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Aquatic & Wildlife Resources	735-3955/56; Fax 734-6570
Forestry & Soil Resources	300-7976; Fax: 300-3201
Plant Nursery	300-7974
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Eddie B. Calvo
Governor

Ray Tenorio
Lt. Governor

MATTHEW LG SABLAN
Director

JESSIE B PALICAN
Deputy Director

August 23, 2018

GL# 34-18-2257
Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz

AUG 24 2018
Time: 424 [ ]AM [ ]PM File No. ____
Received By

The Honorable Speaker Benjamin J.F. Cruz
34th Guam Legislature
Guam Congress Building
163 Chalan Santo Papa
Hagatna, Guam 96910

2018 AUG 27 PM 4:43

Re: Citizen Centric Report FY' 2016

Dear Mr. Speaker,

Pursuant to P.L. 30-127, "Citizen Centric Report", please see enclosed Department of Agriculture's report for fiscal year 2016.

Respectfully,

MATTHEW L.G. SABLAN

CC: Office of Public Accountability

2257

GOVERNMENT OF GUAM FISCAL YEAR 2016

CITIZENS CENTRIC FY 2016, GUAM DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

GUAM DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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The Guam Department of Agriculture, established through the 5 GCA, Guam Code Annotated identifies the mandates and responsibilities of the agency and administered by Guam Administrative Rules and Regulation titles 4, 8, & 9 Guam Law. There are five divisions of the department, Agricultural Development Services, Forestry & Soil Resources, Division of Aquatic & Wildlife Resources, Biosecurity, and Animal Health charged in the management of soil resources, forest health and watershed, preventing the introduction of invasive species, protection and conservation of wildlife habitat and fauna, and animal control and licensing. Overall the mission of the department is the conservation and protection of our natural resources and to educate the community in best resource management and stewards of Guahan.



Matthew L.G. Sablan
Director

Jessie B. Palican
Deputy Director

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Conserving and Protecting our Natural Resources

Our Goals and Objectives is to increase level of services provided to farmers and customers and establishing a cohesive implementation of programs and to coordinate a more efficient communication of networks to market the existence of such services being provided by the department; organize and direct the activities to customers with respect to available programs initiated by the department.

Staffed with less than 6, the Animal Health Division has rounded up over 1,000 stray, ill, injured, deceased, and unwanted dogs and cats and a total of 1,500 imported animals were screened by the Territorial Veterinarian towards safeguarding the community health and safety. With the demands of commerce, BioSecurity is greatly involved in



addressing the screening of agricultural products for possible invasive species entry and currently addressing LFA, Litte Fire Ants, Yellow Banded Hornet, CRB– Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle. They have prepared and issued 6,408 permits for fruits and vegetables, live plants, seeds and 255 fresh egg permits as well as having conducted 720 establishment inspections.

Forestry and Soil Resources worked closely with landowners to ensure best soil conservation practices to promote soil health and watershed quality addressing erosion control measures and nitrogen replenishing trees for areas considered to be badlands as a result of deforestation from wildland fires. They suppressed a total of 4,428 acres of wildland fire as well as maintained a 14, 000 linear feet of firebreak

Between residential areas and savannahs in preventing property damage and loss of life.



