



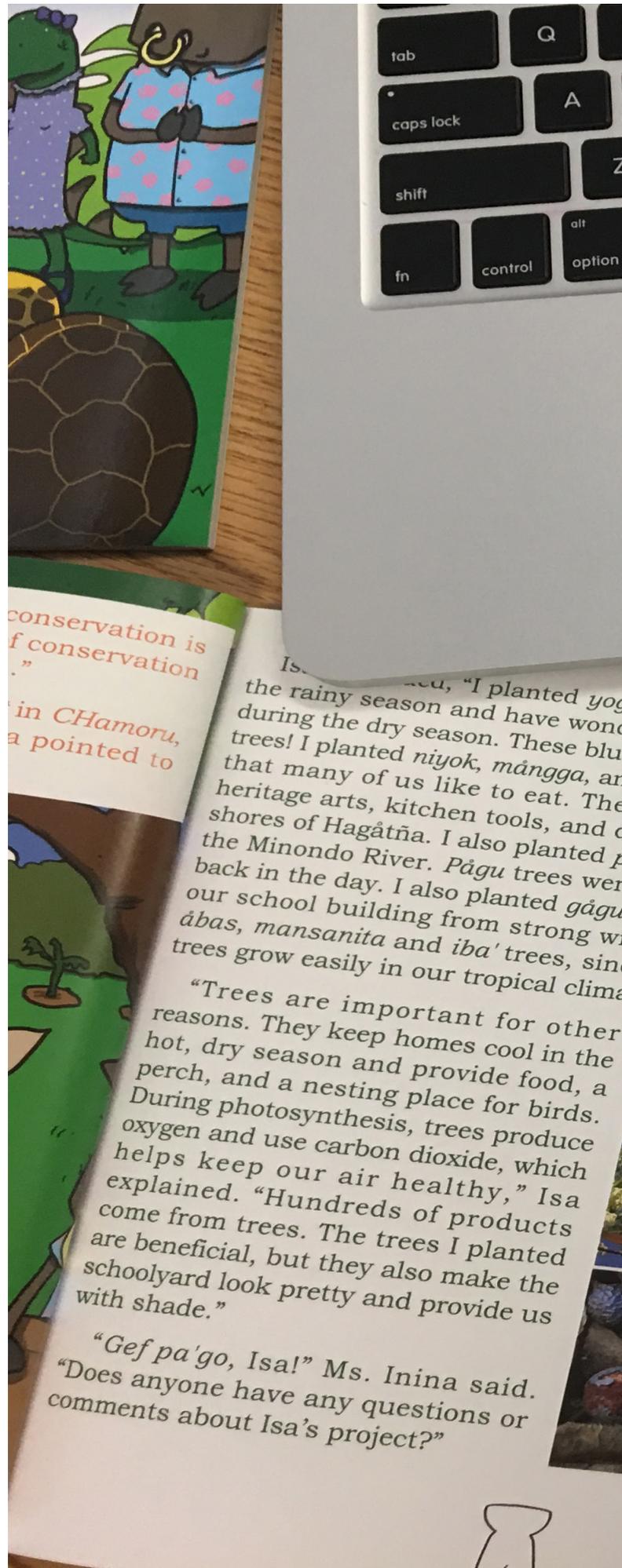
FISCAL YEAR 2016

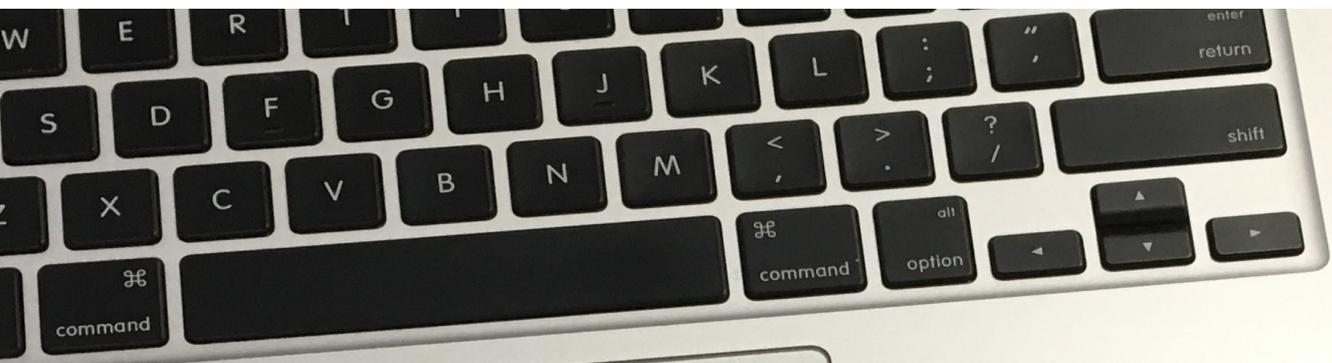
# **ANNUAL REPORT**

*Northern Guam Soil & Water Conservation District (NGSWCD)*

# Table of Contents

- 6** ABOUT NGSWCD
- 10** DISTRICT GOALS
- 12** 2016 EDUCATORS SYMPOSIUM
- 15** COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
- 18** DISTRICT PARTNERS





Yogga' trees because they grow quickly during  
the wonderful shade that keep their blue fruits cool  
the fruits germinate and produce more yogga'  
and lemmai trees, because they provide fruits  
these types of trees also produce wood for  
dig out canoes like the galaide' along the  
págu trees to protect the riverbanks along  
are used for rope making by our mañaina  
trees to protect the rest of the trees and  
lands. Finally, I planted a few laguáná,  
because I love to eat their fruits. All of these  
eat."



Yogga' flowers and fruit





*“Together let us continue to promote the protection of our soil and water to ensure our way of life”*



# INTRODUCTION

Buenas yan Hafa Adai,

The Northern Guam Soil and Water District (NGSWCD) has made big strides in developing good natural resource policies and raising awareness for the protection of Guam's finite natural resources.

The biosecurity gap associated with pests hitchhiking on Christmas trees entering Guam has been closed with the new fumigation policy initiated by the Northern Guam Conservation District as part of the Guam Invasive Species Council. Historically, almost all Christmas tree shipments entering Guam are found to be infested with some sort of pest. This new policy protects Guam from new potentially ecological devastating pests.

The District social media page has seen an increase in traffic since we started running public awareness campaigns on emerging natural resource issues. The discovery of the Greater Banded Hornet (*Vespa tropica*) and need to get the public to report sightings of this invasive pest was aided by the use of this social media outlet. Our District coordinated the public information meeting to government and community leaders on the risk this aggressive hornet pose to our pollinators and public safety.

