

USDA APHIS Team to Visit FSM for Micronesia Biosecurity Plan

(FSM Department of Resources & Development) In support of the U.S. military relocation to Guam and the CNMI and the associated Environmental Impact Statement that is being done to look at possible impacts, the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) is funding a scientific analyses of terrestrial and marine invasive species risks to Micronesia that could occur as a result of the relocation buildup. This effort is being conducted to help remove invasive species threats to the Military mission and to address invasive species concerns raised by the Micronesian Chief Executives and federal and regional partners. These analyses will be performed by U.S. government scientists and incorporated into a Micronesia Biosecurity Plan (MBP) that will provide a blueprint for the entire region of Micronesia inclusive of Palau, Guam, CNMI, FSM and RMI, to effectively prevent new invasive species incursions and minimize additional invasive species damage.

On Friday, November 20, 2009, a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) team is scheduled to arrive in Pohnpei and meet with national and state organizations and agencies inclusive of Agriculture/Quarantine, Trade and Investment, Customs, Tourism, Health, Pohnpei Port Authority, Environment Protection Agency, Marine and/or Fisheries, and COM-FSM to review the work that is to be done in partnership with these agencies. A risk analyses will be conducted for species from all taxa (plant, animal and pathogen) of terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems. Ports of origin, ports of entry, pathways and commodities will also be analyzed.

The MBP will not only rank species, ports, pathways and commodities of high, medium, or low risk, but it will also make recommendations for required port facilities, staffing levels, staff trainings, technologies needed, best management practices, monitoring systems and rapid response capability for each Micronesian jurisdiction.

The MBP will be developed by a partnership of U.S. agencies working in close collaboration with a variety of local and regional invasive species experts. U.S. Federal partners include DoD (funding military logistics), U.S. Department of Agriculture (terrestrial analyses and port evaluations), U.S. Geological Survey (freshwater analyses), the Smithsonian Institute (marine

analyses) and the National Invasive Species Council (overall coordination and primary liaison with regional partners).

This biosecurity plan will also address invasive species risks coming from and threatening the State of Hawaii as a result of the Military relocation. The MBP is complementary to similar efforts going on elsewhere in Oceania and will allow several broader synergies and efficiencies to be realized. This MBP is the first proactive assessment of invasive species impacts of such a major U.S. government action and in many ways, is a globally unique effort. As such, it is receiving attention internationally and is being lauded as an excellent example of regional collaboration on invasive species issues by many regional and international organizations and conventions such as the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

This visit by the USDA APHIS team is being coordinated by FSM Agriculture of the FSM Department of Resources and Development, and any questions regarding the visit or the MBP should be directed to them at 691-320-5133.

NOMINATIONS

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Mr. Joseph has an extensive employment history within the national and state governments. He has served as Chief of the Division of Administrative Services in the Office of Budget for the FSM National Government (1981-1983), as Compact Public Information Coordinator in Washington D.C. (1983-1984), as Administrator of the Office of Planning, Budget and Statistics of Pohnpei State (1983-85), as Acting Director of the Department of Treasury for Pohnpei State (1985-86), as Director of the Department of Treasury of Pohnpei State (1986-87), as Assistant Secretary of Finance for the FSM National Government (1988-1998) and as Assistant Secretary for Budget of the FSM National Government (1998-2006). He currently serves as the Chief of Staff/Special Assistant to the Governor of Pohnpei State.

Also worthy of note is that Mr. Joseph is the Director and Chairman of the Board of the Bank of the FSM (1993-present) and is Director and Chairman of the Board of the FSM Development Bank (1988-present). He also holds the high traditional title

of Iso Nahnken of U and is a Wahnparon (minister) of the United Church of Christ in Pohnpei. President Mori believes that with Mr. Joseph's extensive years of experience in dealing with finance and management issues, his background makes him well suited to be a member of JEMCO. His nomination was sent up on November 24, 2009 and President Mori hopes that Congress will take positive action on it during the upcoming Special Session.



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President Mori Calls for Second Special Session of Congress

Palikir, POHNPEI - Based on M. Christian consultations with Speaker Figir, President Mori has decided to call for a special session of the 16th FSM Congress to be held for at least 7 days starting on November 30th, 2009, in Pohnpei. This is the second special session of the 16th Congress since it began in May of 2009.

President Mori decided to call this special session due to impending nominations for Congress to approve, a FY2010 supplementary budget request, and new legislations, grants and treaties that need approval and action by Congress. Another item on the agenda of the special session is the seating of the new at-large member from Pohnpei State, Hon. Peter

Christian. In preparation for a productive session, President Mori has informed all department, office and agency heads to be fully responsive to the requests for assistance and information from Congress and he will continue to enforce the long-standing policy that curtails travel for heads of departments, offices and agencies during sessions of Congress.



