AMERICAN SAMOA OCEAN PLAN

FOR THE SPATIAL PLANNING OF AMERICAN SAMOA’S COASTS AND OCEAN

2018

NOTE: THIS IS NOT FORMATTED. AFTER WE GET THE TEXT HOW WE WANT IT, IT WILL GO TO NMFS PIRO FOR FORMATTING TO LOOK SIMILAR TO THE MID-ATLANTIC PLAN WITH CALL-OUTS, TEXT BOXES, AND VISUALS, AS WELL AS THE CHAPTER FISH HOOKS.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This plan would not have been possible without the contributions and dedication from members of the American Samoa Ocean Planning Team and the thoughtful input from the communities and ocean users on Tutuila, Aunu’u, Ta’u, Olesega, and Ofu.

This also would not have been possible without the generous funding support of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, American Samoa Port Administration, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

We extend special thanks to the Udall Foundation, as well as to American Samoa Community College.
A NOTE FOR OUR USERS:

This document is intended to provide guidance for agencies, individuals, or other entities proposing an activity or action in the waters of American Samoa. The information in this document is intended to encourage compatible uses, reduce use conflicts, and balance sustainable ocean use with marine conservation. The content also provides information about research needs regarding environmental, economic, and social data gaps.

The content offers a comprehensive reference to existing spatial data regarding ocean use and provides deeper insights into stakeholder perspectives regarding preferred ocean uses and locations for such, as well as potential conflicts associated with proposed uses.

This document is not a stand-alone plan to manage the marine and coastal ecosystems of American Samoa. Rather, it is better understood as a consensus-based blueprint for harnessing the regulatory, enforcement, and other capacities of the various local and federal agencies charged with guiding marine development, conservation, preservation, utilization, and maritime shipping in the Territory.

As with every printed document in the digital age, this is a snapshot of our current place in time. Consult the data portal and local agencies for real-time data and policies.
Insert a letter from the Governor to start the document (ex: Hawaii ORMP)
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  - Christinna Lutu-Sanchez, Council Member
  - Krista Corry, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council Advisory Panel
EXEC SUMMARY – WILL WRITE AFTER PLAN ALMOST DONE
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<td>American Samoa</td>
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<td>AS CMP</td>
<td>American Samoa Coastal Management Program</td>
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<td>AS EPA</td>
<td>American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency</td>
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<td>AS HPO</td>
<td>American Samoa Historic Preservation Society</td>
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<td>ASCC</td>
<td>American Samoa Community College</td>
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<td>AS DMWR</td>
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<td>ASG WCC</td>
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<td>ASPA</td>
<td>American Samoa Power Authority</td>
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<td>ASVB</td>
<td>American Samoa Visitors Bureau (American Samoa)</td>
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<td>BMP</td>
<td>Best management practices</td>
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<td>BOEM</td>
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<td>Coastal Management Program (American Samoa)</td>
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<td>CMSP</td>
<td>Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning</td>
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<td>CMWR</td>
<td>Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources Coral Reef Advisory Group</td>
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<td>CNMI</td>
<td>Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands</td>
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<td>CZMA</td>
<td>Coastal Zone Management Act</td>
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<td>DHS</td>
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<td>DOI</td>
<td>US Department of Interior</td>
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<td>DPA</td>
<td>Department of Port Administration (American Samoa)</td>
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<td>HMP</td>
<td>Marine Protected Area</td>
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<td>IATTC</td>
<td>Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission</td>
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<td>IUCN</td>
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<td>LiDAR</td>
<td>Light detection and ranging</td>
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<td>Land use permit</td>
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<td>MMPA</td>
<td>Marine Mammal Protection Act</td>
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<td>Marine Spatial Planning</td>
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NMFS – National Marine Fisheries Service
NMS – National Marine Sanctuary
NMSA – National Marine Sanctuaries Act
NOAA – National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
NOAA NWS – National Weather Service
NOAA OLE – Office of Law Enforcement (NOAA)
NOAA OCM – Office of Coast Management
NOC – National Ocean Council
OIA – Office of Insular Affairs (US DOI)
OSA – Office of Samoan Affairs
PaciOOS – Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System
PI RPB – Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body
PIFSC – Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (NOAA NMFS)
PIRO – Pacific Islands Regional Office (NOAA NMFS)
PLA (page 38)
PNRS – Project Notification Review System
RPB – regional planning body
SPREP – Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program
TEK – Traditional Ecological Knowledge
TEMCO – Territorial Emergency Management Office (AS DHS)
US – United States
US ACE – US Army Corps of Engineers
USCG – US Coast Guard
USCOP – US Commission on Ocean Policy
USFWS – US Fish and Wildlife Service
WCPFC – Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WPFIN – Western Pacific Fishery Information Network
WPFMC – Western Pacific Fishery Management Council
[CHAPTER 1]
OCEAN PLANNING IN AMERICAN SAMOA

This American Samoa Ocean Plan is the first spatial plan to be completed by the United States for its jurisdictions in the Pacific Ocean. Other U.S. jurisdictions will soon follow, including Guam, CNMI, and Hawaii. The United States has already completed ocean plans for the mainland coastlines along the Atlantic Ocean in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast.

A vibrant and healthy coastal and ocean environment is essential to the perpetuation of the Samoan culture and way of life (Fa’a Samoa). Yet, intensified coastal and ocean recreational and commercial uses are creating resource use conflicts, and land use is degrading coastal water quality and coral reef ecosystems. American Samoa is facing significant challenges in preserving the health of its ocean resources and the benefits those resources provide. In addition, regional and global conditions beyond direct control within American Samoa create new challenges, such as sea level rise, increased frequency and severity of storms, and marine debris. CMSP, or ocean planning, can ensure compatible ocean use and conserve ocean resources to ensure the vibrant coastal and ocean environments.

Limited usable land restricts much of the development in American Samoa to the coasts with very little ability to move upland or inland. Population growth and increased economic activity had already led to increased and conflicting demands on limited Harbor area land at the end of the 1990s (Lyon Associates 2001). Developed areas, such as the seaport on Tutuila, have little room to expand, despite the increase in container traffic (Lyon Associates 2001). Yet, this same limitation is a strong driver for us to be innovative and adamant about wise resource planning.
Fortunately, unlike neighboring island countries, American Samoa has not yet reached a point of overexploitation of our ocean resources, largely due to its relative isolation and strong adherence to Fa’a Samoa. The ocean planning process provides a tool to guide the growing and evolving uses of the coastal and marine waters, including tourism, recreation, infrastructure, and commerce, so that American Samoa can ensure uses are compatible, non-conflicting, and do not degrade ocean sustainability.

American Samoa began its ocean planning process in January 2016 after the American Samoa Government (ASG) recognized the opportunity ocean planning provides in the territory. The team members of the American Samoa Ocean Planning Team (ASOPT) include the ASG agencies and federal agencies that manage ocean resources within the American Samoa Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This Plan is a compilation of their efforts.

American Samoa was granted special rights to maintain its traditions, culture, and unique control of its lands and waters under the Deeds of Cession signed in 1900 (Tutuila and Aunu’u) and in 1904 (Manua Islands) by the island’s traditional leaders, chiefs and the U.S. government (see Appendix). As such, the United States holds a distinct responsibility to respect and preserve American Samoa’s customary uses and cultural practices.

The American Samoa Ocean Planning efforts are built on the very foundation set by the Deeds of Cession and incorporate a process to promote thoughtful and wise use of limited space and ocean resources to encourage compatible uses, reduce use conflicts, and balance sustainable ocean use with marine conservation and protection of Fa’a Samoa.

A HISTORY OF SPATIAL PLANNING
For millennia, maps have been used to tell the story of where things are.

The earliest known map was created 14,000 years ago. A stone tablet, found in a cave in the Navarra region of northern Spain, described the surrounding landscape and man-made features such as the cave

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1. Journal of Human Evolution
and a nearby bridge. The map also illustrated places where natural resources like water, foraging, and game were abundant. In the eons since, maps have become more sophisticated and even digitized so that information contained with maps can be overlapped and compared. That map of the Navarra region can now be analyzed with maps containing different information for the same geographic area, including fossil records, weather patterns, etc. Modern maps describe human uses, natural resources, and areas where those elements may conflict or provide opportunity.

In our modern era, humans have migrated well beyond the cave. Our knowledge of the world’s natural resources and the footprint of man-made structures extends from deep-sea trenches to beyond the outer limits of our atmosphere. Human use extends to every corner of the globe. While land use plans have been a crucial component of wise land use, until recently we have not brought these same tools to bear in ocean planning.

Coastal and marine spatial planning, or ocean planning, is a process that largely mirrors the planning efforts that have enabled intensive but wise use of land-based resources.

The ocean planning process often begins with maps that show locations of current ocean uses, such as fishing and shipping. With stakeholder and agency collaboration, ocean planning teams generate maps that tie to existing management tools that governments and communities already use to make decisions about ocean uses and resources.

FUTURE SIDE CALL-OUT

The outcome of this process offers ways to encourage compatible uses, reduce use conflicts, and balance sustainable use with marine conservation.

Governments and communities around the world have begun to enact ocean plans to promote thoughtful and wise use of limited space and ocean resources. New Zealand, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands,
Fiji, and Tonga are already using marine spatial planning to encourage compatible uses, reduce use conflicts, and balance sustainable ocean use with marine conservation².

![Map of countries using MSP. (http://msp.ioc-unesco.org/)](http://msp.ioc-unesco.org/)

During ocean planning in the U.S., local and federal agencies form planning teams to work with each other and stakeholders. These teams discuss their ocean-based activities in a spatial context to ensure collaboration and coordination in the marine environment.

**A BRIEF POLICY HISTORY OF IMPORTANT EVENTS IN U.S. OCEAN PLANNING**

Modern ocean management concepts are often said to have their roots in *Mare Liberum, or The Freedom of the Seas*, a Latin treatise written by Dutch jurist and philosopher Hugo Grotius in 1609. Grotius was the first to comprehensively articulate the principle that the sea is international territory, and all nations are free to use it unimpeded for seafaring commerce and transportation.

More recently, U.S. President Harry Truman proclaimed in the Truman Proclamation of 1945 that resources found on the continental shelf contiguous to the United States belonged to the United States. This was a radical departure from established principle – that 1) a narrow strip of coastal waters was under the exclusive sovereignty of the coastal state, and 2) the unregulated area beyond that (known as the high seas) was open to all.

During the late 1950s, the Convention on the High Seas resulted in an international treaty that codified the rules of international law relating to the open ocean. One of four treaties created at the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS I), it was signed on April 29, 1958. It entered into international force at the end of September 1962. While the United States has not ratified this treaty, it recognizes it as a codification of customary international law.

The early 1970s saw the passage of the Coastal Zone Management (CZMA) and National Marine Sanctuaries (NMSA) Acts. The CZMA promoted an integrated approach to managing coastal and

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resources. An important feature of the CZMA is the federal consistency process. Once a state coastal management plan is approved by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, relevant federal actions (in most cases) must be consistent with tenets of the state’s plan. The NMSA is the more spatially-focused of the two acts, as it established a process for creating defined area management. The U.S. National Marine Sanctuary System now includes 13 national marine sanctuaries. Additional layers of management include the Marine National Monuments (MNMNs) that are jointly managed by the US Department of Interior Fish and Wildlife Service (DOI FWS) and NOAA. Four MNMs in the Pacific Islands (Papahanaumokuakea, Pacific Remote Islands, Mariana Trench, and Rose Atoll) were established by Presidential Proclamation in 2009, some of which were expanded in 2012. The boundaries of these MNMs range from 50 nm to 200 nm.

After years of allowing foreign fishing fleets to harvest living marine resources quite close to U.S. shorelines, Congress passed the Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1976. Now known commonly as the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA), this law established a 200-mile fishery conservation zone, effective March 1, 1977, as well as regional fishery management councils (FMCs) comprised of federal and state officials. The current iteration of the MSA provides for management of fish and other species throughout their ranges in the EEZ (via National Standard 3 and its implementing regulations) under plans developed by the FMCs, and reviewed and approved by the Secretary of Commerce.

In 1983, U.S. President Ronald Reagan issued his Statement on U.S. Ocean Policy. Though the United States was not (and still is not) a signatory to UNCLOS, Reagan affirmed that the United States:

- Is prepared to accept and act in accordance with the balance of interests relating to traditional uses of the oceans, such as navigation and overflight;
- Will exercise and assert its navigation and overflight rights and freedoms on a worldwide basis in a manner that is consistent with the balance of interests reflected in the [UNCLOS] convention. The United States will not, however, acquiesce in unilateral acts of other states designed to restrict the rights and freedoms of the international community in navigation and overflight and other related high seas uses; and
- Proclaims an Exclusive Economic Zone, in which the United States will exercise sovereign rights in living and nonliving resources within 200 nautical miles of its coast.

The Congress recognized the promise of and threats to the oceans when it passed the Oceans Act of 2000, which established the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy (USCOP) under President George W. Bush to develop recommendations for a coordinated and comprehensive national ocean policy. The USCOP developed An Ocean Blueprint for the 21st Century that contains 212 recommendations addressing all aspects of ocean and coastal policy. In response to the Commission’s recommendations, President Bush issued an executive order that established the Committee on Ocean Policy as part of the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and released the U.S. Ocean Action Plan. The USCOP provided a preliminary assessment of the Ocean Action Plan, calling it “a promising first step toward the implementation of a comprehensive national ocean policy.”

Finally, in July 2010, President Barack Obama signed Executive Order 13547 that established a National Policy for the Stewardship of the Ocean, Coasts, and Great Lakes and the National Ocean Council (NOC). Part 4 of the Recommendations of the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force (Recommendations; July 19, 2010) addressed a lack of ocean planning coordination both within the federal government and among federal, state, and local bodies, and called the lack of coordination inefficient, ineffective, and likely to result in conflict and delay. The Recommendations addressed these issues by establishing a regionally-based planning process with the creation of regional planning bodies (RPBs) that bring together relevant
agencies and organizations, and ensuring stakeholders, including the public, have a voice in decisions that impact our oceans.

**BACKGROUND ON REGIONAL OCEAN PLANNING**

The Interagency Ocean Task Force was established on June 12, 2009, and was comprised of 24 senior-level officials from executive departments, agencies, and offices across the Federal government and led by the Chair of the CEQ. The mission of the Task Force was to examine ways to maintain or enhance healthy, resilient, and sustainable ocean, coasts, and Great Lakes resources for the benefit of present and future generations. Executive Order 13547 (2010), described in the preceding section, adopted the Recommendations put forth by the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force in 2009 and established the NOC. In 2012, the NOC released the National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan, which, among other things, describes specific actions Federal agencies will take to address key ocean challenges and gives states and communities greater input in Federal decisions.

Part 4 of the Recommendations promoted the establishment of regional planning bodies (RPBs) to develop regional coastal and marine spatial plans. These RPBs are regional federal-state-local-private regional partnerships along the coastlines. To bolster support of ocean planning, the federal government infused resources and administrative support for existing partnerships or supported the creation of new ones if none existed. These partnerships housed or became known as RPBs. There are nine RPBs throughout the United States (although only four are formally formed), as well as several regional partnerships such as the Mid Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean and the Northeast Regional Ocean Council.

Figure. Footprint of the nine RPBs.

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**OCEAN PLANNING IN THE US PACIFIC ISLANDS**

The Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body (PI RPB) was created to develop a coastal and marine spatial plan for the Pacific Islands Region, thus is leading ocean planning in American Samoa, Guam, CNMI, the Pacific Remote Islands Area, and Hawaii. The PI RPB consists of 17 members: 8 federal agency

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representatives, 8 non-federal members nominated by the governors of the respective jurisdictions, and the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council. The PI RPB was formalized in 2013 with the signing of its charter.

Given the expanse of the Pacific Islands Region, the members of the PI RPB agreed that a larger Pacific plan should be built upon four locally-driven jurisdictional ocean plans. The PI RPB has progressed its efforts over the past 5 years, including developing its strategy for ocean planning in the US Pacific Islands and securing funding for the effort.

Figure 1. The PI RPB has 5 teams that support its Pacific-wide planning effort. Work and information flow between the teams and the PI RPB, as well as between the jurisdictional teams and the Data Team.

AMERICAN SAMOA OCEAN PLANNING
The document you now hold is the first regional plan produced by the Pacific Islands RPB. It is a plan developed specifically for the territory of American Samoa – a locally-driven plan written by the American Samoa Ocean Planning Team (ASOPT).

Member agencies of the ASOPT are:

American Samoa Government Agencies: Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources (DMWR), Department of Port Administration (Port), Department of Commerce Coastal Management Program (DOC CMP), Department of Commerce Planning Division, Office of Samoan Affairs (OSA), AS Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA);

US Federal Agencies: United States Coast Guard (USCG), US EPA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), US National Park Service (NPS), Department of Defense (US Marine Corps); and the

Non-Federal Partner: Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC).
The American Samoa Ocean Plan (ASOP) provides guidance for agencies, individuals, or other entities proposing an activity or action related to ocean use in the waters of American Samoa. The information in this document is intended to encourage compatible uses, reduce use conflicts, and balance sustainable ocean use with marine conservation goals. The ASOP also describes certain ecological, social, and economic research needs, which may be helpful to scientists looking to propose projects in the Territory. Herein readers will find a comprehensive reference of existing spatial data regarding ocean use and insights into stakeholder perspectives regarding preferred ocean uses and locations for such, as well as potential use/user conflicts.

This document is not a stand-alone plan to manage the marine and coastal ecosystems of American Samoa. Rather, it is better understood as a consensus-based blueprint for harnessing and integrating the regulatory, enforcement, and other capacities of the various local and federal agencies charged with guiding marine development, conservation, preservation, utilization, and maritime shipping in the Territory. As with every printed document in the digital age, this is a snapshot of our current place in time. As Dwight Eisenhower said, “A plan is nothing. Planning is everything.” Therefore, the planning team intends to revise and amend this plan regularly, and recommends that in addition to the ASOP, readers consult the data portal and local agencies for real-time data and policies.

The ASOPT began its work in January 2016. Since then, it has held several meetings over the past two years and several listening sessions (Figure below; summaries can be found at [www.pacificislandsrpb.org/meetings/completed-meetings](http://www.pacificislandsrpb.org/meetings/completed-meetings)). During these meetings, the ASOPT concurrently followed three tracks: 1) developing its process of scoping, drafting, and review of the ASOP, 2) determining how and when to engage stakeholders and who those stakeholders are, and 3)
developing the plan itself, including drafting the vision statement, goals, objectives, actions, and tasks. This was a 3 year process that began with the PI RPB members from American Samoa volunteering to start the ocean planning effort in this Pacific Islands territory first.

The PI RPB members from American Samoa engaged the local ASG agencies, as well as federal agencies present in American Samoa to welcome them to the planning table. From those invites, local and federal agencies self-selected their participation. The members of the ASOPT have actively participated over the entire last three years in the development of the ocean planning process and plan.

Leadership was provided to the ASOPT by the PI RPB members. These PI RPB members, along with several ASOPT members, also ensured that the Governor, Fono, and OSA were kept updated about the progress of the ASOP development. The Governor has provided his support to this endeavor over its course, starting with the nomination of the PI RPB members (Appendix ??).

At the first meeting, the ASOPT members developed a vision statement and identified stakeholders with whom to engage during plan development. ASOPT members sought feedback on the vision statement during a listening session held during the second ASOPT meeting, and incorporated the feedback received into the final vision statement.

During the course of the next several ASOPT meetings, which were held publicly, the ASOPT developed goals and objectives for the draft Plan. After the goals and objectives were refined, the ASOPT held another series of listening sessions with targeted stakeholder groups and communities to seek feedback. In early 2018, the ASOPT incorporated the received input into further refinement of the goals and objectives, as well as actions and tasks associated with the objectives. This American Samoa Ocean Plan was developed by this planning team that wholeheartedly embraced the feedback received and incorporated it as appropriate throughout all aspects of the plan.
Figure. MAJOR EVENTS IN THE AMERICAN SAMOA OCEAN PLANNING PROCESS

JULY
President Obama issues EO 13547 Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes

SEPTEMBER
Moore Foundation provides first non-federal funding towards ocean planning efforts in the Pacific Islands, allowing the effort to start in American Samoa.

MARCH
Governor Moliga nominates AS DMWR and AS Port Admin. to serve on PI RPB

JANUARY
ASOPT surveys stakeholders about goals.

FEBRUARY
ASOPT refined goals and drafted objectives. PI RPB provided feedback on goals and objectives.

AUGUST
ASOPT refined objectives and developed actions.

SEPTEMBER
ASOPT held listening sessions with stakeholder groups and communities to get feedback on goals and objectives, as well as general uses on maps.

JANUARY
American Samoa Ocean Planning Team kicks off its planning effort and drafts its vision statement.

MARCH
ASOPT refines vision statement. ASOPT surveys stakeholders about vision statement. ASOPT hosts first public listening session to tell public about the effort and seek feedback on vision. PI RPB provided feedback on vision. Vision finalized and approved.

OCTOBER
ASOPT drafts goals

JANUARY
Ocean plan drafted for ASOPT review.

FEBRUARY
PI RPB reviewed draft ocean plan.

MARCH
ASOPT incorporated edits and listening session feedback in a public meeting.

MAY
ASOPT further refined the ocean plan.

