

SEREHD

Preserving our natural heritage for a sustainable future



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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9th Cross-Site Visit in Action...	CCO Conservation Stewardship	Payment for Ecosystem Services	Rare in Nanwap MPA	Grain, Oil, and Food Process Training in China	SPC Media Training	Emergency First Response Training	Around the Office
CCOs review performance for 2012 and develop 2013 work plan.	DFW and CSP delivered surveillance training to CCO's from all the MPAs.	Feasibility study that has the potential to protect this vital resource for generations to come.	Assessment of ecosystem Biodiversity at Nan-Wap MPA Site	CSP joins other developing countries around the world in China	CSP joins Media and Awareness Training	CPR and First Aid certification	CSP Marine Manager
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9TH ANNUAL CROSS-SITE VISIT

On November 21st, 2012, the Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) network held its 9th annual cross-site visit on Dehpehk Island. Dehpehk Island, located in U municipality, a community member of Pohnpei MPA Network and a stakeholder of Dehpehk/Takaieu Marine Sanctuary.



The cross-site visit provided Community Conservation Officers (CCO) with an opportunity to review their MPA-management performance in 2012, report successes, identify challenges, and propose improved strategies as part of their 2013 management plans.

Joining Dehpehk/Takaieu communities were CCOs from all MPAs, CSP, Pohnpei Watershed Steering Committee, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Division of Forestry, Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture, FSM Department of Resources and Development and members of the Local Chief Executives. Former Delegate Wayne Andrew of Republic of Palau was the invited guest of honor representing Palau LMMA Network.

It all started 9 years ago when CSP teamed up with 4 MPA community leaders, bringing them together to discuss ways to collaborate and strengthen partnership in MPA management using a concept by the LMMA Network. It started growing from there by community leaders adapting the process with an ambition to grow. Now, there are over 7 communities fully participating in the process. Basically, the cross-site serves as a platform where communities come together to share issues and solutions by inviting key government agencies and non-government organizations to assist. Each MPA communities then develop conservation action plans, which they take back to their respective communities to implement.

With a concept to harmonize modern resource management with traditional practices, MPA cross-site visits mostly take place in traditional meeting settings facilitated by MPA Executive Committee.

9TH ANNUAL CROSS-SITE VISIT IN ACTION.

A formal sakau ceremony set the course into action with welcoming remarks by Mr. Pedrus Primo, Chief of Takaieu and Chairman of the MPA Executive Committee (MPAEC). Mr. Primo stated that the goal of the visit was to “understand the meaning of preserving and conserving the natural heritage that we inherit from past generations.” He encouraged all those involved to set new goals, expand their management plans,

and strive for higher standards of excellence.

Delegate Wayne Andrew of Palau generously accepted Executive Committee’s invitation as the keynote speaker at the cross-site. Delegate Andrew echoed Primo’s statements,

stressing the importance of partnership in developing strong, effective conservation practices. Delegate Andrew also shared the successes of Palau LMMA and various jurisdictions in Micronesia, which he had helped developed effective conservation and management plans.

After the formal welcoming and introduction of 7 MPA communities including partner agencies/organizations, the group set their objectives for the annual workshop and reviewed the 3-day agenda.

Day 2 started on high-gear as each of the MPAs reported their action plans developed at the 8th cross-site visit. 8 communities reported their accomplishments, shared their challenges. Open discussions were followed after each community reporting to gather and exchange feedback from all communities.

The beauty of this exercise is the sharing of lessons learned. Each community reports their challenges and

other communities shares their experiences, provides constructive feedbacks and simply “helping each other out”.

The MPA cross-site visit has been expanding over the past years. This year, the MPAEC invited Watershed Steering Committee (WSC) to observe the concept of community exchange. WSC was also given opportunity to present their work during the cross-site. WSC Chairman, Mr. Mayoriko Victor from Pohnpei State Forestry presented on their behalf. Mr. Victor elaborated on the ways MPAEC and WSC could increase collaboration to maximize grass-roots resource management and conservation in Pohnpei. WSC works with communities all around Pohnpei promoting community-based Forest Ranger Program, where they conduct quarterly forest monitoring to assess forest clearing due to sakau planting.

