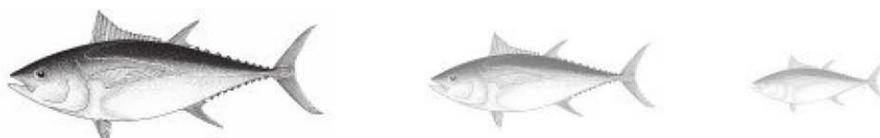


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Editorial



Welcome to the last issue for 2011! It is the time of the year when we all look forward to a good break with family and friends. But before we do so, we would like to share the latest from PIMRIS.

We have reason to celebrate the many remarkable achievements and successes of 2011 however the new year will surely bring new challenges. The annual United Nations climate talks held in Durban early this month, ended with a deal that will see an international treaty put in place to mitigate emissions by 2015. This legal agreement will initiate global action and response to the challenges of climate change which also affects our small fragile islands.

While we await international action and outcome of this agreement, some of our regional organizations are pressing forward with ongoing efforts to mitigate the challenges caused by climate change as revealed by the latest announcement on funding assistance signed between SPC and GIZ (pp. 5-6). We continue to raise awareness on efforts and campaigns against illegal fishing (pp. 3-4) and include updates on fisheries and marine activities from around the region (pp. 10-13), latest publications (pp. 14-15) and the usual meeting/conference alert for the next three months (p. 16).

We hope you enjoy our final issue of the year. Thank you all for your contributions and assistance in 2011 and all the best for the New Year!

Susana Macanawai, PIMRIS Coordinator

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Have a wonderful
Christmas
& a safe and
successful
2012!

We kindly request Fisheries Divisions in Pacific Island countries to deposit hard or soft copies of their publications (published or unpublished reports, research papers, technical papers etc.) with PIMRIS. Annual reports are especially important. The items will be added to the PIMRIS library collection and made available online (in full-text) through the PIMRIS Regional Repository.

Directory

PIMRIS is a cooperative network of fisheries and marine resources libraries and information centres in the Pacific. Participants include national ministerial libraries and regional agencies listed below.

For additional information, contact the Coordination Unit or a specific agency.

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New Faces, New Places

Bula Patricia!

Patricia Fratangelo joined USP Laucala Campus as the new coordinator for the Oceania Sports Information Centre (OSIC) in October 2011. She recently worked as a librarian in the Marshall Islands and has also worked in the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. Patricia holds a MLIS degree.



Patricia Fratangelo
Coordinator - OSIC

Moce & vinaka Lusi & Denise!

This year USP Laucala library welcomed two new librarians but sadly farewelled another two senior and experienced staff.



Lusiana Ravuvu-
Dakuidreketi

Lusiana Ravuvu Dakuidreketi, cataloguing librarian at the USP Laucala Library was farewelled by colleagues in October after nearly 30 years with USP Library. She joined the library in 1981 as a graduate trainee and became a librarian in 1984 after studies in the Philippines. All the best Lusi!

Denise Rosenblatt, was farewelled by the USP Laucala library staff with a morning tea and 'Isa Lei' in November. She joined the library in 2007 and was based at the Reader Services section. Denise is well-known on campus for her captivating and artistic displays in the library foyer.



Denise Rosenblatt

Sanjani Lata, part-time junior library assistant completed her year with PIMRIS at the end of her contract in early December. We wish her well!

Pacific Island shark sanctuaries to curb shark-fin fishing

Sharks are valuable to the ocean ecosystem and around 73 million are killed annually with a third of open ocean shark species threatened with extinction (www.sharksavers.org).

Sharks are also a common seafood in many places, especially the shark fin soup which is considered a delicacy by the Chinese people and served at special occasions such as weddings and banquets.

According to a report by Justin McCurry (www.guardian.co.uk) in November this year, Hong Kong handles as much as 80% of the global trade in shark fins bringing in catches from more than 100 countries.

In early December, a joint enforcement exercise by Greenpeace and the Palauan authorities discovered a suspected illegal operation and activities of shark finning on board a Taiwanese longliner within Palau's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

(<http://www.greenpeace.org/australia/en/news/oceans/Greenpeace-and-Palau-bust-pirates-in-Palau-shark-sanctuary/>)

The increasing threat of illegal fishing for shark fins and decreasing shark population due to overfishing has sparked recent developments towards shark conservation and protecting areas where sharks can still thrive.



Far left: Shark fins that have been removed from sharks

Left: Dead sharks with fins removed

(Credit: <http://www.stopsharkfinning.net/shark-fin-soup.htm>)

Within our region, Pacific Island countries such as Palau, Tokelau and the Marshall Islands have heeded the calls and campaigns for shark conservation by establishing shark sanctuaries. Others like Fiji (through the Coral Reef Alliance: <http://coral.org/fijisharks>) and the Cook Islands (proposed by Pacific Islands Conservation Initiative http://www.picionline.org/PICI_Sharks.htm) are currently working towards joining the initiative.

