### About the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council was established by Congress in 1976 to manage fisheries in the offshore waters surrounding Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Hawai‘i and the U.S. Pacific remote island areas. The fisheries in federal waters surrounding American Samoa are managed under the American Samoa Archipelago and Pacific Pelagic Fishery Ecosystem Plans. Traditional knowledge and wide community involvement are integral parts of the ecosystem-based approach to fishery management. The 2006 reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requires that federally managed fisheries are regulated through annual catch limits (ACLs).

### 2014 Annual Catch Limits for Federally Managed Species in American Samoa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fishery</th>
<th>Management unit species (MUS)</th>
<th>ACL (in lbs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bottomfish</td>
<td>Bottomfish multi-species stock complex</td>
<td>101,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crustaceans</td>
<td>Deepwater Shrimp</td>
<td>80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Spiny Lobster</td>
<td>2,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Slipper Lobster</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kona Crab</td>
<td>3,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precious Coral</td>
<td>Black Coral</td>
<td>1,742</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coral Reef</td>
<td>American Samoa Exploratory Area</td>
<td>2,205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecosystem (CRE)</td>
<td>Acanthuridae—surgeonfish</td>
<td>19,516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carangidae—jacks</td>
<td>9,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Selar crumenophthalmus</em>—atule or bigeye scad</td>
<td>8,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lethrinidae—emperors</td>
<td>7,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scaridae—parrotfish</td>
<td>8,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mollusks—turbo snail; octopus; giant clams</td>
<td>16,694</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lutjanidae—snappers</td>
<td>18,839</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Serranidae—groupers</td>
<td>5,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mugilidae—mullets</td>
<td>2,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Crustaceans—crabs</td>
<td>2,248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Holocentridae—squirrelfish</td>
<td>2,585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Bolbometopon muricatum</em>—bumphead parrotfish</td>
<td>235</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Cheilinus undulatus</em>—Humphead (Napoleon) wrasse</td>
<td>1,743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carcharhinidae—Reef Sharks</td>
<td>1,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Other CREMUS combined</td>
<td>18,910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** ACLs are not specified for most pelagic species because they are subject to international fishing agreements or have life cycles of less than a year and are thus exempted from the ACL requirement.
About This Calendar

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WPRFMC) has produced traditional lunar calendars for American Samoa since 2007. The initial productions were based on information from books written about Samoa by scholars such as Brother Henry, Kramer, Turner and Stair, as well as information collected by Talking Chief Teleiai Ausage. A more elaborate interview with Rev. Elder Oka Fauolo helped complete all the names of the moon phases, as well as the names of the months. When the 2009 Amerika Samoa Lunar Calendar was distributed, the community gave much positive feedback and also asked for definitions of Samoan terms used in the calendar.

To improve on the lunar calendar, the WPRFMC convened a workshop on the island of Tutuila, American Samoa, in partnership with the Samoan Studies Institute (SSI) of the American Samoa Community College, American Samoa’s Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources (DMWR) and the Office of Samoan Affairs. The workshop involved participants from other American Samoa organizations, fishermen, elders and members of the general public as well as the Apia Fisheries Division in the Independent State of Samoa.

This 2014 Amerika Samoa Lunar Calendar takes into account recommendations from the workshop as well as research conducted by Okenaisa Fauolo, Teleiai Ausage and Apisaloma Toleafoa of the SSI in 2010 with villagers throughout Tutuila as well as with the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme, Samoa’s Fishery Division and Meteorological Office, and tautai (experts of the seas), including High Chief Mulipola Perenise of Manono Tai and High Talking Chief Leva’a Sauaso of Apolima Tai, and High Chief Faasavalu, on the islands of Upolu and Manono in Samoa. The 2014 calendar also includes the annual catch limits for federally fisheries in American Samoa. The Council will continue to work with the American Samoa community to improve and enhance in future calendars.

The explanations of each lunar month in the calendar were provided by the SSI. Information on the local fish for each month was provided by Selaina Vaitautolu of the American Samoa DMWR and Fini Aitaoto, the former WPRFMC on-site coordinator in American Samoa. The monthly proverbs are from Samoan Proverbial Expressions - Alaga’upu Fa’a Samoa by Dr. E. Schultz (translated by Brother Herman; Auckland, NZ: Polynesian Press. 1980). The tide charts, moon phases, and moon rise and set times are for Pago Pago (Samoa standard time) provided by OceanFun Publishing, NZ. The project was coordinated by Nate Ilaoa, the WPRFMC on-site coordinator in American Samoa, and Sylvia Spalding, WPRFMC communications officer.

