

Watershed Working Group

22 May 2013, 8:30-10am

Dates to Remember:

- June 13th, 9am-12pm (including lunch): Climate Change Working Group meeting at PIC (RSVP to Robbie Greene)
- August 14th, 8:30-10am: Watershed Working Group meeting

Attendees: Robbie Greene (CRM/NOAA), Shelly Kremer (DEQ), Britta Baechler (DFW/NOAA), Pete Itibus (DPL), Ike Cabrera (SWCD), Gus Camacho (DEQ), Avra Heller (DEQ), Maryann Arriola (Zoning), Kendal Hicks (NRCS), Kaity Mattos (DEQ)

Meeting Notes:

- I. Opening: sign-in, introductions
- II. Main speaker: Robbie Greene (CRM/NOAA) – Climate Change Vulnerability and Adaptation
 - a. Coastal erosion is drastic in parts of Saipan (ex: Managaha)
 - b. Rising tides (sea level rise) may resulting in more wetlands and change in habitat (Tanapag and AMP), more waves coming over the reef
 - c. Sea level rise projections + shoreline change maps + asset mapping is being used to develop a vulnerability filter for important places to focus on adaptation and resilience
 - i. Traditionally the US Census is used to figure out vulnerability, but we need more information on direct and indirect social influences
 - d. Visit climatecnmi.net to see more tools and reports
 - e. The next Climate Change Working Group meeting is June 13th from 9am-12pm at PIC
 - f. Robbie's presentation is attached to this email for your reference
- III. Garapan update: The CAP is currently in the final draft phase. Many comments were received and Kaity is taking time to address and integrate all of them. The approximate release date for the final draft will be ~2 weeks late (mid-June) due to the volume of comments. The plan will be mostly used as a priority guidance document for different agencies to leverage funding, personnel and partnerships between agencies.
- IV. Project updates
 - a. AMP (Mike Gawel, by email):
 - i. We are still awaiting results of our NPS proposals to have USGS do a multi-year Water Quality study on the American Memorial Park wetlands and for USGS and UH to do modeling of shoreline erosion at the park, both scheduled for FY 2013 funds.
 - ii. NPS plans to have U of Guam do an assessment of the park's natural resources conditions, including water quality and flora and fauna, based on existing studies and data. The U of Guam group, headed by Dr. Terry Donaldson, will be seeking relative data sources, including GIS files, and reports during the next year. Plans for installing a new weather station in the park this year are proceeding.

- iii. A Grad student from Un. of Tennessee, Joel Corush, has a permit to be studying native and invasive fishes in the park wetlands in the next month.
 - b. NOAA (Dana Okano, by email): funding for Garapan water quality study is not being granted by WERI due to federal sequestration
 - c. DEQ - Wastewater (Gus)
 - i. A sewerline was identified in Garapan that was connected directly to the storm drain. Since they were first time violators, they were asked to fix the pipe which they did. The Wastewater branch is looking for other violators in Garapan.
 - ii. San Antonio had a piggery waste violation and was referred to NRCS to install a dry-litter pen. The group discussed the new operation on Navy Hill which may violate water quality standards
 - d. DEQ – Water Quality (Shelly): The water quality branch has started inventorying possible sources of pollution alongside the streams in Achugao and Tanapag. So far several pig and outhouse threats have been identified. They are referring individual land managers to NRCS and DEQ’s wastewater branch to improve before an official NOV is issued.
 - e. NRCS (Kendal): NRCS has cost-share EQIP programs for properties and is grateful for DEQ collaboration in getting customers. They look forward to using the stream inventory data from DEQ and can provide customer information where actions are taken. The program is getting the upfront cost covered by landowners
 - f. DPL (Pete): agricultural homestead program allows people to apply for new land if they cannot have agriculture on their existing land. DPL has provided support on NRCS’ required 5-year leases
 - g. SWCD (Ike, Kendal): The Kagman Watershed Project is looking for \$2.6 million in local matching as a cost-share for the completion of the project. Partnering with DEQ and hopefully others to leverage support from CIP to provide the money.
- V. Next meeting
 - a. 14 August 2013, 8:30-10:30am
 - b. Topic: DEQ’s Surface Water Quality Assurance Monitoring Plan and stream inventories