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

Project: Wetland Restoration, Phase 1	Date: May 2, 2011
Project Location: Apra Harbor, Naval Base Guam	Prepared By: EV23PJC
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:	
<p>Although identified 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 Stipulations I.A. and I.E. of the PA, it is an individual project associated with the Guam and Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Military Relocation (the Undertaking).</p> <p>As indicated in Section 2.1.5 of the <i>Final Biological Opinion for the Guam and CNMI Military Relocation</i> (USFWS, 2010), a restoration plan will be developed for Camp Covington and/or Atantano wetlands in an effort to increase suitable habitat for Mariana common moorhen.</p> <p>Accordingly, this phase of the project focuses on the evaluation of potential wetland restoration areas at Camp Covington and Atantano at Apra Harbor on the island of Guam. The proposed project includes assessment of on-site vegetation, excavation and/or coring for soil testing necessary to select either Camp Covington or Atantano for restoration and prepare a restoration plan.</p> <p>The aim of the study is to conduct wetland enhancement or restoration to increase suitable habitat for the Mariana common moorhen at Camp Covington. If Camp Covington is deemed unsuitable for wetland enhancement or restoration, the Atantano wetlands will be evaluated for restoration potential. Once developed, the selected restoration plan will be submitted for comment in a separate PA memo.</p> <p>Camp Covington and Atantano are located in the southern and western portions of the Waterfront Annex at Apra Harbor, Naval Base Guam. The Camp Covington wetland area encompasses approximately 181.9 acres and Atantano covers approximately 99.3 acres.</p> <p>Apra Harbor is located within the bounds of the 4,500 acre Naval Base Guam on the west coast of the island. The entire Apra Harbor area was extensively destroyed during World War II (WWII) and in restoration after the war, whereby it is now</p>	

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comprised primarily of fill material dredged from Apra Harbor.

The total area of potential effect (APE) for the Wetland Restoration project is 281.2 acres (see Figure 1).

IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES:

Scope of DoD Identification Efforts

The Wetland Restoration project footprint was included in the following study of cultural and/or historic resources conducted prior to the Marine Relocation Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) by the Department of Defense (DoD) beginning in 2007:

Dixon, Boyd, Dennis Gosser, Laura Gilda, and Richard Nees 2004 *Final Report: Archaeological Survey and Limited Subsurface Excavations at the Naval Ordnance Annex and Waterfront Annex, Territory of Guam*. Prepared for Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Pacific Consulting Services, Inc., Honolulu.

Additional studies referenced include:

Carucci, James

1993 *The Archaeology of Orote Peninsula: Phase I and II Archaeological Inventory Survey of Areas Proposed for Projects to Accommodate Relocation of Navy Activities From the Philippines to Guam, Mariana Islands*. With contributions by H. David Tuggle, D. Colt Denfield, J. Stephen Athens, Jerome V. Ward, and Stephen K. Wickler. Prepared for Belt Collins and Associates, Honolulu, Hawaii. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.

Hunter-Anderson, Rosalind L., Boyd Dixon, and Tina Mangieri

2001 *Cultural Resources Survey of Five Navy Surplus Guam Land Use Plan Parcels, Territory of Guam*. Prepared for Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Micronesian Archaeological Research Services, Inc., Mangilao, Guam, and International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc. under contract to TEC Inc. Joint Venture.

Tomonari-Tuggle, M., D. Tuggle, and D. Welch

2005 *Regional Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan for COMNAVREG Marianas Lands Volume I: Guam*. Prepared for Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc., Honolulu.

The Camp Covington wetland was a large marsh that once drained into Inner Apra Harbor before military construction. The Atantano wetland consists of a large marsh

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that forms the eastern edge of Inner Apra Harbor around the mouth of the Atantano River.

Studies suggest that Pre-Latte inhabitants may have exploited the resources of what were once the island of Orote and a much larger Apra Harbor, measuring almost two meters higher than today (Dixon et al. 2004). A combination of a drop in sea level, deforestation of the surrounding plain and hill tops during late Pre-Latte-Period farmers, and drought and natural fires on Guam beginning circa 500 B.C. created fringing marshes through the accumulation of erosional silts (Athens and Ward in Carucci 1993).

Many of the marshes were filled during WWII construction of the Inner Apra Harbor. Tomonari-Tuggle et al. (2005) outline the construction activities contributing to the alteration of the Harbor. The main section of the lagoon north of Orote Peninsula was dredged. A breakwater was built along an alignment through Cabras Island and the reefs, extending east across the Tepungan Channel to the mainland. Dredged materials were used to build up land along the shoreline of the inner lagoon to create the Inner Apra Harbor.

Latte Period pottery scatters and shell middens had been documented along the coastal marshes and coconut groves of Apra Harbor and on Orote Peninsula. However, the land clearing activities associated with WWII construction, as well as the destruction attributed to the war itself have left few *latte* sets in existence, to correlate with the Contact period villages of Tuparao, Orote, and Sumay (Dixon et al. 2004).

