

Watershed Working Group – February 8th 9:30-11:30am

INVITED: DEQ: Fran, Kaity, Aric, Tim Lang, Steven Johnson, Ryan Okano, Jose Quan, Clarissa Bearden (Director: Frank); DPW: Sonya Dancoe (and other appropriate staff) – Yes; CRM: Rachel – Yes; Dave Benavente (Director: Rita); DPL: Pat Rasa – Yes; Pete Itibus; Mayor’s Office: John Aldan; DLNR/Forestry: Manny Pangelinan (represent DFW too), Vic Guerrero, (director: Arnold Palacios); NMC: Sid Cabrera (could not reach); SWCD: Diana Gabaldon (Saipan and Northern Islands SWCD – does not have funding or board of directors, someone may try to attend); NRCS: Jay Doronila – Yes; NOAA: Dana Okano – Yes; CUC: Brian Bearden – NO; Others: Lawrence Duphoncheel – YES; MINA: Sam Sablan; PMRI: Greg Moretti – Yes; NPS: Ranger Nancy Kelchner – Yes; CIP: Virginia Villagomez, Carl Castro

ATTENDED:

DPL: Pete Itibus, Pat Rasa

NMC CREES/Tinian SWCD: Lawrence Duponcheel

NRCS : Jay Doronila

DEQ: Ryan Okano, Jihan Buniag, Aric Bickel, Jose Quan, Fran Castro, Kaity Mattos

DPW: Sonya Dancoe

CRM: Becky Skeele, Rachel Zeurcher

MINA: Frank Villagomez

NPS: Nancy Kelchner

NOAA: Dana Okano

- I. Introduction
 - a. Introduction of members and represented agencies (*each agency*)
 - b. Review of mission, objectives, strategies and work tasks (*Fran – slide*)
 - i. To provide technical assistance to government agencies, participate in the decision making process and make regulatory changes on a watershed scale
 - ii. Past projects
- II. 1998 Unified Watershed Assessment (*Fran/Kaity – slide*)
 - a. Ranking of watersheds into 4 categories (*slide*)
 - b. Review of Category I Watersheds (*slide*)
 - c. Mention updating of 1998 priorities/data
 - i. No data was collected for 1998 report, only previous data used to develop recommendations
 - ii. CNMI was to develop a Watershed Restoration Action Strategy to improve Category I watersheds
 - iii. Potential to collect data and do more projects in Category I watersheds
- III. Garapan Conservation Action Plan (*Aric*)
 - a. Review of CAP process
 - b. Laolao CAP
 - c. Talakhaya CAP
 - i. Talakhaya water sampling (Dana)
 - d. Garapan

- i. Set CAP workshop date: 3-4 days in late May/early June
- IV. Next meeting dates (*Kaity*)
 - a. Quarterly meeting of Watershed Working Group
 - i. May?
 - 1. *Good days for CUC: Mondays, Tu-Fr afternoons*
 - b. Laolao Bay CAP Review February 28th
 - c. Garapan CAP workshop
- V. Agency updates/collaborations (*each agency*)
 - a. Surface Water Quality Assurance Sampling Plan RFP (*Rachel for CRM/DEQ*)
 - i. Changes from Stormwater Quality RFP in 2011
 - ii. Current scope: Monitoring plan only
 - iii. Future possibilities for ground-truthing watersheds/subwatersheds, implementing plan, creating LAS
 - b. Projects from other agencies? (*each agency*)