



Naval Facilities Engineering Command,
Marianas
PSC 455 Box 195
FPO AP 96540-2937

MILITARY RELOCATION TO GUAM AND CNMI PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT (PA) MEMO #1

Project: J-001B Salvage and Transplantation of Federally Listed Plant Species at Utilities and Site Improvements Phase I Naval Base Guam Telecommunications Site, Guam	Date: June 15, 2016
Project Location: Naval Base Guam Telecommunications Site (NBGTS)	Prepared By: NAVFAC Marianas

PROJECT SUMMARY

This project proposes salvaging and transplanting of federally listed plants found within Department of Defense (DoD) lands on Guam to the North Finegayan Forest Enhancement Area (SHPO RC2016-0014; formerly RC2014-0625). This area will serve to salvage/transplant the plants from any DoD property on Guam involved with Defense Policy Review Initiative (DPRI) projects under the 2011 Programmatic Agreement (PA). Although located within what is today known as the village of Dededo, the pre-World War II names for some of the areas within or closest to the area of potential effects (APE) include areas such as Ukudu, Ritidian, Fafalog, Haputo, and Finaguayac. The area for transplanting is directly north of the area that was selected for the Marine cantonment as identified in Alternative E.

The requirement for this transplanting activity is stated in the Biological Opinion. This action will be performed in accordance with the Biological Opinion for the Department of the Navy's (DON) Relocation of the U.S. Marine Corps from Okinawa to Guam and Associated Activities on Guam (01EPIF00-2016-F-0025). Various plants will be protected by transplanting to the ungulate control area from various locations on DoD land. In the section "Mitigation Measures for Impacts Associated with the Cantonment/Family Housing Alternative E" on page 18 the forest enhancement ungulate control is described to occur on a minimum of 780 acres (316 hectares (ha)) of limestone forest. The North Finegayan Forest Enhancement Area will contain an ungulate control fence that encloses approximately 350 acres of limestone forest north of the Marine Corps main cantonment at NBGTS Finegayan. The North Finegayan Forest Enhancement Area will contribute to partial fulfillment of the ungulate control requirements of the Biological Opinion and is considered to be the first phase of implementation. Stipulation IV.F of the 2011 PA among the Department of Defense, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), the Guam State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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State Historic Preservation Officer (CNMI SHPO) regarding the Military Relocation to the Islands of Guam and Tinian (the Undertaking) provides for solicitation, discussion, and review of additional information or when project areas change to incorporate previously unsurveyed areas or when new project areas are introduced. Accordingly, this memo presents information to allow the SHPO to provide comments on the DoD's identification and evaluation of historic properties within the project's area of potential effect (APE), as well as the DoD's determination of effect.

PROJECT LOCATION

The project's APE, (referred to as the Forest Enhancement Area) for Government of Japan-funded (Mamizu) project J-001B is designated to salvage and transplant federally listed plant species. It is approximately 296.1 acres (119.8 hectares) (Figure 1.). The project area is situated on the limestone plateau above the western cliffs of northern Guam. The plateau, which rises from 120 to 150 meters (400 to 500 feet) above mean sea level, is relatively flat, although there are localized raised and depressed areas caused by differential solution of the limestone bedrock below the soil layer. Depressed areas may collect some soil, while raised areas of bedrock would be exposed on the surface.

The APE will be contained within the ungulate control perimeter fencing that was previously consulted upon and approved by the Guam SHPO on February 2, 2016 under J-001B (RC2016-0048). This area will serve to receive the plants from any DoD property on Guam involved with DPRI projects under the 2011 PA. While the APE contains historic properties, a 10 meter buffer has been established around each to exclude these areas from transplanting activities.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project will recover federally listed plant species (e.g. *Cycas micronesica*, *Tuberolabium guamense*, *Dendrobium guamense*, and *Bulbophyllum guamense*) for either (1) salvage and transplanting directly to a location in the APE, or (2) salvage and storage in an approved nursery location, for later planting to a final location in the APE.

During excavations to transplant cycads (removing from original location and planting in a new location), munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) monitors will be on hand to assure the crews avoid munitions and explosives of concern/unexploded ordnance (MEC/UXO). Salvaged plants will be transplanted at least 10 meters from historic properties. The maximum excavation to accept the maximum anticipated root ball and soil is estimated by the Natural Resources staff of DPRI to not exceed 5 feet in diameter (25 square feet or 2.3 square meters).

