

## Watershed Working Group

August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 8:30-10:00am

**Attendees:** **BECQ** – Derek Chambers, Avra Heller, Kathy Yuknavage, Jihan Buniag, Gus Camacho; **DLNR** – Lainie Zarones; **SNISWCD** – Ike Cabrera; **DPW** – James Ripple, Gani Salazar; **CUC** – John Riegel, Brian Bearden; **USFWS** – Shelly Kremer;  
**Zoning** – Yubert Alepuyo

*Dates to Remember:*

Next Watershed Working Group Meetings: 8:30-10am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of February, May, August and November.

- November 12, 2014
- February 11, 2015
- May 13, 2015

*Meeting Notes:*

- I. Opening and introductions
- II. Main speaker: Derek Chambers, BECQ – Fats, Oils and Grease
  - a. Who has regulations for grease interceptors?
    - i. DEQ: none except new wastewater regs require FOG treatment in IWTS
    - ii. DPW: building code regulations for grease interceptors in new buildings only (outdoor concrete type)
    - iii. BEH: none, but can follow up on sanitary issues related to grease
    - iv. CUC: prohibits >200ppm fats, oils or grease discharged into their wastewater system. Chief engineer may require pretreatment. Also have regulations for food preparation businesses to have interceptors.
  - b. Not much known about grease trap cleaning businesses or grease recycling on Saipan
  - c. Discussion: current regulations are probably satisfactory for dealing with grease trap issues, but follow-up and enforcement is needed to detect and resolve problems (e.g. maintenance) and hotspots. BEH can be ears/eyes of the government.
- III. Project updates:
  - a. CUC (John and Brian):
    - i. CUC is building up sewer application program, requiring grease traps, pre-treatment, NOVs against consultants who recommend businesses connect without permission
    - ii. New funding for FOG program – includes contract to look at disposal methods/treatment/recycling, household surveys for all sewer customers and outreach program
    - iii. Will assist with Achugao project from BECQ (to clean up streams)
    - iv. Still has sewer connection funds from EPA grant
    - v. Sewer line replacement in Garapan ongoing with \$100,000 more funding for FY14-15
  - b. DEQ – Wastewater, Erosion Control (Gus): Navy Hill piggery is being moved. DPL is giving new land by Obyan to Mr. Villagomez for the pigs to be removed from Navy Hill and they are looking for assistance from NRCS.
  - c. DLNR (Lainie): DLNR is mapping Marpi conservation areas that were previously unknown (megapod/reed warbler habitats by Suicide Cliff), owned by DLNR, and will disseminate information to protect the habitat.

- d. BECQ – Laolao Pride Campaign (Jihan): 500 students reached during the campaign through tree plantings, giveaways, outreach, sediment chamber clean-up (5 cu yards), and silt fences installed. Post-campaign survey results will be coming soon
- e. SWCD (Ike): Kagman waterways are complete but the \$6M reservoir still needs 50/50 matching for completion. The basins need cleaning but SWCD is having trouble with Fish and Wildlife getting permission b/c of bird habitat.
- f. DPW (James): James Ripple is new chief highway engineer on federal highway grants. There is still no funding for storm drain maintenance. DPW has access to an Army Corps study regarding shoreline recommendations and infrastructure.

IV. Garapan CAP Status Report:

- a. Revision in 2015
- b. Moving forward with Garapan storm drain cleaning with DPW - Funds identified, waiting for dry season
- c. Enforcement numbers for ads/magnets:
  - i. BEH
  - ii. BECQ
  - iii. Zoning
  - iv. CUC: leaking water, sewer (trouble desk)

V. Talakhaya CAP Status Report:

- a. Socioeconomic survey results being analyzed
- b. No Burn campaign being reinitiated
- c. Planting update: moving to revegetating with more trees in established areas next year
- d. Revision this Spring
  - i. Who is interested in being involved? Lainie, Shelly, CUC
  - ii. Rota damselfly is proposed for T/E species status

VI. Next meeting:

- a. November 12<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am
- b. USFWS – Shelly (next meeting?)
- c. Other speaker recommendations:
  - i. Tim Brasuell: Garapan Project (c. 2000)
  - ii. NMC Crees
  - iii. DPW: sand getting into pipe
  - iv. CUC: once FOG program is up and running