The Guam Department of Education has given our District accolades on how successful our annual Educator Symposiums have become. This year our symposium "We all need trees" was the best yet and we look forward to serving more teachers next year with fresh tools and ideas that teachers can take into the classroom, especially localized hands on lessons.

And finally, our District efforts to address the issue of feral swine have resulted in a number of projects. At the national level, a group was created at the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) to address feral swine. Guam is leading this effort under the Natural Resource Policy Group. Recognizing the scope of this issue and the impact feral swine have on soil health and water quality, the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) has implemented a 5 state pilot conservation project to manage feral swine on agricultural lands with Guam chosen as one of the pilot states. The Northern District has engaged with APHIS Wildlife Services to start a pilot feral swine control program on public and private lands to include outreach workshops to educate Guam residents on best management practices for feral swine.

It has been a very productive year and our projects are growing in scope and impact. With so much more great things on our horizon, we look forward to working with our partners to effect change and build a resilient Guam and lead the efforts of protecting Guam's natural resources.

Un dangkulo na si Yu'os ma'ase',



Northern Guam Soil & Water Conservation District  
Roland Quitugua Chairman

# NORTHERN DISTRICT

“A Northern Soil and Water Conservation District and a Southern Soil and Water Conservation District are hereby established to work in partnership with the University of Guam (University), and in cooperation with all government of Guam entities overseeing local and federal programs established to promote the conservation, development and the use of soil and water resources of Guam in order to control and prevent soil erosion and flooding, and to improve agriculture water management” P.L. 31-125:2 SS 77102

## Meet the Board

Roland Quitugua  
Chairman

Joseph S. Santos  
Vice-Chairman

Hope A. Cristobal  
District Director

Ronald T. Laguana  
District Director



NGSWCD Board of Directors with the Honorable Governor of Guam Eddie Baza Calvo at the 2013 Swearing-in Ceremony. From Left: Vice Chairman Joseph Santos, Chairman Roland Quitugua, Director Ronald Laguana, Governor Eddie Calvo, and Director Hope Cristobal.

