

Rwanda

## Ministerial Order determining the Management of Protected State Forests not Governed by Special Laws

Ministerial Order 6-MINIRENA of 2015

Legislation as at 6 July 2015

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## Rwanda

# Ministerial Order determining the Management of Protected State Forests not Governed by Special Laws

## Ministerial Order 6-MINIRENA of 2015

Published in Official Gazette 27 on 6 July 2015

Assented to on 18 June 2015

Commenced on 6 July 2015

*[This is the version of this document from 6 July 2015.]*

### **The Minister of Natural Resources;**

Pursuant to the Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 04 June 2003 as amended to date, especially in Articles 120, 121 and 201;

Pursuant to Law n° 47bis/2013 of 28/06/2013 determining the management and utilization of forests in Rwanda, especially in Article 34;

After consideration and approval by the Cabinet, in its session of 13/02/2015;

### **HEREBY ORDERS:**

## **Chapter One General provisions**

### **Article One – Purpose of this Order**

This Order determines the management of protected state forests which are not governed by special laws.

### **Article 2 – Protected forests governed by this Order**

Protected forests governed by this Order shall be the following:

- 1° a natural forest which is not governed by special laws, and;
- 2° any forest planted alongside streams, rivers and lakes.

The list of natural forests which are not governed by special laws is annexed to this Order.

## **Chapter II Management of protected state forest not governed by special Laws**

### **Section One – Natural forests**

### **Article 3 – Protection of natural forests**

Natural forests which are not governed by special laws shall be protected through the following means:

- 1° planting forests or a belt of trees in the surrounding area composed of species that are different from the main species found in the protected natural forest or by planting trees;

- 2° use of any other possible means, in order to demarcate boundaries of protected state natural forest from the neighborhood had or any activity where planting forest or trees is not possible;
- 3° prohibiting any activity or cutting of trees in the protected natural forest.

#### **Article 4 – Prohibition of activities in natural forests**

No activity shall be allowed in a natural forest except the activity authorized by the Minister in charge of forests.

#### **Article 5 – Responsibilities of local authorities**

Local authorities shall have the responsibility to safeguard natural forest in accordance with its conservation plan.

Local authorities shall, each year and whenever considered necessary, submit a report on the status of management and conservation of natural forests to the Authority in charge of forests.

### **Section 2 – Forests planted alongside streams, rivers or lakes**

#### **Article 6 – Protection of forest planted alongside streams, rivers or lakes**

Any forest planted alongside stream, river or lake shall be protected from anything that may damage it.

A forest planted alongside a stream, a river or a lake shall have a clear boundary to separate it from any other surrounding forests or to indicate its limits and shall be separated from any other surrounding activities.

#### **Article 7 – Activities in a forest planted alongside a stream, a river or a lake**

No activity shall be allowed in a forest planted alongside a stream, a river or a lake except activities purporting its conservation.

Special activities for conservation of a forest planted alongside a stream, a river or a lake shall be authorized in accordance with relevant laws and regulations.

### **Chapter IV Transitional and final provisions**

#### **Article 8 – Existing activities**

Activities that are in conformity with this Order that existed before the coming into force of this Order shall continue to operate.

#### **Article 9 – Activities inconsistent with this Order**

Existing activities that are inconsistent with provisions of this Order shall cease to operate in a period of six (6) months from the date this Order comes into force.

#### **Article 10 – Repealing provision**

All prior provisions contrary to this Order are hereby repealed.

### **Article 11 – Commencement**

This Order shall come into force on the date of its publication in the Official *Gazette* of the Republic of Rwanda.