Palau Shark Sanctuary

Palau created the world's first 'shark-sanctuary' in 2009 banning all commercial shark fishing within its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) waters (BBC News) and protects around 600,000 sq km (230,000 sq miles) of ocean, an area about the size of France (<http://usproxy.bbc.com/2/hi/science/nature/8272508.stm>).



The Islands of Palau
(Credit: Palau Shark Sanctuary)

The Palau Shark Sanctuary was founded in an effort to end the annihilation of Palau's sharks as a result of rampant shark finning at the hands of foreign long-line fishing vessels licensed by Palau to fish in their waters.

Palau is made up of more than 300 islands with a population of around 21,000 people.

More information at <http://www.sharksanctuary.com/>

Tokelau Shark Sanctuary



Tokelau Islands. (Credit: Wikipedia)

Tokelau, a group of 3 atolls about 500 kilometres north of Samoa,, joined Palau and other nations in the global effort to protect sharks by designating all of its 319,031 square kilometer (123,178 square miles) Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in September this year as a shark sanctuary.

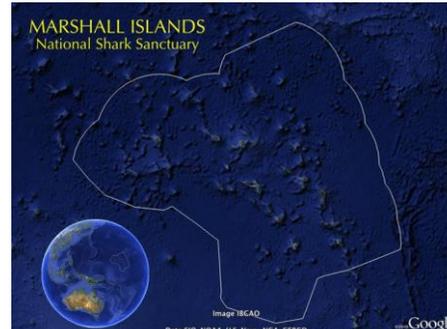
Tokelau has a population of around 1,500 people and is a territory of New Zealand. It is very dependent on subsistence fishing activities.

Marshall Islands Shark Sanctuary

In October 2011, the Republic of the Marshall Islands established the world's largest shark sanctuary after the Marshallese parliament unanimously passed a legislation that ends the commercial fishing of sharks within its waters, a total area of about 768,547 square miles.

This law bans the sale, trade and possession of sharks, shark fins or any other shark parts.

(<http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/oct2011/2011-10-07-01.html>)



(Credit: NOAA)

As the strongest legislation ever to protect sharks according to the Pew Environmental Group, the new law includes the complete prohibition on the commercial fishing of sharks as well as the sale of any sharks or shark products. In addition, violators of the rule may face a fine anywhere between USD \$ 25,000 and USD \$ 200,000 if found to be fishing sharks or in possession of shark fins. (<http://www.pewenvironment.org/news-room/press-releases/worlds-largest-shark-sanctuary-declared-in-central-pacific-85899364555>).

Regional Micronesian Shark Sanctuary

A resolution that authorizes the development of a regional ban on the possession, sale, offer for sale and trade of shark fins in the oceans of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) member states consisting of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas was passed during the 15th Micronesian Chief Executive Summit in Pohnpei in September 2011.



Sharks in Palau's waters.

(Credit: Mike Clifford -<http://glassbox-design.com>)

This resolution according to Therese Hart of the Marianas Variety newspaper (<http://mvguam.com/>), also calls for the development of a strategic framework to implement a marine-based conservation programme that will establish the world's Regional Shark Sanctuary in Micronesia by December 2012.

It is hoped that this move, supported by the Pew Environment Group will assist in reviving declining shark populations in Micronesian waters.



SPC and GIZ announce assistance to Pacific coastal fisheries to cope with Climate Change

Pacific Islanders have long depended on the marine environment as a vital part of their social and economic development. The majority of Pacific islands are atolls and small islands surrounded by coral reefs, where the principal targets are coastal fish species associated with coral reefs and lagoons. However rising populations, limited land areas and low profiles of atolls have increased the vulnerability of communities and governments to deal with the effects of climate change.



SPC Director-General, Dr Jimmie Rodgers with GIZ Country Director, Mr Robert Kressirer (Credit: SPC)

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) today signed two financing agreements, both committed to assisting coastal communities to adapt to climate change effects and to improve conservation and sustainable use of oceanic fisheries resources in the Pacific Island region.

SPC Director-General Dr Jimmie Rodgers and GIZ Country Director (Philippines and the Pacific) Mr Robert Kressirer, signed the finance agreements at SPC's regional office in Suva, Fiji. Together, they provided € 700,000 to two separate projects that will:

- assist coastal communities to adapt to climate change effects through a holistic approach covering marine based natural resources in the Pacific region; and
- increase the capacity of Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs) to negotiate adaptations to climate change through the provision of advice to SPC members on the likely change in tuna stocks and distribution by building on and extending model development.

