



*Republic of the Philippines*  
**Province of Surigao del Sur**  
**MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN**

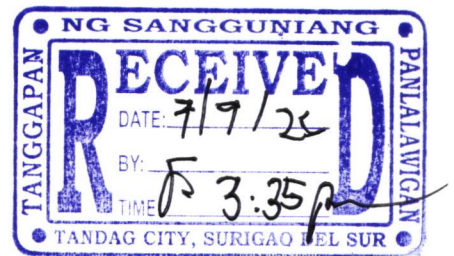
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY TO THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

July 9, 2026

THE HONORABLE VICE-GOVERNOR

AND

THE HONORABLE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN MEMBERS



THRU: **THE SECRETARY TO THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN**  
Tanggapan Ng Sangguniang Panlalawigan,  
Capitol Hills, Tandag City,  
Surigao del Sur

Sirs/ Mesdames:

Respectfully submitting to your level, **ORDINANCE NO. 69, Series of 2026** entitled "**AN ORDINANCE STRENGTHENING FOREST FIRE PREVENTION, PROTECTION, CONTROL AND SUPPRESSION MEASURES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL SUR, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**" dated July 7, 2026.

For your review and favorable action.

Thank you and more power.

Very truly yours,

  
**MA. JULINA T. BORDA- JUTILO, LLB., J.D.**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan



*Republic of the Philippines*  
**Province of Surigao del Sur**  
**MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN**

POSTED:

DATE: 07-09-2024

By:

**MA. JULINA B. JUTILLO**  
**SB SECRETARY**

## TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 49<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> SANGGUNIANG BAYAN  
 OF CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL SUR HELD AT THE SB SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING ON JULY 7,  
 2026

### PRESENT:

#### REGULAR SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBERS:

|                          |       |                                                                  |
|--------------------------|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hon. Carlos S. Estrada   | ..... | SB Member/<br>Acting Municipal Vice- Mayor/<br>Presiding Officer |
| Hon. Harvey S. Manawatao | ..... | SB Member                                                        |
| Hon. Tanie A. Quillano   | ..... | SB Member                                                        |
| Hon. Nilo S. Bigno       | ..... | SB Member                                                        |
| Hon. Daniel A. Tejol     | ..... | SB Member                                                        |
| Hon. Elvie U. Ohao       | ..... | SB Member                                                        |
| Hon. Rencio P. Valeroso  | ..... | SB Member                                                        |

#### EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:

|                              |       |                         |
|------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| Hon. Blandena V. Sugian      | ..... | ABC President           |
| Hon. Jeff Anthony D. Beloria | ..... | SK Federation President |



### ON LEAVE:

#### REGULAR SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBER:

|                         |       |           |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Hon. Michael C. Escuyos | ..... | SB Member |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------|

### ABSENT:

|                    |       |                                                  |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Hon. Jane V. Plaza | ..... | Municipal Vice- Mayor/<br>Acting Municipal Mayor |
|--------------------|-------|--------------------------------------------------|

### ORDINANCE NO. 69 Series of 2026

**“AN ORDINANCE STRENGTHENING FOREST FIRE PREVENTION, PROTECTION, CONTROL AND  
 SUPPRESSION MEASURES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL SUR,  
 PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR  
 OTHER PURPOSES”**

Author: Hon. Rencio P. Valeroso

Enacted: All Members Present

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

**WHEREAS**, Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR  
 Office of the Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan  
 Tel. No.: 086-2115832  
 Email: ossp@surigao.gov.ph  
**OSSP-26-06047**



MA. JULINA B. JUTILLO

HON. RENCIO P. VALEROSO

MA. JULINA B. JUTILLO

**WHEREAS**, the Municipality of Carmen possesses significant forest resources, watersheds, wildlife habitats, communal forests and other environmentally critical areas which are essential to biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, water security, disaster risk reduction and sustainable development;

**WHEREAS**, forest fires, grass fires, illegal burning activities, kaingin practices, illegal cutting of trees and watershed degradation continue to threaten the ecological integrity and environmental sustainability of the Municipality;

**WHEREAS**, Presidential Decree No. 705, otherwise known as the Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines, prohibits unauthorized burning, kaingin, destruction of forest resources, illegal occupation of forest lands and other acts detrimental to forest conservation;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 9003 and Republic Act No. 8749 prohibit open burning of solid wastes and activities causing air pollution and environmental degradation;

**BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Sangguniang Bayan of Carmen, Surigao del Sur in a session assembled:

**SECTION 1. Title-** This ordinance shall be known as the "Carmen Forest Fire Prevention and Protection Ordinance of 2026."

**SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy-** It is hereby declared the policy of the Municipality of Carmen to protect and conserve, rehabilitate and sustainably manage its forestlands, watersheds, communal forest, wildlife habitats, river system and other natural resources against destruction caused by forest fires, grass fires, illegal burning activities, illegal logging, watershed degradation, and other environmentally destructive acts.

**SECTION 3. Objectives-** This Ordinance aims to:

- a) Prevent the occurrence of forest fires within the municipality.
- b) Strengthen community participation in forest protection.
- c) Establish an effective municipal forest fire prevention and response system.
- d) Promote environmental stewardship and public awareness.
- e) Protect lives, properties, biodiversity, watersheds and ecological resources.
- f) Ensure accountability of persons responsible for forest fires and environmental degradation.

**SECTION 4. Definition of Terms-** For purposes of this ordinance, the term means:

- a) Forest fire- any uncontrolled fire occurring in forest lands, wooded areas, grasslands, brush lands, watershed areas and other vegetated lands.
- b) Open burning- the burning of grass, leaves, agricultural residues, garbage, or any combustible material in an open area.
- c) Firebreak- a strip of land cleared of vegetation intended to prevent the spread of fire.
- d) Watershed area- land area that drains into a rivet, creek, lake or other water body and serves as a source of water supply.
- e) Forest protection volunteer- a duly designated individual assisting in forest protection and fire suppression activities.
- f) Kaingin- the cutting and burning of trees, vegetation, brush lands, or forest growth for agricultural cultivation or other purposes.
- g) Grass fire- fire occurring in grasslands, cogonal areas, brush lands, agricultural lands and open vegetated areas.

**SECTION 5. Prohibited Acts-** The following acts are prohibited:

- a) Setting fire, causing, inducing, directing, or permitting the setting of fire in forest

- lands, grassland, brush land, grazing lands, watershed, communal forest, wildlife sanctuaries, mangrove areas, riverbanks and environmentally critical areas.
- b) Conducting kaingin, slash-and-burn farming, within forest lands, watershed reservations, communal forests and public lands.
  - c) Leaving unattended campfires, bonfires, charcoal pits, or cooking fires within forest areas.
  - d) Negligently allowing fire originating from private property or agricultural areas to spread into forest lands or watersheds.
  - e) Open burning of garbage, plastic, rubber, leaves, agricultural residues, crop wastes and other solid wastes.
  - f) Burning agricultural residues in a manner that may result in forest or grass fires.
  - g) Entering forest lands during declared high fire risk periods while carrying flammable materials or incendiary devices without authority.
  - h) Throwing lighted cigarette butts, matches, fireworks, charcoal embers, or similar combustible materials in forested or fire-prone areas.
  - i) Cutting, gathering, removing, transporting, possessing, or utilizing timber and other forest products without lawful permit.
  - j) Occupying, converting, excavating, damaging, or degrading watersheds, riverbanks, springs, recharge zones and other critical ecosystems.
  - k) Destroying fire warning signs, firebreaks, monitoring stations, reforestation sites, or forest protection facilities.
  - l) Obstructing lawful fire suppression, inspection, investigation, apprehension, or enforcement activities.
  - m) Aiding, abetting, financing, encouraging, concealing, or tolerating any violation of this ordinances.
  - n) Any negligent act resulting in forest fires, grass fires, destruction of forest resources, watershed degradation, soil erosion or environmental damage.

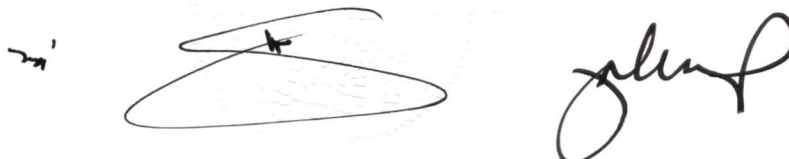
#### **SECTION 6. Creation of the Municipal Forest Fire Prevention and Protection Committee-**

There is hereby created a Municipal Forest Fire Prevention and Protection Committee composed of:

- |                    |   |                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairperson:       | - | Municipal Mayor                                                                                                                               |
| Vice- Chairperson: | - | Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Officer (MENRO)                                                                                   |
| Members:           | - | Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer (MDRRMO)                                                                             |
|                    | - | Municipal Fire Marshal                                                                                                                        |
|                    | - | Municipal Agriculturist                                                                                                                       |
|                    | - | Chief of Police                                                                                                                               |
|                    | - | Representative from Indigenous People's Organizations                                                                                         |
|                    | - | Representative from Accredited Civil Society Organization                                                                                     |
|                    | - | SB Member- Chairperson Committee on Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development, Natural Resources and Ecology and Boundary Conflict |
|                    | - | DENR-CENRO Representative                                                                                                                     |
|                    | - | All Punong Barangays                                                                                                                          |

#### **SECTION 7. Duties and Responsibilities-** The committee shall:

- a) Conduct regular and emergency meeting as the need arises.



