



State and Private Forestry Fact Sheet

Guam 2019



Investment in State's Cooperative Programs

| Program | FY 2018 Final |
|--|------------------|
| Community Forestry and Open Space | \$0 |
| Cooperative Lands - Forest Health Management | \$77,291 |
| Forest Legacy | \$0 |
| Forest Stewardship | \$0 |
| Landscape Scale Restoration | \$198,000 |
| State Fire Assistance | \$150,000 |
| Urban and Community Forestry | \$92,793 |
| Volunteer Fire Assistance | \$0 |
| Total | \$518,084 |

NOTE: This funding is for all entities within the state, not just the State Forester's office.

Six priority issues were identified in Guam's Forest action plan: 1. Wildfire and public safety 2. Water quality and water supply 3. Population growth and urbanization 4. Deforestation of native species 5. Urban forest sustainability 6. Degraded lands These six key issues remain our top priority in our effort to protect and enhance our natural resources. Seeking partnerships with NGO's and other Government agencies to leverage local resources will aid us in addressing these priority areas.

Program Goals

- 1. Implement highest priority planting meeting multiple objectives
- 2. Protect, conserve and restore forest on state, private and other non military lands
- 3. Work with military to avoid deforestation and develop tree ordinance laws for new and old development zones
- 4. Improve fire prevention, control, suppression and prescribed fire activities
- 5. Implement tree planting and monitoring projects in developed areas, open spaces and parks and communities
- 6. Implement a forest health program.

Key Issues

- 1. Wildfire and public safety
- 2. Water quality and water supply
- 3. Population growth and urbanization
- 4. Deforestation of native species
- 5. Urban forest sustainability
- 6. Degraded lands.

Forest Facts and Accomplishments

| Selected Facts | Value | FY 2018 Accomplishments | Value |
|---|--------------|--|--------------|
| Population | 154,805 | Landowners Receiving Educational or Technical Assistance | 22 |
| Acres of Forest Land | 69,851 | Acres Covered by New or Revised Forest Stewardship Plans | 10 |
| Acres of Nonindustrial Private Forest Land | 28,771 | Acres in Important Forest Resource Areas Covered by New or Revised Stewardship Plans | 2 |
| Number of NIPF Landowners | 30,000 | Volunteer Fire Departments Assisted | 0 |
| Acres of Federal Land Under State Fire Protection | 0 | State Fire Communities Assisted | 7 |
| Acres of Private Land Under State Fire Protection | 81,000 | Coop Forest Health Acres Protected | 0 |
| Number of Rural Fire Departments | 12 | Forest Legacy Project Acquisitions | 0 |
| Cities and Towns | 19 | Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance | 24 |
| Forest Based Employment | 0 | Population Living in Communities Provided Urban Forestry Program Assistance | 103,370 |
| Economic Impact of Forestry (by rank) | 0 | Urban Forestry Volunteer Assistance | 2,144 |
| State Forestry Budget (All Sources) | 1,150,318 | | |

Program Highlights

Cooperative Fire Protection

- February 2018 – Fire Program Manager, attended the Tools for Engaging Landowners Effectively (TELE) Workshop in Kaneohe, Hawaii.
- Made contact with the Guam Farmers' Cooperative to engage members on the use of fires within their farm operations.
- The Program Manager attended the International Association of Fire Chiefs, 2018 Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Conference in Reno, NV
- The Cooperative Fire Protection Program Wildfire Command Trailer / Smokey Bear Mobile (cargo/box trailer) was retrofitted in 2018 and is now ready to launch for the 2019 Fire Season and just in time to celebrate Smokey Bear's 75th birthday on Guam!
- Wildfire prevention and Smokey Bear presentations (site visits, school presentations, community outreach, webinars, conference/workshop presentations, etc...) reached approximately 5,353 community members (students, community groups, educators and partners).
- There were 467 wildfires documented in 2018 burning approximately 6,250 acres of land comprising of private, Government of Guam and Federal lands (4.7% across the whole island burned). Slight increase compared to 2017 which was a wetter dry season therefore only adding to the fuel load once 2018's fire season began.
- Firebreaks, approximately 5,009 linear feet of firebreak utilizing mechanical and chemical treatments.
- The CFP Program Manager in an effort to outsource support where funding and personnel were short, coordinated the establishment of Memorandums of Agreement (MOAs) between Americorps Guam and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Soil Resources Division. The CFP Program Manager oversees the Americorps member assignments and daily tasks while at Guam Forestry.

