



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY



GUIDELINES FOR A MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR (COMMUNITY-BASED) COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT IN SOLOMON ISLANDS MPAS



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INTRODUCTION

The Solomon Islands government looks largely to community-based solutions for national resource management. This is due to poor operational linkages between governance at the community level and at the national level; insufficient capacity in provincial governments; and strong customary ownership that provides management rights to resource owners.

Community-based resource management (CBRM) is a mechanism for communities to contribute to safeguarding their future and the future of their resources in the face of climate change as well as the many other types of external change (economic, demographic, development, technological, communication) that they face on a daily basis.

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) or Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs) are tools that communities can use to protect their resources (Govan et al. 2008). An LMMA is a marine and coastal area that is designated by a local community for management of marine resources. A managed area will have a boundary as well as rules that operate within that area. LMMAs are the most common form of marine resource management in the Solomon Islands (WorldFish 2013). In the Solomon Islands, an MPA is a term used to refer to an area that has been set aside as “no-take”. MPAs are usually established by communities to protect certain areas, the species that occur within them, as well as social and cultural values.

The Solomon Islands Protected Area Act (2010) and Regulations (2012) provide communities with legal authority over their MPA or LMMA once the area has been registered. To register their MPA, a community needs to develop a management plan. A management plan that is prepared for each area must detail all of the values (biological, economic and cultural) of the area, as well as the objectives and management actions required to protect the area. While each community’s management plan will vary, generally there are common management actions that include:

- Minimizing illegal fishing/hunting in “no-take” zones
- Reducing harvest pressure on species within the MPA
- Protecting threatened species (e.g. turtles) within the MPA
- Protecting habitats within the MPA from destructive harvesting
- Creating opportunities for ecotourism
- Creating opportunities for alternate livelihoods (aquaculture)

Communities may also choose to create and register their Protected Area under other relevant Provincial Ordinance (e.g. Western Province, Appendix A). This is particularly the case while the Protected Areas Act is still new and not all procedural steps are in place for an MPA to be created under the Act.

Compliance and Enforcement

In order to ensure management objectives are successfully met, a community will need to develop a compliance and enforcement program as part of their management approach.

People will comply with MPA rules and regulations (compliance) when they understand and accept them (Pomeroy et al. 2013). However, managers will need to enforce penalties (enforcement) with those who do not comply with the MPA rules and regulations. Enforcement systems aim to increase compliance with rules and punish those who are doing prohibited activities (Bergh and Davies 2001). By increasing the level and likelihood of penalties, enforcement systems deter users from breaking rules (Oposa 1996).

In developing a compliance monitoring program for MPAs it is important to balance compliance with enforcement. To do this, communities or resource managers must make compliance a preferred outcome (rather than just relying on enforcement actions). To have high levels of compliance, communities need to identify what the usual drivers (reasons) are for people breaking the rules.

A study by Pomeroy et al. (2013) found the usual drivers of non-compliance in MPAs in the Solomon Islands to be:

- Lack of awareness and understanding about the protected area or rules
- Food or cash requirements
- Lack of respect for local/traditional rules
- Disagreement or disputes of rights and rules (e.g ownership)
- Destructive fishing techniques

When the reason for non-compliance is understood, communities or managers can develop a compliance and enforcement plan that addresses these issues. A comprehensive education and awareness-raising program is also essential to build voluntary compliance. Some broader mechanisms to consider as part of a compliance and enforcement program might also include:

- Developing alternative livelihoods
- Strengthening community structure

Any compliance and enforcement system should be accountable, legitimate, equitable, and flexible (Bergh and Davies 2001, Pomeroy et.al. 2013). Resource management plans should stipulate an enforcement mechanism that specifies who is responsible, the means of enforcement, and the penalties for non-compliance. Under the Solomon Islands PA Act (2010) and Regulations (2012), communities will be able to self-enforce regulations.

