



Foundation Document | Fa'amatalaga Oto'oto o le Fa'avae National Park of American Samoa | Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa American Samoa | Amerika Samoa

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Figure 1: Location of the Samoan Islands in the Pacific
Ata 1: Tulaga o motu o Samoa i le Pasefika

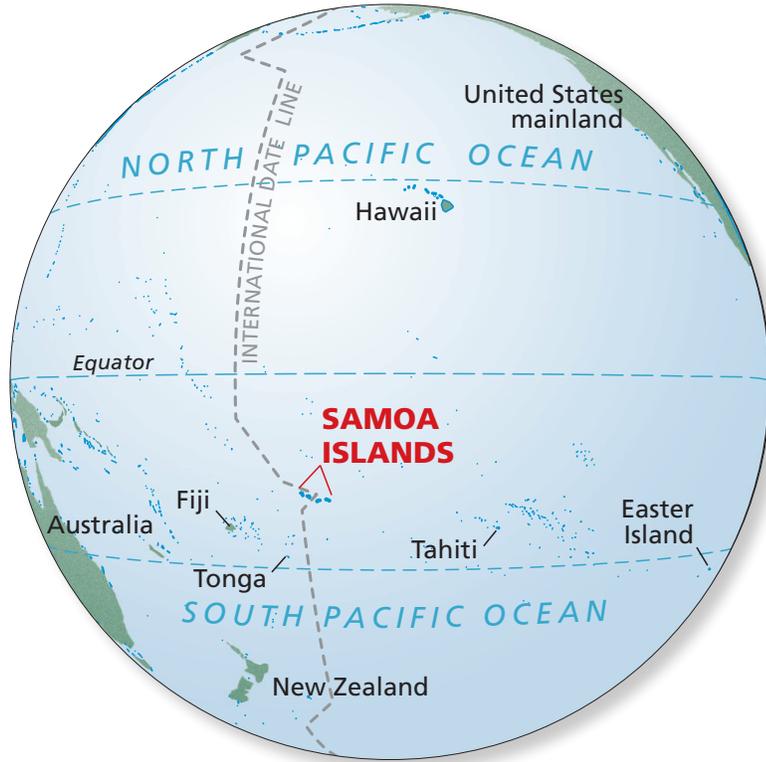
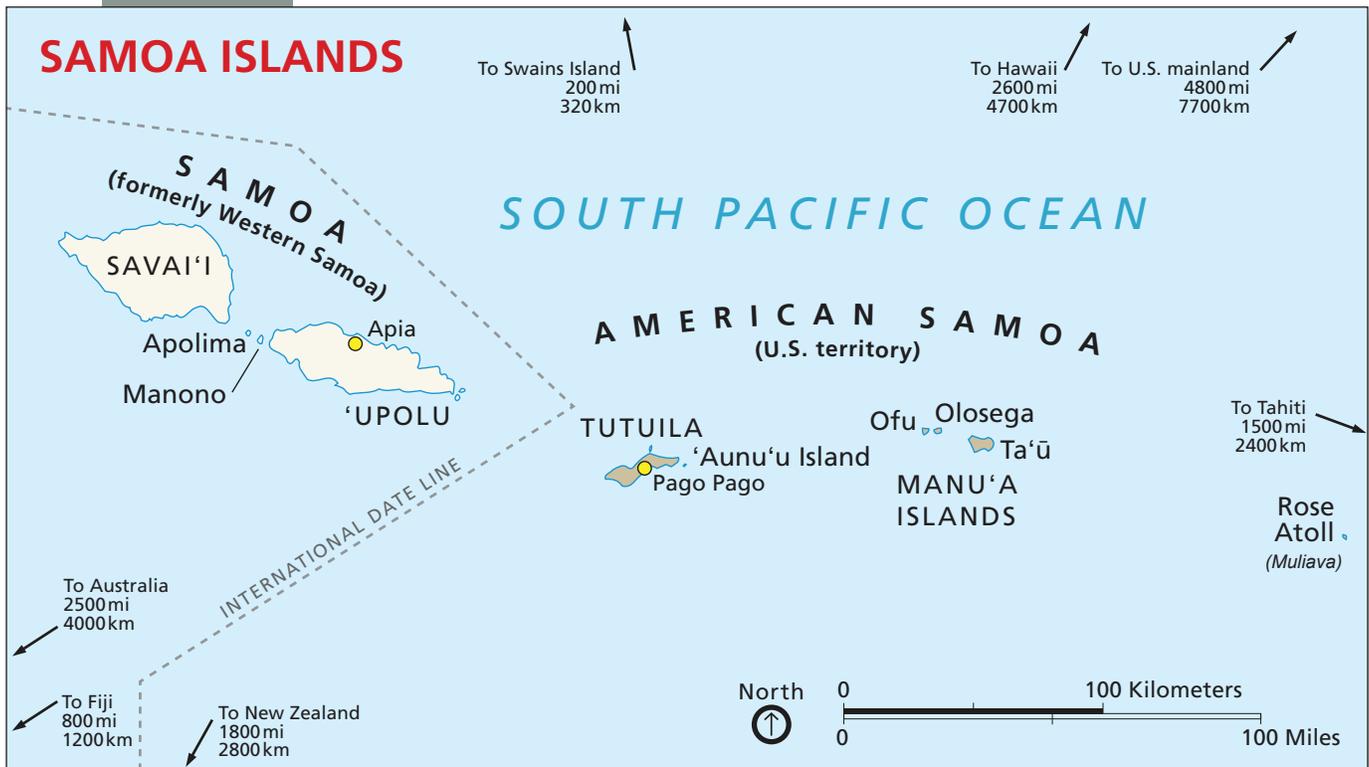


Figure 2: The Samoan Archipelago
Ata 2: O atumotu o Samoa



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Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The NPS core values are a framework in which the National Park Service accomplishes its mission. They express the manner in which, both individually and collectively, the National Park Service pursues its mission. The NPS core values are:

- **Shared stewardship:** We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.
- **Excellence:** We strive continually to learn and improve so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.
- **Integrity:** We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.
- **Tradition:** We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.
- **Respect:** We embrace each other's differences so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.

The National Park Service is a bureau within the Department of the Interior. While numerous national park system units were created prior to 1916, it was not until August 25, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act formally establishing the National Park Service.

The national park system continues to grow and comprises more than 400 park units covering more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These units include, but are not limited to, national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. The variety and diversity of park units throughout the nation require a strong commitment to resource stewardship and management to ensure both the protection and enjoyment of these resources for future generations.



The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.

Mau Tau'ave o Tautua a Paka Fa'asao a le Malo

O Tautua a Paka Fa'asao Fa'alemalo (NPS) o le fa'asao ne'i fa'aleagaina alaga'oa fa'anatura ma fa'aleaganuu atoa ma aga tāua o paka fa'atulagaina a le malo mo le faafiafiaina, a'oa'oga, ma le faatupu manatu i tupulaga o aso nei ma le lumana'i. E galulue faatasi Tautua a Paka Faasao a le Malo ma ana paaga e fa'alauatele manuia o le fa'asaoina o alaga'oa fa'anatura ma fa'aleaganuu ma fa'afiafiaga i le laolao I le malo atoa ma le lalolagi.

O aga tāua 'autū a le NPS o se fa'avava e fa'ataunu'u ai le e Tautua a Paka Fa'asao ma lana mau tau'ave. E faailoa mai ai faiga ta'ito'atasi ma faia faatasi e fa'ataunu'u ai le mau tau'ave a le Tautua a Paka Fa'asao a le Malo. O aga tāua 'autū nei a le NPS:

- **Tausiga fai fa'atasi:** Matou te faia fa'atasi mai ai le sootaga I le kelope atoa le ofoina atu a'ia'i i le tausiga o alaga'oa.
- **Atootoa:** Matou te una'I pea ia matou iloa ma faaleleia atili ina ia matou oo I le tulaga aupito maualuga o tautau lautele.
- **Tonu ma Fa'amaoni:** Matou te fa'afeagai ma le tonu ma le faamaoni ma tagata lautele ma lo matou lava va fealoa'i.
- **Aga ma Tu Masani:** Matou te mitamita ai; matou te a'oa'oina mai ai; matou te le saisaitia ai.
- **Faaloalo:** Matou te talia lelei le eseeseaga o tagata ta'ito'atasi in a ia mafai ona matou faa'oaina le soifua lelei o tagata uma.

O le Tautua a Paka Fa'asao a le Malo o se ofisa i totonu o le Matagaluega o le Initeria. E ui ina sa tele iunite o paka faatulagaina a le malo i tua atu o le 1916, a o Aokuso 25, 1916 na faato'a sainia ai e Peresitene Woodrow Wilson le Tulafono o le National Park Service Organic Act na faavae aloa'ia ai le Paka Faasao a le Malo.

