

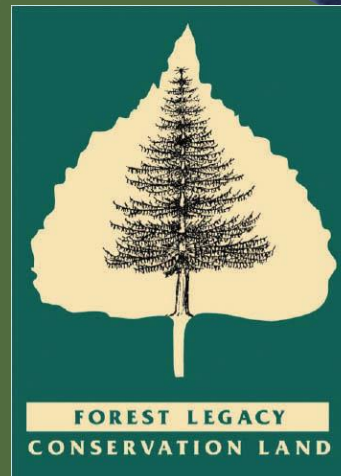
2025 Assembly of Planners Symposium

Plenary 8: The Guam Forest System Plan and Agriculture Lands

*Guam's Forest Legacy Program
...the vision...*

Christine Camacho Fejeran,
Forestry Division Chief

Guam Department of Agriculture,
Forestry & Soil Resources Division





Guam Forestry & Soil Resources Division

OUR MISSION...

Promote, protect and enhance our natural
environment and sustain its resources

Discussion Highlights

- What is the Forest Legacy Program?

Established in 1990 through an amendment to the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act (CFAA) of 1978 (16 USC 2101 et seq.)

- What type of private forest would you like to help conserve?
- Next Steps...

Goals of the Forest System Plan

- **Goal 1.** Manage watersheds to protect and improve water quality of surface water, groundwater, and nearshore marine habitats.
- **Goal 2.** Maintain and enhance biological integrity of native ecosystems.
- **Goal 3.** Support public access to the Forest System.
- **Goal 4.** Strengthen the economy by sustainable use of forest products, and protection of key forest ecosystem services, such as flood abatement, erosion control, carbon fixation, and ecotourism.

Guam Forest System Plan (FSP) Augments Guam DOAG's mandated responsibilities and authorities...

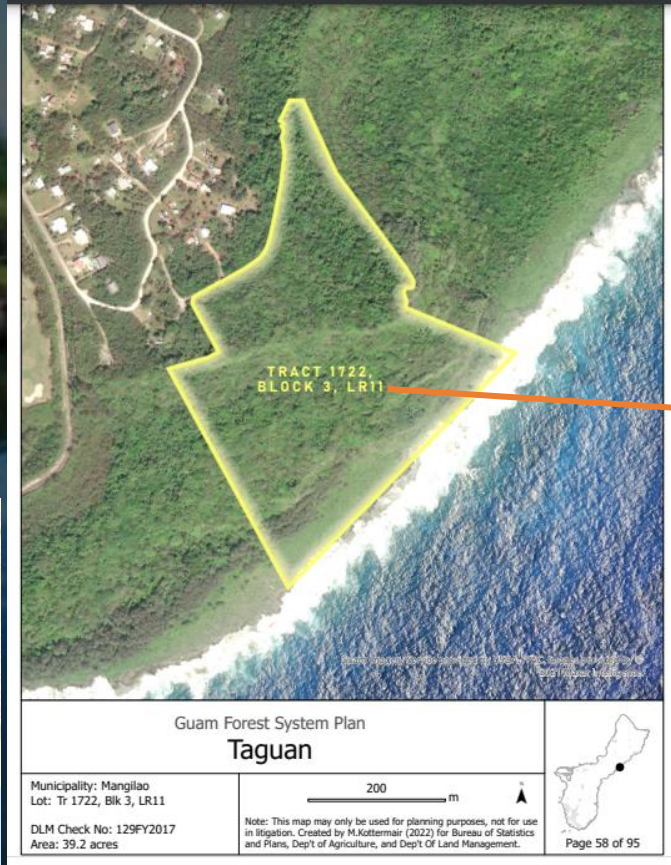
- “of developing and protecting the agriculture, natural resources, and aquatic and wildlife resources of Guam”
- DOAG is mandated with developing the Guam FSP
 - Potential uses in the Forest System for public benefits
 - Maintenance and enhancement of the overall quality of the environment
 - Shall contain: land inventory, lot number, size and location, a comprehensive and concise definition of the public interest in the system; proposals for maintenance and enhancement of the overall quality of the system environment; stipulations on public access for recreational and educational use; etc...

