

# Local Work Group

## Conducted for USDA Program Compliance

### Summary Report – Saipan, CNMI

5/12/2015

Location: USDA/NRCS Saipan Field office conference room

Time: 9:15am – 10:00 am

#### Attendees

- See sign-in sheet taken for the meeting dated 5/12/15. Eleven participants were present for the LWG discussion.

#### Findings:

- Good discussion by the participants occurred throughout the LWG meeting including the listing of new resource concerns for 2015.
- Kendal Hicks, DC, NRCS Saipan FO, provided brief information/orientation about the 2014 Farm Bill with most of the discussion surrounding the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. Kendal informed the LWG that EQIP funds could be used on public lands if a private individual or entity was the contract applicant and participant. Kendal also highlighted the potential for EQIP funds being targeted for wildlife habitat & forestry improvement on public &/or private agriculture, forestry, & wildlife lands.
- Kendal also provided an overview of the partnership success between NRCS and BECQ with respect to EQIP financial and technical assistance provided to identified clients in order to address water quality improvements through the construction of dry litter piggeries and other NRCS (along with BECQ BMPs) conservation practices.
- See attached photos of the white boards used to list feedback about natural resource concerns. In addition to the concerns listed in 2013, items were added on the 2015 white board.
- All participants were then asked to list their top 5 recourse concerns from the items listed on the white boards. The results were tabulated and weighted to provide the following resource concern priorities based upon the participants' feedback.
- Listed in descending values from greatest concern to least concern with total scores:
  1. Water quality @ 34 points
  2. Invasive species @ 26 points (including feral pigs)
  3. Water quantity @ 20 points
  4. Solid waste (i.e. trash) disposal @ 19 points
  5. Elimination of farm crop protection product stockpiles @ 12 points
  6. Energy savings @ 10 points
  7. Air quality (mostly elimination of smoke from burning trash, but also sewer/manure odors) @ 10 points
  8. Aquifer health/condition @ 4 points
  9. Forestry/Green Space @ 4 points
  10. Soil transportation/relocation/erosion @ 3 points
  11. Threatened & Endangered Wildlife Species @ 2 points
  12. Outhouse elimination near home sites @ 1 point





5/12/15

LWG

Burning plastics/trash (Air quality)

180 HA KCFP

Inventories Crop Protection Productions

Removal of CPP old stock

✓ Soil transportation (erosion)

↓ Feral pigs

Soil  
Water  
Air  
Plants  
Animals  
+  
Energy  
Humans

EQIP ⇒ private land

5/24/13

Welcome

CNMI

Local Work

3) Water Quality

1) Water Quantity

5) Animal Health/Odor

4) Invasive Species

T & E species

2) Energy Savings

✓ Carbon

✓ Aquifer health

✓ Waste disposal

Peak Discharge

Forestry

✓ Nitrate

✓ Outhouses

✓ Construction

Meat processing