



Tuvalu Fisheries Department:  
Coastal Section Team  
Trip Report

## Niulakita and Nukulaelae 20<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> August 2017



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Uni.Liufau, (authors alphabetical)



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## 1 Summary

Between the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of August 2017, 4 staff from the Coastal Section, together with 2 staff from the Oceanic Section and Fisheries Librarian of the Tuvalu Fisheries Department undertook a 7 day trip to the southern islands to implement fisheries-related work. The trip consisted of a 3-day package of fisheries support activities for each island, specifically aimed at each Kaupule, fishermen, communities and Data collectors of the two southern islands. The islands visited were Niulakita and Nukulaelae. Northern and Central Islands were previously visited by the team in the first half of the year and activities for these six islands were more than activities for these two south islands. The trip was made possible through financial assistance under the World Bank Pacific Regional Oceans cape Programme (PROP) and the Tuvalu government.

Moreover, just like the 2 previous expedition that were implemented in 2017, this trip was targeted mainly to carry out data collection on fish catch landings, meet with Kaupule to discuss on fisheries issues and other related activities, community awareness workshop, raise awareness of everyone, assess OI DC programme and state of the resources (ciguatera and creel surveys). Oceanic Division staff conducted workshop focused on vessel sighting and collection of fisheries information for archive by librarian.

The main datasets collected and activities completed were:

1. Ciguatera poisoning cases;
2. Creel surveys of fishers' catches;
3. Vessel sighting workshop by Oceanic;
4. Awareness workshop with the community on Creel Results
5. Meet with Kaupule to discuss on progress, issues and solutions to the challenges faced by Outer Island Data Collection Program on Nukulaelae;
6. Meet with Kaupule to discuss on fisheries issues and other related activities such as fisheries management, CFP and collaborative work with R2R Officer to collect Creel Data on Niulakita;
7. Meet with Nukulaelae Data Collector and R2R Officer to discuss on issues and solutions to the challenges encountered; and
8. Collect, scan and store fisheries related papers or documents for archive

All parts of the work requiring data collections were facilitated by the use of formal datasheets (some from SPC some developed internally for this work) and data will be entered into the Coastal Fisheries Database (CFD) for later analysis.

None of fish poisoning records were found from both islands. A total of 2 awareness programs with community, meeting with Kaupule and meeting targeting Outer Island Data Collection Programme were carried out on each island. Fisheries librarian was able to collect and scan 6 fishery papers on Nukulaelae for library documentation and future reference. Overall, 2 creel surveys were completed on Nukulaelae and none were found on Niulakita island during this trip.



## 2 Introduction

Metronome trips are regularly undertaken by TFD staff mostly Coastal and Operation Development Sections. However, this is the first time for Oceanic Section to join on board to execute an awareness workshop in the Southern Islands. It was a short tour of three days per island as most of the surveys and other minor activities have been achieved during the previous trips. This outer island visit is the 6<sup>th</sup> Metronome Trip whereas the last Metronome Trip for this year would be going to the Northern Islands (Nanumea, Nanumaga and Niutao) probably in September.

This expedition to the southern islands focused on gathering fisheries data and carrying out activities in other related areas:

1. Ciguatera poisoning cases, if any, on the island;
2. Creel surveys of fishers' catches;
3. Vessel sighting workshop by Oceanic;
4. Awareness workshop with the community on Creel Results
5. Meet with Kaupule to discuss on progress, issues and solutions to the challenges faced by Outer Island Data Collection Program on Nukulaelae;
6. Meet with Kaupule to discuss on fisheries issues and other related activities such as fisheries management, CFP and collaborative work with R2R Officer to collect Creel Data;
7. Meet with Nukulaelae Data Collector and R2R Officer to discuss on issues and solutions to the challenges encountered; and
8. Collect, scan and store fisheries related papers or documents for archive

## 3 Methods

The mission was run between the dates of 20<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> August 2017, using the Fisheries Research vessel, the RV Talamoana. Three days were planned for each island, allowing sufficient time for 7 people to carry out all parts of the survey, meetings and awareness workshop on Niulakita and Nukulaelae. However, 1 staff (Oceanic) from the initial team returns after the completion of their work in Nukulaelae Island when the boat reverts to pick up the other team. Our work continues on Nukulaelae consisting of 6 fisheries staffs (see author list on front cover for officers on the trip).