Enforcement has been one of the major problems raised by communities over the years with regards to resource and protected area management. The Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) serves as a technical member to the MPAEC and actively participating in the cross-site visits over the past

years. DFW took this grant opportunity to present to the communities the newly passed fish size regulations.

After all accomplishments and challenges are reported, new action plans are drafted, shared for input and feedback sought from rest of participants, then endorsed by MPAEC as collective action plan for 2013. CSP will continue to support MPAEC in implementing 2013 action plan and looking forward to the outcomes at 10th annual visit.



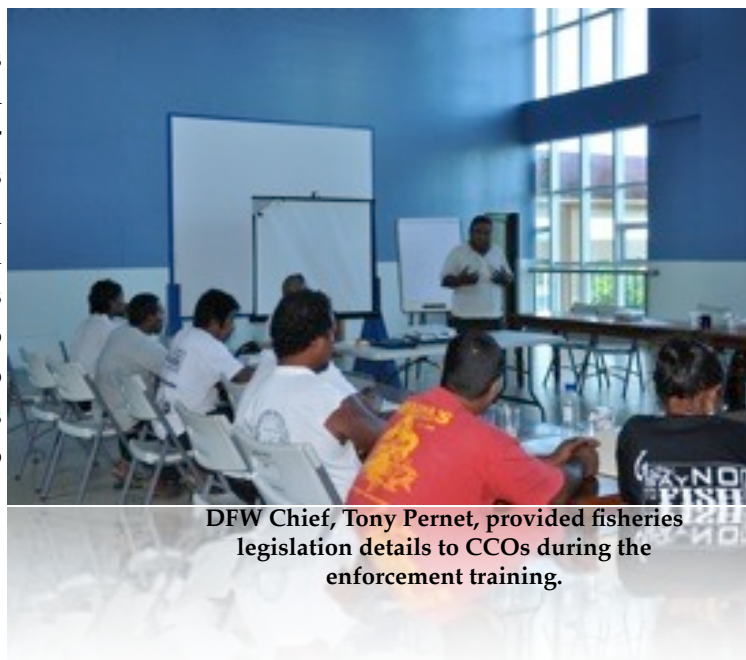
CCOs TRAINED IN CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP



On October 29th, 2012, the Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) and the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP), in collaboration with the Pohnpei State Government, conducted enforcement training with Community Conservation Officers (CCO) from the established Marine Protected Areas (MPA) around Pohnpei. CCOs are community members selected by local chiefs to oversee MPAs within their respective districts, to help in the enforcement of regulations, to report violations to DFW, and to conduct community-based fish and coral monitoring. The training provided an opportunity for CCOs to learn more about their roles, to become better informed about new regulations created for the environment (especially those related to the fisheries), and to learn the proper protocol for reporting violations. CSP's Executive Director, Eugene Joseph, was in attendance to formally open the training and to review the topics that would be covered. DFW began with a power point presentation on Title 26 of the Pohnpei State Code, which involves the Conservation and Resource Enforcement Act of 1982.

While DFW facilitated the training, CSP provided support and technical assistance when and where it was necessary. CSP also took on the task of explaining recently introduced fisheries legislation that details which fish and invertebrates can be caught and sold, how big they must be, and when they are completely off-limits. The new laws include an annual three-month ban on grouper fishing, prohibitions on the collecting and selling of giant clams and humphead wrasse, and a ban of gillnets with a mesh size smaller than four inches.

CSP and DFW worked cooperatively to ensure that participants of the training were instilled with valuable, practical information and left with a more complete understanding of their responsibilities and the challenges ahead and with an eagerness to share what they learned with other CCOs. The team will continue to work collaboratively in ensuring all citizens are well informed on the issues relating to the status of Pohnpei fisheries and other resource management. Regulations are imposed to help manage these resources for a sustainable future and not to stop people from using them. Increase knowledge and awareness of our vital resources and regulations managing them will lead to increase collaboration and, ultimately, decrease of violations.



DFW Chief, Tony Pernet, provided fisheries legislation details to CCOs during the enforcement training.