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## Board Staff

Erica A. Pangelinan  
Conservation Associate

Raymond M. Shinohara  
Conservation Technician



NORTHERN GUAM  
SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

# WHAT WE DO

The Guam Soil and Water Conservation Districts strive to be Guam's leading conservation organization for the protection of Guam's natural resources through locally led stewardship and best management practices.

NGSWCD is an elected Government of Guam Board that works with government agencies and private landowners to protect Guam's natural resources.

The Board creates and advises on policies for the protection of our island's natural resources.

NGSWCD educates the community and policy makers on the value of natural resources and the impact that man-made activity has on our island's environment and ecosystem.



# FY 14/15 SUMMARY

## 2015 Educators Symposium

The 3rd Annual Educators Symposium has become the highlight of 2015. Each year the curriculum becomes more developed, includes more and more information/resources and brings in more educators. The Symposium was held August 10, 11, and 12 and was titled 3rd Annual Educators Symposium: Soil Health and Conservation and Climate

## Service Learning

NGSWCD purchased a collection of books focused on the environment and environmental topics (i.e. recycling, respecting nature, saving energy, gardening, etc.) and provided these books to high school students which were then read to the young audiences during the Saturday Children's Reading Hour during the month of May and June.

## Pollinators

As an island community, Guam relies very heavily on the importation of produce and other goods. The connection between the world's bees/pollinators and our imported goods is very big and important. The NGSWCD began to delve into the issue. Teaming up with the local Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) office, the District began doing education and outreach about pollinators and their importance to us as people and as an island.

## DUNS/SAMS

The NGSWCD applied for and received a DUNS number and an account with SAM. Both of these allow NGSWCD easier and more access to federal funding and grants.

## LOT2098

The 50 acre parcel of land in Tamuning is currently designated as a nature preserve, but the NGSWCD aims to change it into a working conservation area. The goal is to co-designate the area as a conservation area governed by NGSWCD, Department of Parks and Recreation, and Guam Department of Agriculture. This project continues to move forward and NGSWCD has recently found someone to assist applying for a Forestry grant for this large project.

## Guahan For Gaosali



In an attempt to change the Guam Territorial Flower from the Bougainvillea to the native Gaosali, the Guam Soil & Water Directors met with various senators to discuss their possible support for the changing of the flower. Though nearly all senators were in favor of such a change there was a great deal of discussion around creating an informational campaign in order to gain support from the local community.

## NACD Annual Meeting

As regional representatives for much of the Pacific, the Guam Soil and Water Districts came to the forefront of the feral hog problem that many states and territories are facing today. With the push from Guam and other states, they were able to pass the Feral Swine Resolution at the 2015 NACD Annual Meeting in New Orleans. This has led to NRCS creating a feral swine pilot test. This pilot test includes five states (Guam included) and operates under the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) with the goal of determining if a feral swine program can be included in the list of programs available through NRCS.



# GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1. Develop Sound Local Policy to Protect Guam’s Natural Resources.
2. Actively Engage in Partnerships with Various Island Communities
3. Encourage Responsible Stewardship Through Education and Demonstration Projects.

<p><b>Guam Public Law 12-209</b></p>	<p>The Guam SWCDs is working with the Guam Legislature to amend P.L. 12-209 to include the Districts on the Membership of Parks and Commission. This would allow the Districts to increased interaction and coordination with their partners including the Department of Parks and Recreation who oversees the Guam conservation areas and parks. This policy will allow the District to Develop Lot 2098 as Laderan Halaguk and create a Central Guam Park and leverage federal funds to develop and manage the area.</p>
<p><b>Guam Invasive Species Council (GISC)</b></p>	<p>The District has been appointed the secretary of GISC and with the newly confirmed Directors Mathew Sablan (DoAg) and James McDonald (GCQA) co-chairing the Council. GISC has been revitalized after not meeting for over a year and kicked of with Acting Governor Ray Tenorio declaring February 21 – 27, 2016 as “Guam Invasive Species Awareness Week” by proclamation followed a weeklong public awareness campaign highlighting key invasive pests that threaten Guam’s natural resources and our way of life.</p> <p>The Northern District raised the issue regarding the number of pests that are intercepted on Christmas trees imported annually. The current required pesticide pre-treatment at point of origin is not working still requiring nearly all Christmas tree shipments for the past 4 years to be fumigated after shipment inspection upon arrival on island by Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency (GCQA). The Guam Invasive Species Council (GISC) supported the fumigation mandate and now is a requirement upon entry to Guam.</p> <p>NGSWCD is working with the Governor’s Office to facilitate the development of the Guam Invasive Species Management Plan (GISMP). The US Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs granted funds to complete the GISC management plan is due at the end of the year. The Districts are a driving force to ensure agency and stakeholders contribute pertinent information for the development of the management plan to be completed by years end.</p>

