

MWIN OAÑGAN

Nauru Fisheries & Marine Resources Authority

NEWSLETTER

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NFMRA NEWS

April 2004



Hon. Russell Kun, LL,B.M.P.
Minister for Justice
& Fisheries.

Message from the Minister

For the most part this month the fisheries sector of Nauru has been occupied with on-going training and daily operational schedules such as maintenance of plant and equipment, data upgrade of catch from local and overseas owned vessels, inshore monitoring and offshore surveillance stand-by.

Nauru Fisheries, through the monthly newsletter Mwin Oañgan endeavours to give detailed insight of public awareness campaigns implemented through either in-country training opportunities for staff and public and most often via advertisements and notices. This method enables the Authority to increase and

develop the awareness of the public in general on all fisheries related issues at national, regional and international levels.

One such campaign is the workshop titled *Initiation of local Marine Protected Area (MPA)*, which is covered in-depth in this issue. This workshop was initiated in view of the local observations of the Authority and the general public of the decline of landed reef fish quota and species as compared to years past. This is a real public concern that needed urgent action and cooperation on a mass scale and the workshop set-up provided an open forum for the public to participate.

Foreign Fishing Vessel (FFV) movements is monitored regularly and often the assistance of the Authority is sought also for monitoring other types of sea vessels such as yachts and small cargo ships bound for another destination and requesting port entry. These types of

requests are received through fisheries communications, which are then relayed through the proper government channels for urgent action.

The expansion of fisheries infrastructure is another area of importance to the overall development of Fisheries. Currently there is a construction project on-going outside the Nauru Fish Market. This latest addition to the existing building is a complex that consists of several offices, which are for the management secretariat of the Nauru Fisheries Corporation.

The undergoing efforts of research and development through the various sections within the Authority such as Coastal, Communications & Safety and Technical Services and that of the administrative and finance divisions are to ensure that Nauru Fisheries achieve developmental strategies with the support of the community will success be realized.

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NFMRA introduces MPA's to the Community

Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resource Authority (NFMRA) as one of its' priorities this month implemented a workshop under the theme of 'Protecting Local Fisheries' which was advertised as **Initiation of a local Marine Protected Area (MPA)**.

Intensive research studies and experiments in the field of fisheries has shown that there is an abundant resource available in the marine environment. Through the recorded experiences of other countries it is known

that the worlds' marine resources **must** be harvested using sustainable methods to ensure the replenishment of these stocks.



Introducing Fish Reserves to community

Nauru, like all other coastal countries is very concerned and through this workshop hopes to incorporate the participation of the general public to further strengthen the initiative of protecting its local fisheries resources.

On this issue, the Authority consulted Dr. Michael King a Conservation Expert from the Secretariat of the South Pacific Communities (SPC). Dr King's

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P.O. Box 449 ~ Phone : (674) 444 3733 ~ Fax : (674) 444 3812 ~ Email : mwinen@naurufisheries.com

findings and advice were drafted in a presentation, which acted as the basis for the conservation awareness campaign for the general public.

Fishery's Research and Development Manager (RDM) Peter Jacob delegated the workshop details to Senior Coastal Fisheries Development Officer (CFDO) Margo Debye. Determining factors for the implementation of the workshop are the urgency of the issue being raised plus the importance of advocating the full participation of the targeted groups, the stakeholders.



Ramos Agege with his group.

The overall supervising responsibility of the one-day program was left in the capable hands of Ms. Debye who enlisted fisheries personnel Ramos Agege – Communication & Safety Officer; Allan Debao – Fisheries Project Officer; Womens' Fisheries Development Officers Lara Atto, Tryphena Agir, Ebelina Tsiode; and Bianca Bernicke – Asst. Secretary, as workshop facilitators.

Two weeks prior to the workshop date, the dissemination of posters and flyers advertising the workshop were put-up in various points around the island. Other details seen to was the selection



Students laying out ideas for MPA

of workshop venue, which was arranged with Roland Kun, General Manager of Nauru's Meneñ Hotel and catering services.

The actual program implemented on the 21st of April from 10 am until 4 pm consisted of the presentation of Dr King's research by the R&D Manager followed by the SPC sponsored



Students laying out ideas for MPA

video depicting the local people's concerns regarding the damaging fishing methods being used by some fishers.

The workshop invited relevant government departments and entities and the public in general. Close to 100 participants turned up representing various community and government groups and schools and there were the interested individuals. These people were divided into seven groups with a fisheries officer facilitating the course of each groups' discus-

sions to ensure an equal opportunity for all group members to participate.