Under the agreements, the two intergovernmental organisations will work closely to ensure enhanced delivery of services to their twelve common members: Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, New Caledonia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tahiti, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea.

'Starting in 2012, SPC and GIZ will support the implementation of the community-based management activities of mutual interest, including, but not limited to, infrastructure and human resources capacity development, which have an impact on the fisheries and agriculture sectors,' said Dr Rodgers.

The two organisations are committed to developing greater synergies and cooperation with planned and existing activities to provide better delivery of services at national and regional levels.

'SPC and GIZ will work together to help address the priorities of Pacific Island countries and territories in marine and land resource sectors, with the focus on climate change,' he said.

Mr Kressirer added, 'The GIZ project regional national planning workshops conducted in July 2011 under the 'Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Islands Region' project showed that countries identified the need for adaptation to climate change effects as a key focal area.'

This programme will focus on working with communities to identify locations to establish pilot sites and trial adaptation techniques.

Director of SPC's Division of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems Mr. Mike Batty believes that the: 'SPC/GIZ programme will strengthen the fisheries sector in PICTs by supporting successful adaptations of strategies to protect coastal communities from the effects of climate change and provide scientific data, modeling and advice on oceanic fisheries to assist SPC member governments and regional organisations.

The challenges brought about by climate change demand a coordinated response from our region, working under one overarching approach to achieve one common goal — the sustained resilience of Pacific Island communities to climate change.'

For more information on: www.spc.int/sepp

(Source: SPC website)

Operation Kurukuru 2011 to stop illegal fishing in the Pacific Islands region

Operation Kurukuru 2011, a Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) coordinated maritime surveillance operation carried out by countries in the region to detect, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities as well as other transnational crimes was carried out from the 7th – 14th November 2011.

An area of around 30 million square kilometres which included the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu was covered in the operation.

The operation which involved twelve Pacific class patrol boats, one New Zealand vessel, a U.S. navy and a U.S. Coast Guard vessel and four French patrol boats was the single largest monitoring, control and surveillance operation ever conducted in the region.



The Solomon Islands patrol boat
(Credit: Oceania Media)

During the operation around 80 vessels were boarded and 8 apprehended of which 5 were escorted to port for further investigation, amongst many that were sighted or warned.

According to a report by the Pacific News Centre (<http://www.pacificnewscenter.com/>) the combined success of the monitoring, controlling and surveillance (MCS) efforts by the FFA member countries and their Quadrilateral Defence partners should not necessarily be measured by the number of fishing vessels apprehended and that the reduction in the number of vessels conducting IUU fishing activities is only one measure of the success of this operation.

The regional operation is coordinated and executed as part of the regional MCS strategy which was endorsed by Forum leaders in 2010.

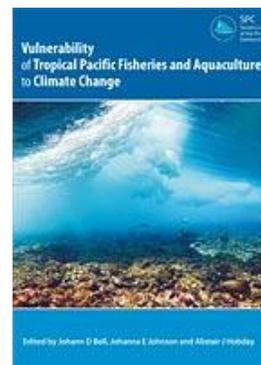
For more information, please contact Mark Young, FFA Director of Fisheries Operations, markyoung@ffa.int.

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Secretariat of the Pacific Community releases new publication - 'Vulnerability of tropical Pacific fisheries and aquaculture to climate change'

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) recently released a new publication titled 'Vulnerability of tropical fisheries and aquaculture to climate change' edited by Johann D. Bell, Johanna E. Johnson and Alistair J. Hobday.

This new book is a result of a remarkable team effort and partnership between the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) and SPC featuring chapters and intellectual contributions of authors from thirty six (36) institutions.



(Credit: SPC)

The SPC Director-General, Dr Jimmie Rodgers in the foreword commended this book as more than a comprehensive assessment of the vulnerability of tropical Pacific fisheries and aquaculture to climate change and also a valuable resource for anyone wanting to learn about the diverse oceanic, coastal and freshwater fisheries and aquaculture activities of the Pacific Islands region, and the environmental conditions and habitats that support them.

As widely known, Pacific Island people depend heavily on the sea and its resources for their livelihood, food security and economic development.

Although other activities and disasters may have contributed to the current status of fisheries in the Pacific Islands, climate change according to this book has been observed and predicted to have major impacts to the Pacific Ocean, coral reefs, oceanic and coastal fisheries to list a few.

Our future therefore and that of all fisheries and aquaculture activities in our region as highlighted in this book are likely to be affected. Summaries presented through chapters in this book, 'not only provide a yardstick against which the impacts of climate change can be evaluated, they should also be useful to anyone seeking information on the significance of fisheries and aquaculture to PICTs and the ecosystems that support these activities' (Bell, Adams, Johnson et al. 2011).