A framework for developing community-based compliance and enforcement for MPAs is provided below. These are based on the principles for effective MPA compliance and enforcement (MPAFAC 2008).

The enforcement recommendations in this paper are most relevant to MPAs created under the PA Act, as there are often limited legal mechanisms for MPA compliance under Provincial Ordinances. However, the broader compliance and education principles in this paper apply to any MPA.

Developing a Community-based Compliance and Monitoring Program - a Framework

*The sections of the Community-based Compliance and Monitoring Program that relate/comply with the PA Act and Regulations are illustrated in bold.

1. Identify stakeholders (community members, adjoining communities, church leaders, provincial government, national government, business interests (including fishing and tourism), law enforcement, and NGOs).
2. Wherever possible, in order to improve compliance, involve all stakeholders in the design and development of the MPA, as well as the development of the compliance and monitoring program. **44(1)**
3. Partner with the provincial government (and ensure compliance with relevant provincial ordinances).
4. List the objectives of the MPA (this is important and should be included in the management plan). **23**
5. Raise awareness and develop a regular education schedule (in schools and to stakeholders and community) regarding:
 - a. The purpose/goals of the MPA as stated in management plan
 - b. The boundaries of the MPA; **Part 3 (13) & S 44**
 - c. The proposed benefits of the MPA (e.g. MPAs will protect resources for future use; MPAs have also been shown to benefit areas outside of the MPA, etc.)
 - d. The consequences/penalties for breaking rules; **S 23 I(b) and (j)**
6. Encourage stewardship (community responsibility for the MPA's success); remind community of the benefits to them (incentive).
7. As a community, determine which activities are allowed and which are prohibited.
8. Agree on the penalties (with stakeholder support); **S63**
Note: The PA Regulations prescribe maximum penalties under the PA Act Schedule 4 (Appendix B). *There may also be penalties under relevant Provincial Ordinances.* The community may decide to use a tiered approach to offences (see the TDA example penalties, Appendix C).
9. Identify key threats and potential impacts to protecting resources by conducting a risk assessment. For example:
 - a. What group(s) is/are likely to break the rules?
 - b. Which areas are more vulnerable (e.g. those with easy access, difficult to patrol)?

- c. Are there times of the year that are higher risk (e.g. festivals)?
 - d. Are people fishing/hunting at night?
10. Identify why people might be breaking rules (illegally fishing):
- a. Lack of understanding
 - b. Cash or food requirement
 - c. Other
11. Identify solutions to address these threats:
- a. Education program
 - b. Alternative livelihoods
 - c. Strengthen community structure
12. Develop a monitoring, compliance, and enforcement program that:
- a. Specifies who is responsible
 - b. Outlines the means of enforcement
 - c. Details the penalties for non-compliance
13. Identify Community Conservation Officers (COOs)/Rangers; **Part 2.**

An 'enforcement officer' can also be designated under the Western Province Fisheries Ordinance.

- a. Develop a CCO/Ranger Manual that details how, when, and where to patrol (e.g. TDA example, Appendix D)
- b. The CCO/Ranger should have authority to issue warnings and penalties

NOTE: Under the PA Regulations (**S65 & 66**) a Ranger, with written approval of the Minister, may be appointed as an Inspector with power to issue infringement notices. (How a management committee will enforce the regulations should be considered and detail included in the management plan). The enforcement powers that may be assigned to a Ranger are set out in **S66** of the Regulations.

