

# Man, Land, & Sea

A publication by Guam Coastal Management Program

August 21, 2020



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## Senator Sabina's MESSAGE



**OFFICE OF SENATOR SABINA FLORES PEREZ**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Environment, Revenue and Taxation, and Procurement  
I MINA TRENTAI SINGKO NA LIHESLATURAN GUAHAN  
35TH GUAM LEGISLATURE

### From Senator Sabina's Desk

Buenas yan Háfa adai,

It has been a difficult year for our island, as we continue to face the daunting global and local challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. More than ever, this moment underscores the importance of maintaining sustainable relationships with each other, our lands, and our waters.

At the heart of sustainability is connection to the land, people and the environment and having many opportunities to commune with nature and enjoy our unique wild places and ecosystems. Guam's natural environment is diverse ranging from limestone forests, savannahs, ravine forests, coastal strands, coral reefs, aquatic and other marine habitats, each with its unique flora and fauna. I encourage and welcome each of you to learn about our native species and habitats because they hold meaning and value to our lives. It has the power to nurture us in many ways and to create a new generation of stewards.

Water is life. Our CHamoru ancestors, and many other Indigenous peoples around the world knew this well. Guam is fortunate to have an abundant water supply with over 40 million gallons drawn daily from our sole source aquifer. However, we have a responsibility to ensure its protection. The health of our Northern Guam Lens Aquifer, the island's main source of drinking water, as well as other precious water resources, are currently threatened by deforestation, development, pollution, and climate change. This threat demands an urgent response by both elected officials and the broader community to protect our natural habitats which sustain us. In healing the land, we heal the people.

The concept of watersheds provides an opportunity to reconnect with our environment in a holistic way. With increased awareness, we can better understand how changing the landscape locally and globally alters our limited water resources. Deforestation and the predominant land use practices impairs our water supply through increased run-off, decreased recharge of our aquifer, decreased protection of our aquifer, or impacting the hydrological cycle. Sustainability involves preserving our precious forests and rethinking and redesigning our communities. To live sustainably, we must repair our relationship to the water, land, and environment that ultimately protects the health of our people.

Looking forward, we must continue to rethink the ways we perpetuate CHamoru cultural values that have kept our people alive and thriving for generations. Your voice makes a difference, and together we can create and promote community-focused, holistic and sustainable policies that improve the lives of our people today and enhance the well-being of our island for generations to come.

Senseramente,

*Sabina Flores Perez*  
Sabina Flores Perez  
Senator, 35th Guam Legislature

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“ At the heart of sustainability is connection to the land, people and the environment...”



# 2020 GUAM INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEANUP DAY



Make a difference  
and help prevent trash from  
entering our oceans.



REGISTER NOW @ [BSP.GUAM.GOV](http://BSP.GUAM.GOV)  
or contact [steven.dierking@bsp.guam.gov](mailto:steven.dierking@bsp.guam.gov)



#TOGETHER\_APART





# The Guam Coral Reef Initiative Launches

## Guam CORAL BLEACHING ALERT NETWORK (GCBAN)

by Mallory Morgan,  
Sustainable Marine  
Tourism Coordinator,  
Bureau of Statistics and Plans



The Guam Coral Bleaching Alert Network (GCBAN) is an alert system that will notify the public, marine tour operators, and any others visiting Guam's waters either recreationally or commercially when Guam's coral reefs are at risk of, or undergoing, coral bleaching. Broad reaching communications will provide various alert levels on the likelihood of coral bleaching. The Network will include information about what coral bleaching is, how to recognize it, and how to report it. Information about coral bleaching, both locally and globally, will also be shared to help Guam's community understand this phenomenon which is occurring more frequently in recent years.

Coral reefs can survive bleaching events under otherwise healthy conditions and as long as waters cool down. However, as bleaching events occur more frequently due to climate change, reefs do not have the opportunity to recover. There are several actions we can take locally to reduce coral stress and aid recovery such as reducing physical contact, reducing the take of herbivores, and reducing pollutants entering the water. The GCBAN is intended to raise awareness of these actions and encourage the community to actively participate in protecting our coral reefs for the future, particularly during bleaching events. By becoming involved with GCBAN, we hope community members will learn how to **RECOGNIZE, AVOID, and REPORT.**

GCBAN is based off the NOAA Coral Reef Watch portal, which has been used by the international coral reef management community since 2000. The portal uses a variety of variables and satellite-derived sea surface temperatures to determine the likelihood of bleaching for four time periods: current, 1-4 weeks in the future, 5-9 weeks in the future, and 9-12 weeks in the future. Data used to determine the alert levels include sea surface temperatures (SST), SST anomalies, SST trends, SST threshold, hotspots, and degree heating weeks. Learn more on the GCBAN website.