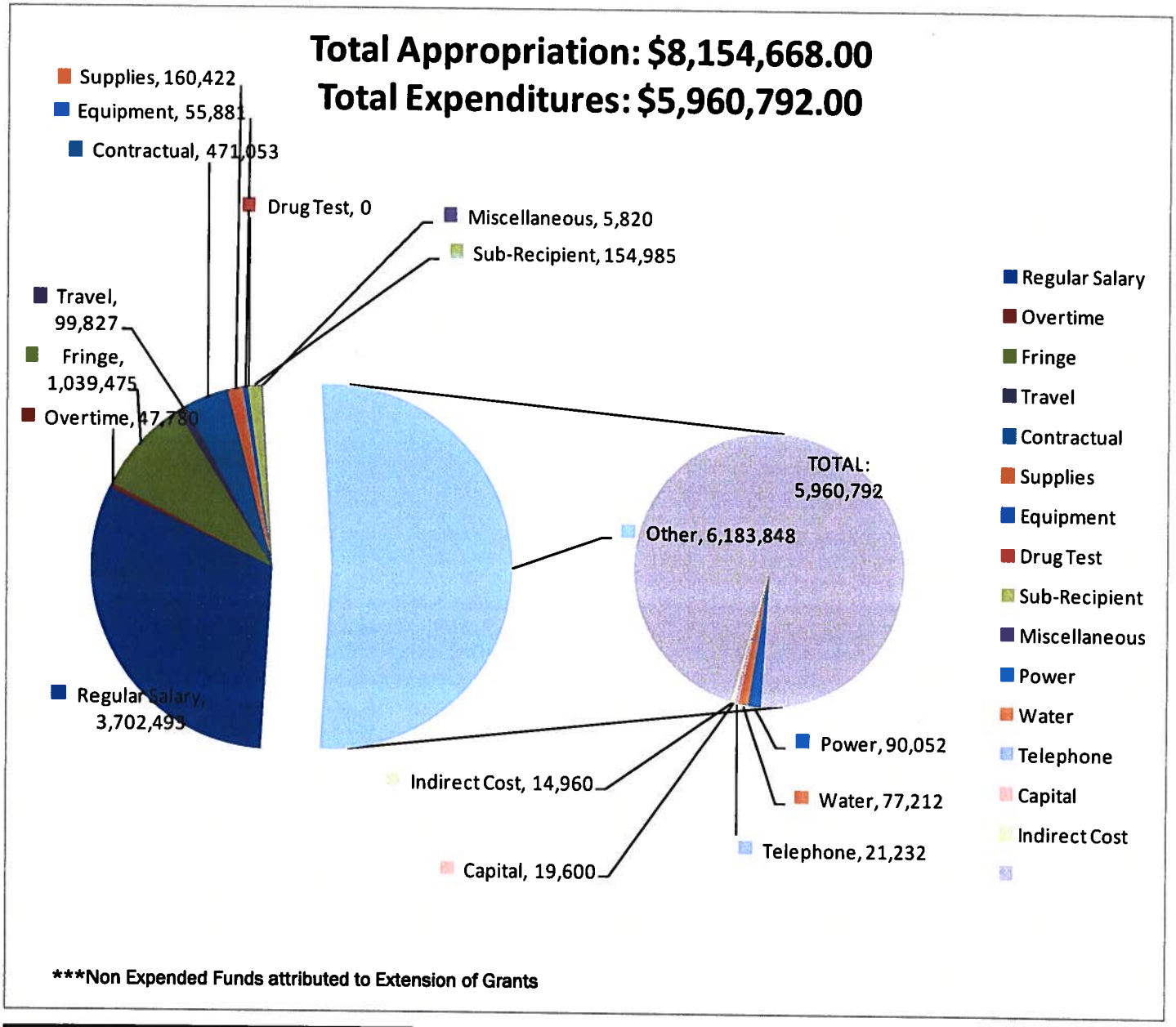
Forestry Fire Fighters brace themselves on
The sloping terrain as they make their way towards grassland fire.

Divison of Aquatic and Wildlife (DAWR) is just as responsive to natural resources, concerns, protection and safeguarding the native species of birds, faunas, and coastal marine preserves. They continue to provide maintenance to our endangered species tagging program. The division is also charged with the issuance of hunting license and provides law enforcement oversight with the Conservation Officers on watch to enforce wildlife laws and apprehend violators. And Lastly, Agriculture Development Services caters to the farming community in providing Bona-Fide farmers Certification and conducts field inspections for processing of Agriculture Water Rate requests. A total of 441 farmers are registered with Agriculture in the production of crops, fruit trees, livestock and ornamentals.

