

Detailed Plan for Kousapw Palikir Community Group's - *Eradication of Crown of Thorns Starfish from the Palikir Reefs Project*

With the announcement of our grant being successfully funded, the follow is a more detailed list of the steps we will be taking to complete this project. We note that we are about 1 month behind compared to our schedule that we submitted with our application, but since the funding is just coming through this week, we can now provide more accurate dates for our events to happen.

It begins with education

The project will begin with an educational awareness workshop provided by the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP). On Sunday 14 October 2012 at 1:00pm. Members of the Conservation Society of Pohnpei, led by Mr Kesdy Rae Ladore, the Marine Education Coordinator, will provide a 2.5 hour session on coral reefs; the importance of them, how to keep them healthy, and specifically, threats to their health, including the Crown the Thorns Starfish. They will also schedule the first two eradication outings with the community group at this event and provide a brief overview of what the eradication outings will look like. Our community will select the first batch of volunteers to go out on the boats during the first and second outings, reserving spots for youth and women that want to join.

Purchase of equipment

At the educational workshop, we will review our list of intended items to be purchased for the grant with the conservation experts from CSP. They will indicate if anything is missing that the group will need to purchase separately. The following week (15-19 October) the Project Coordinator, Mr Rustom Hadley, will go to the bank with our Treasurer, Mr Wagner David, and retrieve the portion of the funds that have been wired to our bank account for equipment purchase. They will proceed to purchase the equipment listed on our grant proposal, keeping receipts and records of price differences from our quote. Once the equipment is purchased, we will notify the GBRMPA of the accuracy of our purchases versus our pro forma list. Remaining funds will be used for fuel for the eradication outings as per our grant application

Securing and Storing of equipment

Our community group will identify a safe and secure storage area for all equipment purchased with this grant. Mr Rustom Hadley will be responsible for the management and usage of the equipment. This facility will be identified by 14 October 2012.

First and Second outings

Within 2-3 weeks of the educational meeting we will schedule the first eradication outing. (28 October – 4 November 2012) We will utilize 2 boats to take between 12-16 people on each outing. Utilizing the equipment purchased and the expertise of the people from CSP, we will train up to 30 people from our community group on the safe and successful eradication and disposal of the COTS from the Palikir reef system. In addition, we will learn how to do a survey of our reef system so that we can calculate

the density of COTS in order to signal when future outbreaks occur and eradication outings will be necessary. We will make sure we follow local safety regulations and have a first aid kit on each boat. Gas will be purchased using grant funds and receipts will be kept for the acquittal.

Further outings

Each group that is trained will do a follow up eradication outing to further concentrate their training and abilities to successfully survey and conduct an eradication of COTS on the Palikir reef system. These will be done within two months of their first outing. (28 December 2012– 4 January 2013)

6 month follow up

After 6 months from the last COTS eradication outing, the community group will return to the reefs to hold a survey of COTS. The outcome of this survey will be published in our local newspaper, the Kaselehlie Press, and a determination will be done to see if another round of eradication measures will be necessary. (Done by 4 July 2012)

Progress tracking

The GBRMPA will provide templates for reporting on our project activities. This information will be provided as per our Deed, within appropriate timeframes. Mr Patrick Blank, Program Coordinator for KPCG, will be responsible for transmitting these documents. We believe we can continue to meet these dates:

Progress Report 1 15.12.2012

Progress Report 2 30.04.2013

Final reporting

A final report will be drafted including all acquittal documents and media releases generated by this project. Due date for this will be:

Final Report 30.08.2013