These include chapters on observed and projected changes in surface climate and expected changes to the tropical Pacific Ocean as well as vulnerability of open food webs, coral reefs, mangroves, seagrasses, oceanic fisheries, coastal fisheries and aquaculture in the tropical Pacific to climate change.

More information on: <http://www.spc.int/coastfish/>

Book citation and details:

Bell JD, Johnson JE & Hobday AJ (2011), Vulnerability of tropical Pacific fisheries and aquaculture to climate change. Noumea, New Caledonia : Secretariat of the Pacific Community. ISBN: 9789820004719. (Electronic version available from SPC website).

Other latest online publications on Pacific Island fisheries:

Gillet, R & Cartwright, I (2010), The future of Pacific Island fisheries. Noumea, New Caledonia : Secretariat of the Pacific Community. ISBN: 9789820004221.
http://www.spc.int/fame/doc/corporate_docs/Future_of_PI_fisheries_Report.pdf

Gillett, R (2011), Fisheries of the Pacific Islands : regional and national information. Bangkok, Thailand : Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. ISBN: 9789251067925.
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/i2092e/i2092e00.pdf>

Training Workshop for the University of the South Pacific Regional Campus Library Staff

28 November – 2 December 2011

USP Library Conference Room, Laucala Campus, Suva, Fiji



USP Regional Campus Library Staff Training Workshop was officially opened by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Admin. & Regional Campuses) & former University Librarian, Dr Esther Williams (front row middle). Also present were Sin Joan Yee, University Librarian (front row, fourth from left) and Deputy UL, Elizabeth Reade-Fong (back row-first from right). (Photo credit: USP Library)

The week-long training workshop for the University of the South Pacific (USP) regional campus library personnel held at the USP Library conference room from the 28th November 2011, brought together 18 enthusiastic participants. This training organized and hosted by the USP Library at Laucala Campus, Suva was aimed at training staff in aspects relating to library customer and technical services, operations and resources, share library standards and best practices, experience a professional study and work environment different from their own and develop an understanding of the purpose, content and application of the campus libraries operations manual.

In her opening remarks, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration & Regional Campuses), Dr Esther Williams emphasized the important role libraries play in the overall success of universities. She also stressed that participants will learn from the workshop that their responsibility is service to the students and that there is a need for library staff to develop relevant skills, especially with changing technology, and review attitudes so that quality services are provided to all library users.

Professor Randy Thaman as Chair of the Library Advisory Committee encouraged all participants to make the most of the opportunity and learn from each other's experiences.



Left: Dr Esther Williams during the opening of the Workshop

Right: Training participants trying out the 'Athena' Library System (already in use in some campus libraries)
(Credit: USP Library)



Workshop Programme

A library tour of the main USP library followed the opening of the workshop, whereby participants visited staff workrooms, reading areas, collections and student study areas. Although massive in size compared to their small facilities, the tour allowed participants to develop ideas on library learning and work spaces.

Throughout the week participants learned more about the main library and its activities, resources and collections through presentations by each section of the USP Laucala Library.



Libby Fong (DUL) during her presentation
(Photo credit: USP Library)

This was in addition to presentations and activities on regional libraries procedures and processes as well as a hands-on session on the Athena Library Automated system which several of them currently use.

The rest of the workshop programme included sessions on the University Strategic Plan, the USP Library Structure, Library Standards and Best Practices, Customer Service Issues and Manual, USP Library Website and Online Databases, Library Information Literacy Programme (ILP), Special Collections (PIMRIS, OSIC & Pacific Collection), Education & Training, Technical Services (Acquisitions, Cataloguing, Serials) as well as Digitization and Copyright.

On the last day, participants visited the Suva International School library at Laucala Beach and the Pacific Theological College library in Nasese. Participants also enjoyed dinner at the Chopsticks Restaurant in Suva hosted by the USP library to which senior library staff were invited.

In closing the workshop, Joan Yee, the University Librarian thanked all trainees for their active participation and attendance, presenters for their contributions, organizers for the successful organization of the week-long event and again, DVC Esther Williams for the funds that made this very important training for regional campus library staff possible.

Sylvie Tapasei from Vanuatu thanked the University and University Library for the opportunity to learn new things and develop their skills as staff of USP campus libraries throughout the region.

Susana Macanawai
(Workshop Presenter)



Participants from Kiribati, Tonga and Samoa during a group discussion (Photo credit: USP Library).



Training participants and USP Library senior staff during dinner in Suva (Photo credit: USP Library).