The Health staffs were asked to find out the number of cases of ciguatera or other types of seafood poisoning since the last Metronome Trip to their islands. An affected person would be approached and interviewed by a fisheries staff if there are CFP cases on the island.

Creel surveys were carried out around the island wherever fishers were landing their catch. Many of these tended to be boat landings at the main channel for the island, but there were fishers who cast nets across the reef crest by walking there and other forms of fishing. For each catch landed, data were collected on the vessel (or not) used, costs of fishing (fuel, time, other costs), fishers perceptions and length and weight of all seafoods landed. This included any oceanic fishes, reef fishes, invertebrates or other types of seafood that might be targeted.

Meetings with Kaupule have been prearranged through telephone and email as well as community awareness workshop. Upon arrival, the team would have to firstly confirm the program with the Kaupule Secretary and Island Chief before any occurrence begins. The team were only tasked to prepare projector and screen set-up and be ready for power points presentations. The minute keeper would



recorded all the questions and comments during meeting and workshop. Collecting of fisheries information was done during and after our meeting with Kaupule members.

## 4 Results & Data storage

### 4.1 Ciguatera

No recent cases were found from hospitals on Niulakita and Nukulaelae islands.

### 4.2 Creel Survey

There were 2 creel samples collected on Nukulaelae and no data for Niulakita. Both islands were busy during this metronome trip hence limited creel data been collected. Niulakita people were doing a cleaning campaign for the whole village and all families rely more on freezer goods than fish as TEC just installed one solar powered deep freezer for the community. Also, there was only 1 fishing boat on Niulakita with less fishing activity such as casting nets, day/night reef scooping, gleaning trochus and rod fishing on the reef ridge. All the people of Nukulaelae were commemorating the Nukulaelae Women Day for a week. All the men were camping at the pastor's house preparing food for women hence not much fishing activity been done during our stay on the island.



### 4.3 Other work

**Meeting with Kaupule:** The team met up with both Kaupule of Niulakita and Nukulaelae during our first day of arrival to these islands. At Niulakita, TFD and two members from Kaupule (Temanu and Ela) discussed fisheries issues and other related activities such as fisheries management, CFP and collaborative work with R2R officer. During our discussion, we found out that there was only 1 boat on Niulakita with common fishing methods such as net casting, day/night reef scooping, gleaning trochus,

rod fishing, hand lining, trolling, eel fishing on the reef and catching turtles. People were mostly depend on birds, crabs, lauluu(known as local cabbage)and other local fruits on land for daily subsistence. We were also told that there were no LMMAs on Niulakita and it is known as an “open fishing” area controlling by the Island Chief. The only taboo was fishing at night time at the western side of the island which was known as the breeding site for turtles. The island has long practising seasonal closures for catching birds and land crabs. None of the CFP cases were found out but 1 female teacher who is new to the island sustained allergy to trochus. According to the Island Chief, the population of fish is normal ever since he arrived Niulakita but it is a good point to collect information from catch landings to determine whether the population of fish is normal or decreasing. In addition, he also support the OI DC programme to implement on Niulakita so that they will know the population status of all reef species particularly the common fished reef species.R2R Officer is keen and volunteered to work as a DC&R2R officer on Niulakita to run the Creel Survey by himself. However, discussion with Nukulaelae Kaupule was mainly focus on the progress, issues and solutions to the challenges faced by Outer Island Data Collection Programme. The issues heard from DC and R2R officer include poor communication between them during creel days thus the need to have walkie talkies so that they can talk directly to fishermen through walkie talkies to confirm on their returning time. The other issue was due to confusion and misunderstanding on the MOU with Kaupule and the agreement for DC to collaboratively work with R2R Officer. There were other fisheries related issues raised by Kaupule members recorded in Minutes but all misunderstandings have been harmonised during the meeting.



### Community Awareness

Creel Results were presented to both communities by TFD and there was great interest showed by the community members. Not only to inform them on the creel results but also to build up the knowledge capacity of the communities by providing answers to the concerned questions they raised. The two island communities strongly supported the Creel Survey Programme to be run on Niulakita and Nukulaelae with the understanding that these data are useful for developing fisheries management plans. The 2 staff of oceanic also delivered an awareness workshop on vessel sighting with the community people of Niulakita and Nukulaelae.



