

# PORT AUTHORITY OF GUAM

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## NEWS RELEASE

### Agat Marina Repairs on the horizon

*WESTPAC grants Port \$250,000 today for overhaul of facility*

**Piti, Guam, November 20, 2012:** The Port Authority of Guam has been given a boost to begin making much-needed repairs to the Agat Marina thanks to a \$250,000 grant award by the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WestPac).

WestPac, which is one of eight regional fishery management countries in the US, was established by Congress in 1976 to manage fisheries in offshore waters around Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, CNMI and the US Pacific remote island areas. Mariquita Taitague of the Guam Department of Agriculture represents the Government of Guam on WestPac and Michael Duenas represents Guam's fishing community.

At a hand-off ceremony held this afternoon at the Port Authority of Guam Board Room, representatives from WestPac presented a check for \$250,000 to the Board of Directors and Management of the Port Authority. As the grantee of this grant from WestPac, the Port will use these funds to make improvements to the Agat Small Boat Marina.

The Agat Small Boat Marina was built by the Army Corps of Engineers in late 1989 to accommodate 163 vessels with shore side facilities for fuel, loading, car and trailer parking. It is one of only two small-boat marinas that support approximately 5,400 boats used by the island's recreational commercial boating communities. Since its completion, there has been no major infusion of capital for improvements at the Agat Marina.

"The revenues generated from the Agat Marina fees have historically been insufficient to support any major improvements, and maintenance and repairs have been nominal over the years," said Port General Manager Mary C. Torres. "The funding is critically needed at our Agat facility and we look forward to upgrading the marina for the safe and convenient use by Guam's small boat owners and marina users in general."

The funding will be used to repair and/or replace existing slips at the southern portion of Dock A with larger boat slips and floats that can accommodate larger and heavier boats and to repair and/or replace existing slips at Dock B.

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