



## American Samoa Ocean Planning Team

Meeting Summary

May 2-3, 2018

### Outcomes

1. Narrowed plan tasks and identified agency involvement
2. Identified spatial data that exists and data needed
3. Refined the stakeholder engagement / listening session details

### Day 1: May 2

Attendees: Va'amua Henry Seseapasara, Taimalelagi Claire Poumele, Chris King, Domingo Ochavillo, Fatima Sauafea-Leau, Miranda Foley, Sarah Pautzke, Hideyo Hattori, Burg Salanoa, Sandra Lutu, Nate Ilaoa, Gina Faiga, Scott Burch

### Day 2: May 3

Attendees: Va'amua Henry Seseapasara, Taimalelagi Claire Poumele, Chris King, Domingo Ochavillo, Atuatasi Peau, Nate Ilaoa, Miranda Foley, Sarah Pautzke, Hideyo Hattori, Krista Corry, Burg Salanoa, Sandra Lutu, Gina Faiga, Alice Lawrence

### PI RPB UPDATES PROVIDED TO THE ASOPT

The Guam and CNMI Ocean Planning Teams held meetings in April 2018. They built upon the efforts in American Samoa to develop their vision and goals, as well as statement of purpose. See website for more details.

### ASOPT PROCESS REVIEW

The ASOPT is currently preparing the draft and planning for public review of the draft. Draft review will occur in June/July by the PI RPB, stakeholders, governor, the ASG Cabinet members, and village communities.

2018	Action
May/June	Complete draft – 6/10 deadline
June/July	Early June: draft plan to stakeholders for review Cabinet review – send plan via email (Henry and Claire) Late June / Early July: Next round of stakeholder engagement PI RPB input Update plan based on engagement
July / August	Possible teleconference to discuss stakeholder engagement results
August	Presentation to the Fono; summary in Samoan
September/October	Plan to PIRO Communications Department for turning into final product

December  
January 2019

Final ASOP!  
Last round of stakeholder engagement to demonstrate the plan

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### **REFINING ASOP CONTENT**

The ASOPT participated in exercises to develop and refine content for the ASOP. This included 1) assigning agencies to actions and tasks within the plan, 2) identifying needed maps and information, 3) ensuring the ASOP links to existing plans and statutes, and 4) further developing language within the plan. Changes will be incorporated into the next revision of the ASOP.

Actions and tasks that have no agency assigned as the lead will go through three steps: 1) ASOPT members will identify who they think can do it, 2) ASOPT leads and PI RPB coordinator will reach out to identified agency/agencies, 3) if the agency isn't interested in owning the task, the task will be deleted.

There was a discussion about the granularity of some of the tasks. Some actions and tasks were very granular and prescriptive, while others were very generic. The pros behind higher specificity include allowing for items that are not completed to be identified, as well as what has been done. It allows for identifying who is doing the task. It can identify data that we have and data we need. And it can be reference in other places if moved. Cons include that the plan includes items that should be done in advance, it is too granular compared to the Mid Atlantic Plan, and it can hard to implement because there is less latitude in how to complete the task. The ASOPT determined to reduce the granularity of the plan's tasks. Tasks that are very specific should not be deleted; they could be part of an implementation plan, for example.

The ASOPT had additional conversation about identifying when efforts or planning have already been done. There was a suggestion to refrain from saying "Go find data" and instead, saying "Already-collected data and data gaps." The plan should identify when something has already been done.

### **ASOPT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION:**

- It was agreed that we will make an effort to lessen the specificity of the actions and tasks in this next round, with the aim of not losing the intent of the action or task.
- Rephrase actions and tasks to specify data collection, then identify when something has already been done. Include a table that has a column of status for each task so that we can mark what's been done.
- Add more description to the actions and tasks while also being less granular.
- Add the plan to Google Docs so people can make edits themselves.
- **ASOPT MEMBERSHIP:** split out each agency line office (DOC: Planning, CMP, GIS). DOD will stay on the membership list.
- Include special thanks to Udall Foundation in the beginning, as well as to American Samoa Community College.
- **GOALS:** do not switch the ecosystem and development goals. Instead, add explanation in introduction that describes how healthy ecosystems are necessary before they can be used.
- **GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE:** Amend language to be "Seaward to the boundary of the US EEZ, or up to 200 nm." The ASOPT determined they want to use terminology consistent with that found at ASBAR.ORG. 'Coastal' is adopted from the code: ridge to 3 nm. 'Nearshore' is removed. Ocean is 3nm to boundary of US EEZ, or up to 200nm.

- **IMPLEMENTATION:** Most language will be moved from Chapter 1 section “Moving Ahead Under Existing Authorities” to Chapter 4. All agencies involved in plan implementation will be added. Adopt language from the statute related to inter-agency coordination and roles of lead agency.
- **ACTIONS:** Make the tasks easier to read – they read at an expert level, which will be difficult for most people to digest.