- b) Formulate and implement a Municipal Forest Fire Management Plan.
- c) Coordinate prevention and suppression activities.
- d) Conduct Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaigns.
- e) Organize Barangay Forest Fire Brigades.
- f) Recommend declaration of High Fire Risk Periods.
- g) Coordinate with DENR, BFP, PNP and other agencies.

**SECTION 8. Barangay Forest Fire Brigades-** Every Barangay shall organize and maintain a Barangay Forest Fire Brigade composed of trained volunteers responsible for:

- a) Monitoring of fire-prone areas.
- b) Reporting of fire incidents.
- c) Assisting in fire suppression activities.
- d) Conducting awareness campaigns.

**SECTION 9. Firebreak Establishment-** The Municipal Government shall establish and maintain firebreaks in identified fire-prone areas in coordination with Barangays, DENR and other concerned agencies.

**SECTION 10. Reporting of Forest Fires-** Any person who discovers a forest or grass fire shall immediately report the same to the Barangay Officials, MENRO, MDRRMO, BFP, PNP or nearest government authority.

Upon recommendation of the committee, MENRO, MDRRMO, BFP, or DENR, the Municipal Mayor may declare a High Fire Risk Period whenever prolonged dry weather or similar conditions increase the risk of forest and grass fires and hiring of additional Forest Guard if needed.

During such period, all forms of open burning shall be prohibited and intensified monitoring shall be conducted.

**SECTION 11. Incentives for Reporting-** Individuals providing verified information leading to the apprehension and prosecution of violators may be granted incentives subject to existing auditing and accounting rules.

**SECTION 12. Penalties-** Any person found violating this ordinance shall be penalized as follows:

|                |   |                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| First Offense  | - | Fine of One Thousand Pesos (Php1,000.00)                                                                                                |
| Second Offense | - | Fine of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php1,500.00)                                                                                   |
| Third Offense  | - | Fine of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php2,500.00) or imprisonment of not more than six (6) months upon the discretion of the court. |

**SECTION 13. Administrative Liability-** Government personnel violating this Ordinance shall, in addition to penalties herein prescribed, be subject to administrative sanctions pursuant to Civil Service laws and regulations.

Violators may further be required to undertake environment rehabilitation activities including tree planting, maintenance of reforestation sites, watershed rehabilitation, or community environmental service.

The penalties imposed under this Ordinance shall be without prejudice to criminal, civil and administrative actions under Presidential Decree No. 705, Republic Act No. 9003, Republic Act No. 8749, and other applicable laws.

**SECTION 14. Appropriation-** Funds necessary for the implementation of this Ordinance shall be sourced from available municipal funds and thereafter included in the Annual Budget of the municipality.

**SECTION 15. Information and Education Campaign-** The Municipal Government shall conduct continuous IEC activities through schools, barangays, people's organization, indigenous communities and other stakeholders.

**SECTION 16. Implementing Rules and Regulations-** Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Ordinance, the Municipal Forest Fire Prevention and Protection Committee shall formulate and recommend the Implementing Rules and Regulations.

**SECTION 17. Separability Clause-** if any provision of this ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SECTION 18. Repealing Clause-** All ordinances, resolutions, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

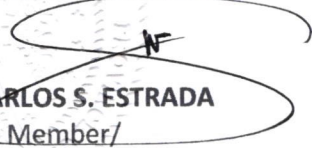
**SECTION 19. Effectivity-** This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen (15) days after posting in at least three (3) conspicuous places within the Municipality of Carmen, Surigao del Sur.

