

Fanha'anigan Pulan Chamoru **2019**

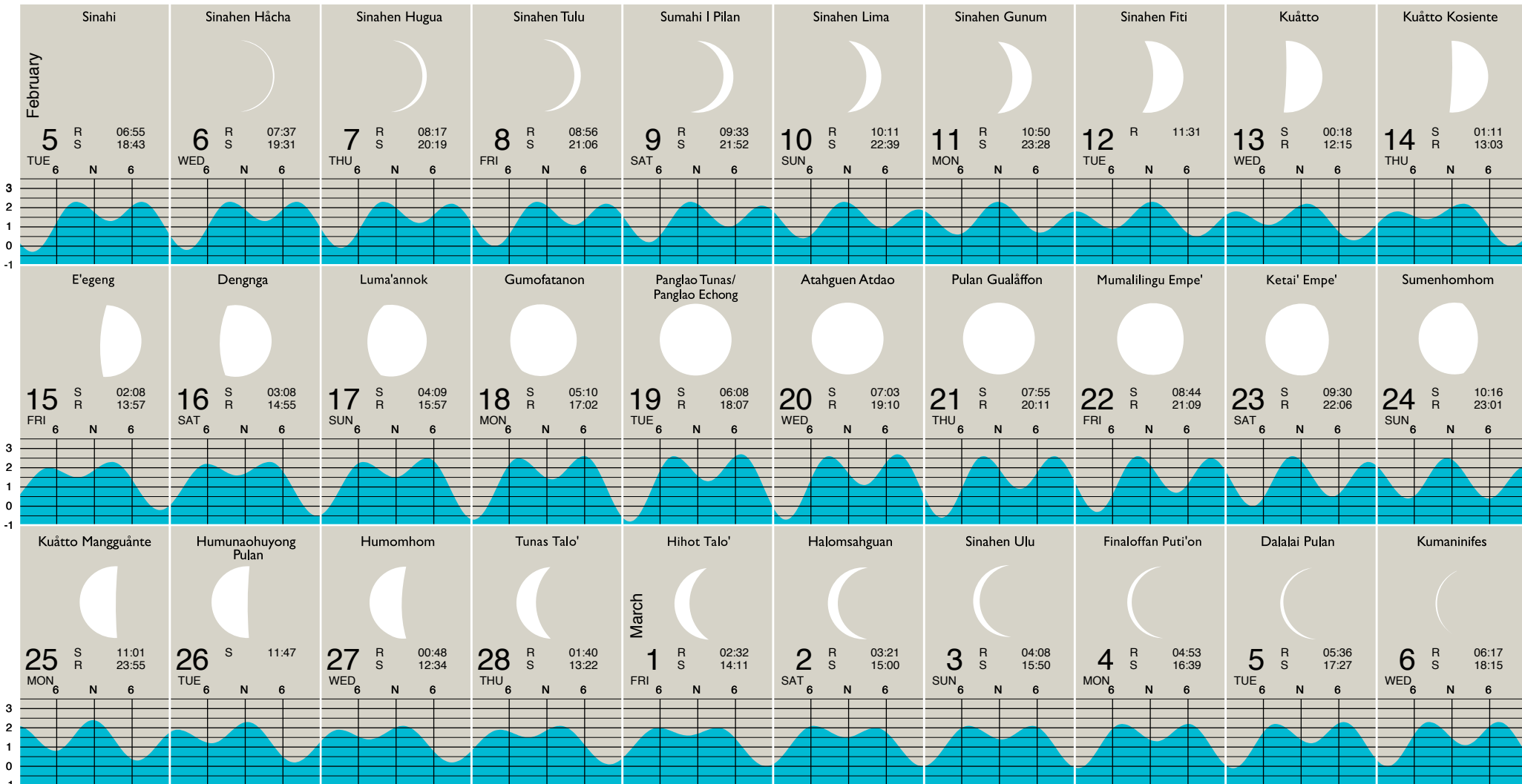
FEB. 5, 2019–FEB. 22, 2020



Gadão (grouper) is caught using a spear or rod and reel, as they are easily duped by all types of bait and lures. PHOTO COURTESY OF FELIX REYES

Tumanguini

February 5 – March 6, 2019



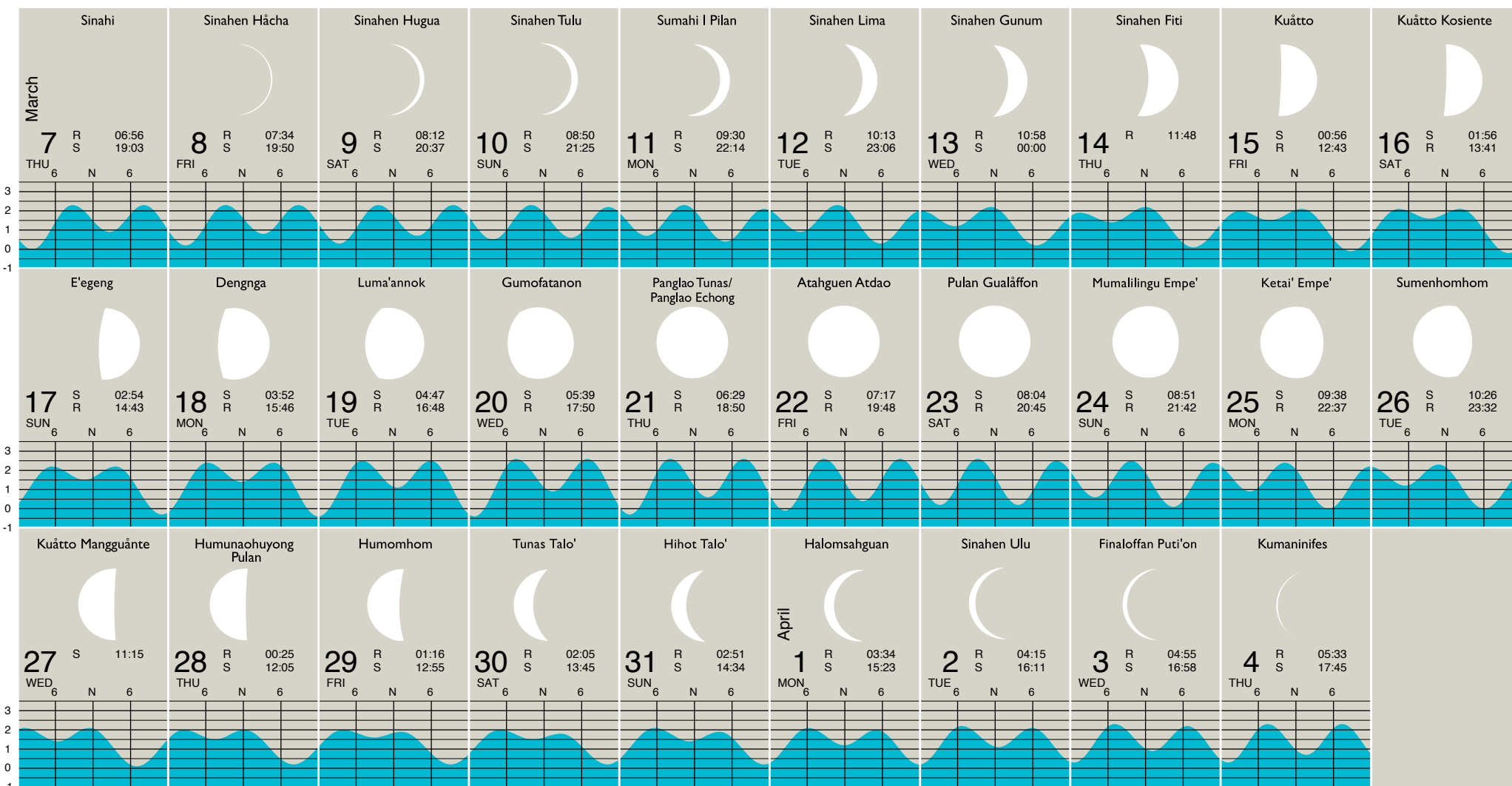
According to Guam folklore, a chief named *Gadao* was so strong he could shake a coconut tree and coconuts would fall. With his bare hands he could even crush a coconut to eat and drink. The fish *gadao* was thought to have been named after the chief