### Community data collector/ local assistant and R2R Officer

TFD staffs had an effective dialogue with Nukulaelae Data collector and R2R officer on the 25<sup>th</sup> August 2017. The main purpose of the discussion was to exchange views on issues and ways that will improve OI DC programme on Nukulaelae. A very effective way of solving all the differences and issues that we faced within the OI DC programme was to meet up in person. We went through the Creel Data sheet with DC and R2R officer and both asked a lot of unclear questions that TFD staffs were able to clear their uncertainties. We also explained to DC the Reporting and Payment Policy in detail so there will be no more excuse for late submission of his fortnightly reports. Unfortunately, we were unable to train R2R officer on Niulakita as he was in Fiji attending training.



### Collecting Fisheries Papers for Archive

The fisheries librarian was enthusiastic to make use of this short trip as a starting point of undertaking her tasks in the Outer islands. During this trip, none of any fisheries black and white was found on Niulakita and 6 papers were collected on Nukulaelae Island.



## 5 Issues

Several issues were encountered on the islands and/or during the trip as follows:

- Catching undersize fish on Niulakita
- Different explanations/information delivered to communities by R2R Project and Fisheries Department on the biology of marine resources
- No by-laws on Niulakita
- Dead whales beached to shore and plastic wastes been washed ashore almost every year
- Unfair decisions made by Niutao Kaupule on economic benefits they received from Government
- Population increase on Nukulaelae – need family planning
- Problem of catching undersize fish on Nukulaelae
- Concern on beneficial resources from Government – Funafuti had a bigger share than the Outer islands
- Limited internet connection on Nukulaelae
- Poor coordination/communication between R2R and DC during creel days
- Handing over of MOU with Kaupule was not clear in the first time
- Catching of small/undersize turtles on Nukulaelae
- Concern about the Crown-of-thorn outbreak on the island of Nukulaelae
- Overgrowth of an orange type of coral that leads to reef bleaching
- Climate change being the cause of declining fish catches
- Encountered the risk of Niulakita passage whereas one of our boat trip to Talamoana almost capsized

## 6 Recommendations

A number of recommendations are made on improvements for future outer islands trips as follows:

1. Niulakita community suggested for TFD to provide posters or any means of information on the maturity age(in length) for all reef fish to reproduce
2. TFD to provide information cards/posters that will distinguish male from a female for all reef fish and also pelagic species



3. Need support on monitoring and developing a by-law for undersized fish for Nukulaelae
4. Need a transport for Data Collector of Nukulaelae
5. TFD to provide walkie-talkies for OI DC Programme on Nukulaelae
6. TFD to share Creel Results to communities and Kaupule consistently
7. TFD to provide more sea safety bags to be funded by Nukulaelae Kaupule
8. Always good to be prepared with safety gears at sea all the time

## 7 Appendix: Data Sheets

Type of Forms used during the Trip:

### 7.1 SPC Seafood Poisoning Report Form (SPC)



## SPC Seafood Poisoning Report Form

This is an electronic form. Please fill the fields or check the boxes using your keyboard and mouse. Text fields will expand to accommodate any amount of text, so do not worry of the space for your answer seems small.

### Report Form

Details of person filling in report form	
Name	Job/Position
Contact Address	
Date	Signature

Poisoned person's details		
Name	Sex (M/F)	Age (yrs)
Address		

Details of the seafood that caused the poisoning (tick all that apply)				
Type of food	Where caught	How preserved	What eaten	How eaten
Fish <input type="checkbox"/>	River <input type="checkbox"/>	Fresh, no ice <input type="checkbox"/>	Head <input type="checkbox"/>	Raw <input type="checkbox"/>
Crab <input type="checkbox"/>	Mangrove <input type="checkbox"/>	Fresh, iced <input type="checkbox"/>	Flesh <input type="checkbox"/>	Marinated <input type="checkbox"/>
Lobster <input type="checkbox"/>	Beach <input type="checkbox"/>	Frozen <input type="checkbox"/>	Skin <input type="checkbox"/>	Cooked <input type="checkbox"/>
Other crustacean <input type="checkbox"/>	Patch reef <input type="checkbox"/>	Salted <input type="checkbox"/>	Liver <input type="checkbox"/>	
Gastropod <input type="checkbox"/>	Lagoon <input type="checkbox"/>	Dried <input type="checkbox"/>	Roe <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>How many others:</b>
Bivalve <input type="checkbox"/>	Outer reef <input type="checkbox"/>	Smoked <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Ate this meal?
	Ocean <input type="checkbox"/>	Pickled <input type="checkbox"/>	Specify:	Felt sick?
Other mollusc <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	Specify:	Were admitted to



