think fit.

Tenders.

(2) Tenders or bids may include the fees and royalties payable or such fees and royalties may be payable in addition.

(3) The Chief Conservator shall not be bound to accept the highest or any tender or bid.

14. Any licence granted under section 31 of the Law may be terminated:

Termination of licence.

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| | | (a) by the Commissioner: | |
| | | (i) if the licensee, his agents, servants or workmen fail to comply with any of the conditions of such licence; or | |
| | | (ii) if the licensee becomes insolvent or his business is wound up or goes into liquidation. | |
| | | (b) by the licensee: | |
| | | by giving the Commissioner six months notice in writing of his intention to do so. | |
| Issue of permit. (Schedule) | 15. | Any permit issued by an Assistant Conservator under the provisions of sections 42 and 44 of the Law shall be in Forms 1, 2, 3,4,5,6 and 7 in the Schedule and shall be issued subject to the conditions printed thereon and such other conditions as shall be stated at the time of issue. | 19. |
| Issue of permit where licence has been granted. | 16. | Where a permit is issued for an area in respect of which a licence has been granted under section 31 of the Law it shall be read subject to the terms of such licence and it shall not authorize the taking of any tree specified in such licence without the permission of the licensee, and the terms of such licence shall not be affected by the issue of a permit in any way. | 20. 21. |
| Fees and royalties payable in respect of a permit. | 17. | The fees and royalties payable in respect of the permit and the girths assigned to the trees specified in the permit shall be at the rates in force at the time of the issue of the permit as prescribed in the tariff authorized under the provisions of these regulations: Provided that an Assistant Conservator with the approval of the Chief Conservator may: | 22. |
| | | (a) remit the fees and royalties in the case of timber to be taken for samples; | 23. |
| | | (b) reduce the fees and royalties on any dead, fallen, hollow or mis-shapen tree; | |
| | | (c) reduce the fees and royalties on any tree removed in the course of silvicultural operations; and | |
| | | (d) reduce the minimum girth for trees to be taken under the permit below that prescribed in the tariff, prepared under regulation 28. | 24. |
| Period of permit and value, etc. | 18. | (1) A permit shall be valid for six months from the date of issue when it shall expire unless extended in accordance with this regulation. | |

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(2) An Assistant Conservator may, acting in his discretion, extend a permit for further periods which shall not exceed six months in anyone case or eighteen months in the aggregate. For each such extension a fee not exceeding 10 per cent of the original value of the permit shall be recovered at the discretion of the Assistant Conservator.

(3) No permit shall be issued in respect of timber or minor forest produce to the value of over Twenty five thousand naira except when issued under regulation 12.

- 19. Any person to whom a permit has been issued, who shall fail to produce his permit for inspection whenever required to do so by a forest officer, an administrative officer or a police officer, shall be guilty of an offence. Permit to be produced.
- 20. A permit to take specified minor forest produce shall not except with written permission of an Assistant Conservator authorize the holder thereof to employ any person to assist him in taking or to take on his behalf any minor forest produce. Permit to take minor forest produce.
- 21. Any person, who without the authorization of an Assistant Conservator alters, defaces or destroys any valid permit, shall be guilty of an offence. Destruction, etc., of permit.
- 22. The holder of any permit issued under these regulations shall pay compensation to the owners of any property which is damaged by him in the exercise of any rights conferred by such permit. Holder of permit to pay compensation.
- 23. An Assistant Conservator may require any applicant for a permit or any person to whom a permit has been issued to deposit with the Accountant-General a sum not exceeding one hundred pounds as security for the fulfilment of his obligations under any permit issued under these regulations and such deposit may be forfeited wholly or in part at the discretion of the Chief Conservator if in the opinion of that officer, he has failed to fulfil such obligations. Deposit may be required.
- 24. Any timber derived from a tree felled under permit which, on the expiry of such permit, has not been removed from the place of felling may be disposed of by an Assistant Conservator in his discretion and the holder of the expired permit shall have no right thereto. Timber remaining after expiry of permit.

