

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Department of Lands and Natural Resources

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DATE: October 29, 2025

Ms. Agnes M. Sablan Director Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) Saipan, MP 96950



CNMI

SUBJECT: Request for CZMA Consistency Determination for the Proposed Sand Removal Project at Smiling Cove Marina Channel

Tirow Director Sablan,

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources (DLNR) respectfully requests a Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Consistency Determination from the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) for the Proposed Sand Removal Project at Smiling Cove Marina Channel (Channel Spot Dredging).

This project seeks to address the continuous accumulation of sand that has been obstructing vessel access and navigational safety within the Smiling Cove Marina Channel. The proposed work involves the removal of accumulated sand materials within the existing channel footprint to restore safe operational depth.

For your review and reference, DLNR previously submitted the Rapid Biological Assessment Report and the complete application package for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Nationwide Permit POH-2025-00124, which outlines the scope, methods, and environmental safeguards for the proposed activity.

Your office's review and timely consistency determination are respectfully requested to support the coordination and approval of this emergency project. Please feel free to contact me at (670) 322-9830/9834 or my POC at (670)783-7261 or the Division of Fish and Wildlife for any additional information or clarification.

I certify that the proposed activity complies with the enforceable policies of the CNMI approved management program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such program.

Ghilissou,

Sylvan O. Igisomai

Department of Lands and Natural Resources