Former FSM Secretary Dept. of Resources and Development Mr. Peter M. Christian left, with his wife, Mauriana Christian, is being sworn in as Pohnpei at large member in the FSM Congress by Justice Yamase on November 30, 2009

FSM Program Management Unit to Undergo Financial Records Management Project

President Mori has established a working group to implement a "PMU Financial Records Management Project" for the FSM Program Management Unit (PMU) that will compile and categorize Compact Infrastructure Sector Grant financial records. President Mori has said that it has become apparent that the performance of the Program Management Unit would be greatly enhanced and Compact Infrastructure project implementation improved thorough the actions of this project because currently, there has been little reconciliation between financial records kept for infrastructure projects by the U.S. Department of Interior-Office of Insular Affairs and parallel records kept by PMU.

The President also stated that there is insufficient coordination between the De-

partment of Finance, the Office of Statistics, Budget, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management (SBOC), and the PMU to manage financial and other records of Compact Infrastructure projects to facilitate comprehensive monitoring and reporting. More specifically, the President noted a significant lack of data analysis to track annual and total project expenses.

The working group for the "PMU Financial Records Management Project" will be comprised of one or two appropriate designees from the Department of Finance, the Office of SBOC, the Department of Transportation, Communication & Infrastructure and the PUM and should focus on scoping the exact needs for and appropriate implementation of Compact

Infrastructure Sector Grant financial record keeping. In addition, the group will identify adequate staffing needs to maintain an expanded record keeping mandate for the future. All designees will be chosen by the respective heads of these agencies.

President Mori stated that this project will not only benefit the Executive Branch in enhancing the performance of the PMU, but it will provide transparency for the State Governments, the FSM Congress, the U.S. Office of Insular Affairs and for the Joint Economic Management Committee (JEMCO). The timeline for this project is for completion within the next three weeks and a mid-year report regarding project implementation generated by early March 2010.

Household Listing Survey Shows Increasing Population Growth

From August to September 2009, census mappers were deployed to the municipalities of the main islands of each state and counted the households and people usually residing in these areas. They also took accurate GPS locations for each household. This was the first major field operation for the 2010 Census.

The purpose of this exercise was to establish a master geographic database for use in ensuring all households are reached and counted during the actual census next year. It will also be used to determine workloads and be used for logistical planning purposes. The GPS technology is a new dimension to the 2010 Census in terms of data usage. It has the

advantage of providing increased accuracy of household locations and will enable easy identification of household locations of vulnerable groups within the society to ensure a targeted response to their needs.

The results of the survey show that since the last Census in 2000, the populations of the main islands of Yap, Chuuk, and Pohnpei have increased. The highest increase was in Pohnpei (.54%) and the lowest increase was in Yap (.36%). Kosrae's population showed a decline over this period, at an annual rate of -1.23%.

The Office of SBOC gratefully acknowledges the support from the FSM Government, US Government,

the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) to the Census. Our utmost appreciation goes to the people of the FSM for their cooperation in this important Census activity.

Upcoming major activities for the 2010 Census are the Pretest Operation (ongoing) and the recruitment/training of field staff to carry out the actual interviewing process in FSM beginning April 4, 2010.

For more information please contact the Statistics Office in your area: Yap, 350-5249; Chuuk, 330-5675; Pohnpei, 320-2400/2712; Kosrae, 370-3797 or fsmstats@sboc.fm.

Preliminary Population and Housing Counts by State and Sex: August 2009									
State	Population			Household	Average Household Size	Average annual growth rate (%)		Gender Ratio	Percent by total
	Total	Male	Female			Population	Household		
Total	90,724	46,014	44,710	15,194	6.0	0.31	0.66	103.6	100.0
Yap Proper	7,660	3,914	3,746	1,840	4.2	0.36	1.77	104.5	8.4
Chuuk Lagoon	42,078	21,519	20,559	5,882	7.2	0.39	0.52	104.7	46.4
Pohnpei Proper	34,188	17,097	17,091	6,161	5.5	0.54	0.23	100.0	37.7
Kosrae State	6,798	3,484	3,314	1,311	5.2	-1.23	1.87	105.1	7.5

Note: Figures are actual counts and no imputations were made for areas not visited, estimated to be 18% of the population. Special Places or groups quarters such as dormitories, hospitals, prisons, etc., are also included

President Mori Nominates Mr. Ihlen Joseph to serve on JEMCO

Palikir, POHNPEI - President Mori is submitting another nomination for Congress to act upon in the upcoming Second Special Session set to begin on Monday, November 30th, 2009. The latest nomination is for Mr. Ihlen Joseph to serve on the U.S.-FSM Compact of Free Association's Joint Economic Management Committee (JEMCO). Under Public Law 15-70, the President is required to select two FSM representatives to sit on JEMCO. The law gives the President the ability to select one representative from a position within the FSM

National Government and requires that the other representative must be selected from a list of four nominees, one nominee per state.

During the 6th Regular Session of the 15th FSM Congress, Hon. Lorin Robert, Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs, was confirmed as the representative from the FSM National Government. At that time, President Mori was awaiting the recommended names from the Governors. When the names were finally received from the states, Kosrae State nominated Mr. Semeon Phillip, Floor

Leader of the Kosrae State Legislature, Chuuk State nominated Mr. Jack Fritz, and two governors nominated themselves; Hon. John Ehsa and Hon. Sebastian Anefal. This created a problem for President Mori in that it was difficult to pick one governor over another for the second FSM representative to JEMCO. This impasse went on until Governor Ehsa recently decided to withdraw his name in favor of Mr. Ihlen Joseph whom he recommended to the President.

