



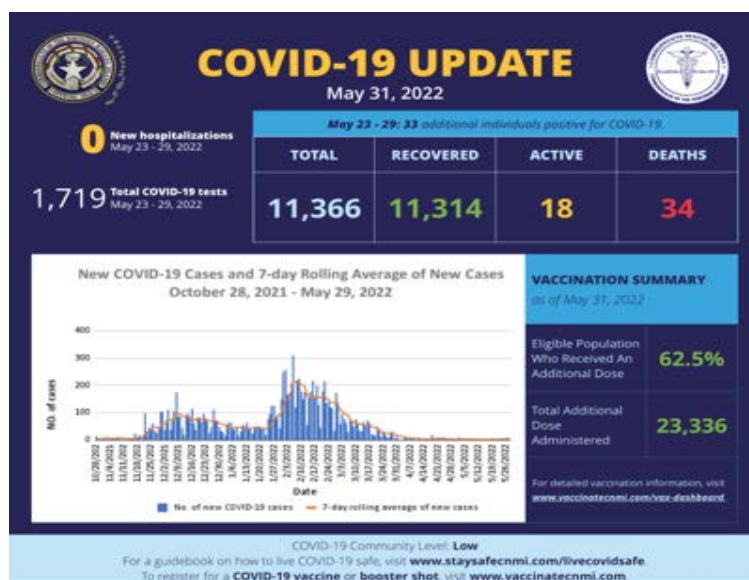
WESTERN
PACIFIC
REGIONAL
FISHERY
MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL

191st Meeting of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council

CNMI Island Report

CNMI Council Member John Gourley, Vice Chair

A. COVID-19 Updates – 100.1% Vaccinated in the CNMI.



B. CNMI Economy - Tourism

- Travel Bubble on-going. CNMI revised travel policy:
- 8 February 2022, all travelers entering the CNMI by air or sea will no longer be tested on arrival.
- All travelers are required to complete a mandatory health declaration form and upload their vaccination card.
- Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 on any COVID-19 test platform (an at-home test kit or otherwise), regardless of vaccination status, must stay home and isolate for at least five (5) days (except to get medical care).
- Starting to see a recent uptick in S. Korean tourists.

C. Gas/Ice prices, as of 24 May 2022, follow:

- Saipan - \$6.26/gal Unleaded
- Tinian – \$7.99/gal Unleaded
- Rota - \$7.74/gal Unleaded
- Bag Ice – \$1.75/bag to \$2.00/bag

D. CNMI Economy – CNMI Fisheries

- Wholesale of fresh pelagic and bottom fish has increased by \$0.50/lb. in several Saipan markets. Some markets are maintaining previous retail prices, but it is unlikely to be sustainable.
- There are rumors that reef fish fishing is on a slight increase due to what is believed to high gas prices and the influx of construction workers for the US Military Divert air field improvements in Tinian.
- The local market dynamics are presently unstable.

E. Five-year review of the Marianas Trench nomination for the Sanctuary Inventory List

- Mariana Trench was added to the Inventory List on 13 March 2013.
- The current nomination package expired on 13 March 2022
- First 30-day public Comment Period ended 21 February 2022.
- Second 45-day Public Comment Period ended 25 April 2022
- A total of 62 comments are found on the ONMS Sanctuary portal.
- As of 28 May 2022, no formal announcement has been made on whether the Mariana Trench will be retained or removed from the ONMS Sanctuary Inventory List.

F. Five-year review of the Marianas Trench nomination for the Sanctuary Inventory List

Summary of CNMI and Guam Government Comments: 2nd Comment Period

OPPOSING	SUPPORTING
CNMI Government:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Governor Ralph DLG. Torres• Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios• Senator Teresita A. Santos, Rota Legislative Delegation• Rota Mayor Efraim M. Atalig• Tinian & Aguiguan Mayor Edwin P. Aldan• Northern Islands Mayor Vicente C. Santos, Jr.• Special Assistant for Military Affairs Glenna S. Palacios• Secretary Anthony T. Benavente, Department of Lands & Natural Resources• Secretary Sixto K. Igisomar, CMI Department of Public Lands• Director Manuel Pangelinan, CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife• Executive Director Melvin Faisao, Chamorro & Carolinian Lang. Policy Comm.• President Francisco M. Rabauliman, United Carolinian Association	
Guam Government:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Director Chelsa Muna-Brecht, Guam Department of Agriculture	