

# FACT SHEET:

## Palau Conservation Areas

### Protecting Our Natural Heritage

Palau is blessed with abundant and beautiful natural resources, many of which are still in healthy condition. However, increasing pressure from human use and exploitation is taking its toll.

Tourism, erosion, over-fishing, pollution, invasive species, and other environmentally destructive practices currently threaten the natural resources on which we base our livelihoods. The Babeldaob road is expected to bring new business developments, population shifts and other changes that will affect all of Palau.

### Local Communities Take Action

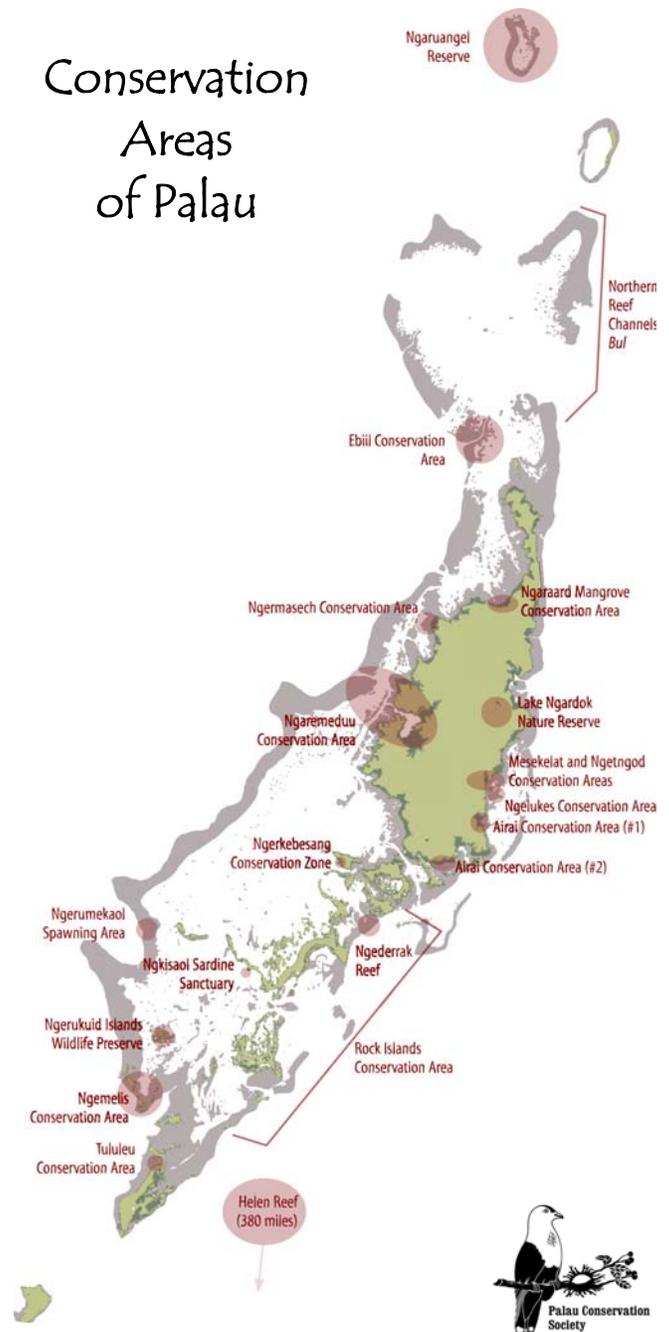
Recognizing the value and vulnerability of our natural resources, communities throughout Palau have designated certain areas of land and water as specially managed "conservation areas."

Local communities and traditional leaders have always played an important role in resource conservation in Palau. Traditional prohibitions, or *bul*, against certain harvesting practices are still being used to protect important natural resources. The merging of traditional and modern laws has been adopted by several states to strengthen their conservation efforts.

Originally, conservation areas were largely marine. However, growing concern over terrestrial resources and an understanding of the links between land use and marine impacts have led to the creation of a number of inland conservation areas.

Through the enactment of these and other laws for the protection of specially designated areas, and through the traditional restrictions on resource consumption, our local community leaders continue to demonstrate a strong commitment to maintaining the productivity of Palau's natural resources for future generations.

