

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 : Ungulate (Hoofed Animal) Fencing, Santa Rita Route 2	Date: December 8, 2011
Project Location : Naval Base Guam, Santa Rita, along Route 2, Segment W (1516.4 meters/4975 feet)	Prepared By: RHR

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Although ungulate management was identified (Sec. 10.2.2.6) in the Final EIS (FEIS) for the military relocation to Guam and Tinian, this project is not listed in Appendix E of the PA. In accordance with Stipulation I.A. of the PA, it is an individual project associated with the Guam and Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Military Relocation (the Undertaking). General Conservation Measures listed on page 53 of the Biological Opinion (BO) require that DoD update and implement the ungulate (e.g. pigs/deer) management plan.

The objective of ungulate management is to improve habitat quality for special status species, reduce erosion, and reduce habitat degradation on DoD lands (BO page 53). On Guam, ungulates have caused severe damage to forests and wetlands by trampling, uprooting, wallowing and grazing on plants, causing erosion and inhibiting plant growth and regeneration. This also facilitates the establishment of invasive plants in disturbed areas, which can impede forest regeneration by displacing or smothering native species (BO page 92).

This project will place approximately 1516.4 meters (4,975 feet) of chain link fencing along the western edge of Guam Route 2 to deter ungulate entry onto base property. The fencing will be installed between the Main Gate of Naval Base Guam and a point approximately 250 feet north of the intersection of Guam Route 2 and Guam Route 5, where it will connect with an existing fence. The fence will be eight feet tall and will be mounted on metal posts placed at ten foot intervals along the route. The fence will not be buried in the ground and will not run along a continuous foundation. Each post will be individually anchored in concrete to a depth of approximately two feet. A cable will be run along the base of the fence to maintain tension.

DoD has determined that the Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this project consists of a linear corridor of 6.1 meters (20 feet) in width, centered on the fence line. Vegetation will be mechanically removed from within the corridor and roots will be grubbed out. The 6.1 meter (20') wide corridor allows sufficient area for vehicles and machinery to operate. The total APE of this project is approximately 9,250 square meters (2.3 acres). Materials will be delivered as needed

from existing stockpile areas; there is no new staging area associated with this project.

IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES:

Scope of DoD Identification Efforts

The project area lies in the southern, volcanic region of Guam. This is a mountainous area with many perennial and seasonal streams. The project area is located a zone of rolling foothills between the narrow coastal plain and the mountains. The project area is a narrow corridor west of and parallel to a highway that runs along a north/south landform between the Atantano River wetland to the east and an unnamed wetland associated with Abo Cove of the inner harbor to the west. The topography in the area consists of low rolling hills separated by stream valleys such as these. There are two road cuts through low hills in the northern half of the corridor, with road cut faces standing up to eight meters above the road surface. This contrasts with two road segments where guard rails stand between the highway and steep drops toward the wetland to the west.

The project area contains two geologic types. The lower lying area near the Main Gate and lower area near the coast consists of Alifan limestone of Miocene and Pliocene age. This is a fine-grained crystallized limestone. Moving along increasing elevations toward the south, the project area crosses the older Eocene and Oligocene Alutom formation, which includes bedded breccias, conglomerates, sandstones, turbidites, sandy limestone and micrositic to bioclastic limestone. Alluvial clay deposits fill the wetlands in the stream valleys. Soils in the project area consist of Guam Urban Land-Pulantat soils on the ridges and Inarajan and Inarajan variant soils in the valleys. Urban Land-Pulantat soils are very shallow, well-drained level to gently sloping soils that occur on plateaus and in urban and disturbed areas. Inarajan type soils are poorly drained, level to nearly level soils that are found in valley bottoms and along coastal plains (*Natural Resources Atlas of Southern Guam*, Water and Environmental Research Institute of the Western Pacific, Island Research & Education Initiative, University of Guam).

Vegetation in the project area consists primarily of tangan-tangan (*Leucaena leucocephala*), Australian pines/Ironwood (*Casuarina equisetifolia*) and other examples of secondary forest species, with a ground cover of grasses and ferns.

