



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
American Memorial Park
P.O. Box 5198 CHRB
Beach Road, Garapan
Saipan, MP 96950

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1.A.2 (AMME)

Agnes Sablan, Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management
Gualo Rai Center
Chalan Pale Arnold
P.O. Box 501304
Saipan, MP 96950

Subject: Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Consistency Determination for Micro Beach restoration area

Dear Ms. Sablan:

This document provides the CNMI Coastal Management Program with the National Park Service Consistency Determination under CZMA §307(c)(1) [or (2)] and 15 C.F.R. Part 930, Subpart C, for the National Park Service. The information in this Consistency Determination is provided pursuant to 15 C.F.R. §930.39. This activity includes:

- Construction of an approximately 0.5-acre habitat restoration at Micro Beach to prepare for continuing erosion of the existing shoreline from sea-level rise and increased storm activity due to climate change at American Memorial Park (see Attachment A – map of the restoration area).
- Construction of a sand berm approximately 3-4' H x 3-5' W x 225' L. The sand will be sourced from the CNMI's dredging of the channel to Smiling Cove Harbor in spring of 2026. The sand is appropriate, beach-quality sand from within the park.
- Installation of a native coastal strand plant community that will vegetate the sand berm, provide structure for the native animal community, and shade and interest for visitors.

The National Park Service has determined that the restoration area affects the land or water uses or natural resources of the CNMI in the following manner:

- No negative impact to the land, water, or natural resources is expected. The vegetated berm will protect against flooding.
- The restoration area will provide biological diversity, shade for visitors and native habitat for wildlife and visitors.

The National Park Service affects the following CNMI Coastal Management Program enforceable polices:

§ 15-10-335 Specific Criteria; Areas of Particular Concern; Shorelines – This action is in compliance for the following reasons:

- There will be minimal impact on wildlife, coastal and marine systems, aesthetic resources, and natural coastal processes.

- There will be minimal impact on natural beach process.
- There will be no changes to existing shoreline morphology or vegetation.
- Sand, gravel, or other aggregates and minerals will not be removed from the beach and near shore areas.
- The restoration area will facilitate and enhance coastal recreational opportunities for the public.

Based upon the following information, data, and analysis, the National Park Service finds that the restoration area is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of the CNMI Coastal Management Program. No negative impact to the land, water, or natural resources is expected as a result of this project, and the project will benefit the public by providing additional recreational opportunities in Saipan.

Pursuant to 15 C.F.R. §930.41, the CNMI Coastal Management Program has 60 days from the receipt of this letter in which to concur with or object to this Consistency Determination, or to request an extension under 15 C.F.R. §930.41(b).

The CNMI Coastal Management Program response should be sent to Barbara Alberti (barbara_alberti@nps.gov). Should you have any questions, please contact Irina Irvine, Acting Natural and Cultural Resources Manager, via email (irina_irvine@nps.gov).

Sincerely,

Barbara Alberti
Superintendent

cc: Acting Natural and Cultural Resources Manager (AMME)

Attachment A – map of the restoration area

Attachment A – Map of Micro Beach Restoration and Climate Adaptation Project