The ***gamsun*** (octopus) is found along Guam's reef flats and shallow lagoons year-round. Signs of *gamsun* that fishermen seek include discarded shells and fresh-looking, light-colored sand in front of holes. Some fishermen push pieces of mashed *balate* (sea cucumber) into the holes to draw out the *gamsun*. Some fishermen on Guam specialize in the harvesting of *gamsun*. MAIN AND UPPER LEFT PHOTO BY FELIX REYES, PHOTO LOWER LEFT BY JAMES BORJA

Maimo

March 7 - April 4, 2019

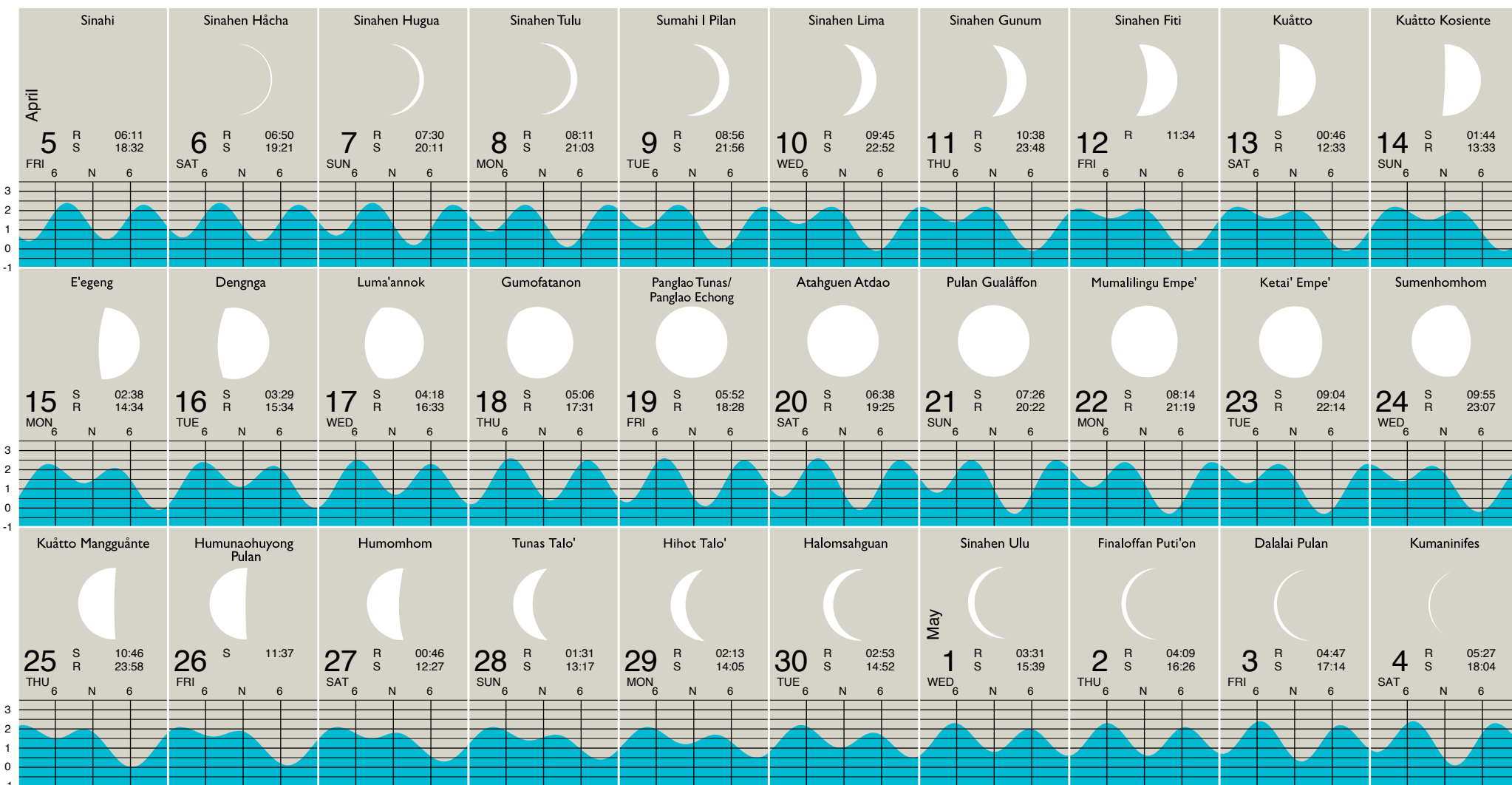




Mañahak (juvenile rabbitfish) typically runs twice a year, during the last quarter of the lunar phase. Runs are seasonal during April to May and again in October. Many follow the traditional practice of waiting for the *kamachile'* fruit (Manila tamarind) to ripen and the termites to come out in the early evenings to determine when it's time to fish for *mañahak*. *Mañahak* is called several names based on its growth stage. The name of the southern fishing village of *Malessó'* is derived from *lesso*, the Chamorro word for when *mañahak* first enter the lagoon in their juvenile stage and have not yet fed, usually the first day or two. Harvesting of *mañahak* is conducted using small mesh *talaya* (throw nets) made of nylon or fiber. These nets have pockets where the fish will be corralled into when lifting the *talaya* from the center after being cast. Some use lead chains around the edges of the net; others use lead sinkers to drop the net quickly and surround the fish. **Hiteng** or **sesyun** (young adult rabbitfish) have grown to about 8 inches. They are shy at this stage and usually go about the reef in groups of four or five and favor murky water.