With markers and butcher paper for writing tools the participants relayed their concerns regarding the topic of the day, 'Should Nauru have Fish Reserves?' The answer gleaned from all seven groups was unanimous, yes there should be fish reserves implemented for the sole purpose of increasing the number of fish spawned and via current movement spread to other parts of the reef. It was clearly understood by all participants that fish reserves act as havens for reef species especially during the breeding seasons because it is a no fishing zone.

The workshop also assisted in determining the responsibilities of stakeholders, beneficiaries and legislative enforcers, which most pointed to the communities of the immediate area where the fish reserve is set-up.



Group Discussions on pros and cons of an MPA.

During the workshop it was also voiced by the participants that the Authority should amend the proposed fishing regulations and to work within the communities to put in place systems which should alleviate the subsistence

fishing of the communities in and around the fish reserved areas. Measures such as educational and awareness raising programs are options of importance to consider in ensuring that fishing pressure is exerted equally on the non-reserved reef areas to avoid over exploitation of the reef resources.

The queries, ideas and recommendations of each group will be compiled by the facilitators and submitted to fisheries management for further considerations. It is very encouraging to note that the local community is not only aware of the issues affecting our tiny island but are eager and willing to take part in finding solutions to these issues.

Despite time limitations the workshop concluded on a successful point as it achieved its aim, which is to set the ball rolling for follow-up workshops to be conducted for each locally known community or District wise. Notices of such workshops will be distributed to the public in due course.



Ms. Ruby Thoma presenting her group papers.

Training.....

Nauruan youths involved in the running of the Fisheries sector.

As part of an on-going training scheme between the Authority and the Nauru Youth Affairs Division the Authority welcomed another intake of work experience students to their establishment this month.



Ms. Lydia Aremwa and Ms. Delilah Palik commenced their training within the Administration and Human Resources



Development sections respectively where their duties include secretarial support in the operation of the facsimile machine, filing system, errands, entering of data into

computer databases and processing of personnel leave matters. Well into their second week of training the young women have been busy with their allocated tasks. Training is to be completed by June.

Safety at sea: An essential issue for the coming generation.

Another area in focus involving the co-ordinated efforts of the Authority and the Nauru Youth Affairs Division is the annual *Safety at sea* program held at the Division every Wednesday afternoons. The Authority through its Communication & Safety Officer, Mr. Ramos Agege (pic top) and his section were enlisted for their expert assistance in the area.



This six-week program consisting of safety measures and issues to be addressed before heading out to sea

and technical repairs to undertake in the event of mechanical problems encountered at sea. Through the latter the aid of the Technical Services (TS) section was sought through a one-day excursion to the TS workshop and garage.

It is the objective of the Youth Division that through the training program offered by the Authority, the young people of Nauru will be able to familiarise and be aware of the safety measures to take before and during their voyage out at sea. This in turn will help to ensure the prevention of future accidents at sea.

USP's Scuba Instructor arrives in Nauru.

As an ongoing study in the Nauru Coral Reef Monitoring Network (NCRMN), Coastal Fisheries Development Officer (CFDO) Mrs. Margo Deiye instilled the expert assistance of **USP** dive instructor **Mr. Fiu Manueli** (center) in the training of open-water diving. A necessary tool in the ongoing study of coral monitoring and fish census on the Island, open-water diving was perceived and therefore included as a training necessity within the fisheries Coastal and Technical services (TS) sections.



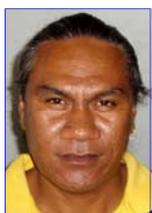
Participants of the workshop were; Ms. Ebelina Tsiode, Mr. Jake Debao and Mr. Giovanni Gioura from the Coastal section, while participants from the TS section included Mr. Oswin Agigo, Mr. B'jorn Detageouwa and Mr. O'Brien Aboubo.

As a precautionary measure with all open-water diving courses the participants were required to undergo clinical checkups and medical clearance before commencing with the course, however after the stringent tests were complete and the full approval was issued for all the participants was finally in place the tenuous training began.

The first part of the two-staged training began with the necessary theory background to open-water diving. Through videos and lectures on the basics and safety issues of the diving process each participant was therefore fully equipped to go onto the next stage that is the diving practical itself. Geared up and ready for their first dive, training instructor Fiu Manueli took his diving class at the Anibare Community Boat harbour for the first of many future dives scheduled for the entire duration of the course.

