

# 2020

JAN. 26, 2020-FEB. 12, 2021



*Fanha'aniyan Pulan CHamoru*

Western Pacific Regional  
Fishery Management Council



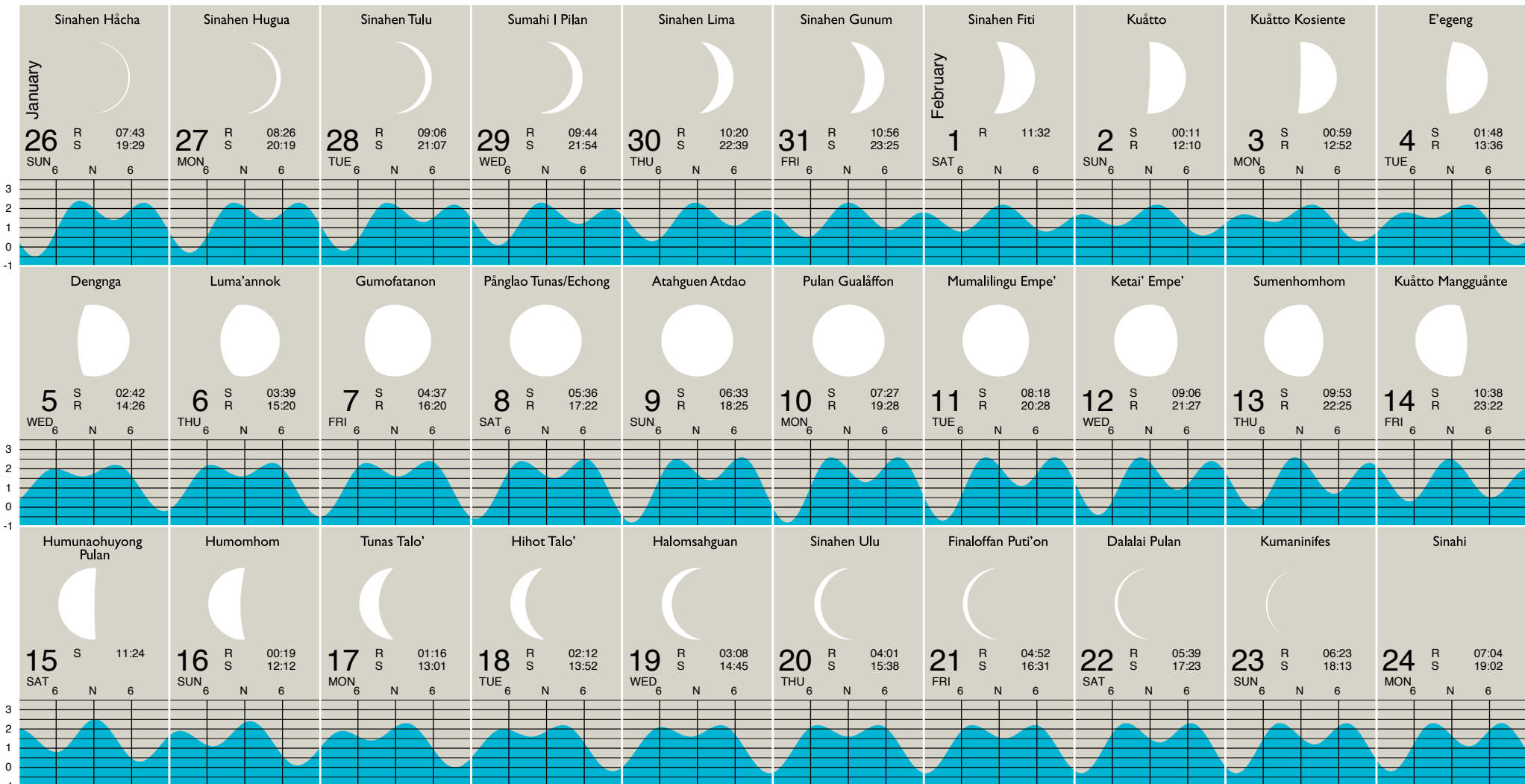




The Council receives advice from an **Advisory Panel (AP)** of recreational and commercial fishermen, charter boat operators, buyers, sellers, consumers and others knowledgeable about the fisheries in the region, including indigenous fisheries. On Guam, the AP also provides community outreach, supports various local fishing activities and works with the community, public and private entities, villages and others. The Guam AP schedules regular meetings to address local fishery management issues. From left to right: 2019–2022 AP members Matthew Orot, Judith Amesbury, Ken Borja (Vice Chair), Myles Driscoll, James Borja and Jason Miller. Not pictured: Jason Biggs, Tatiana Talavera and Albert Yanger (all AP alternates).

# Umagahaf

*Ineru 26–Fibreru 24, 2020*



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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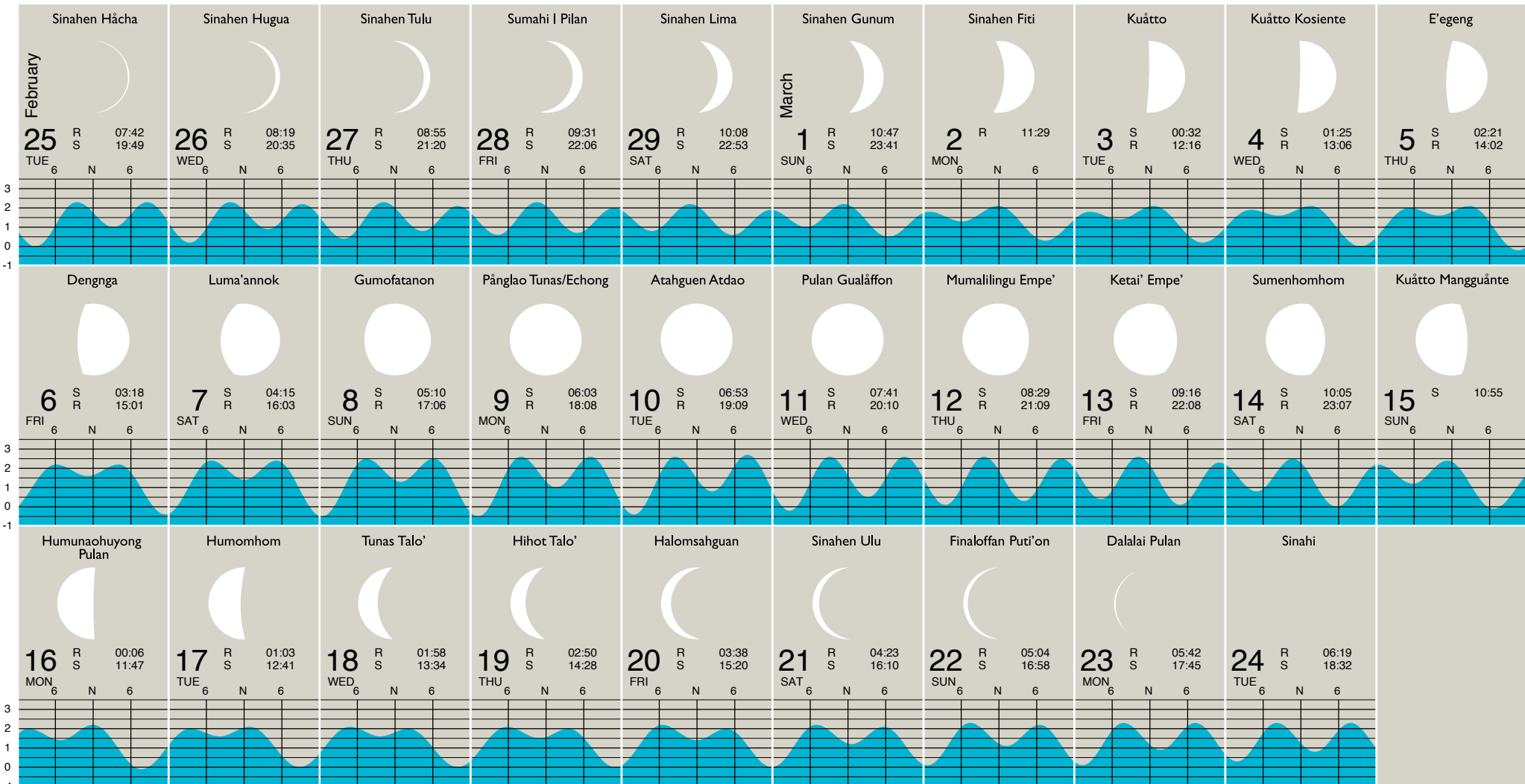




The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant **fishing platform at Paseo de Susana** was built to allow all fishermen, including those with disabilities and the elderly, or *manāmkō*, to fish safely. The first phase of the project started in 2015 with two additional phases completed in late 2018. The next two phases will extend the platform closer to the World War II pillbox with all water's edge decking over the water. The overall length will be 500 feet when completed. The platform was funded by the Guam Department of Agriculture Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources through the US Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration Program, the Guam Organization of Shore Anglers through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Council. **Above:** View from platform looking out to harbor channel.