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| Cancellation of permit | 25. | Any permit issued under these regulations may be cancelled by an Assistant Conservator if the holder of such permit fails to comply with any of the conditions of such permit. | |
| Transfer | 26. | Any person, who transfers a permit to another person without the prior approval of an Assistant Conservator, shall be guilty of an offence. | |
| Return of permits upon expiry, etc. | 27. | Within fifteen days of the date of expiry or cancellation of any permit, the holder thereof shall cause it to be returned to the office from which it was issued. | |
| Fees and royalties | 28. | <p>(1) The Chief Conservator shall prepare a tariff (hereinafter called "the tariff") prescribing the species of protected trees and the rates at which fees and royalties shall be payable in respect of protected trees (of different species) and firewood derived from them, and in respect of minor forest produce taken under a permit issued under these regulations and shall also prescribe the minimum girths below which protected trees shall not be cut without his authorization and the rates at which fees and royalties shall be payable in respect of volume of merchantable wood.</p> <p>(2) Any fees payable shall be paid into the Treasury.</p> <p>(3) Any royalties payable shall be paid to individual owners or as directed by the Commissioner under the provisions of section 32 of the Law.</p> <p>(4) Where fees and royalties are both payable (hereinafter called "the tariff rate"), the fees shall form 80 per cent. of the sum payable and the royalties shall form 20 per cent. thereof, except in the case of mangrove forests where 100 per cent. of the tariff rate shall be payable as royalties.</p> <p>(5) Up-to-date copies of the tariff shall be kept at all forest offices and shall be open to inspection during ordinary office hours or may be had on application to any forest officer on payment of a fee of one hundred naira.</p> | 31. 32. |
| Fees and royalties payable in advance. | 29. | <p>(1) All fees and royalties payable under the provisions of any permit shall be paid before the issue of such permit.</p> <p>(2) Until the appropriate fee and royalties have been paid in respect thereof, no tree shall be girded or felled and no forest produce shall be taken under a licence granted under section 31 of the Law.</p> | 33. |

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30. An Assistant Conservator may issue or cause to be issued free permits in the Form I in the Schedule to fell protected trees in forest reserves and protected forests:

Free permits to
fell. (Schedule)

- (a) where the timber is required by the Forest Department for the construction or maintenance of any building, bridge, fence or road under its management and control or for the preparation of specimens of timber or for similar purposes;
- (b) where the timber is required for any work of public utility in the construction or maintenance of which no contractor or other middleman is engaged with a view to profit, and if other species of suitable timber are not available in any other forest within a reasonable distance:

Provided that no such free permit shall be issued to any village, community, school committee or other public body to which an annual grant is made from the public revenue or to any school or other public institution maintained by Government or for the maintenance of which a contribution is made from public revenue; and

- (c) when the trees are required to be removed in accordance with a working plan.

31. The holder of a fuel permit shall stack all firewood taken at such places and in such a manner as an Assistant Conservator may direct.

Firewood.

32. (1) Any person other than an officer or employee of the Government (or a Local Government Council who has been duly authorized in this behalf) who has in his possession or who uses any marking hammer or instrument for impressing marks upon timber except it has been registered in accordance with these regulations shall be guilty of an offence.

Marking hammers
and instruments
to be registered
offences.

(2) Any person, who uses a marking hammer or instrument for impressing marks upon timber which has been registered outside the area specified in the certificate of registration relating thereto, shall be guilty of an offence.

33. Any person, who alters or effaces any mark impressed upon timber by a forest officer or any person authorized by a Local Government Council to mark timber without the authorization both of an Assistant Conservator and the owner of the timber, shall be guilty of an offence.

Marks not to be
altered or
effaced.

Fore:

38.

List of marked trees may be annexed to permit.

