

Region 5 Pacific Southwest Region

The State and Private Forestry Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) Program provides technical and financial assistance to State partners. The Pacific Southwest Region includes eight State forestry agencies:

- American Samoa
- California
- Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands—Saipan, Rota, and Tinian
- Federated States of Micronesia—Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap
- Guam
- Hawaii
- Republic of the Marshall Islands
- Republic of Palau

Each of these partner agencies actively administers ongoing U&CF programs within their respective government's forestry organizations.

Each State U&CF coordinator has established relationships with local nonprofit organizations and other community groups to build capacity and sustain ongoing urban forestry efforts, particularly in awareness and volunteer coordination.

Another key component of the Region 5 U&CF Program is the Center For Urban Forest Research, which is located on the campus of the University of California, Davis. The center provides technical assistance to all 17 Western States that make up the Western Forestry Leadership Coalition.

Statistical Highlights

Number of participating communities: 1,033
Number of technical assists to communities: 995
Number of days of volunteer assistance: 16,181

American Samoa

Program Overview

The U&CF Program in American Samoa is the largest cooperative forestry effort in terms of dollars expended and level of public participation. Federal funding in fiscal year (FY) 2002 was \$150,000, which was used to facilitate maintenance of the coordinator's position, activities of the Territorial Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council, volunteer coordination, and continued work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives outlined in the 5-year strategic plan. The American Samoa U&CF (ASUCF) Program has developed a monthly television program that focuses on current environmental issues such as population pressure on lowland rainforests, invasive species, mangrove filling, coastal zone erosion, recycling, and Adopt-A-Watershed curriculum in the local schools. The ASUCF Program continues to work with Tausagi, an intergovernmental agency group that administers environmental education. Much of the education is conducted in local schools, and 35 teachers have been trained.

U&CF has been working with the American Samoa National Park and the Office of Preservation on various projects over the years. Current projects include a revitalization and revegetation effort at Blunts Point Battery, a local landmark. Blunts Point is made up of four 6-inch naval guns that were positioned during World War II to defend the entrance to Pago Pago. The battery was built in 1941 and occupied by the U.S. Navy until 1951. Currently, the U&CF Program is funding an internship for this project. The intern and forestry crew have mapped the entire area, using Global Positioning System and Geographic Information System technology. The map will be used to create a poster depicting what the site was like originally and what it looks like now. The project will also include replanting native species and incorporating interpretive signage.

Arbor week is an annual event in American Samoa. The FY 2002 theme, Appreciate Forest Values, focused on studying the forest. At 15 schools more than 300

students planted trees. The local television station and newspapers attended and premiered the day over the next week.

The U&CF Council

American Samoa maintains a 20-member U&CF Advisory Council made up of members from public and private entities from both the Manu'a Islands and Tutuila.

Volunteer Program

U&CF works with local volunteer groups such as Tausagi, a local community-based organization; Americorps; Cub Scouts; Women's Small Business Center; and the Department of Education.

Statistical Highlights

Total number of communities: 52
Number of participating communities: 34
Number of technical assists to communities: 34
Number of training hours provided: 80
Number of days of volunteer assistance: 1,040
Number of trees planted: 5,000

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California

Program Overview

California continues to expand annually, with small communities developing at a rapid pace, especially in the Central Valley region.

Federal funding for the California U&CF Program was \$900,000. This amount included \$200,000 for inner-city grants for the inner-city program, which California ReLeaf is handling as pass-through grants. California ReLeaf also helps with distributing Federal tree planting and outreach grants, both of which support California's volunteer and outreach component.

Established U&CF regional councils continue to be of great value in presenting information from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) Urban Forestry Program to interested community leadership, professionals, and the general public. They also provide feedback to CDF for help in designing State-funded and federally funded urban forest programs. Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Urban Forestry Ecosystems Institute is maintaining Urban Forestry Academies and the Urban Forestry Web site, both in partnership with CDF.

Title VIII grant funding is under contract and is currently in progress. This project provides vegetation analysis in regional areas using high-resolution satellite imagery and American Forest's "CITY green" urban forestry analysis model. Cal Poly San Luis Obispo's Urban Forestry Ecosystems Institute maintains this program. Benefits from the information will be used for technical assistance, creation of public policy, communication, and training for upgrading urban forests in Central and Southern California.