# Tumaiguini

*Fibreru 25–Måtso 24, 2020*



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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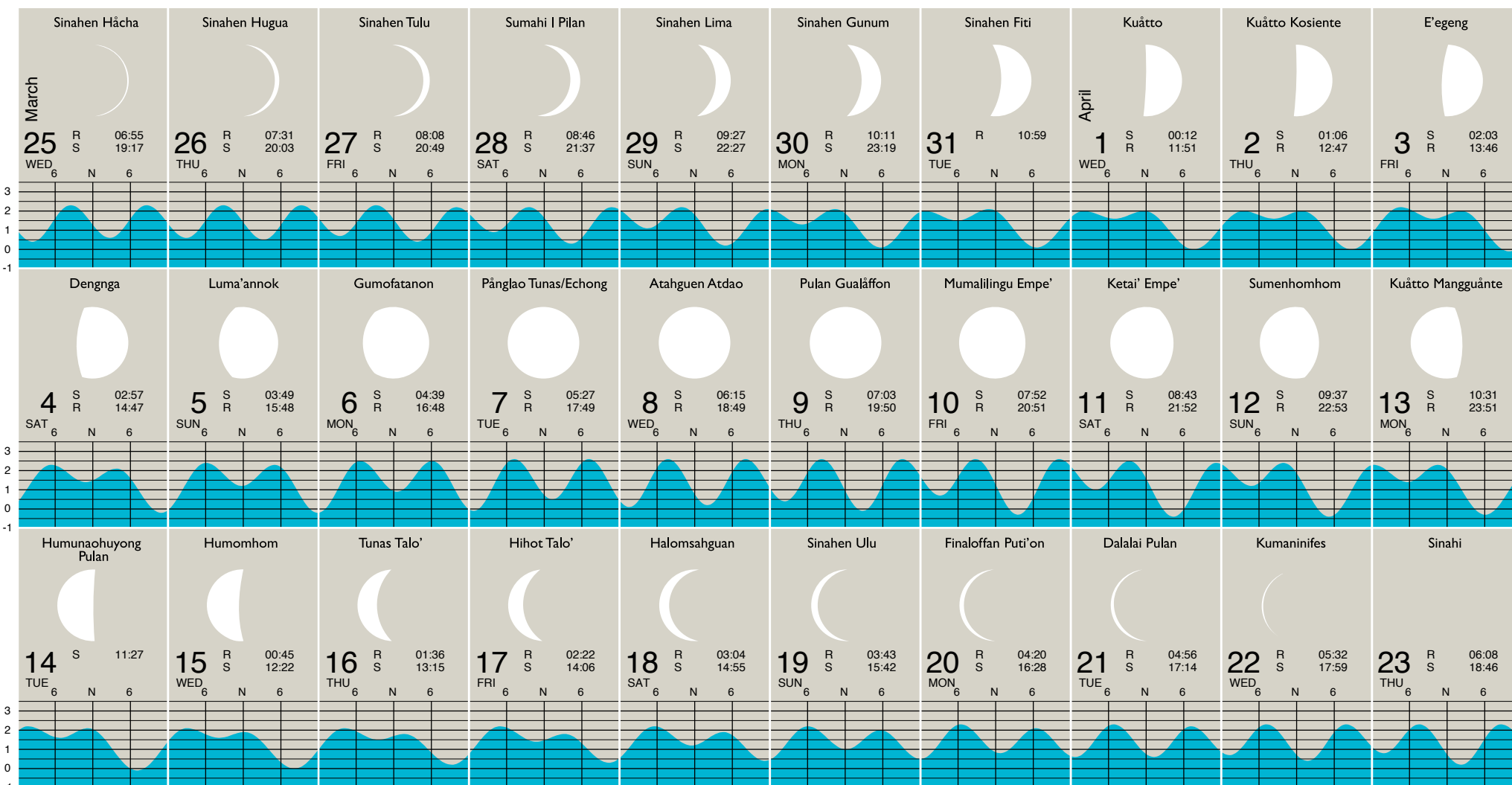




The purpose of the Council-supported **Guam Naval Base Project** is to document the fishing catch and effort in the Base—an area not covered by the shore-based creel surveys—and compare it to the fishing pressure from the surveyed area outside the Base. **Above:** Christina Laurent is ready to collect data that are vital for effective fishery management in Guam. **Inset:** *Botagoue'* is the dominant species caught in the non-commercial fisheries in the Guam Naval Base.

# Maimo

Måtso 25–Abrit 23, 2020



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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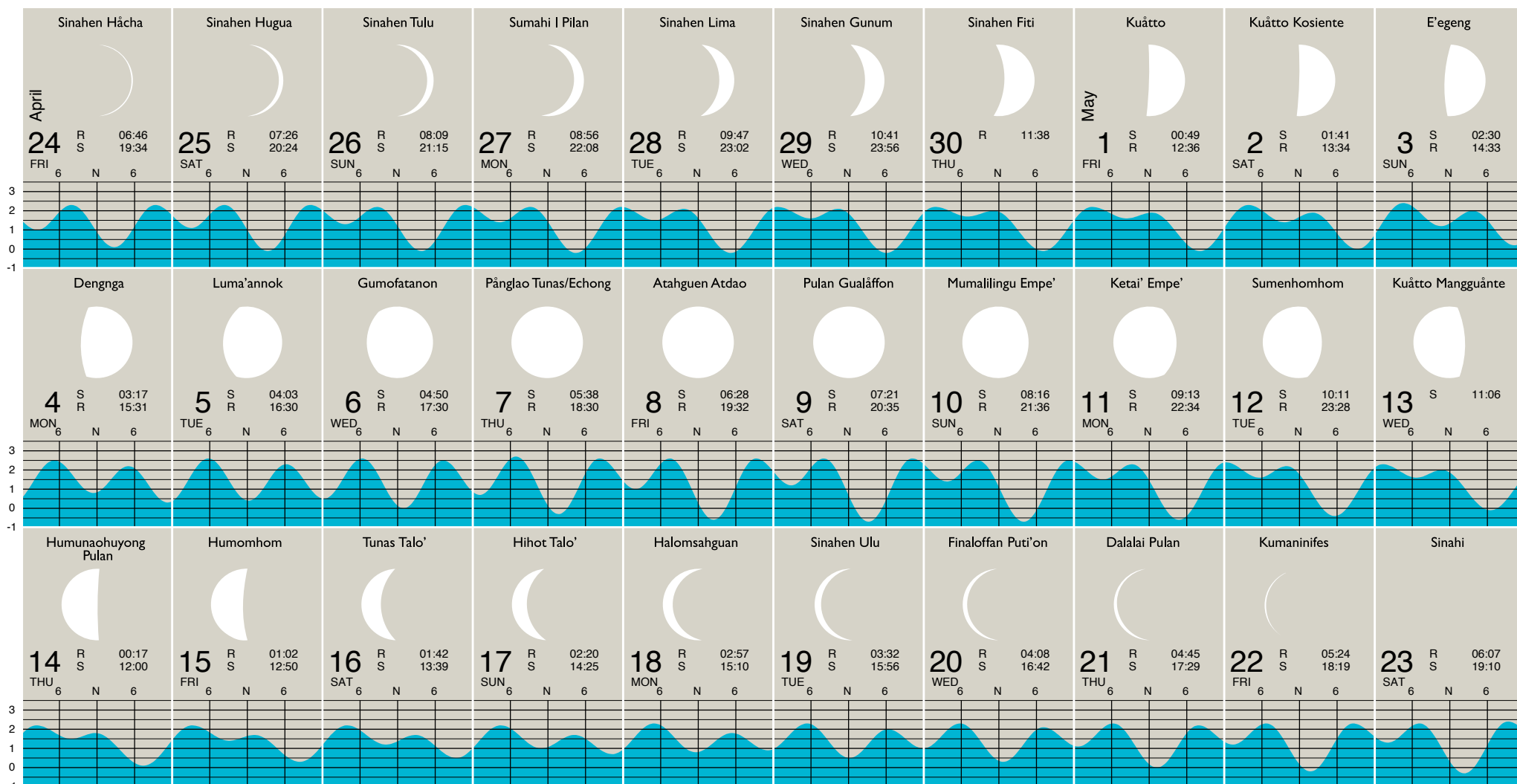