Proposals for Collaboration and Future Additions to the Forest System

- Future additions per 5 GCA §63504(f)
- Memorandum of Agreements with Government Agencies, including the Chamorro Land Trust Commission (CLTC), the Guam Ancestral Lands Commission (ALC), the Guam Territorial Park System reserved properties classified as Natural Preserves and Conservation Reserves, Guam Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Land Management for properties under the jurisdiction of the Guam Territorial Seashore Protection Act of 1974.
- Reservation of land
- Securing of conservation easements



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBasis, IGN, Vektor, Inc., Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



Fina'maolek is a Guam Department of Agriculture Forestry and Soil Resources Division Urban and Community Forestry grant program.

Fina'maolek Grant Program Workshop

The Fina'maolek grant program is specifically designed to inspire, engage, and support your efforts in creating and sustaining breathtaking urban and community forests across Guam. Join us at the forefront of urban forest recovery and seize the chance to leave a lasting legacy of environmental stewardship. Register for our virtual workshop and learn more about Fina'maolek.

Funding levels
GUASALI - GAOSALI
• \$500 - \$2,499
• Categories 1, 2 & 3

IFIT - IFIL
• \$2,500 - \$10,000
• All categories

Who can apply?
• Non-profit organizations
• Schools
• Government entities
• Local businesses
• Places of worship
• Volunteer groups
• Individuals

Categories
1. Tree Planting projects
2. Tropical Urban Forestry Professional Training
3. Forestry Technology Tools
4. Education and Outreach Projects

Virtual Workshop
Friday June 30, 2023
9:00am - 12:00pm

Scan the QR code to register or visit www.doag.guam.gov/fina'maolek for more information. Contact us at fina'maolek@smarttreespacific.org.

USDA is an equal-opportunity provider, employer, and lender. Fina'maolek is funded by a grant from the State and Private Forestry branch of the U.S. Forest Service, Region 5.



LET’S TALK ABOUT THE NUMBERS

Guam Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Soil Resources Division								
Final 2015 - 2024 Guam Wildfire Mapped Data								
Year	Fire Class Sizes (number of fires per class size)					No. of Fires	Acres Burned	% Land Area Burned
	0.25 acres or less	0.26-9 acres	10-99 acres	100-299 acres	300-999 acres			135,680
2015*						329	4428	3.26%
2016	98	521	120	6	4	749	8,338.17	6.15%
2017	59	312	81	4	1	457	4,017.11	2.96%
2018	33	309	114	8	3	467	6,250.51	4.61%
2019	15	241	119	15	6	396	9,421.00	6.94%
2020	13	131	97	7	2	250	6,448.38	4.75%
2021	3	100	66	8	0	177	3,623.74	2.67%
2022	7	101	74	8	3	193	4,744.62	3.50%
2023	1	29	22	2	0	54	1,434.34	1.06%
2024	10	155	82	12	8	267	8,440.16	6.22%
TOTALS	239	1899	775	70	27	3,339.00	57,146.04	42.12%
AVERAGES	26.55555556	211	86.11111111	7.777777778	3	333.90	5,714.60	4.36%

total acreage = 135,680

543,933,775.894 square meters, (134408.96319 acres)

Data provided by: Mr. Julian Dendy, formerly - GIS Research Consultant, Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry (IPIF), USDA Forest Service. Data collected and prepared for the Guam Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Soil Resources Division (2015-2022) and Allyson Earl, Wildfire Mapping Technician, Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization (HWMO) (2022-Present).

