

Watershed Working Group (WWG)

November 3, 2022
Quarterly Meeting





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Watershed Working Group

Watershed Working Group (WWG) is a partnership between local and federal government agencies, environmental non-profits and other concerned groups which gathers to provide technical expertise and project support on watershed initiatives in the CNMI. The group typically meets every two months to discuss ongoing projects and request review or recommendations on specific issues.

Please check the [CRM calendar for the next WWG meeting](#). Please contact our Watershed Coordinator, Zachary Williams (zwilliams@dcrm.gov.mp) for any further information or to be added to the email list.

MEETING MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

Keep up to date with presentations, materials and other group updates! Open "Notes & Updates" for further details and links relevant to CNMI's watersheds.

August 3, 2021

- [August 3, 2021. Notes & Updates](#)
- **Presentations:** Zak Williams (DCRM Watershed Coordinator): Watershed Updates; Mary Fem Urena (DCRM Coastal Planner): Better Buildings Update;

<https://dcrm.gov.mp/our-programs/water-quality-and-watershed-management/watershed-working-group/>



The Watershed Working Group is a network of partners involved in watersheds planning, project implementation, research, and education.

Includes members from local and federal government agencies, NGOs, community groups, and other interested parties.

Typically meets quarterly to discuss issues relating to watersheds, in order to pool knowledge and networks towards better management and collaboration.



Meeting Agenda

Zak Williams (DCRM)

- Achugao Watershed Management Plan (AWMP) – Final Review

Jolly Ann Cruz (MINA)

- Achugao Tasi Watch Program

Roundtable Discussion

- Member updates, concerns, opportunities, etc.

Closing





AWMP – Final Draft Review



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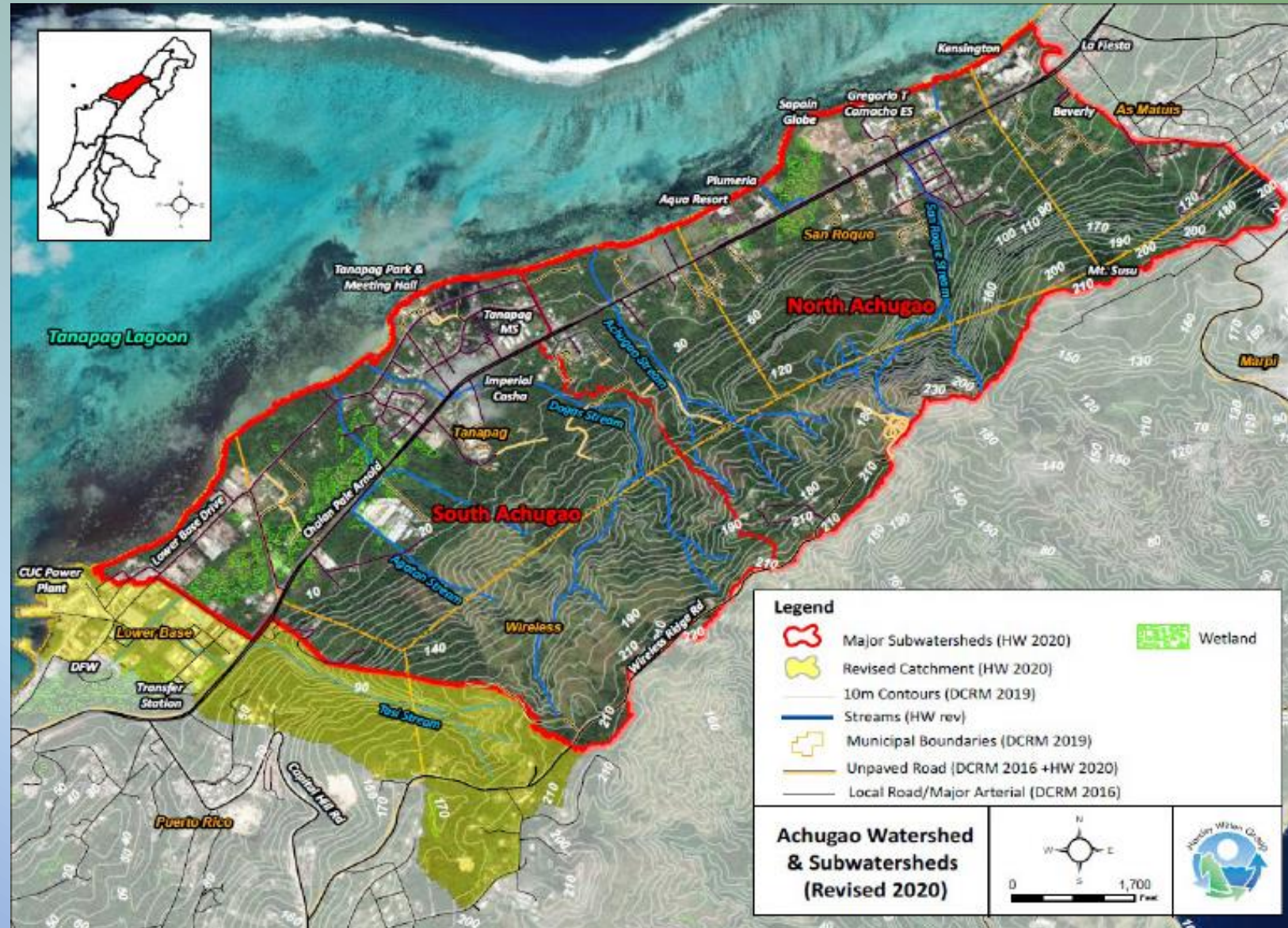
Appendix A. Inventory of Drainage infrastructure