Specify: Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>	Specify: Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>	Specify: Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>	Specify: Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>	hospital? Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>
What is the local name of the seafood?				
What is the English name of the seafood?				
Name of vendor or restaurant (if bought)				
Name of the place it was caught (if known)				
When was the food eaten?	Date:	Time:		
When did you first feel sick?	Date:	Time:		

<b>Symptoms (tick all that apply)</b>				
Burning or pain when touching cold water <input type="checkbox"/>	Pin pricking sensation on touching water <input type="checkbox"/>			
Tingling or numbness <input type="checkbox"/>	Strange taste in mouth <input type="checkbox"/>			
Difficulty or pain urinating <input type="checkbox"/>	Skin itching or red <input type="checkbox"/>			
Difficulty breathing <input type="checkbox"/>	Excessive salivation <input type="checkbox"/>	Fever / chills <input type="checkbox"/>		
Difficulty walking <input type="checkbox"/>	Excessive sweating <input type="checkbox"/>	Headache <input type="checkbox"/>		
Difficulty talking <input type="checkbox"/>	Diarrhoea <input type="checkbox"/>	Joint aches <input type="checkbox"/>		
Eye irritation <input type="checkbox"/>	Vomiting <input type="checkbox"/>	Muscle cramps <input type="checkbox"/>		
Others:				
<b>History</b>				
Have you had seafood poisoning before?			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>   No <input type="checkbox"/>	
How many times?				
Details	When?	Type seafood	Hospital?	How long to recover?
Case 1			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>   No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Case 2			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>   No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Case 3			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>   No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Case 4			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>   No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Case 5			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>   No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Case 6			Yes <input type="checkbox"/>   No <input type="checkbox"/>	
Anything you remember about past poisoning?				

<b>Medical data</b>		
Pulse:	Blood pressure: /	Pupils:

<b>In case of death</b>
Date of death:



Autopsy findings:
Other information:

## Local Knowledge and Background Data

Survey Questionnaire No. \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

<b>Details of person filling out this form</b>	
Name:	Job/Position:
Contact Address:	Signature:
Date:	
<b>Details of the person interviewed (optional)</b>	
Name:	Sex (M/F): Male <input type="checkbox"/>   Female <input type="checkbox"/>
Age (years):	Ethnic Group:



**Questionnaire (tick the boxes where appropriate or fill in the blank spaces)**

1. Are you aware of any previous cases of food poisoning from seafood products among your family and friends? Yes  | No

2. If so, could you give a rough estimate of the number of such cases of food poisoning?  
Yes  | No  | If yes, how many?

3. Have there been periods or years in which the number of cases has been higher?  
Yes  | No  | If yes, when?

How would you explain this?

4. What are the most frequent symptoms of the people who have such food poisoning?

5. Which seafood products were supposed to have caused this seafood poisoning?  
Fish  | What type of fish?  
Other  | What type of seafood?  
Don't know

6. Where are the toxic seafood products most often caught?  
Ocean  | Lagoon  | Others  Specify:



Please return this form to: The Tuvalu Fisheries Department. Thank you.



## 7.2 Creel Survey (SPC)



# Tuvalu Fisheries Creel Survey Data Sheets

Use ONE sheet for each landing met (replicate). This can be a boat or catch basket brought in by gleaners etc. Note that this is presented by slice, to show all the data so you can choose which parts of the information you want to collect.

Date:		Serial / ID Number:	
Island:		Village/Site:	
Surveyor 1:		Surveyor 2:	
Latitude (DD):		Longitude (DD):	
<b>C1 Basic Information on Fishers</b>			
Lead Fisher's Name:			
Date of birth:		Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	
Address as Village / Town / City:			
Is the fisher with others?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
→ Data on other fishers in the landing today:			
#	Fisher's Name:	DOB (d/m/y)	Gender
1			<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
2			<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
3			<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
4			<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
5			<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
→ Back to Lead fisher:			
How often do you go fishing per month?		/ month	
How many months a year do you fish (i.e. exclude closed months)		months fished	



