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

Project: Wetland Restoration, Phase 1 (RC2011-8981)	Date: July 6, 2011
Project Location: Apra Harbor, Naval Base Guam	Prepared By: EV23PJC

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

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 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).

As indicated in Section 2.1.5 of the *Final Biological Opinion for the Guam and CNMI Military Relocation* (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.

Accordingly, this phase of the project is a feasibility study that focuses on the evaluation of potential wetland restoration areas at Camp Covington and Atantano at Apra Harbor on the island of Guam, which is necessary in order to comply with the USFWS 2010 Biological Opinion referenced above.

As discussed in a May 25, 2011 meeting between Guam SHPO and NAVFAC Marianas staff, ground altering disturbance associated with the study will be limited to soil coring with a maximum diameter of four inches.

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.

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 comprised primarily of fill material dredged from Apra Harbor.

The total area of potential effect (APE) for the Wetland Restoration project is 281.2

1 This PA Memo is required by Stipulation V.B.3. of the PA as a means for interested members of the public to provide comments on the DoD's plan for resolving adverse effects. Stipulation V.B.3.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.

acres (see Figure 1).

IDENTIFICATION OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES:

Results of DoD Cultural Resources Review:

As stated in the first PA Memo for this project, 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.

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 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.

Comments received from the Guam SHPO upon review of the first PA memo were addressed during a May 25, 2011 meeting at which NAVFAC Marianas staff explained that Phase I of the project is a feasibility study necessary for compliance with the US Fish and Wildlife Service's *Final Biological Opinion for the Guam and CNMI Military Relocation* and provided more detail. NAVFAC Marianas staff also explained that ground altering disturbance associated with Phase I of the project will be limited to soil coring with a maximum diameter of four inches. No mechanical excavation will take place, all tools will be carried in by hand, and known historic properties will be avoided.

Subsequent written response from the Navy (June 6, 2011) further clarified that the Wetland Restoration project was not included in the previous consultation for projects scheduled for award in Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011, nor in Appendix E of the PA and the reason it appeared to be missing information is because as part of the PA, it is subject to a phased consultation process which requires the submission of two separate PA memos (Stipulation I.E.).

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The first memo is required by Stipulation IV.E. of the PA, and is designed to allow the Signatories, Invited Signatories, Concurring Parties and the public an opportunity to comment on the scope of DoD efforts to *identify historic properties* within the APE of the project and its *preliminary determination of eligibility* for listing those properties on the National Register of Historic Places.

The second memo, required by Stipulation V.B. of the PA once a determination of eligibility has been finalized, is designed to provide the Signatories, Invited Signatories, Concurring Parties and public with sufficient information to allow the DoD and respective SHPO to consult on the *determination of effect*. If DoD determines that a project will have an adverse effect on historic properties, the second PA memo will allow the parties to the PA and the public an opportunity to comment on DoD's plan for resolving adverse effects.

For the purpose of continually seeking input from the Signatories, Invited Signatories, Concurring Parties and the public for each step of the consultation process, the PA specifies that each PA memo contain certain information and follow a certain process in a certain order, which is different than what is expected under a traditional Section 106 review.

ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS:

The Navy has determined that this undertaking will have *no adverse effect* on any of the historic properties known to be within the study area.