Umatalat

April 5 - May 4, 2019

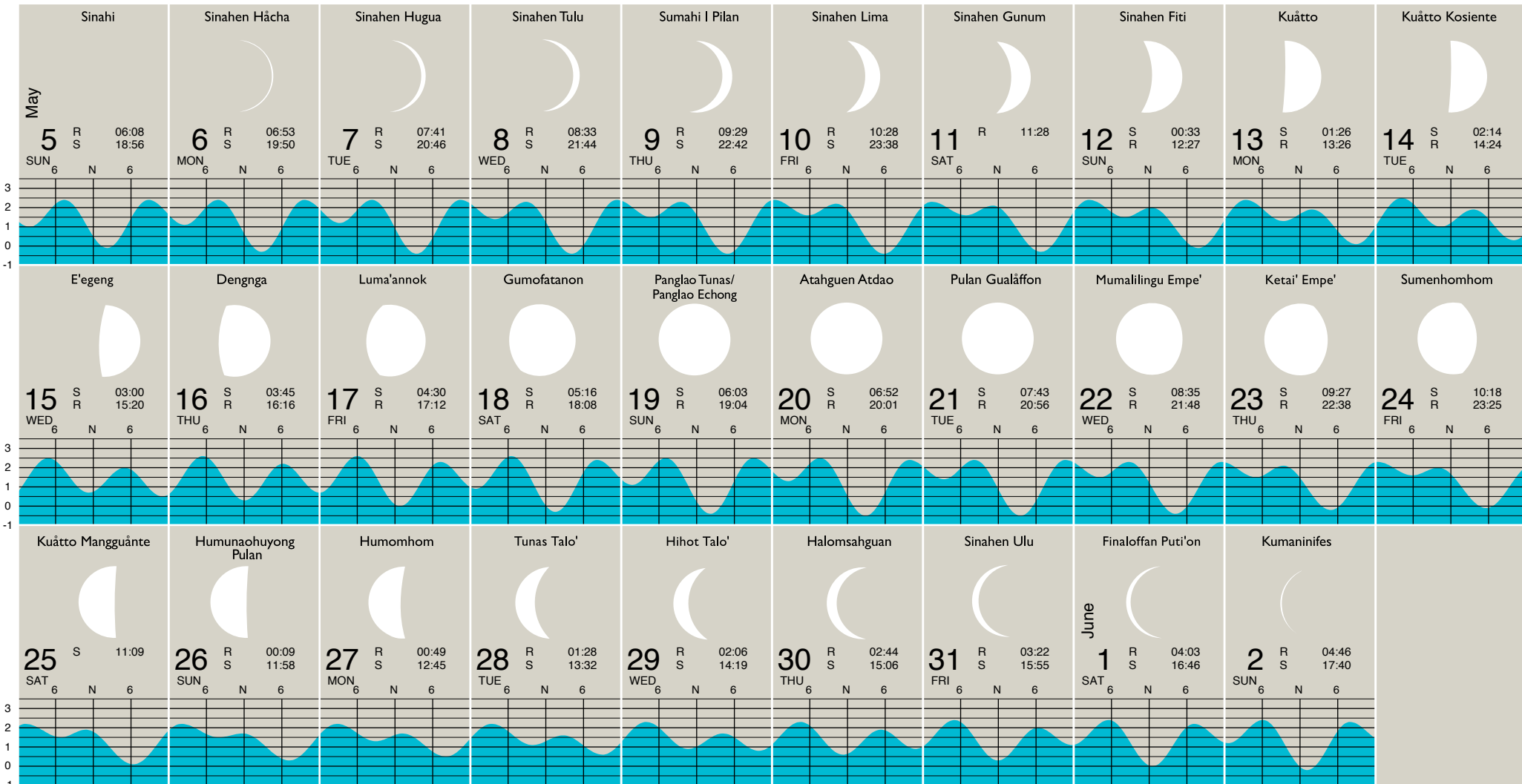




Ti'ao (juvenile goatfish) are usually caught in the early morning hours just as the sun is rising and as they feed near the shore from around May to June. The telltale signs of *ti'ao* are the puffs of soft sand as the fish use their feelers to feed on small crustaceans and other creatures just beneath the sand surface. On any given morning, *talayerus* use the *talaya* (throw net) to *étupak* (fish). Walking ever so slowly along the shore, the *talayerus* look for the disturbance along the sandy bottoms near shore. **Satmoneti** (adult *ti'ao*) come in many colors, but the pink or red type is an island favorite. In the old days, the *satmoneti* was often found feeding along the water's edge. It can be caught by throwing rocks to stun the fish. Pole fishermen use *ti'ao* as bait because it attracts all types of predatory fish. NOAA FISHERIES PHOTO BY ANDREW E. GRAY

Lumuhu

May 5 - June 2, 2019

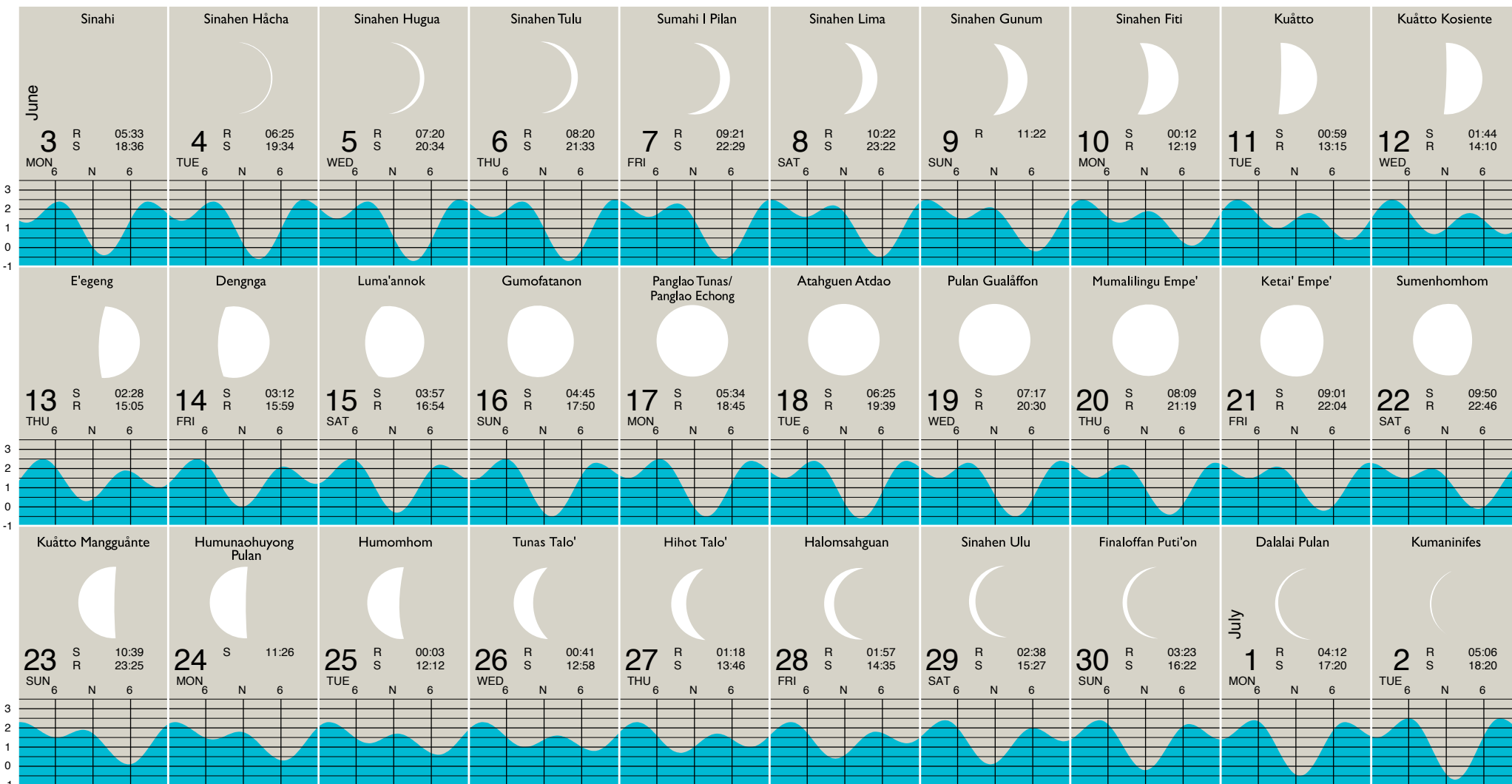




Guili (rudderfish) is much sought after for home consumption. Usually found along rocky reef flats and drop-offs, *guili* is caught using a number of fishing methods. Rod and reel has become common among fishermen, who attach seaweed to small, strong hooks. Others spear the fish when free diving. MAIN PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES BORJA , INSET PHOTO BY KIN BENAVENTE