JUNE
ASOPT held listening sessions with pulenu’u, stakeholder groups, and communities.
**Key Partners in the Planning Process**

Pacific Island and jurisdictional ocean planning has benefitted greatly from the process and spirit of collaboration, and the RPB recognizes the important role partnerships play in leveraging resources, conducting stakeholder engagement, and enhancing technical capacity. To date, key partners have included Udall, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and the Pacific Islands Data Team (PI RPB Data Team), among others.

The Naval Postgraduate School is another key partner, responsible for the initiation of the Pacific Islands Regional Data Portal (Data Portal) and direction of its development through the PI RPB’s Data Team. The Data Portal is in early development but intended to be an online, publicly available toolkit and resource center that consolidates available data and enables regional ocean planners and ocean users to visualize and analyze ocean resources and human use information. The Data Portal includes a wide range of human use, environmental, socioeconomic, and regulatory data that provides baseline information, as well as building blocks for more transparent, coordinated, and informed ocean management, information sharing, and stakeholder engagement. Input from stakeholders has been solicited throughout the process to inform development, utility, and design of the Data Portal. Development and use of data products and information that is scientifically based and informed by stakeholders is an important foundation for regional ocean planning.
Stakeholders in the Planning Process

Stakeholder and public engagement has been a cornerstone of American Samoa’s ocean planning process and will continue to be a critical component of Plan implementation, future updates, and revisions. Opportunities for engagement have included ASOPT meetings - all of which have been open to the public, allowed and encouraged public comments - as well as separate stakeholder outreach events hosted by the PI RPB and ASOPT. These events included the stakeholder assessment engagement, stakeholder and community listening sessions, public surveys, and ad hoc engagement (e.g. booth at Coasts Week) at key junctures in the process.

The formal public PI RPB and ASOPT meetings allowed members to discuss, deliberate, and make decisions transparently while also interacting with and collecting input from the public. Surveys, meetings, the PI RPB’s website and Facebook site, and listening sessions allowed the ASOPT to share updates with a wider audience and solicit feedback from stakeholders. The PI RPB website contains information and meeting materials, and provided information about opportunities for public comment throughout the process.

Ocean Use Sectors Represented in Targeted Listening Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCEAN USE SECTORS REPRESENTED IN TARGETED LISTENING SESSIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ports &amp; Shipping</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marine tourism</td>
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<td>Marine trades</td>
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<td>Commercial fishing</td>
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<td>Recreational fishing</td>
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<td>Marine navigation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ocean recreation</td>
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In American Samoa, everyone is a stakeholder in ocean uses and resources. Successful ocean use planning depends upon stakeholder engagement. The ASOPT successfully engaged stakeholders during development of this ocean use plan, and is committed to continued engagement during future implementation of this plan.

The ASOPT began development of a stakeholder engagement strategy at its 2016 kick-off meeting. The Planning Team adopted a three-pronged approach of engagement: ASG-centric, ocean user-centric, and village-level engagement. The ASOPT identified different methods for engaging the three groups of stakeholders including online surveys, public ASOPT meetings, and listening sessions. Stakeholder groups included ocean users such as commercial fishermen, port users, recreation users, and users linked closely to village uses of the ocean resources and spaces. All meetings were publicly noticed on the PI RPB Facebook and websites, as well as emails sent to the stakeholder distribution list.

This planning effort included a dedicated effort to ensure that stakeholders were authentically engaged. The U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution Udall Foundation funded a stakeholder assessment, which resulted in seven recommendations for how and when to connect with local ocean users and governance structures. The stakeholder assessment recommendations (Appendix X) were then folded into the ASOPT’s existing strategy to further refine how the ASOPT approached stakeholder engagement. The strategy was bolstered by the Udall recommendations regarding establishing a clear lead and a statement of purpose.
Figure XX. Timeline of stakeholder engagement.

**JANUARY**
- Online stakeholder surveys regarding goals

**FEBRUARY**
- ASOPT public meeting

**MAY**
- Stakeholders engaged via the stakeholder assessment, including OSA, matai, and pulenu’u

**AUGUST**
- ASOPT public meeting

**SEPTEMBER**
- ASOPT hosted listening sessions with stakeholder groups and communities to get feedback on goals and objectives, as well as general uses on maps. ASOPT also hosted a booth at Coasts Week.

**JANUARY**
- ASOPT public meeting
- ASOPT developed list of stakeholder groups

**FEBRUARY**
- Online stakeholder surveys regarding draft vision statement

**MARCH**
- ASOPT hosts first public listening session to tell public about the effort and seek feedback on vision
- Radio interview
- PI RPB public meeting
- ASOPT public meeting

**OCTOBER**
- ASOPT public meeting

**MARCH and MAY**
- Public ASOPT meetings

**JUNE/JULY**
- ASOPT held listening sessions with stakeholder groups and communities to get feedback on the draft plan

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER**
- ASOPT presented final plan to stakeholder groups and communities
**FUTURE SIDE CALL-OUT**

*Statement of Purpose:* The purpose of the plan is to provide American Samoa with systematic decision-making tool for coastal and marine areas that promotes balanced and sustainable multiple uses, improves cross-agency, cross-sectoral and cross-governance level communication and collaboration, enhances coastal and ocean health, and pro-actively plans for, mitigates, and adapts to sea level rise and other issues associated with climate change. The plan encourages active stakeholder engagement in the development of current and future uses of the ocean and coastal areas.

**OCEAN PLANNING FRAMEWORK**

**Geographic Focus**

The primary geographic focus for the American Samoa Ocean Plan is the ocean waters of the jurisdiction. Specifically, the geographic focus includes Territorial and Federal waters from the shoreline seaward to the boundary of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which is up to 200 nm or limited by the boundary with:

- Tokelau to the north
- Niue and the Kingdom of Tonga to the south
- Cook Islands to the east
- Samoa and the Kingdom of Tonga to the west.

The geographic focus is comprised of two sections, which are used throughout the plan: 1) Coastal, which extends from the shoreline to 3 nm, or the extent of Territorial waters, and 2) Ocean, which
extends from 3 nm out to the outer extent of the EEZ, or up to 200 nm. The definition of coastal in Chapter 26.0206 is the “entire island of Tutuila, the Manu’a Islands, Aunu’u Island, Rose Island, and Swains Island…and all coastal waters and submerged lands for a distance of three (3) nautical miles seaward in all directions.” The ASOPT acknowledged that this would include inland areas when adopting this definition of “coastal” so specifically notes that this plan deviates in that it refers to “shoreline to 3nm.”

While the RPB and ASOPT operates with this definition of the geographic focus, it recognizes the importance of coastal areas. The RPB will draw connections to and coordinate closely with entities responsible for the management, permitting, and planning of those areas, particularly when ocean uses and natural resources have an interrelationship with coastal communities, ports, or other shoreside infrastructure. The geographic focus is an administrative description for planning purposes only, and is not intended to create or represent fixed boundaries or affect existing legal authorities.

In addition to the connections to the inland and seaward connections, this plan also recognizes the overlapping permitting and planning jurisdictions within the study area, for example, PNRS (from the shoreline to 3nm), federal agencies, and territorial plans (shoreline to 12nm).

American Samoa consists of roughly 76 square miles of land area over a group of five volcanic islands and two atolls. The five volcanic islands include Tutuila, Aunu’u, Ofu, Olesega, and Ta’u. Ofu, Olesega, and Ta’u are collectively referred to as the Manu’a Islands [Figure XX]. Additionally, there are two atolls: Swains Island and Rose Atoll [Figure XX]. The island areas are traditionally called districts (East District, West District, and Manu’a District) and there are several villages within each district. For more information about the islands’ sizes, village names, and demographics, please refer to the Territory of American Samoa Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (Chapter II: Planning Area Profile).
GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The ASOPT established 2 guiding principles, which it defines as “basic or essential qualities or elements determining the intrinsic nature or characteristic behavior of regional ocean planning.” These principles describe how the ASOPT intends to operate.

FUTURE SIDE CALL-OUT
Guiding Principles:
#1: Increase coordination and communication within the community, among stakeholders, and across all levels of government
#2: Vibrant and integrated fa’a Samoa

VISION

FUTURE SIDE CALL-OUT
Vision: The people of American Samoa, with their healthy ocean, coasts, and communities, enjoy a thriving and secure environment, economy, and Fa’a Samoa

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
The goals are high-level statements of outcomes the ASOPT hopes to achieve with its Ocean Plan. It considers the two goals to be of equal importance and deeply interconnected. However, the ASOPT recognized that without healthy and coastal ecosystems, sustainable ocean uses are unachievable. Thus, it chose to have Goal 1 in support of healthy ecosystems. The objectives under each goal describe specific outcomes and observable changes that contribute to achieving American Samoa’s ocean planning goals.

The first goal, Healthy Ocean and Coastal Ecosystems, is to promote ocean ecosystem health, functionality, and integrity through management of habitats and species, reduction in pollution, and climate change adaptation and resilience.

The second goal, Sustainable Ocean and Coastal Uses, is to plan and provide for existing and emerging ocean uses in a sustainable manner that minimizes conflicts and supports economic growth.

FUTURE SIDE CALL-OUT
Goals:
#1: Healthy Ocean and Coastal Ecosystems
#2: Sustainable Ocean and Coastal Uses

APPROACH
The National Ocean Council’s Marine Planning Handbook serves as reference for planning teams around the country. The regional planning bodies and local planning teams were given flexibility to determine how to approach planning.
At its in-person meeting in February 2016 in Pago Pago, the ASOPT deliberated on and approved a planning process. The planning process was iterative. The ASOPT developed elements of the plan, reviewed and revised the element (such as vision, goals, etc.), sought stakeholder and PI RPB feedback about it, incorporated feedback, then finalized it.

This iterative process was used to develop the draft vision, goals, and objectives. The ASOPT then developed a complete draft for stakeholder and PI RPB review. The final draft is a product of incorporated review and comments.

**MOVING AHEAD UNDER EXISTING AUTHORITIES**

Ocean planning aims to achieve better coordination and collaboration among the numerous governmental agencies with existing management authorities over our ocean and coastal resources. Coordination among planning entities and consistent use of best available ocean data are key elements of the actions presented in Chapter Two, which reflect stakeholder and public input on issues of concern and address specific management interests shared by local and national governments. The ASOP focuses on informing decision making under existing authorities, but the ASOPT itself does not have any regulatory authority. Therefore, coordination actions taken by ASOPT members and their entities will occur under existing regulatory and statutory authorities.

This document does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable by law or equity against any signatory or any of its officers, employees, or other representatives or any person. The statutes and regulations referenced herein contain legally binding requirements, and this document
does not substitute for those statutes and regulations, nor is this document itself a regulation. In the event of a conflict between this document and requirements under statute or regulation, the latter controls. All commitments made by agencies herein are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and agency budget priorities. Nothing in this document in and of itself obligates the agencies to expend appropriations or to enter into any contract, assistance agreement, interagency agreement, or incur other financial obligations. This document does not create any exemption from policies governing competition for assistance agreements. Any transaction involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this document will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures under separate written agreements.

Appendix XXX provides a brief description of Federal authorities directly relevant to the ASOP, and a description of key Territorial and WPFMC authorities and interests. For a more complete listing of authorities that address ocean activities and interests, please refer to the NOC’s publication, *Legal Authorities Relating to the Implementation of Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning*.

For more information about Implementation, see Chapter 4: Implementation.
[CHAPTER TWO]
GOAL 1: HEALTHY OCEAN AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS
AUTU 1: SAMI MA LE GATAIFALE MATAGOFIE MA LE SAOGALEMU

Three objectives and associated actions were developed for addressing Goal 1: Healthy Ocean and Coastal Ecosystems. While this plan acknowledges that the coastal ecosystems include from the ridge to the reef, including watersheds, please note that for the purposes of this ocean planning effort, the actions and tasks, unless specifically noted, apply from the shore seaward to the boundary of the US EEZ, or up to 200 nm.

FUTURE SIDE CALL-OUT
Objective 1. Spatially identify species’ habitats to protect, maintain, and/or restore healthy ocean and coastal ecosystems and natural beauty.
Objective 2. Support coordination of efforts to prevent or reduce coastal and marine sources of pollution affecting our oceans.
Objective 3. Spatially plan for ocean ecosystem changes and increased risks.

OBJECTIVE 1. SPATIALLY IDENTIFY SPECIES’ HABITATS TO PROTECT, MAINTAIN AND/OR RESTORE HEALTHY OCEAN AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS AND NATURAL BEAUTY.

This objective is intended to deepen our understanding of key areas of the ocean ecosystem in order to inform decision making under existing authorities. Under this action, the ASOPT and PI RPB will continue to develop enhanced data products for individual marine species, marine life synthesis products, and human use data and information synthesis products to support science-based decision making under a range of authorities. Ultimately, advanced synthesis of marine life and habitat data can help identify...
general or specific areas that are characterized by one or more components of ecological richness, such as high biodiversity, abundance, and productivity.

The marine life data synthesis products and the factual reports can potentially inform a range of decisions related to possible uses, including NEPA analyses, evaluation of baseline information for offshore development projects, development of research agendas, and other agency-specific processes and practices. It is important to clarify at the outset that the RPB does not have the authority to identify discrete areas of the ocean for specific management objectives. Instead, identification of ERAs (above) are intended to inform management decisions under existing authorities—through data products shared publicly through the Data Portal and the factual reports.

**Action 1. Spatially identify ecologically rich areas, including essential fish habitat (EFH) and critical habitat (CH), and increase the use of the information in agency decision making processes.**

The WPFMC and NOAA have essential fish habitat and critical habitat data layers, as well as habitat maps. Other agencies with habitat maps include NPS, USFWS, and AS DMWR. Mapping efforts, including via LiDAR surveys, happen periodically, with much of the data being housed by NOAA.

*Description language to be added by Fatima (NOAA), Nate (WPFMC), and Sandra (DOC CZM).*

Agency lead: NOAA PIRO and DMWR
Partners: NOAA OCM, AS DMWR, NPS, USFWS, ASDOC GIS, OSA, ASDOC GIS, AS GIS Users Group

1. Within the spatial extent of the identified habitat, coordinate with AS DMWR and AS OSA to work with agencies and village leaders to identify desired marine life data layers (footprints of mangroves, seagrass, coral reefs, critical habitat, EFH, ports, harbors, Ava locations) and important infrastructure was identified as relevant to incorporate into a data portal and mapping interface.
2. Working with village leaders would occur through AS OSA. The ASOPT understands the need to protect certain data, such as locations of listed species or species of concern, to avoid exploitation of these vulnerable species.
3. Work within agencies to develop and refine a draft framework for identification of ecologically rich areas (ERAs) (insert example from Mid-A in Appendix 4).
4. Standardize the definition of an ecologically rich area.
5. Import existing data layers into the Data Portal and increase the use of the data and identify gaps between what exists and desired data layers.
6. Provide a contrast of areas with multiple layers of information and missing information.
7. Post information and maps developed in Tasks above to the Data Portal and PNRS websites.

**Action 2. Ensure adequate data are in place to inform public use and permittee proposed uses.**

Not all data exist within the confines of agencies. This data effort will include robust engagement of fishermen, conservation organizations, maritime industry, recreational users, and other
stakeholders, scientists and other technical experts, Traditional Knowledge holders, and the general public to share and collaborate data for informed and wise public and commercial use.

The stakeholder assessment results described in the stakeholder section in Chapter 1 and in the Appendix provide further insights and recommendations related to engaging audiences. When information is exchanged, and new data are developed, the GIS Users Group can create data layers that would then be incorporated in the DOC portal and the PI RPB portal. AS EPA can offer a support and technical role to assist with these initiatives.

Agency Lead: GIS Users Group
Partners: AS DMWR, ASDOC CMP, ASEPA

1. Share the ecologically rich areas data with stakeholders, decision makers, and villages. Conduct workshops and outreach on using the Data Portal to ensure these layers are understood, accepted and can be used.
2. Provide training on how to overlap the future uses data with the ERAs.
3. Based on any information exchanges, select two pilot areas of heavy public use or permit interest to further develop additional needed ecological data.
4. Use the above information to promote agency and village education, outreach, and existing DMWR, CZM, and ASEPA awareness initiatives related to ecological resources.
5. Refer to these data layers during proposal reviews, or, if you are a permittee, refer to these layers to determine compatibility of your project.

Action 3. Identify species with management and/or cultural designations, and those with economic value.
Description language for action to be provided by DMWR (Domingo), WPFCMC (Nate), NOAA (Fatima)

Agency lead: AS DMWR
Partner: NOAA PIRO, NOAA OCM, AS OSA, USFWS, AS Historic Preservation Society (AS HPS), ASDOC GIS, NOAA PIFSC, DOC CMP

1. Map species of concern distributions, species with designations distributions, and habitat protections (e.g. EFH) from laws or lists. Species with designations and habitat protections can include, but are not limited to, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, by the ESA as threatened or endangered, by the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act, the U.S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, and the MSA.
2. Coordinate with AS DMWR to work with village leaders to map species, habitats, or areas with cultural value and/or protected status within villages or by village leaders.
3. Review and map regulatory mechanisms related to species with economic value.
4. Import existing data layers into the Data Portal and increase the use of the data and identify gaps between what exists and desired data layers.

Action 4. Identify and maintain updated data related to administrative and marine jurisdictional data related to protected areas or management areas (areas from policies and statues or culturally-identified (e.g. prohibited areas) that do not necessarily follow habitat areas).
There are several habitat designations for various species and their important habitats. These include essential fish habitats (EFH) and habitat areas of particular concern identified under the U.S.
Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management and Conservation Act (MSA), and critical habitat identified under the U.S. Endangered Species Act (ESA). These identified habitats can be in conflict with particular uses, such as development, but may be compatible with other uses, such as no-take recreational uses, low impact development, or a spatial separation within the water column (e.g. a ship may cruise over EFH without impacting the habitat).

Agency Lead: NOAA PIRO
Agency Partners: ASEPA, AS DMWR, ASDOC, AS DPS (Marine Patrol Division), NOAA OLE, USFWS, NPS, AS Department of Parks and Recreation, ASDOC PNRS, USCG

1. Identify and map the footprint of administrative and marine jurisdictional management areas from laws, policies, or village practices (e.g. IUCN red list, ESA, MMPA, MSA, migratory seabirds).
2. Upload into the data portal and- to ensure new data and information are incorporated to keep management current and relevant-provide access to regulators, permittees, the public, and industry in exchange for participation in an annual update session.
3. Identify areas of management conflicts, management gaps, and enforcement/security vulnerabilities.
4. Use the above information to promote agency and village education, outreach, and awareness initiatives related to management actions and special protections.

**OBJECTIVE 2. SUPPORT COORDINATION OF EFFORTS TO PREVENT OR REDUCE COASTAL AND MARINE SOURCES OF POLLUTION AFFECTING OUR OCEANS.**

Marine debris and pollution are threats to the health of coastal and ocean ecosystems and human health. The bioaccumulation of plastics in the marine food web, and in particular the ingestion of plastic particles by commercially sought species are worldwide, but of great impact to American Samoa’s fish-based economy and diet. A resolution requires collaboration across levels of government and with the public and partners. The purpose of this action is to build on efforts of NOAA’s Marine Debris Program, EPA’s Trash-free Waters Program, and other existing programs and partnerships in the region to develop regionally appropriate and feasible pollution reduction strategies that address key issues such as: debris from storms, derelict fishing gear, plastic food containers, microplastics, plastic bottles and bags, balloons, and cigarette butts. Strategies may include source reduction, coordinated cleanups, regionally applicable public outreach, education, and social marketing campaigns aimed at behavior change.

Jurisdictional efforts that accomplish this objective are already underway by several agencies. ASEPA leads an overarching initiative that coordinates the local agencies. For example, it held Marine Debris Workshops (last one July 2017) and continues to plan events. The shoreline cleanup is part of its Keep AS Beautiful campaign. Additionally, ASEPA issues tickets for littering and follows through by taking offenders to court. Other agencies typically involved in marine debris include AS DMWR, AS DPA, AS Department of Public Safety, ASDOC CMP, ASDOC GIS, USCG, USEPA, and NOAA.

Coordinating efforts include the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), which has the goal of harmonizing the region on issues such as a regional ban on plastic bags. Also, the Land-Based Source of Pollution Local Action Strategy (LAS) working continues to bring together various local government department and federal agencies to work together on strategies and projects that would
address land-based sources of pollution in the territory. There are many coordinated efforts by ASEPA, DOC, ASCC Land Grant, AS DMWR CRAG, and ASNPS that include coastal stabilization; stream restoration; beach, coastal, and priority watershed cleanups; and outreach and awareness programs.

Petroleum-based plastic shopping bags are banned at the point of sale in American Samoa. The selling and distribution of these bags is prohibited in accordance with the 2011 Plastic Shopping Bag Ban (PSBB) under ASCA 25.2034. ASEPA encourages the use of paper bags, biodegradable bags, cloth bags, woven baskets and other alternative bags. ASEPA, ASDOC, and AS DPS enforce the PSBB law.

ASEPA conducts weekly Nearshore Marine Water Quality Monitoring to monitor for non-point source pollution, the results of which are available to the public and media the next day. The pathogen indicator of water quality impairments is *enterococcus* in coastal recreation waters. ASEPA informs the public when coastal recreation waters don’t meet AS Water Quality Standards (WQS) for *enterococcus*, as well as the potential risks associated with polluted waters. AS WQS (ASAC 24.0201) protects local usage of ocean waters, wetlands, embayments, and open coastal waters to provide prohibited uses. All uses must adhere to AS WQS and must be substantially free from substances, materials attributable to sewage, industrial wastes, visible floating materials or other manmade activities or objects.

