

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **KID'S FISHING DERBIES**

**PERIOD COVERED:** 1 October, 1997 to 30 September, 1998

#### **SUMMARY**

Two marine fishing derbies for kids were held in FY98. The first event, co-sponsored by DAWR and COMNAVMARIANAS, was held on November 23, 1997 at Fena Lake, with a total of 26 participants. The second event, co-sponsored by DAWR and Andersen Air Force Base (AAFB), was held on May 30, 1998 at Sirena Beach, with a total of 32 participants. This was the ninth and tenth marine derby sponsored by the Department of Agriculture's Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources (DAWR). DAWR has co-sponsored six derbies with COMNAVMARIANAS and five derbies with AAFB

#### **OBJECTIVES**

To encourage fishing as a form of recreation for children by promoting at least two kids fishing derbies per fiscal year, and to use these events as opportunities to teach environmental and fishing conservation ethics.

#### **PROCEDURES**

##### **Coordination and Logistics**

Derby preparation and planning took at least 4-6 weeks in advance. A fishing site and potential date had to be selected, which provided safe shoreline for the participants and good habitat for fishing. Fishing dates required an a.m. high tide to increase the chances of catching fish.

Kid's fishing derbies held in cooperation with military installations had individuals from both agencies serving as points of contact. This ensured that requirements of both agencies were met and that duties assigned to each agency were completed. Natural Resource Manager Leslie Morton of COMNAVMARIANAS, Chief Conservation Officer Dan Works of Andersen Air Force Base and DAWR Fisheries Biologist Veronica Cummings were the designated points of contact.

Logistics included providing: rest areas with chairs and tables as well as refreshments, staff to serve as officials, organizing a safety briefing and the awards ceremony, and ensuring that official representatives from both agencies were present for the awards presentation. Certificates of Participation and fish posters were provided to all participants. Draft post-derby report has been completed, which includes comments and suggestions from derby participants to improve future derbies.

##### **Advertisements**

The advertising strategy employed intended to ensure maximizing derby exposure to children ages seven to twelve both on and off base. This was done by providing flyers to all elementary and middle schools, having highway banners displayed in strategic locations, providing the media with press releases periodically, and making derby pitches through various radio talk shows.

## Derby Rules and Clinic

The derby had a harvest size limit and a bag limit for the fish caught to encourage the practice of conservation. Fish had to be over 6 inches (152 mm) in length in order to qualify for the derby awards and to be kept. Although there was an individual bag limit of five fish, participants were encouraged to practice “catch and release” during the event.

The derbies were open to children from seven to twelve years of age, and was preceded by a fishing clinic open to the public on November 15, 1997 and May 23, 1998. The fishing clinic provided an opportunity for parents and children to learn about and practice basic fishing skills including knot-tying and casting. Demonstrations were also conducted to aid parents in selecting and purchasing fishing gear and in preparing for the fishing event.

## RESULTS

Twenty-six children participated in the November 23 derby and 32 children participated in the May 30 derby.

Derby results are listed in Tables 1 and 2. Prizes for the derby were solicited for a two-day event in accordance with Executive Order 91-08, resulting in thirty-seven prizes being donated. Since there were only six winners from the actual fishing, the remaining prizes were distributed by lottery to the non-winners. Food was also donated by businesses, with donuts and soft drinks being provided as refreshments.

Table 1. Winners in November 23, 1997 Kid's Derby

MOST FISH on SUNDAY		
First Place	Chelcy Reyes	3 fish
Second Place	Jadine Leonen	2 fish
Third Place	Alex Boudreau	1 fish
LONGEST TILAPIA		
First Place	Gene Gozalo	9.96 inches
Second Place	Christen Calvo	9.06 inches
Third Place	Justin Evangelista	6.85 inches
LONGEST TUCUNARE		
None caught		

Table 2. Winners in May 30, 1998 Kid's Derby

MOST FISH on SUNDAY		
First Place	Raymond Blas	3 fish
LONGEST FISH		
First Place	Chelcy Reyes	9.3 inches
Second Place	Chauncey Celis	7.7 inches
LONGEST TRIGGERFISH		
First Place	Alexander Numann	7.7 inches