Six historic properties have been identified within the two proposed locations for the Wetland Restoration project.

Historic Property 1 is a cave believed to have utilized during the pre-Contact period.

Historic Property 2 is a possible Latte Period pottery scatter.

Historic Property 3 includes possible Historic and Latte Period artifact scatters.

Historic Property 4 consists of five WWII era foxholes.

Historic Property 5 includes two latte sets.

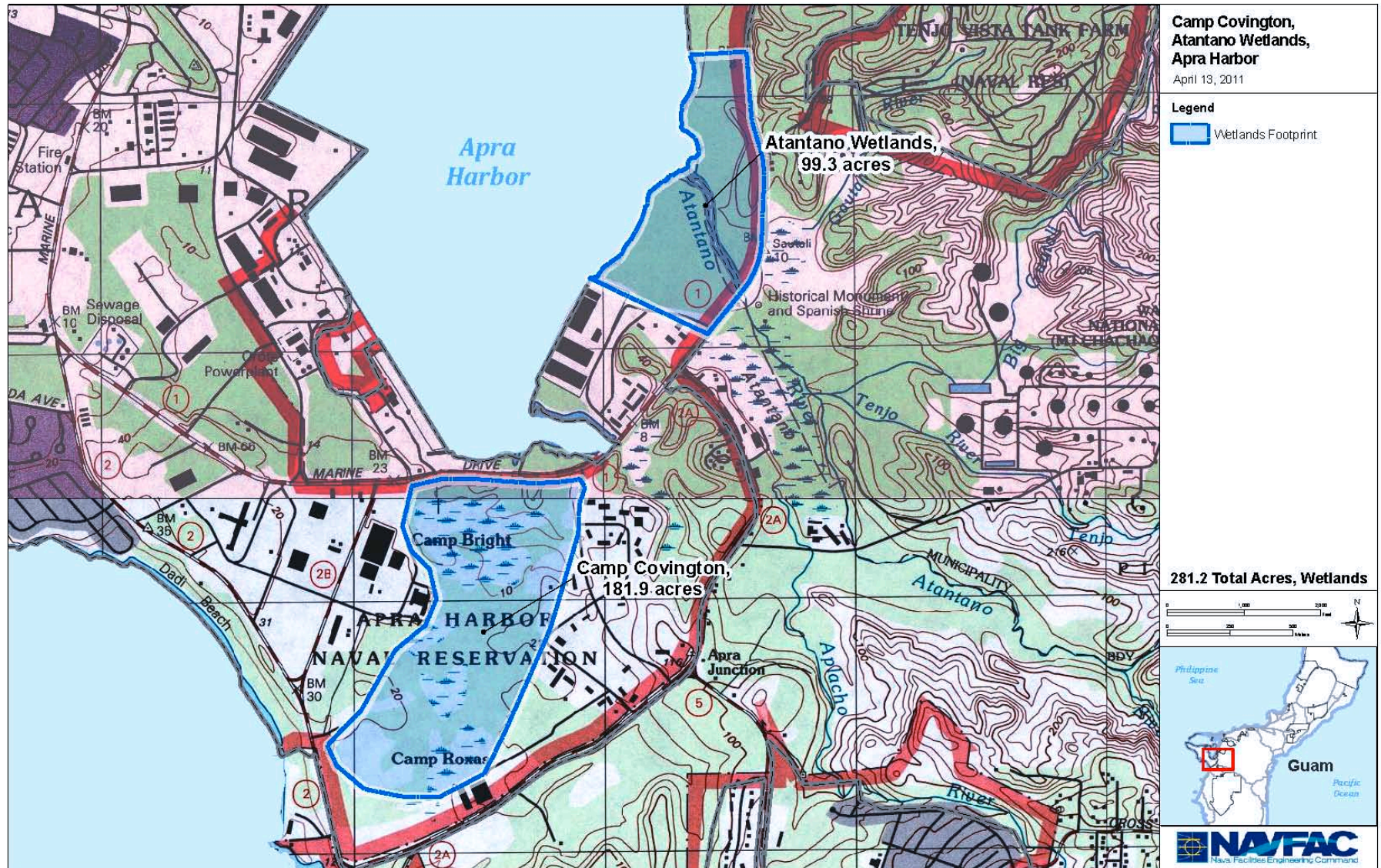
Historic Property 6 is a scatter of WWII construction materials and domestic trash.

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PRELIMINARY DoD DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY:

Pending input from consulting parties and the public, the DoD's determination is that all of the historic properties listed above are eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under Criterion D because they may yield significant information important to prehistory or history. Additionally, Historic Property 4 is also considered preliminarily eligible for nomination to the NRHP under Criterion C because it embodies the distinctive characteristics of the type and method of construction employed during WWII.

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- 5 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.