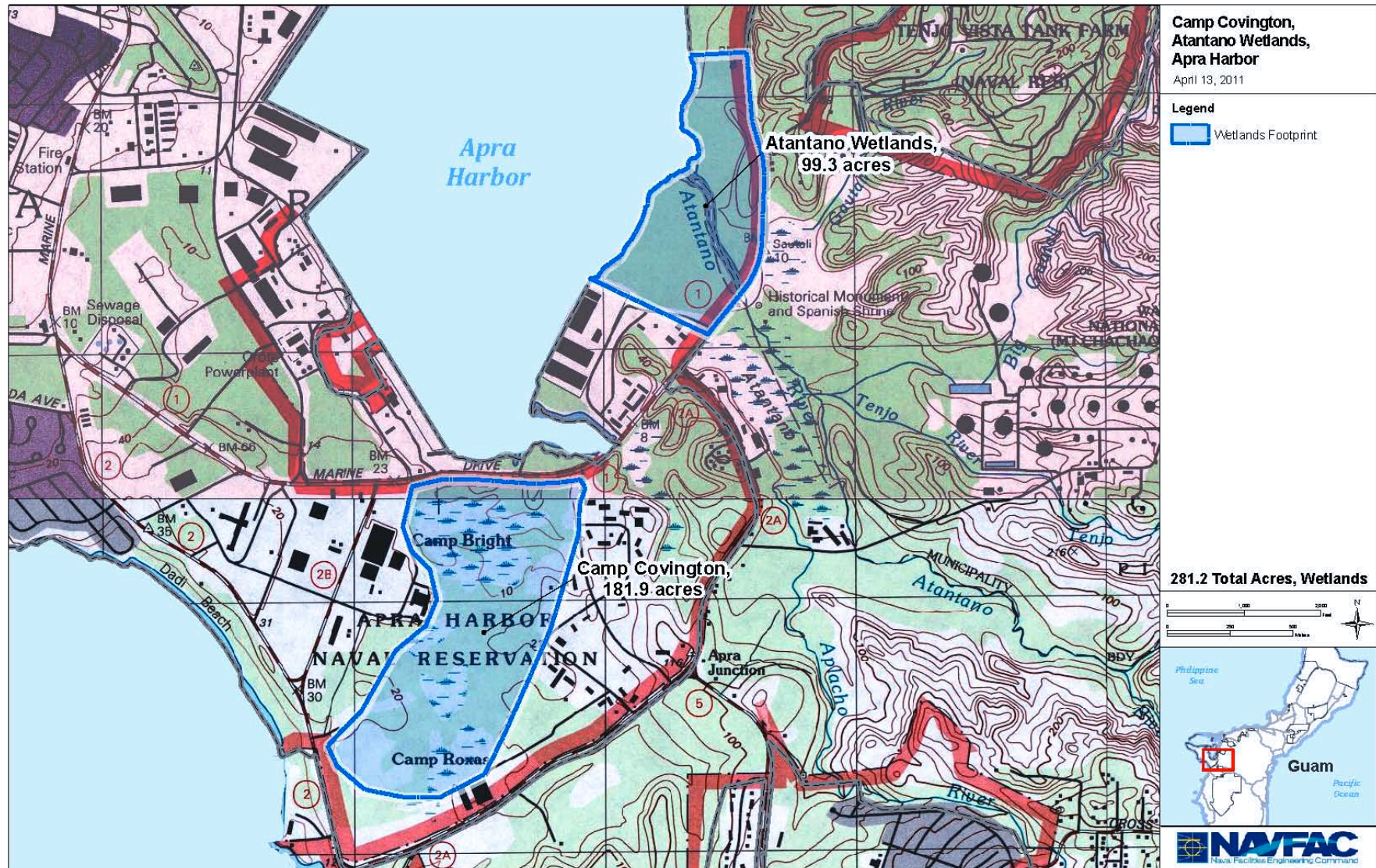
This memo is to be retained as an administrative record of this finding.

PLAN FOR MITIGATION OF EFFECTS:

In addition to limiting soil cores to a maximum diameter of four inches, no mechanical excavation will take place within either wetland, all tools will be carried in by hand and all known historic properties will be avoided.

Stipulation VI.F. of the PA provides that the DoD will retain a full-time Archaeologist throughout the life of the construction program of this Undertaking to provide site checks, oversee coordination and execution of the archaeological mitigation measures in the PA and to provide quality control. This individual is on-staff and has also been tasked with supporting the CJRM in responding to and reporting of any inadvertent discoveries to the Signatories, Invited Signatories, and Concurring Parties per Stipulation XII of the PA.

3 This PA Memo is required by Stipulation V.B.3. of the PA as a means for interested members of the public to provide comments on the DoD's plan for resolving adverse effects. Stipulation V.B.3.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.



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