The two-week **Guam High School Fisheries Summer Course**, funded by the Council and NOAA, is coordinated by the 4-H Program at the University of Guam. Each year ~18 high school students from across the island are immersed in many fisheries topics including food safety, fishing gear, *talaya* (circular throw net) casting, shore casting, trolling, data collection, CPR/First Aid, bottomfishing, conservation, and stewardship. Watch for course announcements in the Spring on social media and through the schools. **Above left:** Course participant Kiara Lira demonstrates her new spearfishing skills by proudly showing her *guasa* (surgeonfish). **Above right:** Master *talayeru* (cast net fisherman) Dan Narcis teaches student Jared Gordon the basics of throwing the *talaya*. PHOTOS: UOG 4-H STAFF



# Umatalaf

Abrit 24–Māyu 23, 2020



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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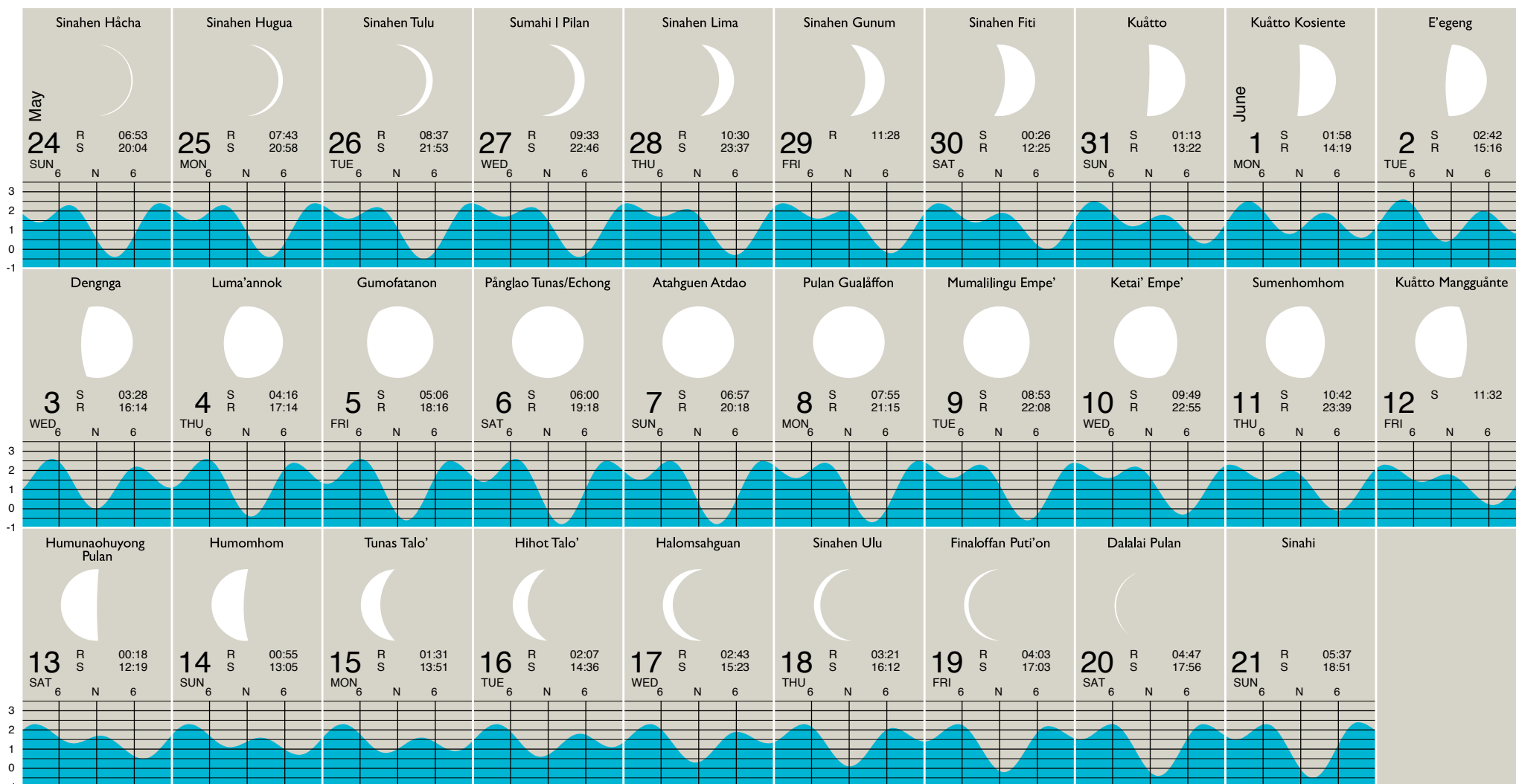


Guam's deep, warm tropical waters are home to many aquatic animals including protected species like green and hawksbill sea turtles and whales. Green sea turtles crawl and lay their eggs along isolated stretches of Guam's beaches from the beginning of the year to late fall. Hawksbill turtles also frequent Guam's reefs and lagoons to feed. Large mammals such as sperm whales and humpback whales are often seen off Guam's shores. Often mistaken for dolphins, fishermen frequently encounter pods of false killer whales, given their names because they resemble orcas or real killer whales. The Council works to protect these beautiful creatures so future generations can enjoy them for years to come. **Above:** Green sea turtle swimming over coral reef. PHOTO: DAVE BURDICK **Inset:** A female green sea turtle carefully chambers a pocket to lay her eggs.