O loo tuputupu a'e pea le sootaga o paka fa'atulagaina a le malo ma ua aofia ai le 400 iunite o paka e ufitia ai le 84 miliona eka i setete uma ta'itasi, le itumalo o Columbia, Amerika Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, ma Virgin Islands. O nei iunite e aofia ai ae le ona pau ai lea o paka fa'asao fa'alemalo, pine faamau, fanua o taua, paka fa'asao faavaega'au, paka faasao o talafa'asolopito, nofoaga o talafaasolopito, matafaga o vaituloto, matafaga i gataifale, laufanua o faafiafiaga, vaitafe ma alasopo mata'iina, ma le Maota Pa'epa'e. O le lasi ma le fefiloi o iunite o paka I le laolao o le malo e mo'omia ai le ofoina atu atootoa mo le tausiga ma le pulea lelei o ia alaga'oa ina ia fa'amautinoa ua pupuia ma fa'afiafia loto I tupulaga fai a'e o le lumana'i.



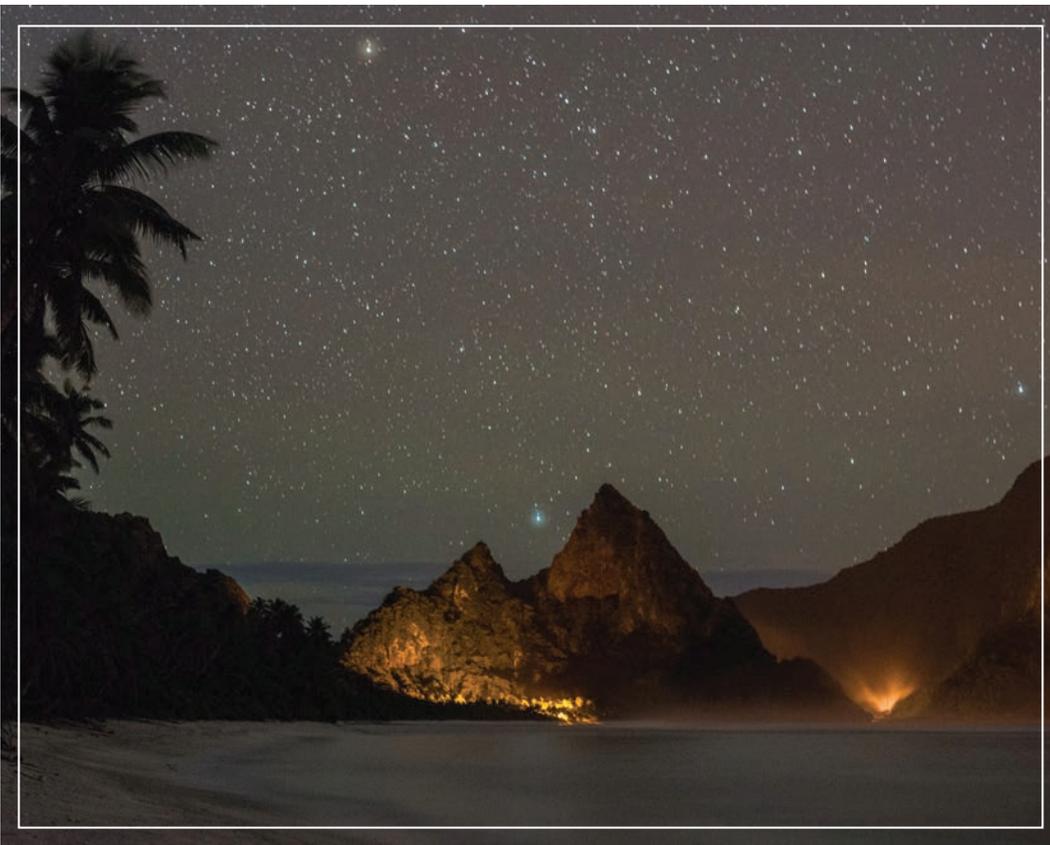
O le mata o le aū sa fa'atagaina e le Failautusi o le Ineteria e ave ma ata mautu a le Tautua o Paka Fa'asao ia Iulai 20, 1951. O le la'au o le sequoia e ta aofa'i ai la'au uma o le vao matua, ma le povi e ta aofa'i uma ai mea ola. O le mauga ma le vai e ta aofa'i uma ai le taūa o maimoaga matagofie ma tafaōga. O le mata o le aū e ta aofa'i uma ai le taūa o tala fa'asolopito ma tala eli.

Introduction

Every unit of the national park system will have a foundational document to provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions—a foundation for planning and management. The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park as well as the park's purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, and interpretive themes. The foundation document also includes special mandates and administrative commitments, an assessment of planning and data needs that identifies planning issues, planning products to be developed, and the associated studies and data required for park planning. Along with the core components, the assessment provides a focus for park planning activities and establishes a baseline from which planning documents are developed.

A primary benefit of developing a foundation document is the opportunity to integrate and coordinate all kinds and levels of planning from a single, shared understanding of what is most important about the park. The process of developing a foundation document begins with gathering and integrating information about the park. Next, this information is refined and focused to determine what the most important attributes of the park are. The process of preparing a foundation document aids park managers, staff, and the public in identifying and clearly stating in one document the essential information that is necessary for park management to consider when determining future planning efforts, outlining key planning issues, and protecting resources and values that are integral to park purpose and identity.

While not included in this document, a park atlas is also part of a foundation project. The atlas is a series of maps compiled from available geographic information system (GIS) data on natural and cultural resources, visitor use patterns, facilities, and other topics. It serves as a GIS-based support tool for planning and park operations. The atlas is published as a (hard copy) paper product and as geospatial data for use in a web mapping environment. The park atlas for National Park of American Samoa can be accessed online at: <http://insideparkatlas.nps.gov/>.



Faatomuaga

E tofu le iunite o paka fa'asao a le malo ma le tusitusiga fa'avae e iai ta'iala muamua mo filifiliga o fuafuaga ma le pulea. O manatu 'autu o se tusitusiga faavae e aofia ai se fa'amatalaga puupuu o le paka fa'atasi mai lona fa'amoemoe, lona tāua, alaga'oa ma aga tāua faavae, ma fa'auigaga o mataupu. E aofia ai foi le tusitusiga fa'avae fa'atonuaga faapitoa ma le ofoina atu atoatoa faapule'aga, se fua fa'atautu o fuafuaga fa'ataatia ma fa'amaumauga e mana'omia mo le fa'asino'ina o mea e fuafuaina, fuafuaina o ni gaosiga e tatau ona atiina'e, faatasi ma su'esu'ega ma fa'amaumauga e mana'omia mo fuafuaga o le paka. E faaopoopo i vaega 'autu, o le fua faatatau e maua ai se taula'iga mo fuafuaga o le paka ma faamautu ai se laina fa'avae e atiina'e ai tusitusiga o fuafuaga.

O se aogā muamua o le atiina'e o se tusitusiga faavae o le avanoa e fa'afesoota'i ai ma faafeutuga'i vaega ma ituaiga uma o le fuafuaga mai le malamalama ua fa'asoaina o mea aupito taua e uiga i le paka. O le fa'agasologa o le atiina'ega o se tusitusiga fa'avae e amata i le aoina mai fa'afesoota'i fa'amatalaga e uiga I le paka. Ona sosoo ai lea ma le toe teuteu o ia faamatalaga ma taula'i loa i le faamautu o uiga ma foliga aupito taua o le paka. O le faagasologa o le tapenaina o se tusitusiga faavae e fesoasoani ia I latou e pulea le paka, tagata faigaluega, ma tagata lautele I le fa'ailoaina ma ta'u manino i se tusitusiga e tasi fa'amatalaga e tatau ona maua mo le pule'aga o le paka ina ia taga'i I ai pe a fa'amautu nisi taumafaiga e fuafua I le lumana'I, Fa'ataatiaga o manatu 'autu ma puipui alaga'oa ma aga tāua e totonugalemu i ai le fa'amoemoe ma le faailogaina o le paka.

E ui ina e le o aofia I lenei tusitusiga, o fa'afanua – atalasi – o le paka o se isi vaega o le poroketi fa'avae. O le atalasi o se fa'asologa o fa'afanua ua tu'u faatasia mai fa'afesoota'iga o fa'amatalaga tau eleele (GIS) i ālaga'oa fa'anatura ma fa'aleaganuu, fa'asologa e fa'aaogā e tagata asiiasi, fale i le nofoaga, ma isi mataupu. E fai foi lea ma mea faigaluega fesoasoani e faavae I le GIS mo le fuafuaina ma le fa'agaioiga o le paka. O le atalasi o se lolomiga o se tusi e gaosia i pepa ma o se faamaumauga o fua tau eleele mo le faaogaina i se si'omaga e faia ai upega o faafanua. E mafai ona maua le atalasi o Paka Fasao a le Malo i Amerika Samoa i le upega o tafa'ilaga i le: <http://insideparkatlas.nps.gov/>.