PAYMENT FOR ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Recognizing the importance that Pohnpei residents place on maintaining clean and abundant drinking water, CSP has begun a promising Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) feasibility study that has the potential to protect this vital resource for generations to come. Water is essential for our lives in Pohnpei, and its protection promotes high levels of well being. Forty years ago, the water from many rivers was safe to drink, and it was more abundant. Now waterborne disease-causing bacteria exist in many rivers, and water shortages are becoming increasingly likely. However, conserving upland forests and supporting innovative land management practices can prevent water shortages and improve drinking water quality.

International success stories and international conservation expertise demonstrate that PES strategies are effective in conserving water. By offering support to farmers to pursue new techniques, mutual benefits can be established between landowners upstream and users of the water downstream. CSP is now leading the way; it is the first island in Micronesia to investigate the feasibility of this promising program. In December 2012 Brian Kastl, International Consultant on water resource management, joined CSP for two weeks and worked with the Terrestrial Team to carry out the initial steps. Surveying is now underway to identify community engagement and financing strategies that will improve land and environmental management in Nett District. This will ultimately protect the quality and quantity of PUC Nanpil River water. Kastl is continuing his advisory role to interpret the survey data in order to develop strategies that support community interest. Early results indicate that residents have great interest in pursuing alternative management practices and that they are comfortable with various funding sources.

This work is a partnership between the Conservation Society of Pohnpei, Pohnpei Utilities Corporation, Nett Traditional Leadership, Nett Local Government, FSM Department of Resources and Development, Pohnpei State government, and Secretariat of the Pacific Community. We look forward to updating you on our progress in identifying the feasibility of a Payment for Ecosystem Services program to support sustainable land management and an abundant, clean source of drinking water for Pohnpei.



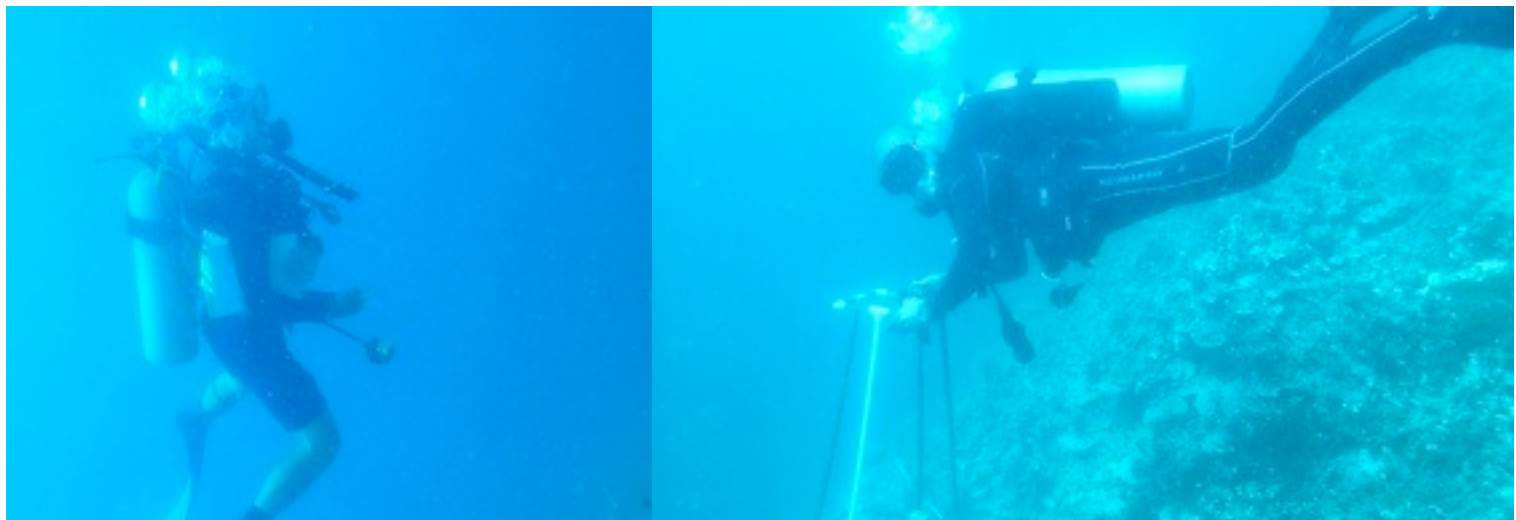
The quality and quantity of Nanpil River water for PUC distribution is impacted by land management along its path from mountain peaks to the ocean.