What fishing methods do you usually use <i>(over the last year)?</i>		Method 1:	
Method 2:		Method 3:	
Method 4:		Method 5:	
Where else do you land your fish? What other locations? <i>(List by priority and use map)</i>			
Most often	#	Location	# trips/month
↓	1		
	2		
	3		
	4		
Least often	5		
Why do you go fishing?		<input type="checkbox"/> Subsistence   <input type="checkbox"/> Income   <input type="checkbox"/> Both   <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	
Please provide details:			
About how much of today's catch will be eaten at home / sold?		Home: %	Sold: %
What would you expect as income from today's catch overall?		\$	
What is your eye-estimate of the total weight of the day's catch? <i>(Estimated by you, not the fisher)</i>		kg	
<b>C2 Species composition / counts</b>			
What is the total count by species of all fishes / invertebrates / other landed?			
Species name / Group	Number	Species name / Group	Number





How many hours spent fishing today?			hrs
Fishing method / gears used for each species group (separate pelagic fish, reef fish, crabs, lobsters etc) and how much they cost the fisher to buy			
#	Species / Group	Methods / gears used	Cost buy
1			\$
2			\$
3			\$
4			\$
5			\$
Did you have any gear losses during this fishing trip? What and how much to replace or repair?			
#	Gear	What loss / damage?	Cost r/r
1			\$
2			\$
3			\$
4			\$
5			\$
Please list any other costs of this fishing trip. Include fuel, wages, ice, food, drink, any other items			
#	Item description	Price	
1		\$	
2		\$	
3		\$	
4		\$	
5		\$	
What is the distance to the furthest site you fished in today? <i>(ask person to show you on map and draw, we will extract coordinates later)</i>			km
#	Site name	Latitude (DD)	Longitude (DD)
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
What kind of boat used today?			



Construction: <input type="checkbox"/> Wood   <input type="checkbox"/> Fibreglass   <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic   <input type="checkbox"/> Steel   <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete			
Type of boat: <input type="checkbox"/> Alia   <input type="checkbox"/> Canoe   <input type="checkbox"/> Dinghy   <input type="checkbox"/> Punt   <input type="checkbox"/> Skiff   <input type="checkbox"/> Other   <input type="checkbox"/> None			
If "other", what kind of boat?			
How is the boat powered?		<input type="checkbox"/> Paddle   <input type="checkbox"/> Sail   <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard   Outboard: <input type="checkbox"/> 2 stroke   <input type="checkbox"/> 4 stroke	
Length:		Engine:	
	m		hp
What safety gear do you have on board today? ( <i>tick all that apply</i> )		<input type="checkbox"/> Oars   <input type="checkbox"/> Life jackets   <input type="checkbox"/> Water   <input type="checkbox"/> EPIRB   <input type="checkbox"/> GPS   <input type="checkbox"/> Flares   <input type="checkbox"/> Bailer / Bilge   <input type="checkbox"/> Extra fuel   <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify):	
<b>C7 Perceptions of fishers</b>			
How long have you been fishing?		years	
How long have you been doing <b>this type</b> of fishing?		years	
What <b>other types</b> of fishing have you done in the <b>past</b> ?			
Do you do <b>other</b> types of fishing now?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Describe:			
Are you fishing in the same <b>areas</b> as 5 years ago?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Please explain:			



Are you catching the same <b>quantities</b> as 5 years ago?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Please explain:		
Are you catching the same <b>sizes</b> as 5 years ago?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Please explain:		
If catches are <b>different</b> , what has changed?		
Are you aware of any existing Fisheries Laws?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Please explain:		
Do you have any <b>concerns</b> about the resources?		
Thank you		

7.3 Metronome 6 Minutes



Tuvalu Fisheries Department  
Ministry of Natural Resources

Contact Info: Coastal Office Ph.: 688 20344

## *Fisheries Meeting with Niulakita Community*

### MINUTES

[22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017]

[14:35hrs]

[Salamanu II]

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Coastal team / Fisheries Department
<b>FACILITATOR</b>	Maani
<b>RAPPORTUER</b>	Matelina
<b>ATTNDEES</b>	Niulakita community