Marine debris is an emerging and significant issue in American Samoa. It has important effects in our ability to protect human health, aquatic life, and the environment. Timely actions to address this major threat are needed, particularly in a time where other significant threats such as adverse impacts from climate change that can exacerbate its effects, complicate recovery, and reduce resiliency to recover from these impacts. ASEPA recently launched a Marine Debris Program (MDP) with the goals of building capacity in mitigating and minimizing sources of marine litter. The objectives of the MDP are to ensure a sustained marine debris program in the Territory, conduct scientific research and monitoring, initiate targeted source reduction projects, and to regularly and systematically engage with the community, federal, regional, and local partners.

Since its inception in 2015, the MDP has met some significant milestones. At the 2015 SPREP annual meeting in Apia, ASEPA presented on marine debris initiatives by the agency and its partners. This provided a platform for discussion of overlapping lessons and opportunities for collaboration with local, regional, and international partners.

In May 2016, a Marine Debris Action Plan workshop was convened by ASEPA and USEPA Region 9 to provide a background of the known and projected impacts of marine litter, share knowledge of existing initiatives to address this issue in the Territory, and discuss opportunities to develop action items regarding implementation of potential solutions and management actions. This workshop strengthened existing collaborative efforts at the local, federal, and regional levels, and built partnerships to address the problems of marine debris in American Samoa. A key outcome of the action plan workshop was the identification of the six (6) priority projects that follow SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, and Time-related) objectives. The six (6) projects identified are:

1. Moving waste and recyclables off-island;
2. Ramping up education and outreach to improve environmental literacy;
3. Generating a village-based Materials Recovery Facility (MRF);
4. Proposing legislation to ban styrofoam products;
5. Removal of grounded vessels; and
The Marine Debris Action Plan workshop reinforced the shared goals to protect and manage the resource in American Samoa. The MDP continues to support marine debris initiatives and encourages fostering ongoing collaboration with local, federal and regional partners.

NOAA also has a Marine Debris Program that works with local partners to address marine debris through removals and prevention. A current project in American Samoa is a risk assessment to quantify microplastics in water, sediment, and bivalves, as well as assess the types and concentrations of organic contaminants in the collected samples. This project is being led by Arizona State University through a grant from the NOAA Marine Debris program, working with partners from ASEPA and AS DMWR.

DOC funded the development of the American Samoa Erosion and Sediment Control Field Guide booklet, which was designed specifically for construction contractors in American Samoa to help them implement best management practices (BMPs) for erosion and sediment control. These construction activities consist of clearing, grading, stockpiling, and other earth-moving activities at all construction sites. Its provisions are administered and enforced pursuant to the ASEPA American Samoa Water Quality Standards (ASAC 24.0201 et seq.) and the American Samoa Coastal Management Program Administrative Rules (ASAC 26.02). To help contractors implement best management practices for erosion and sediment control (ESC), this field guide:

- Explains why erosion and sediment control (ESC) is an important part of the construction process
- Summarizes ESC practice design, installation, and maintenance tips
- Outlines inspection and project closeout considerations
- Serves as a reference for use in the field
- Relies primarily on graphical illustrations for multilingual users
- Is not a substitute for more detailed practice design or technical specifications.

**Action 1. Identify spatial extent of existing strategies, related laws, programs, plans, and jurisdictions for marine debris and pollution reduction**

This can include collecting information and data from ASEPA from citations that are issued. AS DMWR also has data regarding marine debris cleanup from 2011 and 2015 with its Coral Reef Advisory Group (CRAG). NOAA published the “Sensitivity of Coastal Environments and Wildlife to Spilled Oil – American Samoa Atlas.” Past spills and clean up location data can be acquired from Solar Inc.
ASEPA addresses the critical environmental and health impacts caused by improperly-managed piggery wastes. ASEPA brought all piggeries into compliance with local environmental and health regulations by decreasing the number of pigs kept in illegal piggeries, which resulted in the reduction of nitrogen and phosphorus to waterbodies. The program continues to inspect and enforce against illegal pig management on island.

Agency lead: ASDOC GIS  
Partners: AS DPA, USCG, ASEPA, AS DMWR, SPREP, ASG WCC Working Groups, CRAG, NOAA Marine Debris Program, USFWS

1. Map the existing agencies’ jurisdictions to identify gaps and overlaps.  
2. Map the common sources of pollution identified within those efforts (i.e. rivers and streams emptying into the harbor).  
3. Map locations of past spills and clean up areas included within the above efforts.  
4. Add layers to the Data Portal and ensure partner agencies can access them.

**Action 2. Increase and enhance outreach for improved source controls and link to efforts currently underway.**

This action includes identifying all outreach groups involved in pollution reduction initiatives. ASEPA is the lead agency in administering the Keep American Samoa Beautiful (KASB) Act, which became the new litter law of American Samoa on December 24, 2016, replacing outdated litter laws from 1972. The KASB Act aims to improve litter enforcement in the Territory by giving citation authority to seven ASG agencies: ASEPA, American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA), AS DPS, Department of Health (DOH), DMWR, AS DPR, and OSA. Litter is defined under the KASB Act as “No Person shall place, throw, or drop litter on public, communal, or private real property, or in any waters of the Territory.” Authorized agencies have issued more than 100 litter citations under the KASB Act. ASEPA and its partnering agencies continue to enforce the KASB Act and provide litter education and outreach targeting our island community, business and schools.

Agency lead: AS DOC or DMWR?  
Partners: ASEPA, NOAA, IWCC Education subgroup

1. Share the spatial data with stakeholders, decision makers, and villages via existing outreach efforts.  
2. Provide training on how to use the Data Portal to overlap the ecologically rich areas (ERAs) with pollution data to educate stakeholders about possible impacts of debris and pollution on ERAs.  
3. Use the Data Portal to identify areas where there are spatial gaps in outreach or efforts.

**Action 3. Increase coordination with regional fishery management organizations to reduce fishing fleet generated debris, including FAD’s.**

This action could include collaboration with regional fishery management organizations to reduce marine debris generated at an international level as well.

Agency lead: AS DMWR  
Partners: NOAA PIRO, SPREP, WPFMC
1. Share the spatial data with fleets via WPFMC meetings, international fisheries meetings (e.g. IATTC, WCPFC), WPFMC Advisory Panel meetings, and informal briefings.
2. Provide training on how to use the Data Portal to overlap the ecologically rich areas (ERAs), with vessel data and pollution data to educate fleet owners about possible impacts of debris and pollution on ERAs.
3. Use the Data Portal to identify geographic areas of accumulated debris and high vessel traffic, which may provide potential projects for collaborative clean-up efforts.

**OBJECTIVE 3. SPATIALLY PLAN FOR OCEAN ECOSYSTEM CHANGES AND INCREASED RISKS**

There have been efforts to develop plans for climate change impacts, increasing sea levels, and natural disaster preparedness. The AS DOC CMP prepared a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (2012) and the US ACE prepared an American Samoa Tsunami Study (2012) that both address responses to natural disasters. The local weather station (NOAA National Weather Service) and AS Department of Homeland Security is working on Severe Weather plans, updating flood zone maps and tsunami models. This all feeds into ocean planning because these models need to be considered when planning for development. This includes the effects of climate change.

These are important plans because economic, social, and environmental resilience is interconnected when natural disasters strike. A tsunami in American Samoa can damage the tuna canneries and longline vessels, which are vital to the American Samoa economy, potentially cause damage to ecosystems depending on the level of debris entering the coasts and oceans from the canneries, longline vessels, and other anthropogenic sources, and also impact the communities of the workers in the longline and cannery industries. Thus, it’s important that American Samoa is prepared for natural disasters and able to respond quickly.

*Action 1. Coordinate existing efforts to map shifts in ocean species distributions, habitats of interest, and chemistry.*

Mapping shifts in ocean species, habitats of interest, and chemistry allows for better ocean use planning in the future, when agencies are weighing trade-offs between proposed new uses, locations of current uses, and the ecology of American Samoa. Knowing how species and habitats are shifting can allow American Samoa to be more resilient in the face of climate change because they can protect areas if needed or shift uses to more productive areas (such as fisheries).

NOAA’s Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center and the AS DMWR are responsible for mapping shifts in ocean species. Projects such as this are ongoing, including…. Habitats of interest are mapped by….. Ocean chemistry is monitored by…..

*Agency lead: ASDOC GIS*

*Partners: Climate Change Task Force (CCTF): GIS Users Group, NOAA OCM, AS DMWR*

1. Identify available and potential information sources.
2. Recommend ways to make current information and data more accessible to members and the general public.
3. Convene resource managers, scientists, Traditional Knowledge holders, commercial fishermen, and other stakeholders to review and discuss: (1) data and methodologies that
can be used to create maps that illustrate existing, historic, expected, or potential shifts in the distribution of marine species and habitats; (2) potential management applications of the maps; (3) additional data or information needed to enhance utility of draft maps; and (4) caveats for use.

4. Coordinate partners and stakeholders regarding mapping data acquisition, using existing tools available for integrated ocean and coastal mapping collaboration, and leveraging support where feasible.

5. Develop approaches to the production, peer review, metadata, and publication of maps that illustrate regional climate change-related biological and ecological changes.

6. Facilitate the publication of maps on the Data Portal, after they have been vetted and finalized.

7. Identify resource needs and recommend methods to use new information to support initial and periodic updates of Data Portal mapping products to maintain its utility for management agencies and stakeholders, as well as ensure that updates occur regularly as appropriate.

8. Use the above information to promote Fono, agency, stakeholder, and village education, outreach, and awareness related to climate impacts.

**Action 2. Support existing local and regional initiatives related to ocean acidification.**

Changes in ocean chemistry have the potential to create economic, environmental, social, and cultural impacts in American Samoa. To begin to understand ocean acidification and its potential impacts, a more comprehensive review of initiatives- ones that include both coastal and ocean sampling sites- is needed. This action will improve capacities to detect and understand ecosystem impacts of ocean acidification and enhance awareness within management agencies and stakeholders of select chemical and ecological changes in the ocean ecosystem. Partnerships with organizations like the Pacific Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS), a regional association of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System, will help to ensure a coordinated regional approach to addressing ocean acidification in the Pacific, as well drawing from experience in other parts of the Nation.

This action can build on the existing climate change monitoring efforts that are conducted every three years by the NOAA CREP.

**Lead:**

**Partners:**

1. Identify and compile a list of current regional ocean acidification monitoring efforts and technologies, research, and data gaps, as well as opportunities for partnerships and support.

2. Identify and prioritize questions the collective efforts should be addressing, potentially including location and number of offshore monitoring sites, appropriate time intervals for measuring ocean acidification, and the relationship between estuarine eutrophication and carbon dioxide absorption as drivers of coastal and ocean acidification.

3. Convene scientists, stakeholders, Traditional Knowledge holders, and the public to review the incoming data and results, and determine next steps for coordinated efforts to mitigate the effects of ocean acidification.

**Action 3. Enhance the coordinated effort to reduce the impacts of nuisance and invasive species on coastal and ocean ecosystems.**
Invasive species are those that are infiltrating the native environment to the detriment of native species and habitats. Nuisance species are those that could be invasive or native, but pose a threat to resources of concern. Both invasive and nuisance species can also pose a threat to food security if they negatively impact commerce, food supply (such as commercial fisheries or aquaculture), or navigation. The USFWS has strict quarantine protocols in place for vessels and personnel that are visiting Rose Atoll to conduct research. AS DMWR has already developed an invasive species plan. This effort would contribute a spatial component to that plan and provide data to inform those efforts.

Lead Agency:
Partners: USFWS

1. Identify existing efforts and strategies for nuisance and invasive species control.
2. Develop new data or upload data that reflect sources of invasive species and problem areas for nuisance and invasive species.
3. Use data and the Data Portal to conduct outreach for improved source controls (e.g. ballast water) and link to efforts underway by other programs.
4. Present options for agency-specific strategies, which include implementation mechanisms with the public and ASOPT.

**Action 4. Enhance or maintain climate change adaptation and resilience.**
NOAA is heavily involved with climate change initiatives at the federal level. Locally, AS DMWR, ASEPA, and ASDOC CMP are the most involved. NOAA PIRO helped develop the Amouli Climate Resilience Plan. AS DMWR CRAG Climate Change Program is currently planning in Vatia and A’ua.

Agency lead: NOAA PIRO
Partners: NOAA Sanctuaries, AS DMWR CRAG, CMWR CFMP, ASEPA, GIS User Group

1. Identify vulnerable species, ecosystems, habitats, areas and regions.
2. Use the PLA process to incorporate climate change data into community plans.
3. Continue to coordinate with the ASOPT and GIS User Group to ensure the Data Portal contains current data related to climate change adaptation efforts, vulnerability analyses, and impact studies.

*Insert PICTURE OF COASTLINE — SIDE BY SIDE — EARLIER PICTURE AND NOW TO SHOW CHANGES*
The Sustainable Ocean and Coastal Uses goal focuses on fostering coordination, transparency, and use of quality information to support accommodation of existing, new, and future ocean uses in a manner that minimizes conflict, enhances compatibility, improves effectiveness, enables regulatory predictability, and supports economic growth. Several reports as well as common knowledge document that the primary sources of income in American Samoa are derived from the American Samoa Government and the tuna cannery (Territorial General Plan 2003). American Samoa is striving to diversify its economy to promote economic resilience, but faces challenges. In some cases, there is a need to correlate the socioeconomic means and aspirations of the villagers and the economic plans of ASG (Clark et al. 2012).

A strategic priority of the AS Department of Commerce is to enhance maritime job creation by increasing aquaculture production. This opportunity is further enhanced by a Congressional increase in funding for marine aquaculture. Another potential economic diversification may come through increased tourism (SPTO 2017), including ecotourism. Tourism development must be sustainable, as well as environmentally and culturally sensitive (Thero et al. 2010). The five objectives under this goal and associated actions provide mechanisms to encourage sustainable ocean and coastal uses.

**FUTURE SIDE CALL-OUT**
- Objective 1. Encourage sustainable and appropriate coastal and ocean development and uses.
- Objective 2. Spatially plan coastal and ocean resources and uses to ensure economic resilience.
- Objective 3. Enhance, promote, and maintain sustainable traditional values, knowledge, and practices on island.
- Objective 4. Account for national security interests in the AS coastal and ocean waters through enhanced coordination, increased transparency, and sharing of information across territorial and federal agencies.
- Objective 5. Spatially plan for enhanced food security.

**CURRENT USES OF THE COASTAL AND OCEAN WATERS OF AMERICAN SAMOA**
The island of Tutuila has the highest density of uses, including several types of commercial, recreational, cultural, educational, and scientific uses. For example, uses include tuna processing; purse seine, longline, and alia fishing; ferry and tug operations; seaport and airport operations; fuel and petroleum supply; telecommunications and wastewater infrastructure; and tourism. In the more remote Manu’a Islands, the uses are predominantly subsistence and sustenance fishing by boat and from shore, swimming, seaports (Ta’u Island has Faleasao Harbor and Ta’u Harbor that are operated seasonally; Ofu has one), and coastal airports (Fitiuta Airport on Ta’u; Ofu Airport on Ofu).
During a previous mapping effort in American Samoa, the WPFMC developed lists of several types of uses, which the ASOPT used during mapping exercises with the communities and stakeholders. However, some uses were combined and commercial fishing was added (explanation of the uses are in Appendix XXX). Of particular note, cultural fishing was included under fishing and village-based activities, although *fautasi* racing was included under recreation. Other types of cultural activities were not identified in the WPFMC’s exercise but could be identified and mapped in the future. Additionally, commercial fishing was not identified as a commercial activity because this was a Pago Pago Harbor mapping exercise; commercial fishing is done outside the harbor.

The ASOPT based the plan’s uses on the WPFMC effort, but has further expanded them for the ocean planning effort (Table XYZ). The ASOPT also added the general vicinity for where use types occur. However, there were caveats. For example, most fueling occurs within 3 mi of the shore, but fueling also occurs at sea at distances greater than 3 mi from shore. For the ocean planning effort, the nearshore activity is more relevant (e.g. Pago Harbor). Regarding shipwrecks, these are listed in two tables, but this is because the user group is different (e.g. shipwreck from a village activity versus shipwreck from commercial and harbor activities). Coastal access points are in all tables because the user groups are different.

**Table X.** Human uses associated with the marine environment and types of uses within each category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human Uses</th>
<th>Types of Uses*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>Marine jurisdictions, administrative boundaries, federal lease blocks, special management areas, fisheries management areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishing and Village-Based Uses</td>
<td>Swimming, Spearfishing, Bottomfishing, Trolling, Handlining / bamboo pole / rod and reel fishing from shore, Shoreline and nearshore gleaning/ gathering (&lt;5 ft deep), Gill nets, Throw nets, Sand mining, Shoreline recreation, Coastal access points, Shipwrecks, Recreational fishing, Sports fishing tournaments, Coastal clean-ups</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural Uses</td>
<td>Culturally significant fishing (e.g. akule runs), Culturally significant sites / landmarks, Fautasi races / Canoe races, Coastal access points, Fishponds, Fautasi tours, Historic / culturally significant sites (e.g. Star Mound)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational, Educational, and Research Uses</td>
<td>Recreational paddling, Swimming, Recreational diving, Recreational snorkeling, Surfing, Recreational sailing, Jet skiing, Educational activities, Research activities (university and local agency), Coastal access points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maritime Commerce and Navigation</td>
<td>Shipping / commercial shipyard, Cannery operations / fish processing, Transport by boat / ferry, Fueling / Fuel transport, Cruise ship operations, Yacht mooring, Coastal access points (terrestrial), Shipwrecks, Commercial fishing, Fresh fish export – off island, Aquaculture and mariculture, Navigational aids, Anchorage grounds, Ocean disposal sites</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*These lists are not exhaustive and may be amended in the future.*

[Insert OCEAN USES MAP]

Administrative Uses: There are several types of government uses, both at the federal and territorial level. These can include the USCG’s navigational aids, fishery management boundaries, sanctuary boundaries, and special management areas, and historic sites. Maritime heritage resources consist of cultural, archaeological, and historical properties associated with coastal and marine areas and /or seafaring activities and traditions (Van Tilburg 2007). For the purposes of ocean planning, cultural activities are in their own category below. Many of the maritime heritage resources were documented in the 2007 NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries American Samoa Maritime Heritage Inventory. The report compiled databases, archival material, and known reports of maritime heritage sites, but did not initiate any new surveys; the report includes mapped areas of heritage sites (Figure X).

Figure X.
Fishing and Village Based Uses: swimming; several types of shore-based, boat-based, and swimming-based fishing; sand mining; access points; and shoreline recreation. Village uses can also fall under recreational and/or cultural uses.

Commercial and recreational fishing are important economic activities in the jurisdiction, and both are part of the region’s culture and sense of place. The Federal Government and ASG, as well as villages, have their respective roles in the management of fishing in the territory. From shore to 3 nautical miles (nm) offshore, AS DMWR manages the fisheries resources. From 3nm seaward seaward to the boundary of the US EEZ, or up to 200 nm offshore, fishing is regulated by NOAA NMFS, based on recommendations from the WPFMC. Resources that extend beyond the range of the EEZ, considered the “high seas,” are managed by NOAA NMFS, in cooperation with the WPFMC, the State Department, and several international organizations such as the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
Actions identified in this Plan do not supplant the authority or decisions of these bodies, nor does the Plan create any additional management authorities. The intent of the PI RPB is to act as a forum for federal agencies, the state, and territories to discuss the implications of management decisions taken under existing authorities, so that the full impact of those decisions is clearer. Ocean planning also includes the consideration of protected wildlife species that may interact with fisheries and fishing communities. Neither the Plan nor the PI RPB change the existing authorities or management regimes for fishing.

The actions within this Plan are intended to improve collaboration between the Federal Government, American Samoa, and villages in relation to regional fisheries management. Additionally, the Data Portal is a source of information that can be used to identify areas that particular fisheries are utilizing. This can help resource managers and project proponents gain a sense of the value of ocean space to different communities, including the fishing community, when considering decisions about the use of ocean space.

**Cultural Uses:** Cultural uses include fautasi races, akule runs, annual palolo gathering, important cultural sites such as Turtle and Shark (Laumei ma Malie; Figure XX), among others.

Figure XX. Laumei ma Malie (Turtle and Shark). Photo courtesy: National Park Service.
Future uses should consider the spatial footprint, including location and seasonality, of these practices. Also, the ASOPT wanted to acknowledge that some practices that could be considered traditional, such as particular types of reef fishing, may not be sustainable.

Recreational, Educational, and Research Uses:
Recreation can be divided into consumptive and non-consumptive. Non-consumptive recreation is any recreational use that provides an experience rather than a product. Popular coastal non-consumptive activities include swimming, surfing, and paddling. Consumptive recreation includes activities such as hunting and recreational and charter boat fishing. It should be noted that extensive human coastal recreation without the use of best practices may have unintended adverse impacts on wildlife breeding, feeding, and resting. It is important to ensure recreational users are made aware of best practices to protect potentially affected species.