# Lumubu

Mayu 24–Huniu 21, 2020



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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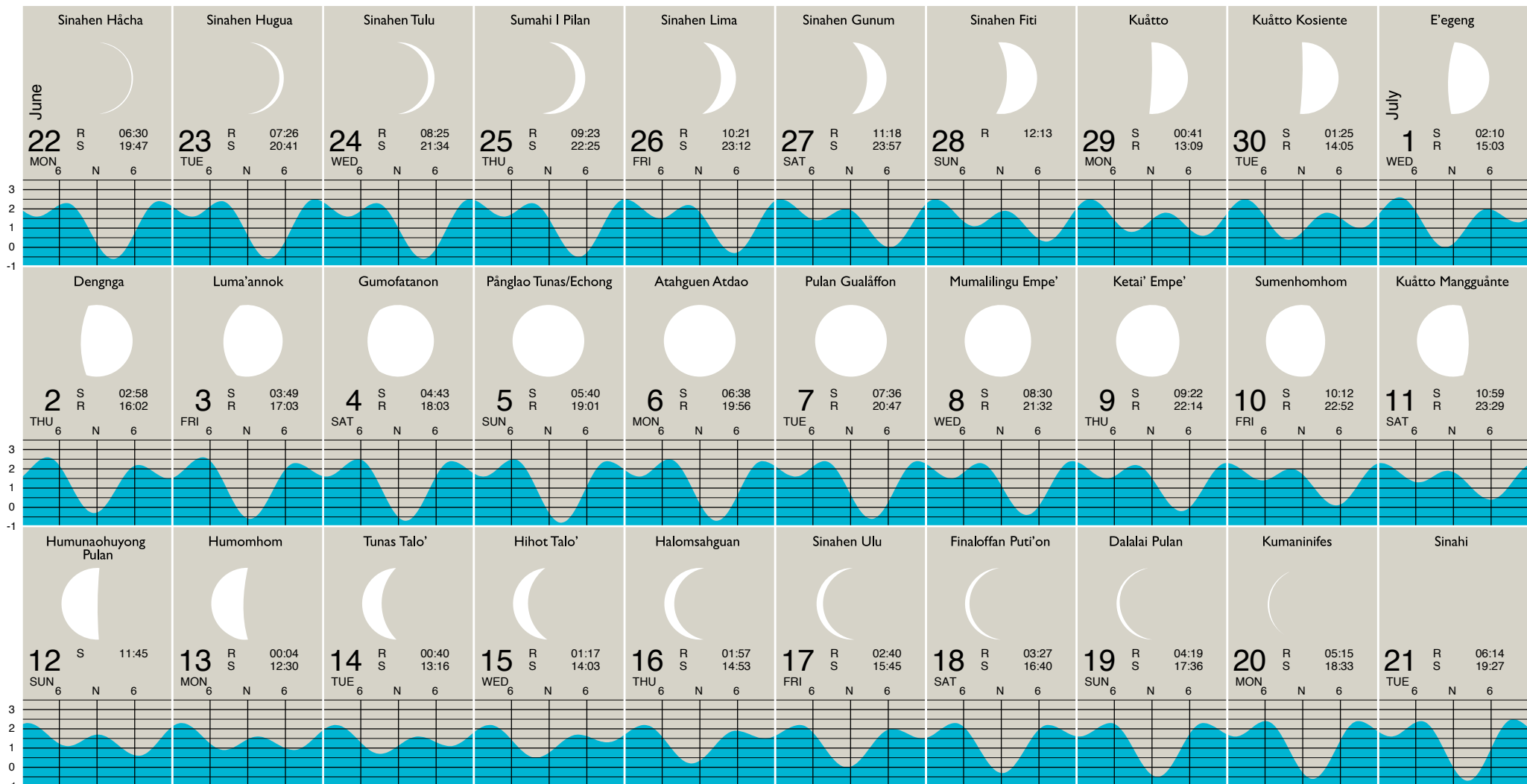




In 2016, Guam hosted the **Festival of the Pacific Arts (FestPac)** to celebrate the many arts and cultures across the wide Pacific. Close to 3,000 participants and delegates from 28 Pacific Island Countries joined Guam's community with a more than 4,000-year-old history. Featuring carving, weaving, dancing, chants, seafaring, and more, FestPac 2016 was enjoyed by thousands. The Council was in the middle of the action sharing exhibits that celebrated fishing traditions with visitors. **Above:** Council advisor and former contractor Peter Perez and John Calvo, respectively, greet visitors before entering the opening ceremonies with the parade of delegates from across the Pacific. **Inset:** Council table displays traditional fishing gear at the 2016 FestPac. In June 2020, FestPac is coming to Honolulu, Hawai'i.

# Makmamao

Huniu 22–Huliu 21, 2020



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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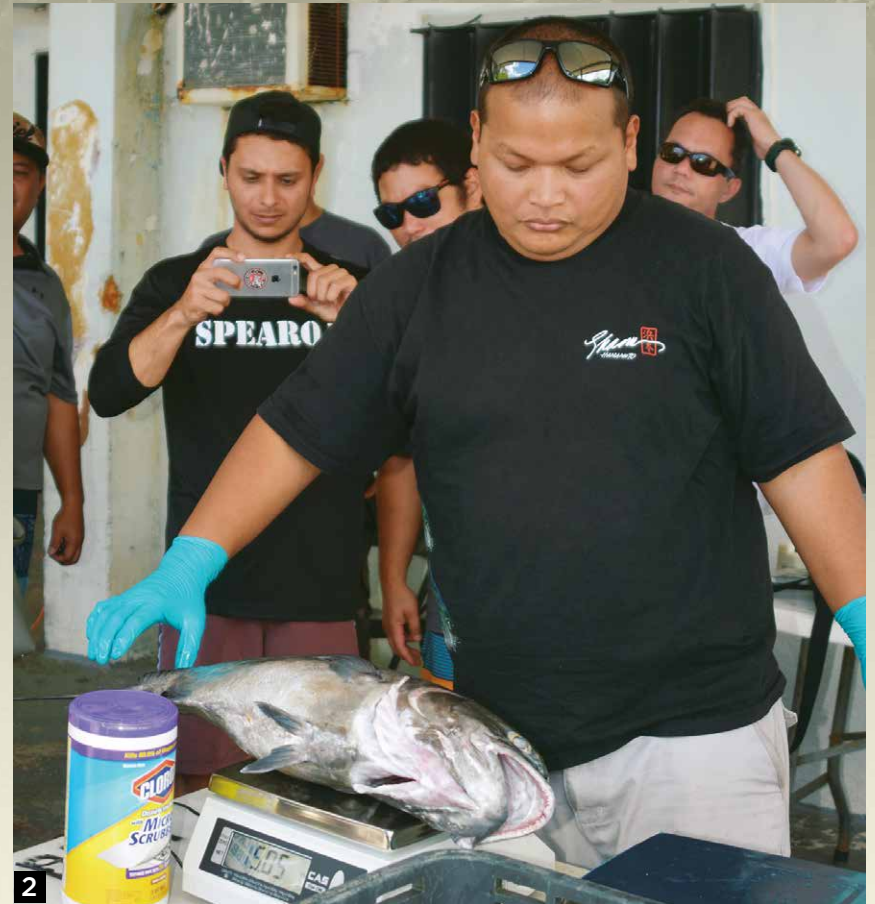