News from around the Region

Aitutaki prepares for trochus harvest

Rosie Manins (Cook Islands News)

Harvesting of Aitutaki trochus is expected to take place between November 28 and December 5.

The harvest, which is Aitutaki's first since 2003, is expected to generate about \$140,000 for the community. About 20 tonnes of dried and cleaned trochus shell will be sold and is likely to be made into buttons. Already there is interest from potential tender companies. Shells should be ready for sale the week following close of harvest. The last harvest eight years ago was successfully tendered for by an Italian company and generated almost \$200,000 for Aitutaki.



Harvested trochus in Cook Islands
(Photo credit: Cook Islands News)

The Ministry of Marine Resources (MMR) surveys Aitutaki's trochus population size and health annually, announcing a harvest when there is enough and the going market price is high. MMR Aitutaki Marine Research Centre station manager Richard Story says the harvest amount is only ever about 30 percent of the total population.

Trochus are a protected species in Aitutaki, but not in Rarotonga. At present dried trochus shell is worth about \$7 per kilogram on the international market.

Story says the Aitutaki council will get about \$2 for each kilogram and local harvesters who are allocated a trochus quota by the council for harvesting take about \$5 per kilogram.

More details: <http://www.cinews.co.ck/>

Fisheries Minister from Tonga visits Forum Fisheries Agency



The Tongan delegation with FFA staff during an official visit in early December. (Photo credit: Tonga Fisheries)

Early this month, the Tongan Minister for Agriculture, Food, Forests and Fisheries (MAFFF), Hon. Lord Vaea visited the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) in Honiara, Solomon Islands. The minister was accompanied by Dr Sione Vailala Matoto, the CEO for MAFFF.

The delegation was welcomed by the Deputy-Director General, James Movick and staff of FFA who made presentations on the recently signed Country Service Level Agreement for Tonga and related activities.

This agreement outlines the fisheries priorities for Tonga including details on tasks to be implemented, specific responsibilities and indicative timeframes for delivery.

Other issues discussed and confirmed by FFA officials during the visit for the first half of 2012 include, regional and national training programmes, annual governing bodies meetings of officials and ministers to be held in Tonga and a review of the fishery investment environment and development of a Fisheries Investment Framework. The investment framework will ensure coordinated consideration of investment proposals across the government and the private sector. More details : <http://www.tongafish.gov.to/>

Government imposes limits on foreign fishing vessels - Nauru

The Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority (NFMRA) has notified purse-seiners of China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Vanuatu fishing under bilateral access agreements with NFMRA that the limit of allowable purse-seine fishing for 2011 in Nauru has been reached.

Individual vessels can continue to fish there, though, if they purchase additional fishing days from the Office of the [Parties to the Nauru Agreement](#) (PNA). These entitlements would have to be transferred from the zones of other PNA with underused fishing allocations and who want to transfer vessel-days for fishing in Nauru.

“The trouble is, there aren’t many underused allocations this year,” said NFMRA CEO Charleston Deije. “PNA has really tightened up the vessel-days system after getting some criticism from certain quarters in the US and Spain.”

“They said we were not able to fully control foreign fishing effort being transferred from the high seas into EEZs after the high seas closures came into effect in 2010. Although we dispute that – the baseline estimate of high seas effort doesn’t take into account the full extent of previous high seas fishing by the Philippines, and it doesn’t take into account the fact that the US purse-seine fleet has doubled its purse-seine effort since the baseline was drawn up – the PNA countries are going to make very sure that we don’t lay ourselves open to similar accusations in future,” he continued.

The area sees variations linked to the El Niño/La Niña phenomenon and which affect fishing. The oceanographic shift has the purse seiners westward during the last two months and impacted the supply of fish to Pacific Island processing plants.

“Some are blaming the three-month (July-September) fish aggregating device (FAD) closure for reducing the supply of fish to certain processing plants recently,” said Deije, “but our data – for Nauru waters at least – shows that average skipjack catch rates during the FAD closure in 2010 were the same as catch rates outside the FAD closure, and yellowfin catch rates were even higher.”

If zone-closures by PNA countries continue toward the end of each year, they will affect processors, particularly small Pacific Island processors who cannot afford to build large freezer reserves to guard against fluctuations in supply. Deije noted, however, that when all PNA countries start allocating vessel-days by vessel these year-end closures will be no longer necessary. Nauru plans to introduce a VDS allocation system in 2012 and drop the “Olympic” (first come, first served) system.

“We’ll see how much purse-seine fleets are prepared to bid for guaranteed allocations of vessel-days fishing opportunities in the Nauru EEZ in 2012. It’s a win-win situation for foreign fishing vessels and for small-island state economies, so everyone should be happy,” said Deije.