14. Develop a regular monitoring patrol, which includes education and compliance components:
- a. Have a regular presence (three times a week patrols, opportune times, high risk – night time, seasons)
 - b. Patrols should be used as an opportunity to inform people of the rules (not just those breaking them)
 - c. Make sure there is an effective reporting mechanism (telecommunications/ radio)

15. Collect data

- a. Collect and record information on what is being harvested; (TDA example resource data – Appendix E)
- b. Record and review the data regularly to look for trends (and to allow review)

16. Monitor and assess

- a. Each year, review the compliance monitoring data that has been collected.
- b. Are the management objectives being met? (Reduced pressure? Increased stocks? Increased awareness?)
- c. Are compliance levels going up or down?
- d. Is education and enforcement working?
- e. What are the resources doing (see Goby (2013) Guidelines for Community-based Resource Management)

17. Report results, **S24 (2)**

- a. To the community and adjoining communities
- b. To NGOs
- c. To Provincial Government

PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR NEW MPAS

For new MPAs, the early stages of a compliance program should focus on awareness raising and generating support for MPAs. Initial patrols should focus on educating users on the boundaries and zones. Communities (and provincial government) need to ensure there are signs/information in public places (e.g. the public market place) about the MPAs.

Initially, the monitoring and data collection program can be quite basic. The community can simply nominate community members (with authority) to go out in their boats and patrol the boundaries and inside the MPA approximately three times a week.

It is important that communities start recording data (Table 1). This will allow communities to get a measure of the level of understanding and compliance. They can also start to identify “hot spots” - areas which might be targeted more than others. A record of offences and offenders can be kept.

Table 1. Example basic record sheet:

Date	Location	Observation	Person (Village)	Action
1st Aug 2013	Happy reef	Fishing in MPA	John Bero (Njari)	Informed about new MPA and ‘no fishing’ rules
10th Aug 2013	Sad reef	Fishing outside MPA	Troy (Saeragi)	Informed about new MPA boundaries
1st Oct 2013	Happy reef	Fishing in MPA	John Bero (Njari)	Warning
1st Nov 2013	Happy reef	Fishing in MPA	John Bero (Njari)	Penalty given

It will be important to report this data back regularly (monthly) to the Provincial Fisheries Officer.

Communities will need to decide how long after the creation of the MPA that penalties should start. This may range from one month to six months, depending on locally appropriate factors.

If resources and capacity permit, communities should try to start recording data on resource harvesting as soon as possible. The TDA Rangers Resource Harvest form (Appendix E) can be used as a guiding template.

The data collected from a resource harvest form can also be linked with ecological monitoring and provide information on:

- Harvest levels
- Common offenders
- Availability and change in target species
- Catch per unit effort (CPUE) (see Guidelines for Community Monitoring)

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APPENDICES

Appendix A

‘How to protect special places on your land and sea in the Western Province’, Landowners’ Advocacy and Legal Support Unit, Public Solicitor’s Office, Solomon Islands

What are protected areas?

Many communities already have traditional protected areas or tambu sites on land and sea, and have a great deal of knowledge about managing these areas and their resources. There are also some laws that allow the community, non-government organisations (NGOs) and the Government to protect and manage special places on land and sea as “formal protected areas”. Legally protected areas can help to support the traditional system, especially for serious infringements; and can provide a tool to formalise and enforce rules and community rights. There are several national and provincial laws available for protecting land and sea in the Western Province.

I. Protected Areas Act (national)

It is the responsibility of the management committee for the protected area to oversee the preparation of the management plan, and appoint someone to take on the role of project manager. It is the project manager’s job to ensure that the preparation of the plan is well coordinated and resources are used effectively. The project manager may also be the person responsible for writing the plan. The project manager may be someone from within the local community, or the committee may choose to look for assistance from an outside organization that specializes in protected area management and has experience in the preparation of plans.

What is the process for customary owners wanting to apply for protection?

Step I: The landowners carry out consultations

- Consultations must be held within the landowning tribe to reach a consensus or resolution about listing the area as a Protected Area.

- The tribal leader must then notify the leaders of all neighbouring tribes and communities of their plans and hold village meetings with them to get wider support for their plans.
- The tribal leaders of the landowning tribe and the leaders of neighbouring tribes (where appropriate) must sign a written agreement about the proposal, including a map showing the proposed boundaries of the Protected Area.

Step 2: The Director establishes a management committee

- Members of the management committee can include community members and landowners.
- The committee can be established after the Director seeks written nominations from the community, or once an existing management arrangement is recognised by the Director.