**Progress of the training will be in next months issue.*

Profile.....



Tuisama Toaripi Lauti a Tuvaluan national is currently the Shore Engineer for the Nauru Fisheries & Marine Resources Authority. Recently employed by the Authority his duties entails the maintenance and repairing of mechanical equipments on board the two long-line fishing vessels NF5 (Victor Eoaeo) and NF6 (Austin Bernicke).

As the Shore Engineer he is responsible for ensuring the procurement and maintenance of spare parts for the two long-line fishing vessels and their ancillary equipment, but foremost he is to provide engineering support for the assets of the Authority.

Much of Tuisama's secondary education was spent in Fiji where he also graduated with the Fiji Junior Certificate. At tertiary level he gained several qualifications in his chosen field of study, Maritime, obtaining certificates for *Passing Out; Motorman; Life Boat; Fire-fighting; Steering; First Aid; Proficiency in Survival Craft; Prevention & Control of Shipboard*

Fires; and Personal Safety & Social Responsibility. Lauti has a vast experience in the field of marine engineering which he obtained within a variety of training institutions around the



Pacific.

Amongst his accredited achievements is his *certificate under the provisions of the International Convention on Standards of*

Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers-Certificate No.2/94;

Prior to his current employment within the Authority, Lauti was the *Motorman* for a variety of shipping agencies within the Pacific region. To mention a few he was previously employed for a year on both the *MV. Pilgrim* and *Ipex Emperor*, before his relocation to Nauru. On a personal note Lauti married, is happy to spend his leisure hours at home with wife (Alimanda) and child.

Foreign Fishing Vessel News.....

Port entry request from Tuvalu.

Following precise immigration formalities the FV. Papauku and FV. Taivalu both vessels owned by the Tuvaluan government entered into Nauru port on request for refueling and restocking of fresh water. MCSO officer Nicholas Depaune from the Authority responded to the call made on Friday 23 April and along with immigration personnel boarded the vessels to conduct the necessary clearance procedures.

With the capable assistance of the Nauru Phosphate Corporation's Marine team the amount of 1000 litres of fresh water was duly transferred to



the two awaiting vessels, however the transferring of the requested 5000 litres of diesel fuel was suspended to the following day due to the

busy schedule of the NPC marine team.

During the delay the crew from the two vessels after obtaining shore-leave clearance made use of the waiting period to shop and visit relatives on the island. Both vessels set sail the next day at 18:00 hours for Tuvalu.

