



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp



Eli D. Cabrera
Administrator

Richard V. Salas
Director, DCRM

April 1, 2022

Ref No: PLN22-016

Kevin Nishimura
Environmental Protection Specialist
Honolulu Airports District Office, Western-Pacific Region
Federal Aviation Administration, US DOT
300 Ala Moana Blvd, Rm. 7-128
Airports District Office, Honolulu, HI 96813
MAIL: PO Box 50244, Honolulu, HI 96850

RE: Consistency Determination for the Proposed Saipan International Airport, Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Facility, Rapid Refill Project

Dear Mr. Nishimura,

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) has reviewed the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) consistency determination (CD) from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) received on March 23, 2022, for utilization of FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) federal grant funds to finance the proposed Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport (GSN), Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting Facility (ARFF), Rapid Refill Project. In turn, the CNMI Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) will utilize these AIP funds to demolish, replace, and construct certain ARFF facility components. The FAA and DCRM coordinated pursuant to 15 CFR § 930.34, and DCRM provided public notice pursuant to 15 CFR § 930.35(c).

The FAA conducted Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for the proposed project and determined a “may affect, but not likely to adversely affect” conclusion for the Mariana common moorhen (*Gallinula choropus guami*). The USFWS Consultation 01EPIF00-2022-I-0132 lists conservation measures to minimize effects to the moorhen and states, “the project proponent will implement the conservation measures listed above to avoid and minimize impacts.” DCRM acknowledges that implementation of the conservation measures by the project proponent will sufficiently minimize any foreseeable coastal effects to the moorhen, a coastal resource as defined by 15 CFR § 930.11 (b).

DCRM concurs that this action is consistent with the enforceable policies of the CNMI coastal zone management program (CZMP). If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Arthur Charfauros at (670) 664-8314 or fedcon@dcrm.gov.mp.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Salas', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

RICHARD V. SALAS
Director
Division of Coastal Resources Management

CC: Tyler Willsey - USFWS