

# MPA Update: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands



Farallon de Pajaros

Maug

Asuncion

Agrihan

Pagan

Alamagan

Guguan

Sarigan

Anatahan

Farallon de Medinilla

Saipan  
Tinian  
Aguijan

Rota

# CNMI MPAs

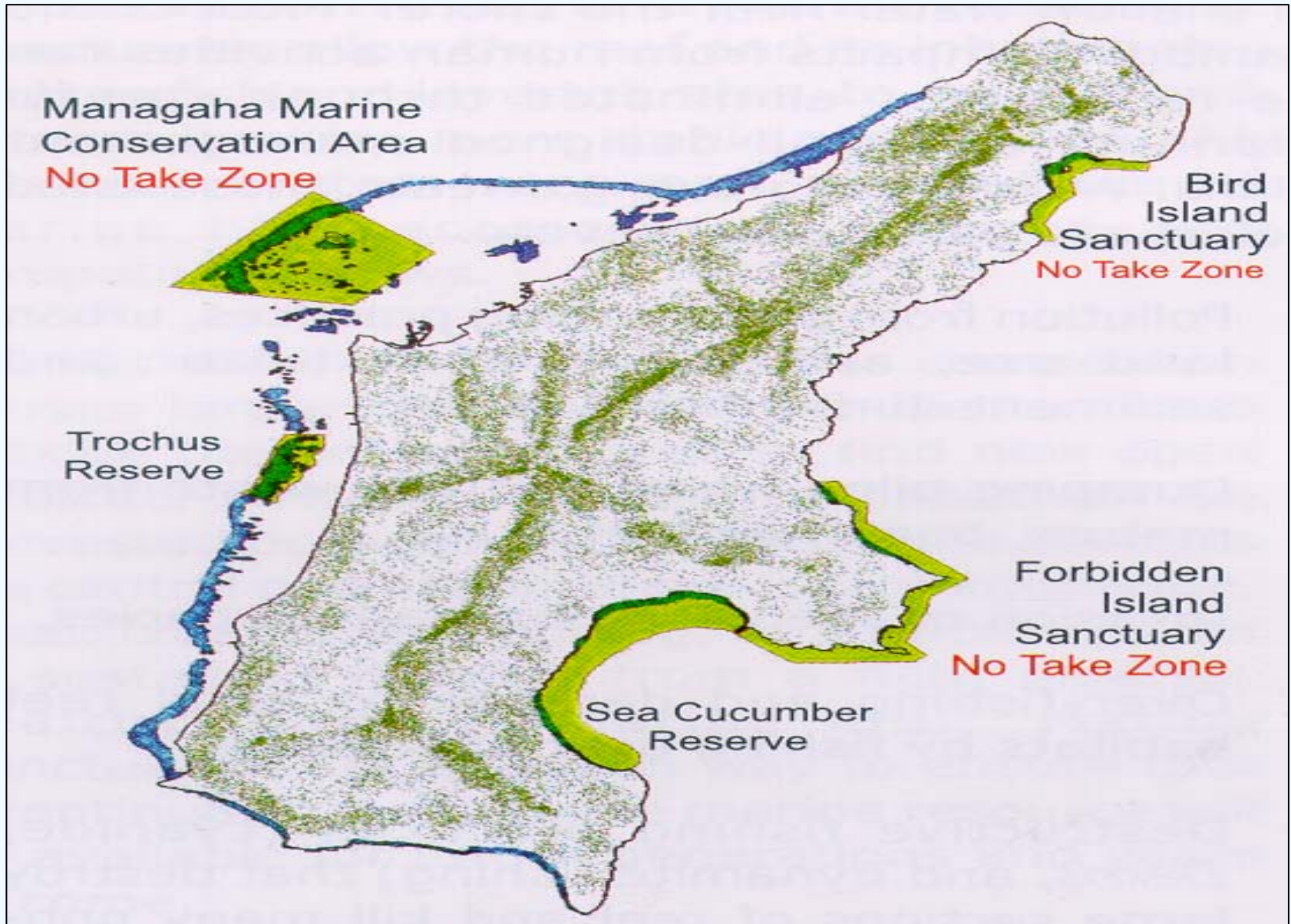
4 existing no-take  
MPAs

2 existing single  
species MPAs

4 proposed no-take  
areas



# MPAs on Saipan



# MPAs on Rota



Sasanhaya  
Reserve



# Current Status

- Of 6 existing sites
  - 1 site has management plan
  - 1 site has regulations (in draft)
- Dedicated MPA staff
  - 1 MPA Coordinator
  - 1 MPA Community Liaison (new hire)
  - 3 Marine Enforcement Officers



# Achievements/Opportunities

- Boundary identification/demarcation
- Educational signage
- Development of first MPA regulations
- MPA Needs Assessment
- Representative MPA Network Project (Rota)



# Challenges

- Enforcement, enforcement, enforcement!
  - Leadership and training
  - Strategic, not opportunistic, enforcement
  - Enforcement Effectiveness
  - Lack political will to get serious about enforcement and fines
- Need to ID gaps in protection
  - What is not currently protected by our MPA network?