**ENACTED** this 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 2026 at Carmen, Surigao del Sur.

**I HEREBY ATTEST** to the correctness of the foregoing ordinance.

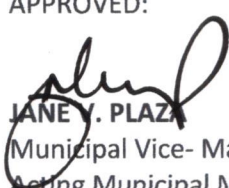
  
**MA. JULINA T. BORDA- JUTILO, LLB., J.D.**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

  
**CARLOS S. ESTRADA**  
SB Member/

Acting Municipal Vice- Mayor/  
Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

  
**JANE Y. PLAZA**  
Municipal Vice- Mayor/  
Acting Municipal Mayor

7/09/2026



Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Surigao del Sur  
**MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN**

**TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

**CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

In compliance to Section 59 of RA 7160, Article 113, IRR of ra 7160, the hereunder approved ordinance is hereby posted:

**ORDINANCE NO. 69, SERIES OF 2026** entitled **"AN ORDINANCE STRENGTHENING FOREST FIRE PREVENTION, PROTECTION, CONTROL AND SUPPRESSION MEASURES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL SUR, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

Date Enacted : July 7, 2026

Date Approved : July 9, 2026

Date Posted : July 9, 2026

Place Posted : Carmen Municipal Hall, Carmen, Surigao del Sur

**MA. JULINA T. BORDA- JUTILO, LLB., J.D.**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Page 11

POSTED:  
DATE: 07-09-2026  
BY: MA. JULINA T. BORDA- JUTILO  
SB SECRETARY

Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Surigao del Sur  
**MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN**  
**TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 49<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL SUR HELD AT THE SB SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING ON JULY 7, 2026

PRESENT:

|                                    |                                                                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| REGULAR SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBERS: |                                                                 |
| Hon. Carlos S. Estrada             | SB Member/<br>Acting Municipal Vice-Mayor/<br>Presiding Officer |
| Hon. Harvey S. Manuatao            | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Tanie A. Quillano             | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Nilo S. Nigro                 | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Daniel A. Tejido              | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Elvir U. Ochoa                | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Benicio P. Valeroso           | SB Member                                                       |
| EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:                |                                                                 |
| Hon. Blandina V. Sugan             | ABC President                                                   |
| Hon. Jeff Anthony D. Balora        | SA Federation President                                         |

ON LEAVE:

REGULAR SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBER:

|                         |           |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Hon. Michael C. Escayos | SB Member |
|-------------------------|-----------|

ABSENT:

|                    |                                                 |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Hon. Jane V. Plaza | Municipal Vice-Mayor/<br>Acting Municipal Mayor |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

ORDINANCE NO. 69  
Series of 2026

"AN ORDINANCE STRENGTHENING FOREST FIRE PREVENTION, PROTECTION, CONTROL AND SUPPRESSION MEASURES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL SUR, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Author: Hon. Benicio P. Valeroso  
Enacted: All Members Present

EXPLANATORY NOTE

WHEREAS, Section 16, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;









Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Surigao del Sur  
**MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN**

**TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

**CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

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Date Enacted : July 7, 2026  
Date Approved : July 9, 2026  
Date Posted : July 9, 2026  
Place Posted : Carmen Public Terminal, Carmen, Surigao del Sur

  
**MA. JULINA T. BORDA- JUTILO, LLB., J.D.**  
Secretary to the Sangguniang Bayan

Page 11

POSTED:  
DATE: 09 - 09 - 2026  
BY: **MA. JULINA T. BORDA- JUTILO**  
SB SECRETARY

Republic of the Philippines  
Province of Surigao del Sur  
**MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN**  
**TANGGAPAN NG SANGGUNIANG BAYAN**

EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 49<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> SANGGUNIANG BAYAN OF CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL SUR HELD AT THE SB SESSION HALL, LEGISLATIVE BUILDING ON JULY 7, 2026

**PRESENT:**

|                                           |                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>REGULAR SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBERS:</b> |                                                                 |
| Hon. Carlos S. Estrada                    | SB Member/<br>Acting Municipal Vice-Mayor/<br>Presiding Officer |
| Hon. Harvey S. Manawatao                  | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Tanie A. Quilano                     | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Nilo S. Bigno                        | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Daniel A. Tojol                      | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Elvie U. Chao                        | SB Member                                                       |
| Hon. Rencio P. Valeroso                   | SB Member                                                       |
| <b>EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:</b>                |                                                                 |
| Hon. Blandina V. Suglan                   | ABC President                                                   |
| Hon. Jeff Anthony D. Beloria              | SK Federation President                                         |

**ON LEAVE:**

|                                          |           |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>REGULAR SANGGUNIANG BAYAN MEMBER:</b> |           |
| Hon. Michael C. Escayos                  | SB Member |

**ABSENT:**

|                    |                                                 |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Hon. Jane V. Plaza | Municipal Vice-Mayor/<br>Acting Municipal Mayor |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------|

**ORDINANCE NO. 69**  
Series of 2026

**"AN ORDINANCE STRENGTHENING FOREST FIRE PREVENTION, PROTECTION, CONTROL AND SUPPRESSION MEASURES WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL SUR, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

Author: Hon. Rencio P. Valeroso  
Enacted: All Members Present

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