“This is so except for the US and European Union (EU) consumers who buy most of the final product, since the price will continue to increase. But even they are likely to be happy if the Pacific Island tuna they are eating is guaranteed to come from a sustainable source,” he pointed out.

(Source: <http://www.fis.com/>)

Am. Samoa seeks \$12 million for fish storage facility

Freezer would serve canneries, local fishing fleet

By Fili Sagapolutele

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa, (Samoa News, Oct. 3, 2011) – In Am. Samoa, Gov. Togiola Tulafono says his administration is working on building a multi-million freezer storage facility to provide fish storage space for not only the canneries but the local fishing fleet, and doing so is part of the government's commitment to assist the canneries in the territory.

Speaking on his weekend radio program, Togiola said that his last meeting on his recent trip to Washington D.C. was the one held in Honolulu before returning to the territory last week Monday. He says the meeting in Honolulu was with economic development officials with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Hawai'i Office regarding plans for a major freezer storage facility for American Samoa and this project is to provide enough capacity to store fish from fishing vessels, who are unable to immediately off-load their fish at the canneries.

He said this facility will allow fishing vessels to off-load their catch right away and head back out to sea instead of waiting in port for several weeks for off loading purposes.

According to the governor, the USDA in Hawai'i has endorsed the local project but their office could not provide the necessary funding for such a major undertaking, which is estimated to cost between US\$11 million and US\$12 million.

The Hawai'i office has agreed to work with American Samoa Government on American Samoa's application to be submitted directly to the USDA in Washington D.C., which is hoped to be completed before the end of the year, he said. Togiola says he has already discussed this facility with StarKist Samoa and Tri Marine International, operator of the new cannery Samoa Tuna Processors, as help to the canneries, as well as benefiting the local fishing fleet that want to sell their catches to the canneries.

He said the government needs to stand strong to protect local companies especially the canneries to ensure that they don't leave our shores, as did Chicken of the Sea (COS), when they closed down COS Samoa Packing. He said the goal for this important project is to assist the canneries in order to protect this backbone of the local economy. Togiola said that without these companies, which provide jobs through their operations as well as by supporting and patronizing companies that serve the canneries, American Samoa will continue to depend only on federal grants. He called for everyone's support in this endeavor and hopes that things will move forward in the new year.



An aerial view of the American Samoa port.
(Credit: www.panoramio.com)

Samoa News reported in March this year that Togiola told a congressional panel the government is working on purchasing a 2,400 ton cold storage freezer facility to be located in the Department of Port Administration - the port area - which will be made available to the local fishing fleet and both canneries, StarKist and Tri Marine. It became a priority with the government when StarKist Samoa lost one of its main storage freezer facilities, located on government land managed by the American Samoa Power Authority in Satala. The facility was disassembled to make way for the new ASPA Satala power plant. More information on: www.samoanews.com

☪☪☪

Export tuna processed in Rarotonga

Rachel Reeves (Cook Islands News)

Rarotonga is this week exporting seven tonnes of fish picked up by Yuh Yow fishing vessels stationed in the north. The Taiwanese company is licensed to fish in the Cook Islands and at present has nine fishing vessels operating in the north.

Those vessels have consolidated their catch, the majority of which is yellowfin and bigeye tuna, for collection by carrier vessel Yu Yuean #3. Her responsibility is to collect the catch and transport it to Rarotonga, where it is then packaged for air-freight export. Yu Yuean #3, which is registered in Vanuatu, has the capacity to carry about 50 tonnes of cargo. Built in Japan in 1983, she is 29.2 metres long and made of fibreglass. She came to Rarotonga via Fiji and arrived in the Avatiu harbour yesterday morning.



Yuh Yow operations manager Martin Ching checks the fish for freshness

(Photo Credit: Cooks Islands News)

From now on she will be making regular trips to Rarotonga, as her trip represents the start of an arrangement whereby Yuh Yow will offload its catch for packaging in Rarotonga every 10 days or so. Ocean Fresh is busy packaging the fish for export to Japan on this afternoons Air New Zealand flight and to the US on Saturday night's direct flight. Most is destined for three markets two in Japan and one in the US but the lower grades that do not qualify will be sold on Rarotonga. Ocean Fresh has the job of packaging four tonnes of fish spraying, weighing, sponging and packing it in ice before this afternoon. The remainder will be packaged before the weekend.