Education and scientific research uses include monitoring the coastal and ocean waters by scientific personnel from the AS DMWR, ASEPA, American Samoa Community College, University of Hawaii, USFWS, and NOAA. Coastal tourism and recreational economies are dependent on the natural setting and resources, on public perception of the area and, ultimately, on the value people place on the use of these resources. The cultural and social values that people hold for coastal areas are not often accounted for in economic analyses. For example, one of the reasons tourists are drawn to coastal communities is a sense of well-being that can be gained when listening to waves or watching a beautiful sunrise. It would be helpful to gain an understanding of place-based values (i.e., what the existence of a coastal area means to people from a social or cultural perspective).

Maritime Commerce and Navigation: Marine transportation utilizes ocean, coastal, and inland waters, providing jobs and economic security. Maritime commerce in Pago Pago Harbor is vibrant and vital to
the territory’s economy as well as to its food and commodities security. Not only is maritime commerce and navigation linked to other ocean uses, they are also linked to land-based needs. As other existing and potential ocean uses like wind energy, aquaculture, and sand management require increasingly more ocean space, ocean planning and thorough navigation safety risk assessments will help optimize the efficiency of addressing competing ocean uses—including increased maritime commerce—while mitigating risks to safety and the environment.

Undersea infrastructure refers to equipment and technology placed on the ocean floor. This infrastructure includes cables for telecommunication and power transmission, and stationary equipment for scientific research. Submarine cables are extremely important for modern society; telecommunication cables transmit between 97–99 percent of international digital and voice communication. Most cables are buried three to six feet below the seabed. As cables are taken out of service, they are generally not removed. In the future, any development of offshore wind energy farms would require multiple power cable systems to be laid. In addition to submarine cables, many important pieces of scientific equipment are deployed on or anchored to the seafloor. This infrastructure provides important information about real-time atmospheric and oceanographic conditions at sea and along the coast, such as tides, air temperature, water temperature, wave height, and wind speed. Instruments deployed for long periods of time provide time series data that help track changing conditions and aid in the study of climate change, natural environmental variability, and impacts from other human activities. Some of the data from at-sea equipment can be viewed real-time and downloaded online through PacIOOS’s website.

In the coastal area, commercial and industrial harbor uses have expanded and will be further expanded in the future. Related activities include a new container terminal adjacent to the Tri
Marine Samoa Tuna Processors plant, development of new marina facilities, the newly renovated Ronald Reagan Marine Railway Shipyard slipway and new office building, rebuilding the Malaloa sport fishing dock, and wharves for expanded local commercial fishing, a berthing pier for cruise ships, and a tourist terminal facility (Lyon Associates 2001).

**Objective 1. Encourage Sustainable and Appropriate Coastal and Ocean Development and Uses.**

*Action 1. Identify the extent and attributes of existing coastal and ocean uses.*

Several coastal uses have been identified in mapping efforts done by AS DOC and NOAA. ASDOC GIS and NOAA OCM have already coordinated through the GIS User Group to ensure agency spatial data are being shared. Existing data include land use (ASDOC), fishing and species data (WPFIN), drinking water sources (ASEPA), fish catch (DOC), watersheds (CRAG/ASCC Land Grant), power and water lines (ASPA), and fishing permits (NMFS). Additionally, there are data from research vessels, research projects, and participatory mapping efforts that could be included. This action builds on those efforts.

Agency lead: NOAA OCM  
Partners: NPS, DHS, AS HPO, ASDOC, AS DMWR, AS DPA, ASEPA, ASPA

1. Work with DOC GIS and NOAA OCM to evaluate the spatial data related to current uses and ensure adherence to quality assurance standards.
2. Ensure that spatial data related to agency uses, commercial uses, private uses, education uses, and research uses are included in the geodatabase.
3. Conduct participatory mapping with stakeholder groups and the communities to identify:
   - what and where past uses occurred from the coastal through ocean area
   - what and where current village uses occur from the coastal through ocean area
   - what and where recreational uses occur from the coastal through ocean area
   - uses that are perceived as spatially and temporally compatible
   - uses that are not perceived as spatially and temporally compatible

*Action 2. Map best management practices for current coastal uses and identify BMP gaps.*

Best management practices (BMPs) are drivers for sustainable coastal and ocean uses. There are plans that include BMPs, but many plans and the BMPs have not been integrated into spatial databases alongside the uses they are planning for.

Lead Agency:  
Partners: NRCS,

1. Identify the spatial footprint of BMPs related to coastal and ocean uses (e.g. SMAs for Leone, Nuuuli, Pala, Pago Harbor, and Malaem; MPAs; Village-based conservation plans; NRCS conservation plans; watershed plans; United States Coral Reef Task Force Faga’alu Priority Watershed designation; National Park, Sanctuary, and Marine National Monument, and National Wildlife Refuge Boundaries; watershed studies; PNRS; and Federal Regulations). Include planning documents such as the 2012 American Samoa Tsunami Study,

2. Develop a map to describe where BMP implementation is likely underutilized and where it is overlapping with uses, using the coastal uses map and the BMP implementation map.

3. Coordinate with planners and users to discuss needed BMPs or highlight success stories where BMPs are enabling sustainable uses.

Action 3. Identify areas appropriate for specific types of economic development and future uses.
The Territorial General Plan (2007) outlines a 10-year plan with a vision for the future of American Samoa, a focus on primary concerns, creates cooperative coordinated system of development, identifies strategic paths and best use of funds, creates capacity to implement programs, and outlines benchmarks. The Territorial General Plan is the foundation for economic development in American Samoa and this ASOP builds on that. This particular action evaluates areas in the coast and ocean that could be appropriate for future development.

Lead Agency:
Partners: ASEPA, AS DMWR, ASDOC CMP, AS Visitors Bureau (ASVB), ASPA, AS DPA, NOAA OCM, AS Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)

1. Conduct participatory mapping with stakeholder groups and the communities to identify:
   - desired future uses
   - undesirable future uses
   - future uses that are perceived as spatially and temporally compatible
   - future uses that are perceived as spatially and temporally incompatible

2. Execute GIS studies from coast to ocean to create compatibility maps for offshore uses.

3. Overlay compatibility maps with participatory mapping information to create a map of areas ‘appropriate’ for specific types of development and uses, similar to uses mapping that has already been completed for Pago Harbor

4. Post information and maps developed in Tasks above to the Data Portal and ASDOC websites
Action 4. Identify management agencies, jurisdiction, and enforcement capacity related to those existing uses.

Existing federal law, such as NEPA, offers numerous opportunities for federal and state coordination. For projects that may require an environmental assessment or impact statement under NEPA, lead federal agencies should, to the extent practicable, discuss with ASG the jurisdiction over the proposed project and the potential for a coordinated approach to NEPA and territorial review. Such discussion will be influenced by a range of existing statutory, regulatory, administrative, and/or practical measures. This action provides spatial data and context for that coordination.

Lead Agency:
Partners: NOAA (PIRO, OLE, Weather Service), Office of the Governor, ASPA, DOI (OIA, USFWS, NPS), ASEPA, AS DMWR, Homeland Security, AS Treasury (Customs), AS Legal Affairs (Immigration), AS Department of Agriculture, AS Department of Health, AS DPA, Shipyard Services Authority, ASDPR, AS OSA, ASVB, Swains Island (Jennings Family), and US Department of State

1. Develop materials to describe leasing, environmental review, and regulatory entities, including where and when relevant authorities play roles in decisions related to offshore uses, such as aquaculture, port expansion, tourism activities, offshore energy, and other uses.

2. Develop materials that identify intersections of key federal programs and statutes related to offshore uses such as aquaculture, port expansion, tourism activities, offshore energy, and other uses.

3. Map jurisdictions. Select agencies and villages within the planning extent that have a management role and authority from 3 nm to the extent of the EEZ. Also identify which agencies do not have a role (e.g. DOI BOEM currently has no jurisdiction in the territories).

4. Identify areas of overlap and thus potential collaborative management between agencies. For example, the AS DOC and ASEPA both have reputations for working well within communities and across agencies, encouraging collaboration for the benefit of the environment. These relationships can be expanded to also benefit the economy of American Samoa.

5. Post information and maps developed in Tasks above to the Data Portal and PNRS websites.

Action 5. Identify the different permitting processes for the coastal and ocean areas.

One of the primary goals of ocean planning is to enable a smoother permitting process with openness for activity proposers, as well as agencies, with good transparent data. In American Samoa, permitting activities that occur on land out to 3nm offshore are vetted through the PNRS. The method for applying for permits is well documented and available online. However, information for obtaining a permit from 3 nm to the extent of the EEZ is less known publicly and is done on an agency by agency, permit by permit, activity by activity basis. This action addresses the lack of publicly-known, well-coordinated processes for ocean permits (3nm-EEZ), and helps to guide how a project proposer would apply for a permit, including which agency to approach first and what information is needed.

Lead agency: ASDOC
Partners: NOAA PIRO, USACE, AS DMWR, USCG, AS DPA, USFWS, NPS, USEPA, ASEPA
1. Identify paths for permitting based on the proposed activity (e.g. offshore aquaculture, nearshore aquaculture, offshore wind).
2. Document these paths in a report that is published online at ASDOC with the PNRS information. Include in the document how PNRS may be involved, as well as a chapter that articulates the PNRS process, so that the report may be a one-stop shop for activity proposals from the shore to the extent of the EEZ.
3. Link the PI RPB Data Portal with the AS Data Portal and PNRS system
4. Place and maintain links to agency announcements about proposed offshore development activities on the PI RPB Data Portal and ASDOC website.
5. Use the PI RPB Data Portal, ASDOC Data Portal, and ASDOC websites to enhance access to data, environmental reports, and proposed offshore use development activities.

**OBJECTIVE 2. SPATIALLY PLAN COASTAL AND OCEAN RESOURCES AND USES TO ENSURE ECONOMIC RESILIENCE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**

1. Subsistence and village-based activities
2. Economic development and commercial use
3. Recreational and research/ education

This objective focuses on spatial tools to anticipate/ plan for alternative work sites for continuity of operations to ensure resilience and assess capacity to respond to emergencies and natural disasters. The planning work has been done by the AS DOC 2015 Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, DOC Master Plan, the DPA Harbor Master Plan, Territorial Response Plan, and American Samoa Tsunami Study. Other agencies have related plans: AS DMWR, Territorial Emergency Management Office (AS DHS), NOAA NWS, ASDOC, AS DPA, and USCG. Existing and relevant data layers include land use zones, coastal hazards (flood insurance maps and tsunami maps), and general plans.

*Action 1. Protect existing infrastructure and uses in response to sea level rise, storms, and other coastal hazards.*

Harbor operations serve a critical role in economic resilience, as the majority of imports and exports come through the seaport. These tasks will develop methods for future development activities to ensure resilience to sea level rise, storms, and other coastal hazards. This action also helps to assess
capacity to respond to emergencies and natural disasters. Relevant permitting processes include demolition (ASEPA), USACE, NFIP, the HMP from DOC, and the Erosion/ Sediment BMP Guide.

Lead:
Partners: ASEPA (water quality data), USACE, PNRS, HMP Planning, ASPA, AS DPA, ASDOC Planning

1. Ensure inclusion of spatial data from plans into the AS GIS Data Portal.
2. Identify existing coastal hazard and mitigation plans related to the above areas and within the shoreline to 3nm.
3. Identify plans and permitting processes that allow for future infrastructure planning but do not have associated spatial data. Digitize the data, if needed, or develop tags in the geodatabase.
4. Conduct a flood zone vulnerability assessment using the information about hazards and existing infrastructure to pinpoint existing infrastructure that is under threat during its anticipated lifetime.
5. Use the projects and planning information to identify areas where the planning and permitting of future infrastructure conflicts with projected future hazards within the planning horizon.
6. Use the projects and planning information to identify areas where the impact of projected future hazards on planning and permitting of future infrastructure is unknown within the planning horizon.

Action 2: Adapt plans for future infrastructure, development in response to high sea levels, storms, and other coastal hazards
National Flood Insurance Program regulations cover flood zones, storm surge areas, and more.

Lead Agency:
Partner Agencies:

1. Review NFIP regulations for land use and building permits (adopted in 2010).
OBJECTIVE 3. ENHANCE, PROMOTE, AND MAINTAIN SUSTAINABLE TRADITIONAL VALUES, KNOWLEDGE, AND PRACTICES ON ISLAND.

Maintaining fa’a Samoa, or the Samoan way of life, is important to the individuals and communities of American Samoa. Villages in American Samoa have existing management plans; the intent of this objective is to ensure an exchange of regional spatial data and traditional data. It is noted in many agencies’ plans that there is a need for cultural appropriateness of work that is being done. Government plans require active participation and support of the village leadership, which was noted by Clark et al. (2012) when discussing the role of the village in resilience planning for tsunamis.

Action 1. Integrate TEK with existing GIS geodatabase.
AS DMWR has digitized traditional data from these community management plans and is currently coordinating with ASDOC GIS to publish open data on the ArcGIS Portal. While AS DMWR continues to be the lead agency for collecting new data from village efforts, ASDOC GIS is coordinating with NOAA OCM to identify data products that could support community management efforts. This action is a call to other federal and ASG agencies to contribute additional information to the database. For example, some priority watershed projects, such as Faga’alu, collected information about the reefs, fishing activities, and coastal impacts through socioeconomic surveys.

Lead Agency:
Partners:

1. Review existing Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) surveys (existing MPAs, watershed TEK, climate info).
2. Coordinate with ASDOC and ASEPA efforts to build a centralized geodatabase and support inclusion of data from those surveys.
3. Discern spatial gaps where no cultural information is available for that area.
4. Engage OSA to assist and inform researchers of what is needed in cultural areas.
5. Direct agencies and departments to work with the GIS User Group to package outreach materials to include a spatial component.

Action 2. Identify areas where traditional ocean uses have occurred, do occur, and could occur in the future to minimize conflicts with other ocean uses.
Too often, development occurs at the expense of a cultural and/or traditional activity. Identifying areas where traditional uses have occurred, do occur and could occur allows agencies who are permitting new uses to evaluate the impacts of the proposed use against the traditional use and, if warranted, require the permit applicant to seek a different location for proposed activities. Within the coastal area, village-based MPAs include existing plans that describe the temporal and spatial extent of extractive and non-extractive traditional practices (e.g. sand mining). These data layers are consulted during proposal reviews. The purpose of this action is to replicate this process for ocean areas, where applicable.

Lead Agency:
Partners:

1. Elaborate on the data layer that describes the temporal and spatial extent of extractive and non-extractive traditional practices from 3nm seaward.
2. Refer to these data layers during proposal reviews, or, if you are a permittee, refer to these layers to determine compatibility with traditional practices.

Action 3. Provide education and outreach of spatial tools and identified spatial footprints of traditional practices to villages.

Lead Agency:  
Partner Agencies:

1. Host workshops in villages and with targeted stakeholder groups (e.g. cultural practitioners) that explain the available tools and teach them how to use the tools.

OBJECTIVE 4. ACCOUNT FOR NATIONAL SECURITY INTERESTS IN THE AS COASTAL AND OCEANウォーターストロース更为にENHANCED COORDINATION, INCREASED TRANSPARENCY, AND SHARING OF INFORMATION ACROSS TERRITORIAL AND FEDERAL AGENCIES.

Multiple branches of the Department of Defense (DOD, i.e., the U.S. Navy, Army, Marine Corps, and Air Force), the DHS (i.e., USCG), NOAA OLE, and AS DHS are responsible for our Nation’s security. Improved communication between the military and non-military government, at the federal and territorial levels, is imperative for successful ocean planning.

Action 1. Identify and consult with the ASOP and Data Portal as important sources of information in decision-making for security programs, initiatives, and planning documents.

Communication between the military and non-military governmental agencies is improved when DOD and DHS continue to share pertinent information with other agencies, which helps to address a variety of impacts to training and testing activities. DHS intends to use this Plan and the Data Portal as mechanisms to guide and inform DOD and DHS programs, initiatives, and planning documents, when involved in the multiple coordination task forces and other planning groups that DOD currently participates in. DHS regularly participates in a wide variety of existing Federal, State, and local agency coordination groups, forums, and advisory panels across the nation, and will work to identify additional outlets in which it would be beneficial to participate.

Lead Agency: USCG  
Partners: ASHLS, TEMCO, DPA, DPS

1. Work with contacts to identify the Plan and the Data Portal as important sources of information in decision making.  
2. Consult the Plan and the Data Portal, along with other sources of information, in the preparation of internal agency guidance, existing procedures, and environmental planning.

Action 2. Identify DOD and US DHS points of contact for the national security data layers in the Data Portal.

Ensuring that agencies have appropriate points of contact improves interagency coordination and will enable decision makers to understand the implications of proposed regulations and development plans on DOD and DHS security, training, testing, and a variety of other mission-specific needs.
OBJECTIVE 5. SPATIALY PLAN FOR ENHANCED FOOD SECURITY.

American Samoa is an isolated territory in the south Pacific Ocean. It is particularly susceptible to natural disaster and human-made impacts that affect food supply. For example, Cyclone Gita (2018) destroyed several papaya, breadfruit, and banana crops, reducing the food availability in American Samoa (among other areas). It is crucial that economic development also include enhanced and protected food supply, such as aquaculture and resilience within the ports to disasters.

Action 1. Identify potential areas for increased local food supply from the ocean, such as locations that are promising with respect to ocean and coastal aquaculture, and new fish aggregating devices (FADs).

Lead Agency: AS DPA, USCG, AS DMWR, NOAA NMFS

Action 2. Ensure shipping routes and FADs are mapped and that future activities do not impact these routes.

Lead Agency: AS DPA, USCG, AS DMWR, NOAA NMFS

1. Evaluate the availability of existing data layers (e.g. shipping lanes, FADS, buoys).

Action 3. Identify areas that can be used for alternative transport to promote commerce via the ocean between villages should a disaster affect the roads.

Lead Agency: AS DPA, USCG
CHAPTER 3
SCIENCE, DATA, AND TOOLS

Scientifically supported data and information are the foundation of the Plan. The PI RPB is supporting the collection of spatial data and other information to inform the interjurisdictional coordination actions that the Plan has described in Chapters Two and Three. At the same time, several actions identify additional science, research, and traditional and local knowledge that is needed to more effectively address regional ocean management priorities. The Plan also identifies additional baseline data and information needed to better characterize the region’s marine environment and socioeconomic conditions, as described below. Spatial tools provided by coastal and marine spatial planning include the ability to identify current uses, potential current natural disaster impact zones, and determine from that how potential new uses may be integrated into a village’s coastal or nearshore area. For example, installing a dock on the east side of Pago Pago Harbor, in the event of a natural disaster that impacts road accessibility, could provide access via boat from the east side of Tutuila to the west side, where the hospital and most supply stores are located. This is an example of coastal planning tied to disaster preparedness planning.

**Call out:** The goals of the PI RPB Data Team are to gather and assess relevant data, identify an adequate data host site and mapping interface, and identify/develop decision support tools that further coastal and marine spatial planning (CMSP) in the Pacific Islands Region.

This chapter describes the PI RPB’s Data Portal, spatial data, and data tools developed with support from the PI RPB and other partners. It also describes actions to identify and address regional data, science, and research needs. PI RPB and ASOPT members intend to use the tools described in this chapter to inform their activities under existing authorities.

**AMERICAN SAMOA AND PI RPB DATA PORTAL**
The PI RPB’s Data Portal is a key resource that informs ocean planning in American Samoa and throughout the Pacific Region. The Data Portal provides a centralized, public location for interactive ocean mapping and information focused on the Pacific region. It enables federal, state, territorial and local decision makers, as well as the general public, to visualize and analyze ocean resources and human use information such as fishing grounds, recreational areas, shipping lanes, habitat areas, and infrastructure sites. Maps created on the Data Portal can illustrate interactions among a wide range of natural features and human activities.

The Data Portal was initiated by the Naval Postgraduate School with support from the PI RPB Data Team (Data Team) and in collaboration with other federal and regional partners. The Data Team continues to provide input on its development. The Data Team, which developed, launched, and maintains the Data Portal, works closely with NOAA and BOEM, partners that operate and maintain the Marine Cadastre,
which is an authoritative national scale online data repository and viewer, called for in the Energy Policy Act of 2005. BOEM and NOAA have taken a leadership role in the effort to build and enable geographic information for a broad range of users in the energy and ocean community. By listening to the needs of these communities and by employing the best information technology practices, the Marine Cadastre has evolved into a nimble resource that serves the nation’s offshore geographic information needs and provides authoritative data to regional ocean planning portals. Several of the layers on the Data Portal are served directly from this site, and intensive collaboration on data development reduces costs and increases efficiency in meeting complementary national and regional goals. In addition, the Data Portal addresses the demand for regional scale data layers that would not be of great interest or relevance to the national scale users nor the mission of MarineCadastre.gov. Similarly, the Portal Team works with state and territorial-based ocean data portal staff to achieve appropriate alignment and efficiencies between regional and state scale data development work.

**OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY OF DATA PORTAL CONTENT**

The Data Portal includes an online mapping tool and a data catalogue that offers access to over [ ] spatial data layers. Since its launch in 20XX, the Data Portal has served as a central location where data previously housed in separate places can be viewed together and combined in ways that can be tailored to the viewer’s area and topics of interest. The Data Portal’s layers have been carefully selected and enhanced to inform the dialogue and decision making needed to advance Framework goals and objectives, but not to provide an exhaustive catalogue of all the region’s spatial data or duplicate other online mapping resources. Many of the Data Portal’s layers were created with existing data developed by federal agencies and compiled by federal agencies, State of Hawaii, territories, and universities, while some data were created specifically for the Data Portal with stakeholder participation and assistance.