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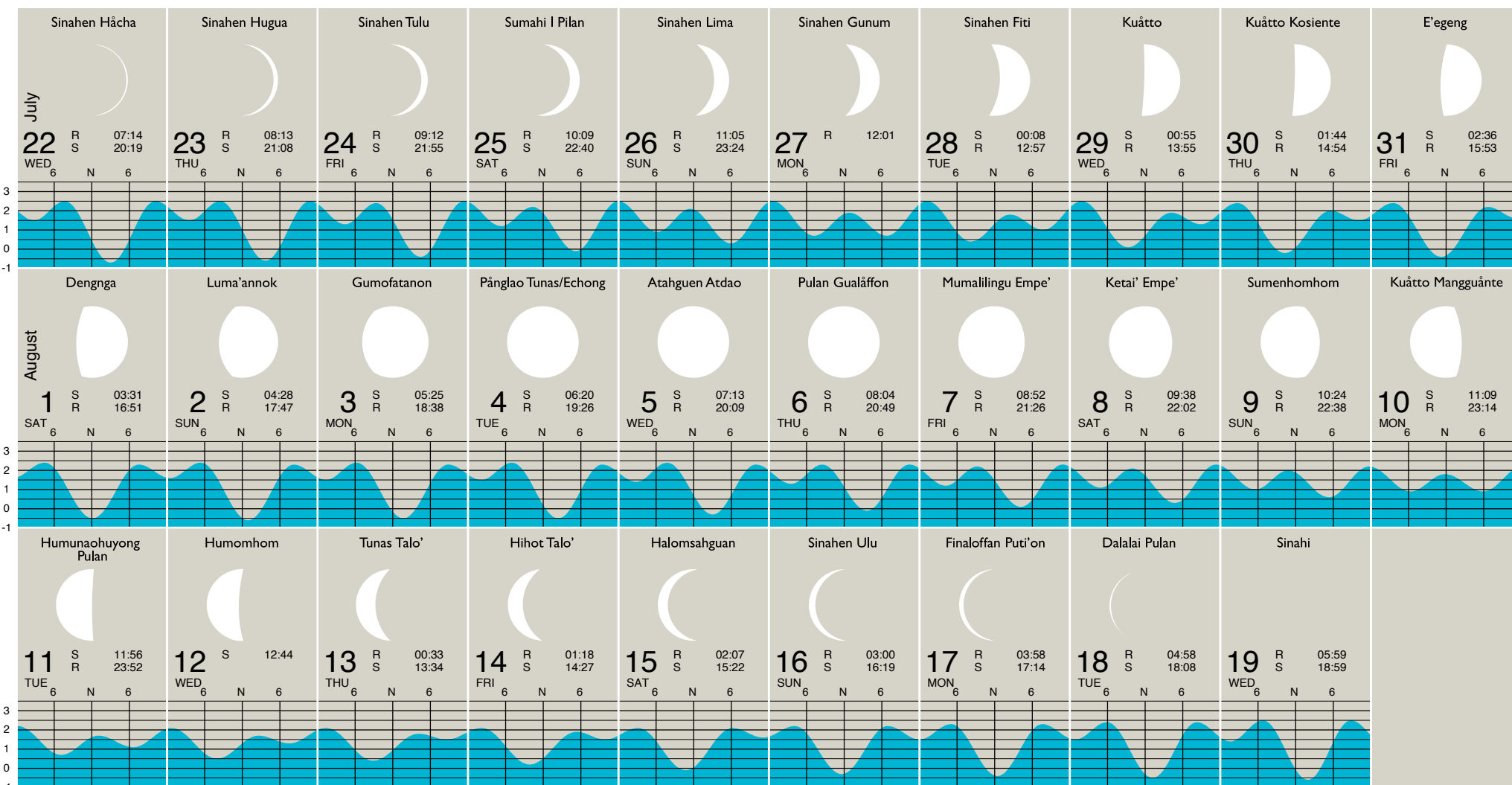


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**The Marianas Underwater Fishing Federation (MUFF)** hosts several freedive spearfishing tournaments on Guam. Tournament organizers gather data from all fish caught to help determine the healthiness and biomass of Guam's fish population and ecosystem. **Above:** [1] Young spearfishers Jared Quenga (left) and Jose Sanchez Jr. (right) with their *mamulan* (trevally) catch during the Umatac Fiesta MUFF spearfishing challenge, [2] NOAA's Eric Cruz gathers data on fish as they come in at the tournaments, [3] MUFF actively collects data at all of its spearfishing derbies (*buninas agaga* or red snapper shown in photo), [4] Speargun reels.

# Mananaf

Huliu 22–Agosto 19, 2020



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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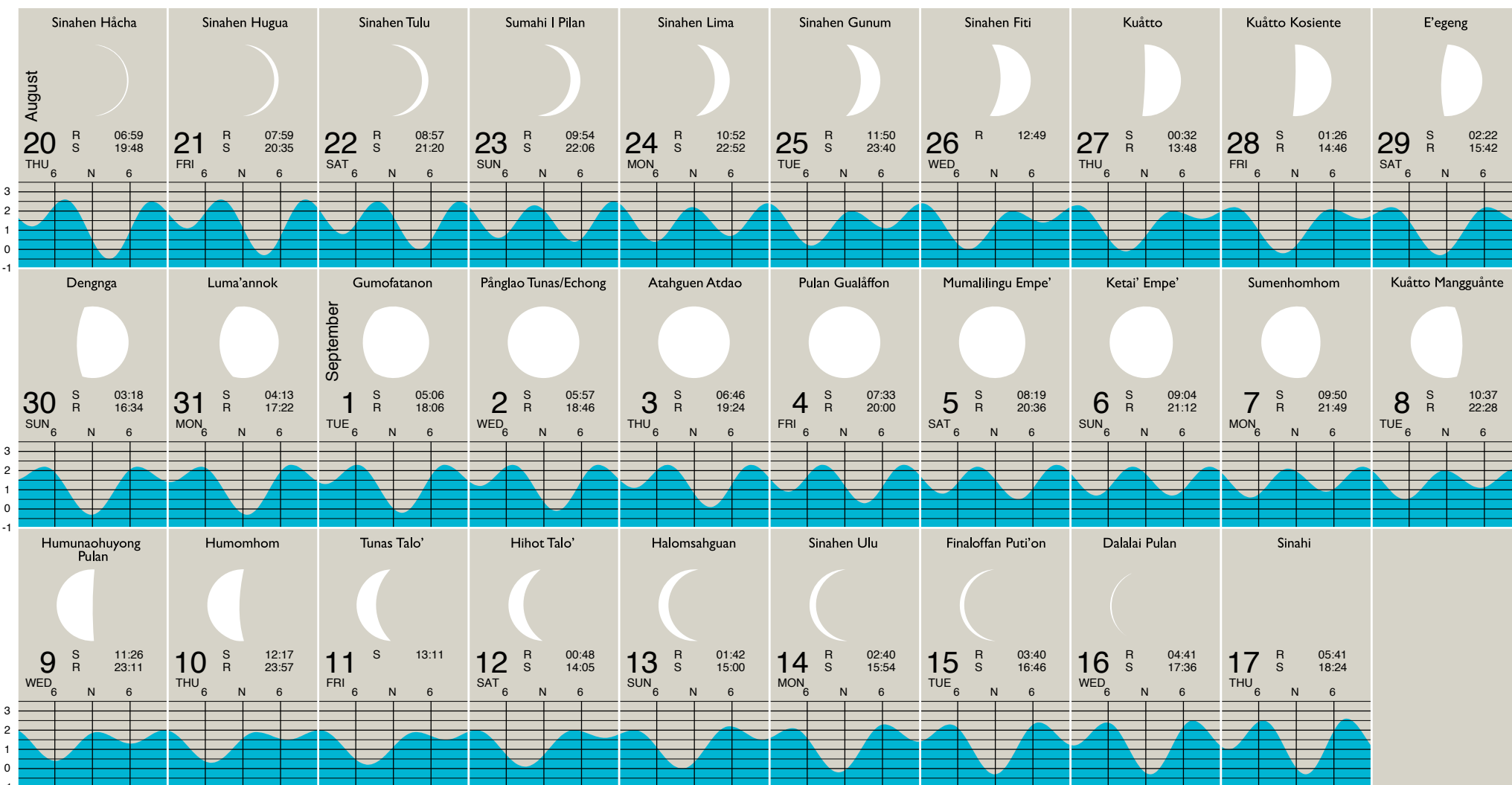




The Council worked with its Advisory Panel (AP) and other stakeholders on the **Coral Reef Mapping Project**, funded by the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program (NA14NMF4410146), to map primary reef fishing spots around Guam's coastline. Participants were asked to provide information on where and what they fished, and then given GPS units to take on their future fishing trips to record more accurately the location where they caught various species at different spots around the island. The data were used to identify areas of high fishing effort to inform fishermen about the status of their fisheries, and to collaborate with them to implement more sustainable fishing practices. **Above:** Guam AP members identify fishing grounds on Guam's coastline for the mapping project.