Makmamao

June 3 – July 2, 2019

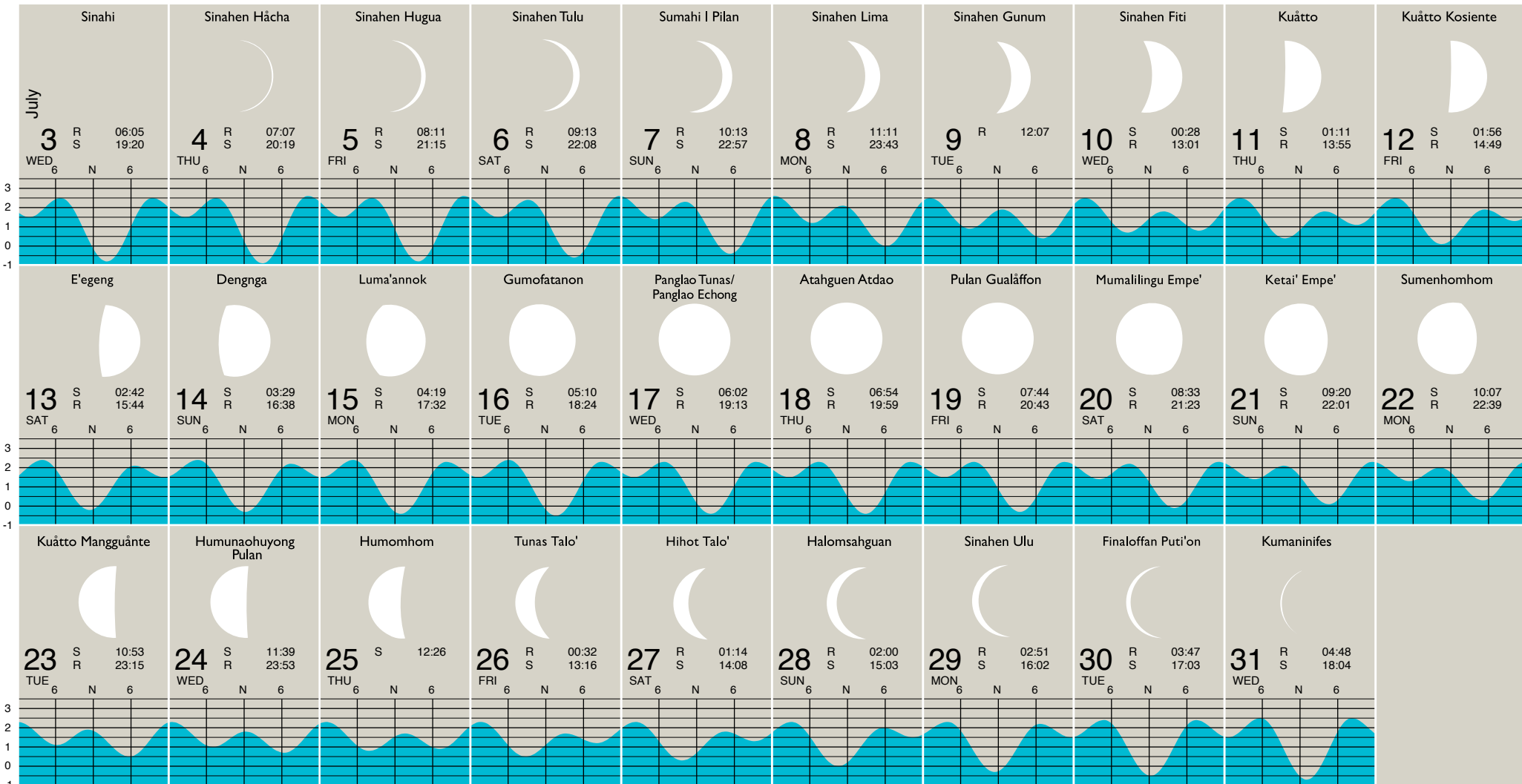




Tataga (unicorn fish) are caught any time of the year using *talaya* (throw net) or rod and reel with *lumut* (seaweed) as bait. *Tataga* are very strong fighters on rod and reel and make a great sport fish besides great eating. Fishermen wrap *lumut* around two to three hooks with line and then allow it to be carried away by the current towards the reef drop-off. Some use *talaya* along the reef margin looking for feeding *tataga*.