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IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Scope of DoD Identification Efforts

In planning for the Undertaking, the DoD first conducted a data gap analysis to determine the need for supplemental identification and evaluation surveys and then conducted those surveys. Surveys were available for review by the Guam SHPO, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), National Park Service (NPS) and Concurring Parties to the 2011 PA. DoD has applied the results of those survey identification efforts to the plans for siting of transplanting locations in this APE to avoid effects to historic properties to the extent practical.

DoD surveys and evaluations have focused on project-specific APEs, defined consistent with 36 CFR §800.16(d) to include those portions of the island of Guam and Tinian subject to direct and indirect effects of projects included in the Undertaking, based on the July 2010 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Guam and CNMI Military Relocation.

In addition to the archaeological and architectural surveys and evaluations, DoD has completed extensive archival research and oral history studies and interviews to identify traditional cultural properties, places, sacred sites, and culturally important natural resources such as the *nunu*, *da'ok*, *dokdok*, and *ifit* trees, and medicinal plants.

More specifically, the APE has been subject to one or more of the historic property identification efforts listed in 36 CFR §800.4(b)(1), which may include background research, consultation, oral history interviews, sample field investigation and field survey. As such, results of identification and evaluation efforts for the APE can be found in the following original studies of cultural and/or historic resources. These surveys, as well as sites eligible for the National Register are known, and their avoidance will be the basis for the placement of new plantings.

Athens, J.S.

2009 *Final Archaeological Surveys and Cultural Resources Studies on Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Support of the Joint Guam Build-Up Environmental Impact Statement Volume I: Guam*. Prepared by International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc. Honolulu, HI.

Dixon, Boyd, S. Walker and R. Schaefer

2011 *Final Report Cultural Resource Investigations Conducted in the Territory of Guam Supporting the Joint Guam Build-Up Environmental Impact Statement: Final Archaeological Surveys on Guam 2010 on Andersen AFB*. Prepared by the Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific Division, by TEC Inc.

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Haun, Alan E.

1988 *Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey and Field Inspections of Relocatable Over-the-Horizon Radar Sites on Guam, Mariana Islands, Micronesia*. Prepared for Wilson Okamoto and Associates, Inc., Paul H. Rosendahl, Ph.D., Inc. Hilo, HI.

Highness, D. and Alan E. Haun

1990 *Archaeological Inventory Survey DTS Facility: Barrigada and Finegayan Sites, Dededo and 3 Barrigada Municipalities Territory of Guam*. Prepared for Belt Collins by Paul H. Rosendahl, Ph.D., Inc., Hilo, Hawai'i.

Kurashina, H., T. McGrath and H. Manner

1987 *Archaeological Survey of Areas 1, 2, 1A, and 2A at Northwest Field, Andersen Air Force Base and Naval Communication Area Master Station Western Pacific, Finegayan, Guam, Mariana Islands*. Prepared for Department of Navy, Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command. University of Guam, Mangilao, Guam and Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI.

Kurashina, H., D. Wooster, T. McGrath, and J. Toenjes

1988 *Archaeological Investigations of the Route 3 Road Corridor, Territory of Guam, Mariana Islands*. Prepared for Juan C. Tenorio and Associates, Inc., Agana, Guam.

Olmo, Richard K., T. Mangieri, D. Welch, and T.S. Dye

2000 *Final Phase II Archaeological Survey and Detailed Recording at Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Marianas (COMNAVMARIANAS) Communications Annex (Formerly Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station, Western Pacific [NCTAMS WESTPAC]), Territory of Guam, Mariana Islands*. Prepared for the Department of the Navy, Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Building 258 Makalapa Drive, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii under contract N62742-97-D-3511 to International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc.

Reinman, F.

1977 *An Archaeological Survey and Preliminary Test Excavations on the Island of Guam, Mariana 6 Islands, 1965-1966*. Miscellaneous Publications No.1. Micronesian Area Research Center, University of Guam, Mangilao.

Welch, D.

2010 *Final Archaeological Surveys and Cultural Resources Studies Conducted in 2007 on the Island of Guam in Support of the Joint Guam Build-Up Environmental Impact Statement; Volume I: Narrative and Volume II: Site Descriptions*. Prepared for Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii under Contract N62742-06-D-1870, Task Order 10 to TEC, Inc.

