



WESTERN
PACIFIC
REGIONAL
FISHERY
MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL

Report of the Marianas Advisory Panel Meeting

Guam Sub-panel

June 3, 2013

Guam Fisherman Cooperative Association Lanai

Advisory Panel Guam Recommendations

In regards to AP Roles and Responsibilities, the AP:

1. Recommended the Council work with the Department of Agriculture to ensure additional participation by its biologists and technicians at Council sponsored-meetings.

In regards to Guam fisheries, the AP:

2. Recommended that the Council work with the Department of Agriculture to develop a fish tagging program and include tagging in the MPA's.

In regards to enforcement in Guam, the AP:

3. Recommended the Council request the U.S Coast Guard to continue monitoring marine VHF radio channel 68, and provide additional outreach and education on the newly developed Maritime search and rescue channel 21 on how the rescue 21 operates, and the 20 nautical mile coverage.
4. Recommended the Council seek clarification on the comments made by local U.S. Coast Guard about not supporting the FADs.
5. Recommended the Council request NMFS to include "Post marked by" on deadlines for comment periods. Due to difference in time zones, comments out of Guam could be rejected based on time difference and delivery of documents to the U.S. mainland.

In regards to program planning and research, the AP

6. Recommended the Council include studies specific to the Mariana Islands in its five-year research plan.
7. Recommended the Council request the NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center to conduct reports of the effects of Guam fisheries using "cooperative research." The AP would like to see PIFSC provide greater fisheries science on Guam fisheries.
8. Recommended the Council request NMFS to review the funding and ranking of its Marine Education and Training program. The AP agreed that there needs to be a review of the whole process including representation on the review panel. Further, the AP recommended the Council to request NMFS for more time to review the MET mini-grant proposals as well as for equal funding for each of the island areas.