Manamaf

July 3 – July 31, 2019

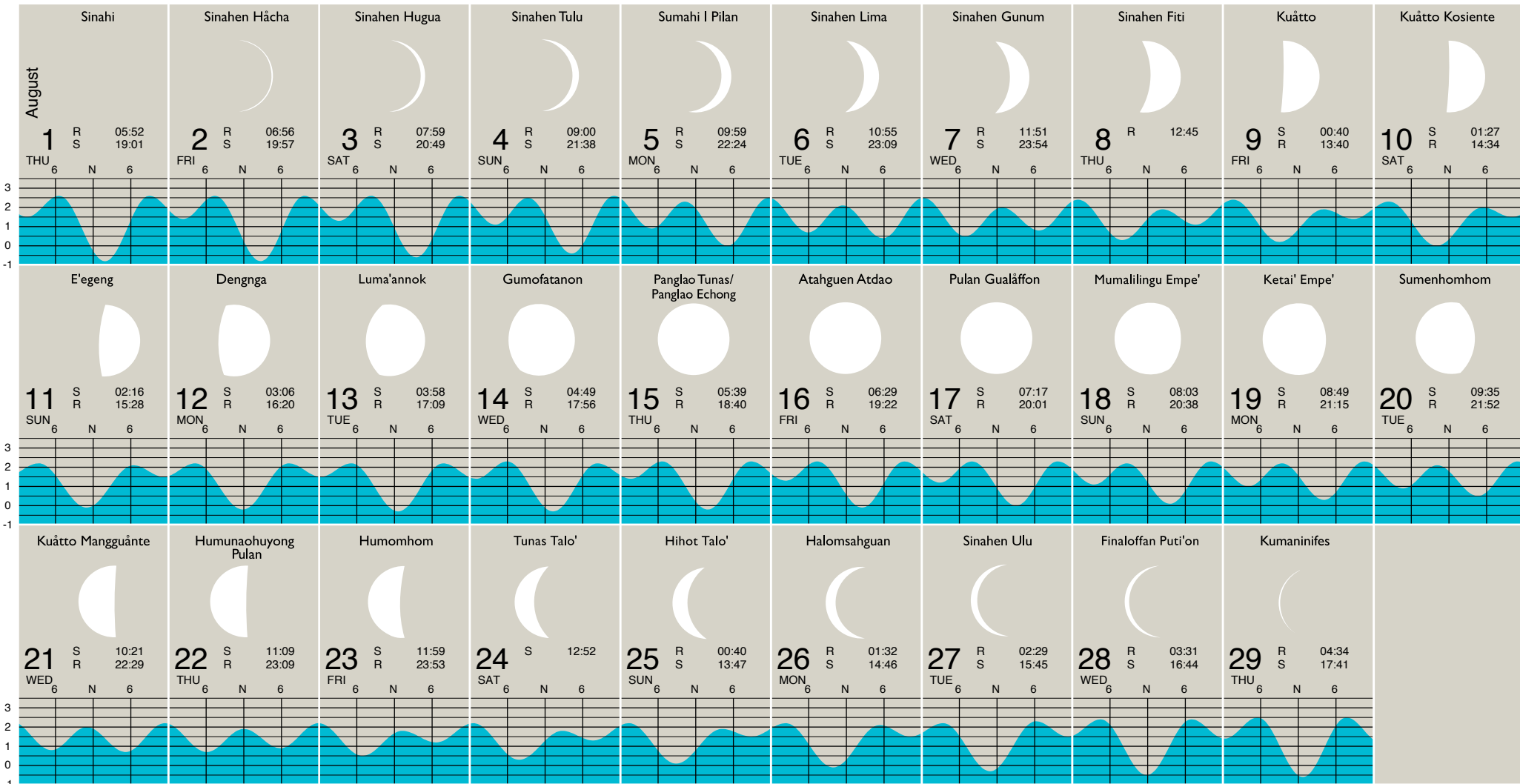




I'e are juvenile jacks (Carangidae). They are common during the months of July through October but are found in greater abundance during August. Long ago fishermen used *pisao* (long bamboo poles) with small hooks tied to a line of about 5 to 10 feet to catch *i'e*. They entered the water to chest high and skipped the hook along the surface to catch *i'e* in abundance. Fishermen also commonly catch *i'e* on rod and reel using triangular bits of coconut leaves on tiny hooks. Some fishermen use *talaya* (throw net) to catch several *i'e* with a single cast. PHOTO COURTESY OF FELIX REYES

Semo

August 1 – August 29, 2019

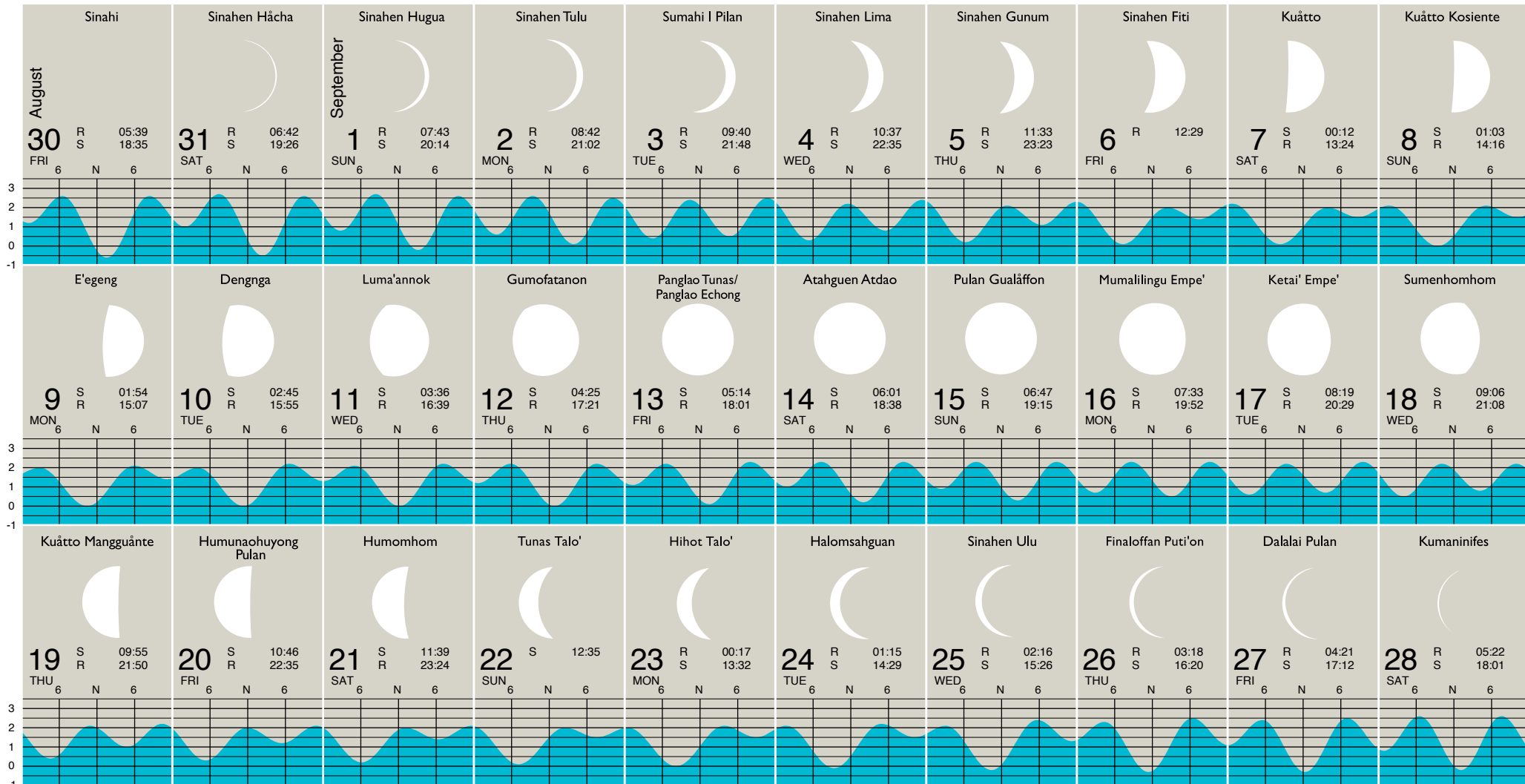




Haggan refers to the green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*). Turtles typically come ashore in the middle of the night from late January until September to lay eggs. Both the green and hawksbill turtles were considered delicacies in the old days and were found on tables in fiestas, weddings and large parties. The meat was cooked in large pots mixed with fresh ginger and called *mangu*. The turtle shell was used to make necklaces, bracelets and other jewelry as well as *haguet* (fishhooks) to catch inshore and pelagic fish, such as skipjack tuna. PHOTO © TIMROCK.PHOTOSHELTER.COM

