



## **American Samoa Ocean Planning Team<sup>1</sup>**

Meeting Summary  
January 6-7, 2016

### **THE PLANNING TEAM:**

#### **DAY 1**

Port Administration: Chris King  
Dept. of Marine and Wildlife Resources: Selaina Tuimavave, Domingo Ochavillo  
DOC Coastal Zone Management: Sandra Lutu, Gina Faiga  
DOC Planning Department: Nerelle Que  
American Samoa EPA: Ameko Pato, Jewel Tuiasosopo  
NOAA Sanctuaries: Atuatasi Lelei Peau  
National Park Service: Tim Clark  
U.S. Coast Guard: Vignette Kaltsas  
NOAA Fisheries: Fatima Sauafea-Leau  
Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC): Nate Ilaoa  
WPFMC Advisory Panel: Christinna Lutu-Sanchez, Krista Corry  
PIRPB: Sarah Pautzke, Nicole Griffin

#### **Day 2**

Port Administration: Chris King  
Dept. of Marine and Wildlife Resources: Selaina Tuimavave, Domingo Ochavillo  
DOC Coastal Zone Management: Sandra Lutu, Gina Faiga  
American Samoa EPA: Jewel Tuiasosopo  
NOAA Sanctuaries: Atuatasi Lelei Peau  
National Park Service: Tim Clark  
U.S. Coast Guard: Vignette Kaltsas  
NOAA Fisheries: Fatima Sauafea-Leau  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: Brian Peck  
Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC): Nate Ilaoa  
WPFMC Advisory Panel: Christinna Lutu-Sanchez, Krista Corry  
PIRPB: Sarah Pautzke, Nicole Griffin

#### **Audience:**

Naval Postgraduate School: Tom Murphree, Arlene Guest

#### **Facilitator:**

ecoLOGIC: Miranda Foley

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<sup>1</sup> Support for this effort comes from the Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body and the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation

## **OBJECTIVES:**

1. Increase our understanding of the benefits and requirements of coastal and marine spatial planning (ocean planning) for American Samoa and the Pacific Islands region.
2. Identify opportunities for ocean planning to build upon existing American Samoa ocean management groups and strategies.
3. Develop a work plan for drafting the American Samoa coastal and marine spatial plan.
4. Confirm membership in the American Samoa Planning Team.
5. Pilot a viable planning process to develop jurisdictional plans for later regional integration.

## **OPENING**

The Planning Team shared desired outcomes of the two-day meeting:

- Progress on coastal and marine spatial planning
- Better organization, collaboration, and sharing
- Integrated planning activities between State and Federal agencies
- Training
- Integrated marine spatial planning
- Understanding of where on the map there are conflicts
- See how plans can be effective for users
- Better understanding of ocean planning

## **BACKGROUND ON COASTAL AND MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING**

Ms. Sarah Pautzke provided a presentation that described how coastal and marine spatial planning (CMSP), or ocean planning, was officially started through Executive Order and is being carried out by regional planning bodies. She detailed the National Ocean Policy and described the Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body.

## **COASTAL AND MARINE SPATIAL PLANS**

Ms. Pautzke gave a presentation outlining what different plans contain. She used the Oregon Territorial Sea Plan, Massachusetts Ocean Resource Management Plan, and Rhode Island Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) as examples.

The Planning Team liked how the Rhode Island plan was broken into chapters that were well defined. Anyone could pick up the document and turn to the page they needed. However, other outlines with similar subtitles would also be acceptable. The Planning Team prefers to make the document user-friendly, so chapter titles and sub headers cannot be obscure.

The discussion also highlighted the need to determine what the plan does and how it is used, e.g. be a phone book or a roadmap, that first the purpose of the document must be articulated. A well-structured document that provides benefit to territorial and federal agencies, as well as communities and stakeholders, will be embraced at the local level if there was strong stakeholder engagement and agency buy-in. The list of consulted stakeholders should be identified in an appendix of the plan. Transparency about the timing of plan development and the stakeholder engagement process will be critical.

The section of the AS Plan that discusses uses of resources would need to describe laws, organizations and agencies, and how work proceeds (such as permit reviews). The plan should also include a map of

where current uses are, including MPAs, common uses, and other human activities or restrictions. Process flow charts for permits should be included, and the plan should communicate mixed uses and regulations.

American Samoa is currently working on its territorial plan for land. This ocean plan would tie in well, if developed correctly, to the current effort. The Planning Team should work closely with the land use planner to ensure harmony between the plans. One item to address will be whether the plan will have teeth. Can it compel agencies to act, or just be a guidance document?

## **TRAINING**

### **Training: Need for CMSP**

The Planning Team used a training worksheet to evaluate whether CMSP is needed in American Samoa. Responses supported that there were needs that could indeed be addressed in a plan. Examples included conflict areas and closed areas, as well as management alternatives. Transportation, climate change with inundation, coastal use, sea wall impacts, turtle nesting areas, and impacts of uses on resources should be included and addressed in the CMS plan.