# GOALS & OBJECTIVES

## ...CONTINUATION

<p><b>Mandatory Christmas Tree Fumigation</b></p>	<p>The Guam SWCDs is working with the Guam Legislature to amend P.L. 12-209 to include the Districts on the Membership of Parks and Commission. This would allow the Districts to increased interaction and coordination with their partners including the Department of Parks and Recreation who oversees the Guam conservation areas and parks. This policy will allow the District to Develop Lot 2098 as Laderan Halaguk and create a Central Guam Park and leverage federal funds to develop and manage the area</p>
<p><b>Feral Swine</b></p>	<p>Guam farmers and landowners have raised issue to the Northern District regarding the increasing destruction to the farm crops and private lands caused by feral swine. For the past few years feral swine has been brought up as an issue at the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) meetings but no action has ever been taken. This year he Guam districts were successful at getting the Natural Resource Policy Group (NRPG) to recognize the growing concern about increasing damaging feral swine have on our soil and water resources. NACD has put together a feral swine sub-committee to address this national problem and Guam has been selected as chairperson of the sub-committee. As a result, the USDA NRCS is currently piloting a feral swine conservation project to collect data to evaluate the impact of feral swine on agricultural soil and water resources and the damage to investments to conservation practices implemented on agricultural lands.</p> <p>USDA APHIS Wildlife Services has entered into a Cooperative Service Agreement with the Northern District to explore trapping methods and ways to manage and control feral swine on Guam. A Feral Swine Pilot Program is currently in its design stages. NGSWCD has appropriate \$10,000 to leverage federal matching funds to get this project on the ground.</p>
<p><b>Guam Storm Drain/Outfall Project</b></p>	<p>The University of Guam Sea Grant in collaboration with the Northern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District are currently in the planning and design stages with Department of Public Work to conduct feasibility studies using sediment socks in storm drains. NGSWCD Conservation Technician Raymond Shinohara has been working closely with UOG Sea Grant's Dr. Austin Shelton to Identify Northern storm water drains that are prone to clogging up during high rainfall events. Sediment socks would line drain edges with socks to keep the drains functional preventing road flooding, while a second project looks to determine if sediment socks with specific additives can reduce pollutants entering the Hagatna bay via storm water culverts.</p>

# 2016 EDUCATORS SYMPOSIUM Highlight

## 2016 EDUCATORS SYMPOSIUM

The Northern District aligns our symposium theme with NACD's Education and Stewardship Committee established annual national themes. This year, the theme was "We All Need Trees". Our partnership with NACD helps us launch our annual Symposiums in the following ways: 1) Utilization of NACD developed stewardship and educational materials augmented by our own localized needs and emphasis. 2) Chairwoman Angelita Mendiola of Southern Guam SWCD and Hope A. Cristobal of Northern Guam SWCD had been previously trained by NACD partner, Project Learning Tree (PLT), on the use of their PLT Curriculum materials. Symposium curriculum was aligned with the DOE STEM criteria.



We extend un dangkulo na si Yu'os ma'ase' to our sponsors, the Bank of Guam, Coast 360 Federal Credit Union, the Guam Visitors Bureau and Hafa Adai Printing. Their generous support was crucial to making this educator's symposium successful. We highly commend our sponsors in their interest and community service in promoting the conservation of Guam's natural resources.

Local partners include UOG-College of Natural and Applied Sciences, Guam Coastal Zone Management, Guam Department of Agriculture and USDA NRCS. We were honored to have Ms. Kisha Borja Quichocho-Calvo, Editor at UOG's MARC, read the public debut of a poem entitled, "Family Trees" composed specially for this 2016 symposium by a Chamorro professor at UH at Manoa, Dr. Craig Santos Perez.

With 57 participants this year, we continue to be encouraged by our local teachers' interest in our island's soil and water conservation efforts that we feel have intensified by the growing popularity of island sustainability, eating healthy foods, best management practices and good farming.

