FACT SHEET: Ngeruangel Reserve

Depleting Resources

When fishermen noticed a decline in fish population in and around the Ngeruangel Atoll due to over-harvesting, Kayangel State passed the Ngeruangel Reserve Act in 1996. This act established the Ngeruangel Reserve and prohibited entry for three years except for monitoring activities. After three years, Kayangel State adopted and is now implementing a management plan to ensure the long-term health of Ngeruangel through sustainable resource use.

Like No Place Else

Located 7 nautical miles Northwest of Kayangel, the 35 square kilometer atoll called Ngeruangel has traditionally been regarded as a sanctuary for birds, fish, and turtles. To protect the marine life in the conservation area, all activities within one half of a mile of the seaward edge of the reef now require a permit to be issued by the government of Kayangel State.

Continuing Protection

Since 1996, the Kayangel State Government, PCS, and partner organization The Nature Conservancy have been conducting annual surveys of the reefs in Ngeruangel as part of the management plan to monitor the recovery of fish, coral, turtle, and bird populations. Surveys have shown an increase not only in fish populations but also in the health of the reefs and in turtle and bird nests and populations. We hope that through continued responsible use, the resources in Ngeruangel can be preserved in all their natural beauty for generations to come.

Rules and Regulations

Permit required to enter Ngeruangel Conservation area for diving, research, or sport fishing.

- Permit required to enter Ngeruangel Conservation area for diving, research or sport fishing.
- Catch and release sport fishing only.
- Fishing for food is only allowed for the inauguration of the Governor or the legislature under certain conditions.
- No more than four turtles may be taken per year from the Reserve for the inauguration of the Governor or the legislature under certain conditions.

For more information, contact:
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