The U&CF Council

The California Community Forestry Advisory Committee continues to help guide CDF in decisionmaking that

affects urban forestry in the State. This committee comprises several CDF Urban Forestry specialists, a broad section of urban forestry professionals in the State, and representatives from each of the State's regional urban forestry councils.

Volunteer Program

Volunteer coordination for the State of California is administered via contract with the Trust for Public Lands, California ReLeaf organization. This organization administers subgrant programs throughout the State for tree planting and capacity building. The California ReLeaf director is also a member of the statewide U&CF Advisory Committee. In 2003, California ReLeaf will receive sponsorship from the National Tree Trust.

Statistical Highlights

Total number of communities: 858
Number of participating communities: 719
Number of sustained communities: 285
Number of technical assists to communities: 650
Number of days of volunteer assistance to program: 6,000
Number of Tree City USA communities: 131
Number of trees planted with funds available, 7-01 to 6-02: 50,814

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Federated States of Micronesia: Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap

Program Overview

The U&FC Program in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) includes projects in the states of Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap. Federal funding provides support for maintaining the coordinator's position, activities of the U&CF Advisory Council, volunteer coordination, and continued work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives outlined in each State's 5-year strategic plan. Major coastal erosion control measures of planting mangrove trees are a major focus for each of the islands, because erosion is a constant threat to sustainability. Ongoing training and awareness campaigns are also a major component of all the Federated States since they are experiencing increased development and road building, which are real threats to the islands. Invasive species assessment and suppression continue to be priorities for all the Federated States.

The U&CF Council

Each of the Federated States of Micronesia maintains an U&CF Advisory Council, with each state providing representation for the overall FSM U&CF strategy. This type of organization ensures equity distributing funds and technical assistance and also ensures that emerging priorities are addressed as quickly as possible.

Volunteer Program

Volunteer coordination is primarily the responsibility of the U&CF coordinators located in each state. Most coordinators receive adequate volunteer assistance from advisory council members and other island volunteers, schools, and community organizers.

Statistical Highlights

Number of participating communities: 134
Number of technical assists to communities: 18
Number of days of volunteer assistance to program: 7,193

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Guam

Program Overview

The U&CF Program in Guam continues to evolve. Federal funding over the last 3 years has consistently provided \$175,000 annually, which facilitates maintenance of the coordinator's position, activities of the U&CF Advisory Council, volunteer coordination, and continued work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives outlined in our 5-year strategic plan.

The U&CF Council

The Guam U&CF Advisory Council is composed of 35 members from throughout the island and includes representatives from public and private organizations and the office of the Governor.

Late in FY 2002, Guam experienced severe storm damage from two major typhoons. Tree maintenance and replanting will be the focus of the U&CF Program in FY 2003.

Statistical Highlights

Number of participating communities: 20
Number of technical assists to communities: 16
Number of days of volunteer assistance: 100
Number of Tree City USA communities: 1

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Hawaii

Program Overview

Kaulunani had a productive year. In the U&CF Program, 28 cost-share grants were awarded for the following community-based projects: nine tree-planting projects, seven education and outreach projects, three workshops, one conference, an urban forestry awards program, six Arbor Day grants, and three Schools Make a Difference grants. In addition to the traditional grant program, the four Title VIII grants are nearly complete.

Program Accomplishments

Assessment

Kaulunani completed a 10-year assessment of the program. Its purpose was to provide the council with a wide range of information regarding previous tree-planting projects.

The assessment results provided information that led to the planning of a 1.5-day retreat to rethink, not only the services provided to the community but also the manner in which they are delivered.

Arbor Day

The Arbor Day activities expanded with new sites and activities, providing communities more opportunities for involvement.

School Grants

A new grant program, Schools Make a Difference, was created to provide forestry education in schools. The program brings landscape architects, Kaulunani, and certified arborists together to plan and implement a successful tree-planting project on campuses throughout the State. Most of its success is due to a unique partnership with the American Society of Landscape Architects—Hawaii Chapter.

