

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE READINESS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM

PROJECT PROFILES U.S. NAVY | MARIANAS REGION-WIDE

# MARIANAS REGION-WIDE NAVY PROJECT

#### Marianas Region-Wide is home to several installations and annexes, including Naval Base Guam, Andersen Air Force Base, and Marine Corps Base Camp Blaz, whose missions align closely with National Defense Strategy priorities.

Naval Base Guam provides critical logistics support to the U.S. Pacific Fleet and is the only installation in the region that can be used for berthing, ship operations and maintenance, refueling, and ordnance handling. Additionally, Naval Munitions Site is the largest ordnance facility in the Pacific and encompasses two land-based training areas.



However, these important missions are facing increased development pressures and detrimental tropical cyclones, coastal inundation, wildfires, and drought.

The Marianas are also home to a high concentration of threatened and endangered species impacted by the continued degradation of habitat across the island. Regulatory restrictions in place as a result of reduced habitat for these species can impact military training and operations where species may take refuge within military operating

areas. To alleviate these impacts, the Navy is partnering with local and Federal agencies to implement ecosystem-level habitat recovery and restoration activities in off-base locations to support species recovery goals and limit impacts to military mission readiness. A crediting strategy is being developed to consider the ecological benefits of off-base conservation activities and provide opportunities for streamlining Federal consultation processes, paving the way for enhanced species conservation.

This project supports the goals and objectives of species recovery and forest restoration plans. The project's focus on preserving contiguous areas of protected habitat will also include watershed management activities to reduce erosion and improve the quality of local water resources and the near-shore, enabling the preservation of critical coastal training lands that are vital to protecting the warfighter and Joint Region Mariana's equities.

## BENEFIT SUMMARY

#### COMMUNITY

- Preserves and enhances water resources Supports multiple Service missions
- Protects habitat for multiple threatened, Helps avoid and reduce workarounds endangered, and candidate species

#### MILITARY

- and restrictions on training



A Guam Fire Department firefighter extinguishes a small fire after a wildland fire in Yigo, Guam. GFD jointly worked with the 36<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Squadron, 36th Security Forces Squadron and U.S. Navy Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 to respond to the wildfire and protect local residents.

## **KEY PARTNERS**

- Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana **Islands Government** 
  - Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services
  - Department of Fish and Wildlife
  - Department of Lands and Natural Resources
- Guam Department of Agriculture
- Guam Preservation Trust
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Office of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- University of Guam
  - Center for Island Sustainability
  - Marine Laboratory
- Western Pacific Tropical Research Center
- White Buffalo Inc.

### CONTACT

COMMUNITY PLANS AND LIAISON OFFICE: (671) 349-1070

#### FAST FACTS FROM FY 2021 THROUGH FY 2024 | Project Status: Initiated

| Authority                     |   | Acres Protected, Managed, or Improved | Total Funds Expended |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 10 U.S.C. § 2684a             | - | -                                     | \$0.2 million        |
| Other (e.g., Sikes Act, IGSA) | - | _                                     | \$5.6 million        |
| TOTAL                         | - | -                                     | \$5.7 million        |

Subtotals may not sum to combined totals due to rounding. | This project has expended REPI funds to support the ongoing management or improvement of lands outside the installation.

For more information about the REPI Program and supportive DOD efforts, please visit www.repi.mil.