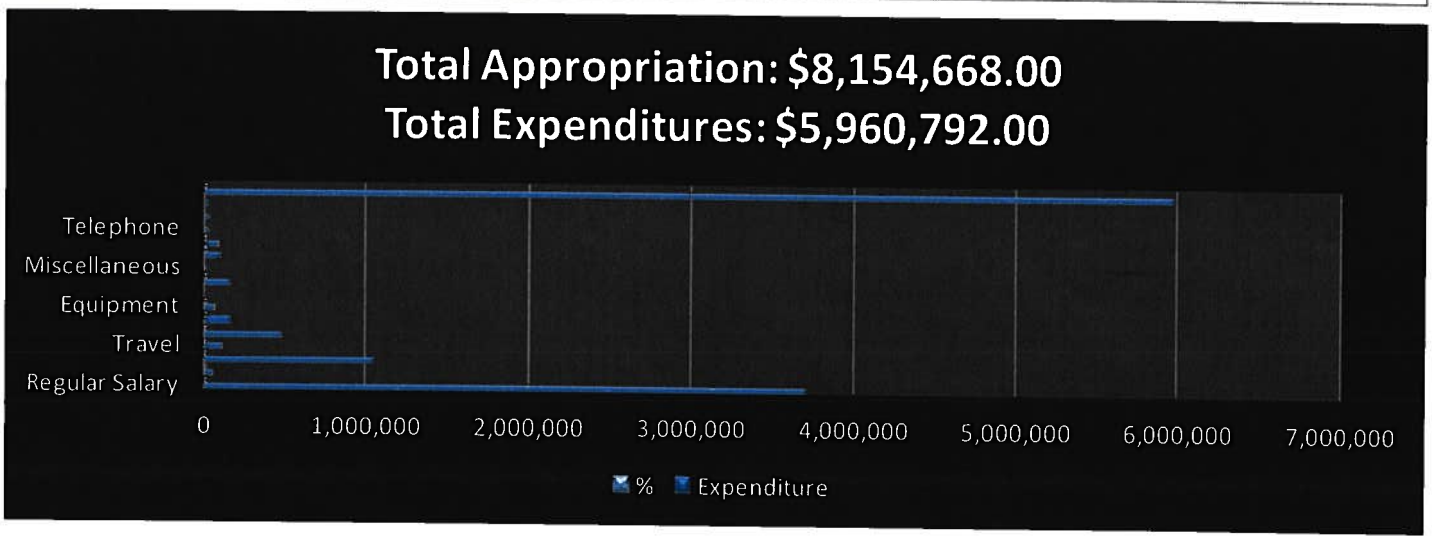


Agriculture Development Services Chief, John Borja (center) representing ADS during the 2016 Arbor Day Events

FINANCIAL ASPECT



***Non Expended Funds attributed to Extension of Grants



The Fish Aggregating Devices (FADS) consist of a round painted steel float, about five feet in diameter, tethered to a five-ton anchor on the ocean floor in roughly 5,000 feet of water. They work by attracting small fish that find refuge around the tethered float, and these small fish in turn attract the schools of tuna, marlin, mahi mahi, and other pelagic species. The FAD systems make these pelagic visitors easier to locate for our fishermen, and they lessen the pressure on our native fish species.





Hagatna Paseo de Susana Fishing Platform

Construction Project

First Phase, 137 feet (Project no. 350-5-1058-F-AGN)

COMPLETED APRIL 2016



ADA Compliant

INTO THE FUTURE

With the advent of military buildup on island, a growing population from neighboring islands, and increased commerce in the region, the department has many responsibilities and concerns in 2017 and beyond. Addressing issues immediately and ensuring both environment and public safety as it is affected by introduction of possible invasive species and or improper use of land resources and threatened reduction in habitats and wildlife species as a result can only be realized with an adequate budgetary and personnel resources.

However, that in itself is a major challenge and unpredictable but be rest assured that the Department will enforce and manage programs that greatly impacts the island community, natural resources and the overall health of Guahan.



A child holds a Coconut Rhinocerous Beetle known as the CRB during Biosecurity Education Outreach. Invasive species like this will impact All of our futures.