Part 1: Core Components

The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park, park purpose, significance statements, fundamental resources and values, and interpretive themes. These components are core because they typically do not change over time. Core components are expected to be used in future planning and management efforts.

Brief Description of the Park

The Samoan Islands are a part of Polynesia and have been inhabited by people for more than 3,000 years. The islands are 2,600 miles southwest of Hawaii, 1,800 miles northeast of New Zealand, and adjacent to the international dateline (see figure 1). Stretching east to west for 300 miles, the Samoan Islands include the U.S. territory of American Samoa and the independent nation of Samoa (formerly Western Samoa) (see figure 2).

American Samoa, the only U.S. territory south of the equator, consists of five rugged volcanic islands and two coral atolls. From west to east, these islands are Tutuila, its smaller neighbor Aunu'u, and the three islands of the Manu'a Group—Ofu, Olosega, and Ta'u. The land area is 76 square miles and the population is approximately 55,000 (2010), with most people living on the island of Tutuila.

Oral traditions and archeological evidence support the idea that Samoa is one of the original homelands of the Polynesian people. In American Samoa, 90% of the population is Samoan or other Pacific Islander. Samoan is most islanders' first language and they live the Fa'asamoa—the customs, beliefs, and traditions of the Samoan culture. Many Samoans still live interconnected with their environment and use the tropical rainforests, coral reefs, and the ocean for subsistence and cultural practices.





In 1988, the National Park of American Samoa was authorized to:

“...preserve and protect the tropical forest and archeological and cultural resources of American Samoa, and of associated reefs, to maintain the habitat of flying foxes, preserve the ecological balance of the Samoan tropical forest, and, consistent with the preservation of these resources, to provide for the enjoyment of the unique resources of the Samoan tropical forest by visitors from around the world.”

The National Park of American Samoa has three separate units on the islands of Tutuila, Ofu, and Ta'ū. The park's 6,303 acres of land and 2,800 acres of water contain wild, scenic paleotropical rainforest, coastal areas, and coral reef environments. American Samoa's paleotropical rainforest is composed of plants and animals from the “Old World” ecosystems of Southeast Asia (predominantly Indonesia), as opposed to the distant Americas. The park contains a wealth of important cultural resources that have strong connections to past and present Samoan people.

The park's land base was established in September 1993 when a lease agreement was signed between the American Samoa Government and the National Park Service. The park is unique in the national park system in that all the land is owned by individual villages and leased to the National Park Service. The lands designated in the enabling legislation are within the villages of Fitiuta, Faleasao, Ta'u, Olosega, Ofu, Afono, Vatia, PagoPago and Fagasa. The current 50-year lease represents an experiment between two very different land tenure philosophies—the South Seas matai communal land arrangement kept by oral tradition and custom and the English surveyed, deeded, written, and recorded system.

The Tutuila unit of the National Park of American Samoa is the most accessible unit of the park and comprises approximately 2,500 acres of land and approximately 1,200 acres of offshore waters (see figure 3). The park encompasses entire watersheds from some of the highest points in American Samoa to the coastlines and marine areas. Here and throughout the islands, the tropical rainforests cover steep slopes of the islands from the waterline to the tops of the mountains. Twenty-one acres at the summit of Mt. Alava, including the upper terminal of the aerial tramway, power poles, transformer, and TV transmitter, are owned by the American Samoa Government and are excluded from the park's lease.

The Ta'ū unit is about 60 miles east of the island of Tutuila, comprising approximately 3,700 acres of land and approximately 1,100 acres of offshore waters (see figure 4). Samoans believe the sacred site of Saua on Ta'ū is the birthplace of all Polynesia. Beyond Saua around Si'u Point is the dramatic southern coast, where waves crash against the rocky coast and sea cliffs stairstep to the summit of Lata Mountain—the highest point in American Samoa at 3,170 feet/966 meters.

On Ofu island, about 10 miles northwest of Ta'ū, is the Ofu unit of the national park (see figure 4). This is the smallest unit with about 70 acres of land and approximately 400 acres of offshore waters. The island's coral reefs are healthy, diverse, and an outstanding example of South Pacific marine habitat. With its remoteness, the 2 mile beach in the park can be enjoyed with few, if any, other people.

Figure 3: Tutuila Island
Ata 3: Motu o Tutuila



Figure 4: Manu'a Island Group
Ata 4: Motu o Manu'a



Vaega 1: Vaega 'Autū

O vaega autu o se tusitusiga faavae e aofia ai se faamatalaga puupuu o le paka, faamoemoe o le paka, fa'amatalaga taua, alaga'oa ma aga tāua ole faavae, ma fa'auigaga o mataupu. O nei vaega e ta'ua o 'autū ona e le suia a'o gasolo aso. E taga'i mamao atu i le fa'aaogāina o 'autu fa'avae i nisi fuafuaga ma le pulea lelei i le lumana'i.

Fa'amatalaga Pu'upu'u o le Paka

O motu o Samoa o se vaega o Polenisia ma na aīnā e tagata i le silia ma le 3,000 tausaga. O motu nei e 2,600 maila Sautesisifo o Hawaii, 1,800 maila Matuisasa'e o Aotearoa, ma e ta'oto felata'i ma le Laina o Aso Fa'avāomalo (taga'i i le ata 1). E 300 maila le umi mai Sasa'e i Sisifo. O atumotu o Samoa e aofia ai le Teritori o Amerika Samoa ma le Malo Tuto'atasi o Samoa (Samoa i Sisifo) (taga'i i le ata 2).

E na'o Amerika Samoa le Teritori o le Iunaitē Setete e i Saute o le Ekueta, e aofia ai motu mai maugamū e lima ma motu 'amu e lua. Mai sisifo i sasa'e, o nei motu o Tutuila, tama'i motu tuaoi o Aunu'u, ma motu e tolu o Manu'a-Ofu, Olosega ma Tā'ū. O ona ele'ele e 76 maila fa'atafafa ma le faitau aofa'i o tagata pe tusa ma le 55,000 (2010), e nonofo i le motu o Tutuila.

O tala tu'ugutu ma pinefa'amau o tala'eli e lagolagoina le mau o Samoa o se tasi o ulua'i nofoaga o tagata Polenisia. E 90% o le faitau aofa'i o tagata i totonu o Amerika Samoa, e aofia ai tagata Samoa ma isi tagata o le Pasefika. O le gagana Samoa o le ulua'i gagana lea o lo'o fa'aogaina ma o lo'o latou soifua ma ola ai. O le to'atele o e fa'alagolago i le si'osi'omaga ma fa'aaogā le vaomatua, 'a'au amu, ma le gataifale mo le tausiga o aiga, fa'apea gaoiga fa'aleaganuu.

I le 1988, sa fa'atagaina ai le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa e:

“...fa'asao ma puipuia le vaomatua, ma alaga manuia o tala'eli ma le aganu'u fa'aSamoa, ma 'a'au, taulaga pe'a, vaomatua, ma ia tumau le fa'asaoina o nei alaga manuia ina ia fa'afiafiaina tagata o le lalolagi e asiasi mai.”

E tolu iunite tūma'oti a le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa i le motu o Tutuila, Ofu, ma Tā'ū. O ele'ele o le paka e 6,303 eka ma le 2,800 eka o le vai, e iai vaomatua e le ō fa'ato'aina, nofoaga tū matāfaga ma a'au 'amu. O le vaomatua o Amerika Samoa e iai la'au ma meaola mai aso anamua o Asia Sautesasa'e (e mātele i Initonesia) e ese mai i Amerika tūmamao. O lo'o iai i paka nei le tamāo'aīga tāua o ālaga'oa fa'aleaganu'u, e telē lona feso'ota'iga i tagata Samoa mai anamua se'i o'o mai i le asō.





O lau'ele'ele o le paka sa fa'avae ia Setema 1993 ina ua sainia le lisi o māliliega i le vā o le Malo o Amerika Samoa ma le Paka Fa'asao. O laufanua sa fa'amautuina i le tulafono fa'avae e aofia ai alaalfaga nei o Fitiuta, Faleasao, Ta'u, Olosega, Ofu, Afono, Vatia, PagoPago, ma Fagasa. E tulaga ese le paka ona o lau'ele'ele e pulea lava e nu'u ta'itasi ma o lo'o lisi'ina i totonu o le Paka Fa'asao.