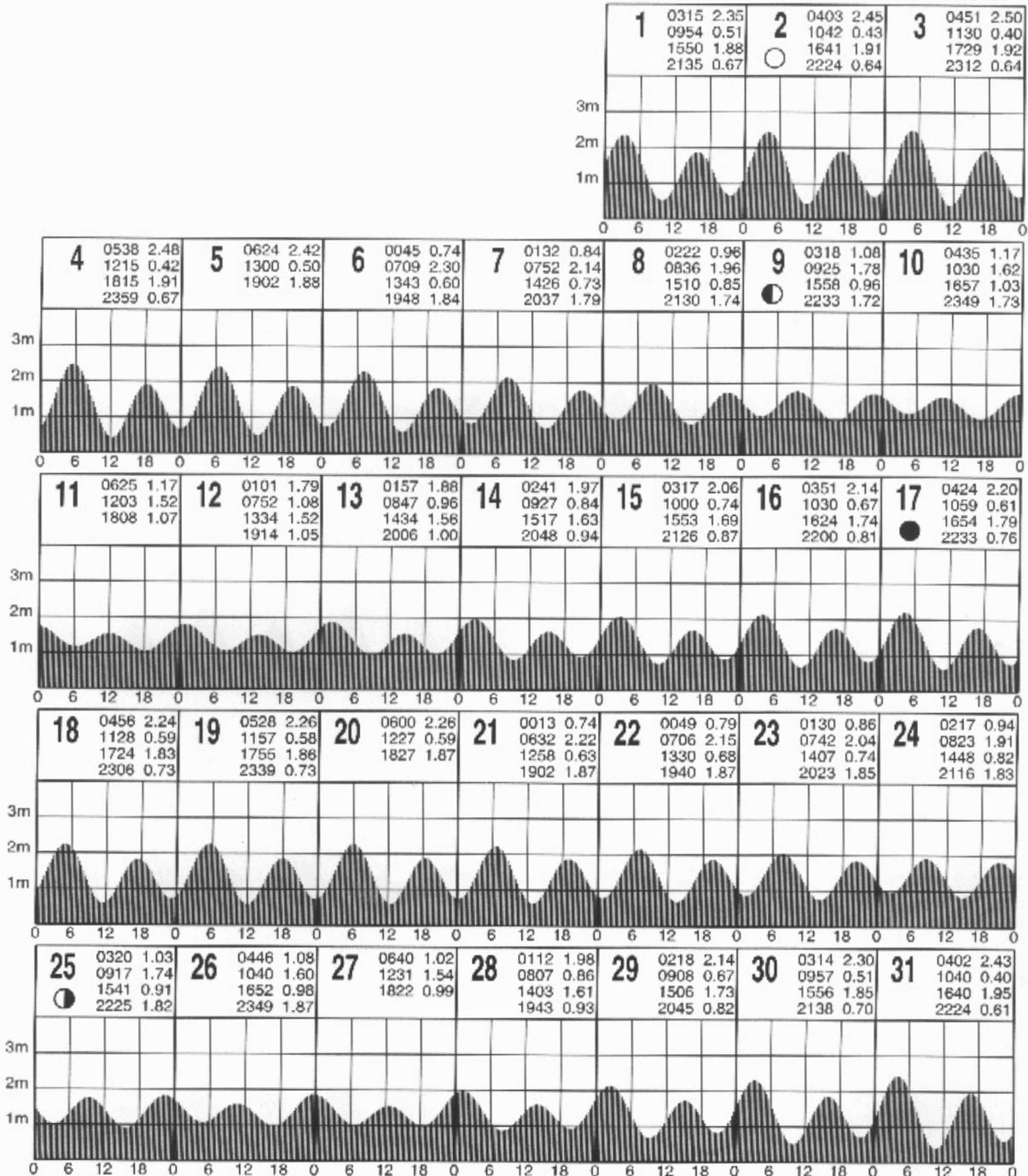
TIDE PREDICTIONS FOR NAURU

JULY - 2004

LOCAL STANDARD TIME

Tide gauge zero is 7.2929 metres below NAU1

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY



Copyright. The National Tidal Facility Australia, The Flinders University of South Australia.

DISCLAIMER: These tide predictions are supplied in good faith and believed to be correct.

No warranty is given in respect to errors, omissions, or suitability for any purpose.

Tide in, Tide out

Source : Extracted from a US Tuna Foundation Statement - tunafacts.com

Dietary advice and consumption recommendations are very complex issues that cannot and should not be addressed by looking solely at any one piece of information. It would be irresponsible to take one study and recommend changes in all diets.

The FDA's existing action level for *methyl mercury* in fish represents the best current science available because it is thoroughly reviewed and analyzed comprehensively by medical and scientific studies from around the world. FDA provided specific and more limiting advice to pregnant and child bearing age women to limit their variety of fish consumption to 12 ounces per week, and to avoid 4 specific species completely, in which, none of these are tuna or tuna products.

Although nearly all fish contain some *methyl mercury*, canned tunas has trace amounts which are well below the safety levels established by the U.S. and International Health Agencies. Even at level of consumption 25 times higher than typical consumer patterns, canned tuna does not exceed the guidance provided by any federal agencies. The FDA and numerous other health organizations noted that canned fish remains a safe and healthy food which is essential to balanced diet.

Canned tuna continues to be a safe, convenient, affordable and delicious source for consumers to get the valuable protein, vitamins and nutrients found in fish. The nutrients, specifically Omega-3 fatty acids and fish oil, play a beneficial role in lowering blood pressure and cholesterol and can ease the pain of arthritis. In addition it is low in calories.

Taste Fishy



Pasta with Tuna and Semi Dried Tomatoes.

250g dried pasta

Olive oil

Salt and Pepper

425g Tuna

Squeeze of lemon juice

1/2 cup parsley

Fresh green salad

Crisp baguette

- ◆ *Cook the pasta, remove from heat, drain then drizzle with olive oil to prevent sticking. Season with salt and pepper.*
- ◆ *Break up tuna slightly, mix the semi-dried tomatoes through and combine well with pasta. Add juice, garnish with parsley and serve with salad and bread.*

Serves 4

Fishery Pictorials



Dive Students: Bjorn, Oswin & Ebelina & Giovanni.



Oswin, Ebelina & Fiu Manueli



Open water dive participants



Boilermakers: Gary and Lynden



Mechanics: Slade, Camalus & Bwiden



TS models: O'Brien, Lynden & Bjorn