Step 3: The management committee develops a management plan

- The management committee must prepare a management plan for the proposed Protected Area. It will include rules for the Area and exemptions from the broad prohibitions in the Act.
- The management plan needs to be consistent with the objectives of the Act and the type of Protected Area that the area is going to become.
- It needs to contain some specific information such as zoning; what activities are restricted; implementation, enforcement and public awareness programs; and proposed penalties.
- When preparing the plan, the management committee should consult with customary owners, local communities, NGOs, chiefs and traditional leaders, and the Government.

Step 4: The landowners submit an application to the Director

The application must include an application form, the management plan, the agreement between the landowners and the neighbouring tribes (including a map of the boundaries of the area).

Step 5: The Director carries out consultations

The Director must do various things including meeting and consulting with landowners and other people affected by the Protected Area, verifying who has rights and interests in the area, carrying out a field study, and putting a public notice about the proposed area in a newspaper.

Step 6: People write to the Director either supporting or objecting to the proposal

The timeframe that people have to write to the Director about the proposed Protected Area will be set out in the newspaper notice (see Step 5). It must be at least 30 days.

Step 7: The Director makes a recommendation and the Minister decides whether to declare the area to be a Protected Area.

The area can only be declared as a Protected Area if it meets one of the four criteria specified in the Act, such as:

- It has significant cultural or biological resources, or
- It contains the habitat of plants or animals of national or international importance.
- If the boundary of the area is in dispute the area cannot be declared.

What can people do in a Protected Area and what can't they do?

Activities that may damage the environment such as large-scale logging and mining, dragging nets on the sea floor, or discharging waste or pollution into marine protected areas, are prohibited.

Other activities are prohibited unless they are authorised in the management plan or by the management committee. These include agriculture, hunting, taking firewood, removing live coral, and building. In some Protected Areas, sustainable use of resources by landowners is allowed. A breach of these is an offence, so they can be enforced by the police and in court.

The management plan will include exemptions to the activities prohibited above and any other rules about what activities are restricted in the Protected Area, and what penalties will apply.

How are the rules enforced?

Inspectors and rangers can be appointed to enforce the rules. You can also get help from the police and apply to the Director for help with a court order.

- Inspectors can do a range of things, such as assisting in management and protection, and issuing infringement notices.
- Rangers need to be over 18 and be a member of the local community or tribe or working for the NGO managing the area. They can do things such as board and search vessels, seize specimens or equipment used in an offence, require a person to rectify a minor breach of the Act or a permit, and order a person to stop doing an activity.

2. Western Province Resource Management Ordinance

This Ordinance allows for the creation of Customary Land Resource Management Orders, which provide for the protection of natural resources in a particular area of land and/or sea.

What is the process for customary owners wanting to apply for protection?

Step 1: The landowners make a request to the Provincial Executive

The applicants must submit an application form, a map with the proposed boundaries, details on what can or cannot be done in the area, and other details such as what plants and animals need special protection. The application can only be made by all people (or their representatives) who are entitled to make rules for the area according to customary law.

Step 2: The Provincial Executive endorses the request

This needs to do this within one month of the Provincial Executive receiving the request, if all procedural requirements have been met.

Step 3: The Provincial Executive notifies the public and public makes objections

If someone thinks that the people who made the request are not the true customary landowners, they can write a letter of objection to the Appropriate Committee, Provincial Secretary and the applicants. This must be done within one month of the person getting notice.

Step 4: The Appropriate Committee (and potentially the Local Court) hold a hearing

If a person lodges an objection, the Committee will decide whether the applicants are the true customary landowners of the land. If the applicants disagree with the decision, they can appeal to the Local Court.

Step 5: The Provincial Executive makes the Order by publishing it in the Gazette

The Provincial Executive can only do this if the applicants have been found to be the persons who are entitled to make rules for the area according to customary law.

What can people do in a Protected Area and what can't they do?