Tenhos

August 30 – September 28, 2019



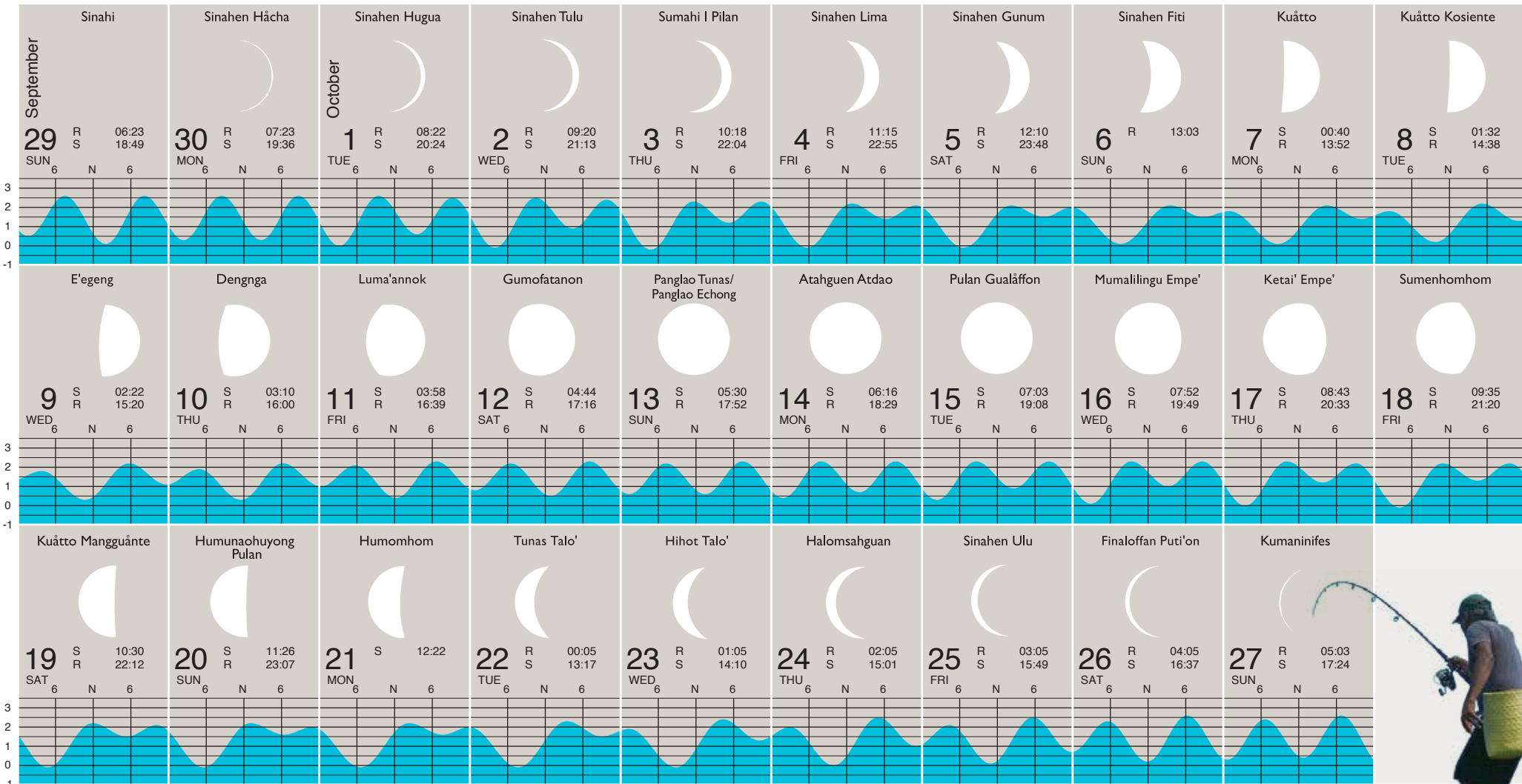
The distribution or presentation of turtle catches reflected the matrilineal practices and respect for women in ancient Chamorro society. Turtle catches would be presented first to the successful fisherman's wife, who in turn sent it to her closest female relative of higher rank. This would continue until the highest-ranking female relative was reached, who subsequently would divide the turtle. Shares were sent to the lower-ranking women through whom the catch had passed.



Schools of **atulai** (bigeye scad) are common throughout the year on Guam but are more often seen around July through October. The schools are harvested using *chenchulu* or *tekken* (large surround gill nets). A long time ago, villages would gather at the beach to harvest the *atulai* using woven coconut fronds.

Lumamlam

September 29 – October 27, 2019



Atulai is used as part of the local tradition called *patte* (sharing during big harvests). Everyone who helped pull the nets received some fish with the net owner getting the bulk of the catch.





Laggua also refers to the traditional long bamboo reed scoop net. Some folks weave them from coconut leaves. When using them at night, fishermen slowly approach the sleeping *laggua* and carefully scoop them. In the daytime, fishermen will use coconut leaves or bamboo poles to splash and chase the fish into the net, which then is raised to catch the fish. These traps were handwoven and usually found in almost every home with a beach side frontage. Another night method uses *sulo* (torches) to spot the sleeping fish and *fisga* (spear) or *togcha* (three-prong spear) made of bamboo to stab them.

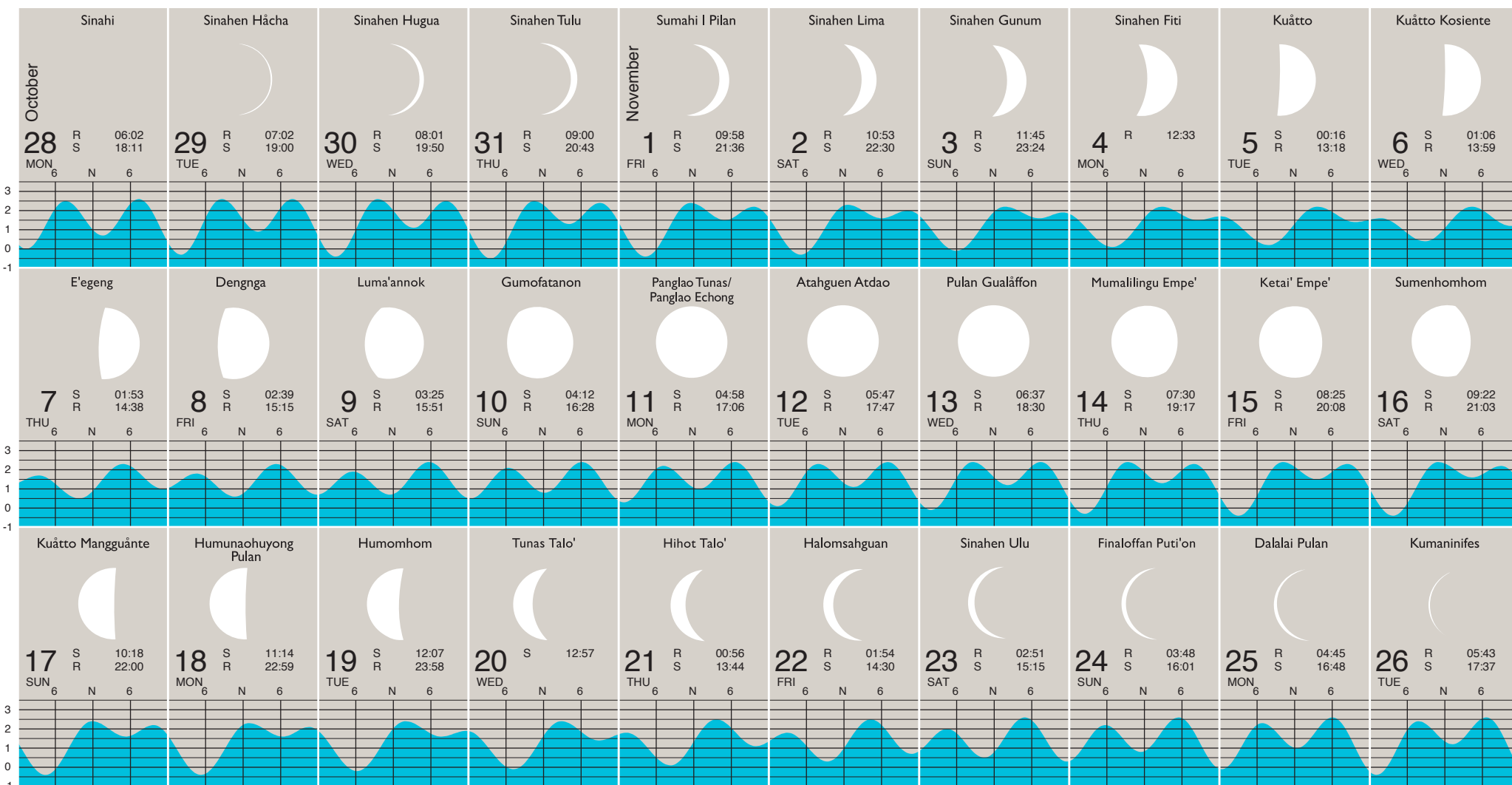
There is often confusion what to call parrotfish. The true Chamorro name is ***laggua***, but many call it ***palakse***, which is a wrasse and means “slippery” in Chamorro, referring to the coat of slime on its body. *Laggua* does not have a season, but there are times when they are shy and skittish and times when they are easily approached.

