



GOVERNMENT OF GUAM
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2004- 04

**ESTABLISHING THE WATERSHED PLANNING COMMITTEE
AND REQUIRING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A
COMPREHENSIVE WATERSHED PLANNING PROCESS**

WHEREAS, Guam's surface and groundwater resources provide drinking water, world-class recreational opportunities, diverse coral reef ecosystems and marine resources, all of which are dependent on clean water; and,

WHEREAS, watersheds are the land areas over which water drains, including wetlands, streams, rivers, estuaries, and karst limestone formations which contribute to a body of water such as a reservoir, an aquifer or the ocean. Because watersheds are complete hydrological units they represent the most appropriate environmental context in which to manage water resources; and,

WHEREAS, nonpoint source pollution is caused by rainfall moving over and through the ground. As the water moves it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters and even underground sources of drinking water or aquifers. These pollutants include fertilizers, pesticides, oil, grease, toxic chemicals, sediment, bacteria and nutrients; and,

WHEREAS, nonpoint source pollution management, as mandated by Section 319 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (WPCA) and Section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA), requires enforceable programs to protect and restore water resources through a Comprehensive Watershed Planning Process and the systematic implementation of Restoration Strategies and projects to achieve protection and restoration objectives; and,

WHEREAS, Executive Order 99-09 amplified the Water Planning Committees' (WPC) work as well as described and endorsed the "watershed approach" for managing water resources by prioritizing watersheds of impaired water bodies, engaging stakeholders, determining the need for and the developing legislation to further the mandates and initiatives related to WPC work, and identify other support functions to the WPC.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FELIX P. CAMACHO, Governor of Guam, Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, do hereby declare that:



- (1) Executive Order 99-09 is repealed in its entirety.
- (2) The Water Planning Committee shall henceforth be known as the Watershed Planning Committee (WPC).
- (3) Participation by the following WPC Government of Guam member agencies is mandatory:

Guam Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA), Chair
Bureau of Statistics and Plans (BSP)
Department of Agriculture (DoAg)
Department of Land Management (DLM)
Department of Public Works (DPW)
Guam Waterworks Authority (GWA)
Port Authority of Guam (PAG)
Department of Education (DoE)
Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)
University of Guam Marine Laboratory (Marine Lab)
University of Guam Water and Environmental Research Institute (WERI)
University of Guam College of Natural and Applied Sciences (CNAS)

The WPC will maintain a standing policy that membership by invitation for Federal Government agencies and community-based organizations, is encouraged:

U.S. Navy (USN)
U.S. Air Force (USAF)
U. S. Coast Guard (USCG)
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)
U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
National Park Service (NPS)
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS)
Northern and Southern Guam Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD)

- (4) The Committee will develop and incorporate a Guam Comprehensive Watershed Planning Process (CWPP), under the direction of the GEPA in cooperation with the Bureau of Statistics and Plans, Guam Coastal Management Program (GCMP), to serve as the programmatic basis for developing Watershed Management Plans. In addition, the Committee will develop a plan for the implementation of the CWPP throughout the entire coastal zone over a period of 15 years.

Watershed Management Plans will address nonpoint source pollution control through the assessment and prioritization of pollutant sources and by identifying opportunities for and the implementation of appropriate Management Measures to reduce nonpoint pollution. Furthermore, where appropriate, the government of Guam member agencies of the WPC will apply all relevant enforceable polices to control identified sources. This planning approach expands upon existing WPC planning work which has produced Watershed Restoration Action Strategies.



Strategies.

- (5) A major focus of the CWPP is to include the systematic assessment and identification of opportunities to reduce nonpoint source pollution in accordance with Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA), Section 6217 (g) *Guidance* as well as to refine the Guam Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program as authorized by Section 319 of the WPCA. Pursuant to these requirements, the CWPP will be responsible for identifying and assessing, on a watershed basis, all relevant existing sources of nonpoint pollution and opportunities for reducing said sources, including those from Urban, Agricultural, and Hydromodification activities.
- (6) The Committee will formulate and identify Critical Coastal Areas in Guam that need additional measures to protect against current and anticipated nonpoint pollution problems. The Committee will develop a process to identify, implement, evaluate, and as necessary, revise additional management measures to mitigate problems that may occur in these identified areas of concern.
- (7) All departments, agencies and instrumentalities of the government of Guam will comply with the intent, regulatory requirements, and guidance for incorporating Management Measures in the conduct of their business, including but not limited to, current operations and existing development, redevelopment, restoration activities, and future development, in accordance with the Guam Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Regulations (GSESCR), 6217 (g) *Guidance* for the Guam Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program (GCNPCP), and all other applicable rules which directly or indirectly support efforts to control nonpoint source pollution. All departments will consult with the Guam Environmental Protection Agency early in the process of development planning to determine the scope and extent of requirements necessary to comply with the GCNPCP, GSESCR, and other applicable rules.
- (8) The WPC will develop a final strategy and time-line for implementing the CWPP throughout Guam within 180 days of the effective date of this Executive Order. A pilot Watershed Management Plan project will be undertaken to implement the CWPP in one watershed prior to full implementation of the process.
- (9) The WPC Environmental Education Subcommittee, with GEPA serving as the lead agency, is directed to prepare an Environmental Education and Awareness Strategy to address a comprehensive range of environmental and natural resource issues, including watershed protection and the framework for a single entity to coordinate education and awareness activities for the island, which shall be completed and submitted to the Governor's Office for review not more than 270 days from the effective date of this Order. The Department of Education shall fully participate on the WPC as a member of this subcommittee.
- (10) Guam's "Northern Watershed," which consists of six (6) sub-basins, and the Talofofu Watershed, which includes the Ugum Watershed, remain the island's Priority Watersheds for the planning and implementation of Watershed Restoration Strategies and Management Measures. These watersheds are the source of approximately eighty percent (80%) of Guam's drinking water supply. The economic significance of these resources cannot be overstated and therefore they must be diligently managed for sustainability.



- (11) Whenever appropriate, the WPC will coordinate its activities with other committees and groups that focus on similar natural resource issues, such as the Coral Reef Initiative Coordinating Committee (CRICC).
- (12) Through the implementation of the CWPP and the collection of relevant water quality monitoring data, the WPC will assess the need for additional or amended legislation or additional management measures to enhance the watershed management approach, the CWPP, and/or existing regulatory framework that controls nonpoint source pollution. Any such need or amendments to existing rules and regulations shall be identified, legislation developed and forwarded to the Office of the Governor for appropriate action.

SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 3rd day of March 2004.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Felix P. Camacho".

FELIX P. CAMACHO
I Maga'Lahen Guåhan
Governor of Guam

COUNTERSIGNED:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kaleo S. Moylan".

KALEO S. MOYLAN
I Segundo Maga'Lahen Guåhan
Lt. Governor

