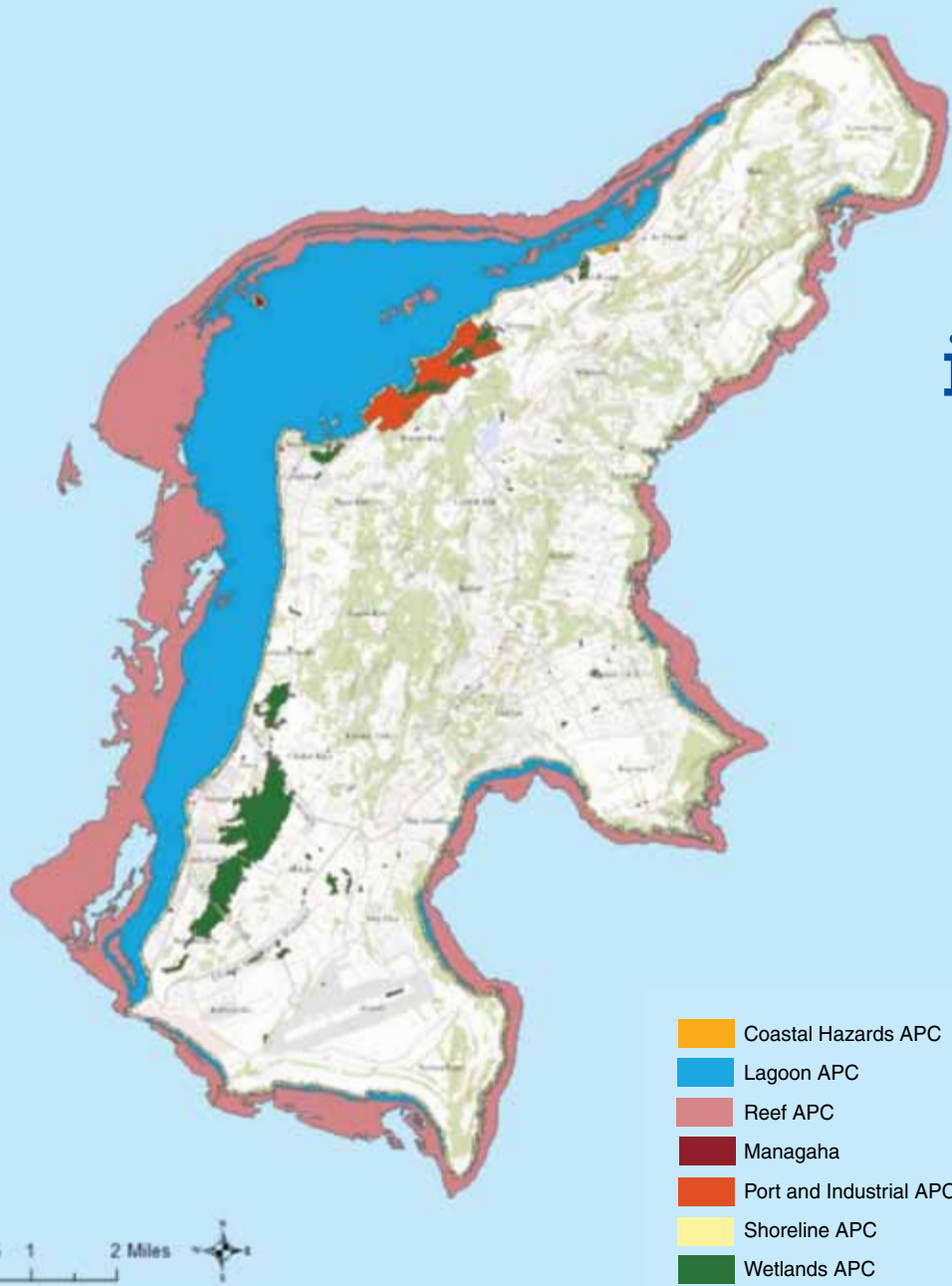


Saipan Areas of Particular Concern



Land Use Permitting in CNMI

Did you know that if you are clearing or modifying *more than 100 square feet of land* you need to apply to BECQ's Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for a One-Start permit?

This permit application triggers a review of the proposed activities by One-Start Agencies – the Division of Fish and Wildlife, the Historic Preservation Office, and the Division of Coastal Resources Management. If there will be no significant impacts to wildlife, historic, or coastal resources, the agencies will sign off on the One-Start permit. However, if the proposed activity is a major project with potentially significant environmental impacts or is located in or has potential to impact an Area of Particular Concern, additional information will be needed.

What Are APCs?

The CRM Program manages five Areas of Particular Concern (APC) in the CNMI:

- Shoreline APC
- Lagoon & Reef APC including Managaha & Anjota Islands and Coral Reefs.
- Ports & Industrial APC
- Wetlands & Mangroves APC - including freshwater streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, bogs, marshes and swamps, and estuaries.
- Coastal Hazards APC

Projects that occur in these areas must go through additional environmental review to ensure no significant impacts occur to CNMI's coastal resources. Temporary permits can be issued in APCs for emergency repairs after environmental disasters, including typhoons. All other activities must be permitted through the APC permit process, but DCRM works hard to review these applications in 21 days or less.

WHAT TYPE OF DCRM PERMIT DOES MY PROJECT REQUIRE?

DCRM issues three (3) types of permits:

- A "Temporary Permit" is issued for emergency repairs before or immediately after an environmentally disastrous event including, but not limited to, typhoons, tsunamis, storms, earthquakes, shipwrecks, or oil or other hazardous material spills;
- An "APC Permit" is required for all developments that are located in or which may have a direct and significant adverse impact to an "Area of Particular Concern".
- A "Major Siting Permit" is required for all major developments, uses, or activities that have the potential to significantly impact coastal resources.

Have questions? BECQ is here to help!

Please call DEQ at 664-8500 or DCRM 664-8300 for permit inquiries.