Yuh Yow operations manager Martin Ching arrived on Monday ahead of the ship and is on Rarotonga to arrange packaging, check fish for freshness and oversee export operations. Ching said he expects another carrier to arrive in Rarotonga within 10 days. More information : <http://www3.cookislandsnews.com>

(Source: Cook Islands News)

Solomon Islands and Tuvalu close waters to foreign fishing vessels

Following the announcement by Nauru, the Solomon Islands and Tuvalu recently joined Nauru and closed its waters to foreign fishing vessels. This move is to ensure, foreign fishing vessels do not exceed allocated fishing days as per party allowable effort (PAE) for 2011 under the PNA Vessel Day Scheme (VDS). Under this scheme, members of the Party to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) can either purchase additional fishing days from another member with available days to trade or the member must close its fishery to foreign vessel until the new VDS management year (starts 1st January).

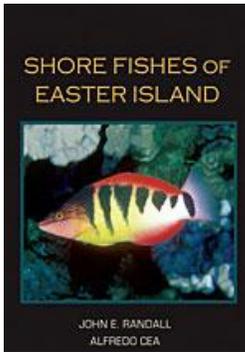


The Parties to the Nauru Agreement includes the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu.

More information: <http://www.ffa.int>

Left: Fishing vessels berthing at Suva wharf.
(Credit: www.islandbusiness.com)

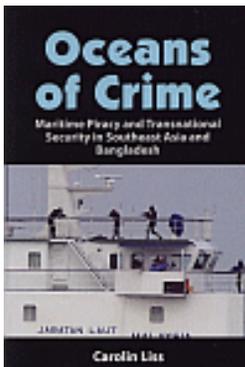
New additions to PIMRIS Library



Shore fishes of Easter Island by Randall, J.E. & Cea, A. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780824835644.

Easter Island (Rapanui) is the most remote inhabited island in the Pacific Ocean and the easternmost in Oceania. Much has been written on the origin of its first inhabitants and the enormous stone statues they carved and erected, but little exists on the island's biota. Knowing that very few species of fishes had been reported for Easter Island, John Randall went there in 1969, with the support of the National Geographic Society, to study the fish fauna...

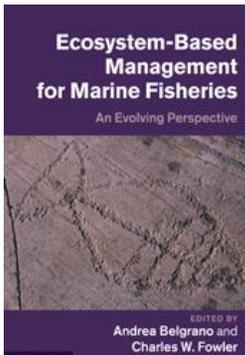
<http://www.uhpress.hawaii.edu/p-8569-9780824835644.aspx>



Oceans of crime: maritime piracy and transnational security in Southeast Asia and Bangladesh by Liss, C. Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, 2011. ISBN: 9789814279468.

Using a broad canvas this study shows piracy to be a very relevant factor in all marine activity in Southeast Asia and Bangladesh. Part One looks at the contemporary and increasing piracy of merchant vessels and small fishing craft. Part Two looks at the fishing industry's involvement as fishers and as pirates, and at merchant shipping - its security weaknesses and their implications...

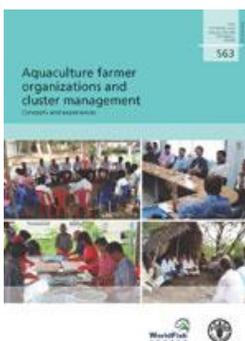
http://books.google.com/books/about/Oceans_of_Crime.html?id=Ofx0RLCzJT8C



Ecosystem-based management for marine fisheries : an evolving perspective by Belgrano, A. & Fowler, CW. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011. ISBN: 9780521519816.

Showing how big-picture patterns can help overcome the failures of conventional management, this book is ideal for students, researchers and professionals involved with marine fisheries. It explores not only the current practice of the 'ecosystem approach' to fisheries management but also its critical importance to even larger perspectives...

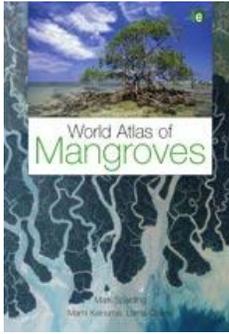
<http://www.cambridge.org/aus/catalogue/catalogue.asp?isbn=9780521519816>



Aquaculture farmer organizations and cluster management : concepts and experiments (563) by Laila, K., Subasinghe, R. & Philips, M. Rome: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2011. ISBN: 9789251069004.

Small-scale aquaculture producers in developing countries are facing new opportunities and challenges related to market liberalization, globalization and increasingly stringent quality and safety requirements for aquaculture products, making it harder for smallscale producers to access markets. Collective action through participation in farmers' organizations (FOs) can provide an effective mechanism...<http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/i2275e/i2275e00.htm>

Full report (pdf): <http://www.fao.org/docrep/014/i2275e/i2275e.pdf>



World atlas of mangroves by Spalding, M., Kainuma, M. & Collins, L. London, UK: Earthscan, c2010. ISBN: 9781844076574.

This atlas provides the first truly global assessment of the state of the world's mangroves. Written by a leading expert on mangroves with support from the top international researchers and conservation organizations, this full colour atlas contains 60 full-page maps, hundreds of photographs and illustrations and a comprehensive country-by-country assessment of mangroves.

