

Project Period	06/01/2012 - 12/31/2013
Award Amount	\$66,000.00
Matching Contributions	\$30,000.00
Project Location Description (from Proposal)	Atolls and service areas of coral reef habitat in the Marshall Islands, Palau, Federal States of Micronesia and Pohnpei.
Project Summary (from Proposal)	Strengthen law enforcement institutions supporting coral reef conservation in three Micronesian nations: Palau, the Federal States of Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands.
Summary of Accomplishments	From June 2012 until December 2013, project activities were undertaken within three Micronesian Jurisdictions (Palau, Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands) to support on-going conservation enforcement capacity-building activities within the region. The project provided follow-on training and capacity building to conservation law enforcement departments or management programs across the region. Key accomplishments include: strengthening of conservation law enforcement networks; development of standard operating procedures and compliance and enforcement plans for programs; highlighting of shark awareness, conservation and enforcement issues; improvement of communication with remote coral reef atoll locations; and capacity building through targeted training, site-visits, and skill and lesson sharing. All activities were coordinated with NOAA's Pacific Island Managed and Protected Area Community (PIMPAC) and implementing NGO or government agency partners in support of the Micronesia Challenge conservation goals.
Lessons Learned	<p>There has been tremendous learning throughout the activities of the project. To highlight this, we provide examples regarding the importance of networking, SOP and partnership development, and capacity building.</p> <p>-Networking among officers and program has proven to be a valuable strategy in addressing lack of resources and capacity needs across a jurisdiction.</p> <p>-We have learned that each island jurisdiction in Micronesia has different government and community roles in resource management. And because of this, we have had to be mindful of these contexts and arrangements to be flexible enough to develop sound and appropriate mechanisms that can strengthen collaboration between partners.</p> <p>-Capacity building in effective conservation enforcement remains a priority for the Micronesia region today and will continue to be into the future. This is one of the lessons we learned in implementing this project and is true in Palau, Pohnpei, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Although communities and governments have made great strides in establishing protected areas and enacting resource rules, communities and government agencies responsible for enforcing these rules continue to lack basic financial support, institutional organization, and skills to do effective enforcement.</p>

Conservation Activities	Offering training, technical assistance, or related support
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Progress Measures enhanced skills) Value at Grant Completion	Other (Number of participants who gain enforcement knowledge and 201
Conservation Activities Progress Measures initiated and/or completed) Value at Grant Completion	Assessing Individual or Program Enforcement Needs Other (Number of indiv/prgrm training needs assessments and training plans 35
Conservation Activities Enforcement Plans Progress Measures least partially) implemented) Value at Grant Completion	Direct support, training and facilitation in completing Compliance and Other (Number of site/program/unit enforcement plans completed and (at 1
Conservation Activities Progress Measures finalized and/or implemented) Value at Grant Completion	Direct support, training and facilitation in completing SOPs Other (Number of site/program/unit standard operating procedures revised, 24

Conservation Outcome(s) Conservation Indicator Metric(s) Baseline Metric Value Metric Value at Grant Completion Long-term Goal Metric Value Year in which Long Term Metric Value is Anticipated	Growing number of informed, skilled conservation officers and trainers who are able to provide appropriate assistance, advice, and guidance to other Other (number of persons with identified qualities) 3 6 15 2016
Conservation Outcome(s) Conservation Indicator Metric(s) Baseline Metric Value Metric Value at Grant Completion Long-term Goal Metric Value Year in which Long Term Metric Value is Anticipated	Stronger foundation of enforcement skills and knowledge of how to reduce conservation law violations Other (other measurement required) 0 0 0 0
Conservation Outcome(s) Conservation Indicator Metric(s) Baseline Metric Value Metric Value at Grant Completion Long-term Goal Metric Value Year in which Long Term Metric Value is Anticipated	Greater communication, cooperation, collaboration, and camaraderie among law enforcement staff, programs, and divisions responsible for the enforcem Other (other measurement required) 0 0 0 0
Conservation Outcome(s) Conservation Indicator Metric(s) Baseline Metric Value Metric Value at Grant Completion Long-term Goal Metric Value Year in which Long Term Metric Value is Anticipated	Greater understanding of law enforcement and compliance needs related to coral reef conservation and management within individual jurisdictions and Other (other measurement required) 0 0 0 0

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Final Programmatic Report Narrative

1. Summary of Accomplishments

In four to five sentences, provide a brief summary of the project's key accomplishments and outcomes that were observed or measured.