RARE SURVEYS NAN WAP

The Conservation Society of Pohnpei, chief of Metipw village, and Pacific Marine Resources Institute (PMRI) conducted a baseline assessment of ecosystem biodiversity at Nan Wap Marine Protected Area. Acting as a consort for CSP, RARE has been instrumental in building capacity for resource conservation and management for more than 50 countries worldwide in which they operate as the leader in social marketing for biodiversity conservation. The nascency of the project originated from a seven week training that Mr. Angel Jonathan attended in Palau on July 8th to August 24th, 2012.

The team conducted an assessment in which the abundance and diversity of fish, corals, and other reef-related invertebrates within the Nan Wap MPA were quantified. Another site outside the boundaries of the MPA was profiled and served as a reference site. The baseline data obtained from the assessment are now in the process of statistical analyses with the assistance of John Starmer of PMRI. Once the preliminary data are analyzed, the campaign manager, Mr. Jonathan, will work with the chief of Metipw (Youper Soram) to arrange a meeting for all community members in order to introduce the results of the assessment.



Marine team conducted ecological surveys in partnership with Pacific Marine Research Institute at Nanwap MPA.



GRAIN, OIL, AND FOOD PROCESS TRAINING IN CHINA

The government of the People's Republic of China conducted a training that was based on Grain, Oil, and Food process technologies. The purpose of the training aimed to strengthen the exchanges and cooperation within developing countries in order to promote the development and progress of grain, oil, and food processing. This training started on October 19th to November 15th, 2012 with representatives from over twenty countries who gathered in Zhengzhou Province of China to



CSP's Invasive Program Officer, Bejay Obispo, presenting Pohnpei Invasive Species at the training in China.

participate in this seminar. This training aimed to educate participants on the practical aspects of food processing for developing countries.

The training seminar included the following module: The current situation and development of Chinese vegetable oil and industry, Processing Technologies of edible oils and fats, Production and Application of vegetable proteins in China, Deep processing and Application of edible oils and fats, Microorganisms in grain and their effects on quality, and Food safety and quality control. With this training, we were taught that China holds a lot of different invasive species which includes invasive marine plants / algae, marine animals and terrestrial invasive plants. The introduction of invasive species led China to lose many native species and some became extinct due to impacts of invasive species.



SPC AND NORTH PACIFIC MEDIA TRAINING

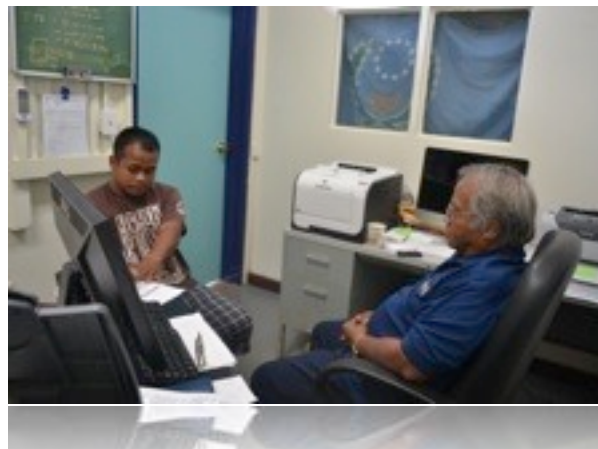
On October 8-12, 2012, trainees from the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) gathered in Pohnpei, FSM for a media training workshop. The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) conducted a media training that focused on the utilization of renewable energy and energy efficiency in response to climate change in the North Pacific. It was an output-based training where participants in the workshop aimed to produce media products in all major forms that included the prints, audio-visuals, and audio formats. These formats provide the characteristics of the basic media of communications in radio, print and in television or video.

The workshop aimed to provide a better understanding and appreciation of the role of media and how they can be used as effective tools for the dissemination and distribution of messages and information to advocate, create awareness, educate and inform people about issues and developments in general. At the end of the training, participants gained better and improved understanding of media as a medium of communication, enhancement of our work in development and capacity building, namely on issues that relate to energy and climate change.