Mapping efforts have been conducted by NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program. The result was a use map for Pago Pago Harbor that identifies predominant commercial uses of the harbor, including cannery operations, docks, mooring locations, cruise ships, and the shipping lane.

![Figure XXX. Pago Pago Harbor Use map developed by NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program.](image-url)
During the ASOPT’s listening sessions, villages and targeted stakeholder groups were asked if there were any specific future development or use of their coastal and ocean waters they would like to see or not see. These were documented through a mapping exercise. Through combining the output of this action with actions within this plan, an incorporating the data into the data portal, permittees have a framework within which to plan their proposed action, including which agencies they need to engage, villages and stakeholders they need to engage, and the environmental conditions associated with their action. It is up to the permittee to work with agencies to determine probable suitability of the use – this is intended to inform, not approve, actions.
CHAPTER 4
PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Plan implementation means following through on actions and other commitments in the Plan. Doing so effectively requires clear roles and responsibilities, a process for Plan updates and amendments, interregional coordination, resources, and performance monitoring and evaluation.

American Samoa and WPFMC are voluntarily participating in the planning process and have roles that reflect their authorities and jurisdictions. These participants play important roles by serving on the ASOPT and PI RPB. For many specific actions, they bring expertise and perspectives as managers of important ocean and coastal resources under their jurisdictions, enhancing regional coordination through the planning process, and ensuring that key stakeholders in the region and the general public are engaged. Federal agencies are mandated to participate in the ocean planning process by Executive Order 13547.

PI RPB ROLES
Specifically, the PI RPB is responsible for ensuring that:

- Progress is made in implementing the actions articulated in the Plan.
- Regional stakeholders are engaged in implementation of the Plan and any future updates or amendments to the Plan.
- Ongoing coordination continues among RPB entities, with partners, and with geographically adjacent regional ocean planning processes.
- Expertise and support from within and outside of governmental entities are being leveraged.
- New information and changing circumstances are accounted for through future Plan updates and amendments.
- A work plan for Plan implementation is developed and updated over time to reflect new information and evolving context.
- The PI RPB Data Team continues to incorporate data into the PI RPB’s data portal to maintain a relevant, useful spatial tool for agencies and stakeholders, including the public.

ASOPT ROLES
Specifically, the ASOPT is responsible for ensuring that:

- Progress is made in implementing the actions articulated in the Plan.
- Local stakeholders are engaged in implementation of the Plan and any future updates or amendments to the Plan.
- Expertise and support from within and outside of local governmental entities are being leveraged.
- A work plan for Plan implementation is developed and updated over time to reflect new information and evolving context.
- Call public meetings of the full ASOPT at least annually and develop agendas for those meetings.
- Organize ASOPT or executive sessions to discuss administrative topics as needed.
- Monitor, evaluate, and report to the RPB and the public on progress in implementing the Plan.
Note: The Lead Agency of the ASOPT, currently AS DMWR, will schedule periodic meetings or workshops with ASOPT member agencies to review progress of the actions and tasks, and relate those to progress of the objectives.

The ASG agencies involved in implementation of this ASOP include AS DMWR, ASDOC, DPA, ASEPA, OSA, and....

**AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNANCE**

Unique to American Samoa, traditional village governance is a powerful dynamic of governance with far reaching influence on all aspects of society. Coordination between agencies in the absence of engaging traditional governance leaders is a common impediment to overall resource and land use management.

American Samoa governance responsibilities are layered and shared between government elected officials and traditional governance. The direct relationship between overall governance and the traditional land tenure system (lands and surrounding ocean), if effectively woven with elected officials, is key to effective coastal resource management and initiatives. With that in mind, this ocean planning effort seeks to improve ocean and coastal management through improved integrated agency decision-making to enable reductions in use conflicts, improved permitting and ease of development, while also mitigating impacts to natural resources.

The ASG agencies on the planning team provide a critical connection to existing agency frameworks related to stakeholder engagement. These frameworks include agency outreach programs, PNRS and the PNRS guide book, ASDOC Zoning, and American Samoa Chapter 26 Coastal Management Regulations (ASAC Chapter 26).

The PNRS is a streamlined land use permit system that integrates the permitting requirements of each of the territorial agencies concerned with environmental management (Appendix). The public must apply for a land use permit (LUP) for any type of construction or structure. The PNRS staff are responsible for overseeing and guiding the land use permit applications, determinations of major and minor projects, site visits, review of project, coordination with applicant, holding public hearings if necessary, and approving or denying permit applications. The LUPs fall into two categories – minor and major projects. Minor projects are generally reviewed within a five-day period, while major projects require a more technical approach and is reviewed within a 45-day period:

**Minor Projects:**
- Constructing a single family home;
- Constructing Samoan cultural facilities including: fautasi boat houses, faletalimalo or guest house, and fale leoleo or guardhouses;
- Constructing structures or extensions to existing non-commercial structures that do not exceed one hundred twenty (120) square feet; and
- Repair existing structure

**Major Projects:**
- Creating, expanding, or extending any commercial activity;
- Siting permanently or continually replacing intermodal containers or freezer container, including enclosing, connecting utilities, or any other permanent action which exceed thirty (30) days;
Siting major facilities;
Landfilling, excavating, disposing of dredged materials, mining, quarrying;
Dredging or filling marine or fresh waters, point source discharging of water or air pollutants, ocean dumping, or constructing artificial reefs.

The PNRS allows enforcement of environmental regulations and coastal concerns that protect our environmental resources from development as well as protect citizens from hazards. This is done through a series of rules for buildings which are assessed during the permitting process. A building might not be permitted if it is proposed to be built in hazardous area along the shoreline or in an area of environmental concern such as along stream banks. If buildings are built against the rules, there is enforcement authority within the PNRS to charge fees or to issue a stop order for noncompliance with the regulations.

The following is the PNRS application process:


**FEDERAL GOVERNANCE**
The majority of ocean space in the American Samoa regional planning area is under Federal jurisdiction (including, exclusively, the EEZ from three nm off the shore to the outer extent of the EEZ which is boundaries with other countries or 200 nm, and much of the data for that area is collected and managed under Federal authority. Executive Order 13547 directs federal agencies to participate in the regional planning process and to carry out their existing authorities in a manner that is consistent with the Plan, to the extent consistent with applicable law. For these reasons, and consistent with the Executive Order, federal agencies have a significant role in collaborative actions described in the Plan, and future agency actions will be informed by data and information provided in the Plan and the Data Portal.

**ASOPT AGENCY RESOURCES**
DOC CMP has an extensive outreach program that includes activities such as the American Samoa Science Symposium, Water Quality Monitoring Program, and Coasts Week. Other agencies have programs such as the.....
DOC Planning
AS EPA
DMWR
These programs promote education, outreach, and awareness regarding the health of the ecosystems in American Samoa.

**PLAN UPDATES**
As articulated in the overarching planning principles described in the Framework, the PI RPB and ASOPT are committed to an adaptive approach that accounts for changing information, ecological and socioeconomic context, and other dynamics. For this reason, the PI RPB and ASOPT will work together to routinely review implementation progress, assess the need for Plan updates or amendments, and make updates or amendments as needed.

The Plan will be reviewed comprehensively at least once every five years to assess whether amendments are needed. Plan amendments will include a public engagement process. Plan amendments will also provide an opportunity to review and incorporate the results of Plan performance.
REFERENCES


APPENDIX: DATA

Insert Data and mapping information

- Provide as much information as practical. Don’t limit maps. Keep current maps in body of the plan and maps of boundaries. Keep dynamic/changing maps in Appdx.

APPENDIX: STAKEHOLDERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person: Nate, Andrew, Sandra, Burg</th>
<th>Needed Tables</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Table: agencies and their respective stakeholder engagement processes (including links), and village level engagement.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nate, Andrew, Sandra, Burg</td>
<td>Table: Identifies steps, by use, a developer would need to take. One-stop shop description that was being developed by DOC (8 local agencies responsibilities into app and also a database for land use permits).</td>
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APPENDIX: FOUNDATIONAL DOCUMENTS OF THE PI RPB: INVITE AND NOMINATION LETTERS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL OCEAN COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

June 15, 2012

The Honorable Togiola T. A. Tulafono
Governor of American Samoa
Pago Pago, AS 96799

Dear Governor Tulafono,

As Co-Chairs of the National Ocean Council (Council), we are writing to request your engagement in working together to improve the stewardship of the ocean and coasts. On July 19, 2010, President Obama signed Executive Order 13547, establishing a National Policy for the Stewardship of the Ocean, our Coasts, and the Great Lakes (National Ocean Policy). The National Ocean Policy provides a framework for collaborative, regionally-based marine planning that brings together Federal, State, Tribal, and local authorities to better inform and coordinate regional management decisions regarding ocean and coastal activities and resources.

In June of 2011, the Council hosted a National CMSM Workshop that brought together over 500 Federal, State, tribal and local government representatives, indigenous community leaders, and members of the public from across the country to kick off efforts to discuss how cooperative ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes planning can be used to advance our national stewardship goals. The Pacific Islands were well represented at this meeting, including participation by American Samoa. The Council has applied the diversity of viewpoints, perspectives, and insights gained at the National Workshop into the development of materials that will help inform regional marine planning efforts, including in the Pacific Islands region. We appreciate American Samoa’s active participation in the National Workshop and continued engagement on the Council’s National Ocean Policy implementation efforts.

The marine planning framework envisions establishment of regional planning bodies (RPBs) within each of nine regions around the country to bring together Federal, State, Federally recognized Tribes, and local government partners to collaboratively address issues of common regional interest. Recognizing that American Samoa already has significant experience with such efforts, we request American Samoa’s participation on the Pacific Islands RPB to initiate collaborative regional planning efforts. We respectfully invite you to designate up to two representatives from American Samoa to serve on the Pacific Islands RPB. For instance, you may elect to designate a representative from your marine and coastal agencies.

The Council Office has engaged with Mr. Toetasi Fue Tuitelaeapaga, American Samoa Chief Legal Counsel, and it is our understanding that your office is expecting this letter. Attached is the Council’s information about State RPB representation, developed with substantial input from the Council’s State, Tribal, and local government official Governance Coordinating Committee (GCC). This information will assist you in designating the most appropriate representative to the RPB.
We would appreciate receiving the names of your RPB representative(s) by July 10th, 2012. Please have your office respond to NOCRPB@ostp.eop.gov or fax to 202-456-6546 ATTN: National Ocean Council Staff. If you have any inquiries, please contact Mr. Michael Weiss at (202) 456-3892 or mweiss@ceq.eop.gov or Mr. Michael Tosatto, the Federal RPB Co-lead, at (808) 944-2281 or michael.tosatto@noaa.gov.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to working with you to realize the National Ocean Policy vision to ensure that the ocean and our coasts and their communities are healthy and resilient, safe and productive, and understood and treasured.

Sincerely,

John P. Holdren
Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy
Co-Chair

Nancy Sutley
Chair, Council on Environmental Quality
Co-Chair

Attachment: State Representation on Regional Planning Bodies

cc: Toetasi Fue Tuiteteleapaga, Chief Legal Counsel to Governor Togiola T. A. Tulafono
STATE REPRESENTATION ON THE
PACIFIC ISLANDS REGIONAL PLANNING BODY
FOR COLLABORATIVE, REGIONALLY-BASED
COASTAL AND MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING

Background
The National Ocean Policy recognizes that no single level of government within the United States can successfully resolve the complex challenges facing the Nation’s ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes waters. It also recognizes that States and regions every day address on-the-ground challenges of balancing the interests that affect their economies, the environment, and their citizens’ quality of life, and that to do so they have developed programs and partnerships responsive to their unique interests, capacities, and ways of doing business. The National Ocean Policy directs Federal agencies to better coordinate their actions and to work collaboratively with State, Tribal, and local governments, stakeholders, and the public in doing so.

Marine planning is one tool that States and regions can use to engage with Federal agencies as partners to address their interests. One of the significant benefits of marine planning is to improve the ability of State authorities to seamlessly coordinate their objectives with broader planning for areas beyond their jurisdictional waters. Under the National Ocean Policy, the United States has been geographically subdivided into nine regional marine planning areas. Within these nine areas, regional planning bodies (RPB) will bring together State, Federal, Federally-recognized Tribes, and local government partners to define, develop, and implement plans that address regional interests. RPBs will have three administrative co-leads: Federal, State and Tribal. Federal representatives from the Pacific Islands region and the National Ocean Council Office will coordinate with State authorities to establish an RPB for the region.

The National Ocean Policy cannot and does not require that States participate in marine planning on an RPB, or that a State accept a marine plan developed in its region. Instead, the intent is to offer States a venue to directly participate in deliberations that will impact their marine environment. While Federal agencies are required to undertake collaborative marine planning in all regions, in such instances they will coordinate the subject matter and scope of their work with non-participating States through existing statutory or administrative procedures.

Participation of the States in the Regional CMSP Process
The Governor of the State is invited to designate up to two representatives to serve on the RPB. These individuals would serve as the State’s official representatives to the RPB and will represent their respective State interests, mandates, and goals in the overall regional planning process. An option of up to two is provided to reflect feedback from states that there may be more than one entity from the state for which the Governor deems important to represent that state’s interests.

In addition to their official representative(s), individuals from relevant sub-bodies (e.g., departments, agencies, commissions, or offices) may also attend and contribute to RPB meetings, as appropriate. In coordination with their Federal, and Tribal co-leads, as appropriate, the Governor is encouraged, and completely at their discretion, to consider providing additional support (e.g., facilitation services, data and information management assistance, or disciplinary
or technical assistance associated with the development of regional plans) to ensure the functions and duties of the RPB can be fulfilled.

**Selecting State Representatives on the Regional Planning Bodies**
The State’s RPB representative(s) must be an elected official or the elected official’s designated employee with sufficient seniority, authority, and expertise to represent the State and make decisions or commitments (e.g., staff, resources or the State’s views on specific regional planning issues) on his or her State’s behalf. State representatives should:

- Have demonstrated experience and knowledge of their region’s marine, coastal, or Great Lakes ecosystems, and
- Have experience in representing the State on a regional ocean partnership or other regional interagency or intergovernmental body, or working on collaborative planning and consensus based efforts in their relevant region.

Other areas for consideration include:

- Experience integrating science and policy in management and decision-making, and
- Experience and knowledge of their agency and its mission relevant to regional marine planning, including, as appropriate: waterways and maritime traffic management; port safety and security; coastal and marine environmental protection, restoration, and management; coastal and marine fish and wildlife management, including marine mammal and/or migratory birds; watershed management; water resources conservation and management; fisheries management, including aquaculture; maritime law enforcement, safety, and security; military readiness; offshore oil and gas exploration and development; alternative offshore energy production; maritime domain awareness; marine scientific research; maritime data collection, integration, and application; and recreational uses and activities.
Mr. John Holden;
Co-Chair &
Ms. Nancy Sutley
Cho-Chair
Executive Office of the President
National Ocean Council
Washington DC, 20503

Dear Mr. Holden & Ms. Sutley;

This is to provide my nomination to appoint Lelei Peau, Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce and Utuafaga Ray Tualafono, Director of Marine and Wildlife Resources of the American Samoa Government to serve on the Pacific Regional Planning Body (RPB) to represent the Territory. I apologize for the late response on this matter and I have copied Michael Tosaeto on this letter for the Region to assist in expediting this matter.

Lelei Peau has been my senior advisor on ocean & coral reef priorities and served on several capacities both federally and locally. Utuafaga Ray Tualafono leads 2 of our Local Action Strategies for our coral reef initiative as well as serves on Wespac.

I look forward to this appointment and ongoing work on this group.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

TOGIOLI T.A. TULAFONO
Governor of American Samoa

cc: Michael Tosaeto, Federal RPB Co-lead
     Michael Weiss, National Ocean Council Staff
     Toctasi Fue Tuicelleasapiga, Chief Legal Counsel to Governor
     Utuafaga Ray Tualafono, Director of Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources
     Lelei Peau, Deputy Director of Department of Commerce
The Honorable Lolo M. Moliga
Governor of American Samoa
Office of the Governor
A.P. Lutali Executive Office Building
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Dear Governor Matalasi Moliga:

In June 2012, the National Ocean Council wrote to Governor Tulafono to request engagement in working together to improve the stewardship of the ocean and coasts to fulfill Executive Order 13547, which established the National Policy for Stewardship of the Ocean, our Coasts, and the Great Lakes (National Ocean Policy). To that end, nominations were sought to a regional planning body for the Pacific Islands.

Governor Tulafono nominated Lelei Peau, Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce, and Ufagafa Ray Tulafono, Director of Marine and Wildlife Resources, to serve as members of the forming Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body (PI RPB) (letter attached). Since that time, I am aware that Director Tulafono has retired.

I am writing as federal co-lead of the PI RPB to invite you to nominate a second representative. The representative will serve as American Samoa’s official representative to the PI RPB and will represent your Territory’s interests, mandates, and goals in the overall regional planning process. The American Samoa PI RPB representative must be an elected official or an official designated employee with sufficient seniority, authority, and expertise to represent American Samoa and make decisions or commitments on your Territory’s behalf (e.g., staff, resources, or the Territory’s view on specific issues).

Thank you for your time. I look forward to receiving your nomination, which I will forward to the NOC.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Tosatto
Regional Administrator
March 11, 2013

Mr. Michael Tosatto
Federal Co-Lead Regional Planning Body
NMFS - Pacific Islands Regional Office
1601 Kapiolani Boulevard Suite 1110
Honolulu, HI 96814

Talofa Mr. Tosatto:

Regarding American Samoa’s representatives to the Pacific Island Regional Planning Body of the National Ocean Council, I have appointed Dr. Ruth Matagi-Tofiga, Director of the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources and Dr. Taimalelagi Claire Poumele, Director of the Port Administration.

Faafetai Tele Lava.

Sincerely,

Lolo M. Moliga
Governor American Samoa Government

Cc: Nancy Sutley, Chair
Dr. John Holdren, Director
APPENDIX: NATIONAL LEVEL DOCUMENTS AND PI RPB DOCUMENTS LINKS

National Level Documents
National Ocean Council
Executive Order 13547
Final Recommendations of the Ocean Policy Taskforce
Marine Planning Handbook
Implementation Plan

Pacific Islands RPB Documents

CHARTER FOR THE PACIFIC ISLANDS RPB
Development of the PI RPB Charter was one of the first acts of the PI RPB. The Charter describes the purpose, membership, roles, and process under which the PI RPB operates. It was finalized in September 2014 and is signed by all PI RPB member entities.

The Charter is available here:

PACIFIC ISLANDS RPB OCEAN PLANNING STAKEHOLDER GUIDE
The Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body (PI RPB) is dedicated to developing a coastal and marine spatial (CMS) plan that reflects input and participation from interested organizations and individuals. The RPB routinely solicits comments and participation as an important component of its activities. These opportunities range from commenting on draft documents to participating in workshops, attending PI RPB meetings, and attending meetings of PI RPB members’ agencies. This plan identifies likely stakeholders for engagement, when and where engagement will occur, and various avenues for engagement. The plan is subject to change and will be incorporated into the greater CMS Plan.

The Guide is available here:

APPROACH TO THE AMERICAN SAMOA OCEAN PLAN
President Obama tasked federal agencies to coordinate ocean planning efforts through creation of regional planning bodies (RPBs) formed under the National Ocean Policy, and invited non-federal agencies and jurisdictions to participate. Governor Moliga answered the call by appointing two of his cabinet members to serve on the Pacific Islands RPB to represent the needs of the people of American Samoa. More information about the journey from that spark to this plan can be found on the publicly available website.

The Approach is available here:
https://pacificislandsrpb.org/american-samoa/
American Samoa One-pager, Samoan
APPENDIX: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

An important requirement for successful ocean planning is stakeholder engagement. The ASOPT committed to engaging stakeholders during development of this ocean plan, as well as during future actions associated with this plan. To that end, the ASOPT engaged stakeholders, including targeted stakeholders such as commercial fishermen and port users, as well as communities and other local agencies.

In addition, the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution Udall Foundation funded a stakeholder assessment (Executive Summary in Samoan), which is also included as the next appendix) that was developed through contract by CONCUR. CONCUR provided the following seven recommendations. It is understood that these recommendations assume that the stakeholder engagement plan (SEP) was developed in conjunction with the kick-off meeting regarding its timing, and that the SEP assumes a large amount of resources with which to engage stakeholders. How the ASOPT responded to them is included in the actions associated with the recommendations.

1. Further develop and articulate clear and consistent leadership to deepen credibility of the Ocean Planning process

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<tr>
<th>Recommended Actions</th>
<th>ASOPT Response</th>
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<td>Establish clear leadership for the ASOPT among American Samoa government agencies so it is apparent to all stakeholders that there is strong local commitment to the planning process, and the willingness and capacity to implement the ASOP</td>
<td>Director Henry Sesepasara was selected by the ASOPT and the Governor to lead the ocean planning efforts. He liaises with the ASG agencies, federal agencies, and stakeholders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarify the roles of federal agencies and regional partners in the ASOPT as supporting and contributing members to what should be a locally-driven planning process</td>
<td>ASOPT received clarification from CONCUR that “regional partners” means ASG. As such, the ASOPT described the roles of the ASG and federal agencies in this effort. AS DMWR is leading the effort, thus it is locally-driven.</td>
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2. Further refine and communicate a clear and compelling purpose for the American Samoa Ocean Plan.