# Semo

Agosto 20–Septembre 17, 2020



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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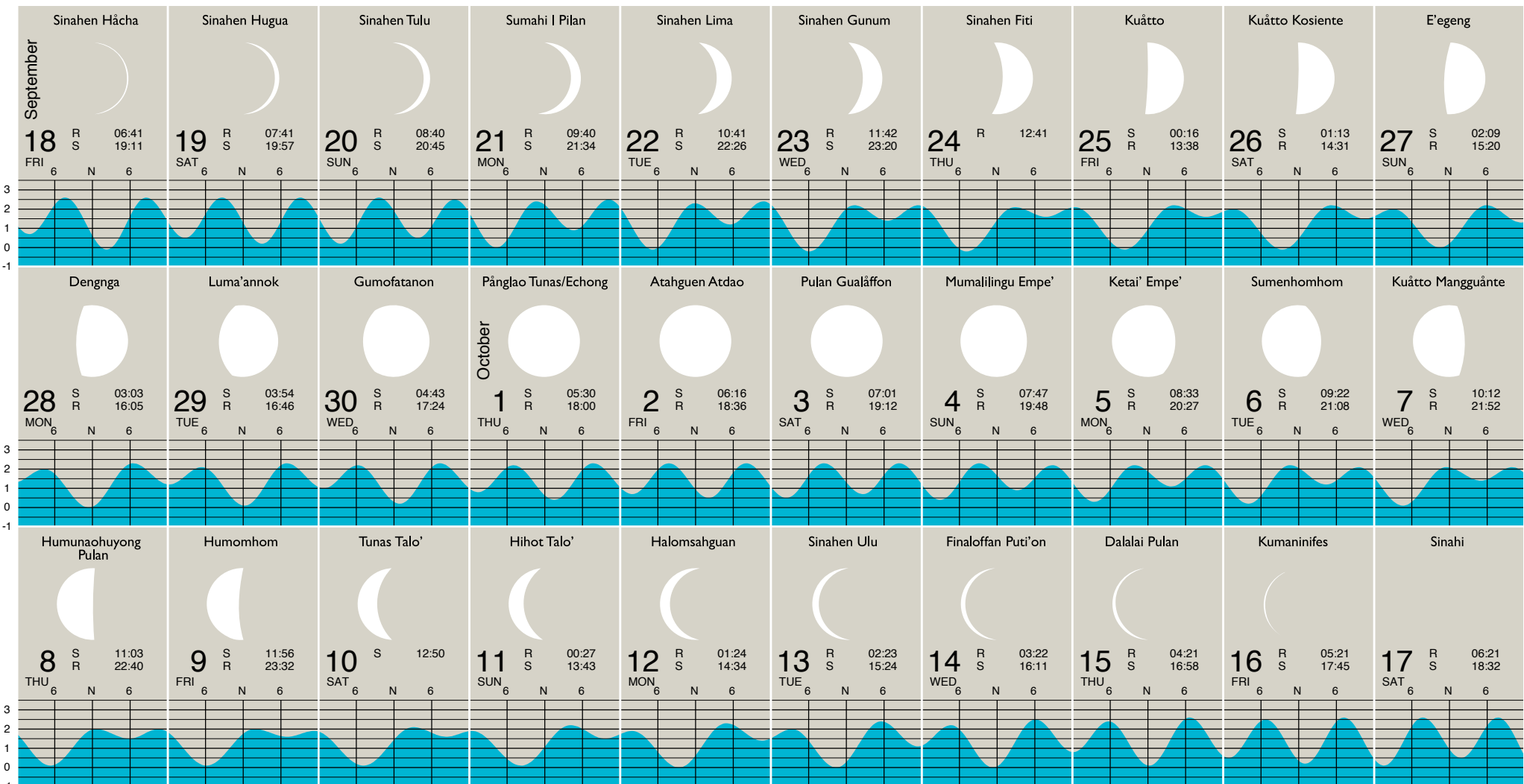




To improve community participation in the development and implementation of fishery policies, the Council collaborated with village mayors and the Mayor's Council of Guam to host community workshops. Through these efforts, the Council identified Merizo (Malesso) as a village that had a cultural history of fishing, direct access to the ocean, a public boat ramp and small harbor, an offshore island, competing ocean activities and an adjacent marine protected area. During follow-up workshops, the Council assisted Malesso in developing a **community-based resource management plan** that included community issues and concerns, management priorities and recommendations for addressing concerns. **Above:** There is a variety of water activities in Malesso.

# Tenhos

Septembre 18–Oktubri 17, 2020



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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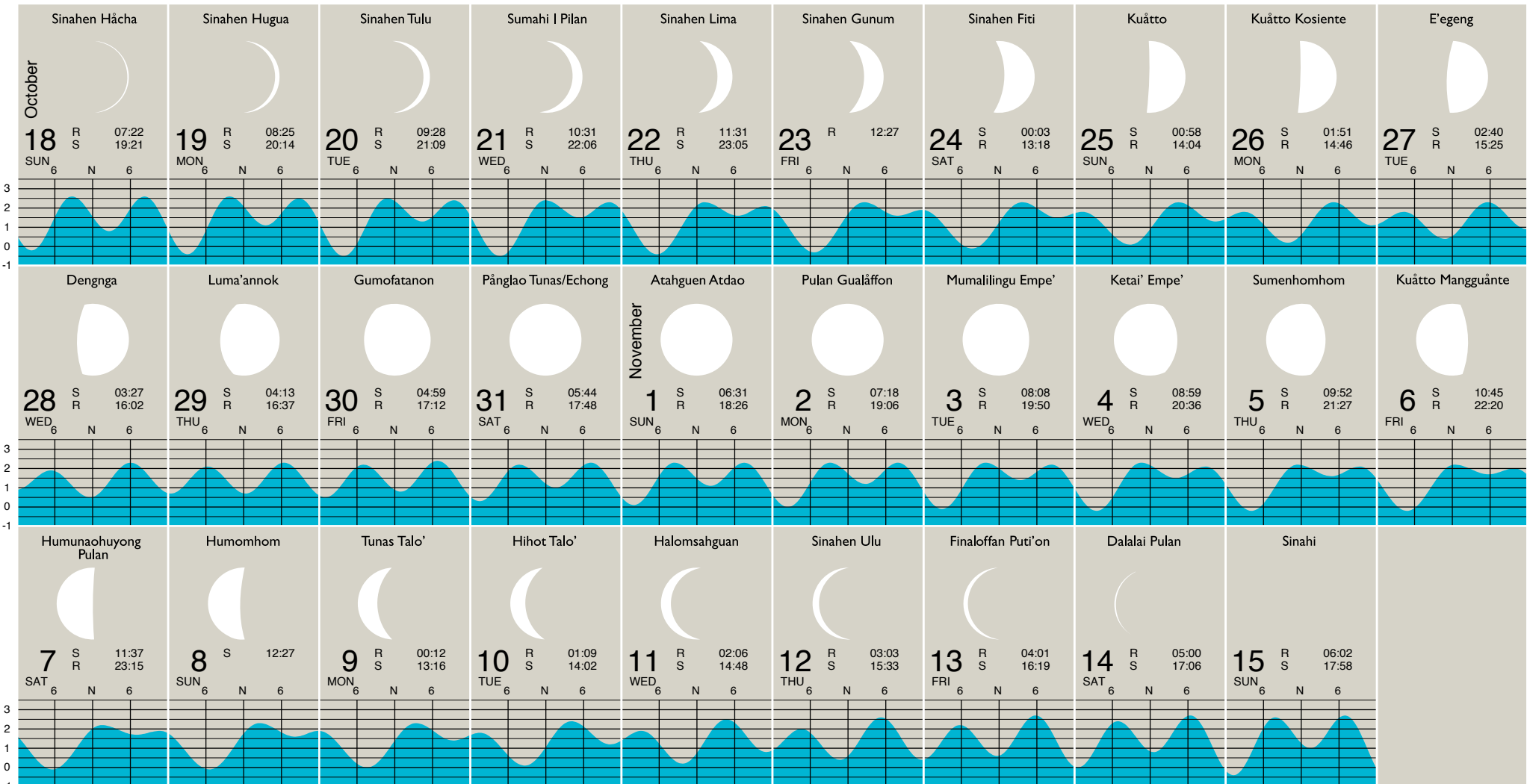




