

Ministry of Fisheries

August Newsletter



CEO'S OFFICE

Key events and meetings

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr Tu'ikolongahau Halafihi, Deputy CEO for Fisheries Science Division Dr Siola'a Malimali and Head of Offshore Section Mrs Lavinia Vaipuna attended the Pre-Fisheries Forum Agency (FFA) meeting and the 13th regular session of the Scientific Committee at Rarotonga.

The Legal Officer Ms Salote Koloamatangi attended an attachment at Pacific Community at the end of August. The attachment is to work together with the SPC legal team in order to update legislations regarding coastal fisheries as required by the Ministry.

CORPORATE SERVICE DIVISION (CSD)

Key events and meetings

The Deputy CEO for CSD, Mr Vilimo Fakalolo attended the Intersessional meeting to progress the draft bridging of the CMM on Tropical Tuna.

On August 18, Rev. Pohahau Palu the lead reverend of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga at Kolomotu'a blessed the Ministry's new vehicles. These vehicles consist of three for Tongatapu and one for Vav'u island.

On 31 August, staffs Lupe Fe'iloaki and Makeleta Mahe attended the first Performance Management System sub committee meeting for this financial year on 31st August. The meeting included discussion of challenges to date and new initiatives to be implemented for this financial year.

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (FMDD)

Key events and meetings

The Deputy CEO for FMDD, Mrs Mele 'Atuekaho and Fisheries Officer Ms Sisimata'itohi Mafile'o attended an attachment at Pacific Commission in mid August. The attachment consist of reviewing the Aquaculture Management and Development 2018-2022, draft Coastal Fisheries Policy and finalise Game Fishing Management Plan 2018-2020.

Staff Ms Elaine Havealeta attended the International Labour Organisation (ILO) workshop on 28th and 29th hosted by the Ministry of Commerce, Consumer, Trade, Innovation and Labour.

FISHERIES SCIENCE DIVISION (FSD)

Key events and meetings

The Aquaculture team with the assistance of JICA volunteer Mr. Ryo Sasaki released more than 1,500 sea cucumber juveniles into the wild as a result of hatchery trail at the Mariculture Centre at Sopusu. The sea cucumber juveniles are at 8 month old and this is part of the stock enhancement programme under Aquaculture Research Section.

The Officer In Charge at Niuatoputapu Mr 'Ioane Finau visited Tongatapu island to collate supplies to construct Smoke House and undertake training with fisherman at Niuatoputapu island.

The Government Primary School of Kolovai and Maamaloa Side School

class 6 visited the hatchery area to site and observe the current marine organism. The marine organism consist of clams, sea cucumbers, vivalve, sea urchin, trochus and ark shells.

Mr Tonga Tu'iano travelled to Fiji and retrieved live seaweeds. Dr Siola'a Malimali and Mr Tu'iano accompanied the live seaweeds to Vava'u at end of August. This is to support commodities being promoted of its feasibility and viability for income generation in coastal communities in Tonga.

Ms Sosefina Vili attended the Tonga Skills meeting at Tongatapu on the Ha'apai Development Committee. The purpose of the meeting is to deliberate on and validate the skills development for Ha'apai.

Mr Latu 'Aisea visited 'Atata and 'Eueiki island as part of its current existing SMA monitoring program. This is an opportunity to monitor implementation of the SMA management plan.

FISHERIES COMPLIANCE DIVISION (FCD)

Key events and meetings

The Deputy CEO for FCD, Mr Poasi attended a Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) attachment in mid August. The MCS attachment is to support the compliance with fisheries management frameworks and national associated measures at national, sub regional, regional and Commission levels.

Dr Tu'ikolongahau Halafihi, Deputy CEO for Fisheries Compliance Division and Legal Officer Salote Koloamatangi met with Chinese organisation on meetings towards a proposal of interest in the area at Sopusu.

Mr Uanoa 'Ahoafi and Mrs Salote Koloamatangi undertook training for Fisheries staff at Vava'u on 14 - 18 August on Compliance activities within SMAs areas especially for new and potential SMAs.