It depends on what rules are set out in the Order. The Order can prohibit or restrict certain activities. Under the Order it may be permissible to take certain plants and animals for purposes such as food or custom. A breach of any rule is an offence, which means the police can help enforce them.

3. Western Province Fisheries Ordinance

This Ordinance provides for the establishment and management of Marine Protected Areas (“MPA”) over any area of Provincial waters and adjoining land.

What is the process for customary owners wanting to apply for protection?

Step 1: Customary group or NGO submits application to the Provincial Minister of Fisheries

It needs to be in writing and include the reasons for why the group wants the area protected. The application should indicate the area deserves special protection because of at least one of these reasons:

- The biodiversity of an area needs to be monitored and protected;
- It is an area of significant biodiversity that is at risk; and/or
- Certain species within the area are considered to be at risk .

If a customary group needs help preparing the application it should approach the Provincial Secretary who will find an NGO to help.

Step 2: Provincial Executive carries out consultation and negotiates landowner consent

- A marine protected area can only be declared if the customary groups consents.
- If a group other than a customary group has applied for the marine protected area, the Provincial Executive must discuss and negotiate the proposal with the relevant customary groups.
- Consent can be given by the customary groups with conditions (e.g. that traditional fishing practices may continue).

Step 3: Provincial Minister of Fisheries makes a recommendation to the Provincial Executive, and the Provincial Executive decides whether to declare the MPA

What can people do in a Marine Protected Area and what can't they do?

Unless conditions have been agreed to for the establishment of the Area, people are not allowed to do the following in a marine protected area: fish or hunt any specimen or fish, collect coral or shells, disturb any wreck, dredge or quarry any sand, mud or rocks, discharge any polluting substance; otherwise disturb the ecology of the area, or construct any building or jetty (without authorisation).

Breach of these rules is not an offence, so they can be difficult to enforce for the police or in court.

Other questions?

Please contact us on lalsu@pso.gov.sb or the following if you need further information or advice.

Head Office (HONIARA)	Western Province (GIZO)
P.O. Box 553, Honiara	P.O. Box 84, Gizo
Phone: (677) 28404 / 22348	Phone: (677) 60682
Fax: (677)28409	Fax: (677) 60684
Location	Malaita Province (AUKI)
Ist Floor, Place Makers Building	P.O. Box 44, Auki
Opposite Honiara main market	Phone: (677) 40175

Appendix B

Protected Areas Regulations 2012 - Prescribed Offences and Penalties

Note -There may also be relevant penalties under Provincial Ordinances

Reg No	Description of Offence	Fixed Penalty Units (max)
41	Disclosing confidential information or content of bioprospecting or bioresearch report without authority of permit holder	2,000
48	Intentionally or negligently removing or tampering with boundary markers of a marine protected area	5,000
51	Fishing or harvesting of other aquatic resources within spawning aggregation or during spawning seasons.	5,000
52	Dredging, trawling or dragging of net on the sea floor within a marine protected area, including an offence under Section 30 of the Fisheries Act	5,000
53	Dump or discharge from a vessel waste or polluting material or other harmful substance into waters of a protected area.	10,000
54	Release of polluting material from land-based activity into the waters of a protected area	100,000
55	Remove, take, harvest or extract of live coral from a marine protected area without authority	5,000
56	Anchorage within protected area not in a designated area without the permission of the management committee	5,000
57(1)	Ground a vessel on a reef within a protected area	10,000
57(3)	Ground a vessel and cause oil spill or release of other harmful substances or cause damage within the protected area	100,000
61	Carry out industrial or commercial extraction of timber, round logs or non timber forest products industrial within a protected area	100,000
61	Carry out industrial or commercial extraction of minerals including quarrying or gravel	100,000
62	Taking or removing of plants, species or other organism from the protected area without authority	10,000
63(1)(a)	carry on any agricultural or gardening activities	10,000
63(1)(b)	build any dwelling house or unlawfully occupy the area	10,000
63(1)(c)	light or cause any open fire to be started	10,000
63(1)(d)	throw, litter, dump or release any effluent, sewage, refuse, rubbish or toilet waste	10,000
63(1)(e)	allow or introduce any grazing stock animal or species	10,000
63(1)(f)	erect, install or display any billboard, advertisement or promotional material	10,000
63(1)(g)	cut, destroy or remove any plant or tree including firewood	10,000
63(1)(h)	remove, extract, or excavate any sand or gravel	10,000
63(1)(i)	hunt, kill, or slaughter any animal or other living creature	10,000
63(1)(j)	destroy or deface any cultural object or monument of	10,000