Of the 50, 49 completed the end-of-course evaluation form matching their perception to the presentations. A total of 80% indicated that presentations strengthened their curricular need as an educator. And, 82% concurred that the topics presented were relevant to their classroom subject matter. 80% thought the materials utilized seemed appropriate and 84% rated the additional resources (hand outs and materials) as excellent. The survey disclosed 86% felt the presentations increased their knowledge of trees and forests relative to soil and water conservation; however, only 71% deem themselves capable of using the knowledge to improve their understanding of trees and forests

The field trip was a big hit with the attendees. 84% believed this aspect was of exceptional quality. 98% were open to accessing our presentation materials through use of technology such as Google Drive, flash drives, etc.

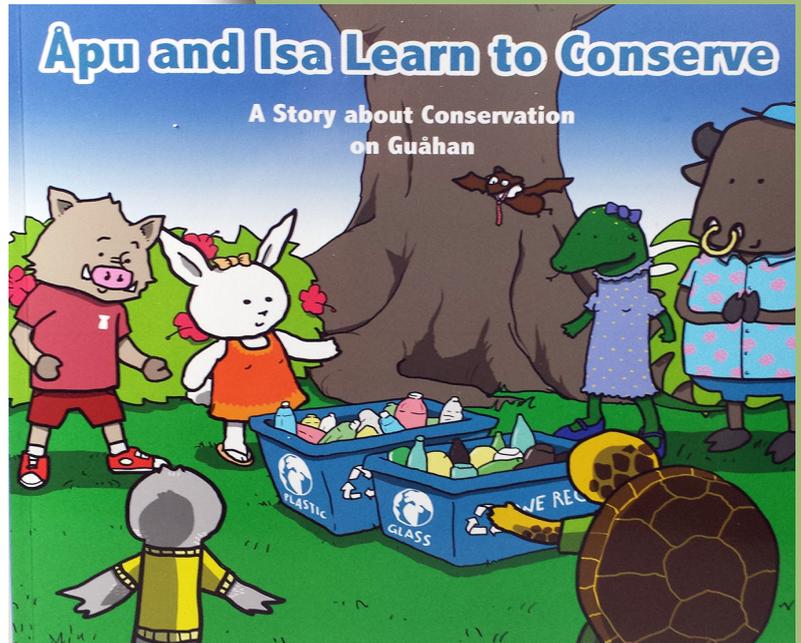
Overall, a vast majority of the participants expressed excitement to return to the symposium next year. Additionally, the staff and presenters received countless accolades for their exceptional planning and performance with this symposium. The symposium kept all attendees engaged at all times, allowing for a memorable and meaningful experience.

# APU AND ISA LEARN TO CONSERVE

## Highlight

### A BOOK ON CONSERVATION

This year was the first time ever the Guam SWCD's published a book on Conservation. Jannifer Paulson's "Rachel and Sammy Learn to Conserve" inspired the story. Director Cristobal localized the story to better fit the island of Guam's natural resource concerns and needs. The Districts collaborated with Ms. Paulson and entered into a contract buyout agreement to recreate, publish, and eventually sell the book to cover expenses. This development has helped the Districts learn more about the process and exploring future books to come.



# NEW & VETERAN FARMING PROGRAM

## Highlight

In collaboration with the UOG Cooperative Extension Service, the Guam Soil & Water Conservation Districts coordinated the New and Veteran Farming Program (NVFP). Veteran Outreach was recently implemented to help disabled veterans explore "Agricultural Therapy". This year NGSWCD provided staff support to aid Dr. Bob Barber and his efforts with coordinating the New and Veteran Farming Program.



The NVFP was split into two phases, which spanned over a 12-week period. The first phase was 8-weeks long and focused on teaching the new farmers basic farming skills through classroom instruction and hands-on activities the instruction modules included; soil health, plant health, economics, plant nutrition, plant propagation and farm planning. The second Phase consisted of a 4-week program that focused on the business aspect of transitioning in to commercial agriculture.