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<td>Thoroughly examine participant territorial and federal agencies roles and responsibilities relative to ocean planning and marine resource management and conduct a gap analysis to identify ocean planning needs not yet sufficiently addressed</td>
<td>While a gap analysis was not conducted to identify ocean planning needs not sufficiently addressed already, the agencies identified actions for each objective within which responsible agencies were identified, both at the federal and jurisdictional level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft a clear and succinct Statement of Purpose for the ASOP that defines the needs that it is intended to address in relation to existing American Samoan and federal plans</td>
<td>The ASOPT developed a Statement of Purpose that is found in the introduction to this plan.</td>
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and programs. Ideally, this statement should support and advance the priorities and responsibilities of each involved agency.

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<tr>
<td>Clearly communicate the ASOP purpose to stakeholders</td>
<td>The purpose of the ASOP was articulated at each stakeholder engagement session and consistently during outreach efforts as well.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Develop and use a range of engagement formats and tools for outreach.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Recommended Actions</strong></td>
<td><strong>ASOPT Response</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determine the most important points during the planning process for engaging different groups of stakeholders (or stakeholder representatives), at stages when there is sufficient content or issues to react to, and latitude to use the input received</td>
<td>This was an important point for the ASOPT which was articulated by the ASOPT well in advance of the stakeholder assessment reinforcing the action. The ASOPT determined that clear points of input included after refining its vision, its goals and objectives, and then drafting the plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appoint a subcommittee of ASOPT members with extensive experience conducting outreach in different communities and with a variety of stakeholders in American Samoa. This subcommittee should recommend the timing, format, and other important details of the ASOP stakeholder engagement effort</td>
<td>The ASOPT discussed when to engage stakeholders during the ASOPT meetings. The team that led the extensive listening sessions throughout the communities included the ASOPT lead (Director Sesepasara, DWMR), ASOPT member Chris King (Deputy Director, Port Administration), Miranda Foley (ecoLOGIC, process and engagement consultant), and Sarah Pautzke (Coordinator, PI RPB). Timing and format was determined by the team.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider identifying one or two representatives from each major stakeholder group to help determine the best time and approach to use when engaging the stakeholders they represent</td>
<td>The stakeholder engagement team worked with the respective stakeholder groups to ensure the times for engagement were appropriate and logistically sound.</td>
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<td>Engage Samoan language and cultural experts, as appropriate for specific needs to plan and conduct stakeholder engagement</td>
<td>Director Sesepasara and Deputy Director King served as the cultural experts and translators during the listening sessions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emphasize engagement formats likely to be effective and avoid or limit the use of engagement and outreach formats that would be least effective. Formats likely to be less effective are large ‘public meetings’, and emailed or online surveys</td>
<td>After receiving the stakeholder assessment from CONCUR, the ASOPT ceased utilizing online surveys for feedback. The ASOPT focused on meeting with specific stakeholder groups in smaller settings.</td>
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4. Work with both the Office of Samoan Affairs and key resource agencies to engage villages.

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<th>Recommended Actions</th>
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<tr>
<td>OSA already has representation on the ASOPT. Strengthen the ASOPT’s relationship with OSA leadership and provide regular updates to the pulenu’u meetings about the ASOP planning process as it unfolds</td>
<td>The relationship with OSA was strengthened through Director Sesepasara’s engagement with OSA leadership. The Director also provided updates at pulenu’u meetings as the planning process continued.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Convene a special workshop, or series of workshops, for pulenu’u on the key issues to be addressed in the ASOP</td>
<td>This is an action that the ASOPT could not fulfill due to funding limitations. As such, Director Sesepasara provided inputs to the pulenu’u, but the ASOPT could not provide a training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure outreach to pulenu’u geographically by convening subcommittees of key leaders from adjoining villages that share a reef or other ocean resources and help them focus on specific problems and solutions. As a further step, these sub-regions could then choose one pulenu’u representative to serve as a liaison to the ASOPT</td>
<td>Outreach to the pulenu’u is through Director Sesepasara during pulenu’u meetings. Due to time constraints, engagement at a geographical level to focus on specific problems as subcommittees was not feasible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan and convene a Territory-wide workshop series on critical ocean issues to present the latest information in a concise format, and demonstrate joint commitment on the part of multiple agencies</td>
<td>The ASOPT determined that this could be an important step to fulfil needed information under the actions of Goal 1, but did not have the resources to do a workshop to inform the ocean plan itself.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Frame compelling incentives to territorial and federal government agencies, villages, commercial interests, educators, scientists, and recreationalists to fully engage in the Ocean Planning process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Actions</th>
<th>ASOPT Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frame ocean issues to link stakeholder engagement to widely recognized problems and potential solutions</td>
<td>The ASOPT sought to incorporate stakeholder feedback regarding ocean issues, including a predominant theme of upland pollution impacting the coastal area during large storms. Potential solutions to the issues were sought at local meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use the Findings from this Stakeholder Engagement Support Project to identify and focus on the specific major concerns of each type of stakeholder</td>
<td>This report and stakeholder engagement by the ASOPT identified a few major issues of concern. The ASOPT sought to address these issues for the stakeholder groups in the actions of the goals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ensure that successive outreach efforts build upon previous engagement with the same stakeholder groups

Outreach efforts were successively built upon each other throughout the Ocean Plan development with the same stakeholder groups, which were identified within the first couple months of the ASOPT inception.

Identify and reconfirm specific priorities and responsibilities of individual ASOPT member agencies as they relate to the implementation of the Ocean Plan

This plan identified individual agencies’ responsibilities as they relate to ocean activities in the various actions for Goals 1-3.

Identify opportunities to leverage and build upon existing efforts by individual agencies through new inter-agency partnerships

Identify ways in which the Ocean Plan can be developed to help local agencies become more competitive for grant proposals. Communicate these advantages to local agencies and other stakeholders. Develop the Ocean Plan such that it positions local agencies well to compete for funding opportunities

The actions described under each goal provide agencies and other organizations support for their grant proposals. This has been and will be communicated to stakeholders and repeated to ASOP agencies.

6. Devise strategies to anticipate and overcome obstacles the Stakeholder Engagement Support team faced.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended Actions</th>
<th>ASOPT Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Consider identifying trusted and familiar intermediaries to get reluctant stakeholders to participate</td>
<td>The ASOPT utilized trusted sources to encourage stakeholder and agency participation with a high degree of success.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Build in sufficient time to conduct stakeholder engagement in Manu’a to account for delays and travel changes that may occur</td>
<td>Sufficient time was built in to conduct stakeholder engagement in Manu’a. Manu’a was visited three times during ASOP development.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consider combining ASOP stakeholder engagement with other scheduled agency visits to Manu’a</td>
<td>Stakeholder engagement for the ASOP was combined with other agency visits, including AS DMWR’s need for fisheries feedback.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Consider the use of a Joint Fact Finding (JFF) process to address any areas of significant technical disagreement and uncertainty in ocean and coastal resource planning.

**Rationale:** Joint Fact Finding (JFF) is methodology that brings diverse participants to the table in a neutral forum for sharing information and conducting evidence-based deliberations. JFF is a mediated process. Once assembled, participants formulate common questions and then seek to gather and interpret pertinent facts. JFF does this in a sustained manner rather than a one-off public meeting and through courteous, evidence-based debate. The discussions occur...
over an extended period of time and through a disciplined study structure that fosters collaborative discussions on science-intensive, politically sensitive matters. JFF is most appropriate when there are genuine disagreements over the technical and scientific impacts of actions. JFF processes are NOT appropriate when there are disagreements over personal, cultural, religious, or political beliefs underpinning actions.

JFF might be used as a part of the American Samoa Ocean Planning process to develop a common and scientifically robust understanding of various ocean planning issues. For example, our Team identified disagreement, misunderstanding or lack of information around a handful of issues, including:

- Status of various fish stocks
- Status of coral reefs and impacts of climate change
- Need for and impacts of sea walls

**ASOPT Response:** JFF is a valuable tool for addressing issues, such as the regulations regarding the Large Vessel Prohibited Area or the potential size shift of parrotfish. The ASOPT felt that it is a tool that would be better suited for addressing issues after the development of the Ocean Plan, potentially as a suggested action for a Goal, but is inappropriate during Ocean Plan development as the focus on the plan is working better together and what information is needed for ocean planning.
APPENDIX: STAKEHOLDER ASSESSMENT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY- IN SAMOAN

Stakeholder Engagement Support Project and Recommended Action Plan for the American Samoa Ocean Planning Process

Poloketi Soosoo Tau’au a Sui Lagolago ma le Fuafuaga Faataatia ua Fautuaina mo le Fuafuaga tau le Sami o Amerika Samoa

Prepared by Scott McCreary, Ph.D., CONCUR Inc., Keith Mattson, President, Keith Mattson LLC and Meredith Cowart, Associate, CONCUR Inc.
Final Report July 6, 2017
Lipoti Faai ‘u iulai 6, 2017

‘OTO’OTOGA O LE RIPOTI ALOAIA

A. TALA’AGA MA LE AUTU O LE POLOKETI SOOSOO TAU’AU A SUI LAGOLAGO
O loo faagasolo se fuafuaga faataatia mo le sami o Amerika Samoa lea ua lua tausaga talu ona amatalia i lalo o le faamalu a le Komiti Fuafua a Itulagi o Atumotu o le Pasefika(Pacific Islands Regional Planning Body) (PIRPB). O lea vaega e Fuafuaina Sami o Amerika Samoa, e i lalo o le Komiti a itulagi, ma sa faavae ina ia atina’e ai le Fuafuaga o le Sami o Amerika Samoa mo le Teritori (American Samoa Ocean Plan)(ASOP). E aofia i le Vaega a Amerika Samoa sui o le komiti a Atumotu o le Pasefika ma isi sui faaopoopo mai Amerika Samoa ma matagaluega a le Feterale, o loo vaiaia alaga’oa o le sami ma ona galuega e aofia ai fefaatauaiga, faiga faiva, tulaga lelei o le siosiomaga, ma fuafuaga. Sa faatonuina e le ASOP ma le PIRPB lenei poloketi in ia faatautaia se su’esu’ega tuutuu i le loloto mo Sui Lagolago o loo iai naunautaiga i mataupu tau le Fuafuaga o le Sami i Amerika Samoa, ma tuuinia mai ni faamatalaga i le ASOP. Sa faatupeina lenei poloketi se i foa’i tupe mai le faalapotopotoga Faavae a Gordon ma Betty Moore ma pulea e le faalapotopotoga Faavae o le Udall i lona ofisa e feagai ma le Fofōina o Faafitaui tau le Si’osi’omaga (Udall Foundation’s U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution) (USIECR).

O le ‘auga atoa o le poloketi aua Fuafuaga mo le Galulue Faatasii o Sui Lagolago, ina ia mafai le le ASOP ona galulue e faataua le vaiga, initeresi, atugaluga ma faaautuaga mai vaega o loo faatautaia le Fuafuaga o le Sami i Amerika Samoa. O sui o le vaega faautua o aofia ai le Susuga ia Keith Mattason (Managing Principal a le CONCUR Inc., Berkeley, Kalefonia) ma Keith Mattson (Peresitene, Keith Mattson, LLC, Honolulu, Hawa’i) o loo auililiia ma faatalanoaina Sui Lagolago e aofia ai totino o le ASOPT, faaluuluula e alalafaga o motu a Tutuila ma Manu’a, ma nisi o tagata e fia auai i le Fuafuaga o le Sami. Sa lagolagosua ma fesoasoani o le vaega Meredith Cowart mai le CONCUR faataasi ai ma le Auaunaga o Faaliliuga ma se tuualalo i ala e ua faaleaganu mai ia Okenaisa Fauolo, Faatonu o le ofisa o Aoaoga ma Suesuega Samoa ma sui mai le Kolisi Tuufaatasi o Amerika Samoa.
Sa faatautaia lenei Poloketi mo Fuafuaga mo le Galulue Soosootau’au o Sui Lagolago mai le va o Feputi ma lumi, 2017 ma o loo aofia ai sini nei:
 1. Faamautu ia Autu ma Sini mo le Fuafuaga o Sui Lagolago
2. Faailoa avanoa ono maua ma ni pa puipui i le solo lelei o le galulue soosootau’au ma Sui lagolago
3. Saili finagalo o sui lagolago i faagasologa o fuafuaga o le sami.
4. Atina’e se Fuafuaga Faataatia mo Sui Auai ia iloga ona galulue faatasi e aloa’ia sini ma faamoemoega o Fuafuaga o le Sami a le ASOPT.

O nei faamoemoega sa faataunuuiina i ni fonotaga eseese ma ta’ita’i togia ma è sa maua mai ai faamatalaga, ma faatalanoaga a vaega ma tagata ta’ito’atasi e 36.

B. FAAIUGA TĀUA MAI SOĀLAUPULEGA MA FAATALANOAGA
Sa maua mai e i matou finagalo o sui lagolago mai talanoaga ma faatalanoaga faatulaga mai totino o le ASOPT, pulenuu ma isì ta’ita’i o alalafaga filifilia, ma sui mai mataupu tau faiga faiva ma e iai se naunauta’iga i le autū. O se vaega o faal’uga na maua mai, ua mae’a ona faavasega i ‘autū i le pito i lalo. O nisi faamaumauga aiuliili i maua ma i Vaega 4, 5, ma le 6 o le Ripoti. E tatau ona silafo i nei faamaumagua, o se tuufaatasiga tonu o faal’uga sa alia’e mai faatalanoaga eseese o Sui Lagolago, ma è le’o tuuina atu o se atoaga o finagalo faaalia uma.

Lamatiaga mo le Sami
- O ni lamatiaga taatele ua matauina o le faalapisi, tafega mai sōloga, ma vai ua faalegaina mai suavai lafo’aì ma masini tāmea.
- Pa’emā o ‘Amu o se tasi o lamatiaga, ae sa eseese finagalo pe faafia ona tupu ma le umi a aafia ai.
- Sa matou faalogoina finagalo eseese i le mataupu o le soona fāgota o i’a. Fai mai faaluuluga o alalafaga le-o tupu lea faafitaui i totonu o o latou nuu (e ese mai fagotaga nanā/faagaoi mai fafo), ae o faatalanoaga ma le malo ma Sui Lalolago o loo fai ma sui o vaega tetele et faatūaiaina le mataupu, sa ripotia le matuā so’ona fagotaina o gataifale.
- O le fagotaina faagaoi o nofoaga o faiga faiva i le gataifale o se tasi lea o faafitaui pito tugā na faaioa mai e nisi o alalafaga.
- E uia sa aofia i faafitaui o le tuana’i le fagotaina ona ai ma vailaau ‘ona e fagota ai, ae na faaalasia i le latou sa faatalanoa le faaititia o leni faafitaui. E faapena fo’i le ripotia mai o otaota o pa puua ua faaititia ona ua nofo malamalama tagata i aafiaga, ma ua faamalosia fo’i tulafono o lea faafitaui.
- O nisi atugaluga sa faaalia at faatau i suāuu ma kesi o loo masa’a atu i le sami.

Mata’ituina Suiga i le Si’osi’omaga o le Sami ‘ona o Suiga o le Tau
- Faatupula’ia le tafia o nofoaga o le talaftai, ma ua tele naua matāfaga sa ripotia mai ua tafi’esea ai nisi o nuu, faapea ai ma le faaleagaina sooa ma le faaumiumi o le faaleagaina o ‘amu.
- Suiga o tulaga faitaia ona o le suiga o le tau, e aofia ai le siitia o le mafanana o le sami, maualuga o le sua a le tai, malolosi atu o galu fetafea’i, ma afā malolosi atu.

Atugaluga o Alalafaga mo le Maloloina ma tulaga lelei mo se taimi umi o Alaga’oa o le Sami
- O le tele o popolega i Sui Lagolago sa faatalanoaina aua Alagaoa o le Sami ma le Taua mo le Ola lelei i se Taimi umi e aofia ai:
  o Tulaga ola o Amu
  o Lapiisi e o’o atu i le sami
  o Mafai ona tumau mo se taimi umi fagotaga o i’i mo Fefaatauiga ma Kamupani i’i
  o Maua pea le avanoa e fāgota ai i’a mo taumafataga aiga
Taufa o le Tamaoaiga o Vaega o Faiga Faiva
- O ituaiga fagotaga faapsinisi i iaia neti faapitoa ma laina uumi faimaunu, ma galuega a le Matagaluega o le Uafu o Pago Pago na faatulagaina o vaega tāua i le tulaga tau faiga faiva mo le tamaoaiga o Amerika Samoa.
- Sa faatulaga fagotaga i alia e feoloolo le taua
- O Meli La’upasese ma Faletalimalo sa faatulaga e ititi atu lo latou tāua

Fautuaga mo le Faiga o Fuafuaga o Sui Lagolago
- Na fautuaina e i latou mai alalafaga ma le lautele o sui lagolago le tatau ona galulue faatasi o le ASOPT ma le OSA le auai o pulenuu ina ia mafai ona ofi atu i saofaga fafaai’uga i alalafaga.
- O isí fautuaga e aofia ai:
  - Faatino galuega a nuu ma ísi o matagaluega a le malo
  - Faaititia fonotaga lautele (e pei o Fonotaga Resitala a le Feterale)
  - O Ekelesia a Aoga o ísi nei filifilia faaopoopo mo le galulue faatasi
  - Sailia ma galue ma ísi e lagolagoina le fe’au i vaega esese o le atunu
  - Ia faamauintoa mea faaogā ma faatalanoa e faatino i le gagan Samoa pe a feagai ma potopotoga i le lotoifale.
  - Alo’esu mai faiga faapulepuleutū i le faiga o faavae poo se porokalama
  - Faataua aoaoga e faatatau i faafitaumi ma fofof, ma faamalamalama pe faapefea ona fesoasoani fofo mo tupulaga o le lumanā

Matagaluega e ta’ita’ia le Fuafuaga mo le Galulue Faatasi o Sui Lagolago
- Sa tele ina fautuaina le filifilia o le DMWR e avea ma matagaluega talafeagai e ta’ita’ia le Galulue Faatasi o Sui Lagolago, ma le lagolagosua a le OSA ma le AS EPA

Tali faaopoopo mai Totino o le Fuafuaga o le Sami o Amerika Samoa
- O le tele o totino o le ASOPT sa ripotia mai o le lautele o le atunu o loo iai le manatu sesē e lē muta alaga’oa o le sami (e pei o i’ia). Sa faaalia and nei totino o leinei ituaiga mafaufauga ua faaopoopo ano atu i le lē fiafia i tulafono a faalapopota e manatu la lautele e lē mana’omia.
- I totonu o ofisa i le lotoifale, le lē lava o le faatupega ma tagata faigalu e taita’ia mo se taimi umi le faamoe, ua avea ma tulaga e taofiofo ai le faatinoga o le Fuafuaga o le Sami.
- O le Fuafuaga ASOP e tatau ona u’unua and ofisa o le malō o Amerika Samoa (nai lo le Feterale), ma le galulue faatasi ma le OSA ma faauluuluuga o Nuu.

Manatu Faaopoopo mai Faaulululuga o Nuu
- E pei ona matauiina, sa ripotia mai e nisi o faauluuluuga o nuu, e le’i iai lava se matagaluega a le malo na fesiligia so latou finagaloe i uiiga i se Fuafuaga o le Sami pood mataupu e fesoota’i ma le Fuafuaga o le Galulue Faatasi o Sui Lagolago.
- O le tele o nuu ua faatapulaa le fagotaina o le aau i tagata o nuu
- O loo matuā atugaluē na faatalanoa mai Ofu ma Olosega i le tafi’esea o matafaga ma lamatiaga e no tula ‘i mai galulolo ma ísi galu malolosi ma afā
- Sa faaalia e sui o le nuu o Ta’ū, latou te le’o moomia ni tulafono mai fafo poo tulafono faamalosia mai ofisa i le teritori ma le feterale.
Tali faaopoopo mai isi Sui Lagolago

- Ua faaiaoa mai e nisi na faatalanoa o nisi tagata lautele atonu e le’o suia mai e pulenuu, ma o loo iai pea le moemia a aapa atu iai i nisi auala (e pei o le talosagaina o matai taua e faatalanoa popolega tau le sami ma o latou lava aiga).
- Sa matou mauaina le fautuaga malosi ina ia auai le Fono Faitulafono i faagasologa a le ASOP
- se tasi o finagalo e faapea, talu ai e aoga faiga Faapolenisia i le puipuiga o aau amu, e tatau i pulega o le taimi nei ona a’oa’o mai ia faiga.
- E toatele o loo nofo pogisa pea i aafiaga o gaioiga a tagata taitoatasi i le sami.
- E iai nisi sa faatalanoa na faaiaoa mai le lē lava o le faamalosiga o le tulafono i totonu lava o matagaluega a le malo.