E 50 tausaga le lisi o lo'o iai nei. E mafua ona o se su'esu'ega e fa'aōgā ai itu'āiga pulega o ele'ele e lua e matuā ese'ese lava—o ele'ele fa'aleāganu'u e tausia i tala tu'ugutu, tū ma āga fa'amatai ma le faiga fa'apapālagi, e fua, resitala faaletulafono, tusitusia, ma fa'amauina.

O le iunite i Tutuila o le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa, o le iunite aupito i faigofie ona āsia, mā e 2,500 eka le telē o le fanua, 1,200 eka o le sami i le tua'au (taga'i i le ata 3). O le paka o lo'o aofia uma ai vai fetāfea'i mai i ni nofoaga maualuluga o Amerika Samoa e aga'i atu i le talafātai ma le gātaifale. O 'i nei, fa'apea le motu atoa, e ufitia a'ega maualuluga e le vaomatua, e amata mai lava i nofoaga e tū lata i le sami se'ia paia tumutumu o mauga. E luasefulutasi eka i le tumutumu o le Mauga o Alava, e aofia ai le nofoaga e fa'ae'e ai pasese mo le Ato (tramway), pou uila, masini eletise, pou TV, o meatotino a le Malo o Amerika Samoa, ma e le lisi ina e le Paka Fa'asao.

O le iunite i Ta'ū, e 60 maila i sasa'e o Tutuila, mā e 3,700 eka le telē o le fanua, 1,100 eka o le sami tua'au (taga'i i le ata 4). E talitonu Samoa, o ele'ele sa o Saua i Ta'ū, na tupuga mai ai tagata Polenisia. I tala atu o Saua, i tala ane o le tolotolo o Si'u, o se nofoaga mātaina lea i saute o le matāfaga, e fafati ai galu aga'i i papa ma le ala savali i le tumutumu o le Mauga o Lata—O le tumutumu aupito maualuga lea i Amerika Samoa e 3,170 futu/966 mita.

I le motu o Ofu, pe tusa ma le 10 maila i mātū i sisifo o Ta'ū, o lo'o iai le iunite o le Paka Fa'asao (taga'i i le ata 4). O le iunite aupito i la'ititi pe tusa ma le 70 eka le telē o le fanua, 400 eka le sami taumamao. O a'au 'amu o le motu e ola lelei mā e tele meaola ese'ese e maua ai. O inā o se fa'atai'tai'ga lelei mo faigafaiva a le Pasefika i Saute. Talu ai le mamao ese o lea paka, ua lē to'atele ai ni tagata e āsia le matāfaga, e lua maila le umi.

Park Purpose

The purpose statement identifies the specific reason(s) for establishment of a particular park. The purpose statement for National Park of American Samoa was drafted through a careful analysis of its enabling legislation and the legislative history that influenced its development. The park was authorized when the enabling legislation adopted by Congress was signed into law on October 31, 1988, and was established in September of 1993 with the signing of a 50-year lease agreement between the National Park Service and the Governor of American Samoa (see appendix A for enabling legislation and subsequent amendment, and the Special Mandates section in part 2). The purpose statement lays the foundation for understanding what is most important about the park.

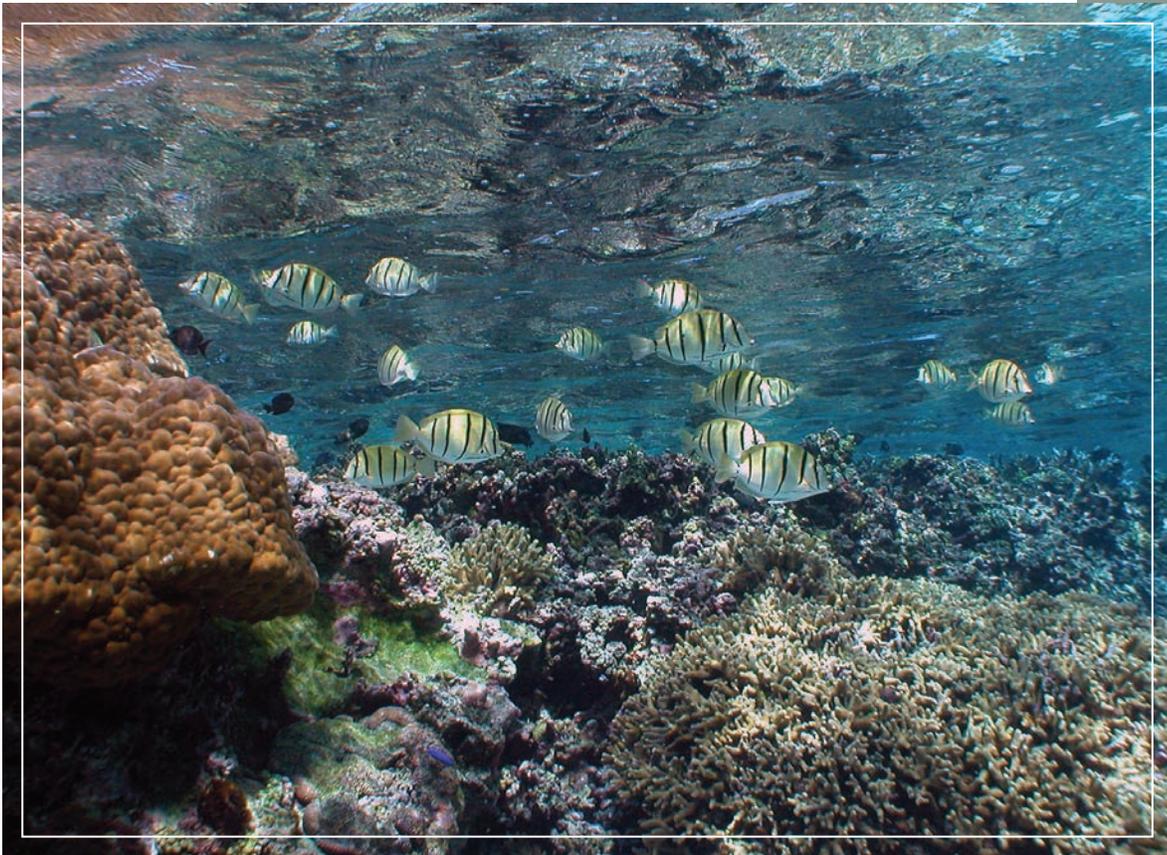
THE NATIONAL PARK OF AMERICAN SAMOA, for the enjoyment of visitors and in partnership with local communities, preserves, protects, and interprets paleotropical rainforests, coral reef ecosystems, and Fa'asamoa (Samoan way of life), including living cultural traditions and resources that date back 3,000 years.



Sini Autu o le Paka

O le fa'amatalaga o le fa'amoemoe o lo'o fa'asino tonu i le mafuaaga o le fa'avaeina o se paka. O le fa'amatalaga o le fa'amoemoe o le Paka Fasao o Amerika Samoa sa tusia ma le ilo'ilo fa'aeteete, o ala fa'aletulafono ma talafa'asolopito o tulafono na a'afia ai lona amataga. Sa fa'atagaina le paka ina ua sainia fa'aletulafono e le Konekeresi se i'ugafono ia Oketopa 31, 1988, ma fa'avae ai ia Setema 1993 fa'atasi ai ma le sainia o le lisi o le māliliega e 50 tausaga, i le vā o le Au'au'naga a le Paka Fa'asao ma le Kovana o Amerika Samoa (taga'i i le itulau i tua Appendix A e mo le tulafono fa'ataga ma lona teuteūga atoa ma le vaega o Poloa'iga Fa'apitua i le Vaega 2). O le 'autū o fa'amatalaga, ua fa'ata'oto mai ai le fa'avae auā le silafia i le tulaga aupito sili ona tāua o le paka.

O LE PAKA FA'ASAO O AMERIKA SAMOA, e mō tafaōga e maua ai lagona fa'afiafia loto o tagata asiasi mai, ma faiga fa'apā'aga ma ālalafaga i le lotoifale, e fa'asao, pui'pui ma faamatalaina le o feso'otaiga vaomatua mai anamua, o a'au 'amu, ma le olaga Fa'asamoa, e aofia ai tū ma aga o lo'o ola pea talu mai le 3,000 tausaga ua tuana'i.



Park Significance

Significance statements express why a park's resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system. These statements are linked to the purpose of National Park of American Samoa, and are supported by data, research, and consensus. Statements of significance describe the distinctive nature of the park and why an area is important within a global, national, regional, and systemwide context. They focus on the most important resources and values that will assist in park planning and management.

The following significance statements have been identified for National Park of American Samoa. (Please note that the sequence of the statements does not reflect the level of significance.)

