



176th Meeting of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council

Laniakea YWCA
Fuller Hall
1040 Richards St., Honolulu, HI
March 19-21, 2019

12.A.5(1) GUAM COMMUNITY AND ISSUES REPORT

1. Marianas Archipelago

A. Guam

1. Isla Informe

The Guam Council Members will provide updates and reports on fisheries and related Council activities and issues in Guam since the 174th Council Meeting held on October 2018 in Guam, including updates on shore based and boat-based creel surveys of fishermen. The reports will also include: See Department of Agriculture Report.

2. Report on the Governor

a. Lourdes Leon Guerrero Elected First Female Governor of Guam

On January 6, 2019, Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero was sworn in as first female Governor of Guam and first Democrat since 2003.

A former Senator, Governor Leon Guerrero most recently served as CEO and President of the Bank of Guam.

Governor Leon Guerrero is also a registered Nurse and was a charter member and President of the Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce and Chairwoman of Guampedia.



b. Governor Appoints Chelsa Muña-Brecht to the Council

On February 15, 2019, Governor of Guam Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, appointed incoming Director of Agriculture Chelsa Muña-Brecht to the Council as her and the Government of Guam's representative. She also appointed incoming Acting Director of the Bureau of Statistics and Plan Tyrone Taitano as Ms. Muña-Brecht's Alternate.

Prior to assuming her role at the Department of Agriculture, Ms. Muña Brecht served as the project director for the Guam Department of Education managing a multimillion-dollar curriculum project. She is also a farmer and surrounded by fishermen.

3. Report on Congressman Michael San Nicolas

Elected to the 116th U.S. Congress.

Served in the 32nd, 33rd and 34th Guam Legislatures.

Congressman San Nicolas was an Assistant VP/Financial Advisor, Bank of Guam

He also served as Speaker of the 22nd Guam Youth Congress from 1998 to 2000.

Congressional Committees:

Subcommittee on Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship and Capital Markets

Subcommittee on National Security, International Development and Monetary Policy

Subcommittee on Indigenous Peoples of the United States

Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations



4. Fishing Conflicts

Besides the SCUBA spearfishing issue, conflicts on the use of purse-seine nets within the Agaña Marina proper remain. With the arrival of a new Administration, new Legislature, new Department of Agriculture Director and new Port Authority of Guam management, fishermen who use seine nets to harvest the seasonal Atulai are again challenging the imposition of the ban put in place by the previous Administration and Agencies to allow its use once again. The group is lobbying the Port Authority of Guam and the Department of Agriculture to revert to having only DAWR have enforcement oversight of the area and the Port Authority removing itself altogether.