### GET INVOLVED!



Follow us on Facebook to receive updates:  
[www.facebook.com/GuamCBAN](http://www.facebook.com/GuamCBAN)



Learn how to identify coral bleaching with the Eyes of the Reef Marianas Coral Bleaching Training Module available online at [www.eormarianas.org](http://www.eormarianas.org)

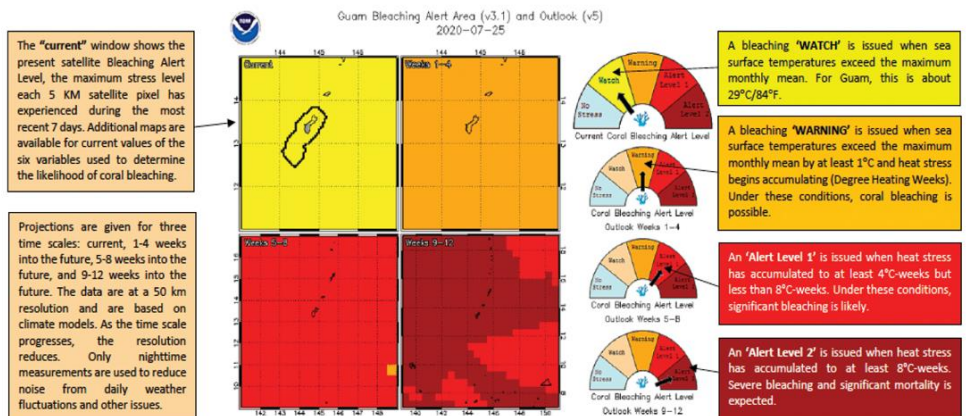
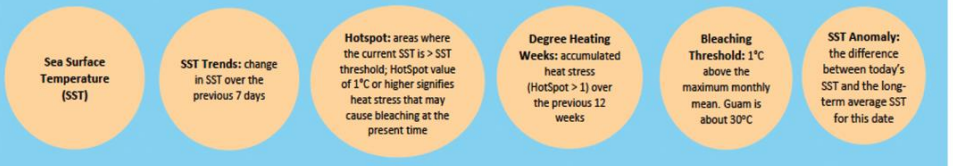


Join the mailing list or register for an upcoming virtual EOR Coral Bleaching Identification Webinar by contacting Mallory Morgan at [Mallory.Morgan@bsp.guam.gov](mailto:Mallory.Morgan@bsp.guam.gov)



Visit our website for more information:  
[www.guamcoralreefs.com/GCBAN](http://www.guamcoralreefs.com/GCBAN)

### VARIABLES USED TO DETERMINE BLEACHING ALERT LEVEL



# Islandwide Beautification Cleanup Draws Hundreds

Government Agencies and Volunteers join Island Pride Event



Volunteers from various agencies cleanup Gov. Joseph Flores Beach Park (Ypao Beach Park) on Saturday, Aug 1, 2020.



Serve Guam Commission and AmeriCorps Staff cleaning along Marine Drive.





Team UOG ready for a photo after a successful cleanup.



Lt. Governor Joshua Tenorio with DPW staff clean up the Guam Chinese Park in Upper Tumon.

# Si Yu'os Ma'ase'



Give Us A Moment



August 21, 2020

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## 5TH Annual Assembly of Planners Symposium 2020



### 2020 Planners Symposium Airing and Streaming on Social Media and Local TV Channels



If you missed this year's planners symposium you can now catch episodes of the 5th Annual Assembly of Planners Symposium held at the Dusit Thani Guam Resort on February 20, 2020. All 9 episodes air on the government channel GTA Channel 16 and Docomo Channel 60. You can also view the episodes on the Guam Coastal Management Program's YouTube Channel or on our website at [bsp.guam.gov](http://bsp.guam.gov). The theme of this year's symposium was "Creating a Clear Vision in a Changing Climate," and featured panelists and presenters in three main tracks: Flood Control, Land and Zero Waste initiatives. Also featured were presentations on the Guam Forest System Plan, A report on Public Access to beaches and an onsite demonstration and presentation of the Zero Waste Guam Working Group's Biosolids Pilot Project.

