

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery

Management Council is one of eight U.S. regional fishery management councils established by Congress in 1976. Under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), the Western Pacific Council has authority over the fisheries in the Pacific Ocean seaward of state/territorial waters of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Hawai'i, American Samoa and the US Pacific remote island areas. The MSA mandates the establishment of Advisory Panels to assist the Councils in the collection and evaluation of information relevant to the development and amendment of its fishery management plans.

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CNMI

ADVISORY PANEL
2015-2018

CNMI AP CONCERNS 2015–2018

- Loss of fishing grounds around Farallon de Medinilla, Tinian and Pagan due to military buildup
- Live military ordinances in coastal water around islands
- Possible damage to coral reefs from anchored US Department of Defense repositioning ships
- Weakening of indigenous fishing rights
- Lack of cultural take allowance for green sea turtles
- Runoff into lagoon and waters around the islands
- Economic loss due to shark depredation

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Advisory Panel (CNMI AP) assists the Council with the collection and evaluation of information relevant to the Mariana Archipelago Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP). The CNMI and Guam AP members, along with the AP members from Hawai'i and American Samoa, also assist the Council with the Pacific Pelagic FEP. Both plans can be found at www.wpcouncil.org/fishery-plans-policies-reports/.

AP members are appointed by the Council and serve four-year terms. They represent a balance of commercial, recreational and other interests.

The chair of the AP system for 2015–2018 in the Western Pacific Region is Judith Guthertz of Guam (judithguthertz@gmail.com), and the vice chair is McGrew Rice (mcgrew@hawaii.rr.com). Each island area has a chair for its AP. The AP chair for CNMI is Richard Farrell (rfarrelltiq@gmail.com).

Decisions and recommendations made by the AP are advisory in nature. Regular and emergency meetings of the AP are open to the public unless they pertain to national security, employment matters or briefings on litigation in which the Council is interested.



Judith Guthertz



Richard Farrell



CNMI ADVISORY PANEL MEMBERS BY SUB-PANEL

To get involved or learn more about the CNMI AP, please go to www.wpcouncil.org/public-resources and/or www.wpcouncil.org/about-us/council-advisory-panels/ or contact any of the CNMI AP members listed below.

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FISHERMEN CODE OF CONDUCT

Kodigun Konduktun Peskadot. Allégh me Mwóghutughut Säu liyap.

- RESPECT NATURE** and your place in it. *Rispeta i nature yan i sanhalum na lugât-mu. Awóoy alúllúl falúw me sáát me igha U lo iye.*
- SEEK ADVICE** of experts with generational knowledge of the local resources. *Aligáo abisu gi manmáolik gi generational knowledge gi guinahan tánu'. Mwuuri sáangiir me schákka re repiya meeta óutol faluwash, iye yaasch bwe ammwewelesch.*
- SHOW REGARD** to spawning seasons and juvenile fish. *Na'annuk regard gi para tiempun manmañáda' yan i nuebu nai manmafañágu na guihan. Sibwe ascheleghil rel yaal ghuúllong tiillil iigh.*
- DO NOT WASTE.** Take only what is needed. *Mungnga muna'lástima. Chuli' atyu ha' i háfa un nisista. Óutte soolap. Bwughi schagh mille U bwe yáaya.*
- KEEP SAFE** people, property and resources. *Nasáfu' i taotáo, propiedát yan guinaha siha. Amwaala ghatcháur aramas, falúw me schowaarasch.*
- OBEY** fishing laws and rules. *Osgi i lai yan I areklamentun pumeska siha. Attabweey mwóghutughutúl allégh.*
- USE PROPER** gear and techniques. *Usa i propiu na ramenta yan manera siha. Yáayá schowaar kka e jil.*
- PICK UP YOUR TRASH.** *Hokka i basulá-mu. Úrúghuló peipeyúmw.*
- SHARE YOUR CATCH.** *Na'fañagi ni kininne'-mu. Áileti ló liyappómw.*