# 2016 SOIL & WATER ELECTION Highlight

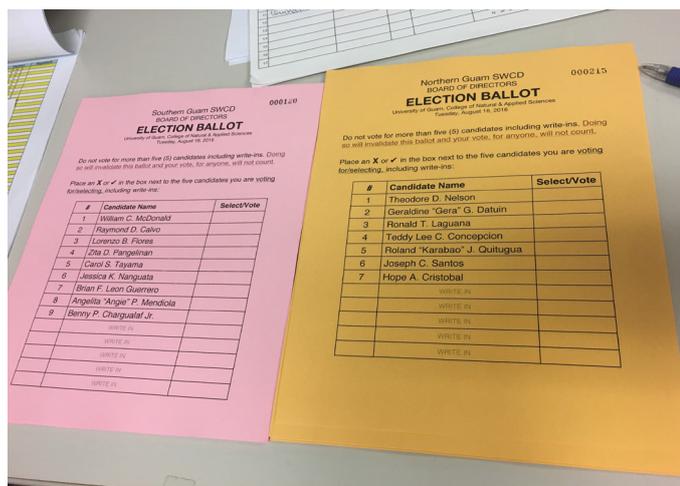
“Composition of District Boards. The Soil and Water Conservation District Boards shall each: (1) be composed of five (5) directors, each of whom is largely engaged in farming and is a land occupier of the district to which they are elected to serve; (2) select a chairperson and a vice chairperson from among the five (5) directors, who shall be elected by at least three (3) affirmative votes; and (3) have assigned to it an advisor from the University of Guam College of Natural and Applied Sciences.” P.L. 31-125:2 SS 77104

The University of Guam and the Districts are mandated to host an Election for the Guam SWCD District Board of Directors every three (3) years. UOG CNAS Associate Dean Jim Hollyer was the designated Election Overseer for this Election term. Much planning and preparation went into the success of the election for the Northern and Southern District.

Notice of Nomination and Notice of Election were advertised in the Pacific Daily News and on other social media platforms such as Facebook to inform the public of the Election.



The Swearing-in Ceremony for newly elected Board members took place at the Governor’s Office on August 29, 2016 conducted by Governor Eddie Baza Calvo.



The NGSWCD 2016 Board of Directors are as follows: Chairman Ronald Laguana, Vice Chairman Joseph Santos, Director Roland Quitugua, Director Hope Cristobal, and Director Theodore Nelson.

The University of Guam and the Districts will be working together to strengthen the election rules and regulations along with the overall process for next

The SWCD Election took place on the 2nd Tuesday of August (August 16, 2016). SWCD Staff assisted Mr. Hollyer in ensuring the smooth flow of validating eligible voters and overall integrity of election. Ballots were tabulated the next day by CNAS Staff and witnessed by SWCD representatives. Results were sent to UOG’s President Robert Underwood and forwarded to the Governor’s office.



*“The Guam Soil and Water Conservation Districts strive to be Guam’s leading conservation organization for the protection of Guam’s natural resources through locally led stewardship and best Management practices.”*

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

## 2015/ 2016

<p><b>2015 Arbor Day</b> October 13, 2015</p>	<p>NGSWCD conducted conservation outreach at the Guam Department of Agriculture’s 2015 Arbor Day.</p>
<p><b>5th Annual Pig Hunting Derby</b> December 12 &amp; 13, 2015</p>	<p>The Northern District sponsored education and outreach on the impacts of feral swine to the environment as a part of the pig hunting derby and cook-off.</p>
<p><b>Department of Agriculture Water Conservation Workshop</b> December 1, 2015</p>	<p>The Department of Agriculture hosted a Water Conservation Workshop focused on practices and the status of the agriculture water rate program. The Northern District presented conservation irrigation methods and made programmatic recommendations for a tiered water rate program based on conservation practices for farmers.</p>
<p><b>Guam Invasive Species Awareness Week Proclamation Signing</b> February 24th, 2016</p>	<p>The Guam Invasive Species Council and NGSWCD headed the coordination of the Proclamation Signing recognizing February 21-27 as the 1st annual Guam Invasive Species Awareness Week (GISAW). Acting Governor Ray Tenorio signed the Proclamation at the Governor’s Office in Adelup.</p>
<p><b>2016 University of Guam Charter Day</b> May 08, 2016</p>	<p>The Northern District staff teamed up to put together a conservation educational booth on soil erosion. The booth featured hands-on activities for students to participate and learning about the different types of soil erosion on Guam.</p>
<p><b>12th Annual May Harvest Festival</b> May 5, 2016</p>	<p>The Guam Department of Agriculture and Farm to Table hosted the 12th Annual May Harvest Festival. The Northern and Southern District Staff teamed up to hold an outreach booth to promote SWCD’s programs and conduct a membership drive.</p>
<p><b>Guam Department of Education (GDOE) Outreach</b> August 8-11, 2016</p>	<p>The Districts hosted an educational booth at the GDOE’s Curriculum &amp; Instructions Division 4-day workshop at the Pacific Star Resort &amp; Spa to promote the Educator’s Symposium and “Apu and Isa Learn to Conserve”.</p>
<p><b>Sea Grant Listening Session</b> August 30, 2016</p>	<p>The Northern District stakeholder input regarding needed research, outreach, and education projects that would benefit the people and environment of Guam. This input drives the strategic planning of UOG SeaGrant program.</p>