The illustrations in the calendar are the winning entries of the student art contest held in American Samoa on the theme of “Climate Change and Traditional Places: Rights and Responsibilities.” It was chosen in preparation of the 2014 First Stewards Symposium “United Indigenous Voices Address Sustainability: Climate Change and Traditional Places” to be held in Washington, DC (www.firststewards.org). The first-place Grades 6–8 poster will be displayed at the event.

A special thanks to Netini Sene of the American Samoa Department of Education for assisting with the art contest and to the art contest judges: renowned local artist Mark Ashley Faulkner; Tilani LeGalley Ilaoa, administrator, Native American Samoa Advisory Council; and Alex Zodiacal, professor of art, American Samoa Community College.
**Alogo (Lined surgeonfish)**

I’a pito i ta’atele i a’au ma aloalo, faapea fagotaga

Alogo is very common in near-shore reefs and is the most caught species by near-shore free divers.

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**O le fa’atoninu folau.**

He who gives the directions in the boat.

Applied to an old experienced seaman who is too weak to handle the rudder, but sits in the boat watching the wind and the weather and giving directions to the crew.

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**January 31 - March 1, 2014**

*Ianuari 31 – Mati 1, 2014*

Vaitau mulimuli e toe eli ai ufi vao.

Final harvesting of wild yams.
Abish Autele
Tufele L-5
Alataua II

Abish Autele • Alataua II Elementary School • Third Place, Grades 3–5
Several species are caught by bottomfish gear and very common in bottomfish landings.

Filoa (Emperor fish)
E tele ituaiga o lelei i'a e maa i le tu'tu'u.
Several species are caught by bottomfish gear and very common in bottomfish landings.

So that it may be used effectively the following morning. Warning to look before you leap.
Palu-malau (Red snapper fish)

O se i’a mumu e maua i le tu’utu’u ma e taugata pe a fa’atau mai.
Red and relatively expensive fish.

O le i’a a tautai e alu i le fa’alolo. 

The fish seems to do the will of the tautai (chief fisherman).

When the fish see an opening in the net, they swim to the place where the tautai stands as if they obeyed him. . . . He alone has the right to push down the net and catch the fish. Moral: Obedience.

March 31 - April 29, 2014

Month when the lo (rabbitfishes or large school of juveniles) is in large quantity and ideal for fishing.
Sa’ula-lele (Sailfish)

Caught by trolling and a prized fish during fishing tournaments.

Ia fa’atutu mai foe ina ia faiaina le savili. [Pull hard so that we may overcome the wind.]

Called out by the tautai when a boat has to fight against a strong headwind. Used to exhort people to do their best.

O le masina e nunu ai le toau o ufi. O le tuaoi o timuga ma muga la.

Month that cultivated yams are matured. Intermediary month between rainy and sunny season.
Alecia Annandale • Ta’iala Academy • Second Place, Grades K–2
**Atule (Bigeye scad)**

E maua i le ofe po’o le lau a le nu’u, ma sa fa’asa ona fa’aatau.

Caught by bamboo rods, rod and reel or the village’s traditional “lau” and not supposed to be sold but shared.

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**O le vaisina e olo ma tausani fiafia ai manu felelei.**

**Season of birds singing and calm weather.**

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**May 29 – June 27, 2014**

Me 29 – Juni 27, 2014

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**O le malu i fale‘ulu.**

The protection afforded by a house built of breadfruit wood.

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**Me 29 – 10:55 23:10**

**Sun 6 N 6**

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**7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27**

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**May 29 - June 27, 2014**

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**Olo‘amanu**
Umelei (Unicornfish)

Caught by bamboo rods, rod and reel or the village’s traditional
Fatty and delicious during this period.

O le masina lenei e lololo tele ai ma manaia i le taumafa lenei i’a.

Matalatafa fuga o laau, papa foi o fatu laau.
Initial period for budding of flowering seeds and the blooming of flowers.
Iamanu (Whale)
E masani ona va’ai i lenei vaitau.
Sightings of whales common during this period.

O le upega e fili i le po, ‘ae talatala i le ao.
[The net that became tangled in the night will be disentangled in the morning.]

After the catch, the net is carried ashore and hung up. The following morning it is properly put in order. Thus to settle a dispute, it is necessary to be clear about its causes.

Matalatala mulimuli o fuga o laau.
Final budding of flowering seeds and blooming of flowers.