The project was composed of two capacity building components in the area of enforcement and socio-economic monitoring.

From June 2012 until December 2013, project activities were undertaken within three Micronesian Jurisdictions (Palau, Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands) to support on-going conservation enforcement capacity-building activities within the region. The project provided follow-on training and capacity building to conservation law enforcement departments or management programs across the region. Key accomplishments include: strengthening of conservation law enforcement networks; development of standard operating procedures and compliance and enforcement plans for programs; highlighting of shark awareness conservation and enforcement issues; improvement of communication with remote atoll locations; and capacity building through targeted training, site-visits, and skill and lesson sharing. All activities were coordinated with NOAA's Pacific Island Managed and Protected Area Community (PIMPAC) and implementing NGO or government agency partners in support of the Micronesia Challenge conservation goals.

Under the socio-economic monitoring component, effective training and socioeconomic data compilation were undertaken. The following documentation were produced and have all been uploaded onto the NFWF website:

- *An Overview of Sem-Pasifika assessments in Micronesia*: bibliographical compilation of the socioeconomic monitoring assessments conducted in the Micronesian region to date together.
- *Socioeconomic Monitoring Guidelines for Coastal Managers in Pacific Island Countries (SEM-Pasifika)*: Training and Assessment Report for Kosrae on the SEM-Pasifika set of community-based socioeconomic monitoring guidelines.
- *Sem-Pasifika Socioeconomic Survey: Metipw Community Madolenihmw, Pohnpei*: Training and Assessment Report for Pohnpei on the SEM-Pasifika set of community-based socioeconomic monitoring guidelines.
- *Indicators for Monitoring Social Impacts of the Micronesia Challenge: An Addendum to Socioeconomic Monitoring Guidelines for Coastal Managers in Pacific Island Countries (SEM-Pasifika)*: intended for resource managers, communities, and others working to implement the Micronesia Challenge within their jurisdiction and interested in understanding the progress of MC in improving human wellbeing.
- *Micronesia Challenge 1st Socioeconomic Measures Workshop Report*: on the identified common set of socioeconomic indicators for each Micronesia Challenge jurisdiction.

2. Project Activities & Outcomes

Activities

- Describe the primary activities conducted during this grant and explain any discrepancies between the activities conducted from those that were proposed.

Outcomes

- Describe progress towards achieving the project outcomes as proposed, and briefly explain any discrepancies between your results compared to what was anticipated.
- Provide any further information (such as unexpected outcomes) important for understanding project activities and outcome results.

A) Palau Sub-Project:

The sub-project's objectives were to:

- Complete essential compliance and enforcement plans for as many State-level programs as possible.
- Generate a standard set of Standard Operating Procedures, which State-level programs can then customize to their needs.
- Introduce and train individuals in aspects of shark conservation awareness, identification, and enforcement, as part of a developing conservation compliance and law enforcement framework.
- Assist State-level programs implement components of their compliance and enforcement plans over a set period of time and document and report on this collective progress made over this time.
- Share lessons and best practices learned across network.