The project area was included in three previous surveys:

Reinman, F. and R. Nees

1998 Archaeological Inventory Survey for the Apra Harbor Naval Complex, Guam, in Conjunction with the Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Program, Project No. 0865. Prepared for the Department of the Navy, Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command. Ogden Environmental and Energy Services Co., Inc., Honolulu.

Dixon, Boyd, Dennis Gosser, Laura Gilda, and Richard Nees

2004 Archaeological Survey and Limited Subsurface Excavations at the Naval Ordnance Annex and Waterfront Annex, Territory of Guam. With contributions by Judith Amesbury, Darlene Moore, Gail Murakami, Linda Scott-Cummings, Michael Haslam, Alison Crowther, and Thomas Loy. Prepared for Department of the Navy, Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pearl Harbor, Hawai'i. Pacific Consulting Services, Inc., Honolulu.

Welch, David

2010 Final Report: Archaeological Surveys and Cultural Resources Studies on the Island of Guam in Support of the Joint Guam Build-Up Environmental Impact Statement. Volume I: Narrative. Prepared for Department of the Navy Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific Pearl Harbor. Contract N62742-06-D-1870, Task Order No. 0010. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.

The survey by Reinman and Nees included the portion of the project area between the Naval Base Main Gate and a point on the western side of the highway across from the intersection with a road leading to a tank farm. No historic properties were identified in the proposed APE during this work.

The survey by Dixon *et al.* covered the portion of the APE extending from the southern extent of the Reinman and Nees survey southward to a point on the west edge of the highway approximately 250 feet north of the intersection of Route 2 and Route 5. This corresponds to the point where the proposed fence will join the existing fence. Therefore, the entire APE has been surveyed for archaeological resources. No historic properties were identified in the proposed APE during this work.

The Welch report documents a housing area (Housing Area 8 Barracks, Camp Covington) corresponding to buildings depicted on the hilltop shown on the 2000 USGS Apra Harbor topographic quadrangle map which although located outside of the proposed APE, was determined ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

PRELIMINARY DoD DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY:

Pending input from consulting parties and the public, the DoD's determination is that no historic properties are located within the project's Area of Potential Effect; therefore, the proposed project will have no effect on historic properties.

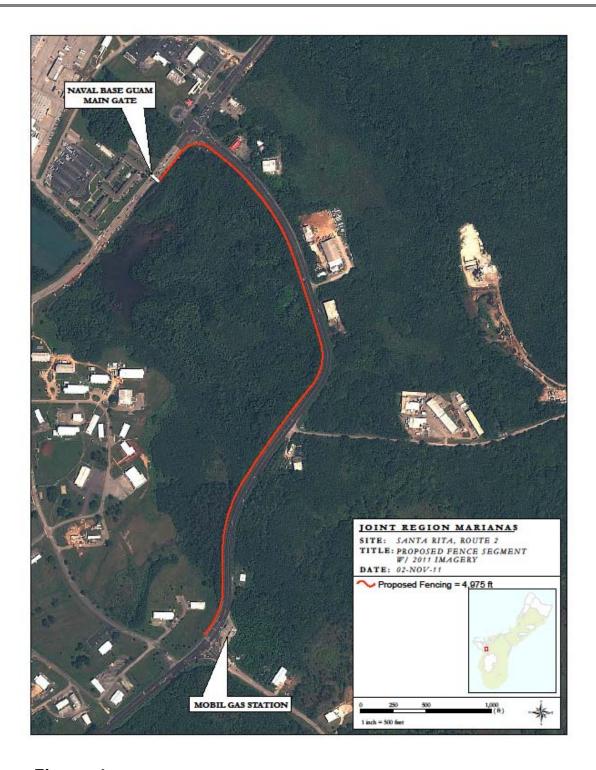


Figure 1

This PA Memo is required by Stipulation IV.E.2.a. of the PA as a means for interested members of the public to provide comments on the identification and evaluation of historic properties. Stipulation IV.E.1.b. of the PA requires the DoD to take into account comments received within 45 days of the date of the delivery of this PA memo to the SHPO and public notification via the CRI website.