1. **Paleotropical Rainforest Ecosystem.** The National Park of American Samoa protects and preserves the only paleotropical rainforest ecosystem in the United States, which provides habitat for the island's healthy populations of *pe'a* (fruit bats). This rainforest, intact from seashore to mountaintop, is of profound cultural, scientific, and medicinal importance to Samoans and the world.
2. **Marine Ecosystems.** The National Park of American Samoa has the only Indo-Pacific coral reef ecosystem in the national park system, and is ecologically diverse with more than 900 species of fish and more than 230 species of coral.
3. **Coral Reef Resistance to Climate Change.** The Ofu Lagoon in the National Park of American Samoa is a globally important living laboratory for scientists to study the park's corals, which appear to be resistant to high ocean temperatures and fluctuations in pH. Studying these reefs may be a critical step to understanding future climate change impacts on coral reefs.
4. **3,000 Years of Human History.** The National Park of American Samoa preserves archeological and cultural resources and sites, representing over 3,000 years of habitation. The sacred Saua village on Ta'u Island is one of the earliest settlements in Polynesia and is considered a birthplace of Samoan and other Polynesian cultures.
5. **Fa'asamoa.** The National Park of American Samoa perpetuates *Fa'asamoa* (Samoan way of life) by sharing the intact and vibrant traditions, values, and legends that connect the Samoan people to the land and sea. Traditional subsistence use of park resources supports *Fa'asamoa* in local communities.
6. **Scenery.** The National Park of American Samoa works in partnership with local villages to co-manage the remote and beautiful tropical island landscape. Samoan villages, lush rainforests, dramatic sea cliffs, coral filled lagoons, expansive night skies, and world renowned white sand beaches contribute to the park's iconic scenery.



Tāua o le Paka

O fa'amatalaga tāua e fa'ailoa mai ai le tāua o ālaga'oa ma aga tāua fa'avae o se paka, ua mafua ai ona filifilia e avea ma se iunite o le Paka Faasao. O nei fa'amatalaga e feso'ota'i ma le mafuaaga o le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa, ma ua fa'amaonia e fa'amaumauga, su'esu'ega, ma i'ugafono o sailiiliga. O nei fa'amatalaga tāua o lo'o fa'amatalaina ai se va'aiga ese o le natura o le paka ma le mafuaaga e tāua ai I le kelope. E fa'aautū nei faamatalaga tāua i alaga'oa ma aga tumau fa'avae e aupito sili ona tāua, ma e fesoasoani i le fausiaina ma le fa'afoeina o se paka.

O fa'amatalaga tāua nei, ua mae'a ona fa'ailoga mo le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa. Fa'amolemole matau ane, e le o fua i lo latou tāua le fa'atulagaga o fa'amatalaga.

1. **Si'osi'omaga o Vaomatua.** O lo'o puipuia ma fa'asao e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa le Vaomatua e tasi lava a le Iunite Setete, lea e ofaga ai se aofa'iga tele o pe'a ('ai fuala'au aina). O lenei vaomatua, e amata mai i le matāfaga se'ia o'o i tumutumumauga, e matuā telē lona aogā fa'aleaganu'u, fa'asaienisi, ma vaila'au fofō mo Samoa atoa ma le lalolagi.
2. **Si'osi'omaga o le Gataifale.** I totonu o vaega o paka fa'asao, na 'o le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa e iai le si'osi'omaga o a'au 'amu Indo-Pacific , ma e fa'atumulia i le silia ma le 900 ituaiga l'a ese'ese ma le 230 ituaiga 'amu.
3. **A'au 'Amu e Gafatia Suiga o le Tau.** O le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa i le aloalo i Ofu, o se nofoaga su'esu'e tāua i le lalolagi mo saienisi e sue'sue' i 'amu, lea e foliga mai e gafatia le malosi o le vevela o le sami ma ona fesuia'iga. O le su'esu'eina o nei a'au e ono avea ma la'asaga tāua, e mālmalama ai i a'afiaga o a'au 'amu, ona o le suiga o le tau i le lumana'i.
4. **3,000 Tausaga o Talafa'asolopito o Tagata.** O lo'o fa'asao e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa ālaga'oa ma nofoaga tau tala'eli ma fa'aleaganu'u, e fa'amauiina ai le silia ma le 3,000 tausaga o nofoia laueleele. O Saua i le motu o Ta'ū, o se tasi lea o nofoaga sa ulua'i nofoia i le atu Polenisia, mā ua talitonuina o le tupuaga lea o tagata Samoa ma isi aganuu o le atu Polenisia.
5. **Fa'asamoa.** E una'ia e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa le aganu'u Samoa e ala i le fa'asoa atu o tū ma aga, talitonuga, aga tāua, ma tala o le vavau e feso'ota'i ai tagata Samoa i le ele'ele ma le sami. O le fa'aaogaina fa'aleaganu'u o ālaga'oa mai le paka, o lo'o lagolago ai le fa'asamoa i totonu o alalafaga.
6. **Va'aiga.** E galulue faapa'aga le Paka Fa'asao ma nu'u i le tausiga o motu tumamao ma o latou laufanua matagofie. O nu'u i Samoa, *vaomatua* lanulau'ava, papa mātā'ina i le gataifale, aloalo e tumu i 'amu, o le lautele o le fofola mai o le lagi i le po, ma matāfaga oneone papa'e, e tofua sa uma i le tulaga'ese o le va'aiga i le paka.



Fundamental Resources and Values

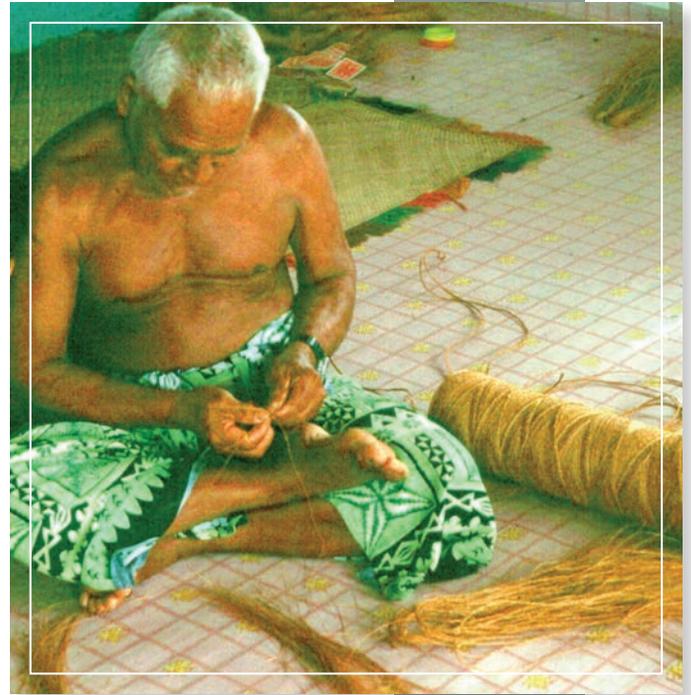
Fundamental resources and values (FRVs) are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells, or other attributes determined to warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Fundamental resources and values are closely related to a park's legislative purpose and are more specific than significance statements.

Fundamental resources and values help focus planning and management efforts on what is truly significant about the park. One of the most important responsibilities of NPS managers is to ensure the conservation and public enjoyment of those qualities that are essential (fundamental) to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. If fundamental resources and values are allowed to deteriorate, the park purpose and/or significance could be jeopardized.

The following fundamental resources and values have been identified for National Park of American Samoa:

- **Paleotropical Rainforest Ecosystem.** The National Park of American Samoa protects three types of paleotropical rainforest (lowland, montane, and cloud), which support a rich diversity of native and endemic species including more than 475 plant species, 50 animal species, and 2 species of *pe'a* (fruit bats)—the only terrestrial mammals indigenous to American Samoa.
- **Marine Ecosystems.** The National Park of American Samoa contains a highly diverse marine ecosystem with more than 900 species of fish, more than 230 species of coral, 2 species of sea turtle, and numerous species of marine mammals. Thriving coral reefs fringe the islands of Tutuila, Ofu, and Ta'u.
- **Freshwater Ecosystems.** The National Park of American Samoa contains four perennial streams (Le Afu, Fagatuitui, and Amalau Streams on Tutuila Island and Laufuti Stream on Ta'u Island) with native species of freshwater fish, eel, snail, and shrimp.
- **Cultural Landscapes and Archeological Sites.** The National Park of American Samoa contains important Samoan archeological and cultural sites and landscapes. Ancient villages and home sites, burial grounds, star mounds, stone tool production sites, travel routes, as well as countless natural features including streams, waterfalls, mountaintops, and natural sounds create a sacred sense of place for all Samoans. Some of the park's important sites include the Saua site on Ta'u Island, the To'aga area on Ofu Island, and Pola Island and the old Vatia Village site on Tutuila Island.