	biodiversity and cultural significance	
63(1)(k)	remove or be in possession of any cultural artefact or sacred object	10,000
63(1)(l)	remove or be in possession of any fossil, archaeological remain or paleontological specimen	10,000
63(1)(m)	sow propagate or introduce any exotic or invasive species	10,000
63(1)(n)	significantly alter or change the natural flow of a river or stream, or close the opening of a tidal lagoon or river	10,000
63(1)(o)	use a vehicle, bull-dozer or other heavy machinery other than that complying with the dimensions specified by the 10,000management committee	10,000
63(1)(p)	park a vehicle in any place other than a place designated for that purpose	10,000
63(1)(q)	organise or participate in any public meeting, demonstration or gathering	10,000
64	Flying aircraft in or over a protected area lower than 500m without authority	10,000
67	Willful obstruction of a protected area Ranger	10,000

Appendix C

TETEPARE DESCENDANTS' ASSOCIATION MEMBER TRANSGRESSION PENALTIES

The TDA Executive has approved the following penalties for poaching and commercial extraction of resources on Tetepare.

As per the TDA Constitution, any commercial resource extraction on Tetepare is considered a transgression and is subject to the following penalties.

Poaching (including any harvesting within Tetepare's Marine Protected Area, taking undersized trochus or coconut crabs, taking any turtles or turtle eggs, or breaking any of the TDA's rules about harvesting on Tetepare) is considered to be stealing from all members of the TDA and is subject to the same penalties.

First Offence

- The offender will be given a warning and counselling
- Public notices of offence will be posted in the Munda Office and on Tetepare
- The TDA will raise awareness/undertake counselling with the individual and their family

Second Offence

- The offender must pay a \$500 fine or perform one week of (unpaid) labour for the TDA
- Offenders can choose to pay the fine or work for the TDA for one week. Offenders will provide their own meals during the week they work for the TDA.
- If the offender does not pay the fine or work for one week, TDA benefits are suspended until the fine is paid.

And

- Suspension of TDA benefits for one year for the offender and their family (their father, mother, spouse and children)
- Suspended benefits include, but are not limited to:
 - Scholarships
 - Job
 - Participation in sustainable livelihood projects

Third Offence

- Loss of TDA membership for a minimum of two years.
- Reapplication will be considered by the TDA Executive Committee after two years.
- Offence referred to the TDA Executive Committee.

Extraordinary Transgressions

- Offences so serious they are considered extraordinary transgressions will be referred to the Executive Committee, to decide on penalties.

*The Assessment Period for any offence is one year from the first offense.

Appendix D

Guidelines for Community Conservation Officer (CCO)/Ranger Duties

1. The primary duty of the CCO/Ranger is to take good care of the MPA. That means knowing what is in the proposed Management Plans and looking after all of the resources.
2. Actively protect the X Marine Protected Area. Do not let anyone dive or fish within the MPA. Looking after this marine protected area is one of the most important duties of the CCO/Ranger.
3. Rangers are required to explain to divers, fishermen and hunters the reasons for conserving the area and the reasons for filling out the resource monitoring forms. If a ranger feels they do not adequately understand these reasons, they are expected to ask for more information.
4. Rangers should have a weekly patrol schedule. However they are expected to use their own initiative to make decisions about when it is appropriate to conduct a night patrol or to camp out.
5. CCO/Ranger are expected to report any news or events out of the ordinary to the village chief and or church leaders. Any time you see any person breaking community rules about the MPA, you must deal with it, whether or not the guilty person is your wantok. Showing favoritism in the administration of rules is not permitted. All persons, whether community members, non-members, scientists, tourists and/or visitors must respect community rules.