The training emphasized the significance of mass media communication, mainly radio, as a tool for advocacy and awareness, for important development issues and challenges currently facing our communities. The Conservation Society of Pohnpei would like to join Pohnpei State Lt. Governor, Marcelino K. Peterson, and trainees to thank SPC for facilitating a well delivered training and the host venue, Yvonne's Hotel.



CSP Environmental Educator, Iakop Ioanis, during workshop. Mr. Ioanis was trained to work with various Pacific island nations to understand mass media as a communication tool in communities and to educate and inform people on contemporary issues affecting Pacific Island nations.





EMERGENCY FIRST RESPONSE TRAINING

On December 18th, 2012, a group from the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) learned Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First-Aid training at the headquarters of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission in Pohnpei, Micronesia. The training was made possible with the expertise of International Organization for Migration's (IOM) Emergency Response Adviser, Mr. Rick Herman, and PADI's Master SCUBA Diver Trainer, Mr. John Ranahan. The trainers introduced newly established standards for Emergency First Response Primary and Secondary Care that followed emergency considerations and protocols as developed by the members of the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR), an organization that oversees patient care standards all around the world. Trainees consisted of mostly CSP's staff along with other representatives from Pohnpei State's Fish and Wildlife and the Office of Fisheries and Aquaculture. The training enabled CSP staff to obtain individual certification to perform CPR and First Aid as they continue the ongoing projects throughout the state of Pohnpei. Such certifications allow for a safer working environment for CSP staff in the field and the people of Pohnpei in which CSP collaborates with.



Mr. Rick Herman demonstrating the order of conduct and procedures for spinal injury.



CSP, Fish & Wildlife and Fisheries staff learning key steps in applying First Aid.

AROUND THE OFFICE

MARINE PROGRAM MANAGER

Joining the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP) as the new Marine Program Manager in December 2012, Jörg Anson comes to CSP with years of combined experience in marine and environmental science. Anson has most recently served as an undergraduate researcher at Pacific Bioscience Research Center's Kewalo Marine Laboratory under the mentorship of Dr. Robert Richmond, a research professor and Principal Investigator at University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UH), during his time at UH since August 2008 and brings prior experience as a Marine Science major at Ponape Agriculture and Trade School and the College of Micronesia-FSM. In addition, Anson has completed countless number of hours conducting federally funded research projects focusing on the reproduction, recruitment, and growth of scleractinians and reef-related organisms as well as the effects of both anthropogenic and natural stressors on marine ecosystems. His studies have taken him to international conferences, society meetings, regional and local symposia in the state of Hawai'i, Pohnpei, and the United States mainland.

As a son to a Lipwtahn and a Dipwinmen by traditional clan, Mr. Anson was born on November 11, 1987 and raised in Pohnpei, FSM. The passion towards the protection of Pohnpei's marine resources and the qualifications that Mr. Anson possess are precisely



CSP Marine Program
Manager, Jörg Anson



conducive for the continuation of CSP's mission in Pohnpei. The conservation of Pohnpei's marine resources, according to Mr. Anson, requires a collaborative approach that persistently embraces community involvement. Mr. Anson understands the importance of bridging the gap between western science and existing traditional knowledge systems in order to effectively manage Pohnpei's marine ecosystems. The persistence of Mr. Anson's dedication for the conservation of marine resources are being reflected through the personal efforts and achievements as shown in an endless number of news, articles, and blogs. His conscientiousness will serve as an asset for our work in Pohnpei and the Micronesian region. Join us in welcoming our new Marine Program Manager.



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CSP MEMBERSHIP FORM



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Conservation Society of Pohnpei

PO Box 2461

Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941

Individual Membership level:

_____ \$5 Student

_____ \$10 Local Pohnpeian living on Island

_____ \$25 Expatriate member living in Pohnpei

_____ \$25 Face book member (receive biweekly updates on CSP)

_____ \$50-\$1,000 per year: Contributing Member

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_____ \$100-250 Oamp (Coconut Crab)

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_____ \$501-1,000 Serehd (Pohnpei Lori)

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