C. FAUTUAGA/FUAFUAGA O LE GALULUE SOOSOOTAU’AU O SUI LAGOLAGO

E fitu fautuaga lautele ua matou tuuina atu i le ASOPT mo le galulue soosootau’au ma Sui Lagolago, ma faatinoga ma’oti i lalo o ia fautuaga. O loo ’oto’oto atu i lalo, ma faalautele auiliili atu i le Vaega 8 o lenei ripoti. E taua tele ona fia fuafuaga i Fautuaga 1 ma le 2 ae le’i aga’i atu i fautuaga o toto. E ui ua tele se galuaga ua faatin i le ASOP, e tatau ona faamalosiga le faasologa o a latou lava faafuaga i le lotoifale ae le’i faaaauaua le galulue soosootau’au ma Sui lagolago. O faatuaga o toto e tatau ona silasila iai o se tuufaatasiga o ni auala eseese. O nei fautuaga e taua tele a o se fesoasoani i le ASOPT 4ia ilooga ona galulue faatasi ma matagaluega o le malo o America Samoa ma Faauluuluga tofia o alalafaga, ma e fautuaina le ASOPT ina ia taga’i toto’a iai i 1ona atoaga.

1. Ia saga atiina’e ma faama’oti taitaiga manino ma faamaoni ia atili aloa’ia ai le Faagasologa o le Fuafua o le Sami.

Galuega Fautuaina:
A. Faatulaga taitaiga manino mo le ASOPT i ofisa o le malo o Amerika Samoa ina ia manino i Sui Lagolago uma o loo tele se lagolagosua mai le lotoifale i le faatautaiga o le fuafuaga, ma le loto malie atoa ma le mafai ona faatin o le ASOP.
B. Faamanino matafaioi o matagaluega a le feterale ma paaga tumaoti i le ASOPT e pei ona lagolagoina ma fesoasoani iai sui ina ia avea lea ma se poloketi mo le lautele.

2. Faaleleia Atili ma faaiaoa se mafuaaga manino ma le faatosinaloto mo le Fuafuaga o le Sami o Amerika Samoa.

Galuega Fautuaina
A. Ia matua’i iloilo lelei matafaioi o matagaluega a le teritori ma le feterale ma a latou tiute o loo fesoota’i ma le fuafuaga o le sami ma pulega o alaga’oa o le sami ma faatautaia se suesuega ina ia ilo a mea o loo moemia le Fuafuaga o le Sami e le’o lava tapena iai.
B. Tusia lelei se faamatalaga i le autu mo le ASOP e mafai ai ona auiliili vaega moemia o faamoemoemoe e tali atu iai e felata’i ma porokalama ma fafuaga a le Feterale ma Amerika Samoa. E tatau i lenei faamatalaga ona lagolago ma faataua faamusua ma matafaioi a matagaluega taitasi o loo auai.
C. Ia fesootai manino atu le faamoemoegoa o le ASOP i Sui Lagolago

3. Atiina’e ma faaaoga auala eseese ma metotia mo Faasoa i le Lautele
4. Soosootau’au ma le Ofisa o Mataupu Tau Samoa ma Ofisa Tofia ia galulue ma alalafaga

5. Faatulaga ni mafuaaga faaootialoto a o ni taui faatosinaloto mo ofisa i le teritor i mataupu, vaega tau pisinisi, faiaoga, saienitisi, ma e i le faiva mo tagata tafafao ia matua ‘auai ai i le faagasologa o le Fuafuaga o le Sami.
6. Fuafua mo mea e ono alia’e ma fo’ia ia faafitaui e feagai ma le Vaega Lagolagosua a Sui Lagolago

**Galuega Fautuaina:**
A. Taga’i toto’a i le faailoa o ni sooupu/faaufautua faatuatuaina ma iloa e tagata ia maua mai loto o sui lagolago e le o auai.
B. Ia faatulaga ia lava le taimi e faatino ai le galulue faatasi ma sui o Manu’a aua ni suiga o taimi malaga e ono tula’i mai.
C. Ia taga’i i le tuufaatasia o taumafaiga aua le galulue faatasi ma Sui lagolago mai Manu’a ma nisi asiasiga a ofisa eseese i Manu’a.

7. Ia taga’i i le faaaoaga o le metotia Sailiga O Mea Faamaonia (Joint Fact Finding JFF) e tali atu ai i ni itu e matua feteenai ai ma le mautonu ai i fuafuaga tau alagaoa o le sami ma le talafatai.

**Auga o Aute:** Joint Fact Finding (JFF) poo le Metotia e Saili ai Mea Faamaonia o se metotia e faatasia ai sui auai eseese i se faaafatefetua le faaitu’au e faasoa faamatalaga, ma faatino ni fetufaiga e faavae i pine faamau. O le JFF o se metotia e iai le tagata e faatutaia. A potopoto loa, ona faatulaga lea e sui auai fesili taatele ona galulue lea e saili ma faauiga mau faamaonia. E faatino faaauau lelei faiga e le JFF ae le o se fono se tasi mo tagata lautele, ma e faia i se faafinauga faaloalo e faavae i mau faamaonia. E faatino felaofafoaiga i se vaaitaimi e faaaoaga ai se faatulagaga sailili pulea e faataua ai le fetufa’a’i i mataupu tupito faasaientisa, ma ma’ale’ale i le tulaga faaupufai o malo. E matua talafeagai le JFF pe a iai ni feeseeseaiga moni i aafiaga faatekinale ma le faasaientisi o ni gaoioiga faatino. E LÊ talafeagai le JFF pe a iai feeseeseaiga tau tagata lava ia, faaleaganuu, faalelotu, poo talitonuga faapolitiki o laualuga i gaoioiga faatino.

E mafai ona faaaoga le JFF o se vaega o le faagasologa o le Fuafuaga ASOP ia atinae ai se malamalama lautele ma faasaientisi o mataupu tau le fuafuaga o sami. O se faataitaiga, na mafai ona tau atu la matou vaega i feeseeseaiga, lê malamalama’i poo le le lava o faamatalaga e faatatau i nisi o mataupu e aofia ai:
- Tulaga o le aofaiga o i’a eseese
- Tulaga o a’au ‘amu ma aafiaga o le suiga o le tau
- moomia ma aafiaga o taligalu
Several stakeholders and community members attended the listening sessions. The following is a list of the participants. Our sincere apologies to participants who were missed in the attendance rosters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 2016</td>
<td>Mac Aveina</td>
<td>WPFMC</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Afoa L.S. Lutu</td>
<td>Fono</td>
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<td>Etenauga Lam Yuen Lutu</td>
<td>Community</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Louise R. Azarvand</td>
<td>Community</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Joan G. Holland</td>
<td>Community</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jason Jaskowiak</td>
<td>ASPA</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Charles Warren</td>
<td>STP</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Nicholas King</td>
<td>Pacific Energy SWP, Ltd</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fatima Sauafea-Leau</td>
<td>NOAA PIRO</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Matthew Brown</td>
<td>USFWS</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Brian J. Donahue</td>
<td>USCG - District 14</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Kelley Tagarino</td>
<td>ASCC and UH Sea Grant</td>
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<td></td>
<td>John Goeke</td>
<td>ASPC</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Michael Tosatto</td>
<td>NOAA PIRO</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lauren Nutter</td>
<td>Udall USIECR</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Keneseli Lafaele</td>
<td>AS DOC</td>
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Tony Grey
Latone Grey
Nicholas King
Chris King
Atuatasi Lelei Peau

Polynesia Shipping
Sunrise Oil / TSA
TSA
Pacific Energy
DPA
NOAA NMSAS
APPENDIX: **DEEDS OF CESSION**

Cession of Tutuila and Aunu'u

Whereas the Governments of Germany, Great Britain, and of the United States of America have on divers occasions recognized the sovereignty of the government and people of Samoa and the Samoan group of islands as an independent State; and whereas owing to disensions, internal disturbances and civil war, the said governments have deemed it necessary to assume the control of the legislation and administration of said state of Samoa; and whereas the said governments have on the sixteenth day of February, by mutual agreement, determined to partition said State; and whereas the islands hereinafter described being part of the said State have by said arrangements amongst the said governments, been severed from the parent State, and the Governments of Great Britain and of Germany have withdrawn all rights hitherto acquired, claimed or possessed by both or either of them by treaty or otherwise, to the said islands in favor of the government of the United States of America; and whereas for the promotion of the peace and welfare of the people of said islands, for the establishment of a good and sound government, and for the preservation of the rights and property of the inhabitants of said islands, the Chiefs, rulers and people thereof are desirous of granting unto the said government of the United States full powers and authority to enact proper legislation for and to control the said islands, and are further desirous of removing all disabilities that may be existing in connection therewith and to ratify and to confirm the grant of the rule of said islands heretofore granted on the 2nd day of April, 1900.

Now know Ye:

1. That we, the Chiefs whose names are hereunder subscribed by virtue of our office as the hereditary representatives of the people of said islands, in consideration of the premises herein-before recited and for divers good considerations us hereunto moving, have ceded, transferred, and yielded up unto Commander B. F. Tilley of the U.S. “Abarenda.” the duly accredited representative of the Government of the United States of America in the islands hereinafter mentioned or described for and on behalf of the said government. All these the islands of Tutuila and Aunuu and all other islands, rocks, reefs, foreshores and waters lying between the 13th degree and the 15th degree of south latitude and between the 171st degree and 167th degree of west longitude from the meridian of Greenwich, together with all sovereign rights thereunto belonging and possessed by us, to hold the said ceded territory unto the Government of the United States of America; to erect the same into a separate District to be annexed to the said Government, to be known and designated as the District of “Tutuila”.

2. The Government of the United States of America shall respect and protect the individual rights of all people dwelling in Tutuila to their lands and other property in said District; but if the said Government shall require any land or any other thing for Government uses, the Government may take the same upon payment of a fair consideration for the land, or other thing, to those who may be deprived of their property on account of the desire of the Government.

3. The Chiefs of the towns will be entitled to retain their individual control of the separate towns, if that control is in accordance with the laws of the United States of America concerning Tutuila, and if not obstructive to the peace of the people and the advancement of civilization of the people, subject also to the supervision and instruction of the said Government. But the enactment of legislation and the general control shall remain firm with the United States of America.

4. An investigation and settlement of all claims to title to lands in the different divisions or districts of Tutuila shall be made by the Government.
5. We, whose names are subscribed below, do hereby declare with truth for ourselves, our heirs and representatives by Samoan Custom, that we will obey and owe allegiance to the Government of the United States of America.

In witness whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names and affixed our seals on this 17th day of April, 1900 A.D.

Fofo and Aitulagi
Tuitele of Leone x
Faivae of Leone x
Letuli of Iliili x
Fuimaono of Aoloau x
Satele of Vailoa x
Leoso of Leone x
Olo of Leone x
Namao of Aitulagi x
Tuanaitau of Pavaiai x
Lualemama of Aasu x
Amituagai of Ituau x

Sua and Vaifanua
Pele x
Mauga x
Leiato x
Faumuina x
Masaniai x
Tupuola x
Soliai x
Mauga x

The foregoing instrument of Cession (pages 1, 2, and 3) was duly signed by Leoso in the presence of, and at the request of, the Chiefs and Representatives of the Division of Fofo and Aitulagi, and by Pele in the presence of and at the request of the Chiefs and Representatives of Sua and Vaifanua in Tutuila in conformity with Samoan customs as to signatures to documents, in my presence at Pago Pago on the 17th day of April, 1900 A.D., immediately prior to the Raising of the United States Flag at the United States Naval Station, Tutuila.

E.W.Gurr
Barrister of the Supreme Court of Samoa.
Cession of Manu’ā Islands

Whereas, the Islands of the Samoan Group lying east of Longitude 171 degrees west of Greenwich were, on the 16th day of February, 1900, by arrangement between the Governments of Germany, Great Britain, and the United States of America, placed under the protection of the Government of the United States of America;

And Whereas, on the 17th day of April, in the year 1900, the Islands of Tutuila and Aunuu, being portion of said Islands of the Samoan Group lying east of Longitude 171 degrees west of Greenwich, were, by the chiefs and rulers of Tutuila and Aunuu, ceded to and placed under the sovereignty and protection of the United States of America, and the government of said Islands was thereupon assumed by said United States;

And Whereas, in administering said government, the Islands hereinafter described, known as the Manu’a Islands, being the remainder of said Islands of the Samoan Group lying east of Longitude 171 degrees west of Greenwich, have been under the protection of the United States of America, and controlled and governed in conjunction with the islands of Tutuila and Aunuu;

And Whereas, at the request of Tuimanu’a, the King of Manu’a, and his chiefs, the United States Flag was, on the 15th day of June, 1900, raised on the Islands of Tau, of the Manu’a Group, for the purpose of granting protection to the people of the Manu’a Islands;

And Whereas, Tuimanu’a and his chiefs, being content and satisfied with the justice, fairness, and wisdom of the government as hitherto administered by the several Commandants of the United States Naval Station, Tutuila, and the officials appointed to act with the Commandant, are desirous of placing the Islands of Manu’a hereinafter described under the full and complete sovereignty of the United States of America to enable said Islands, with Tutuila and Aunuu, to become a part of the territory of said United States;

Now Know Ye: (1) That we, Elesare Tuimanu’a and the Chief whose names are hereunder subscribed, in consideration of the premises hereinbefore recited, have ceded, and, by, These Presents Do Cede, unto the Government of the United States of America, All Those, The Islands of the Manu’a Group, being the whole of eastern portion of the Samoan Islands lying east of Longitude 171 degrees west of Greenwich and known as Tau, Olosega, Ofu, and Rose Islands, and all other, the waters and property and adjacent thereto, together with all sovereign rights thereunto belonging and possessed by us.

To hold the said ceded territory unto the Government of the United States of America, to erect the same into a territory or district of the said Government.

(2) It is intended and claimed by these Presents that there shall be no discrimination in the suffrages and political privileges between the present residents of said Islands and citizens of the United States dwelling therein, and also that the rights of the Chiefs in each village and of all people concerning their property according to their customs shall be recognized.

Done at the place of Faleula in Tau, in triplicate, in both the Samoan and the English languages, on this 14th day of July, in the year 1904, A.D.

King of Manu’a

and
United States Naval Station, Tutuila
District Court of Tutuila
No. 5
Held at Tau, in Manu’a

I Hereby Certify that on this 16th day of July, in the year 1904, before me, Edwin W. Gurr, Judge of the District Court of Tutuila, personally appeared Tuimanua, the Governor of Manu’a; Tufele, County Chief of Fitiuta; Misa, County Chief of Ofu; Tuiolosega, County Chief of Olosega; Asoau, County Chief of Faleasao; and Logoai, District Clerk of Manu’a; personally known to me to be the Tuimanau, high chiefs, and representatives of the people of the Islands of Manu’a, who, each for himself, acknowledged that he executed the attached Instrument of Cession, and affixed his seal thereto, freely and voluntarily, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned.

In Testimony Whereof I have caused the seal of the court to be affixed this 16th day of July in the year 1904.
APPENDIX: REGULATORY AND MANAGEMENT CONTEXT

This appendix provides a summary of key Federal laws that regulate and manage marine resources and human activities that are most relevant to the implementation of the ASOP, and generally describes the authorities of the jurisdiction and WPFMC.

INTRODUCTION
Geography and jurisdiction play a key role in the regulatory and management context for the ASOP. American Samoa Government’s (ASG’s) jurisdiction generally extends three nautical miles offshore. Under current law, Federal entities manage activities out to the boundary of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and ASG entities manage activities within their waters.

As described below, through the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), Federal actions outside a jurisdiction’s coastal zone, that have reasonably foreseeable effects on any coastal use (land or water) or natural resources of the coastal zone, are required to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a jurisdiction’s federally approved coastal management program.

The following are informal descriptions of certain statutes and their implementing regulations for the convenience of the reader. These descriptions are not intended as a complete statement of and do not substitute for applicable law or to establish the actual requirements of any regulatory program. These descriptions also are not intended as legal advice. The reader should refer to the statutes, regulations, and Federal Register for official program requirements. Any decisions or actions undertaken by any Federal agency or jurisdiction will be based on the applicable statutes, regulations, case-specific facts and circumstances, and case law.

FEDERAL AGENCIES
For the Federal agencies involved in regional ocean planning, there are a number of major statutes and regulatory programs that govern their activities in the ocean. Below is a summary of key authorities that address interests related to the Plan goals and objectives:

AUTHORITIES RELATED TO DEVELOPMENT

Energy Policy Act of 2005
The Energy Policy Act authorizes BOEM to issue leases, easements, and rights of way to allow for renewable energy development on the OCS. The Act establishes a general framework for authorizing renewable energy activities, and requires that BOEM coordinate with relevant Federal agencies and affected State and local governments, obtain fair return for leases and grants issued, and ensure that renewable energy development takes place in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. BOEM promulgated regulations in 2009 that provide a detailed structure for implementation of the OCS Renewable Energy Program. Though American Samoa is not included in the Pacific OCS Region, this Act offers a helpful reference. (42 U.S.C. §13201 et seq)

Deepwater Port Act
The Deepwater Port Act authorizes and regulates the location, ownership, construction, and operation of deepwater ports in waters beyond the U.S. State seaward boundaries, sets requirements for the protection of marine and coastal environments from adverse effects of such port development, and promotes safe transport of oil and natural gas from such locations. A deepwater port is generally
defined as a fixed or floating manmade structure other than a vessel, or any group of such structures, that are used as a port or terminal for the transportation, storage, or further handling of oil or natural gas for transportation to or from any State. The Department of Transportation (DOT), through the Maritime Administration (MARAD), authorizes activities under the Act in close consultation with the U.S. Coast Guard, which was delegated responsibility to process applications, conduct environmental reviews (including initiating requests for coordination), and manage other technical aspects of the applications. The Act also provides for the governor of a State with “adjacent state” status to have a veto authority over a proposed project. (33 U.S.C. §1501 et seq.; 46 U.S.C. §2101 et seq.)

**Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act**
The Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 establishes programs to regulate ocean dumping, conduct ocean dumping research, and designate national marine sanctuaries. Title I, sometimes referred to as the Ocean Dumping Act, generally prohibits: 1) transportation of material from the United States for the purpose of ocean dumping; 2) transportation of material from anywhere for the purpose of ocean dumping by U.S. agencies or U.S.-flagged vessels; and 3) dumping of material transported from outside the United States into the U.S. territorial sea. A permit is required to deviate from these prohibitions. The standard for permit issuance is whether the dumping will “unreasonably degrade or endanger” human health, welfare, or the marine environment. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is authorized to issue permits for ocean disposal of dredged material applying standards developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA; the Ocean Dumping Criteria) and subject to review and concurrence by EPA; EPA is authorized to issue permits for ocean disposal of other materials. EPA also designates appropriate disposal sites. (Major code sections at 33 U.S.C. §§1401-1445, 16 U.S.C. §§1431-1447f, 33 U.S.C. §§2801-2805)

**AUTHORITIES RELATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND REGULATION**

**National Environmental Policy Act**
The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to assess the environmental effect(s) of a proposed Federal action on the human environment prior to making decisions. Federal agencies analyze the potential environmental impacts of a proposed Federal action through a Categorical Exclusion, Environmental Assessment (EA), or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). NEPA requires federal agencies to prepare an EIS if the proposed action is likely to have significant environmental effects. NEPA and its implementing regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) provide that development of an EIS include opportunities for public review and comment, consideration of a range of reasonable alternatives, and analysis of the potential impacts resulting from the alternatives. In addition, NEPA and its implementing regulations mandate coordination and collaboration among Federal agencies and direct Federal agencies to coordinate with States and Tribes. NEPA is administered by individual Federal agencies (most agencies have developed their own NEPA implementing procedures consistent with NEPA implementing regulations) in concert with guidance from the Council on Environmental Quality (42 U.S.C. §4321 et seq.). Under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, EPA must review Environmental Impact Statements issued by other federal agencies and comment on the adequacy and the acceptability of the environmental impacts of the proposed action.

**Clean Water Act, Discharge of Dredged and Fill Material (Section 404)**
Section 404 of the Clean Water Act prohibits the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. without a permit. Such discharges may be authorized only when there is no alternative that is less damaging to the aquatic environment, and various other standards are met. The impact of dredged or fill material on the marine ecosystem is determined in consultation with Federal resource agencies that have subject-matter jurisdiction to evaluate potential impacts to resources under their jurisdiction (see
below). An applicant must demonstrate efforts to avoid and minimize potential adverse impacts, and, where relevant, must provide compensation for any remaining, unavoidable impacts through activities to restore or create wetlands. EPA and USACE jointly administer the Section 404 program; permits are issued by USACE, except in New Jersey waters, where the State has assumed the program. (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq.)

**Clean Water Act, Permits for Point Source Discharges of Pollutants (Sections 301, 402 and 403)**

Discharges of pollutants from point sources to waters of the U.S. are generally prohibited, unless authorized by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. (See 33 U.S.C. §§ 1311(a) and 1342) NPDES permits impose limits on, and monitoring requirements for, such point source discharges. Many, but not all, States have been authorized to administer the NPDES program and issue the permits for point source discharges to waters under their jurisdiction, including the territorial seas extending three miles from shore. Where a State has not been so authorized, EPA issues the NPDES permits for point source discharges to the State’s waters. Furthermore, EPA issues the NPDES permits for discharges to waters seaward of the territorial seas for point sources, other than from a vessel or other floating craft being used as a means of transportation. Permits for discharges to waters under State jurisdiction (“internal” waters and waters of the territorial seas) must include requirements ensuring satisfaction of State water quality standards. In addition, any permits for discharges to the territorial sea, contiguous zone or the ocean must comply with EPA’s Ocean Discharge Criteria. (33 U.S.C. §§1311(b)(1)(C), 1341, and 1343)

**Rivers and Harbors Act (Section 10)**

Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act prohibits the unauthorized obstruction of navigable waters of the U.S. or on the OCS. Construction of any structure, excavation, or placement of fill in U.S. navigable waters, including the OCS, is prohibited without a permit from USACE. (33 U.S.C. §403 et seq.)