### **Training: Regulations and Pressures**

The Planning Team used a training worksheet to describe the regulatory “lay of the land” as well as pressures. This worksheet can be used to identify overlapping jurisdictions and opportunities for partnerships. However, a word of caution was that including jurisdictions may have an unintended consequence of focusing on turfs.

### **Training: Target Resources**

Identifying target resources typically takes a large period of time during training, and can take longer when being vetted with stakeholders. The Planning Team provided feedback on filling in the worksheet and how it could be taken to the stakeholders. A suggestion was rephrasing “Is the resource worth protecting” as “Is the resource worth understanding, mitigating, regulating.”

### **Training: Uses Spatial Needs**

The Planning Team identified current known uses and where they occur spatially. They discussed adding a way to capture uses that may exist in the future (e.g. canoe races in a new location) or uses that may occur more frequently in the future, (e.g. tourism). Some uses did not fit well into the categories provided but should still be evaluated (e.g. viewshed). In addition, the AS Plan will need a description of which uses may be greatly altered by a change in population, and it should consider uses that require buffers (e.g. airport).

### **Training: Uses Impacts on Target Resources and Impacts on Other Uses**

The Planning Team used a training worksheet to identify the impacts of resource use on target resources. They then provided feedback about how best to get the information from stakeholders. Suggestions included simplifying the worksheet and including more examples and explanation.

### **Training: Visioning**

The Planning Team used a training worksheet to begin thinking about a vision for the AS Plan. They shared their adjectives that they used to describe a future American Samoa. Words that were added to the provided list included sustainable, adaptive, environmentally-connected, and recreational. There

was a discussion about how the vision might be developed for American Samoa – with stakeholder input or stakeholder review. The Planning Team suggested adding questions to the worksheets that identify what is happening presently biologically and then add what the vision is for the future.

### **Training: Goals and Objectives**

The Planning Team used a training worksheet to create goals by altering problem statements into positive statements (e.g. “The economy needs to be improved” to “Increase tourism by X% over the next Y years). It was commented that there was overlap between the exercise’s goals and agency goals.

The Planning Team then defined objectives for each goal. SMART objectives were encouraged – specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time-sensitive. One comment was to find areas of overlap to include in the plan, and for other areas that there should be compromise.

The consensus was to work with stakeholders to refine goals, and then develop SMART objectives within the ASOPT.

### **WORK PLAN**

The Planning Team divided into groups to develop work tasks related to creating the vision, goals and objectives, and to obtaining additional input about resources and uses. The tasks were vetted with the Planning Team as a whole and compiled into a first phase work plan (Appendix A).

### **COMMITMENTS AND MEMBERSHIP**

There was general agreement that the Planning Team already consisted of the appropriate agencies. However, it would be good to invite Office of Samoa Affairs and the Historic Preservation Office to the planning table (Office of Samoan Affairs had been invited but was unable to attend).

The shipping industry and Federal Aviation Administration should be consulted on an as-needed basis.

There was discussion but not consensus around how the energy office, tourism office, and Chamber of Commerce should be included.

Ms. Sandra Lutu said she would coordinate with the PNRS Board.

Mr. Chris King was selected as the ASOPT Chair. However, he respectfully declined. The chair position is still open at this time.

### **TASKS – FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**

- 1) Draft letter for The Planning Team to share with directors and ultimately up the line to the Governor for approval of agency participation on the ASOPT. (Sarah, PI RPB)
- 2) Compile agencies’ vision statements for comparison. (Sarah, PIRPB)
- 3) Email your agency’s vision and mission statements to Sarah. (ALL)
- 4) Get materials from recent NOAA workshop that included a report prioritizing marine species. (Selaina, DMWR)
- 5) Obtain report from science workshop (Arlene, NavPS).

The remaining tasks can be found in the next pages’ spreadsheets.

**APPENDIX A**

**VISIONING TASKS**

Task	Points of contact	Action Assigned	Done?
Analyze vision statements to pull out similar words and ideas & identify what is missing	PIRPB	Sarah	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Send agency vision statements to Sarah</li> <li>Compile existing vision statements from agencies to assess similarities</li> </ul>	All  Planning Team members	All  Sarah	
Develop vision statement		Sarah	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a draft vision</li> <li>Approve draft vision with larger group</li> <li>Confirm link to PIRPB vision statement</li> <li>Share the vision statement with communities, stakeholders, agencies for input/ validation</li> <li>Amend, if necessary the vision, for ASOPT final approval</li> <li>Outreach to share final vision statement</li> </ul>	Planning Team/ PIRPB PIRPB  ? ASOPT PIRPB / ASOPT	Sarah Sarah + All Sarah  ? Sarah Sarah + ?	
Ensure the data are available to support vision	?	?	

