



Watershed Working Group

8 February 2012



Meeting Agenda

9:30 Opening

- Introduction of members and represented agencies
- Review of mission, objectives, strategies and work tasks

9:45 1998 Unified Watershed Assessment

- Review of Category I Watersheds
- Future updating of priorities/data

9:55 Garapan Conservation Action Plan

- Review of CAP process
- Set Garapan workshop date

10:10 Set next meeting date (quarterly)

10:15 Agency updates/collaborations



WATERSHED PLANNING GROUP

MISSION, OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES, AND WORK TASKS

A. Determine Group Directions

1. Develop interagency watershed group's identity through official CNMI and Federal designation.
2. Generate ideas for resource use and development.
3. Focus on problem watersheds.
4. Prioritize watersheds for resource protection.
5. Develop strategies to achieve objective goals.
6. Utilize Soil and Water Conservation District - expand Soil and Water Conservation District's role to include non-agriculture issues.

B. Provide Technical Assistance

1. Provide guidance for total resource management.
2. Share collective knowledge for decision makers.
3. Support individual agency efforts.
4. Provide collected resource information to agencies or groups for their use.
5. Provide information on land development pressures for use by agencies.
6. Identify resource considerations for infrastructure development.
7. Delineate desired areas for preserves, parks, or temporary moratorium areas including connecting corridors between these.
8. Adapt known resource information for geographic information system use.

C. Be Involved with Decision Making and Regulatory Changes

1. Increase agency (inc. Federal) participation in permitting activities.
2. Promote more coordinated project review procedures.
3. Support development of CNMI's coastal nonpoint pollution plan.
4. Develop ameliorative approach to const. watershed management.
5. Develop resource protection strategies for incorporation into zoning standards.
6. Assist in the protection of watershed resources with better water wellhead protection measures--incorporate into projects.
7. Initiate legislative action for critical watershed protection.

D. Develop Specific Work Products

1. Promote public education of watershed processes.
2. Promote public education regarding effects of land clearings.
3. Produce an atlas of CNMI island resources.
4. Develop natural resource library for public or college library.
5. Develop an on-island natural resources expertise roster.

E. Funding

1. Assist in prioritizing grant dollar expenditures for infrastructure.
1. Attract new grant dollars for watershed projects.
2. Receive funds to implement (pooling of resources)
3. Maximize use of limited funding dollars to eliminate duplication of effort.

Watershed Management

Past 319 Projects

Fran Castro
CNMI DEQ

Laolao Bay Revegetation

- Started in 1998
- Upper Laolao Watershed
 - Illegal land clearing
 - Badlands Area



AMP Constructed Wetlands



Designed to treat storm waters
before it discharges into the lagoon



Educational tool for school kids



Mangroves were planted in and around the
wetland for nutrient absorption



Present condition

Know Your Watershed, Garapan

- Public Awareness Campaign
- Educate public about the watershed
- To create an alliance with community members



Clean-Up Activities

Picked up trash in the
Garapan area



Cleaned the streets



Drainage Clean-Up



Outdoor Classroom



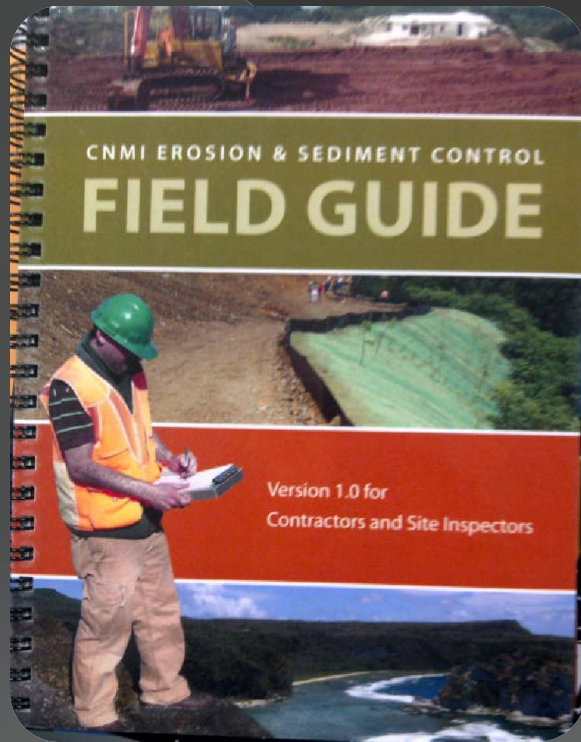
Permeable Parking Lot



Dry Litter Animal Wastes Project, Tinian



Stormwater BMP Manual and Workshops





**Commonwealth Of The
Northern Mariana Islands**
Saipan, Tinian, Rota, And Northern
Islands

Unified Watershed Assessment

September 1998



Unified Watershed Assessment Watershed Categories

- Category I: Need restoration because they do not meet clean water or other natural resource goals
- Category II: Need preventative action to sustain water quality and ecosystems
- Category III: Pristine or sensitive watersheds on federal lands needing an extra measure of protection
- Category IV: Insufficient data to make an assessment



Category I Watersheds

○ Saipan

- > Takpochau
- > Susupe
- > Kagman
- > Laulau
- > Achugao

○ Rota

- > Sabana/Talakhaya/P alie
- > Songsong
- > Uyulan Hulo/Teteto
- > Dugi/Gampapa/I Chenchon

○ Tinian

- > Makpo
- > Puntan Diaplo-Lamanibot

○ Northern Islands

- > Pagan
- > Anatahan
- > Agrihan

No uniform assessment has been completed since pre-1998. After UWA submission, the CNMI was to develop a Watershed Restoration Action Strategy to attain clean water goals using USEPA funds.



Garapan Conservation Action Plan

- ◎ Review of CAP process
- ◎ Three priority watersheds
 - > Laolao
 - > Talakhaya
 - > Garapan



Next meeting dates

- ◉ Quarterly – May?
- ◉ Laolao Bay CAP Review – Feb 28
- ◉ Garapan CAP



Agency Updates/Collaborations