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Evaluations and Comments

#### November 23, 1997 Derby

1. Very Good. Do more often. Need to do more advertising announce through schools, Boy Scouts, & Girl Scouts. We have participated in each one since we have been here on Guam (2 yrs.). Good work staff. Good Job for providing access to area not easily accessible (U.S. military lands). Jack Kuhn.
2. Parents should fish. Should be able to use boats.
3. Well organized, organizers are very helpful & courteous. We really enjoyed.  
Suggestions/Recommendations:
  - Improve fishing are by clearing moss. Extremely difficult for young kids to throw far enough to clear it.
  - Longer fishing time.
4. This is the second fishing derby my sons (3) have had the opportunity of enjoying. I'm thankful to all those who in one way or another made it possible. I hope to see more derbies and hope the sponsors keep up. Would you consider holding a derby for older children 13-15 years old? My oldest son always feels left out.
5. I thought it was well run and fun overall. Conditions were a bit difficult for children this age. I also don't really like rule changes once they're established. Changes from 2 to 1 day. Extended registration etc. Would have been nice to been facing away from the sun on the other side! Rand and Rafael Friedenfels.
6. Great opportunity for the kids & parents as well. Fena is a great beautiful lake with peaceful surroundings. It was nice for the families to enjoy the fishing derby together & have opportunities to catch fish. Next time we will find worms!!! Mark & Jackie Thompson.
7. It was very interesting, especially being a lake. Very challenging and a good experience.
8. Make accessible areas better (clearer).
  - Only recommend long sleeve shirts on rain days --very hot for the kids.
9. These activities are always very good. We just need to do a lot more throughout the year. My only recommendation is to make the time (fishing) a little longer. Felix Reyes.
10. Just a big thank you for this wonderful program. We enjoyed it. Fena Lake nice place to enjoy the scenery. To all the staff involved, as always, good job.
11.
  - Use of boats would make it so the kids don't get stuck in the grass.
  - An excellent event my kids had a lot of fun.
  - I think you have great support from you sponsors. Thanks & we'll be back! Ted Boudreau.
12. Well run event!! Great job!! Thank you!! Dennis Ferree.

13. More area needed for fishing. Have a portable toilet. Overall good job - Have at least quarterly or twice yearly.
14. - Too much moss/weeds. Especially troublesome when children are fishing.  
- Staff was helpful and friendly. Jeff Mathes.
15. It was nice and lots of fun for my daughter. She wishes she could do it more often.  
Paul C. Aguon.
16. This was a good experience for the kids it should happen more often. Prizes were great and the coordination was too.

### **May 30, 1998 Derby**

1. This is a worthwhile event and we enjoyed it. Not many fish were caught today, probably a bad day for the fish. The coral made it easy to get the hooks caught or stuck. It didn't seem easy to fish from the shore, a dock would be better.  
Anonymous
2. We wish a lot more kids participate. We've always enjoyed ourselves. Increase frequency at AAFB as it is a good location. How about a golf course pond fishing?  
Felix Reyes
3. Fish were kinda shy today, but my son and I enjoyed our time trying to catch whats in the water. Many thanks to all responsible for this fun time. Brian and Ben Carbullido.
4. Excellent, as usual. Anonymous
5. This event was enjoyed by young and older alike. This gives guardians and role models the opportunity to share their knowledge of conservation, the ecology and the skill of fishing correctly. The only thing I didn't see was a recycling bin for aluminum cans. Leigh Kuhn.
6. It's a good program. It gives parents and kids an opportunity to have fun. Unfortunately, the fish did not cooperate today. We're looking forward to fishing at Fena. Rey Llaneta.
7. Extend the fishing time. Overall, it was a worthwhile event. Thanks. Anonymous.
8. Eventhough we didn't catch any fish, we still had a good time. Keep the program going. You may want to plan the next one when the tide is right for fishing. Rich and Zach Mele.
9. Excellent! Good way of exposing kids to nature, & a great way of getting parents and their children together. Great outdoors sport. Mike Napoli
10. We enjoyed fishing today, although we caught some of which didn't make the size category. The tide wasn't at its peak till later, maybe next time it's better if it's high early like say 6-7 a.m., no later.
11. We had a good time. Thanks for all your effort. It is good for the kids. Jerome Quigley.

12. Well organized - Do it more often. Scott Klassen
13. Well it is very much good for the kids because they have their time for derby. Likewise it is very good. Tony Quichocho, Jr.
14. Given how few fish are caught sometimes, it might be better to count all fish - no 5" minimum rule. Andrew & Trevor Torres.
15. My son enjoyed the fishing even though we didn't catch any fish. Thank you. John & Kevin Titus.
16. Have it earlier. Good Job. Have more of them. Have an event for older kids. Anonymous
17. Get more parents motivated. The program directly to the school, guest speakers in the 5th grades. All of the help & organization was excellent! Fish at night. Fish from 4 am to 9 am. Fish longer. Andrea J. Larned

The derby program has been well received and is a valuable educational tool for those who participate. However, an increase in the number of participants is essential for the program to effectively continue. This can be achieved by adding radio advertisements to our other methods of advertising. In addition, hosting more events and targeting special groups like the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or village programs could work well.

Another factor concerning participation in derbies is to find a location that is more centrally located, instead of going to strictly military sites.

The response from participants and parents was positive. There have been requests by participants and parents to include a category for teenage anglers. Some of the older participants are interested in staying in the program, while some parents have older children who usually help their younger siblings to fish. This might help in making the derby more family oriented and decrease the chance of turning away potential participants.

## **PROJECT COST**

The estimated cost of this project is \$2,000.

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