Appendix B. Key Project Descriptions

Appendix C. Watershed Modeling Report

Appendix D. Restoration Opportunities: Field Data Collection Forms

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10-year watershed goals:



1. Reduce urban pollutant loads to Tanapag Lagoon by managing 30+ acres of existing impervious cover, applying better land use controls on new development, and maintaining infrastructure.



2. Adopt predicted rainfall, sea level rise, groundwater elevations, and storm surge levels for a minimum 30-yr planning horizon (year 2050).



3. Protect or restore 30% of the terrestrial and wetland habitats in the watershed through invasive species management, native reforestation, and land conservation.



4. Empower community-based watershed stewardship by conducting at least 30 engagement, advocacy, and educational outreach activities.

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4. Empower community-based watershed stewardship by conducting at least 30 engagement, advocacy, and educational outreach activities.

Includes opportunities and potential project concepts/designs.

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Next steps...

- Please review the plan and provide feedback to me at zwilliams@dcrm.gov.mp
 - Particularly sections most relevant to your agency/expertise/interest.
 - **Submit feedback by January 1, 2023**
- Following this, plan will be submitted to OPD in accordance to Public Law No. 20-20










“All master plans... prepared for public agencies shall be submitted to the [OPD] Director for processing as part of the comprehensive planning program.”
- Once adopted, I will seek signatures from relevant parties to finalize plan.
 - Who?

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➤ Who?

Approved by:	
 _____ DPW Director - James A. Ada	<u>7/26/21</u> Date
 _____ Mayor of Saipan - David M. Apatang	<u>7/26/21</u> Date
 _____ DEQ Director - Jonathan I. Arriola	<u>04/23/2021</u> Date
 _____ DLNR Secretary - Tony Benavente	<u>8/09/2021</u> Date
 _____ BECQ Administrator - Ed D. Cabrera	<u>6/11/2021</u> Date
 _____ CUC Director - Gary P. Camacho	<u>9/17/2021</u> Date
 _____ DCRM Director - Janice E. Castro	<u>5/6/2021</u> Date
 _____ OPD Director - Kodep Ogumoro-Uudong	<u>9/21/21</u> Date
 _____ CHCC Chief Executive Officer - Esther L. Muna	<u>01/29/2021</u> Date

awmp@dcrm.gov.mp

of interest.