## **ASOPT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SMALL GROUP STATIONS:**

### **BMPs**

The ASOPT identified existing BMPs, as well as those BMPs with identified spatial footprints. These will be added to the existing action related to BMPs.

### **Mapping Feedback**

The ASOP needs more maps and visuals, particularly related to the goals and objectives. The Mid Atlantic plan has several maps to look to, but several of those data layers aren’t readily available in American Samoa. Additionally, we should not just copy all the Mid Atlantic maps; we need to incorporate maps that are locally relevant. Time will need to be invested to develop those maps; we will need to identify resources to help. The ASOPT needs to identify the right spot in plan where maps should go.

### **Data Feedback**

American Samoa has a lot of data, but it has not necessarily been mapped. Analyses are needed to fill mapping gaps, starting with existing data. For example, there are gaps in species distributions and spawning areas. In several instances, there are mapping gaps, not data gaps. Some data are overlapping. We may want to have an appendix with several maps and only include a few within the plan itself.

### **Security feedback**

The ASOPT added onto the actions in the security objectives, expanding their scope to include border security and biosecurity. We need to work more on linking actions between objectives. For example, linking food and environmental security to the invasive species tasks.

### **Use Categories**

The ASOPT further developed the uses table for the ASOP by adding more uses to the “fishing and village-based activities,” “commercial and industrial harbor activities,” “cultural uses,” “recreational and education/research uses.” They also added another category: government regulated areas. These uses will be added to the next draft of the ASOP.

### **ASOP Data**

The ASOPT reviewed the data that were identified in the plan, then participated in an exercise. All data sources were listed in the “Data I Need” category. ASOPT members moved the data they know exists to the “Data I Have” category and noted on the sticky note where to find the data.

## **DATA PORTAL EXPLORATION**

The ASOPT reviewed and navigated through the Mid Atlantic Data Portal. The Mid-A data portal tied in uses to resolve conflicts. They also had great human interest stories. There were good data around vessel tracking, including AIS data for 3 years. There was historical and current VMS data for fishing vessels providing to users CPUE and footprint. The portal contained selectable data, such as hazards. Data included history (e.g. submarine cables). And, there were tie-ins to economic benefits and costs.

The ASOPT commented that these type of data can be applied to the reef in Vatia. They stressed using maps to tell stories instead of words in the plan.

Although the ASOPT liked videos, they cautioned against high-bandwidth videos. They also suggested sticking to YouTube format. They liked the stories of the Mid Atlantic Data Portal; we would need to get more information to build an interest story.

### **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND LISTENING SESSION DEVELOPMENT**

As noted in the above timeline, the ASOPT is planning for an upcoming review of the ASOP. This review is intended to gather public input on the draft plan. The ASOPT held an in-depth discussion to guide the development and content of the upcoming engagement. Planning elements for the upcoming June/July review include:

- Meetings led by the ASOPT Leads: Henry, Chris, DOC
- Conduct Five (5) Village meetings:
  - 2 in Eastern District (A'ua, Amoouli), 1 in Western District, 3 on Manua
  - Meeting length: 1 hour
- Conduct Four (4) User group meetings and two (2) targeted outreach efforts with ASG:
  - Port users: 1 hour, daytime, any day, lead = Port
  - Recreational non-consumptive users: 2 hours, evening, lead = Mike McDonald
  - Recreational consumptive users: 2 hours, evening, weekday, lead = WPFMC, Brian Peck
  - Commercial fishermen: 2 hours, daytime, lead = Krista Corry, Chrissy Lutu-Sanchez
  - Cabinet members: will get plan for review, leads = Henry Sesepasara, Claire Poumele
  - Governor: Henry Sesepasara will coordinate engagement
- Listening session content will include:
  - Maps from previous sessions that include hotspots
  - Maps from other uses, such as the Pago Uses map
  - Map for Sili on Olesega that shows potential aquaculture site
  - Ensure maps include known data: park boundaries, 3 nm, old and recent imagery, FADs, other management boundaries, sea level rise maps, flood zone maps
  - Examples of what can be done
  - Translated goals and objectives

### **NEXT STEPS**

- Sarah and Miranda will work on incorporating feedback into ASOP
- ASOPT will have two weeks to review
- Sarah and Miranda will have two weeks to incorporate feedback
- ASOP then goes to community and stakeholders for review
- Sarah to meet with agency stakeholders (e.g. ASEPA, OSA) on Friday, 5/4 and Monday, 5/7 (*see footnote*)

### **FOOTNOTE:**

Summary from Monday, 5/7 meeting with Office of Samoan Affairs related to stakeholder engagement

- June 25: meet with Manua chiefs at payday meeting; determine when to meet Manua chiefs on Tutuila (aiming for June 27)
- Coordinate on June 25 meeting in villages in evening
- Need to return to Manua for community input
- Stressed the importance of community members receiving meeting notice from their mayors