

An aerial photograph of a coastline, likely in the Mariana Islands. The land is covered in dense green vegetation, with some areas appearing more open or cleared. The coastline is rugged and rocky, meeting a deep blue ocean. The water near the shore is a lighter, turquoise color, indicating shallow depths. The overall scene is a mix of natural beauty and agricultural or developed land.

NRCS Programs in the Mariana Islands

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United States Department of Agriculture (U.S.D.A.)

- The Agency
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly SCS
- Created in 1935 in response to the Dust Bowl crisis
- Non-regulatory--NRCS works with landowners on a voluntary basis

NRCS is not a regulatory agency

- Provide technical assistance in...
 - Natural Resource Planning
 - Design & Engineering
 - Implementation of techniques used to reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and protect natural resources

NRCS Customers ...

- Farmers & Ranchers
- Local units of government
- Community groups
- Watershed Planning groups
- ALL Private landowners who need natural resource help!

NRCS Programs Address ...

- Conservation needs on the farm
- Community stormwater management issues
- Erosion and sediment control
- Water quality problems--rural & urban
- Flood prevention and damage repair
- Soil health & soil quality
- Wetland creation & restoration

Conservation Partners



Local SWCDs

- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Composed of locally elected volunteers
- NRCS works hand-in-hand with SWCDs to address local conservation issues

NRCS Technical Specialists...

- Soil Scientists
- Biologists--Wetlands and Wildlife
- Engineers--Civil/ Agricultural/Hydraulic
- Soil Conservationists
- Agronomy & Water Quality Specialists
- Resource Planning Specialists

Our 9-Step Conservation Planning

1. Identify the problem
2. Determine the objectives
3. Inventory the resources
4. Analyze the data
5. Formulate alternatives
6. Evaluate alternatives
7. Make decisions
8. Implement the plan
9. Evaluate



Conservation Practices

Before NRCS Assistance

Exposed Soils in Cropland



After NRCS Assistance

- Residue Management, Strip-Till/No-Till/Direct Seed



Before NRCS Assistance



After NRCS Assistance with:

- Strip-Till/No-Till
- Contour Farming
- Field Border
- Vegetative Row Barrier





GO LOCAL







- Mulching with Composted Materials
- Conservation Cover



Mulching with Vetiver Grass

Mulching



Low Water Crossing/Access Road



Before NRCS Assistance



Animal Waste Management System



Before NRCS Assistance



Animal Waste Management System



Before NRCS Assistance

After NRCS Assistance





Composting Facility



Irrigation Regulating Reservoir





Watering Facility





Watering Facility

Heavy Use Area Protection Pad

A concrete watering facility, which is a rectangular concrete box with a circular opening on top. Inside the opening, there is a black float valve and a hose. A small square hole is visible on the front face of the concrete box. The facility is situated on a sandy ground. In the background, there is a pile of dirt and some green grass.

Watering Facility

Heavy Use Area Protection Pad



Watering Facility

Heavy Use Area Protection Pad

Pasture Before NRCS Assistance











Brush Management

Forage & Biomass Pasture Planting





Forage & Biomass Pasture Planting

Forage & Biomass Pasture Planting





Forage & Biomass Pasture Planting

Forage & Biomass Pasture Planting



After NRCS Assistance















Helping People Help the Land

- Contact your local NRCS office
- Contact your local Soil and Water Conservation District office
- Visit NRCS' homepage at ww.pia.nrcs.usda.gov



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