

**JOB PROGRESS REPORT
COORDINATION PROJECT SEGMENT**

STATE: Territory of Guam

PROJECT NO.: FW-3C-5

SUB-PROJECT NO.: C-1

JOB NO.: 1

JOB TITLE: Coordination of Guam's Fish and Wildlife Programs (1630, 2630)

PERIOD COVERED: October 1, 1996 to September 30, 1997

OBJECTIVES

To plan, coordinate, supervise, and administer all fish and wildlife restoration and endangered species programs.

PROCEDURES

1. Supervise the planning and documentation of the Fish and Wildlife programs.
2. Administer all fiscal and budgetary matters and coordinate with the Central Accounting and Budget Office.
3. Administer all personnel matters including recruitment of off-island staff.
4. Represent the Division and Department of Agriculture in all matters pertaining to Fish and Wildlife Resources.

RESULTS

The Division experienced several staff changes during the year and has experienced significant success in recruiting new staff. All reported actions occurred between October 1, 1996 and September 30, 1997. There were 24 personnel actions involving hiring (13), transfer in (1), transfer out (2), promotion (2), and resignation (2) during FY97. There were also two employees that worked for the Division through a Public Health apprentice program. All total there were 14 new employees hired while 6 left. This filled the majority of the pending position vacancies and should allow considerable program progress. The position changes within the respective section are as follows.:

Administration: Arlene Tedtaotao the Secretary Typist I resigned in June. Lillian Rebanio was hired as a Secretary Typist I in September.

Wildlife: The following personnel were hired in the Wildlife section: Dana Lujan Wildlife Game Biologist II in February, Susanne Medina as an Aviculturist (Wildlife Biologist II) in July, Mark Richman as an Endangered Species Biologist II in August, Allan Searle as a Wildlife Herpetologist (Biologist II) in September, and Alicia Demaracut as a Wildlife Biologist I in April. The following were hired as Wildlife Biological Aides: Gilbert Acosta and Michelle Pleskonko in April, Raymond Wolford in May, and Jeffery Quitugua and Romano Santos in August, Lamont Henderson was promoted to Wildlife Biologist I in August, Dante Buensuces was transferred to a Wildlife Biological Aide in March from the Fadian "Guam Aquaculture Training and Development Center", Benedict Reyes transferred to Guam Department of Customs and Quarantine in April, Sean Slappy resigned in September, Jesse Taijeron and August Charfauros were employed as temporary workers under the Guam Public Health apprentice program whose contracts lapsed in June and September respectively and Franklin Cruz transferred to Public Works in May.

Fisheries: The following were hired as Fisheries Biologist I's: Veronica Cummings in April, and Jay Gutierrez in August. Georgette Concepcion resigned in July.

Technical Assistance: Marvin Aguilar transferred to Guam Mass Transit in September.

Law Enforcement: Officer Ed Nieves transferred to Superior Court in June.

Division staff spent the first quarter preparing the annual Job Progress Reports on the research and other activities conducted during FY96 under its various federal programs and submitted them to the US Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Office.

Staff also devoted considerable effort to preparing the Federal Aid project documentation necessary to obligate funds for the Division's various programs during FY98. This documentation included annual Grant Agreements for 1) Project FW-3C, Guam Fish and Wildlife Coordination, which covers the administration and coordination of the Division's Federal Aid programs and which is jointly funded by wildlife (PR) and sport fisheries (DJ) funds; 2) Project F-1R, Guam Sport Fish Investigations, which covers sport fish research and survey activity and which is funded with sport fisheries (DJ) funding; and 3) Project W-1R, Guam Wildlife Investigations, which covers wildlife research and survey activity and which is funded with wildlife (PR) funds. In addition, annual Grant Agreements and Amendments were prepared for the Division's various Fisheries Development and Endangered Species Investigations (Section 6) projects.

In the summer of 1997 a request to amend the Endangered Species translocation subpermit for the Marianas Crow to bring adults, chicks and eggs to Guam to stimulate reproduction was resubmitted. The status of the request is pending determination by the Endangered Species Recovery Team.

The Division Chief and his staff represented the Division and the Department of Agriculture in all matters relating to fish and wildlife resources. This frequently entailed meetings with other agencies of the Government of Guam, various Federal agencies, and the military.

The Division's administration and coordination responsibilities are 50% funded by local funds.

The Chief served on the Area Committee for Oil Spill Response and he is a member of the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee at Guam Community College. Additionally, he continued to serve as a member of the Technical Advisory Committee for the I Tano'ta land use plan being developed by the Territorial Planning Council and served as a member of the Technical Review Committee (now Rehabilitation Advisory Board [RAB]) for the Andersen Air Force Base Institution Restoration Program (IRP) as well as for Naval installations other than Naval Air Station. The Chief supervised the locally-funded Technical Assistance Program, staffed by Biologist II Marvin Aguilar until his resignation.

Division participated in a series of meetings with the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Chamorro Land Trust Board, and the Bureau of Planning to review the inventory of Government of Guam lands to determine which have the best potential for incorporation into the Territorial Park System as Conservation Areas in accordance with the mandate of PL 22-18, which requires that the two Departments (Agriculture and Parks) develop a comprehensive master plan before any additional lands are so designated. A draft plan was completed and being reviewed at the end of the report period.

The Chief, Fisheries Supervisor, and Wildlife Supervisor serve as members of the Area Committee's Oiled Wildlife Cleanup Subcommittee, which was established to review current cleanup techniques for inclusion in the Area Plan.

Because the Occupational Safety and Health Administration requires a certain level of hazardous materials training for all persons involved in an oil spill response, the Coast Guard provided an 8-hour HAZMAT recertification training to a number of Division staff who completed a 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operations (HAZWOPER) course the previous year.

Division staff made a number of off-island trips related to Federal Aid and other programs:

The Division Chief represented the Division at the initial meeting of the National Research Council's Committee on the Scientific bases for Preservation of the Mariana Crow in Honolulu in April.

Fisheries Supervisor, Gerry Davis attended the Federal Data Coordinating Committee meetings in November of 1996 and again in April of 1997, both funded by WPacFIN grant money.

Biologist III Andrew Torres attended the Bottomfish Plan Monitoring Team meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii in March funded by the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council.

Fisheries Biologist III Tom Flores attended the Pelagic Plan Monitoring Team meetings in Honolulu in October of 1996, May, July and September of 1997, funded by the Western

Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council. He also attended a workshop on pumpout facilities hosted by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Portland in September of 1997.

Biologist III Kelly Brock and Wildlife Biologist II Grant Beauprez made numerous trips to Rota in support of the Rota Rail Introduction Project. In addition to radio telemetry monitoring of released rails, they conducted rodent and predator trapping. Dante Buensuces also traveled to Rota as part of the rail introduction project in August. Mr. Beauprez also presented a paper at the Cooper's Ornithological Society in May in Kona Hawaii. Ms. Brock also attended the World Association of Zoo Animals conference in April in Phoenix Arizona. She went on to the Philadelphia Zoo after the conference to work on the Marianas Kingfisher captive breeding program.

The Division hosted a number of off-island visitors during the year.

PROGRAM COST

The estimated cost of the Coordination/Administration project was \$65,000.

This report was prepared by: Gerry Davis