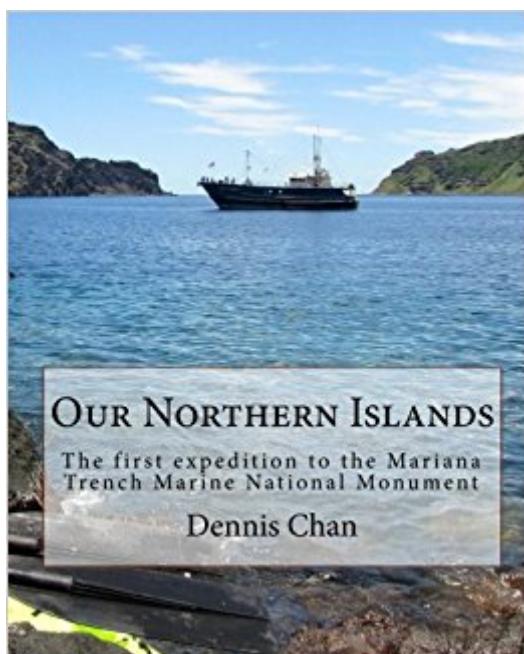


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Our Northern Islands: The First Expedition To The Mariana Trench Marine National Monument



Synopsis

Our Northern Islands is a first person telling of the first expedition to the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Dennis Chan is from the island of Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, a string of volcanic islands in the Western Pacific. Dennis wrote Our Northern Islands after he visited several of the uninhabited islands north of Saipan by winning an essay contest.

College student Dennis Chan, with assistance from Angelo Villagomez and Photographer Brian Jones, provides the reader with a review of the "First Expedition to the Mariana Trench Marine National Monument," a protected area designated by then-President George W. Bush through the Antiquities Act of 1906. The huge ocean area contains the three northernmost islands of Asuncion, Maug and Uracus. Most people, including islanders, have never visited the area or even heard of these remote islands. Dennis won an essay contest and was able to join the voyage up to the islands from Saipan aboard "The Lady Carolina" with a dedicated group of seagoers and environmentalists. It was an exciting trip for Dennis but he never expected the seasickness, bees, stickers, monitor lizards, and huge coconut crabs that were negative parts of his journey. But the rewards were many, e.g., beautiful islands and beaches (few seen by fellow students), great fishing and hiking, barbeques, and fun adventuresome travelers. Dennis was happy to be back on "civilized" Saipan but often his mind still travels back to the quiet, peaceful times on the remote

islands. He remembers camping on the beach in his reverie, "I awake to the tattatatattattattat of rain on the tent and the waves sound like they crash around us..."

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