



## **Draft Environmental Impact Statement of Coral Reef Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan Available for Public Review**

The draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) and draft fishery management plan (FMP) for coral reef ecosystems of the Western Pacific Region and associated documents (totaling more than 1,100 pages) are available for public review and comment. The FMP proposes to establish marine protected areas, fishing permit and reporting requirements, allowable harvesting gears and methods and a framework process for future regulatory adjustments. Copies of the documents are available on the Web at [www.wpcouncil.org](http://www.wpcouncil.org). CD-ROM or hard copy (indicate if you'd like a specific volume or a summary is available) by contacting the Council at (808) 522-8223 or (808) 522-8172. Volume I contains the FMP (including draft regulations and gear catalog) and the draft Regulatory Impact Review/Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis. Volume II is the DEIS. Volume III is the essential fish habitat descriptions for management unit species.

Public hearings on the DEIS have been scheduled around the Region as follows:

- Jan. 16, 8 to 10 p.m., Guam Fishermen's Cooperative Association, Hagatna Boat Basin, Agana (Hagatna), Guam
- Jan. 17, 8 to 10 p.m., Saipan Diamond Hotel, Hibiscus Room, Susupe Village, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
- Jan. 19, 6 to 9 p.m., Lihikai Elementary School, 335 S. Papa Ave., Kahului, Hawaii
- Jan. 22, 8 to 10 p.m., Mitchell Pauole Center, 90 Ainoa St., Kaunakakai, Hawaii
- Jan. 23, 8 to 10 p.m., King Kamehameha Hotel, 75-5660 Palani Rd., Kona, Hawaii
- Jan. 24, 8 to 10 p.m. Cooperative Extension Services, College of Agriculture, Conference Room B, 875 Komohana St., Hilo, Hawaii
- Jan. 25, 6 to 9 p.m. Wilcox Elementary School, 4319 Hardy St., Lihue, Hawaii
- Jan. 26, 8 to 10 p.m., Lanai Airport Conference Room, Lanai City, Hawaii
- Jan. 29, 6 to 9 p.m., McCoy Pavilion, Ala Moana Regional Park, Ala Moana Blvd., Honolulu, Hawaii
- Feb. 5, 3 to 5 p.m., Dept. of Marine & Wildlife Resources conference room, Faratogo, America Samoa

The formal public review period for the DEIS ends Feb. 26, 2001. Mail or fax written comments simultaneously to Kitty Simonds, executive director, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council, 1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, HI 96813 (fax 808-522-8226) and to Susan B. Fruchter, NEPA coordinator, OPSP, Room 5805, US Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230 (fax 202-482-1156). Comments sent by e-mail or Internet will *not* be accepted. For more information, contact Bob Schroeder at (808) 522-8223.