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF JAMES BORJA



Fangualo'

October 28 – November 26, 2019

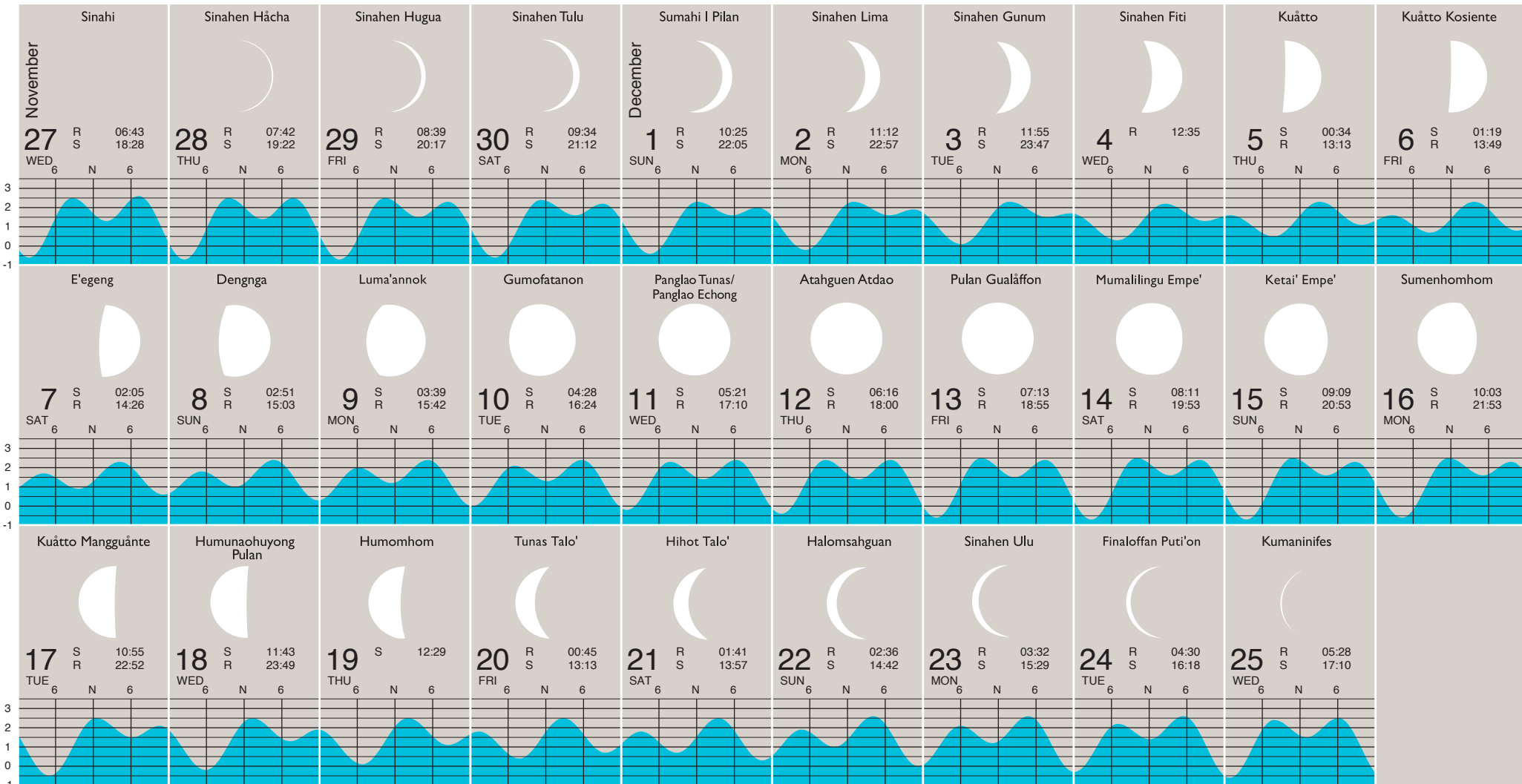




Mafute' (emperor fish) and **lililok** (snapper) are caught year-round. The *mafute'* is caught by spear and by rod and reel. Its white tender meat is delicious when pan fried. There are many varieties of *mafute'* and *lililok*, including the **tagafi** (a toothed, brackish-water red snapper found in rivers, *inset photo*). MAIN PHOTO COURTESY OF FELIX REYES, INSET PHOTO BY JIMMY BADONG

