### MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST (A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORTS ON INTERNAL CONTROL AND ON COMPLIANCE

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2010



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# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Board of Trustees Marianas Public Land Trust:

We have audited the financial statements of the Marianas Public Land Trust (MPLT) as of and for the year ended September 30, 2010, and have issued our report thereon dated April 25, 2011. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit, we considered MPLT's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of MPLT's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of MPLT's internal control over financial reporting.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

## Compliance and Other Matters

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As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether MPLT's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

We noted certain matters that we reported to management of MPLT in a separate letter dated April 25, 2011.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Board of Trustees and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

April 25, 2011

# MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST

Unresolved Prior Year Comments Year Ended September 30, 2010

There are no unresolved findings from prior year audits of MPLT.