<b>Agenda/Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
Creel results	Elaborate on the history, background of the creel survey and as well as shows creel results from 2015-2016 and indicate the basic aim of managing a fisheries.	Maani
Points raised by the Niulakita community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be clarify on your findings about the sizes of the fish whether it is the size or the length of the fish that you recorded</li><li>• According to your findings it only mentions catches of those who have boats, what about other types of fishing like sisi(Rod fishing), peipei(Casting), lamaga(Reef Scoop net fishing), etc. does it count?</li></ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TFD to provide fish posters indicating the size of fish that is suitable to catch</li> <li>• How do you take the size of a fish, straight from head to tail?</li> <li>• Considering fishing undersize fish, do you have a plan to prevent fish of undersize fish</li> <li>• Is there a bylaw for fishing vessel which fish within our EEZ?</li> <li>• Does the fisherman receive any technical aid from TFD when surveying his catches?</li> <li>• Can TFD tell a female fish from a male fish?</li> <li>• TFD to provide information cards that indicate a female fish and a male fish</li> <li>• Does TFD know the spawning seasons for each fish species</li> <li>• How does a fish get poison?</li> <li>• It seems like there's a difference of information shared by TFD compare to what the R2R has shared to us, so we don't know which information is the right one</li> <li>• Does TFD know the specific fish species that are in danger?</li> <li>• We can manage our reef resources no need to have a Reef management plan.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Coastal Team adjourned the meeting at 16:10hrs</b></p>	



Tuvalu Fisheries Department  
Ministry of Natural Resources

Contact No.: Coastal Office Ph.: 688

20344

## *Fisheries Meeting with the Niulakita Kaupule*

### MINUTES

[21<sup>st</sup> August 2017]

[12:30hrs]

[Salamanu II]

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Coastal team / Fisheries Department
<b>FACILITATOR</b>	Lotokufaki
<b>RAPPORTUER</b>	Matelina
<b>ATTNDEES</b>	Temanu (Island Leader) Ella (Clerk)

<b>Agenda/Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
	Brief on the purpose of the trip & mtg- To assume the issues faced by the Kaupule regarding it coastal reef resources	Kufaki
<b>Points raised by the island leader &amp; the Island clerk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Types of fishing, Siisii, tae alili, sana, peipei, trolling, lamaga mote pago pusi, sisi taea and fagamea at low tide</li> <li>❖ Fishers sometimes goes out to fish once in 2 months or few times a week -Fishing Methods</li> <li>❖ No conservation area but the western side of the island is prohibited to fish at night, because it is known to be the turtles breeding side</li> <li>❖ The community had agreed to conserve female turtles and small turtles -LMMA/MPA</li> </ul>	Temanu Ella



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ There is no DC to record the weight, size of the fish so that we can compare the fish we catch before and to date.</li><li>❖ Taea, maono, Manini, malau, nanue are the common fishes fish by fishermen</li><li>❖ There are about 14 household on the island with the population of 40 people</li><li>❖ No CFP but some people get itchy when consume alili</li><li>❖ The island has no bylaws at the mean time</li><li>❖ There's a seamount between Nukulaelae &amp; Niulakita where fishermen fish at</li><li>❖ The Niutao Kaupule is responsible in looking after the island. There is no taboo of fishing at day time but fish at night time is prohibited</li><li>❖ 5 - 6 whales washed ashore almost every year, &amp; synthetic wastes washed ashore almost every day. The whales have marks of purse sein net on their skin. 6 whales washed ashore on 2016.</li><li>❖ There Is only one boat on the island</li><li>❖ Every household get their share when one goes out fishing</li><li>❖ Teatealoha - another main fishing area close to Fiji</li><li>❖ Seasonal closure for sea birds &amp; crabs, only the island leader gives the permissions</li><li>❖ Niutao control the island therefore most of time they do not get their share - and it unfair</li></ul>	
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	<b>Coastal Team adjourned the meeting at 14:00hrs</b>	



Tuvalu Fisheries Department  
Ministry of Natural Resources

Contact No.: Coastal Office Ph.: 688 20344

*Fisheries Meeting with Nukulaelae Falekaupule*

**MINUTES**

[25<sup>th</sup> August 2017]

[09:30hrs]

[Nukulaelae Falekaupule]

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Coastal section/Fisheries Department
<b>FACILITATOR</b>	Lotokufaki
<b>RAPPORTUER</b>	Matelina
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Nukulaelae community