<http://www.earthscan.co.uk/?tabid=34104>

Use this link to access sample page spreads for this book

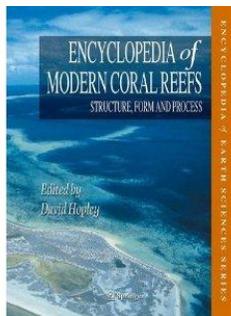
http://www.earthscan.co.uk/Portals/0/pdfs/WAM_page_spreads.pdf



Life in the world's oceans : diversity, distribution, and abundance edited by McIntyre, AD. Ames, Iowa : Blackwell Pub., c2010. ISBN: 9781405192972.

Comprising the synthesis and analysis of the results of the Census of Marine Life this most important book brings together the work of around 2000 scientists from 80 nations around the globe. The book is broadly divided into four sections, covering oceans past, oceans present, oceans future...

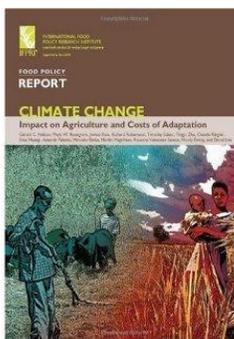
<http://au.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-1405192976,subjectCd-LS2A.html>



Encyclopedia of modern coral reefs : structure, form and process by Hopley, D. Dordrecht : London: Springer, c2011. ISBN: 978904812638.

Coral reefs are the largest landforms built by plants and animals. Their study therefore incorporates a wide range of disciplines. This encyclopedia approaches coral reefs from an earth science perspective, concentrating especially on modern reefs.

<http://www.springer.com/earth+sciences+and+geography/earth+system+science/s/book/978-90-481-2638-5>



Climate change : impact on agriculture and costs of adaptation by Nelson, GC. Washington, D.C.: International Food Policy Research Institute, c2009. ISBN: 9780896295353.

The unimpeded growth of greenhouse gas emissions is raising the earth's temperature. The consequences include melting glaciers, more precipitation, more and more extreme weather events, and shifting seasons. The accelerating pace of climate change, combined with global population and income growth threatens food security everywhere.

<http://www.ifpri.org/sites/default/files/publications/pr21.pdf>



BLU Code : Code of Practice for the safe loading and unloading of bulk carriers, including BLU manual by the International Maritime Organisation. London: IMO, c2011. ISBN: 9789280115307.

The IMO devised the Manual on Loading and Unloading of Solid Bulk Cargoes for Terminal Representatives, commonly known as the BLU Manual, to augment the BLU Code. The BLU Code is intended for use by bulk carrier ships while the BLU Manual is for use by terminal operators, representatives or others who may be involved in training relevant personnel.

<http://www.imo.org/Publications/Documents/Newsletters%20and%20Mailers/Mailers/IA266E.pdf>

Conference & Workshop Notices

- 29 – 31 Jan 2012 **ICFAVS 2012 : International Conference on Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Sciences**, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The VIII International Conference on Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Sciences aims to bring together academic scientists...
Web:<http://www.waset.org/conferences/2012/abudhabi/icfavs/index.php>
- 6 - 9 Feb 2012 **WECAFC - Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission - 14th Session (FI-739-14)**, Panama City, Panama.
Web: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/nems/39359/en>
- 16 – 20 Feb 2012 **"2012 AAAS Annual Meeting"** Vancouver, Canada. Includes sessions on marine protected areas and marine resource management; hosted by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Web: www.aaas.org/meetings
- 20 – 24 Feb 2012 **FAO : COFI - Sub-Committee on Fish Trade - 13th Session - (FI-709-13)**. Hyderabad, India. Web: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/nems/39823/en>
- 26 – 28 Feb 2012 **2012 International Conference on Climate Change and Humanity (ICCCH 2012)**, Singapore. ICCCH is an international forum for state-of-the-art research in Climate Change and Humanity. 2012 International Conference on Climate Change and Humanity (ICCCH 2012) will be held in Singapore during February 26-28, 2012.
Web:<http://www.iccch.org>
- 26 - 28 Mar 2012 **IPMPCC Cairns 2012 : Workshop on Climate Change Mitigation with Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples: Practices, Lessons Learned and Prospects**, Cairns, Australia. This workshop is organized by the UN University (UNU), in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the Australian Government Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)...
Web: http://www.unutki.org/default.php?doc_id=214
- 26 – 30 Mar 2012 **COFI - Sub-Committee on Aquaculture - 6th Session (FI-702-6)**. Cape Town, South Africa.
Web:<http://www.fao.org/fishery/nems/39840/en>