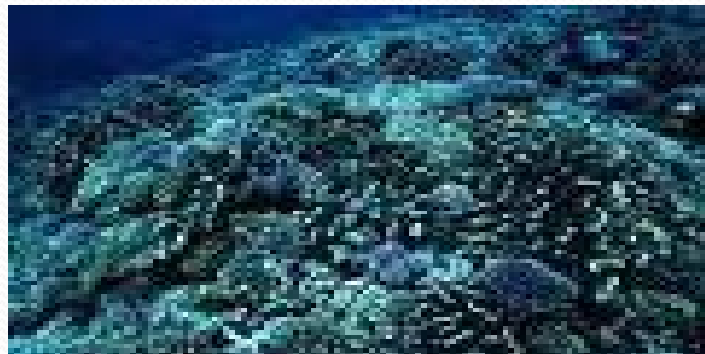


**Report to the U.S. Coral Reef Task  
Force  
Saipan, CNMI  
September 15, 2010**

## U.S. All Islands Coral Reef Committee (AIC)

- Established in 1994 by the Governors of U.S. state, territory and commonwealth coral reef jurisdictions
- 7 Members -American Samoa, CNMI, Florida, Guam, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, USVI
- 3 Affiliate Members –FSM, Marshall Islands, Palau
- Provides a unified voice for coral reef conservation





## AIC contd.

- Provides collaborative sharing among jurisdictions to improve protection of coral reef ecosystems, working collaboratively with the USCRTF
- Supports implementation of Local Action Strategies
- Develops policy and provides advocacy for coral reef conservation, outreach and public awareness



## AIC jurisdictions determine and prioritize local threats and local action strategies (LAS):

- Land Based Sources of Pollution, Overfishing & Management, Public Outreach and Education, Recreational Overuse and Misuse, Climate Change, Coral Bleaching, Disease
- Population Pressure –American Samoa
- Aquatic Invasive Species-Hawaii
- Maritime Industry & Coastal Construction Impacts -Florida
- Increasing Development -Guam

# Outstanding Issues:

## 1. Natural Disasters Response

- FEMA has denied American Samoa's request for assistance after earthquakes and tsunami.
- AIC requests Task Force to provide formal U.S. position that coral reef health is a public health issue.



# Outstanding issues:

## 2. Roadways Resolution

- BMPs were provided, how will these be implemented?
- AIC recommends EPA take lead to explore keeping Working Group alive
- Request other Task Force members to engage with DOT

Outstanding issues:

## 3. Compensatory Mitigation

### Working Group

- Need AIC involvement in functional assessment methodology
- Support local jurisdictions to be engaged in assessment methodology
- Support partnering with EPA to secure funding from other agencies to develop the functional assessment for coral reefs.

# AIC Updates

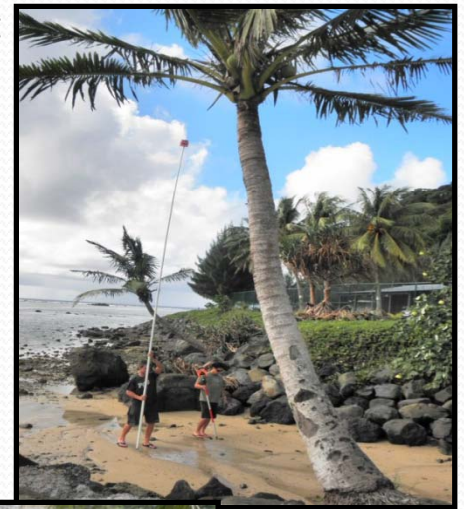
- AIC adopted the updated Strategic Action Plan.
- AIC members have re-elected Vangie Lujan as Chair and Aida Rosario as Vice Chair.
- AIC held discussions with FAS on their role.





# American Samoa

- **Planning for Climate Change in the Coastal and Marine Environment:** A 6-day training course for hazard and emergency response decision makers and natural resource managers
- **Building Climate Change Resilient Communities:** Detailed coastal mapping of model sea-level-rise scenarios for Amouli, Vatia, and Faga'alu to develop village-level planning for climate resilience.



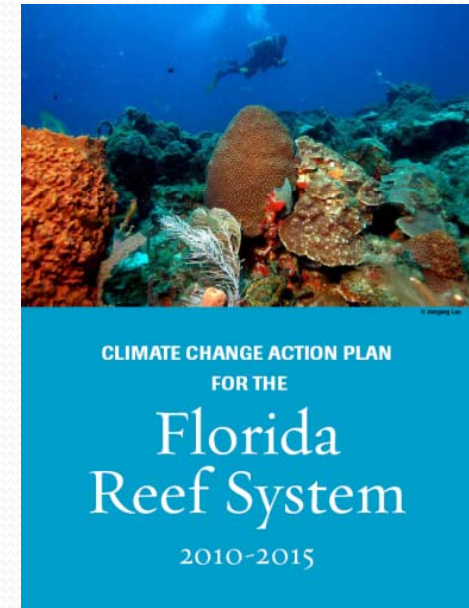
# CNMI

- Draft Conservation Action Plan (CAP) for Talakhaya, Rota
- Social Marketing Campaign in Laolao Bay –SeaWeb
- Partnering with NOAA-PIRO on L50 project.



