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CORAL REEF ADVISORY GROUP

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Dr. Ruth Matagi Tofiga
Chair

Kristine Buccianeri
CRI Coordinator

Dr. Trent Biggs
Department of Geography
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182

April 16, 2015

Dear Dr. Biggs,

I am writing in support of the proposal "Assessing the effectiveness of mitigation activities to reduce sediment load in Faga'alu watershed, American Samoa: Capacity building for on-island impact assessment." I am the Watershed Coordinator for the Coral Reef Advisory Group (CRAG), which coordinates American Samoa's coral reef management efforts and activities. Working with local and federal agencies CRAG develops strategies and implements actions that address various areas of coral reef conservation through education and outreach, policy and enforcement, and scientific research and monitoring. In my role I have had the pleasure of working with Alex Messina I have gained some experience with the monitoring efforts outlined in the grant.

I acknowledge that the grant has specific tasks outlined for me, and agree that I will:

1. Attend a 3-day workshop in July 2015 for training on equipment maintenance and data downloading
2. Assist ASEPA with downloading data and maintain the equipment specified in the grant from July 2015 to May 2016.
3. Assist ASEPA with obtaining water samples from an autosampler for 3-5 storms during July 2015 to May 2016, and analyzing the samples for suspended sediment concentration.

I am excited for the project, and look forward to working with San Diego State University and NFWF to monitor the effectiveness of sediment mitigation structures for protecting our valuable natural resources. If you have any questions please contact me at meagan.curtis@crag.as.

Sincerely,

Meagan Curtis
Watershed Coordinator
Coral Reef Advisory Group