Sumongsong

November 27 – December 25, 2019

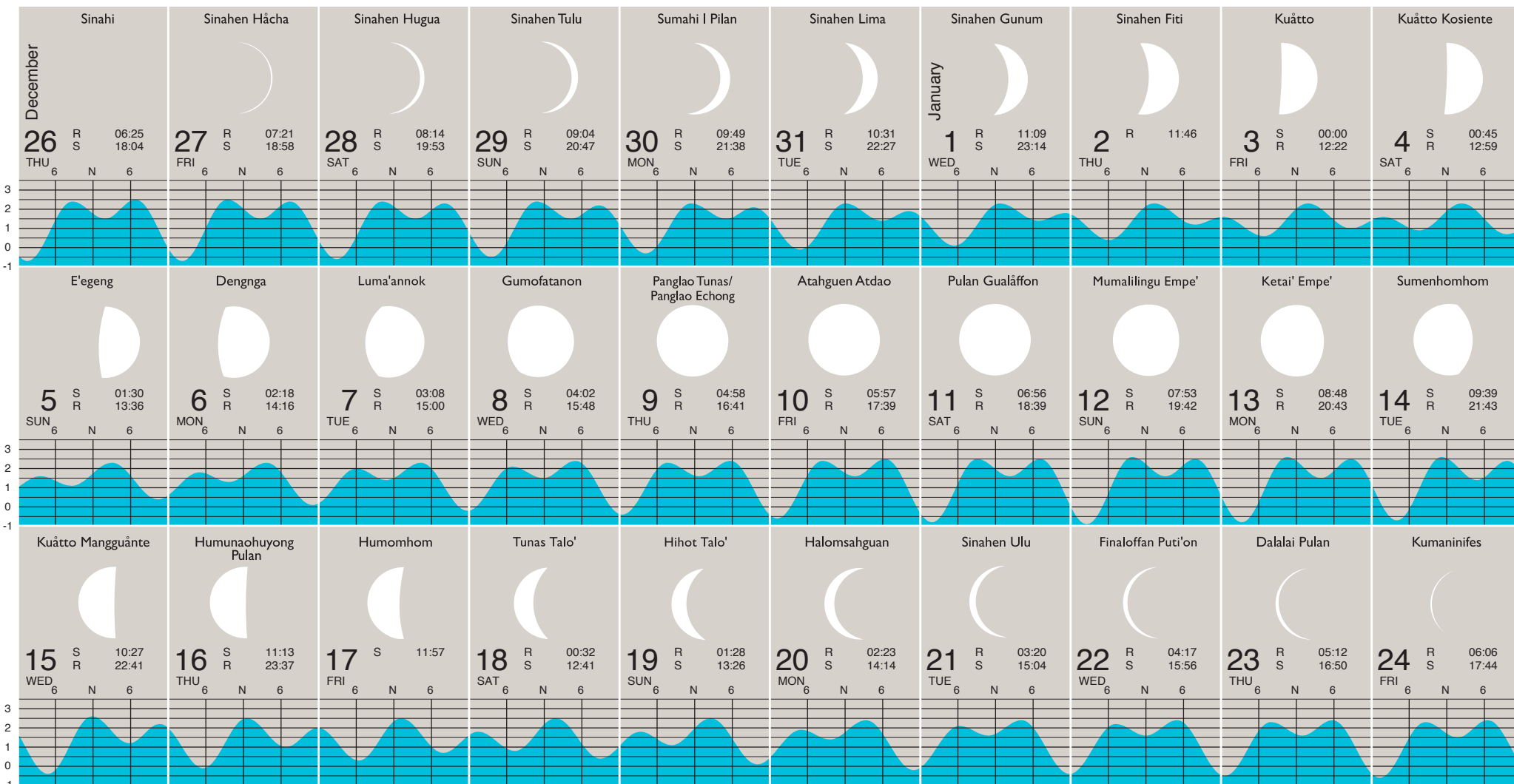




Kichu (convict tang) are in abundance year-round on Guam and are easily caught by *peskadot* (fishermen) using *talaya* (throw net) as *kichu* tend to be near the shore. *Kichu* is a regular fare on every fiesta table. MAIN PHOTO COURTESY OF FELIX REYES, INSET PHOTO BY JASON MILLER

Umayangan

December 26, 2019–January 24, 2020

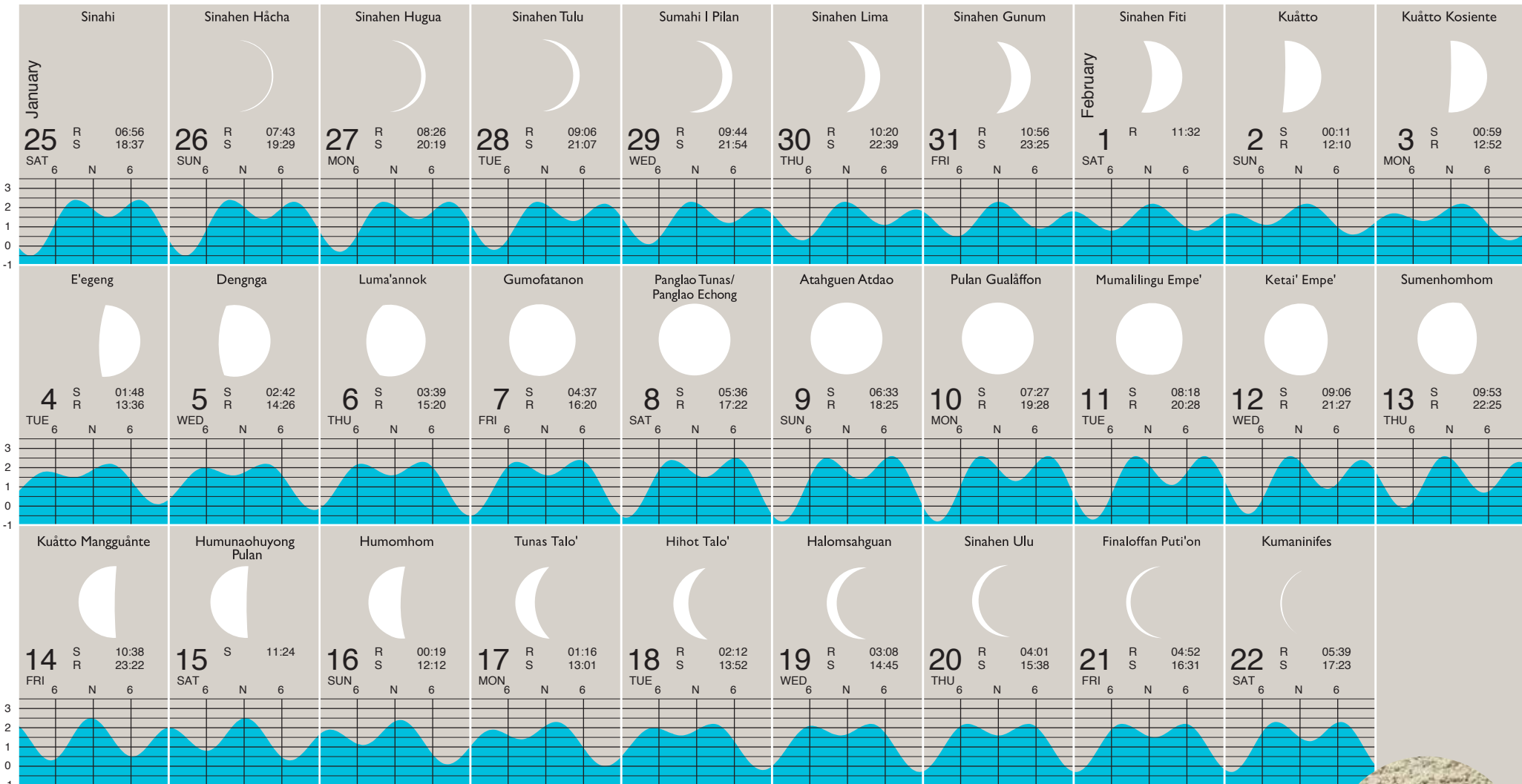




Gaga (flying fish) was used as bait to catch marlin offshore. The first of the catch would be eaten raw, and then the second would be baited on a large hook attached to the stern of the the boat to catch various species of larger fish. PHOTO COURTESY OF NOAA PACIFIC ISLANDS FISHERIES SCIENCE CENTER

Umagahaf

January 25 – February 22, 2020



Umagahaf was also a time to catch **hagaf** (rock crabs).

PHOTO COURTESY OF FELIX REYES





PHOTO COURTESY OF KIN BENAVENTE

About This Calendar

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council has produced traditional lunar calendars for Guam since 2007. The intent is to raise awareness about traditional ecological knowledge and enhance community involvement in fishery management. The calendar features previous contributions and advice from Felix Reyes and the Guam Chamorro Lunar Calendar Committee.

The *2019 Fanha'aniyan Pulan CHamoru* (Chamorro Lunar Calendar) includes traditional fishing practices of the Chamorro, the indigenous people of Guam. The calendar provides traditional fishing information for a different species each month, highlighting methods, gears, seasons and legends. The calendar reflects continued work with the Guam community to create a calendar that recognizes the importance of island cultures and traditional fishing practices in managing fishery resources and to foster opportunities for their participation, which is one of the Council's seven Guiding Principles.

The moon phases in this calendar are for Hagatna as calculated by the HM Nautical Almanac (astro.ukho.gov.uk/websurf). The tide charts with moon rise and set times are in Chamorro Time for Hagatna and were provided by OceanFun Publishing, NZ.

Front cover: **Talaya (throw net) fishing.** PHOTO COURTESY OF FELIX REYES

About The 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 US Pacific remote island areas. The fisheries in federal waters surrounding Guam are managed under the Mariana Archipelago and Pacific Pelagic Fishery Ecosystem Plans. Traditional knowledge and wide community involvement are integral parts of the ecosystem-based approach to fishery management.



Ti'au (juvenile goatfish) catch. PHOTO COURTESY OF KIN BENAVENTE

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