# Florida

- **Climate Change Action Plan Completed the Florida Reef System: 2010-2015**
- **Coral Reef Resilience & Climate Change Training of Trainers Workshop**
- **New LAS project completed: *Guidelines and Management Practices for Artificial Reef Siting, Usage, Construction and Anchoring in Southeast FL***



- **Development of *Acropora* restoration nurseries across Florida Reef Tract made possible with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds**

Photos: Dave Gilliam & Liz Larson, NCRI

# Florida

- **Development of numeric nutrient criteria underway for Florida Bay, Florida Keys, Biscayne Bay, and the Southeast Florida Reef Tract**
- **Deepwater Horizon Oil Event: No known impacts to Florida Reef Tract**
- **Florida Reef Resilience Program surveys shed light on cold weather effects on corals.**
- ***Ongoing Challenges in Florida***
  - Increasing reports of invasive lionfish (*Pterois* spp.).
  - Lack of capacity to support fisheries independent monitoring for northern Florida Reef Tract.
  - Need to ID funding to sustain the Southeast Florida Coral Reef Water Quality Monitoring.



Photo: Joe Marino

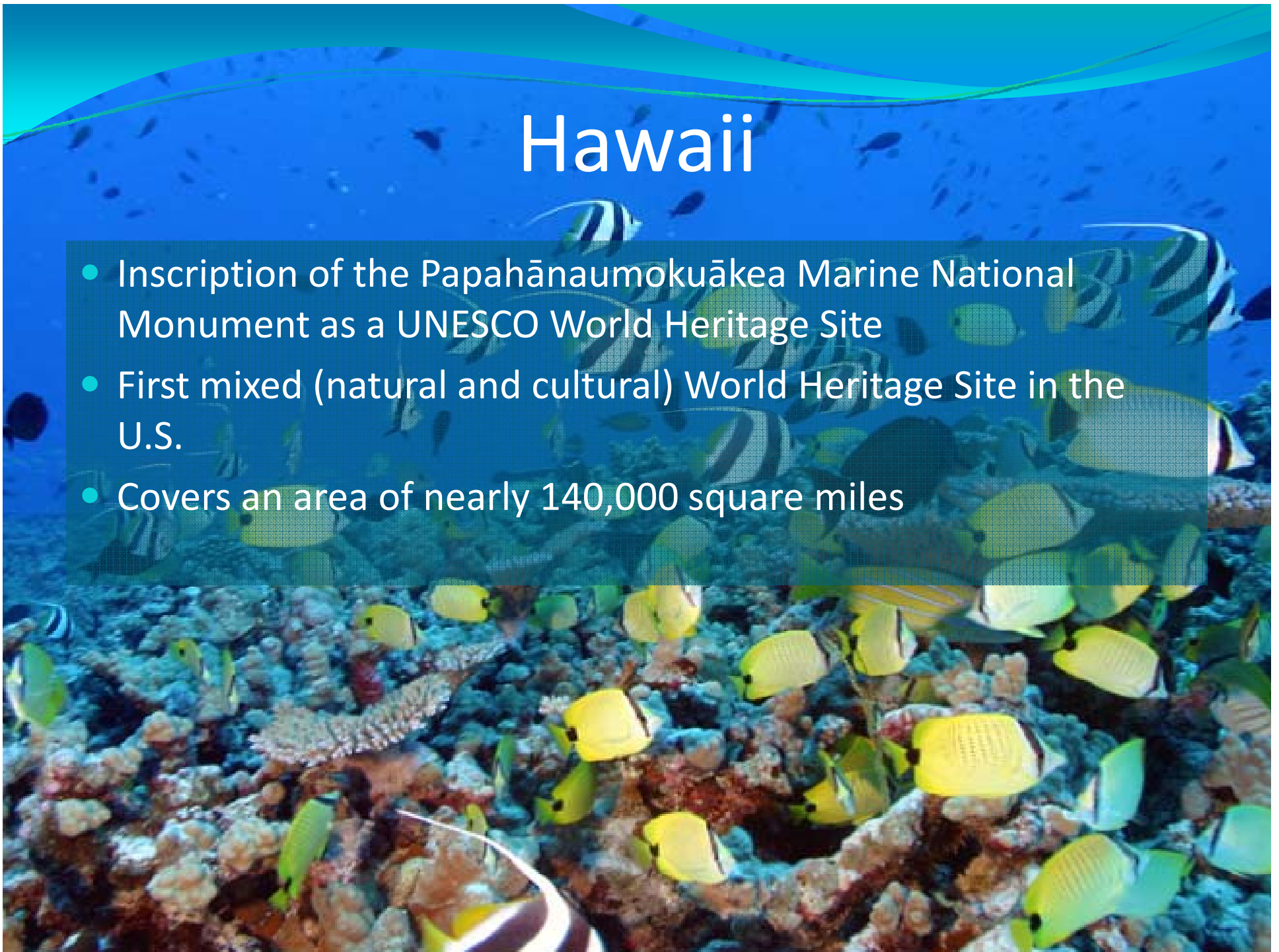
# Guahan

- Working with various agencies, community groups, federal agencies, on the response to the DEIS and the Final EIS.
- Working on achieving goals related to the Micronesian Challenge.



# Hawaii

- Inscription of the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument as a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- First mixed (natural and cultural) World Heritage Site in the U.S.
- Covers an area of nearly 140,000 square miles



# Puerto Rico



- EPA Workshop on sediment control and erosion for construction industry – hands-on field and new techniques. Participants included: DNER, EQB, EPA & CWP. Held on May 25-26, 2010 at DNER building.
- Workshop sponsored by EPA held at La Parguera on Guánica projects April 27-28, 2010.

# Puerto Rico

- Participants included NGO's (TNC, CWP), local communities representatives, USDA-NRCS, EPA, CCRI, NOAA (ESA), DNER, MSD.
- EPA created a project named Coral Reefs Puerto Rico at their site <http://portal.epa.gov/ESC> all documents pertaining projects on the Guánica watershed are posted at this site.
- The ESC training involved practice demonstrations at an active construction site near DNER





[www.allislandscorals.org](http://www.allislandscorals.org)

