



## Council Communications Group

Harrigan Centennial Hall, Eagle Room #7, 330 Harbor Drive, Sitka, AK 99835

May 22-23, 2018 8:30 am – 5 pm

### **8. Education programs and training of Council/staff: Kim SAFMC, Sylvia WPFMC**

#### **A. MREP**

- The Western Pacific FMC has not been involved in MREP.

#### **B. Internal training and/or orientation for Council members, AP, SSC**

- The Western Pacific FMC sends new Council members to the NOAA training for new Council members and also offers this training to AP chairs and members
- At the start of a new AP term (they run four years), the new AP members are brought together for a joint meeting and orientation
- No training or orientation is provided to the SSC

#### **C. Educational initiatives from Western Pacific Council**

One of the WP Council's seven Guiding Principles is to "Conduct education and outreach to foster good stewardship principles and broad and direct public participation in the Council's decision making process."

- High school summer course on marine resources and management: Since 2006, the Council has conducted summer courses in all four island areas (American Samoa, Hawaii, Guam and CNMI). They run from 2 weeks to 2 months and are a mixture of classroom lessons, hands-on learning and field trips. Students earn a Hawaii Dept. of Education science credit after completing the Hawaii course (in partnership with Moanalua High School). (See sample agenda attached.)
- US Pacific Territories Fishery Capacity-Building Scholarship and internship: Administered by the Council with funding support from NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center and Regional Office. Addresses the lack of local island people with formal education in fisheries science and management to needed to obtain prominent roles within their local fishery and natural resource agencies. (See example application and MOU attached.)
- Fisheries Internship and Student Help (FISH) program: Provides interested high school, college students, and new professionals in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the CNMI with practical experience in coral reef ecosystem, bottomfish, and/or pelagic fisheries management. The program aims to increase local fisheries management capacity over time, introduce young professionals to the Council process and increase available data by facilitating undergraduate, graduate and PhD research in regional fisheries issues.

- Teacher Workshops: Have covered topics such as Hawaii fisheries and seafood (see example agenda attached), water quality and mapping. Began initially as partnership with the Honolulu Star Advertiser Newspaper in Education program before it closed.
- Student Symposia: Symposia on coral reefs were conducted in all of the island areas, initially using Coral Reef Conservation Program funds.
- Fishers Forums: Held three times a year on various topics of interest to the fishing community and in conjunction with Council meeting. Typically includes informational booths, presentations, question-and-comment period and door prizes. (Sample agenda attached)
- Fishing Community Training Workshops: Have included topics such as coastal and marine spatial planning, mapping of key coral reef fisheries areas, community-based fisheries management, safe seafood handling, and climate change and fisheries.
- Lunar Calendars: The Council provides local Departments of Education and classroom teachers with lesson plans on fishery topic of interest and conducts student art contests to generate images for the calendar. The Council works with fishermen, traditional practitioners and community groups to generate informational text and seasonal fishery predictions for the calendars. Calendars are provided in English and indigenous languages (Samoan, Hawaiian, Chamorro and Refaluwasch) in sizes for classrooms and for fishermen. Fishermen calendars are waterproof, tear proof and light proof. Calendars are distributed to schools, libraries and policy makers to educate them about US Pacific island fisheries.
- Education Resources: The Council has produced videos, television shows, interactive games, curricula, lesson plans and posters for educator use. It has been the editor of two editions of Current, the journal of the National Marine Educators Association, on special issues related to fisheries management and the Councils (one with the other seven Councils participating). It has recently worked with its Education Committee to conduct a survey of educational preferences throughout the region for getting fisheries taught in the classrooms at both the primary and secondary level.
- Local and National Educational Associations: The WP Council has served on the board of the National Marine Educators Association (NMEA) and the Hawaii Science Teachers Association and as president of the OCEANIA chapter of NMEA. The WP Council was instrumental in the formation of the NMEA Traditional Knowledge Committee and associated scholarship and has been the committee's chair/co-chair since its establishment in 2007.
- International Pacific Marine Educators Network: The WP Council also spearheaded the development of the International Pacific Marine Educators Network, which has held biennial conferences since its establishment in 2007. Conferences have been held in Hawaii, Australia, Fiji, Chile, Japan and Indonesia and will be held this October in Taiwan.

#### **D. Educational Initiatives from NOAA**

- Marine Education and Training Grant: NOAA PIRO administers this MSA grant program, which the Council was instrumental in establishing. Council staff helps review

the grant applications. MSA has a similar program opportunity for the North Pacific but it may not have been active.

- Marine National Monument grant: NOAA PIRO runs this grant program. The WP Council was the administrator of a grant provided to the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources to teach youth in the remote Manu‘a Islands. Science teachers on these islands are from the US mainland and regularly rotate out.
- B-Wet Grants: Were administered by NOAA National Ocean Services office in Honolulu. The Council has been involved in review of grant applications.
- PIFSC Young Scientist Opportunity: The collaborative program between the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center and the Joint Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Research at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa offers qualified participants professional scientific research experience and formal training opportunities tailored to meet their educational and professional goals and interests. PYSO enables participants to work under the guidance of talented staff who provide challenging work opportunities and one-to-one mentoring in the participant's field of study. Program is offered each summer. The WP Council is routinely asked to help promote solicitation of applicants.

#### **E. Partner educational programs, e.g., Sea Grant**

- The Sea Grant office in US Pacific Islands has not collaborated with the WP Council.