The Council supported the research of **mañahak** (juvenile rabbitfish) to determine its viability as a commercial fishery. *Mañahak* is purchased from the *talayeru* (cast net fishermen) when in season, brought to the University of Guam Hatchery in Pagat, Mangilao and raised to adults which are then called *sesyun* (young adults). **Above:** *Mañahak* being tagged and ready for release. **Inset:** Young adult rabbitfish or *sesyun*. PHOTOS: COUNCIL ARCHIVES

# Lumamlam

Oktubri 18–Nubembre 15, 2020



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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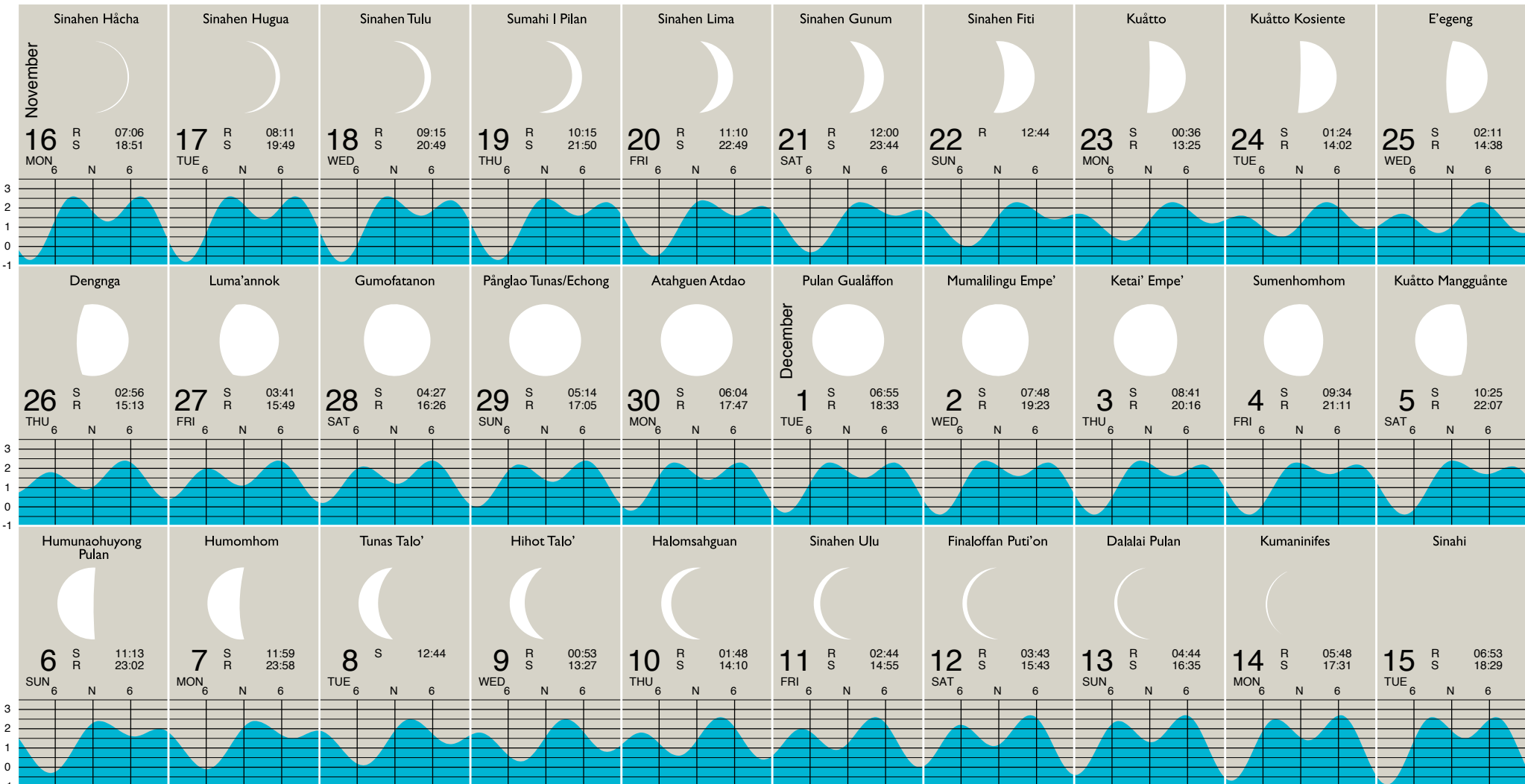




The Council's Guam Advisory Panel participates in local community fishery outreach events. At the Council's Fishers Forum, AP members interact directly with other local fishermen to discuss lures and techniques and talk fish stories. AP members also participated in fishing expos for kids held at the Guam Museum. **Above:** [1] Council staff Felix Reyes joined the US Coast Guard to share materials, including 2019 Guam Lunar Calendars, at the Agaña Shopping Center for Safe Boating Week; [2] Fisherman Tony Waki with the 2019 Guam Fanha'aniyan Pulan CHamoru; [3] AP member James Borja shows spearguns to visitors at the Fishing Expo.

# Fangualo'

Nubembre 16–Disembre 15, 2020



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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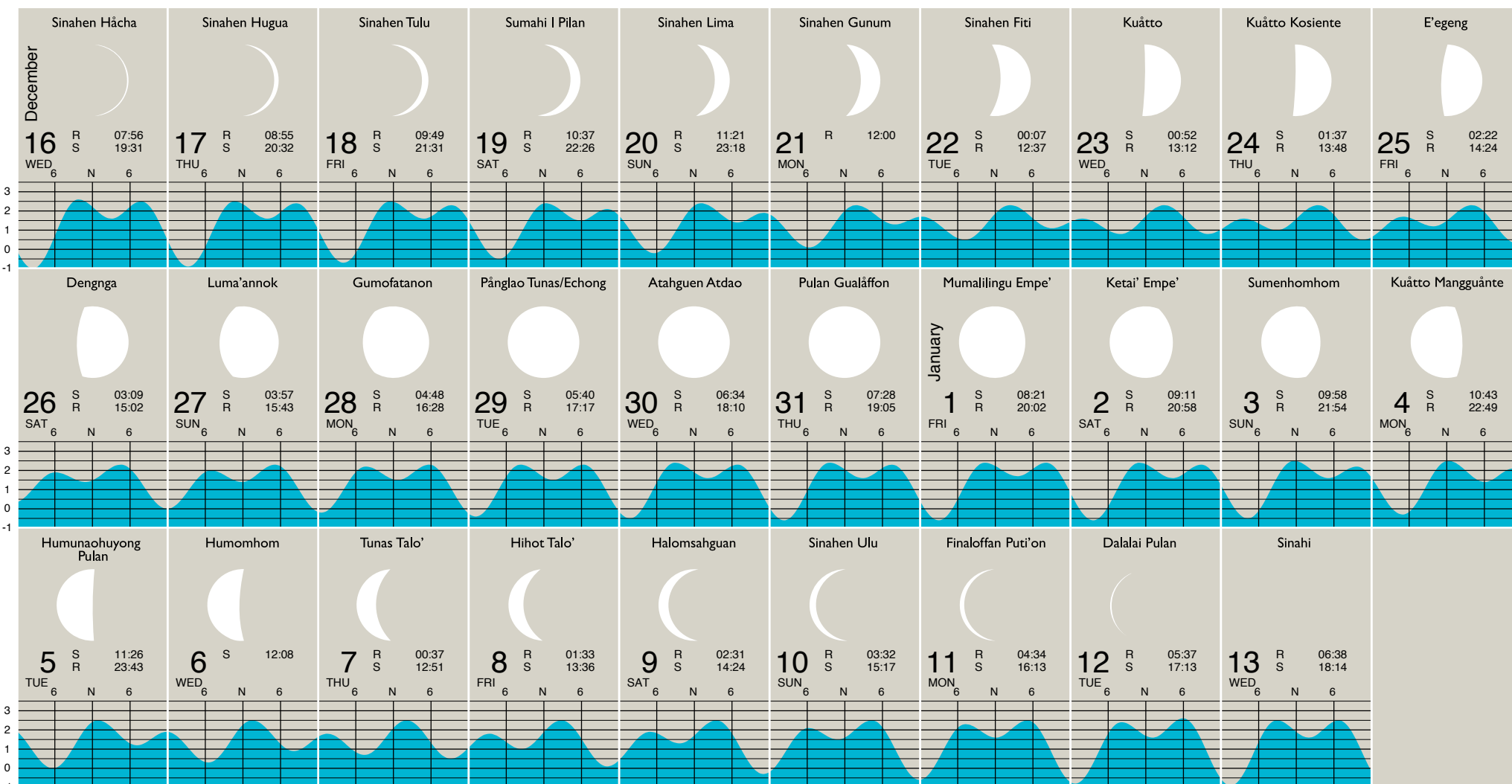