Activities

- During this grant period, as we started to implement the project objectives it became clear the priority needs were to work with the communities throughout Palau to establish a strong network for sharing lessons of what works, identifying challenges to effective management, and prioritizing areas for improvement. To immediately support this, it was also clear that we should not focus much on the development or further refinement of compliance and enforcement plans, but more on standard operating procedures (SOPs). At a training in November 2013, we revised the first draft of SOPs that was worked on with examples from Guam. The review of the first draft was facilitated by our enforcement expert Sgt. Mark Aguon from the Guam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources (DAWR). We note here that during the week of the training, Palau was hit by Super Typhoon Haiyan that cancelled three days of the training. The training was rescheduled and conducted in January 2014. We plan to focus more on compliance and enforcement plans and as well as operational plans in 2014. We also note that once SOPs become finalized, our next steps would be to work with each program and community to further develop their compliance and enforcement plans that meet these standards.
- During this grant period, we conducted two nation-wide conservation enforcement trainings that included shark biology and conservation as key learning objectives. For the first training in October 2012, we invited Ms. Tova Harel Bornovski of the Micronesia Sharks Foundation to be a presenter. She presented on the ecological importance of sharks, their economic value with examples from Palau, and their global, regional, and national threats. She also shared information on characteristics of the different species found locally so that officers can identify the different types. At this training we were able to familiarize the officers by review the national laws on sharks. In November 2013, we conducted another conservation enforcement training focusing on SOP with shark enforcement included as a key component. In attendance were ten officers from the national police attended with three from the Division of Fish and Wildlife. Unfortunately due to scheduling no officers from the National Division Marine Law Enforcement, which enforces shark laws within the Palau's EEZ, were able to participate. The November 2013 training also focused on Palau's shark law with greater emphasis on the use of informants, probable cause, due process, evidence collection and handling, officer safety, and vessel boarding. A shark video produced by the PEW Charitable Trust was used in this training to help share the importance and role of sharks in our ocean ecosystems. Additionally, these trainings often concluded with a scenario at the end for the participants to practice skills learned over the week-long training. For the November 2013 and follow-on January 2014 trainings, final scenarios featured a shark violator bringing in catch to sell. This allows the officers to realistically practice their skills in identifying shark violations and enforcing shark laws within the Republic of Palau.
- During this grant period, the network of officers in Palau known as the Alliance of Palau Conservation Officers (APCO) had two large nation-wide meetings and over five Board of Directors meetings. Also during this grant period, the members presented the APCO concept to the Governors Association of Palau and received the governors' full endorsement for the program through a resolution. So far the Alliance has conducted site-level learning exchanges with the communities in states of Hatohobei, Ngarchelong, Ngiwal, and Koror State. These learning exchanges are designed to improve the officers' knowledge of other communities' protected areas and their natural resource rules, to increase community outreach, and to collaborate through joint patrols and educational tours of each state's protected areas. Additionally, these learning exchanges served as an opportunity for officers to share meaningful skills, experiences, and input on how to improve their operations.
- We learned that each state government's conservation program is at different levels: some programs are just starting and others are more advanced. The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. All intellectual property associated with the project is available upon request. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

and level of assistance provided. The site visits helped us bridge people and accelerate learning and growth of newly established state programs. It was discovered that during the sharing that many communities weren't really ready. Some may not have had leadership support, some lacked basic skills and capacity. Still others lacked institutional structure, while some had little budget to support conservation enforcement.

- In October 2013, the Helen Reef Resource Management Program held their annual biological monitoring and invited members of the Alliance to participate as part of our site exchange program. The officers from different states included Kayangel, Koror, Airai, Ngchesar, Ngarchelong and Sonsorol. At this exchange visit, the participating states expressed their appreciation concerning the importance of officers to be involved in the resource monitoring so as to better understand what they are protecting and how they can explain the impact of their work to the community.

Outcomes

- Increased standardization of protocols and opportunities for effective collaboration for Palau conservation officers through the development of a foundational nation-wide SOP applicable in Palau's 16 states.
- Greater technical skills and knowledge of conservation and public safety officers through two nation-wide trainings on marine conservation law enforcement, which included a total of 74 participants.
- Improved capacity in fundamental law enforcement skills through targeted trainings in report writing (10 participants), communications and outreach training (10 participants), and First Aid and CPR (14 participants).