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Results of the above studies indicate a number of historic properties within the vicinity of the APE that can be easily avoided with transplanting excavations being placed in the APE and outside the 10-meter buffered site locations (provided to SHPO). These sites entail prehistoric artifact and feature scatters, WWII artifacts and structure sites, as well as American and Spanish colonial occupation sites.

DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY

The DoD has determined there are known historic properties in the vicinity of the APE.

DETERMINATION OF EFFECT:

The DoD's determination of effect for APE is that there will be no adverse effect to historic properties, as the project has planned to carefully avoid all known historic properties.

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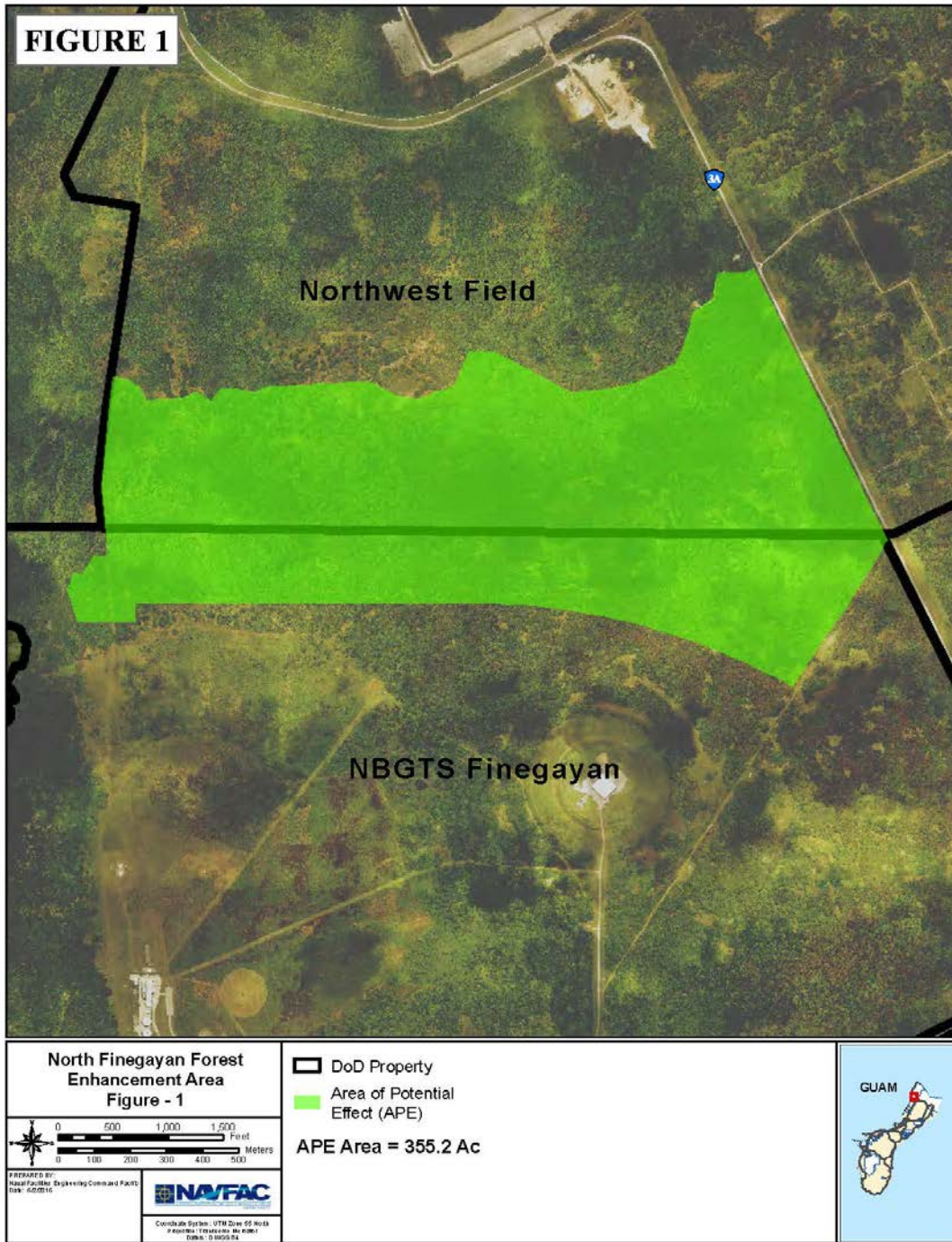


Figure 1. Areas for replanting various cycads and orchids.

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