34. An Assistant Conservator may require any applicant for a permit in Form 1 of the Schedule to mark with his marking hammer and a consecutive number below the place where it is intended to cut every tree that he wishes to have included in the permit and to submit in duplicate a list of such trees showing the mark and numbers they bear, the species and girth of each tree, its location, the nearest village thereto and the name of the Local Government Council within the area of whose authority the tree stands and this list shall be endorsed by him and annexed to the permit.

39.

Registration of marking hammers, etc.

- 35. (1) An Assistant Conservator may register any marking hammer or marking instrument presented to him for registration and shall issue a certificate of registration therefor upon the payment to him of a fee of One Hundred Naira.
- (2) Such certificate of registration shall state the area in respect of which the marking hammer or marking instrument may be used.
- (3) Such registration shall be valid for one year from the date thereof.
- (4) An Assistant Conservator may refuse to register any marking hammer or marking instrument, which gives an impression which in his opinion is unsuitable.

Book N

PERMIT

Name of Address Locality Royaltie

Timber not to be moved until marked.

36. Any person who shall move any piece of timber taken under a permit from the place where it was felled until every piece of timber to be moved and the stump of the tree from which it was derived have been marked with the Forest Division pass hammer (and, if an Assistant Conservator shall so direct, with the marking hammer or marking instrument of the owner in addition) shall be guilty of an offence.

This per made th subject to the.....

Waterways.

- 37. (1) Any person who shall permit any timber taken by him to obstruct or endanger the free navigation of any water way shall be guilty of an offence.
- (2) Any person, other than the owner or his agent authorized in that behalf, who sets adrift any timber formed into a raft or fastened to the bank of or anchored in any waterway shall be guilty of an offence.

Fees

P. 85]

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38. A forest officer may with his agents, servants and workmen enter upon any land in respect of which a notice has been published under the provisions of section 8 of the Law and upon any land included in or adjoining a forest reserve and may make all enquiries and may do or cause to be done all things necessary for effecting the demarcation of the boundaries of such land. Demarcation of forest reserve.

39. Any person convicted of an offence under these regulations shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twenty five thousand naira or imprisonment not exceeding twelve months or to both such fine and imprisonment. Penalty.

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SCHEDULE
EBONYI STATE OF NIGERIA
THE FOREST REGULATIONS

Book No.....Permit No..... Original

Form I

PERMIT TO TAKE PROTECTED TREES

Name of permit holder.....
Address of permit holder.....
Locality of tree.....
Royalties payable to.....

This permit is issued subject to the provisions of the Forest Law and of the regulations made thereunder for the time being in force in the area to which it relates. It is also subject to such special conditions (if any) as may be hereinafter set out and will expire on the..... day at....., 20.....

| | Species of Trees | Minimum Girth | Class (in words) |
|--|------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| | | | |

Fees

N K

Royalties

Total ₦
....., 20.....

Issuing Officer.....
Title.....
Division.....
L.G.A.....

*See back of permit for
special conditions (if any).*

SCHEDULE-Continued
EBONYI STATE OF NIGERIA
THE FOREST REGULATIONS

Book No.....Permit No.....

Form 2

FUEL PERMIT

Name of permit holder.....
Address of permit holder.....
Locality in which valid.....

This permit is issued subject to the provisions of the Forest Law and made thereunder for the time being in force in the area to which it subject to such special conditions (if any) as may be hereinafter set out the.....day of....., 20.....

| List of Permitted Species | Permit |
|---------------------------|--------|
| | |

....., 20.....

Issuing Officer

.....L.G.A

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EBONYI STATE OF NIGERIA
THE FOREST REGULATIONS

Book No.....Permit No..... Original

Form 4

See ba
special c

PERMIT TO FARM WITHIN A GOVERNMENT FOREST RESERVE

Permit fee.....

PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO:

.....
of.....
to farm within the.....Reserve during
the period.....31st December, 20.....
subject to the conditions specified below:

1. The permit is personal.
2. That only such areas are farmed as are set aside of that purpose by the Assistant Conservator.
3. That the species of trees indicated on the reverse may not be felled or injured when the land is cleared for farming.
4. That a breach of any of these conditions will render the permit liable to forfeiture and the holder to the penalties prescribed in the Law.