Public Law No. 20-20

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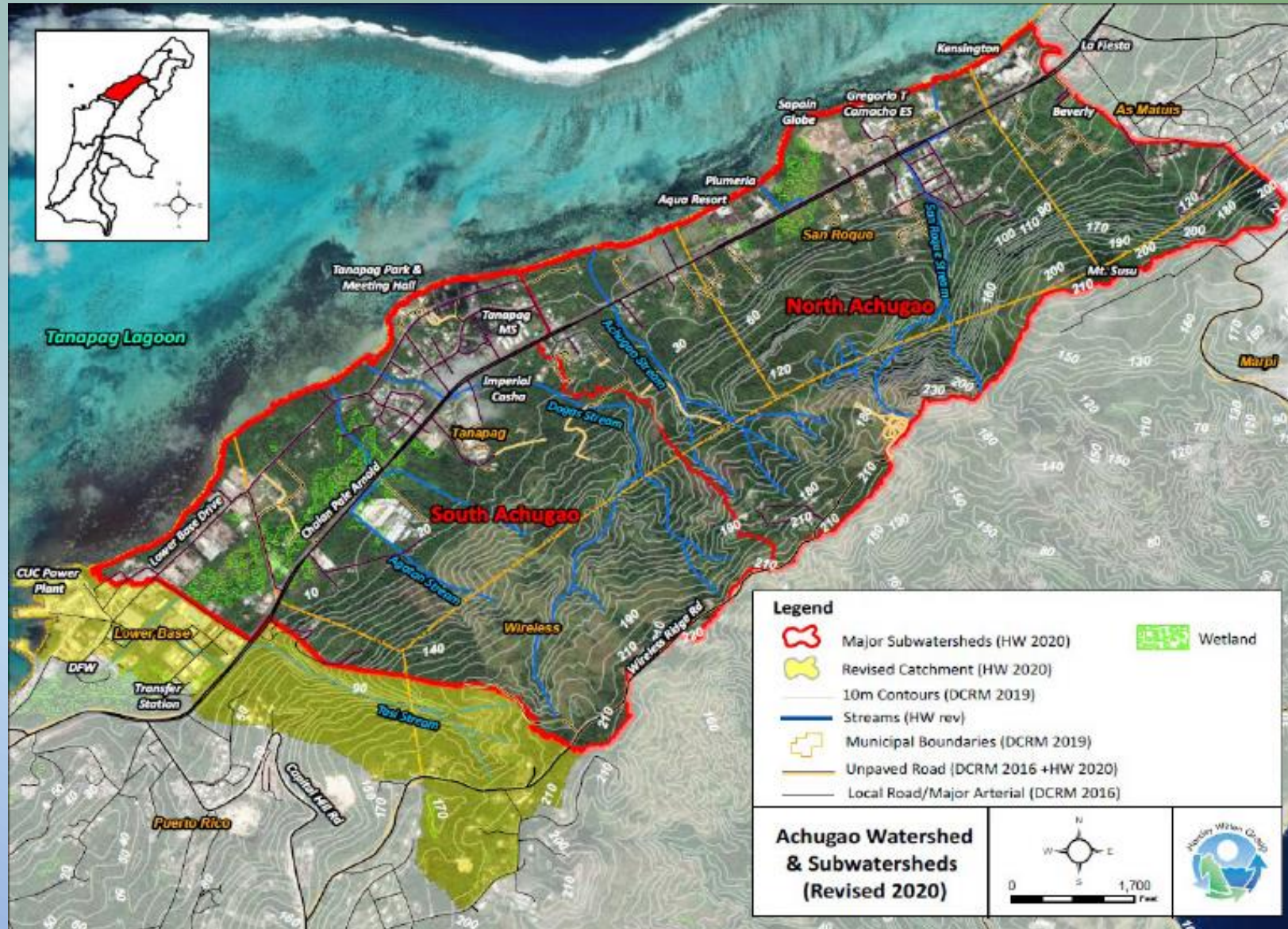
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Aiming to have the Achugao WMP, Saipan Wildfire Plan (and hopefully Laolao Bay WMP) approved/adopted by Q1 2023!



Achugao Tasi Watch Program





Roundtable

Updates, concerns, opportunities?

- Grant: Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWFC)
 - “The State Side of the LWCF provides matching grants to States and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.”
 - <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/stateside.htm>
 - www.nps.gov/subjects/lwcf/upload/LWCF-Description-and-Notification-Form.pdf
- Grants: USDA NRCS funding for agricultural producers
 - Environmental Quality Incentive Program
 - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/eqip-environmental-quality-incentives>
 - Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
 - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/acep-agricultural-conservation-easement-program>
 - Agricultural Management Assistance
 - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/ama-agricultural-management-assistance>
 - Conservation Stewardship Program
 - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/csp-conservation-stewardship-program>
 - Regional Conservation Partnership Program
 - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/rcpp-regional-conservation-partnership-program>
 - Conservation Innovation Grants
 - <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/cig-conservation-innovation-grants>
- Scholarship & Training Grants: The Women Divers Hall of Fame
 - “WDHOF provides educational, mentorship, financial, and career opportunities to the diving community throughout the world.”
 - Seventeen (17) scholarship categories offered for 2023 (e.g. undergrad/grad school, fellowships)
 - <https://www.wdhof.org/scholarships/scholarship-descriptions>
- Publication [Guam]: Nutrient thresholds to protect water quality, coral reefs, and nearshore fisheries (Houk et al. 2022)
 - <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0025326X22008268> (copy included on WWG page)

Thank you!



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