

# Coast Guard Supports U.S. Pacific Fleet Navigation Initiatives in Federated States of Micronesia



The crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Sequoia hosts U.S. Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia Robert Riley on May 7. U.S. Coast Guard/USCGC Sequoia

HONOLULU –

The U.S. Coast Guard conducted an aids-to-navigation and waterways assessment

in the Federated States of Micronesia in support of improved maritime safety

and defense readiness in May, the Coast Guard 14th District said in a release.

The U.S.

Coast Guard Cutter Sequoia, a 225-foot seagoing buoy tender homeported in Guam,

completed surveys in Yap, Chuuk and Pohnpei. While in Yap, the Sequoia's crew

hosted local officials and U.S. Ambassador Robert Riley. In Pohnpei, the

Sequoia crew hosted tours for the public.

The ports

and waterways of Micronesia are essential to maritime commerce and U.S. defense

readiness. A large number of commercial, military and private vessels use these

routes.

"The

U.S. Coast Guard, in a joint effort with U.S. Embassy Pohnpei,

U.S. Pacific

Fleet, the Department of the Interior, and the Federated States of Micronesia,

is working to improve the readiness and safety of maritime navigation

systems,” said Rear Adm. Kevin Lunday, commander of the U.S. Coast Guard’s

14th District. “Our work together is essential to strengthening the U.S.

relationship with the Federated States of Micronesia, improving regional

maritime governance, and ensuring a free and open Indo-Pacific.”

Improved

navigation systems promote maritime governance in the South Pacific, essential

for economic prosperity and a free and open Indo-Pacific.

The Federated States of

Micronesia, with a population of 105,000 people and more than 600 islands, is made

up of four states: Pohnpei, Kosrae, Chuuk and Yap.