



# NOAA FISHERIES

# Pacific Islands Region

## Recreational Fisheries Implementation Plan Status Update 2018

### Project Highlights

Guiding Principle: **Provide scientifically sound and trusted social, cultural, economic, and ecological information**

Deliverable: **Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) Pacific Islands Regional Implementation Plan (RIP) 2018-2022**

The Pacific Islands MRIP Regional Implementation Plan was recently developed in collaboration and partnership with the members of the Council's Fishery Data Collection and Research Committee and its advisers.

The Pacific Islands MRIP RIP prioritized five needs:

- 1) Programmatic review of the Territory creel surveys.
- 2) Full funding for the surveys that meet the minimum survey standards for Hawai'i, American Samoa, and the Mariana Archipelago.
- 3) Improved timeliness of non-commercial catch estimates.
- 4) Development of an algorithm that extracts the non-commercial component of the total creel survey catch estimates.
- 5) Development of mobile data entry system to support "real time" reporting.

Guiding Principle: **Communicate and engage with the recreational fishing public.**

Deliverable: **Pacific Islands Region Recreational/Non-Commercial Fisheries Roundtable**

The Pacific Islands Regional Office hosted its second recreational and non-commercial fisheries roundtable in 2017. Discussions connected past and current fisheries issues and priorities, and participants provided comments and suggestions for the projects included in the 2016-2017 Recreational Implementation Plan. Issues raised at the meeting included: access to fishing opportunities, transparency and reliability of data collection and reporting, and Fish Aggregating Device programs.

#### COORDINATOR CONTACT INFORMATION

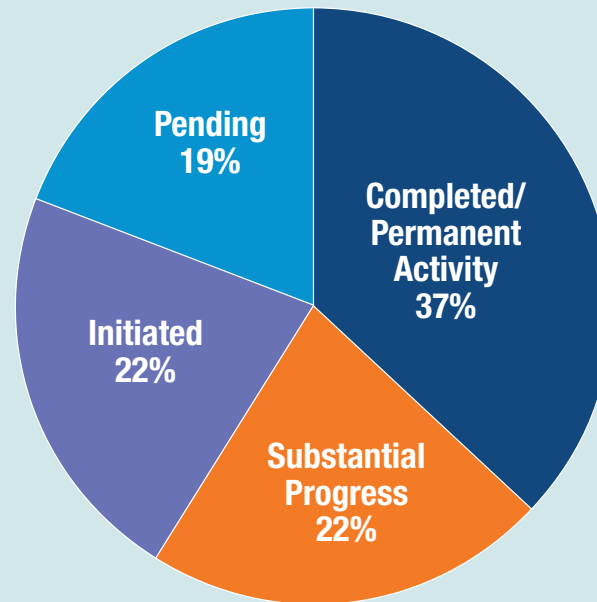
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### Progress to Date

Total Projects = 27



### Additional Progress:

#### Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center Barbless Circle Hook Program

In 2017, representatives of the Barbless Circle Hook program gave presentations at 16 fishing tournaments throughout the five main Hawaiian Islands on the benefits of using barbless hooks.

#### Habitat Blueprint - West Hawai'i and Manell-Geus, Guam Habitat Focus Areas

**West Hawai'i:** Current efforts include partnering with local communities to conduct regular marine debris clean-ups, invasive species removal, and coastal community habitat conservation projects.

**Manell-Geus, Guam:** Conservation projects underway include efforts to develop and test restoration techniques to stabilize the stream banks and provide erosion control.

**SPOTLIGHT: 2017 Hawai'i Marine Recreational Fishing Expenditure Survey.** The survey was conducted during the summer of 2017. Anglers were recruited from three sources: the National Saltwater Angler Registry, a list of state registered small non-commercial fishing boat owners from 2015 to 2017, and from charter anglers. 1,009 surveys were returned, for a total response rate of 12.3%.

**2017 Marine Sanctuary Fishing Tournament in American Samoa.** PIRO staff attended a National Marine Sanctuaries fishing tournament in American Samoa and participated in outreach events at tournament meetings and a local radio talk show. This event helped fulfill our ongoing commitment to enhance relationships, communications, and collaboration between the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and non-commercial fishermen.