Fish Eye staff build ocean stewardship

Fish Eye Marine Park has become the first business to join the GCCRMP. The Fish Eye management team understands the importance of protecting Guam’s coral reefs, so that businesses like theirs can continue to showcase one of Guam’s most unique natural features. This lively group was able to explore different parts of our coral reef ecosystem in Piti Bomb Holes Marine Preserve! Now, they can enjoy their workplace even more as ocean stewards. And it doesn’t stop there! Trained staff can also share their knowledge and experiences of Guam’s reefs with the island’s visitors as well as their family and friends here on Guam.

We hope this encourages other businesses in Guam’s tourism industry to engage in reef conservation and help raise awareness among their staff and island visitors. Without healthy coral reefs and other beautiful natural resources, Guam’s tourism industry cannot thrive. See more fun photos from this group at our website.

McCool School adopts Gab Gab Beach

The Guam Community Coral Reef Monitoring Program (GCCRMP) partnered with McCool School, a DODEA school located on Guam’s Naval Base, to adopt Gab Gab Beach. Trained McCool elementary and middle school students will collect data on Gab Gab Beach as part of their school community project. Debora Moore, a teacher at McCool, is coordinating this team effort that has students and their parents working together.

During the first In-Water Training session in April, thirteen McCool students participated along with their parents. Students and parents worked together to complete monitoring surveys students learned during their Class Training at McCool. Families came across some sea cucumbers, a spider conch, and even some Picasso triggerfish. In addition to collecting data, students will input data on their own database so they could analyze data in the classroom with guidance from their teachers.

This is a new way STEM (Science Technology Engineering Math) activities can be introduced into Guam classrooms! Connecting STEM curriculum to our island’s marine environment is a wonderful way to interest students to explore (and maybe pursue) marine science careers, while building their appreciation for Guam’s coral reef ecosystems. After all, it’s important to help students connect what they’re learning in school to the real world. GCCRMP will continue working with McCool students to explore and understand areas they will monitor on Gab Gab Beach.
Calling All Students: Explore the Blue Horizon

Summer is coming up soon! And there are some unique opportunities for students to explore Guam’s environment, on land and in the water! In June, the Reef Rangers Summer Camp will be hosted by War in the Pacific Historic Parks and partners. Reef Rangers Conservation Corps is open to rising 9th and 10th graders interested in gaining leadership and safety training while exploring marine life in Asan Park. Reef Ranger Summer Camp sessions are looking for rising 5th and 6th graders to do exciting activities to appreciate and see the benefits of Guam’s coral reefs and other natural resources in Asan Park. Email reefrangers@pacifichistoricparks.org or call 482-1234 for details on how to register; space is limited.

The University of Guam’s Sea Grant Program will offer a two-week Gateway to Marine Science course to high school seniors graduating in 2015. During the course, students will spend some time in the classroom, but can look forward to daily adventures in the field. The course will be taught by a team of UOG faculty and natural resource agency experts to share their knowledge of Guam’s unique environmental features and ecosystems as well as different impacts that affect them. The Gateway to Marine Science course will take place in mid-June. This course will be the first of its kind, so apply to be one of the first to take it! Application deadline is May 20th. Contact Marie Auyong at 735-2143 or email marie.uogseagrant@gmail.com for details.

But wait, there’s more! GCCRMP is looking for two summer volunteer interns to work with the program in July. We’re looking for individuals that are 16 years or older and passionate about protecting Guam’s coral reefs! We encourage you to apply if you enjoy teaching others about Guam’s coral reefs or interested in pursuing marine science careers. Interns will help with training sessions and monitoring events, share the program with the rest of the community, and help out at other outreach events to promote ocean stewardship among our community! If you enjoy getting in the water and working with people, then apply today by sending us an email at gureefmonitoring@gmail.com.

Photos by GCCRMP Members!

Summer opportunities can help you become a better steward of our island’s marine environment.

Upcoming Events

Classroom Training
May 13, 2015 from 4:00 – 6:00 PM
NOAA Fisheries Office, Tiyan
**Sign up for training online at our website**

In-Water Training
May 16, 2015 from 8:30 – 10:30 AM
Tepungan Beach Park, Piti

Science Sunday
May 31, 2015 at 2:00 PM
T. Stell Newman Visitor Center

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Si Yu’os Ma’ase to our Partners!

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