# MEETINGS & CONFERENCES

## 2015/ 2016

<b>NRCS Local Workgroup Meeting</b> <b>May 4, 2016</b>	NGSWCD collaborated with USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service to host a local workgroup meeting to identify local conservation priorities for the Farm Bill Conservation Programs.
<b>Guam Soil and Water Conservation District Joint Board Meeting</b> <b>May 10, 2016</b>	As mandated by Guam Public Law (5GCA,CH71,SS71105), the Northern and Southern Districts held a joint meeting to discuss current and ongoing Soil and Water Conservation District programs, efforts and budget.
<b>Guam Association of Conservation Districts (GACD)</b> <b>May 10, 2016</b>	The Northern and Southern District held a meeting to formalize the Guam Association of Conservation Districts (GACD). Bylaws updated and application for DUNS and SAMS registration are in the process.
<b>Advisory Committees:</b>	<p><b>Guam Invasive Species Council (GISC):</b> NGSWCD is a voting member to GISC. Guam invasive species management plan is due at the end of the year. The Districts to provide necessary input to complete management plan.</p> <p><b>Urban and Community Forestry Program:</b> NGSWCD is a part of the planning committee for the Urban and Community Forestry Program to help promote Agroforestry within in the island community.</p> <p><b>Northern Watershed Planning Committee:</b> Guam Environmental Protection Agency (GEPA) led a planning group to set up watershed priorities. NGSWCD is a part of the planning committee to provide advisement on water conservation matters.</p> <p><b>Forestry Stewardship Program (FSP):</b> Meeting discussed future FSP initiatives. Made recommendations and three priorities to implement for FY 2017-2018.</p>
<b>National Meetings &amp; Conferences</b>	<p><b>National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD)</b>          2016 Annual Meeting Reno, Nevada          Dates: February 1-3, 2016</p> <p><b>NACD 2016 Summer Board Meeting Minneapolis, Minnesota</b>          Dates: July 15-19, 2016</p> <p><b>NACD 2016 Pacific Regional Meeting Sacramento, California</b>          Dates: September 14-16, 2016</p> <p><b>2015 ACRES Conference</b>          Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania December 9-11, 2016</p> <p><b>7th Annual Small Farm Conference</b>          Virginia, Virginia Beach September 20-22, 2016</p>
<b>Professional Development</b>	<p><b>Guam Behavioral Women’s Conference</b></p> <p><b>Center for Island Sustainability</b></p> <p><b>Small Business Training-Introduction to Financial Statements</b></p>

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## 2015/2016

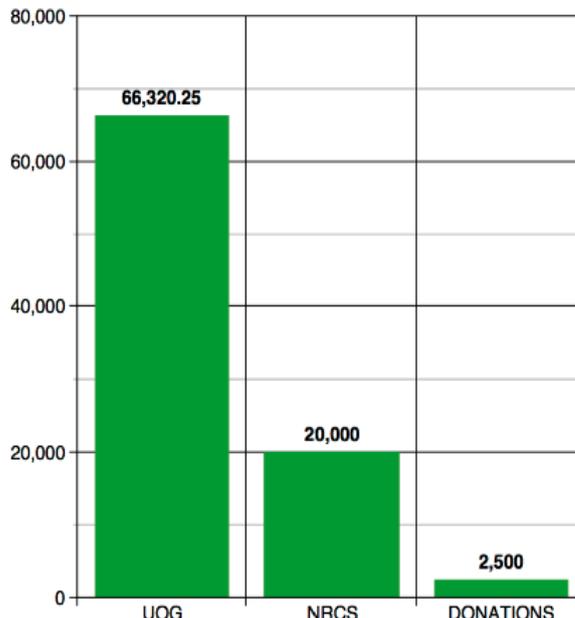
### FUNDING SOURCE

According to P.L. 32-181, the University of Guam shall appropriate funds to the Guam Soil and Water Conservation District in the amount of \$149,384, which is to be divided by the two Districts. Therefore, NGSWCD shall be awarded \$74,692 by the University of Guam for fiscal year 2016.