### Conservation Areas of Palau



# Rules and Regulations of Palau's Conservation Areas

Conservation Area	Law & Authority	Effective Year	Approximate Size	Main Regulations
<b>Ngerukuid Islands Wildlife Preserve</b>	Republic of Palau PDC 201 (24 PNCA 30) State of Koror K6-101-99	1956  1999	12 km <sup>2</sup>	No entry. No fishing, hunting, or taking of any marine flora and fauna. No taking, killing of any bird, animal, marine life, or any eggs. No cutting or taking of any plant life. No use or lighting of fires. No possession or transport of any firearms of any description, or other weapons, and no transport of domestic animals.
<b>Ngerumekaol Spawning Area</b>	Republic of Palau PL 6-2-4 (24 PNCA 31) State of Koror K6-101-99	1976  1999	3.5 km <sup>2</sup>	No fishing. No fishing, killing, trapping, or possession of any fish at any time.
<b>Ngemelis Conservation Area (Bailechesengel, Cheleu, Lilblau, Dmasech, Ngis, and Desomel)</b>	State of Koror K4-68-95 State of Koror K6-97-99	1995  1999	30 km <sup>2</sup>	No fishing within one mile of the island complex. No operation of a motorboat between island complex
<b>Ngkisaol Sardines Sanctuary</b>	State of Koror K6-95-99 Sardine Act	1999	0.008 km <sup>2</sup> (within 100 yards)	No fishing, hunting, taking or disturbance of marine flora and fauna. No fishing, hunting, or taking of sardines (mekebud, merau, & teber) within 100 yards.
<b>Ngederrak Reef</b>	State of Koror K6-119-2001 K7-133-2002	2001  2002	6 km <sup>2</sup>	No fishing, hunting, or taking or any marine flora and fauna. No operation, presence, or use of any motorized watercraft.
<b>Ngerkebesang Conservation Zone</b>	State of Koror K7-136-2002	2002	West of Ngerkebesang Island and adjacent to Palau Pacific Resort.	No fishing, hunting, taking, or disturbance of any marine flora and fauna.
<b>Airai Conservation Area #1</b>	State of Airai A-2-04-94	1994	1 km <sup>2</sup> (Mangroves from Ngermecherakl to Bkul Omdelchiiil)	Only traditional, subsistence, and educational uses allowed.
<b>Airai Conservation Area #2</b>	State of Airai A-2-25-97	1997	1 km <sup>2</sup>	Only traditional, subsistence, and educational uses allowed.
<b>Ngaraard Mangrove Conservation Area</b>	State of Ngaraard NSPL 4-4	1994	1.8 km <sup>2</sup>	Only traditional, subsistence, and educational uses allowed.
<b>Ngarchelong / Kayangel Reef Channels</b>	Ngarchelong and Kayangel Chiefs Traditional Bul	1994	90 km <sup>2</sup>	No fishing in 8 channels April 1-July 31
<b>Ngeruangel Reserve</b>	State of Kayangel KYPL 7-02-96	1996	35 km <sup>2</sup>	No entry without permit. Governed according to management plan.
<b>Ebiil Channel Conservation Area</b>	Ngarchelong NSGPL 87	2000	15 km <sup>2</sup>	No entry, no fishing.
<b>Lake Ngardok Nature Reserve</b>	State of Melekeok MSPL 4-21	2000	4 km <sup>2</sup>	No entry without a permit. Governed according to management plan.
<b>Ngaremeduu Bay Conservation Area</b>	Aimeliik, Ngatpang, Ngeremlengui	2000	98 km <sup>2</sup>	Governed according to management plan.
<b>Ngermasech Reef Conservation Area</b>	State of Ngardmau	1998	7.0 km <sup>2</sup>	No entry. No fishing.
<b>Ngchesar Watershed Conservation Area</b>	State of Ngchesar	2002	0.5 km <sup>2</sup> 1.0 km <sup>2</sup>	Governed according to legislation. Hunting restricted.
<b>Ngelukes Reef Conservation Area</b>	Ngchesar State Protected Area Act NSPL No. 146	2002	All marine areas within 20 feet of the seaward edge of the reef surrounding the patch reef in front of Ngersuul.	No entry without permission of the governor.
<b>Tululeu Seagrass Conservation Area</b>	Peleliu State	2001	0.4 km <sup>2</sup>	No fishing area.
<b>Helen Reef</b>	Hatohobei State Helen Reef Management Area Act	2001	163 km <sup>2</sup>	No entry without a permit. Governed according to management plan.

In addition to the above conservation areas, the Rock Islands Conservation Area has zoned by Koror for conservation and is a multi-use area for recreational, subsistence, and restricted commercial use.