*Puamau* (Whale)
E masani ona va’ai i lenei vaitau.
Sightings of whales common during this period.
Masimasi (Dolphinfish)
E maua i le toso, e maua ai fa'ailoga i tauvaga faigafaiva, ma e lelei i le oka.
Caught by trolling, prized fish in tournaments and great for oka.

Fa’aui lau lavea.  
[To disentangle the coconut-leaf net.]

Mind the net lest it become entangled and tear on the stones and coal while others are dragging it. This is used of someone who tries to prevent or settle a dispute.

Vaitau o mugala. O le masina foi ua afu ai meatoto poo ua matutua lelei.
Season of droughts and dry sunny days. Also the time when field crops are maturing.
Palolo (polychaete worm)
E taua tele i tagata matuia ma e ta ia Oketopa po’o Novema i tausaga uma.
Delicacy especially for the elderly, seined in October and/or November each year.

Tau ina iloa ia i’a.  
[Only seen in the mouths of the fish.]

The palolo worm appears in October and November each year and is caught in high quantities by the Samoans who highly value it. The fish too lie in wait for it. When the catch is poor, the fishermen exaggerate on their return, blaming the fish for eating the worms.

Amata le vaitau o timuga ma uaga.
Beginning of the rainy season.

Lotuaga
**Taumafamua**

Initial period of the season of food abundance, especially with the palolo fish.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October 24 - November 22, 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Masina Fou/ Faatoavaalia</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 R S 06:33 19:27 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 S R 07:21 20:23 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 R S 08:12 21:18 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 R S 09:05 22:14 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 R S 10:02 23:09 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 R 10:59 6 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Masina Tofilifo** |
| 30 R 00:01 11:57 6 6 |
| 31 S R 00:52 12:55 6 6 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Masina Matuatua</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 S R 01:41 13:53 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 S R 02:29 14:51 6 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Masina Malupeaua**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 S R 03:17 15:48 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 S R 04:04 16:46 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 S R 04:52 17:43 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 S R 05:42 18:41 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 S R 06:33 19:37 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 S R 07:24 20:32 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 S R 08:17 21:24 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 S R 09:08 22:13 6 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Masina Matofito**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 S R 09:59 23:00 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 S R 10:49 23:33 6 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Masina Nauna**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13 S 11:38 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 R S 00:23 12:25 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 R S 01:22 13:12 6 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 R S 01:41 13:58 6 6</td>
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<td>17 R S 02:20 14:46 6 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 R S 03:00 15:34 6 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>19 R S 03:42 16:25 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 R S 04:26 17:17 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 R S 05:13 18:12 6 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 R S 06:04 19:10 6 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Masina UsunoaMay**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23 R S 06:48 19:23 6 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Malau (Squirrelfish)**

*E masani ona tele ma fa’atau i tafaalai lenei vaitau.*

Many usually caught during this period, and “strings of malau” are sold at roadsides.

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**Va lelei. [Keep up friendly relations.]**

*When fishing for anae (mullet), fishermen, custom requires that a man who has caught many fish gives a few to his neighbor who has not caught any.*
Atu (Skipjack)

O le i'a e maua so'o i le toso a'o fa'aaogaina paopao i aso anamu, e fa'aogoa tele i le oka Samoa.

The most common fish in trolling landings using “paopao” in the past and the preferred fish for oka.

Faaiiuu taumafa mai le masina ua tuanai.

Final period of the season for food abundance.

Masina Fou/Faatoavaiaa

Masina Tofolofilo

Masina Tolu

Masina Faaloa

Masina Salefuga

Masina Tulalupe

Masina Motuega

Masina Auafoa

Masina Matuatua

Masina Loloatai

Masina Malupeaua

Masina Mātōfīfōti

Masina Aiaina

Masina Punifaga

Masina Atoa/Atoa Loto/Lo le Masina

Masina Le'ale'a

Masina Feetetele

Masina Ataatai

Masina Fagaeleele

Masina Sulutele

Masina Nauna

Masina UsunoaMay

Masina Motusaga

Masina Tatelega

Masina Faasagafulu

Masina Ūfaleu

Masina Fataleu

Masina Mitiloa

Masina Maunā
I’asina (young goatfish)
Masani ona tele i le vaitau o Oketopa–Aperila.
Commonly caught during October–April.

Ua leai se manu e olo. 
[Not a pigeon is cooing.]
Thus say hunters when, entering the bush, they notice no sign of the game.
Used to refer to a family or village where perfect peace reigns.

Vaitau e eli ai ufi vao a o le’i oo i le taimi e afu ai ufi totō.
Initial harvesting of wild yams prior to the maturation of cultivated yams.
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