B) Rongelap Atoll, RMI Sub-Project

The sub-project's objectives were to:

- Complete essential compliance and enforcement documents for the Rongelap Atoll Local Government, including a compliance and enforcement plan, a basic set of Standard Operating Procedures, and an introductory training and orientation guide for staff.
- Demonstrate and share the compliance and enforcement framework and training approaches taught in earlier workshops in Micronesia with RMI practitioners, programs, and institutions.
- Introduce and train individuals in aspects of shark conservation awareness, identification, and enforcement, as part of a developing conservation compliance and law enforcement framework.
- Implement components of the Rongelap compliance and enforcement plan over a set period of time and document and report on progress made by the Rongelap Marine Resource Management Program over this time.

Activities

- During this grant period, we worked with members of the Rongelap community and local government staff to review their compliance and enforcement needs for their jurisdiction and government assets. This process resulted in a draft compliance and enforcement plan. Individual SOPs were not developed for the program at this stage because of the additional consultation was required. However, the project was able to share and explain the importance step by step of a sample SOP document as part of the College of the Marshall Islands (CMI) Summer Resource Management Training Certificate Program. We envision a follow up visit with Rongelap Local Government staff to review which areas of the sample SOP would be applicable for their jurisdiction and program. This will likely result in further efforts to develop draft SOPs relevant for consideration, review, and potential endorsement. We hope to work with the Rongelap community in 2014 and beyond to start to implement their compliance and enforcement plan.
- From August 19-23, 2013, the project coordinated and conducted a nation-wide conservation enforcement workshop for the Republic of the Marshall Islands. To help address some of these issues, 28 residents from outer atolls came together in Majuro to learn new skills and approaches to help improve the compliance and enforcement of natural resource laws within coastal areas of the Republic. The week-long session, entitled "Community Marine Protected Area (MPA) Compliance and Enforcement Training", introduced participants to simple but effective ways to improve the enforcement of fisheries, Marine Protected Areas, and other natural resource rules and regulations for their atolls. Throughout the course, which is part of the College of the Marshall Islands' (CMI) Summer Resource Management Training Certificate Program, natural resource law enforcement instructors from Guam and Palau provided specialized training for outer island communities

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- The training was designed to help local conservation officers, municipal police, and managers effectively communicate resource management rules and regulations to communities, as well as document and safely address suspected violations. Participants received intensive, hands-on training in subjects such as reporting writing, public education and outreach, handcuffing, baton use, small vessel boarding, and the development of enforcement plans for their area. The class practiced these skills daily, through classroom instruction and drills. The training ended with more exercise drills and a realistic outdoor scenario. Government speakers at the ceremony indicated how these trainings and subsequent capacity building activities would help the Marshall Islands meet local and national resource management objectives. These are also important contributions to the achievement of Micronesia Challenge conservation goals.
- At the August 2013 training, recently passed shark conservation regulations of the Marshall Islands were reviewed by the trainers and participants. Shark awareness videos developed by Pew Charitable Trust were shown which highlighted the ecological importance of sharks, their economic value with examples from the Marshall Islands, and global, regional, and national threats. The training, facilitated by an instructor from the Guam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources, focused on the use of information from informants, probable cause, due process, evidence collection and handling, officer safety, and vessel boarding. The training concluded with a scenario exercise that centered on the selling of shark fins for the participants to practice some of the skills that they have learned over the week. This type of exercise allows the officers to realistically practice their skills in enforcing shark conservation and other natural resource laws.

Outcomes

- A growing network of resource managers and community conservation officers well-versed and increasingly skilled in natural resource regulation, compliance, and enforcement.
- Increasing awareness of conservation capacity skills, needs, and solutions through the development of compliance and enforcement plans, including a draft plan for the Rongelap Atoll Local Government.

