

# Palau Natural Resource Council

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## Strategic Plan of Operations

The council promotes cooperative efforts working with local communities, governments, agencies, NGO's, and others to achieve our goals and to increase public awareness on issues involved in our strategic goals. The strategic plan establishes conditions and trends to target the council's work. The plan describes objectives relating to soil, water, plant, and related resource conservation.

**Vision** – *“People working together to ensure the use and management of Palau’s natural resources is in harmony with the environment and culture.”*

**Mission** – *“The council shall provide leadership for the wise use and sustainable management of Palau’s (land-based) natural resources using appropriate technology. To accomplish its mission the council shall cooperate and coordinate with other organizations, agencies, groups, and individuals.”*

### A. Agricultural Sustainability

- 1 Promote, demonstrate and implement alternative agricultural practices to achieve sustainable agricultural production in Palau. The council members will implement conservation plans on their individual lands as the first step toward sustainable agriculture.
2. Establish land management guidelines for agriculture, unimproved roads, and other activities that may cause soil erosion, to minimize environmental impacts.
- 3 Minimize soil erosion activities in the watersheds to help protect our terrestrial and marine resources. The council will implement of at least one complete watershed plan to demonstrate proper management of resources.
4. Identify, Geographical Information System (GIS) map, and assist with community renovation of appropriate taro patches in Palau.
- 5 Identify, analyze, and GIS map all suitable and prime agricultural lands in Palau.

### B. Biodiversity Protection

Encourage the protection of the native vegetation, habitat and wildlife of Palau. Provide public educational opportunities on the value and importance of these natural resources.

2. Support the development and passing of an effective Endangered and Threatened Species Act to promote the protection of endangered and threatened species.

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3. Sponsor and demonstrate reforestation of savanna areas, forestry and agriculture practices with native trees and species.
4. Promote and assist the communities with the forestation of the Palau Compact Road with native tree species.
5. Encourage the development and passing of the Forestry Practices Act, and laws supporting Forest Management, Mangrove Management, Riparian Zone Protection, Watershed Protection, and Coastal Zone Protection.
6. Encourage conservation set-asides, parks, or reserves to be formed on 10 – 30 % of land in each State. Including support for maintaining Ngardok Nature Reserve and Ngaremeduu Conservation Area.
7. Map, using Geographical Information System, the watersheds of Palau using the approved methods and boundaries.
8. Identify and use the Geographical Information System to map all natural resources of Palau including soils, vegetation, and water.

## **C. Invasive Species Control**

Support public educational efforts for invasive species control and eradication.

2. Control invasive species in Palau to maintain native plants in the forests and sustainable agricultural systems.
3. Use Geographical Information System technology for mapping the location and eradication progress of invasive species.

## **D. Water Quality and Quantity Protection**

Encourage the maintenance and improvement of water quality working with resource partners and communities and using the Geographical Information System.

2. Support water quality monitoring programs to understand water quality and long-term hydrology changes and stream response to land treatment activities.
3. Encourage the implementation of improved management of water supplies including wise use educational activities in the communities.
4. Support environment protection through watershed planning initiatives and pilot projects to provide data that allows for informed land use decisions.