

Guam Coastal Management Program Publishes Guam Map Book and Natural Resources Strategy

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The Guam Coastal Management Program of the Bureau of Statistics and Plans (BSP) has completed an important new resource for government agencies and developers.

The Guam Mapbook provides updated, detailed maps showing the island's streets, public buildings and other significant features to help emergency responders, planners, developers, and government officials in decision making.

"This is an example of government agencies taking the initiative to fund projects that will help our community," said Governor Felix P. Camacho. "The updated maps are an invaluable resource, especially as we work to accommodate the military buildup and other growth in a few short years."

At the time the Bureau undertook this project, various outdated sources of maps, as old as 1994, were being utilized to route emergency response and other similar government services. BSP Director Tony Lamorena said the new book allows for more effective and efficient planning using Geographic Information Systems.

"This document was needed for better land use planning, emergency response-recovery planning and operations and delivery of government services, such as trash pick-up," he added.

The bureau also is releasing a second product today: The "Guam Natural Resources Strategy 2012," was developed as a result of planning efforts and goals set forth by the Natural Resources Subcommittee (NRS) of the Civilian Military Task Force.

"This strategy will serve as guidance for natural resource officials and stakeholders in addressing impacts of development leading up to the military buildup," said Evangeline Lujan, Guam Coastal Management Program Administrator. The NRS is guided by their mission statement as "dedicated to strengthening and developing key policies, legal frameworks, and essential programs that guarantee the sustainability of Guam's fragile and limited natural and cultural resources now, during the Guam Buildup, and beyond by setting the groundwork for the future strategies needed to effectively confront emerging conservation challenges."

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For more information, please contact Esther G. Taitague at 475-9670.