Book No.

F

....., 20.....

Issuing Officer

.....L.G.A

See back of permit for special conditions (if any).

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of.....
to hunt w
during
subject to
thereunde
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is authoriz
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EBONYI STATE OF NIGERIA
THE FOREST REGULATIONS

Book No.....Permit No..... Original

Form 5

See bac
special c

PERMIT TO RESIDE WITHIN A GOVERNMENT FOREST RESERVE

Permit fee.....

3.A

ial

PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO:

of Reserve on the
to reside within the site named on the reserve hereof during the period 31st December,
20 inclusive, subject to the conditions of the Forest Law and the regulations made
thereunder.
....., 20.....

Issuing Office

.....L.G.A

See back of permit for special conditions (if any).

EBONYI STATE OF NIGERIA
THE FOREST REGULATIONS

Book No. Permit No.

Original

Form 6

PERMIT TO HUNT WITHIN A GOVERNMENT FOREST RESERVE

PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO:

Permit fee.....

of Forest Reserve
to hunt within the inclusive,
during the period to subject to the conditions of the Forest Law and the regulations for the time being in force
thereunder

This permit does not authorize the holder to hunt any protected animal unless the holder is authorize to hunt such animal by or under the Wild Animals Preservation Law.
....., 20.....

Issuing Office

.....L.G.A

See back of permit for special conditions (if any).

EBONYI STATE OF NIGERIA
THE FOREST REGULATIONS

Book No..... Permit No..... Original

Form 7

PERMIT TO FISH WITHIN A GOVERNMENT FOREST RESERVE

Permit fee.....

PERMISSION IS GRANTED TO:

.....
of.....
to fish within the..... Forest Reserve
during the period..... to..... inclusive,
subject to the conditions of the Wild Animals Preservation Law and the Forest Law and
the regulations made thereunder or to any other Law/ Regulations controlling the taking
of fish.

....., 20.....

Issuing Office

.....L.G.A

See back of permit for special conditions (if any).

Forest Reserves Orders

made under section 7, or deemed by virtue of section 51 to have been so made

The orders constituting Forest Reserves and orders amending those orders are not printed in this edition of the Laws. Instead there is printed the following summary of them, setting out by Local Government Area the Forest Reserves and the publication of the orders and amending orders. Where there is a working plan for any Reserve, the number of its publication is shown. Copies of the orders and working plans can be seen in the office of the Forest Officer of the Local Government Area concerned and in the office of the Chief Conservator of Forests at Abakaliki.

FOREST RESERVES

1. Effuim Forest Reserve
2. Ohatekwe Forest Reserve

Orde

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3. Ishieke Forest Reserve
4. Uloanwu Forest Reserve
5. Okpoto Forest Reserve
6. Nwode Forest Reserve
7. Unuhu Agbaja Forest Reserve
8. Abakaliki Fuel wood Plantation Forest Reserve
9. Afikpo Forest Reserve
10. Uwana Ururo Forest Reserve
11. Ovim Oziza Forest Reserve

Order

made under regulation 7(1)

This order may be cited as the Smoking or the Lighting of Fires (Prohibition) Order.

Citation.

All smoking or the lighting of fires in the under mentioned Forest Reserves are hereby prohibited:

Declaration.

1. Effuim Forest Reserve
2. Ohatekwe Forest Reserve
3. Ishieke Forest Reserve
4. Uloanwu Forest Reserve
5. Okpoto Forest Reserve
6. Nwode Forest Reserve
7. Unuhu Agbaja Forest Reserve
8. Abakaliki Fuel wood Plantation Forest Reserve
9. Afikpo Forest Reserve
10. Uwana Ururo Forest Reserve
11. Ovim Oziza Forest Reserve