**OPENING REMARKS:**



<b>Agenda/Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action/Resolution</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
Creel Survey Data	Brief on previous creel surveys data collected from year 2015-2016		Maani
The points raised by the Nukulaelae community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Over population – control family planning</li> <li>➤ Do you (FO’s) foresee a poison fish?</li> <li>➤ Does TFD has a plan of minimising the problem of catching undersize fish?</li> <li>➤ Is there a ligament between the TFD &amp; R2R?</li> <li>➤ TFD should monitor the Funafuti reef, as for Nukulaelae, there’s no need to monitor it reef, climate changes is the cause of the declining of fish catches in Nukulaelae.</li> <li>➤ The concerns about the collecting of fish data on the two days, what about the rest of the days apart from the two days?</li> <li>➤ Letting go of undersize fish if caught, will it affect the fish?</li> <li>➤ Why now? (Questioning the TFD concerns on monitoring the coastal reef )</li> <li>➤ Concerns about aids – Funafuti is more benefit than the outer island</li> <li>➤ Need support from TFD to create a bylaw to prevent fishing undersize fish</li> </ul>	<p>No we cannot foresee a poison fish but we are still doing research on fish poisoning. Fyi, The TFD will be launching the Funafuti work plan on September 2017 Yes TFD is now working together with the R2R Project.</p> <p>No unless the fish is badly hurt</p> <p>TFD will support create a work plan for the Nukulaelae island</p>	Kufaki
<b>The Coastal section adjourned the meeting at 12:05hrs</b>			



Tuvalu Fisheries Department  
Ministry of Natural Resources

Contact Info: Coastal Office Ph.: 688 20344

## *Fisheries Meeting with Nukulaelae Kaupule*

### MINUTES

[24 August 2017]

[14:00hrs]

[Nukulaelae Kaupule]

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Coastal Section, Fisheries Department
<b>FACILITATOR</b>	Lotokufaki
<b>RAPPORTUER</b>	Matelina
<b>ATTNDEES</b>	Kaupule member:(Semolina, Collin, Falani, Saosaoa, Tempesi), DC(Isaako), R2R(Lanu), FO(Maani)
<b>ABSENT</b>	1Kaupule member

<b>OPENING REMARKS:</b> Lotokufaki			
<b>Agenda/Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action/Resolution</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
Purpose of the Trip & Meeting	Explain the purpose of the trip & mtg - To assume the progression and issues faced by the Kaupule, DC & R2R officer		Kufaki



<p><b>The points raised by DC &amp; R2R officer</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Limited time to interview fishermen due to island development disturbance</li> <li>➤ Communication problems between the data collector and the R2R officer in carrying out their activities-need walkie Talkie</li> <li>➤ Need a transportation for carrying out activities</li> <li>➤ Limited internet connection</li> </ul>	<p>TFD will look to it</p>	<p>Isaako Lanu Kufaki</p>
<p><b>The points raised by the Nukulaelae Kaupule</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Had not had a time to discuss with the DC &amp; R2R officer about their duties and responsibilities (MOU)</li> <li>➤ Need support from TFD on implementing a bylaw to prevent the catch of undersize fish</li> <li>➤ The issue of catching small turtles</li> <li>➤ The Nukulaelae Kaupule need support from TFD in monitoring undersize fish.</li> <li>➤ The concerns about the working days of the (DC &amp; R2R)</li> <li>➤ TFD to provide walkie-talkie for the DC &amp; R2R officer</li> <li>➤ TFD to share creel survey information that were gathered by the DC and R2R officer. Kaupule want to cognize what the condition of their coastal reef is.</li> <li>➤ The Kaupule has no problem of sending the DC report fortnightly but due to poor internet connection cause that failure.</li> <li>➤ Need more sea safety bags. The Kaupule is ready now to fund sea safety bags for their fishermen</li> <li>➤ The concerns about lot of workshops and surveys and nothing has ever encountered since (TFD) previous survey trip. There was once a survey on</li> </ul>	<p>Nukulaelae Action plan – motion carried</p> <p>Other issues – TFD will look to it</p>	<p>Semolina Collin Falani Saosaoa Tempesi Kufaki</p>



	<p>a marine species name AFIGAMEA(Crown-of-thorns), they note that this species affect the marine ecosystem and also an orange type of coral that overgrow on some parts of the reef which causes the reef to die but nothing of these surveys was carried out nor any follow-up actions to be done. A reminder to the TFD -what is the aim of working a plan but not enforcing it?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ No discussion made regarding the MOU (send from TFD) in collaborates of the DC and R2R officer, but we did discuss the Kaupule to collaborate with the DC.</li> <li>➤ Kaupule is not cognizant of the MOU for the R2R &amp; DC duties and responsibilities. But thanks to your team for clarifying on that.</li></ul>		
<b>The Coastal section adjourned the meeting at 16:45hrs</b>			