# \$300K Technical Assistance Grant to help Guam Customs and Quarantine Data Automation



The results of the assessment will include process mapping, business requirements, system requirements, and budgets that would cover the following major functional categories:

- Risk Management and Threat Assessment
  - Contraband Enforcement
  - Air and Sea Passenger and Cargo Tracking and Monitoring
- Strategic Planning and Resource Allocation
- Economic Data Collection
- Use Tax Assessment and Collection



The Bureau of Statistics and Plans (BSP) was awarded \$300,500 from the FY2020 Technical Assistance Program (TAP) through the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

The Grant will allow the Government of Guam to procure professional services to assist the government in the first phase of modernizing Guam Custom's and Quarantines operations. The first phase would involve a current state process analysis, process improvement mapping, functional requirements development and documentation, and the development of a request for proposal for a new system.

Part of the assessment will include an analysis of the Government of Guam's applicable personnel and processes, determine the budget and business requirements necessary to adopt an automated "Single Window" operation, and implement a system similar to the Automated System for Customs Data.

To date, Guam's Custom and Quarantine Agency has no automation to support its operation or support the dependencies that the Bureau of Statistics and Plans and the Department of Revenue and Taxation have of them. This has impacted their ability to accurately track or document the number of cargo and vessels that arrive in Guam, limiting their ability to manage risk, detect and seize contraband, and ultimately protect the border.

With the amount of personnel, the level of responsibility, and the sheer volume of passengers and cargo traveling in and out of Guam, it is challenging to expect Guam's Customs and Quarantine Agency to effectively and sufficiently perform its border protection, contraband enforcement, economic data collection, and tax assessment and collection functions without automation.

The lack of automation has also impacted the Government of Guam's ability to sufficiently record import data, and tax imports. This has resulted in the huge data gaps in economic data collected for Guam, and has resulted in a significant amount of tax leakage for Use Taxes collected on imports for personal consumption. This was evident in a memo from the US Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis in November 2019 and from the performance audit on Guam's Use Tax Collections.



In Fiscal Year 2019, there were 1,631,049 arrivals to Guam, of which only 6% came through a US port or airport. During this same year Guam's port handled 422 vessels with 84,954 containers, and 148,440 revenue tons of break bulk, and Guam's Airport handled 54,592 flights with 12,974 metric tons of cargo and 4,387 metric tons of incoming mail. CQA is charged with monitoring this type of volume and enforcing the applicable laws with only 146 personnel, including only 101 Uniformed Personnel and 24 Officer Trainees.



# Support for First Responders

## BSP SECURES GRANTS TO AID IN COVID-19



The Department of Corrections (DOC) and Department of Youth Affairs (DYA) received coronavirus sanitation supplies funded under a federal grant and earmarked for criminal justice agencies. Supplies included surgical masks, hand sanitizers, thermometers, alcohol wipes, face shields, and alcohol. Other first responders and front liners also received supplies from this grant, including the Guam Police Department (GPD), Guam Customs and Quarantine, the Public Defender's Office, and the Judiciary of Guam.



**Guam Department of Corrections and Guam Youth Affairs receive Personal Protective Equipment.**



Other grants awarded were emergency vehicles to assist the Guam Police Department with new police patrol vehicles and provide much needed inventory of ambulances for the Guam Fire Department's First Responders.



**A total of four (4) 2020 Mitsubishi Outlander SUV's were purchased under the CARES grant to support GPD's response to COVID-19.**



**The Guam Fire Department received (4) new ambulances from a BSP Grant that will bolster response efforts as we continue to combat the COVID-19 crisis.**



**Man, Land, and Sea  
Newsletter  
August 21, 2020**

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Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans

**THE  
DATA  
HUB**

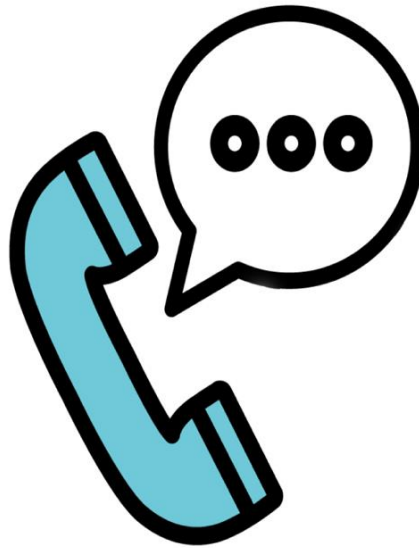
WITH  
**TYRONE  
TAITANO**

**Newstalk**



6:30 pm Tuesdays

# Have You Responded to the 2020 Census of Guam?



Call the number on  
your Notice of Visit.  
Didn't receive one or  
misplaced it?

**Please Call  
645-2020**

## #TogetherGuam

Together we can make a difference.  
**RESPOND TODAY.**

Learn more about the 2020 Census of Guam  
[2020census.guam.gov](http://2020census.guam.gov) • (671) 645-2020  
Email: [guam@2020census.gov](mailto:guam@2020census.gov)

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