Forest Health Protection

- provided technical assistance on how to proceed with the removal of the invasive bamboo. BSP then hired a contractor to remove the bamboo, forgoing Forestry's offer of aid in the form of our personnel assisting with the removal
- Two Forestry Aides, Bruno Cases and Peter Carbullido, attended the Tropical Forest Ecology Course in Saipan and Guam
- Cocos Island Maintenance. Crews maintained existing plantings with brush cutters and machetes. Acreage managed was just over 4 acres
- 1 Forestry Staffer-Paul Cabana attended the Forest Inventory & Analysis Training for 5 months in Alaska from April to August
- Staff also assisted with the removal of 21 dead coconut trees which were a hazard due to Coconut

Rhinoceros Beetle damage along Marine Corps Drive-East Hagatna and Paseo. Both projects were in collaborative effort with the Department of Parks & Recreation, Department of Public Works and the Hagatna Mayors Office

-Two Forestry Aides, Shaun Diaz and Hertin Gabriel, were able to attend the Guam Environmental Protection Agency's CORE Pesticide Applicator workshop. Agriculture Development Services Chief, John Borja, was one of the instructors and offered two seats to Guam Forestry at no cost. Both aides passed the course exam and are now certified applicators

Forest Stewardship

-Approximately 350 volunteers and various natural resource agency partners, planted 2,000 *Acacia auriculiformis* for soil enrichment and under planted 1,126 various native saplings within the Manell Watershed located off Quinene Road in the village of Merizo.

-Approximately 2 acres was planted in COTAL Conservation Reserve with assorted native saplings. Biology students planted approximately 2 acres in several locations at the Masso Watershed. Missing trees at Chalan Layon, Inarajan were also replanted during this period

-In collaboration with the Bureau of Statistics and Plans (BSP) - Guam Coastal Management Program (GCMP), Forestry provided Service Learning Projects accommodating approximately 80 students and teachers from Southern High School and JP Torres Success Academy toured the COTAL Conservation Reserve.

-Participated in the fishing derby. Approximately 80 attendees toured Masso Reservoir and collected leaves and flowers of different trees for identification as part of a scavenger hunt.

-A total of 126 students, teachers and parents from McCool Elementary school toured the Cetti Bay nursery. The students were divided into 2 groups. While half of the group learned how to propagate *Acacia auriculiformis* seeds, soil erosion and importance of planting trees, the other group learned about wildland fire prevention

-Forestry staff collected native and exotic seeds and were cleaned, propagated and maintained in our plant nursery. All together we produced 26,000 saplings for outplanting activities.

-Forestry team conducted approximately 3-acres of tree stand improvement work, and prepared and planted a 2-acre area for various native species.

- FSP cooperator Manhita Farms was provided 3,892 native trees and shrubs. In addition, FSP cooperator Mr. Simpson, was provided 4,500 *Acacia auriculiformis* and 150 *Swietenia macrophylla* as part of his FSP plan.

Urban and Community Forestry

-The Urban Forestry Advisory Council met on August 24, 2018 with 9 members from Guam Forestry, Department of Parks and Recreation, University of Guam-Extension, University of Guam-Research, Guam Soil & Water Conservation District, Dededo Village Mayor and the Guam Museum.

Accomplishments were reported such as 2017 and 2018 tree planting events, tree inventory using plan-IT GEO software and collaborative work with the Governor's Office in preparation for Guam's Liberation Day-July 21st. Upcoming planning and objectives for upcoming 2018 tree planting events such as 2018 Arbor Day at the Dededo Skate Park, Guam Museum in Hagatna, Statue of Liberty Park-Hagana and Fort Soledad-Humatak all in celebration of 2018 Arbor Month. Open discussion on issues and ideas related to the Urban & Community Forestry Program

-Met with and coordinated with Department of Parks & Recreation (DPR) Administrators to continue with 2018 tree plantings at 3 parks throughout the island. The 3 park areas selected for the 2018 plantings were North-Arbor Day at the Skate Park, Dededo and Central-Statue of Liberty Park, Hagatna and South-Fort Soledad, Humatak.

-Met and coordinated with the Guam Museum to do a series of plantings to incorporate native species within the museum's landscape.

-Trees were transplanted into 4 gallon containers to allow for a bigger and taller tree to be installed during outplanting events. This is what our stakeholders would like to see. We have been maintaining the tree by using composted manures for all trees as well as implementing a fertilizer schedule. An Integrated Pest Management program was also implemented through monitoring the trees for damage or pest presence and treating when necessary

-Forestry staff did maintenance on all U&CF planting sites throughout the island during this period. Herbicide application, arbor guard replacements when necessary, fertilizer application and selective pruning for proper structure of the trees was done.

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