Ranger Patrols

One of the most important jobs of the a Ranger is making patrols. Often the only way a community will know what is happening in the MPA is by making patrols.

It would be very nice if everybody in the world cooperated and followed laws and rules and respected each other's land rights. Sadly, the world is not like that. For our resource management to work well, CCO/Ranger must use several tools.

One of the most important tools is education and awareness. We do education and awareness by visiting people at their homes or in their villages and telling stories about what is happening in the world these days, and how we all need to help to look after things.

We can also combine education and awareness with monitoring and enforcement. CCO/Ranger need to make patrols around the island for many reasons:

1. Patrols help us watch what people are doing, so we can catch the people who are breaking the rules.
2. Patrols give rangers the chance to talk with the people who come to use the area, to make sure they understand the objectives of the community, and that they understand about size limits, closed areas, and the reasons for these things.
3. Patrols give us the chance to do monitoring and collect important information about the resources on in the MPA.
4. Making patrols sends a message to people that the community is serious about looking after the island.

When to Make Patrols

Patrols should be made at all different times. If we make a fixed schedule for patrolling, and always patrol on the same day each week, at the same time, the people who want to come break the rules will learn the pattern and learn to work around it. If they know that the rangers only patrol an area on Tuesday, then they will learn that they can safely break the rules around that area for the rest of the week.

Since some divers come to dive at night, and coconut crab collectors come to harvest crabs at night, rangers need to make some night patrols as well.

How Often to Make Patrols

Patrols should happen at different times. Rangers should try to make a least one long patrol all the way around the MPA once each week. Several shorter patrols should be made each week to popular fishing or harvesting areas.

During the turtle nesting season, patrols to the turtle nesting beaches must be made more often, but they can be combined with patrols to look for divers.

What to Take on Patrols

Rangers must always carry spare Resource Harvesting Forms. These forms are explained in the next section. They must also always carry a biro to fill out these forms. To use these forms correctly, you also need to carry a ruler or a tape measure so that you can measure what people are taking. It's a good idea to always carry several turtle monitoring forms, in case you find a new turtle nest. These forms are explained later in the manual.

Never leave the field station without these things! No matter what kind of trip you are taking, you should take the resource forms, a ruler and a biro.

Solomon Islands Fisheries Laws and Regulations

One very important duty of a CCO/Ranger is to raise awareness and educate people about Solomon Islands laws. The Solomon Islands national and provincial governments have established some very good laws to ensure that natural resources are used sustainably. These laws exist for our own benefit, so that we always have healthy stocks of fish, trochus, beche de mer, crayfish, coconut crabs, turtles and many other species in our waters. These laws also ensure that unborn generations, or the children of our children, can also enjoy using these same resources.

Sadly, the Solomon Islands government lacks the ability at this time to enforce these laws. They also do not have the money to conduct awareness programs about why these laws are helpful and why people should follow them. For this reason, it is very important that CCO/Ranger help the government with these responsibilities.

The most recent law is the Protected Areas Act (2010) and this provides communities with the authority to prevent people breaking the resource management rules set by their community. As descendants of your area, you have customary authority to keep non-descendants from using your resources. The Protected Area Regulations (2012) identify the General Prohibitions and Restricted Activities that apply to marine protected areas in Solomon Islands.

On the next page, you will find the set of rules that are included in the Fisheries Act and apply to all people across the Solomon Islands (make sure you keep up to date with any changes). When rangers go on patrol, they must always carry a copy of this list of laws. This will serve to remind you of the official size limits. It will also give you something to show to people if they do not believe you.