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The Council contracted surveyor Felix Sasamoto to conduct a one-year spearfishermen data collection project launched in February 2017 to better understand the characteristics of non-commercial spearfishing trips and catch in Guam. The primary goal of the project was to design and implement alternative survey methods to increase participation in non-commercial spearfishing surveys and to establish and test a web-based online data reporting and monitoring system. Sasamoto designed his surveys to maximize interview participation using three approaches: (1) self-reported trip surveys; (2) voluntary, arranged interviews; and (3) convenience sampling at defined access points. [1 & 2] Felix Sasamoto gathering data. [3] Felix with fishers at the Council-sponsored One Shot, One Kill Spearfishing Tournament.

# Sumongsong

Disembre 16, 2020–Ineru 13, 2021



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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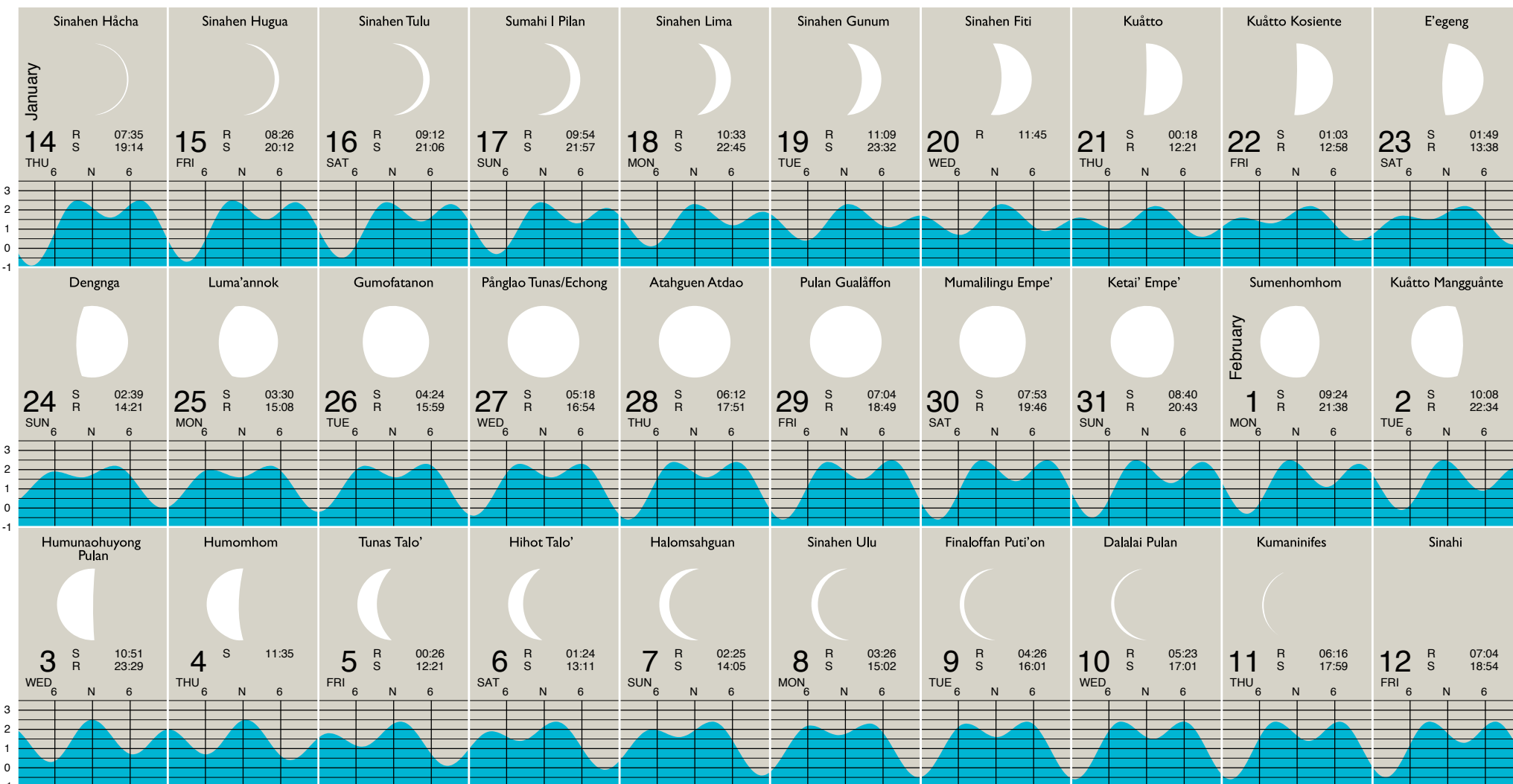




**The Fishermen Code of Conduct** was a Council project to reinforce the traditions and cultural practices of respect for the ocean that provides sustenance for the family and the community. By request, the code has been translated into Hawaiian, Samoan, Chamorro, Refaluwasch, Chuukese, Korean and Chinese. A display featuring all of the translations was exhibited at the Council's booth at the Festival of the Pacific Arts, May 22–June 4, 2016, in Guam. **Above:** Fishermen Code of Conduct sign posted at the Agat Marina. Left to right: Manny Dueñas, Guam Fisherman's Cooperative Association; John Leon Guerrero, Port Authority of Guam; and Peter Perez, former Guam Advisory Panel chair. **Inset:** Fishermen Code of Conduct in Chamorro, available on the Council website (WPCouncil.org).

# Umayangan

*Ineru 14–Fibreru 12, 2021*



Moon-related Observations & Activities

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The Guam High School summer course gave participants the opportunity to troll for pelagic fish, many for the first time. These students (left to right Josiah Urbano, Andrea Torres and Falina Danieli) hooked a nice 100-pound Pacific Blue Marlin.

## About This Calendar

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council has produced traditional lunar calendars for Guam since 2007. The intent is to raise awareness about traditional ecological knowledge and enhance community involvement in fishery management. The calendar features previous contributions and advice from Felix Reyes and the Guam Chamorro Lunar Calendar Committee.

The *2020 Fanha'aniyan Pulan CHamoru* (Chamorro Lunar Calendar) highlights Council-sponsored and related projects in Guam. The lunar months, moon phases, and traditional calendar months are given in Chamorro, the native language of the indigenous people of Guam.

The moon phases in this calendar are for Hagåtña as calculated by the HM Nautical Almanac ([astro.ukho.gov.uk/websurf](http://astro.ukho.gov.uk/websurf/)). The tide charts with moon rise and set times are in Chamorro Time for Hagåtña and were provided by OceanFun Publishing, NZ.

All photos taken by Felix Reyes unless otherwise noted.

**Front cover:** Fisherman along the Malesso shore.

## About the Council

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council was established by Congress in 1976 to manage fisheries in the offshore waters surrounding Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Hawai'i and the US Pacific Remote Island Areas. The fisheries in federal waters surrounding Guam are managed under the Mariana Archipelago and Pacific Pelagic Fishery Ecosystem Plans. Traditional knowledge and wide community involvement are integral parts of the ecosystem-based approach to fishery management.

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Students in the Guam High School summer course on fisheries learn to spearfish with their adult guides.

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Published in the United States  
by the Western Pacific  
Regional Fishery Management  
Council under NOAA Award  
NA15NMF4410008.

© 2019, Western Pacific Regional  
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ISBN 978-1-944827-39-7

