



TERRITORY OF GUAM  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AGAÑA, GUAM 96910  
U. S. A.

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 99-09**

**RELATIVE TO UTILIZING THE WATERSHED  
APPROACH TO PROTECT AND MANAGE GUAM'S  
PRECIOUS SURFACE AND GROUND WATER  
RESOURCES.**

**WHEREAS**, water is the basis of all life and Guam is blessed with world class beaches, beautiful coral reefs, and safe drinking water; all of which are dependent on clean water; and

**WHEREAS**, the land over which water flows, into our drinking water aquifers, or downstream through our rivers into our bays and reefs are called watersheds; watersheds are defined land areas which function as complete surface and ground water systems and appropriately frame the context in which water management and protection must occur; and

**WHEREAS**, watershed management is the accepted and comprehensive approach to manage water resources and it is in everyone's best interest to remain vigilant in protecting our valuable water resources for ourselves, our children, and posterity; and

**WHEREAS**, President Clinton's "Clean Water Action Initiative" is a new cooperative approach to watershed protection in which state, territory, tribal, local, and federal governments, and the public identify "Priority Watersheds," or those watersheds with the most critical water quality problems, and work together to focus resources and implement effective strategies in a continuous process to solve those problems; and

**WHEREAS**, the government entities of Bureau of Planning, Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, Department of Land Management, Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Guam Waterworks Authority, Northern and Southern Guam Soil and Water Conservation Districts, U. S. Air Force, U. S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, U. S. Navy, and University of Guam College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and Water and Environmental Research Institute, working together as members of Guam's Water Planning Committee, are utilizing the watershed approach to protect and manage Guam's precious surface and ground water resources; and

**WHEREAS**, using the watershed approach, there are special considerations and challenges associated with the complex multi-jurisdictional and ownership issues associated with water resource management that require focused efforts to protect water quality; these efforts must involve landowners and resource users within watersheds to ensure that their rights and responsibilities are understood and respected;



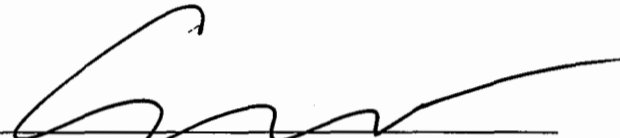
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ**, Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do declare that:

- (1) Guam's "Northern Watershed," including its sub-watershed identified as the "Tumon-Yigo Sub-basin," and the "Ugum/Talofofu Watersheds" are, collectively, Guam's "Priority Watersheds." These watersheds produce nearly Eighty Percent (80%) of Guam's drinking water and are a cornerstone of Guam's most critical economic resource, tourism.
- (2) Priority Watersheds will receive focused, coordinated, and intensive protection and management efforts under the various environmental and natural resource statutes, regulations, rules, policies, and programs of Guam, to ensure that activities complement one another and achieve their objectives in the most efficient and cost effective way possible.
- (3) The head of each government of Guam agency which is a member of the Guam Water Planning Committee shall appoint a designee to represent that agency at committee meetings.
- (4) The member-designees of government of Guam agencies on the Water Planning Committee, in voluntary concert with other organizations, government of Guam, and appropriate federal agencies, under the leadership of the Guam Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA), shall:
  - (a) develop and distribute public education materials promoting watershed protection;
  - (b) ensure that additional Priority Watersheds are identified in the future; and
  - (c) develop and implement watershed protection strategies for the Priority Watersheds, as practical and as resources allow.
- (5) The development and implementation of any watershed protection strategy, plan, program, or action will involve the various private, local and federal landowners and resource users in the watershed.
- (6) GEPA shall investigate the need for and applicability of new legislation to properly recognize the watershed approach for protecting surface and ground water resources aimed specifically at

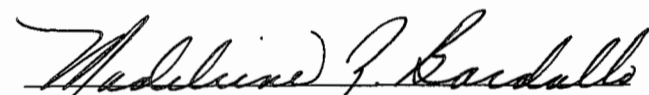


- (7) The Department of Land Management (DLM) shall maintain a set of official Guam watershed maps delineating all watersheds in Guam, and identifying the Northern and the Ugam/Talofofu Watersheds as our current Priority Watersheds. This map set shall be added to the comprehensive geographic information system for Guam and shall be made available to resource management agencies and the general public. Furthermore, whenever the Guam Water Planning Committee amends the priority watershed designations, for example, as may happen to reflect progress in achieving restoration objectives, the DLM shall amend the priority watershed designations on the map set accordingly.

**SIGNED AND PROMULGATED at Hagåtña, Guam this 25th day of August, 1999.**

  
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**CARL T. C. GUTIERREZ**  
I Maga'lahaen Guåhan  
Governor of Guam

**COUNTERSIGNED:**

  
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**MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**  
I Segunda na Maga'lahaen Guåhan  
Lieutenant Governor of Guam