**OTHER TASKS**

Task	Points of contact	Action Assigned	Done?
Consider limitations	Planning team	All	
Consider opportunities	PIRPB	Sarah	
Develop a stakeholder and Governor’s Task Force for the CMSP effort	Planning team	Sarah	
Get scientific information to support future uses	DMWR, EPA		
Provide a briefing paper to The Planning Team to help inform up the chain	PIRPB reps + PIRPB	Sarah	
Communicate with Samoan Affairs to arrange community and village meetings	Samoan Affairs	?	
Report back to Planning Team on recommendations to Governor		Sarah	

**RESOURCES**

Task	Points of contact	Action Assigned	Done?
Coordination, when applicable, with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DMWR Focus Groups in communities</li> <li>• Sanctuaries Focus Groups in communities</li> <li>• Samoan Affairs Focus Groups in communities</li> <li>• WPFMC in fishing industry</li> <li>• PIRPB</li> </ul>	DMWR NOAA Sanctuaries Chris WPFMC PIRPB	Nate Sarah	
Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host science workshops to get more complete list of species of concern and prioritize them, as well as identify what is already protected and their habitats</li> <li>• Get materials from recent NOAA workshop: report that prioritized marine species</li> <li>• Obtain past report from science workshop</li> </ul>	Resource agencies (NOAA, CRAG)  NOAA  NOAA +Risa Oram	Selaina  Arlene/ Sarah	3 weeks  3 weeks
Completed assessment and analyses <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain CRAG &amp; CRED bay reef species analysis</li> <li>• Obtain geographic assessment of American Samoa</li> </ul>	NOAA, DMWR, NOAA/PFSC + Kristinne, Domingo, Ivor Williams NOAA online +Tim or Lelei	Arlene	
Assign lead for data collection	PI RPB	Sarah	
Get familiar with different refuges, MPA areas, and the sanctuary	DOC, DMWR	Sarah	
Existing plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Obtain comprehensive conservation plan</li> <li>• Interview DMWR about community management plans</li> <li>• Obtain community resource management plans</li> </ul>	? DMWR+ Afa DMWR, DOC, EPA	Arlene Selaina ?	
Meet with or interview GIS folks on delineating wetlands	DOC + Sandra	?	
Add to list of target resources and uses from brainstorming session	PI RPB	Sarah	

**USES**

Use or information	Data location	Lead
<b>Data</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ariel Levine's coastal uses reports</li> <li>• 2014 AS DOC statistical yearbook               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ fishery</li> <li>❖ economic</li> <li>❖ tourism</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	NOAA DOC DMWR/ WPFIN	Sarah Gina Ruth/Rita
<b>GIS</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with CC group on possible GIS repository</li> <li>• Map of outfall pipes (online)</li> <li>• Map of cables (Online)</li> <li>• Utilize existing PAClooS, SeaGrant, DMWR, DOC GIS collaborations</li> <li>• FAA Airspace</li> </ul>	Bob EPA NOAA, ASTCA/ Bluesky (ASH) ?	Gina ? ? Gina Chris
Get information from fishing associations	WPFMC +Nate	Nate
Tautai O Samoa (longline association)		Christinna
PAFA/ ASTA Boat agents	Fuega	Nate
PPGFA/ ATA Boat agents	Russ	Nate
Military Alia	Tata	?
Get info/ contact with non-boat fisheries	DMWR/ Afa	
Separate 'Uses' by econ/ bio/ social category	PIRPB	Sarah
Monthly check-in with Ports on use data/ updates	PA + Chris	Sarah
Get familiar with Harbor Master Plan	PA + Chris	Sarah
Obtain cruise liner schedule	ASVB+ David	Sarah
Paddlers Association	Erika/ John/ Paula	Brian
Sailing	Paula/ Mike	
Surfing	Xavier Bowles	
Charters	Howard/ Peter/ Andy	PMC
Swimming	Zero + ASAA	
Scuba	Pago Marine + Russ Cox	
Involve territorial planner	DOC + Line Kruse	
Renewable energy	ASPA + TEO	
Zone/ Viewsheds	TPC/ PNRS	
Land Use	CZM/ TPC (DOC)	
Historic Preservation	HPO + Dave H	
Village uses	DOC/ DMWR/ SA	
Fautasi	OSA/ DOC	
Wastewater	ASPA/ EPA	
Sand and coral mining	Parks and Rec + Sandra	

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Aids to navigation	Coast Guard	
Identify Individual Vessel Agents	Chris	
Plans to obtain		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tourism Master Plan</li> </ul>	AS Visitors Bureau	David Vaeafe, Exec Dir
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Management Area plans (Harbor area, Pala Lagoon, Leone wetlands)</li> </ul>	DOC AS CMP	Sandra Lutu
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate Change plan</li> </ul>	DMWR CRAG	Kristine Bucchianeri
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazard Mitigation Plan</li> </ul>	AS EPA and DOC AS CMP	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harbor Master Plan</li> </ul>	Port Administration	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa Management Plan</li> </ul>	NOAA +Lelei	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rose Atoll MNM Management Plan</li> </ul>	FWS +Brian	?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Park Service Management plan for American Samoa</li> </ul>	NPS + Tim	?