Statistical Highlights

Number of participating communities (four incorporated counties): 123
Number of communities receiving technical assistance: 48
Number of training hours provided: 2,581
Number of days of volunteers assistance: 1,268
Number of trees planted: 3,424
Number of Tree City USA communities: 3

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

Program Overview

The U&CF Program in the Mariana Islands continues to grow every year. Federal funding in FY 2002 was \$129,955, which facilitates maintenance of the coordinator's position and cofunds the nursery manager's salary for 1 year. The Advisory Council, made up of various entities, also reviews and takes part in the U&CF Program. The Advisory Council and its coordinators continue to work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives outlined in the 5-year strategic plan.

The U&CF Council

The Island of Saipan maintains an U&CF Advisory Council with 14 members composed of public and private sectors. The Island of Tinian maintains a nine-member panel and the Island of Rota maintains a 14-member panel.

Island of Saipan

- The Forestry Section donated 2,584 trees to communities, schools, and groups for park and roadside beautification. During the same planting activities, the U&CF members and the Department of Lands and Natural Resources/Division of Agriculture staff provided presentations, demonstrations, and technical assistance. These technology transfers were conducted during plant issuance and pickup from the forestry nursery
- Private and public schools (Koblerville Elementary School, Whispering Palm, Kagman High School, and Oleai Elementary) asked the Forestry Section to present proper planting and tree care, proper use of fertilizer, and nutritional facts. A total of 500 students participated in these presentations. The presenters were Mr. Stan Villagomez, Mr. Vic Guerrero, Mr. Ben Borja, Mr. Manny Pangelinan, and Mr. Ben Cepeda.
- Congressman William Torres continues to spearhead the Gualo Rai Roadside Beautification and the Youth Center Beautification/reforestation projects. A total of 800 plants worth \$3,000 were purchased and distributed to these projects.

Island of Tinian

- Tinian Urban Forestry Staff facilitated and monitored the planting along the Broadway Roadsides. This project will continue to be upgraded and improved using natural resources (cultural and ornamental trees) as buffers and as roadside beautification. School students volunteered during planting activities.
- Tinian Urban Forestry Staff continued to facilitate and monitor the planting activities at the Suicide Cliff Historic Park.
- The local government donated to and supported the forestry program by maintaining various planting projects throughout the funded year. They donated their equipment's fuel and operators as matching costs throughout the year.
- The Boy Scouts of America planted 20 flame trees (*Delonix regia*) around the Tinian Community Center.

This group is one of many youth groups participating in various beautification projects every year.

Island of Rota

- Rota public and private schools participated in planting activities (Arbor Month). The schools planned for each project, with the students and teachers participating in beautifying their areas. Approximately 875 seedlings of 37 varieties were planted during Arbor Month.
- The Shoreline Beautification Project was coordinated between the Filipino Association and the Forestry Department. This project included procurement and planting of seedlings to beautify adopted areas and to stabilize sandy soils. During several weekend planting events, members of the association planted approximately 200 seedlings.

Statistical Highlights

Total number of communities: 39
Number of participating communities: 39
Number of sustained communities: 12
Number of technical assists to communities: 17
Number of assistance in developmental: 7
Number of technical assists in formative: 3
Number of training hours provided: 500
Number of days of volunteer assistance: 150
Number of trees planted: 17,000

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Republic of Palau

Program Overview

The U&CF Program in Palau has expanded and matured over the past few years. Public participation has increased, with many partners contributing valuable technical and financial resources. Federal funding facilitates the maintenance of the coordinator position, activities of the U&CF Advisory Council, volunteer coordination, and continued work toward accomplishing the goals and objectives outlined in our 5-year strategic plan, which was updated in FY 2002.

The U&CF Council

Palau's U&CF Advisory Council is composed of 12 members from a wide range of organizations. The council has been instrumental in establishing a sustainable U&CF Program and steering projects and priorities toward accomplishment of the 5-year strategic plan.

Volunteer Program

Pua Michael, the Palau U&CF volunteer coordinator, coordinates with project managers to get volunteers to

work on projects. She also helps the U&CF coordinator monitor ongoing U&CF projects, keeps accounting of files for U&CF projects, and contacts project managers for submission of quarterly reports. In addition, she helps write reports and publicize U&CF programs to different states in Palau, legislators, and other organizations.

Statistical Highlights

Number of participating communities: 9

Number of technical assists to communities: 11

Number of days of volunteer assistance: 440

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