

# **2004–2006 NOAA Coral Management Assistantship: Guam’s Statement of Work**

## **Project Location**

The host agency for the 2004–2006 Coral Management Assistantship in Guam is the Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources (DAWR), located within the Department of Land and Natural Resources. DAWR has offices in Mangilao, Guam.

Guam is an island located in the western Pacific Ocean with a rich cultural legacy and spectacular natural beauty. It is the largest island in Micronesia and the southernmost island in the Marianas chain, with a land mass of 212 square miles and a population of approximately 161,000 people. The island has a wide range of unique flora and fauna. It is surrounded by fringing coral reefs, mangroves, and sea grasses, and more than 11 percent of the coast is protected as marine preserves. Guam's economy is based on tourism, which depends on its beautiful beaches and clean, 80-degree ocean waters.

## **Program/Agency Background**

The mission of the Aquatic Section of DAWR is to restore, conserve, manage, and enhance the aquatic resources in and about Guam and to provide for the public use of and benefits from these resources. DAWR works with many local and federal agencies on the Guam Coral Reef Initiative Coordinating Committee (GCRICC) to effectively manage and protect Guam’s valuable coastal and marine resources. The importance of the island’s surrounding coral reef ecosystem (more than 400 species of corals) is an integral part of most DAWR projects. The work completed by the coral management assistant will directly relate to coral reef management within the guidelines specified by DAWR.

Like other Pacific Island communities, the people of Guam depend on coral reefs and the waters surrounding their island for many reasons, including food, recreation, income, and protection from storms. Recognizing the importance of these resources, the GCRICC has identified five priority focus areas for coral reef conservation: land-based sources of impacts, fisheries management, public outreach and education, recreational misuse and overuse, and climate change and coral bleaching. In collaboration with additional federal partners and other stakeholders, Guam has begun to develop three-year strategic plans for these focus areas.

## **Project Goals**

The goals of this assistantship project are the following:

1. To assist in the further development, coordination, and implementation of Guam’s local action strategies addressing land-based sources of pollution, fisheries management, public outreach and education, recreational misuse and overuse, and climate change and coral bleaching.
2. To assist in coordinating the coral grants that DAWR is responsible for administering.

# 2004–2006 NOAA Coral Management Assistantship: Guam's Statement of Work

## Project Description

As a participating member of the DAWR staff, the assistant will network with partner organizations and agencies to complete this multifaceted project. Some of these tasks will be accomplished concurrently.

### ***Orientation (3 months)***

The assistant will be introduced to staff and management of DAWR and partner agencies, and will review background information regarding Guam's coral reef initiative and other coastal management issues. The assistant also will participate with program staff members in field visits, interagency meetings, and outreach activities. After participating in these activities, the assistant, with input from the mentor, will write a project work plan that will be reviewed and revised after the first year of the assistantship.

#### Outcomes:

- Familiarity with staff, operations, and resources of island coastal and aquatic resource management programs
- Integration into DAWR and clarification of role in project
- Development of a project work plan

### ***Assist in administering coral grants (Ongoing)***

The assistant will help coordinate the coral grants that DAWR administers. This work includes preparing and editing grant documents, tracking expenditures and Memoranda of Understanding with subgrantees, and integrating all relevant information into performance reports to meet required deadlines.

#### Outcomes:

- Overview and familiarity with grant-funded coral reef activities in Guam
- Familiarity with the grant process

### ***Develop and coordinate an internship project (Ongoing)***

The assistant will have the opportunity to develop and coordinate an internship project for a local student related to DAWR's coral reef activities.

#### Outcomes:

- Facilitation of local involvement and education of DAWR's coral reef activities through an internship project
- Mentoring experience

### ***Coordinate with local and federal navigators and stakeholders to implement the local action strategies involving land-based sources of pollution, coral reef fisheries management, and public outreach and education (Ongoing)***

The assistant will help coordinate local meetings of relevant stakeholders in Guam to continue the process of facilitating sharing of priorities, programs, activities, and successes. In addition, the assistant will help implement the local action strategies by tracking progress of priority projects and identifying and securing funding for projects yet to be completed.

## 2004–2006 NOAA Coral Management Assistantship: Guam's Statement of Work

### Outcomes:

- Coordination with partners to implement the local action strategy
- Work conducted with project partners to identify funding sources and acquire funds

### ***Coordinate with local and federal navigators and stakeholders to further develop and implement local action strategies involving recreational misuse and overuse and climate change and coral bleaching (Ongoing)***

The assistant will review current drafts of local action strategies and meet with local and federal navigators. In addition, the assistant will coordinate local meetings of relevant stakeholders in Guam to allow sharing of priorities, programs, activities, and successes. During these meetings, the group will further develop the strategies to address recreational misuse and overuse and climate change and coral bleaching. The assistant will then help to implement the local action strategies by tracking progress of priority projects and identifying and securing funding for projects yet to be completed.

### Outcomes:

- Coordination with partners to further develop and implement the local action strategy
- Work conducted with project partners to identify funding sources and acquire funds

## **Assistant Mentoring**

The assistant will be mentored by Trina Leberer, DAWR acting assistant chief. Trina will be the primary point of contact for administrative questions and project guidance. Trina and the assistant will communicate regularly to review timelines and evaluate progress. The assistant will be considered part of the staff of DAWR and will be expected to attend staff meetings and participate in program discussions. He or she will be provided opportunities to join staff on field visits and in internal and external meetings. The assistant will have ample opportunities to meet with partners in both local and federal government and in the community. This project will provide an opportunity to learn about aspects of a natural resource management program and a wide range of island management issues. The assistant will receive assistance in identifying key individuals he or she should meet as well as important sources of background information. The assistant will be provided with the necessary resources to carry out the project.

## **Project Partners**

DAWR works actively with other department staff, community organizations, government agencies, and academic institutions on coral reef conservation issues. Potential partners include the following:

- Bureau of Statistics and Plans, Guam Coastal Management Program (GCMP)
- Department of Parks and Recreation
- Department of Public Works
- Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources, Law Enforcement Section (LES)
- Division of Forestry and Soil Resources (DFSR)
- Guam Divers Association

## **2004–2006 NOAA Coral Management Assistantship: Guam's Statement of Work**

- Guam Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA)
- Guam Fishermen's Co-op
- Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association (GHRA)
- Guam Marine Awareness Foundation
- Guam Watershed Planning Committee
- Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB)
- Marine Mania
- National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- National Park Service
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- University of Guam
- Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council

### **In-Kind Support**

The assistant will have access to all of the amenities and services of agency staff members, including office space and equipment, personal computer, telephone, fax, and e-mail access. Use of agency vehicles will be permitted for official purposes. In addition, DAWR will provide funds for administrative support and purchases of supplies and software, as well as printing, photocopying, mailing, and incidental costs for project products.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

- Bachelor's in natural resource management or environmental-related fields with four years of experience OR a master's in natural resource management or environmental-related fields with two years of experience
- Valid driver's license

### **Desired Background and Skill Sets**

- Demonstrated oral, written, and interpersonal communication skills
- A proven ability to be well organized and able to manage and prioritize multiple tasks
- Experience, through an internship, fellowship, or part-time job, in tropical habitats and coral reefs
- Public speaking, events planning, and meeting facilitation experience
- Ability to work independently
- Creative, flexible, adaptable
- Experience living and working in another culture or in an island community

## **2004–2006 NOAA Coral Management Assistantship: Guam's Statement of Work**

- Experience working with different user groups
- Experience in natural resource planning and policy implementation
- Project management experience
- Open-water scuba certification