Most of these laws come from a Western Province law called the Western Province Resource Management Ordinance, which was passed in 1994. The provincial government thinks that breaking these rules is serious, and that people who get caught breaking these laws should be fined. In serious cases, lawbreakers can be fined and sentenced to 3 months in jail.

There are also rules that have been agreed to by your community in the MPA Management Plan and a list of the penalties for those who break the rules.

You can tell people that break these rules that you are recording their names on the resource harvesting form, and that the community is keeping a permanent record of what they are doing.

Appendix E

Tetepare Descendants' Association Resource Monitoring Form Ref. #: _____

Full Name of Group Sponsor (if none leave blank) _____

Village _____ Date of this visit _____

How many days _____ Where on Tetepare did you camp _____

Main purpose of trip _____

How many people in group _____

Last time you were on Tetepare was your group contacted by a TDA ranger? _____

Resource	Total Number Harvested	Location where harvested	For Self, Sale, Trade or for Feast?	Comments
Trochus – turn over this page!				
Coconut crab – turn over this page!				
Fish – turn over this page!				
Beche-de-mer (illegal for harvest!)				
Pig				
Clams				
Crayfish				
Green snail (illegal for harvest!)				
Turtle (illegal for harvest!)				
Turtle nest (illegal for harvest!)				
Dugongs (illegal for harvest!)				
Crocodiles (illegal for harvest!)				
Shark Fin				
Eel fish				
Freshwater fish				
Crabs				
Possum				
Birds				
Canoe tree				
Bush medicine				
Fruits/nuts				
Mangrove fruit				
Building materials				
Any other resources taken?				

Name of Rangers filling out form: _____

Other People in Group (**FULL NAMES**):

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

Tetepare Descendants' Association Resource Monitoring Form Ref. #: _____

If catching **Fish**, how? – Mark 'X' for each one used.

Line _____ Spear _____

What kind of fish? - Mark the number taken beside each kind taken.

Mammula _____ Bonito _____ Yellowfin _____ Rainbow _____ Trigger Fish _____

Parrotfish _____ Topa _____ Kingfish _____ Barracuda _____ Soldier Fish _____

Pajera _____ Sweetlips _____ Snapper _____ Silverfish _____ Surgeon fish _____

Other? **Name and How Many?** _____

Trochus, measure **every one** and write down the sizes. **Indicate the number of legal and illegal size Trochus that were harvested.** Illegal sized trochus should be taken by the ranger. Indicate what was done with illegal sized Trochus.

Coconut Crab-measure **every one** and write down the sizes. Measurements are taken from the length of the thorax, (see drawing) legal size is 43mm. **Indicate the number of legal and illegal size Coconut crabs that were harvested.** Illegal sized Coconut crabs should be taken by the ranger. Indicate what was done with illegal sized coconut crabs. Indicate Male (♂) or Female (♀) for each.

Beche De Mer, how many of each kind?

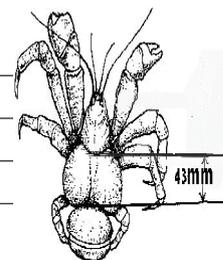
White teat _____ Black Teat _____ Surf Red _____ Pineapple _____

Stonefish _____ Peanut _____ Greenfish _____ Brown Curryfish _____

Yellow Curryfish _____ Tiger _____ Sandfish _____ Lemon _____

Red Lolly _____ Black Lolly _____ Giant Fish _____ Amber _____

Ripple _____ Elephant Trunk _____ Snake Fish _____



Any other comments or observations?

I, the group leader, acknowledge that my fellow harvesters and I have met with TDA Rangers and have been made aware of the size limits and restrictions pertaining to the resources in which my party and I are interested, and we hereby agree to respect these regulations.

Signed: _____ Date: _____



**CORAL TRIANGLE
INITIATIVE**
ON CORAL REEFS, FISHERIES AND FOOD SECURITY

