



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Pacific Islands Refuges and Monuments Office
300 Ala Moana Blvd Room 5-231
PO Box 50167
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850



Mr. Archie Taotasi Soliai, Chair
Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council
1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Soliai:

The Pacific Islands Refuges and Monuments Office, and on behalf of the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration, Ecological Services, and Migratory Bird Programs, would like to report to you and the rest of the Council the following activities related to USFWS managed lands and waters in the Western and Central Pacific Region from March 15, 2020 to June 15, 2020.

- Ric Lopez is the new Administrator/Supervisor for the USFWS Pacific Islands Refuges and Monuments Office in Honolulu. E-mail: ricardo_lopez@fws.gov Office: 808-792-9544
- Two webinars were held in May to help the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument Management Planning process. The first webinar gathered scientific experts from USFWS, NOAA, and DOD to discuss conservation targets for the plan. The second webinar gathered together the Monument Community Group to further discuss and refine these conservation targets, as well as discuss goals and objectives for the plan.
- Rose Atoll National Wildlife Refuge/Marine National Monument staff and partners from DMWR CRAG, ASCC, and volunteers visited Rose Atoll from June 6-10, conducting archaeology, entomology, coral health, and seabird surveys along with collecting marine debris.
- PBS NewsHour Weekend traveled to Rose Atoll with Superintendent Brian Peck last fall to see how one of the most remote places on earth is being impacted by climate change. The resulting 9-minute video is available to view online.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zV4M8cJtN5o>
- Guam NWR Re-opening. The Governor has placed Guam under Pandemic Condition of Readiness (PCOR) 2, lifting restrictions on beach and park closures. Refuge staff are preparing to re-open to the public the first week of June and follow local and CDC guidance on safe operations.

- Project Leader Tammy Summers attended the Guam Reef Restoration Stakeholders meeting; the Ritidian Unit of the Guam NWR is a candidate site for coral reef restoration efforts. Stakeholders, including local government and research institutions, collectively discussed and ranked sites for final selection.
- Sea turtle nesting season has started on O‘ahu. During the month of May, six honu (green sea turtle) nests were documented on James Campbell NWR.
- Palmyra Atoll NWR Landscape Level Conservation. The last Coconut Control Project volunteer crew departed 29 May. Over the past 13-months, staff completed the first control sweep on 56% of the targeted land areas (100 ha) and controlled 855,609 coconuts. One Bio-Tech, one FWS volunteer, and one Kupu intern remain at the atoll through July to wrap up some of the monitoring and restoration efforts. Nature Conservancy personnel are also deployed to the atoll to maintain essential services through early September.

Sincerely,

Brian Peck
Superintendent
Rose Atoll Marine National Monument and National Wildlife Refuge