C) Pohnpei State Division of Fish and Wildlife Sub-Project

The sub-project's objectives were to:

- Enhance the institutional and operational capacity of the Pohnpei Division of Fish and Wildlife through the provisioning of training, technical assistance, facilitation, and implementation support.
- Develop and complete a Compliance and Enforcement Plan for the Pohnpei State Public Safety Division of Fish and Wildlife.
- Initiate or refine a basic set of Standard Operating Procedures that allow the Division to execute activities in a standard and safe manner.
- Pilot and test new skills, policies and procedures during a 14-month implementation phase.

Activities

- Over the project period beginning in June 2012, staff of the Pohnpei State Police and Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) received basic marine protected area law enforcement training, coordinated through NOAA's PIMPAC program and provided by members of the Guam Department of Agriculture's Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources. Additionally, technical assistance was provided remotely to DFW staff over this period through email, Skype, and phone communications and as well as in-person visits. Needs assessments, planning activities, and schedule development were facilitated by technical advisors associated with the project, including staff of the Conservation Society of Pohnpei, Michael Guilbeaux, and Wayne Andrew.
- A review of the pending strategic plan was completed in place of the development of a compliance and enforcement plan for the Division. During the process, DFW leadership indicated that they were more interested in an "operations plan" to support the on-the-ground implementation of the strategic plan, but due to the fact that the pending strategic plan remained in draft, the operations plan was not initiated. In the future DFW will request assistance to complete an operational plan while the strategic plan is being completed by Conservation Society of Pohnpei and TNC technical partners.
- Suggested topics and specific content for the development SOPs for Pohnpei DFW were provided at the training events lead by Conservation Officers from the Guam DARW. The Division took this advice on board and together with advisors assisted as a first step with the collaborative development of SOPs for coastal communities. These SOPs will assist coastal communities in providing information, initial response, written

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Lands and Natural Resources and DFW were developed to support this promising relationship and collaborative support between communities and government agencies.

- The Division was able to learn and pilot new skills and approaches to pursuing their work. These include increased randomization of market checks, new surveillance patterns, greater focus on officer safety, initiating a physical fitness improvement and maintenance program for staff, determining requirements for more regular Internet communications at the main office, as well as implementing strategic and tactical skills learned during training sessions (see uploaded files for additional information). Supplies and materials used to execute many of these new activities were provided through the NFWF support.

Outcomes

- Greater cooperation and coordination with communities and government and NGO partners
- Increased technical skills to undertake their responsibilities more effectively and safely
- Increased recognition of the need for on-going Division training and capacity building

D) FSM National Police Maritime Wing Sub-Project

The sub-project's objectives were to:

- Make available and/or upgrade necessary equipment and supplies necessary for detection and communication of illegal fishing activities in remote locations within the FSM.
- Provide appropriate guidance and training to as many outlying communities as possible in: 1) equipment operation and maintenance skills, and 2) best practices in how to identify, record, and report suspected fisheries violations directly to the FSM.
- Document the utility and cost-effectiveness of the Coastwatch approach.

Activities

- Funding in the amount of US\$5050 from the Australian Government to the FSM National Police Maritime Enforcement Wing was matched with funding from NFWF to enable outreach activities and enhance communications and reporting capability in a number of FSM's outer-island communities. Funds from the NFWF grant were used to upgrade and expand commonly-used SSB HF radio equipment in outer-island communities that could be used to report suspected fishing violations potentially harmful to coral reefs. Three (3) SSB HF radio systems were purchased to replace existing communication capabilities at remote atolls. To date, two (2) radio systems have been installed at Satawal and Uripik Atolls in Yap State. The HF radio for Uripik arrived right after Typhoon Haiyan passed and was instrumental in restoring communications to the Atoll as the existing radio had broken down during the typhoon. The third radio is expected to be delivered and installed at Kapingamarangi in early May.
- When and where possible the Marine Enforcement Wing assisted with the installation and testing of equipment to ensure it was in working order by the time of departure. Residents were provided with basic instructions in how to operate and maintain the radios.
- As part of their Coastwatch Program, the FSM National Police Marine Enforcement Wing also provided residents with basic information on how to respond to individual or public health concerns, disaster relief, or the presence of unauthorized vessels in the area. The FSM National Police Maritime Wing has been proactive in the deployment of supplies and materials to outer-island communities, which included posters, logbooks, cameras, and binoculars. Survival-at-sea kits and instruction on reporting suspicious fishing vessel activities were provided to atoll residents.