**Public Interest Review**

The decision by USACE on whether to issue a permit under the Clean Water Act or Rivers and Harbors Act, above, is based in part on “an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest.” The review addresses a range of natural, cultural, social, economic, and other considerations, including, generally, “the needs and welfare of the people,” and balances the “benefits which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal” against the “reasonably foreseeable detriments” in a way that reflects the “national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources.” A permit will be granted if the proposed project is not contrary to the public interest and meets other legal requirements. (33 U.S.C. §401 et seq.; 33 U.S.C. §1344; 33 U.S.C. §1413)

**Coastal Zone Management Act**

The CZMA promotes the sustainable development of the nation’s coasts by encouraging States and territories to balance the conservation and development of coastal resources using their own management authorities. The Act provides financial and technical assistance incentives for States to manage their coastal zones consistent with the guidelines of the Act. States with federally approved coastal management programs have the authority under the Act to review Federal actions that have reasonably foreseeable effects on the uses or resources of a State’s coastal waters for consistency with the enforceable policies of the federally approved coastal management program. Federal actions include Federal agency activities, certain Federal license or permit activities, BOEM OCS Plan approvals, and Federal funding to State and local governments for activities with coastal effects. (16 U.S.C. §1451 et seq.)
Ports and Waterways Safety Act
The Ports and Waterways Safety Act provides for the establishment, operation, and maintenance of vessel traffic services, control of vessel movement, establishment of requirements for vessel operation, and other port safety controls. Specific to navigation, the Act requires that USCG conduct studies to provide safe access routes for vessel traffic in waters under U.S. jurisdiction. In doing so, USCG considers all waterway uses to assess the impacts on navigation from a specific project, to periodically assess navigation safety for specific federally designated waterways, and to assess risk in a port, port approaches, or region of significance. (33 U.S.C. §1221 et seq.)

National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106)
The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires Federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. Effects to districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects listed in or eligible for the National Register are considered; properties not listed on the Register are evaluated against the National Park Service’s published criteria, in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and/or a Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) and any federally recognized Indian Tribe that may attach religious or cultural importance to them. If an agency makes an assessment that its actions will cause an adverse effect, it initiates a consultation process that results in a Memorandum of Agreement that outlines measures that the agency will take to avoid, minimize, or mitigate the adverse effects. (16 U.S.C. §470 et seq.)

Magnuson-Stevens Act
The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) establishes national standards for fishery conservation and management in U.S. waters. The Act created eight Regional Fishery Management Councils (including MAFMC) composed of Federal and State officials and both voting and non-voting members representing the commercial and recreational fishing sectors, and environmental, academic, and government interests that prepare and amend fishery management plans for certain fisheries requiring conservation and management. In addition to provisions that address fisheries science and management, the Act requires that fishery management plans identify and describe essential fish habitat (including adverse impacts on such habitat) and ensure the protection, conservation, and enhancement of essential fish habitat for each managed species. Federal agencies must consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in the review of potential impacts of their actions on essential fish habitat when they authorize, fund, or undertake an action that may adversely affect essential fish habitat. In response, NMFS provides conservation recommendations to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or otherwise offset those adverse effects. The Act also requires Federal action agencies to consult with NMFS on any projects that are authorized, funded, or undertaken that may adversely affect essential fish habitat. NMFS also provides conservation recommendations to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or otherwise offset those adverse effects. (16 U.S.C. §1801 et seq.)

Endangered Species Act
The Endangered Species Act (ESA) provides for the conservation of species that are endangered or threatened, and designated critical habitat. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or NMFS determine the species that are endangered or threatened (“listed species”), designate critical habitat, and develop and implement recovery plans for listed species. Section 7 of the Act requires that Federal agencies consult with either USFWS or NMFS to ensure that any action authorized, funded, or carried out by an agency is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the adverse modification or destruction of critical habitat designated for such species. (16 U.S.C. §1531 et seq.)
**Marine Mammal Protection Act**
The Marine Mammal Protection Act provides for the protection of all marine mammals. NMFS and USFWS share authority under the Act. NMFS is responsible for the protection of whales, dolphins, porpoises, and seals. The Act prohibits, with limited exceptions, broadly defined takes to, or interactions involving, marine mammals. Exceptions can be made through permitting actions for “incidental” impacts from commercial fishing and other non-fishing activities, for scientific research, and for licensed institutions such as aquaria and science centers. NMFS can authorize incidental takes if it finds that such takes will have a negligible impact on the species or stock(s) and specifies conditions related to permissible impacts, mitigation, monitoring, and reporting. NMFS is required to consult with the Marine Mammal Commission in its decision making. (16 U.S.C. §1361 et seq.)

**Migratory Bird Treaty Act**
The Migratory Bird Treaty Act implements four treaties that provide for international protection of migratory birds. Under the Act, taking and killing of migratory birds is prohibited. USFWS regulations found at 50 CFR part 21 authorize the issuance of permits to take migratory birds. A number of migratory bird regulations authorize purposeful take for a variety of purposes, including bird banding and marking, scientific collection, bird rehabilitation, raptor propagation, and falconry. Consistent with USFWS’s longstanding position that the Act applies to take that occurs incidental to, and which is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity, USFWS also has authorized incidental take by the Armed Forces during military-readiness activities (50 CFR 21.15) and in certain situations through special use permits described in 50 CFR 21.27. In most circumstances, including take that results from activities like wind energy development, USFWS addresses incidental take through the exercise of enforcement discretion. USFWS focuses its enforcement efforts under the Act on industries or activities that chronically kill birds and has historically pursued criminal prosecution under the Act only after notifying an industry of its concerns regarding avian mortality, working with the industry to find solutions and proactively educating industry about ways to avoid or minimize take of migratory birds. As a matter of law enforcement discretion, USFWS considers the extent to which a company or individual had complied with that guidance as a substantial factor in assessing any potential enforcement action for violation of the Act. (16 U.S.C. §§703-712)

**National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 (as amended and supplemented)**
The National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 created the National Park Service (NPS) and directed NPS to manage National Park System units. The purpose of national parks broadly is to “to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.” In the Mid-Atlantic, Fire Island National Seashore, Gateway National Recreation Area, Statue of Liberty, Governors Island and Castle Clinton National Monuments, and Assateague Island National Seashore are managed according to their enabling legislation, the National Park Service Organic Act of 1916 (as amended and supplemented), regulations at 36 CFR Parts 1–7, and unit-specific management plans. (5416 U.S.C. §100101 et seq.)

**National Marine Sanctuaries Act**
The National Marine Sanctuaries Act authorizes the Secretary of Commerce to designate discrete areas of the marine environment as national marine sanctuaries to protect distinctive natural and cultural resources. The primary objective of the Act is protection of sanctuary resources; a secondary objective is facilitation of all public and private uses that are compatible with resource protection. Regulations for management and protection of sanctuary resources are at 15 CFR Part 922. Section 304 of the Act
requires interagency consultation between the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and Federal agencies taking actions that “may affect” the resources of a sanctuary. (16 U.S.C. §1431 et seq.)

TERRITORY OF AMERICAN SAMOA

The constitutional government of American Samoa has broad-based authority to manage and regulate activities that occur within its lands and waters. The numerous authorities and regulations that address resource protection and management can be generally categorized across the region as representing:

- Geographically-based authority to plan for and regulate most activities and resources in a particular area of the jurisdiction’s waters, such as the critical area or tidal wetlands.
- Authority to protect certain resources or functions, such as identification and protection of submerged aquatic vegetation beds, fish refuges, or shipwreck sites.
- Authority to regulate particular activities, such as prescribing, prohibiting, or limiting where, for example, energy development, dredge material disposal, aquaculture, fishing, or construction activities may be conducted.

As noted above, one additional authority is the Federal CZMA, administered by NOAA’s Office for Coastal Management and on a State or territory level through federally approved coastal management programs. As discussed above, the CZMA authorizes American Samoa’s Government to review Federal actions that have reasonably foreseeable effects to resources and uses of the AS’s coastal zone for consistency with its federally approved coastal management program. Under specific circumstances (defined by, and unique to, each State’s federally approved coastal management program), this may include State review of Federal actions that occur outside State waters. Data and information in the Data Portal will help inform AS review of Federal actions under the CZMA; Section 2.6 describes additional potential opportunities for State and Federal coordination.

WESTERN PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

The WPFMC is one of eight regional fishery management councils (FMCs) created under the Fishery Management and Conservation Act (1976; now referred to as the MSA). The law created a system of regional fisheries management in which fisheries are managed at a regional level through participatory governance by knowledgeable people with a stake in fisheries management. The FMCs develop fishery management plans and recommend fishery management measures for the US EEZ to the Secretary of Commerce through NMFS. The decisions made by the FMCs are not final until they are approved or partially approved by the Secretary of Commerce.

As mandated by the MSA, the WPFMC consists of representatives from Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Marianas Islands. The Council is made up of 16 Council members with accompanying council staff and several advisory bodies. The Council process is a bottom-up process, emphasizing public participation and involvement of fisheries management at the local and community levels.
APPENDIX: PNRS BOARD AND THEIR RESPECTIVE REVIEW FUNCTIONS

PNRS reviews permits and votes on projects based on each agencies jurisdiction. The voting members and their review functions are outlined below:

- American Samoa Department of Commerce
  - Special Management Areas, Wetlands, and Coastal Hazards. Please refer to ASAC Title 26 Chapter 2 for more details.
- American Samoa Historic Preservation Office
  - Historic Preservation and Special Management Areas
- American Samoa Department of Public Works
  - Special Management Areas, Shoreline Development, Coastal Hazards, Slope Erosion, Major Facility Siting, Unique Areas, and Building Design. Please refer to ASAC Title 10 for more details.
- American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency
  - Special Management Areas, Shoreline Development, Slope Erosion, Major Facility Siting, Water Quality, Drinking Water Quality, Air Quality, and Unique Areas. Please refer to ASAC Title 24 for more details.
- American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources
- American Samoa Power Authority
  - Special Management Areas, Major Facility Siting, Power, Water, and Wastewater. Please refer to ASAC Title 15 Chapter 1 for more details.
- American Samoa Department of Health
  - Public Health, Food Safety, and Pollution. Please refer to ASAC Title 25 for more details.
- American Samoa Parks and Recreation
  - Special Management Areas, Major Facility Siting, Recreation and Shoreline Access, Agricultural Development, and Unique Areas. Please refer to ASAC Title 18 for more details.
## APPENDIX: Use Tables

### FISHING AND VILLAGE-BASED ACTIVITIES

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<th>Use Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Spearfishing</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottomfishing</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trolling</td>
<td>Far (seamounts) and Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handlining / bamboo pole / rod and reel fishing from shore</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoreline and nearshore gleaning/ gathering (&lt;5 ft deep)</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gill nets</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Throw nets</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand mining</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoreline recreation</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal access points</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shipwrecks</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational fishing</td>
<td>Far and Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sports fishing tournaments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal clean-ups</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### CULTURAL USES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use Type</th>
<th>Far (&gt;3 mi) or Near (&lt;3 mi) Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culturally significant fishing (e.g. akule runs)</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culturally significant sites / landmarks</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fautasi races / Canoe races</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal access points</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishponds</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fautasi tours</td>
<td>Near and Far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic / culturally significant sites (e.g. Star Mound)</td>
<td>Near?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GOVERNMENT REGULATED AREAS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use Type</th>
<th>Far (&gt;3 mi) or Near (&lt;3 mi) Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EEZ</td>
<td>Far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Management Areas</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longline Vessel Prohibited Area</td>
<td>Far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monuments</td>
<td>Near and Far</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### RECREATION AND RESEARCH/EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use Type</th>
<th>Far (&gt;3 mi) or Near (&lt;3 mi) Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recreational paddling</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational diving</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational snorkeling</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surfing</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational sailing</td>
<td>Near and Far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jet skiing</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational activities</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research activities (university and local agency)</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal access points</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL HARBOR ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use Type</th>
<th>Far (&gt;3 mi) or Near (&lt;3 mi) Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shipping / commercial shipyard</td>
<td>Near and Far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cannery operations / fish processing</td>
<td>Near and Far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport by boat / ferry</td>
<td>Near and Far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fueling / Fuel transport</td>
<td>Near and Far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cruise ship operations</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yacht mooring</td>
<td>Near</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Coastal access points (terrestrial) | Near
Shipwrecks | Near
Commercial fishing | Near and Far
Fresh fish export – off island | Near and Far (seamounts)
Aquaculture and mariculture | Near and Far
Navigational aids | Near and Far
Anchorage grounds | Near and Far
Ocean disposal sites | Far

These are the tables that were developed by the WPFMC for their mapping effort. For ASOPT exercise purposes, commercial fishing was added.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISHING AND VILLAGE-BASED ACTIVITIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Use Type</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spearfishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottomfishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handlining / bamboo pole / rod and reel fishing from shore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoreline and nearshore gleaning/ gathering (&lt;5 ft deep)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culturally significant fishing and other activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gill nets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Throw nets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand mining</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shoreline recreation</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coastal access points</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shipwrecks</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL HARBOR ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Use Type</strong></th>
<th><strong>Includes</strong></th>
<th><strong>Excludes</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shipping / commercial shipyard</strong></td>
<td>Shipping of supplies / equipment to and from island, storage of shipping materials</td>
<td>Fish transport and processing, transportation of people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cannery operations / fish processing</strong></td>
<td>Structures and vessels associated with the cannery and processing of fish</td>
<td>Fish for local consumption or not to be canned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Transport by boat / ferry</strong></td>
<td>Ferry and boat-based transportation</td>
<td>Fishing boats, shipping of goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fueling / Fuel transport</strong></td>
<td>Locations associated with fueling boats, transport of fuel for island</td>
<td>Transport of people, transport of fish or goods</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cruise ship operations</strong></td>
<td>Transit and docking areas for cruise ships, areas of heavy cruise ship tourism use</td>
<td>Non-cruise ship passenger transit, non-cruise ship tourism activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yacht mooring</strong></td>
<td>Mooring locations for yachts</td>
<td>Mooring for fishing and other boats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Coastal access points</strong></td>
<td>Access routes / points to coast</td>
<td>Areas where coast is inaccessible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shipwrecks</strong></td>
<td>Known sites of shipwrecks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commercial fishing</strong></td>
<td>General fishing grounds for all types of commercial fishing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Added by ASOPT for mapping exercise*

### RECREATION AND RESEARCH/EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Use Type</strong></th>
<th><strong>Includes</strong></th>
<th><strong>Excludes</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational paddling</strong></td>
<td>Individual or group use of kayak, outriggers, or other paddle-powered vessels; for fun or competition, fautasi racing</td>
<td>Motorized boating, use of kayak or paddle-boat for fishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swimming</strong></td>
<td>Recreational, exercise</td>
<td>Free diving, snorkeling, wading, SCUBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational diving</strong></td>
<td>SCUBA diving (not for the purpose of fishing or gathering), shore- and vessel-based</td>
<td>Research oriented diving, SCUBA spear, extractive activities, diving for professional reasons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Recreational snorkeling</strong></td>
<td>Snorkeling, freediving (not for the purpose of fishing or gathering), shore- and vessel-based</td>
<td>Spearfishing and extractive activities, research activities, snorkeling for professional reasons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surfing</td>
<td>Surfing, boogie-boarding</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreational sailing</td>
<td>Use of sailboat, yacht for recreation and transit purposes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jet skis</td>
<td>Use of jet skis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational activities</td>
<td>Locations of education and outreach activities for school groups and the general public</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research activities (university and local agency)</td>
<td>Locations use for research and monitoring of natural resources on island</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal access points</td>
<td>Access routes / points to coast</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recreational sailing</td>
<td>Use of sailboat or yacht for fishing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jet skis</td>
<td>Non-jet ski motorized vessels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational activities</td>
<td>University / agency research sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research activities (university and local agency)</td>
<td>Recreational diving and snorkeling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal access points</td>
<td>Areas where coast is inaccessible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## APPENDIX: OCEAN PLAN INPUT FROM STAKEHOLDERS

The following tables contain the input that was received regarding the American Samoa Ocean Plan (ASOP), and how the ASOPT addressed it.

### September/October 2017: Community and stakeholder group listening session

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Feedback</th>
<th>Action ASOPT Took</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goal 1: Healthy ocean and coastal ecosystems</td>
<td>Add “watershed”</td>
<td>The ASOPT further articulated its footprint of the ASOP, confining language to “ocean and coastal” only. However, watershed was added in a list of descriptions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 2: Sustainable ocean and coastal uses</td>
<td>Funded, not just planned</td>
<td>The ASOPT agreed, but did not alter the goal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Need clear responsibilities of agencies</td>
<td>The ASOPT agreed. Agency responsibilities were assigned at the task level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upgrade infrastructure</td>
<td>Upgrading infrastructure is beyond the scope of this plan, but planning for it is not with respect to spatial planning. It is incorporated throughout Goal 2’s actions and tasks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 1 and 2</td>
<td>Switch the order</td>
<td>The ASOPT understood that uses could go first in an ocean plan regarding uses of the coastal and ocean environment, but put forth that uses could not be sustainable if the environment was not healthy first and foremost.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 3: Promote Fa’a Samoa</td>
<td>Put Samoans in charge of actions</td>
<td>The ASOPT was hesitant to add this type of language to the ocean plan, which is for consumption by all residents of American Samoa, as well as local and federal agencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introduce traditional ocean uses to youth at an early age</td>
<td>The ASOPT agrees that this is important. However, this is done on a local level. The relevance of the ocean plan to this suggestion is ensuring the traditional ocean uses spatial footprint is maintained so that the uses can still exist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 1, Objective 1: “Manage species and habitats to maintain and/or</td>
<td>Add “protect”</td>
<td>The ASOPT agreed, adding “protect” before “maintain.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Understand the federal and ASG boundaries to help with understanding Fono and local culture</td>
<td>The ASOPT added to its requested list of data layers the ASG and federal boundaries, as well as actions and tasks related to further defining boundaries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Feedback</td>
<td>Action ASOPT Took</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>restore healthy ecosystems and natural beauty.”</td>
<td>Areas that are prohibited will help with awareness</td>
<td>The ASOPT stated that its aim is to map those prohibited areas so that people know where they are.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASDOC CMP worked with villages to talk about issues (e.g. dynamite fishing)</td>
<td>Previous efforts by ASG and federal agencies are referenced in this ocean plan and are noted for building upon in the actions and tasks.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect spawning areas from encroaching</td>
<td>This is an action for AS DMWR, but was not incorporated into this ocean plan.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enforcement is key</td>
<td>The ASOPT understands that enforcement can be lacking, and as such, there are actions associated with improved enforcement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goal 1, Objective 2: Prevent, eliminate, and/or mitigate land-based and marine sources of pollution</td>
<td>Bring federal fines back to American Samoa</td>
<td>The ASOPT did not incorporate fines into the ASOP.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Think about EPA, permits, sewer lines</td>
<td>ASEPA has been involved with the ASOPT and development of the ocean plan. The agency understands the concerns from the communities. Sewer lines are part of the non-point source pollution affecting the coastal and ocean waters within this objective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identify places with new problems</td>
<td>This is part of the actions and tasks associated with this objective.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Integrate into action plans that enforce pollution</td>
<td>The ASEPA is responsible for enforcing pollution standards, including working with other agencies. The agency understands its responsibilities within the objectives of this plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Get village/pulenu’u involved in long term - After the rains, pulenu’u work with villages</td>
<td>The ASOPT did not incorporate this item into its actions. However, it understands and documented in its implementation chapter how the structure ties to land increase pollution prevention The ASOPT understands the importance of tying people to their land to improve pollution prevention, however this is not incorporated into the ocean plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ties to land increase pollution prevention</td>
<td>The ASOPT liked this idea and has passed it along to ASEPA.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Survey visa holders regarding trash; provide awareness training</td>
<td>The ASOPT aims to fulfil this objective through completion of the actions and tasks.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This is a good objective, but how do we “mitigate”?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Regulations already cover pollution prevention for businesses
The ASOPT understands that ASEPA already has regulations.

### Goal 1, Objective 3: Account for ocean ecosystem changes and increased risks.
- **Add docks so that areas around the islands have access to the port and hospital**
  Docks were added to Goal 2 regarding uses.
- **Ensure bridges can withstand flooding streams**
  Bridges were added to Goal 2 regarding uses.
- **Stream sedimentation is a result of ecosystem changes and runoff.**
  Stream sedimentation was kept in Goal 1.

#### February 2017 PI RPB Feedback

| Goal 3: Promote Fa’a Samoa | The PI RPB suggested making this Goal 1 | Instead, the ASOPT elevated it from a goal to a guiding principle. The actions of the original goal were moved to actions under Goal 2. |