*NOAA Fire Mapping Results;

Forests and Open Space Management Practices

- Improving Forest Health and Native Plant and Animal Species
- Erosion and Sedimentation Control
- Ecotourism and recreational activities



Wildfire prevention and suppression

- Installation and maintenance of firebreaks and fuels reduction efforts within management areas and areas of high risk.
- Continue to conduct fire suppression activities, wildland fire investigations, wildland fire trainings, and build upon coordination efforts with fire partners to include but not limited to the Guam Fire Department, Joint Region Marianas Fire and Emergency Services: inclusive of Naval Base Guam, Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz and Andersen Air Force Base, village mayors and stakeholders.
- Develop Community Wildfire Protection Plans (“CWPPs”) for management areas and neighboring communities to identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommendations to break the fire cycle.



Biosecurity and invasive species control

- Identification, monitoring, and or removal of invasive plant and animal populations.
- Targeted control projects for specific species.
- Landscape level control for specific species, where feasible and appropriate.
- Ungulate control or eradication, including fenced enclosures where appropriate.
- Collaboration with neighboring landowners for landscape scale control and joint 4 management actions.
- Implementation of biosecurity programs to prevent the introduction of new species into 6 management areas or areas with especially vulnerable species populations.



Plan Support And Approval

- Draft plan submitted to the Office of the Governor on May 11, 2022
- Written approval of the Governor received on August 22, 2022
- Public Hearing on June 10, 2024
- Guam Forest System Plan Summit held on June 20, 2024
- 2nd Notice of Public Hearings from the Guam Legislature, October 28, 2024
- Bill 363-37 (COR) into law as Public Law No. 37-143 on December 28, 2024

LOURDES A. LEON GUERRERO
GOVERNOR



JOSHUA E. TENORIO
LT. GOVERNOR

UFISINAN I MAGA'HĀGAN GUĀHAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OF GUAM

Transmitted via email: Chelsa.MunaBrecht@doag.guam.gov

August 22, 2022

Chelsa Muña-Brecht
Director
Guam Department of Agriculture
163 Dairy Road
Mangilao, Guam 96913

Re: Written Approval of the Proposed Guam Forest System Plan as to Policy

Hafa Adai Director Muña-Brecht,

Thank you for your submission on May 11, 2022, of the proposed Guam Forest System Plan, dated March 2022, pursuant to the *Guam Forestry Legacy Act of 2012* (GFLA).¹ Your submission also included the following materials:

- Appendix I: Inter-agency Collaboration in the Identification of Lands for the Guam Forest System;
- Appendix II: 1999 Master Plan for Parks and Conservation Lands; and
- Appendix III: Guam Forest System Map Series.

I have completed a review of the proposed Guam Forest System Plan and its appendices.

Consistent with the GFLA² and in accordance with the Administrative Adjudication Law (AAL),³ I am pleased to provide the Guam Department of Agriculture with this written approval as to policy for its proposed Guam Forest System Plan.⁴

Our Administration wishes to acknowledge the efforts of the Guam Department of Agriculture in developing the proposed Guam Forest System Plan, which was prepared in strong collaboration with the Bureau of Statistics and Plans' Guam Coastal Management Program. The work of your

¹ 5 GCA §§ 63501 to 63510.

² 5 GCA § 63504 (citing Guam's Administrative Adjudication Law, 5 GCA §§ 9100 to 9312).

³ 5 GCA § 9303 (providing the AAL provisions on submittals and transmittals for approval); *see also* 5 GCA § 9303(a)(4) (providing that the scope of the Governor's written approval is specific "as to policy").

⁴ Please note that this written approval as to policy does not intend to suggest that a plan, such a land use plan, *2022-1726* satisfies the AAL definition of a "rule."

Next Steps Required For Plan Adoption...

Promulgation of Rules and Regulations

September 9, 2025 – Stakeholder Meeting

Location: Hilton

Time: 9:00a.m. - 4:30p.m.

Scan the following
QR code to
view or download
a PDF copy of the

‘Guam Forest System Plan’



Si Yu'os Ma'åse'

@DOAG.Forestry



Forestry & Soil Resources Division
Email: Forestry@doag.guam.gov
Office: (671) 300-7977/6/5