Outcomes

- Improved communications with two (2) remote atolls in Yap State, FSM.
- Greater understanding of two (2) outlying island communities of the importance of, and mechanism for, reporting suspicious vessel activity to the FSM National Police, safety-at-sea practices, and disaster response protocols.

E) Progress Measures And Conservation Indicators

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<p>1. Conservation Activities: Offering training, technical assistance, or related support.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of participants who gain enforcement knowledge and enhanced skills</p>	<p>Predicted Value at Grant Completion: 50</p> <p>Estimated Value at Grant Completion: 201</p> <p>Pohnpei DFW: June 2012: 25 DFW staff, Public Safety Staff, and community members Sept 2013: 73 DFW staff, Public Safety Staff, and community members</p> <p>FSM National Police: Community Radio Operators: 3</p> <p>RMI: 25</p> <p>Palau: ~100</p>
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<p>2. Conservation Activities: Assessing Individual or Program Enforcement Needs.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of individual/program training needs assessments and training plans initiated and/or completed.</p>	<p>Predicted Value at Grant Completion: 30</p> <p>Value (approx.) at Grant Completion: 35. Needs assessment (collective and/or individual) were completed, initiated, or updated for approximately 17 Marshallese communities, 16 Palau State Enforcement Programs, the Pohnpei Division of Fish and Wildlife and 1 Pohnpei coastal community.</p>
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<p>3. Conservation Activities: Direct support, training and facilitation in completing Compliance and Enforcement Plans.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of site/program/unit enforcement plans completed and (at least partially) implemented</p>	<p>Predicted Value at Grant Completion: 20</p> <p>Value at Grant Completion: 1 completed, with others (approx. 4) initiated.</p>
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<p>4. Conservation Activities: Direct support, training and facilitation in completing SOPs.</p> <p>Progress Measures: Number of site/program/unit standard operating procedures revised, finalized and/or implemented.</p>	<p>Predicted Value at Grant Completion: 10</p> <p>Value at Grant Completion: 24. SOPs were initiated for 16 Palau States and approximately 8 Pohnpeian coastal communities.</p>
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<p>5. Conservation Outcome(s): Growing number of informed, skilled conservation officers and trainers who are able to provide appropriate assistance, advice, and guidance to other officers.</p> <p>Conservation Indicator Metric(s) Other (number of persons with identified qualities).</p>	<p>Baseline Metric Value: 3</p> <p>Metric Value at Grant Completion: 6</p> <p>Long-term Goal Metric Value: 15</p> <p>Year in which Long Term Metric Value is Anticipated: 2016</p> <p>At the conclusion of this grant, there are a growing number of conservation officers who can provide sound appropriate advice to others, and are doing so because of the networks established and strengthened by this project and associated programs. While the actual number of officers that are</p>
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	<p>providing sound guidance and advice to others is difficult to estimate, those familiar with the program identify the fact that there is now a forum for learning and sharing of experiences that has dramatically increased the amount and potential of officers providing advice and guidance to others. This is especially the case in Palau and Pohnpei where conservation officer networks, both formal and community-based, have been established.</p>
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<p>6. Conservation Outcome(s): Stronger foundation of enforcement skills and knowledge of how to reduce conservation law violations. Conservation Indicator Metric(s): Other (other measurement required).</p>	<p>Conservation law enforcement departments, programs, and communities participating in this project and associated programs are learning approaches on how to proactively and respectfully communicate and share information with the public in order to encourage compliance. Participating officers also learned more about the laws and regulations applicable in their jurisdictions as well as those of others, and are also exposed to new and in-depth information on the purpose and importance of natural resource regulations and approaches. This contributes to a greater ability to share and communicate this information with the public. The same entities and groups are learning how to conduct better surveillance, record keeping, report writing, and evidence handling and processing that can lead to more successful prosecution of cases, increasing deterrence of violations.</p>
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<p>7. Conservation Outcome(s): Greater communication, cooperation, collaboration, and camaraderie among law enforcement staff, programs, and divisions responsible for the enforcement. Conservation Indicator Metric(s) Other (other measurement required).</p>	<p>As with the indicator above, this outcome is difficult to measure within the means of this project. However, there exists very tangible evidence on the increase in communication, cooperation and collaboration among agencies and individuals participating in these young networks. In Palau, for example, officers who have shared information about new MPAs within their jurisdiction are now receiving reports and information from cooperating officers from other jurisdictions. In Pohnpei, communities with good experience in observation, recordkeeping and report writing are being asked by other communities to share their skills and approaches with their community program.</p>
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<p>8. Conservation Outcome(s): Greater understanding of law enforcement and compliance needs related to coral reef conservation and management within individual jurisdictions and programs. Conservation Indicator Metric(s): Other (other measurement required)</p>	<p>Conservation officers and trainers, through participation in this project and other associated programs, learned a great deal about the law enforcement and compliance needs within the region. Each jurisdiction has its unique set of conditions and needs – and trainers, facilitators, and conservation officers, and supporting community members all take part in assessing needs and practical steps for addressing those needs. Resulting needs are communicated with local or regional partners after they are incorporated into individual, program and/or network workplans. This understanding often translates into more relevant and targeted trainings and engagements that are more beneficial and produce greater impact for participants.</p>
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Socioeconomic Monitoring:

The activities and outcomes under this component can be read in the listed reports, mentioned above.

3. Lessons Learned

Describe the key lessons learned from this project, such as the least and most effective conservation practices or notable aspects of the project's methods, monitoring, or results. How could other conservation organizations adapt similar strategies to build upon some of these key lessons about what worked best and what did not?

There has been tremendous learning throughout the activities of the project, under both the enforcement and socioeconomic monitoring components. To highlight this, below are examples regarding the importance of networking, SOP and partnership development, and capacity building.

Enforcement:

Networking among officers and program has proven to be a valuable strategy in addressing lack of resources and capacity needs across a jurisdiction.

- During gatherings of Palau Alliance members, we found is that there is strong interest from conservation officers to come together, share their experiences, and help one another. The sharing by Alliance members has directly and indirectly helped other members. Just by knowing that other officers have similar problems and have been able to overcome them helps increase self-confidence. This lessens the burden of an individual officer or program finding a solution to their challenges by themselves because of the pool of experience shared by others. This sharing also inspires to overcome their own challenges.
- Networking and elevating the profile of individual programs also includes benefits of motivating government leadership support, and more efficiently identifying, prioritizing, and coordinating trainings. This includes mentorship amongst the members with a tremendous wealth of technical knowledge within group who can help others.
- Networking can increase tangible collaboration among programs. For example, at enforcement workshops and site exchanges with the Koror State Rangers protected area boundaries and rules are shared. Two weeks later, an officer from another state, who was at the workshop and site exchange, saw a individual fishing in a nearby Koror State MPA, and he immediately contacted the Koror State Rangers Office which immediately dispatched a team to the site. The individual was then apprehended for violating the rules of the MPA. This example shows how officers can coordinate and increase overall enforcement coverage by connecting the right people with right information to help deter or apprehend a violator.

We have learned that each island jurisdiction in Micronesia has different government and community roles in resource management. And because of this, we have had to be mindful of these contexts and arrangements to be flexible enough to develop sound and appropriate mechanisms that can strengthen collaboration between partners.

