#### STATE OF THE PACIFIC

Pacific Islands Environment Conference June 2005

John McCarroll, EPA

#### TOP PRIORITIES

#### **REMAIN**

✓ Drinking Water
✓ Waste Water
✓ Solid Waste





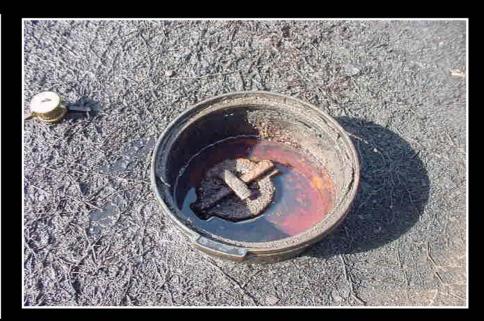


# TOP PRIORITIES REMAIN



✓ Pesticides
 ✓ Underground Fuel
 ✓ Oil Spill Prevention
 ✓ Hazmat/Hazwaste





#### TOP PRIORITIES REMAIN

Coral Reef Protection
 Watershed Protection
 Emergency Response





## How WE Address Issues



- Fund Construction and local programs
- ✓ Build local capacity
- ✓ Partnerships
- ✓ Enforcement

# LOTS OF CHALLENGES

- Very basic problems
- Lack of adequate infrastructure
- Chronic
   Underfunding
- Lack of capacity
- Remoteness



#### PROGRESS SINCE LAST PIEC





- ✓ Infrastructure Finance Project
- ✓ Alternative Energy Workgroup
- ✓ Leptospirosis Wider understanding
- ✓ Pig waste management improvements
- EPA-DOI Partnerships with Freely Associated States





# <u>Guam</u>

- Water is safer
  - No boil water notices
  - System-wide disinfection
- Sewage Spills have been reduced
- New Landfill sited
- Legislation to implement recycling





# 

- Water Task Force increased water supply by 25%
  - Poised to provide 24 hour service
- Inadequate sewage outfall being addressed
- Safer handling of UXO
- Recycling: 3 commercial firms in operation

#### <u>American Samoa</u>



- Underground storage tanks now in near total compliance
- ASEPA developing a new "ticket" enforcement program
- Leptospirosis- diagnostics and outreach
- Ammonia Cylinder removal

# PALAU

- Water in Koror is safe to drink
- New wastewater treatment plant reduced fecal releases by >99%
- Pesticides inspections and improvements
- Underground fuel tank inspection led to improvements
- Paving begun on compact road





# MARSHALL ISLANDS





- Wastewater system survey
- Laboratory technical assistance
- Recycling Program begun in Majuro
- Kwajalein Environmental standards upgraded
- Kwajalein recycling program improvements

#### FEDERATED STATES OF

#### MICRONESIA

- Pesticides inspection, Yap
- Water system review, Pohnpei
- Conference on Technical Assistance hosted by US Embassy





#### SUMMARY

# ✓ Tremendous progress since last year!!



# BUT LOTS MORE TO DO!!!

# CREDIT FOR SUCCESS GOES

ΤΟ...

 Local government
 Island leadership
 Federal and other partners









# FOCUS FOR NEXT YEAR

- ✓ Funding and financing
- ✓ Building capacity
- ✓ Partnerships
- ✓ Enforcement