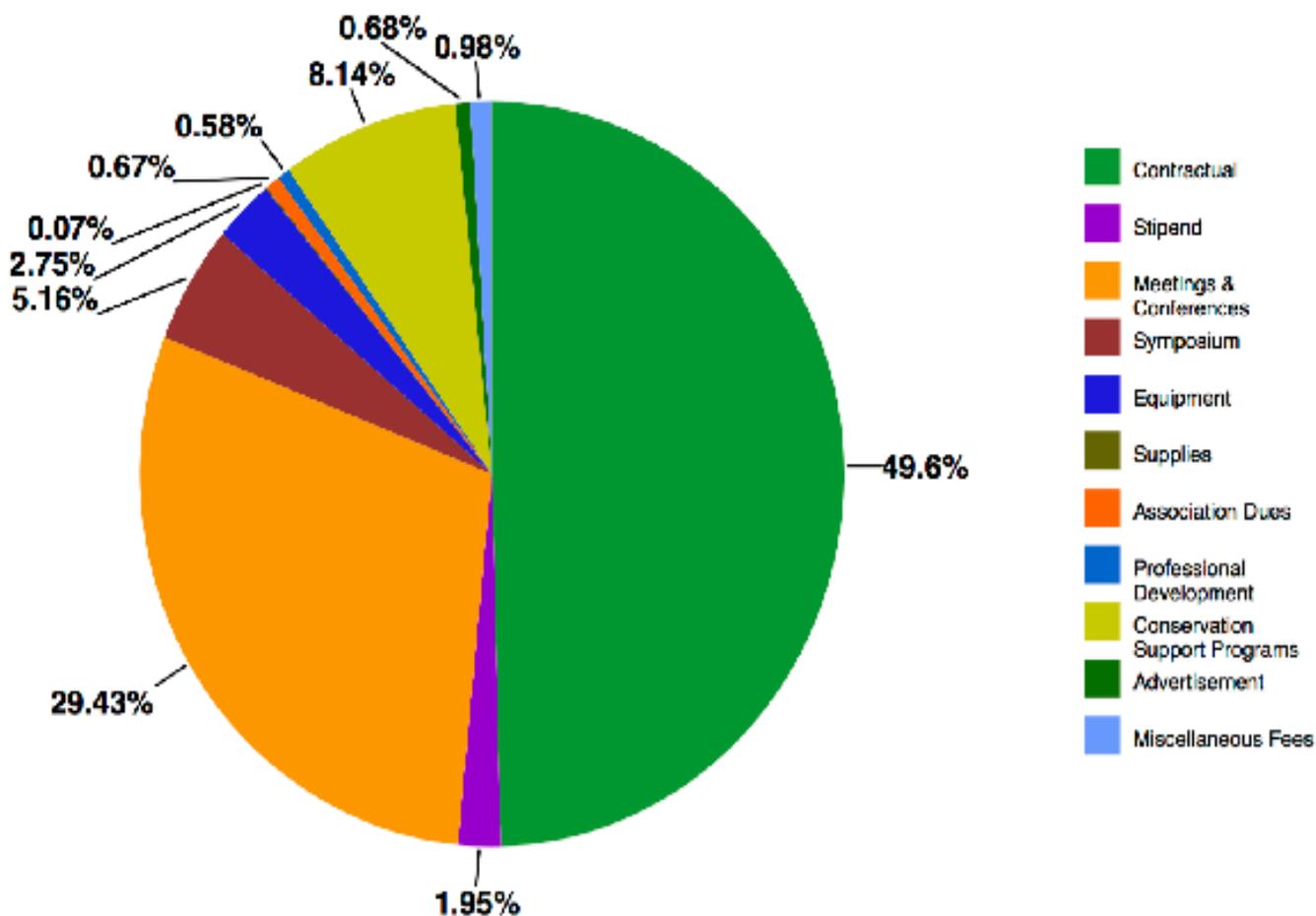
Other funding sources include: NRCS Contribution Agreement: \$20,000.00 and Donations and Sponsorships: \$2,500.00

**TOTAL: \$88,820.25**

**NGSWCD FUNDING SOURCES**



### EXPENDITURES



# DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP

University of Guam (UOG) Cooperative Extension Service

UOG Sea Grant

Southern Guam Soil & Water Conservation District

Guam Department of Agriculture

Guam Department of Education

Guam Environmental Protection Agency

Chamorro Land Trust Commission

Bureau of Statistics and Plans  
(Guam Zone Coastal Management)

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

USDA Wildlife Services

National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration

# CONTACT US

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SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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NORTHERN GUAM  
SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

*Inadahen i Edda' yan i Hanom*  
Caring for the Soil and Water...