- An example in Pohnpei State of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) is that the responsibility for management of marine areas and resources lies with the state government. The government generally lacks the resources and capacity to fully carry out this responsibility and has recognized that communities can be an integral part of effective management. During this project, we recognized the need to bridge this gap and developed a set of standard operation procedures for communities to help provide reliable information and support to government enforcement agencies. Additionally a Memorandum of Understanding between the State Government and communities is hoped to lead to better co-manage State-legislated protected areas. It was identified that the communities themselves contribute much to the overfishing and a solution was to empower them to take more responsibility in the management for their future. Although we started this project with the focus of building the capacity of the State Officers, we were able to adapt and balance our approach to focus on an area where we can have the most impact.

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Capacity building in effective conservation enforcement remains a priority for the Micronesia region today and will continue to be into the future. This is one of the lessons we learned in implementing this project and is true in Palau, Pohnpei, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Although communities and governments have made great strides in establishing protected areas and enacting resource rules, communities and government agencies responsible for enforcing these rules continue to lack basic financial support, institutional organization, and skills to do effective enforcement.

- In the Marshall Islands, we learned that the remoteness of these communities magnify this challenge more. In such a location, to simply train community conservation officers in basic enforcement skill requires timing, coordination huge financial support. The training we conducted was in partnership with the College of the Marshall Islands training program. The program is designed for resource managers from remote atolls to come together in the capitol (Majuro) in the summer to learn different topics. Across Micronesia this continues to be a big challenge due to remoteness of sites and limited amount of resources compounded by the lack of reliable of outer-island transportation. In implementing this training, we worked with the College of the Marshall Islands to synergize with other programs and training opportunities to make it work.

Socioeconomic Monitoring:

While the first socioeconomic monitoring trainings for Pohnpei and Kosrae were made possible under this grant, the trainings present the very first steps on a long road to a longer term monitoring agenda for the Micronesian region. Current socio-economic monitoring efforts are sporadic, under-resourced and without a strategic framework for action. In recognizing the urgency of correcting the current situation, the Micronesia Conservation Trust has applied to progress socioeconomic monitoring efforts in the next round of NFWF grants.

4. Dissemination

Briefly identify any dissemination of project results and/or lessons learned to external audiences, such as the public or other conservation organizations. Specifically outline any management uptake and/or actions resulting from the project and describe the direct impacts of any capacity building activities.

Under the enforcement component, dissemination of project results and lessons varied by location. Participation and activities of training events were recorded and summaries of outcomes were publicized in press releases in each of the jurisdictions (see uploaded files). Concluding ceremonies were often held with government and community leaders to share the outcomes and on-going needs and priorities of each and collective conservation enforcement program. In many cases this familiarity, understanding, and connection with the conservation program's needs has lead to official support and/or recognition in some way, as in the Governors Association of Palau recognition of the APCO or the MOUs that have been suggested for community-government collaboration and co-management in Pohnpei.

Under the socioeconomic monitoring component, copies of project documentation has been distributed amongst workshop participants, site managers and other interested partners. All have also been made accessible via the PIMPAC website.

5. Project Documents

Include in your final programmatic report, via the Uploads section of this task, the following:

- 2-10 representative photos from the project. Photos need to have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi;
- Report publications, Power Point (or other) presentations, GIS data, brochures, videos, outreach tools, press releases, media coverage;
- Any project deliverables per the terms of your grant agreement.

POSTING OF FINAL REPORT: *This report and attached project documents may be shared by the Foundation and any Funding Source for the Project via their respective websites. In the event that the Recipient intends to claim that its final report or project documents contains material that does not have to be posted on such websites because it is protected from disclosure by statutory or regulatory provisions, the Recipient shall clearly mark all such potentially protected materials as "PROTECTED" and provide an explanation and complete citation to the statutory or regulatory source for such protection.*

The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as representing the opinions or policies of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Additional materials associated with the project may be available upon request. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute their endorsement by the

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