- **Fa'asamoa.** *Fa'asamoa* (Samoan way of life) is interconnected with Samoan lands and waters and is of utmost value to the National Park of American Samoa. The park perpetuates *Fa'asamoa* by sharing the living and vibrant Samoan traditions, language, legends, oral histories, protocols, values, and beliefs.
- **Scenery.** The National Park of American Samoa boasts exquisite scenery from ridge to reef; the rich ambient sounds of wind, ocean, and wildlife; globally recognized clean air; and a crystal clear southern hemisphere night sky experience.
- **Scientific Research.** The National Park of American Samoa's paleotropical rainforests, coral reefs, and tropical freshwater streams provide living laboratories for research in conservation and wildlife biology, evolution, geology, and climate change. Cultural sites and *Fa'asamoa* offer insights in the fields of archeology, linguistics, cultural and biological anthropology, and many other disciplines.
- **Subsistence Use.** The National Park of American Samoa supports the continuation of Samoan land tenure and sustainable subsistence uses, including traditional fishing, gathering, and agriculture in established areas. The overlap of Samoan traditional uses of the land and sea with National Park Service management is an important and valued aspect of the National Park of American Samoa.
- **Connecting the Public to Samoan Heritage and Homelands.** The National Park of American Samoa is steadfast in its commitment to promoting resource stewardship, helping Samoans connect to their cultural heritage, and providing high-quality interpretation and education opportunities for the public. The park is a valuable and trusted local source of educational experiences in Samoan and English for both local Samoans and visitors.
- **Recreational Opportunities.** The National Park of American Samoa provides visitors and local Samoans with a variety of memorable recreational opportunities that are compatible with *Fa'asamoa* and promote health and wellness. Opportunities include hiking rainforest trails to mountaintops and Samoan cultural sites; swimming, snorkeling, diving, and boating in the park's tropical waters; and immersion in Samoan cultural programs and experiences.

Alaga'oa ma aga Tāua Fa'avae

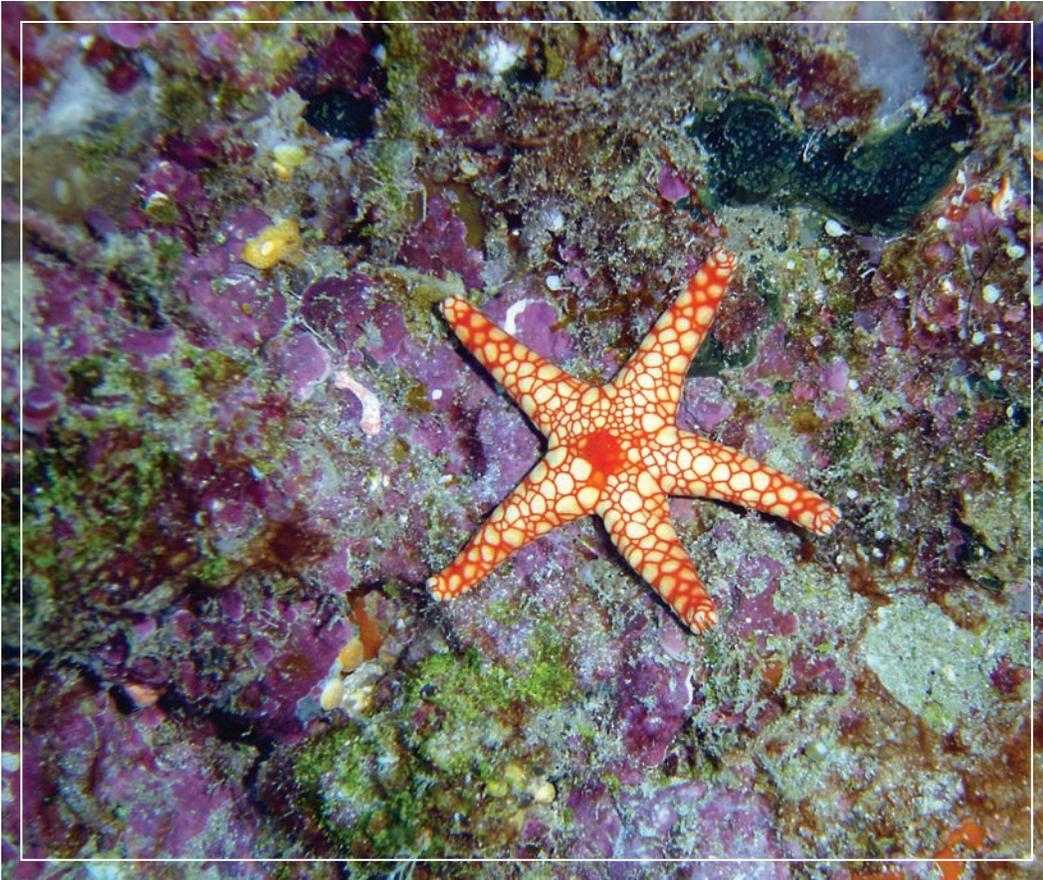
O ālaga'oa ma aga tāua fa'avae, e fa'asino i vaega, fa'asolo, poto masani, tala, va'aiga, manogi ma isi uiga e ono faitaulia i le ulua'i taimi o fa'ata'atitia fuafuaga ma le pūlega, ona e matuā tāua i le paka le 'ausia o lana autū, ma fa'aauau lona tāua. O ālaga'oa ma aga tāua fa'avae, e vāvālalata lo latou feso'ota'iga i le autū fa'atulafonoina o se paka, mā e ma'oti atu i lo fa'amatalaga i le tāua.

O ālaga'oa ma aga tāua fa'avae e fesoasoani i le fuafuaina ma le faafoeina o tulaga tāua ma le aogā o Paka. O se tasi o matāfaioi pito sili ona tāua i pule o Paka Fa'asao, o le fa'amautūina o le fa'asao ma lagona fiafia o le lautele, o ni uiga sili ia ina ia ausia le autū o le paka ma tāofimau i lona tāua. Afai e fa'atalalē i le va'aiga o ālaga'oa ma aga tāua fa'avae, e ono āfaīna ai le autū o le paka.

O ālaga'oa ma aga tāua fa'avae nei, ua mae'a ona fa'ailoa mai e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa:

- **Si'osi'omaga o le Vaomatutua.** O lo'o puipui e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa ni itu'aiga Vaomatua se tolu (ele'ele maualalo, susū ma puaoa) ona e tamāoaiga i i ituaiga la'au ma meaola ese'ese o le ele'ele, ma la'au ma meaola ta'atele, e aofia ai le silia ma le 475 la'au, 50 itu'aiga o meaola, ma itu'aiga pe'a e lua ('ai fuala'au 'aina) –na 'o le pau lea o meaola toto māfanafana o le lauele'ele e patino ia Amerika Samoa.
- **Si'osi'omaga o Gataifale.** O lo'o i le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa se si'osi'omaga gataifale ua iloga le ese'ese o mea ola e maua ai, ma e silia i le 900 itu'aiga i'a, 230 itu'aiga 'amu, lua itu'aiga laumei, ma le anoanoa'i o itu'aiga meaola o lo'o ola. O lo'o si'omia e a'au 'amu olaola lelei motu o Tutuila, Ofu, ma Ta'ū.
- **Si'osi'omaga o Vaimagalo.** E fa vai'ālia o le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa (Le Afu, Fagatuitui, ma Amalau i le motu o Tutuila ma Laufuti i le motu o Ta'ū) mā o itūaiga meaola e ola i le vai e iai i'a, pusi, sisi ma ulāvai.
- **Laufanua Fa'aleaganu'u ma Nofoga tau Tala'eli.** O lo'o i le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa laufanua tāua tau le aganu'u ma nofoaga o tala'eli. O nu'u anamua ma tulāga fale, fanuatanu, tia seuulupe, nofoaga sa fau ai meafaigaluega e fai i ma'a, ala sopo, ma le tele o isi foliga fa'alēnatura e iai vaiālia, afu, tumutumumauga ma leo fa'alēnatura e paū ma mamalu ai se nofoaga mo tagata Samoa. O nisi nofoaga tāua o le paka e aofia ai Saua i Ta'ū, To'aga i Ofu, le motu o Pola ma le nu'u tuai o Vatia i Tutuila.
- **Fa'asamoa.** E feso'ota'i le soifua fa'asamoa ma lona si'osi'omaga ma o se mea pito sili lea ona tāua i le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa. E ma fa'aauauina e le paka le *Fa'asamoa* e ala lea i le fa'asoa atu o tū ma aga Samoa, gagana, tala o le vavau, talatu'ugutu, faīga fa'avae, aga tāua ma talitonuga.





