

## **Meeting notes for MTMAC Meeting on 05/08-05/09 0900am ChST;**

### **Attendees:**

MTMAC Members – CNMI - Richard Salas , Floyd Masga, Frank Rabauliman; USCG - Maile Norman; DOD - Mark Cruz

USFWS –Jihan Younis, Laura Beauregard, Sean Macduff

NMFS – Malia Chow, Steve Mckagan, (Online: Richard Hall, Ann Barlow, Kaipo Perez, Take Tomson, Jeida Ostrowski)

NOAA OLE- Jonas Escuada

Public- Andrew Roberto, Jad L., John Gourley

### **Opening**

- Members, participants, and the public introduced themselves
- Chairman Masga reviewed and adopted the meeting minutes
- Sean reviewed charge document

### **Briefings**

- Marc Cruz presented on Joint Region Marianas activities in the CNMI and his role representing all DOD.
- Take Tomson from NOAA OLE presented virtually on Joint Enforcement Administration activities in the CNMI. He introduced Jonas Escuada as the NOAA OLE Marianas contact, based out of Guam.
- Malia Chow, NOAA PIRO presented on Monument fishing rules.
- Laura Beauregard, USFWS presented on the status of CEQ commitments.

### **Management Plan Review, comment solicitation, and next steps**

- Sean presented and reviewed sections of the management plan related to permitting and access, monument governance, public comments and agency responses to comments, and future public involvement.
- After some discussion, The MTMAC was satisfied with the current version of the MMP. Frank made a motion to adopt it and begin to move forward towards MMP finalization. Richard seconded. All MTMAC members were in favor and the motion passed.
- FWS and NOAA agreed to work with the CNMI, USCG, and the DOD on our collective communications rollout plan.
- Sean shared that there are still some internal FWS reviews and technical edits that still need to occur before the FWS regional director can finalize the MMP

- Virtual and the next in-person meetings frequency of quarterly were agreed to and scheduled out.

### Scheduled meetings

- August 14, 2024 9:00am – 11:00am ChST; August 13, 2024 1:00pm – 3:00pm HWS (Virtual)
- October 30, 2024 9:00am – 11:00am ChST; October 29, 2024 1:00pm – 3:00pm HST (Virtual)
- February 12, 2025 9:00am – 11:00am ChST; February 24, 2025 1:00pm – 3:00pm HST (Virtual)
- April 30 - May 1, 2025 9:00 am – 5:00 pm ChST (In-person on Rota)

### Boat Ramp (items to be addressed at a later time)

#### 1. Document management and collaboration:

- **SharePoint Access:** Grant appropriate access to MTMAC members for collaboration and document sharing.
- **Share PowerPoint presentations:** Share presentations from MTMAC meeting.
- **Sign Bylaws:** [Completed](#)
- **PR on 6M funding:** Publicize the allocation of funds to ensure transparency and understanding.
- **PR on Monument Management Plan:** PR from Governor's office regarding the Monument Management Plan (MMP).
- **508 Compliance for Monument Management Plan:** Confirmed completion of compliance measures and accessibility for public announcement.

#### 2. Funding and Resource Management:

- **CEP/JEA Funding:** Investigate if the funding is competitive and explore opportunities for securing it.
- **Pacific Island Fishing Area (PIFA):**
- **MTMAC membership:** Decide whether Guam should be included in the membership.

#### 3. Enforcement and Compliance:

- **Monument fines:** Determine the fine amounts for violations such as illegal fishing in the Monument.
- **Enforcement - commercial fishing:** Strengthen enforcement measures for commercial fishing activities.
- **HPO-concurrence check:** Ensure compliance with Historic Preservation Office requirements.
- **PCRP DMS:** Contact Robbie Greene for a presentation on PCRP DMS.
- **Dark vessel tracking:** Implement measures for tracking vessels engaged in illegal activities.
- **Create enforcement subcommittee:** Establish a dedicated subcommittee focused on enforcement matters.

#### 4. Management Approach:

- **MTMAC membership:** Decide whether Guam should be included in the membership.
- **BECQ addition to MMCT:** Include a CNMI representative from BECQ in the Monument Management Coordination Team (MMCT).
- **Co-management vs. coordinated management:** Clarify the differences and implications of each management approach.

- **Working group vs. Subcommittees:** Ensure everyone understands the terminology used in discussions and documents. Clarify the distinction between these two organizational structures in the plan.

#### 5. **Specific Issues and Concerns**

- **Alice Springs and Central Trough corrections:** MMP (and FWS cartographers) have corrected coordinates. A Technical Correction will be published in the Federal Register to provide the true coordinates and correct spelling of Mariana Trench name.
- **Cultural Maritime Heritage Plan:** Emphasized the importance of integrating traditional navigation into the Cultural Maritime Heritage Plan.

#### Management Plan comments

##### 1. **Enforcement on entire EEZ**

- Request through Bureau of Military Affairs. Contact: Tom Linden.

##### 2. **Co-Stewardship**

- Engage with key partners and community groups in co-stewardship agreements.

#### Public Q&A

##### 1. **DOD Activities within the Monument**

- **What type of activities?**
- **What are the impacts to marine resources from DOD activities?**
- **What type of military training is happening?**