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Three Presidential Nominations Transmitted for Second Special Session of Congress

Palikir, POHNPEI - November 20, 2009 In preparation for the Second Special Session of the 16th FSM Congress, President Manny Mori has transmitted three nominations for Congressional confirmation. Two of these nominations are resubmissions based on Congressional Resolutions 16-45 and 16-51 passed during the Second Regular Session in October of 2009, nominating Mr. Akillino H. Susaia to be FSM Ambassador to the Government of the People's Republic of China and Mr. Resty R. Shotaro to be a Member of the Board of Directors for the FSM Telecom Board.

The third nomination is a new one and is for Mr. Patrick Mackenzie to serve as a Member of the Joint Trust

Fund Committee. Mr. Mackenzie has prior experience in banking and has served on prior bank Board of Directors. He has previously been on the Board of Directors for the Bank of FSM from 1993-2004 (Chairman from 2002-2004) and on the FSM Development Bank Board of Directors from 1992-2003 (Chairman from 1996-2002). Mr. Mackenzie also has previous work experience being a financial consultant to the Trust Territory Government in 1986-88 and worked for the FSM National Government as the Director of Budget from 1992-1997, Deputy Secretary of Economic Affairs from 1998-2003 and an economic consultant/special advisor from 2003-2004. He is currently the Vice President/Head of Branch Banking

for the Bank of FSM. President Mori believes that Mr. Mackenzie is well-suited for the position and now the FSM Congress is to consider the nomination.

There are three pending nominations with Congress that were sent up during the last Regular Session that have not been acted upon. These nominations are for Mr. William Hawley to be the National Government Representative to the PetroCorp Board, for Mr. Joseph Habuchmai to be on the Banking and Insurance Board, and for Hon. Churchill Edward to be Pohnpei State's Representative to the Board of Regents for COM-FSM.

Other nominations are expected to be sent up for the Special Session and will be announced accordingly.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR RELEASES FISCAL YEAR 2010 PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT FUNDING TO THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

Washington, D.C. - The Department of the Interior's Insular Assistant Secretary, Tony Babauta, signed a \$9,250,000 grant for fiscal year 2010 as part of the Compact of Free Association agreement between the United States and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

The funding supports projects submitted by the FSM and subsequently approved by the Joint Economic Management Committee at its' September 2009 regular meeting. The funds will be used by the FSM to obtain professional engineering and design services and develop preliminary engineering reports for proposed infrastructure projects which will benefit all States in the FSM

"The scope of projects that this funding will support further demonstrates the commitment of the United States to the genuine friendship and political relationship that has been fostered with the people of the Federated States of Micronesia over the past four decades," said Babauta. "I am very pleased that President Mori has targeted this funding to improve schools, healthcare, and needed infrastructure, all of which work towards the Compact's goal to improve quality of life for FSM's citizens."

Projects to be supported include:

- 1) Early Childhood Education Classes - Pohnpei State
- 2) Yap High School Vocational Education Building - Yap State
- 3) PICS High School Library/ Classroom Building - Pohnpei State
- 4) Yap High School Classroom Building - Yap State
- 5) Madolenihmw High School Library/Classroom Building - Pohnpei State
- 6) Nanpei Memorial High School Library/Classroom Building - Pohnpei State
- 7) Chuuk Campus - College of Micronesia Phase 1 - National Government
- 8) Chuuk Campus - College of Micronesia Phase 2 - National Government
- 9) National Campus - College of Micronesia Student Center - National Government
- 10) Pohnpei Campus - College of Micronesia Vocational Center/ Classroom Building - Pohnpei State
- 11) Chuuk State Hospital Renovation - Chuuk State
- 12) Chuuk State Dispensaries - Chuuk State
- 13) Kosrae State Correctional Facility - Kosrae State
- 14) Primary Health Care/Dental

- Facility - Pohnpei State
- 15) Kosrae Campus College of Micronesia - Learning Resource Center - National Government
- 16) Weno Road Phase 2* - Chuuk State (see Special Terms and Conditions #2)
- 17) Tamilang Elementary School - Yap State
- 18) New Hospital - Kosrae State
- 19) Pohnpei State Campus College of Micronesia - Learning Resource Center - National Government

- Preliminary Engineering Reports:
- 1) Kinakapw to Lehn Diadi Water Line - Pohnpei State
 - 2) Sekere to Nanpei Memorial High School Water Line - Pohnpei State
 - 3) Lelu Water System - Kosrae State
 - 4) Kolonia to Palikir Sewer System Expansion - Pohnpei State
 - 5) Kolonia to U Sewer System Expansion - Pohnpei State
 - 6) Three Bridges - Yap State
 - 7) Closure and Relocation of Public Solid Waste Disposal Site - Pohnpei State
 - 8) Emergency Generator - Pohnpei State Hospital - Pohnpei State