- **Va'aiga.** E mitamita le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa ona o va'aiga matagofie mai le tuasivi i le a'au; le 'oa o ona si'uleo o matagi, moana ma le vaomāoa; 'ea mamā ua lauiloa e le lalolagi; ma le fola manino mai o lona lagi i le po mo e maimoa.
- **Sa'ili'iliga Fa'asaienisi.** O Vaomatua, a'au 'amu, ma vaiālia o ni potu su'esu'e lea ua tu'uina atu e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa mo sa'ili'iliga tau fa'asao ma su'esu'ega o meaola i le vao ma le palapala, ma suīga o le tau. O nofoaga fa'aleaganu'u a le fa'asamoa, e maua mai ai nisi malamalama i matatā tau tala 'eli, gagana, o su'esu'ega fa'alauaitete o le aganu'u, ma isi matāfaioi.
- **Tausiga o Tamāoaiga.** E lagolago e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa le fa'aogaina o fanua ma fa'aauau tausiga o aiga, e aofia ai fāgotaga, o le tu'u fa'atasia o mea taumafa, ma fa'ato'aga i nofoaga mautū. O le fa'aogāina o fanua ma le sami e o gātasi ma pulega fa'aleaganu'u ma le Paka Fa'asao. O se tulaga tāua lea o le Paka Fasao.
- **Fa'afeso'ota'iga o Tagata Lautele i le Tofi o Samoa ma ona Fanua.** O lo'o maumaututū le lagolago a le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa i le una'ia o le tausiga o ālaga'oa, fesoasoani i tagata Samoa ia feso'ota'i i lo latou tofi fa'aleaganu'u, saunia ni fa'amatalaga ma avanoa tau a'oa'oga mo le lautele. O le paka o se punao'a tāua ma fa'amoemoeina fa'alea'oa'oga mo tagata Samoa ma mālō asiasi mai. E maua nei a'oa'oga i le gagana Samoa ma le Fa'aPeretania.
- **Avanoa mo Tafaōga.** E maua i le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa avanoa mo tafaōga mo mālō asiasi ma tagata Samoa, e talafeagai ma fa'atupula'ia ai le ola mālōlōina ma le soifua laulelei. E aofia ai i ia avanoa le ā'ea o mauga, i ona ala sopo aga'i i le tumutumumauga, ma nofoaga fa'aleaganu'u a Samoa; fa'amālu, 'au'au, tofu po'o le mauu, ma le fa'aogāina o va'a i itotonu o le gataifale o le paka; ma le 'auai atu i ni porokalame ma ni fa'atinoga fa'aleaganu'u.

Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are often described as the key stories or concepts that visitors should understand after visiting a park—they define the most important ideas or concepts communicated to visitors about a park unit. Themes are derived from, and should reflect, park purpose, significance, resources, and values. The set of interpretive themes is complete when it provides the structure necessary for park staff to develop opportunities for visitors to explore and relate to all park significance statements and fundamental resources and values.

Interpretive themes are an organizational tool that reveal and clarify meaning, concepts, contexts, and values represented by park resources. Sound themes are accurate and reflect current scholarship and science. They encourage exploration of the context in which events or natural processes occurred and the effects of those events and processes. Interpretive themes go beyond a mere description of the event or process to foster multiple opportunities to experience and consider the park and its resources. These themes help explain why a park story is relevant to people who may otherwise be unaware of connections they have to an event, time, or place associated with the park.

The following interpretive themes have been identified for National Park of American Samoa:

- The dynamic interplay of the Samoan people with their lands and waters are the basis of *Fa'asamoa* (Samoan way of life), and the National Park of American Samoa provides people of all cultures the opportunity to connect with these Polynesian homelands and with each other.
- Considered a birthplace of Polynesian cultures, the National Park of American Samoa's resources are connected to the entire human history of Samoa and illustrate the dynamism and resilience of Samoan culture for more than 3,000 years.
- The human history in American Samoa spans three millennia from initial settlement of the islands, through Christian missionary contact, colonization by European powers, World War II, and the current blending of traditional values with Western modernization.
- The mixed species paleotropical *vaomatua* (rainforest) that the National Park of American Samoa preserves and protects is of great importance to the United States and other countries due to the world-wide decline of tropical forests and to the immense biological, scientific, and medicinal value of plants found within.
- The healthy and diverse Indo-Pacific coral reefs protected by the National Park of American Samoa are a fragile and complex ecosystem that is both socially and scientifically significant to American Samoa and the world.



- The five *motu* (islands) that comprise American Samoa are the peaks of huge underwater volcanoes that formed approximately 100,000 to 1.5 million years ago above a geologic hotspot through a dramatic demonstration of plate-tectonics and are slowly eroding back into the sea. These processes continue as the hotspot slowly builds another volcano off the coast of Ta'ū.
- The small, remote *motu* (islands) of American Samoa have unique ecosystems that are highly vulnerable to natural disasters like cyclones and tsunamis, as well as human impacts such as climate change, pollution, development, and introduced species.
- The diverse and charismatic wildlife of the islands is intimately tied to the Samoan culture and language, and maintains the ecological integrity of the rainforest ecosystem.
- The two native *pe'a* (fruit bats) serve a vital role in pollinating flowers and dispersing seeds for plant species across the Samoan archipelago and are important in the Samoan culture.
- The National Park of American Samoa offers breathtaking tropical scenery, magnificent white sand beaches, pristine coral reefs, dramatic sea cliffs, lush verdant mountains, ancient Samoan cultural sites, and an extraordinary southern hemisphere night sky, providing abundant opportunities for discovery, reflection, inspiration, as well as a variety of recreational experiences.
- Traditional subsistence use of *measina* (resources) in the National Park of American Samoa continues to be integral to *Fa'asamoa*. The sustainable use of plants and animals provides materials, food, and medicine for a healthy lifestyle and helps maintain the Samoan heritage for present and future generations.



Fa'auigaga o Mataupu

O fa'amatalaga o mataupu, e masani ona fa'amatala tala tāua po'o manatu e tatau ona malamalama i ai tagata asiasi pe a mae'a ona āsia se paka – e fa'ailoa atu ai i tagata asiasi mai, manatu tāua e patino i lea paka. O mataupu e mafua mai, mā e tatau ona iloa ai le autū, tāua, ālaga'oa, ma aga tāua o le paka. E atoatoa le fa'amatalaga o mataupu pe 'a mafai ona tu'uina atu se fa'atulagaga mo le au'faigaluega a le paka, e atiina'e ai avanoa mo tagata asiasi, e auili'ili ma feso'ota'i ai fa'amatalaga i le tāua o ālaga'oa, ma aga tāua fa'avae.

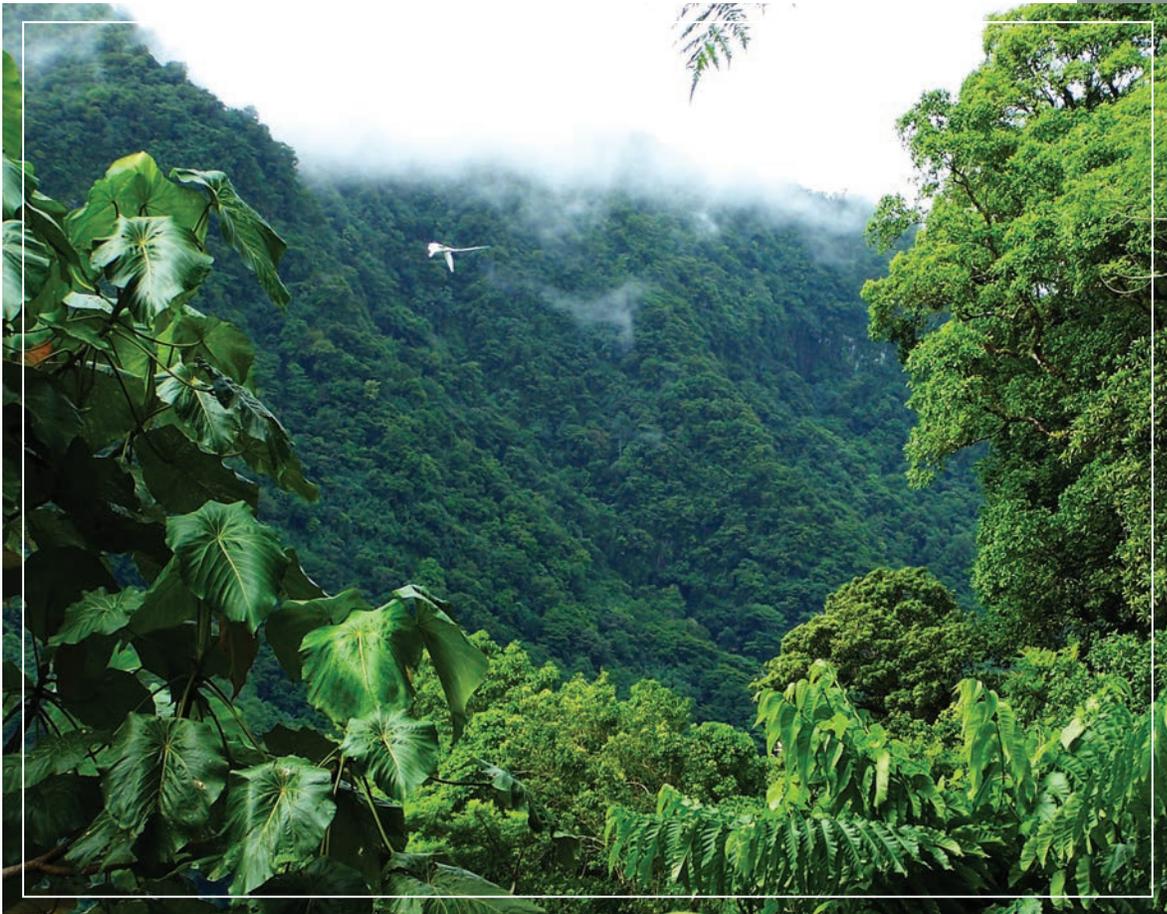
O le fa'amatalaga o matāupu, o se metotia e mafai ona fa'ailoa ma fa'amanino atu ai uiga, fa'atulagaga o uiga, ma aga fa'avae o ālaga'oa o le paka. O matāupu maumaututū, ua moni, mā e fa'ailoa atu ai su'esu'ega fa'asaienisi. E fa'amalosia ai le sailiiliga i uiga o gaioi'iga ma mea na tutupu fa'alēnatura, ma o latou a'afiaga. O le fa'amatalaga o matāupu o lo'o fa'amautuina ai tulaga ma tala'aga o mea na tutupu, ina ia tōsina mai ai tagata asiasi ma molimauina le mātagofie o le paka. O ia mataupu o loo fesoasoani e fa'amatalina le mafuaaga o tala ave o le paka ma lona faia ma tagata e le o silafia le latou feso'ota'iga ma mea na tutupu, taimi na tutupu ai, ma nofoaga e feso'ota'i ma le paka.

O Fa'amatalaga o Mataupu nei, o soso'o atu, ua mae'a ona fa'ailoa mai mo le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa:

- O le ō gātasi o le soifuaga o tagata Samoa ma o latou si'osi'omaga, o le fa'avae lea o le olaga fa'asamoa, mā e tu'uina atu e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa i tagata o aganu'u ese'ese, le avanoa e feso'ota'i ai ma nei fanua fa'avae o le Polenisia ma isi tagatānu'u.
- O aganu'u eseese o le Polenisia na afua mai i Amerika Samoa. O le ala lea o loo feso'ota'i ai ālaga'oa ma talafa'asolopito o Amerika Samoa, ma ua iloga ai le maumaututu o lana aganu'u ua silia nei ma le 3,000 tausaga.
- O le talafa'asolopito o tagata i Amerika Samoa e tusa ma le 3,000 tausaga mai le ulua'i nofoia o motu, feso'ota'iga ma misionare Kerisiano, pulega fa'akolone a Europa, Taua Lona Lua o le lalolagi, ma le fefiloi o tū fa'aSamoa ma aga fa'aonaponei mai fafo.
- O meaola fefiloi o i le vaomatua o lo'o fa'asao ma puipuia e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa, e telē lona tāua i le Iunaite Setete ma isi atunu'u ona o le fa'aitiitia o vaomatua i le lalolagi, atoa ai ma le telē o le tāua i su'esu'ega o mea'ola, fa'asaienisi ma le tāua o vaila'au fofō e maua mai i la'au.
- O ituaiga a'au 'amu ese'ese a le Indo-Pacific o lo'o ola lelei ma puipuia e le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa, ma e lē faigofie ae, e tāua i tagata ma le fa'asaienisi i Amerika Samoa ma le lalolagi.



- O motu e lima o Amerika Samoa, o tumutumu ia o ni maugamū o le sami na tupu i le 100,000 i le 1.5 miliona tausaga talu ai i luga a'e o se nofoaga vevela i le ele'ele, na mafua ona o lefese'etai'ga o se vaega o le ogā i totonu o le manava o le eleele, ua amata ona toe solo atu i le sami. O nei fese'etai'iga o lo'o fa'aauau pea a 'o fausia lemū e le nofoaga vevela se isi maugamū i tala atu o le talafātai o Ta'ū.
- O motu laiti, tūmamao o Amerika Samoa e iai o latou si'osi'omaga tulaga ese, e faigofie ona āfaina i fa'alavelave fa'alenuma e pei o afā, galulolo, aemaise gaoiga a tagata e mafua ai le le suiga o le tau, fa'aleagaina o le si'osi'omaga, o atiina'e, ma le aumaia o meaola fou i totonu o Amerika Samoa.
- E fa'aauauina le tulaga fealofa'i o ālaga'manua ma le si'osi'omaga o vaomatua i le atunu'u ona o le vāvālalata o le so'otaga o le fa'asamoa ma le gagana ma le tele o meaola ese'ese o le vao.
- E lua itu'aiga pe'a o Amerika Samoa ('ai fualaau aina), e tāua tele l le feavea'ina ma le fa'asalalauina o fatu o la'au ese'ese i le atu Samoa ma e tāua fo'i i le aganu'u Samoa.
- E ofo atu e le Paka Fa'asao Amerika Samoa se māta'aga matagofie, matāfaga oneone papa'e, a'au 'amu olaola lelei, o papa tū lata i le sami, mauga lanu lau'ava, nofoaga fa'aleaganu'u a Samoa anamua, ma se lagi tulaga maoga'e i le po i le itū i Saute, e maua ai avanoa e tele e sa'ili'ili, tomānatu, fa'atupu manatu atoa ai ma isi itu'aiga tafaōga fa'afiafia loto.
- O le fa'aaogaga fa'aleaganu'u o measina (ālaga'oa) i le Paka Fa'asao o Amerika Samoa, o lo'o aveaga pea ma vāega tāua o le Fa'asamoa. O le fa'aaogāina o la'au ma meaola e maua ai mea e gaosia ai meatotino, mea'ai, ma vaifofō mo le soifua maloloina ma fesoasoani e fa'aauau le tofi o Samoa mo tupulaga nei ma a taeao.



Part 2: Dynamic Components

The dynamic components of a foundation document include special mandates and administrative commitments and an assessment of planning and data needs. These components are dynamic because they will change over time. New special mandates can be established and new administrative commitments made. As conditions and trends of fundamental resources and values change over time, the analysis of planning and data needs will need to be revisited and revised, along with key issues. Therefore, this part of the foundation document will be updated accordingly.

Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

Many management decisions for a park unit are directed or influenced by special mandates and administrative commitments with other federal agencies, state and local governments, utility companies, partnering organizations, and other entities. Special mandates are requirements specific to a park that must be fulfilled. Mandates can be expressed in enabling legislation, in separate legislation following the establishment of the park, or through a judicial process. They may expand on park purpose or introduce elements unrelated to the purpose of the park. Administrative commitments are, in general, agreements that have been reached through formal, documented processes, often through memorandums of agreement. Examples include easements, rights-of-way, arrangements for emergency service responses, etc. Special mandates and administrative commitments can support, in many cases, a network of partnerships that help fulfill the objectives of the park and facilitate working relationships with other organizations. They are an essential component of managing and planning for National Park of American Samoa.

Special Mandates

- **Lease of Samoan Lands and Waters.** The National Park Service cannot purchase land outright in American Samoa due to the traditional communal land system. The park was legally established in September 1993 when a 50-year lease agreement was signed between the Governor of American Samoa, acting on behalf of eight villages, and the National Park Service. The lease provides the National Park Service with the authority to manage lands and waters for national park purposes, and grants access to NPS personnel, park-authorized individuals, and the general public. (Section 2 (a) of Public Law 100-571)

At the end of the 50-year lease, the Governor of American Samoa is encouraged to renew the lease. If it is not renewed, all lands, facilities, and administration of the park will be transferred to the Governor without compensation. (Section 2 (c) of Public Law 100-571)

The High Court of American Samoa has exclusive jurisdiction to determine the amount to be disbursed. Funds may be disbursed only by the Governor, in amounts determined by the High Court of American Samoa, to those villages and families located within the boundaries of the park. (Section 2 (d)(2) of Public Law 100-571)

- **Traditional Subsistence Uses.** Traditional Samoan cultural and subsistence uses of park lands and waters are to be maintained within the national park. Agriculture, gathering, and fishing activities are allowed with the understanding that they will use traditional tools and methods, they are generally prior uses, and they are conducted in areas consistent with use at the time the park was created. These activities will be limited in scope and location, and the National Park Service is expected to work with village leaders to clarify and reach agreement as to the rules regarding these uses. (Section 3 (b) of Public Law 100-571)
- **Interpretation Languages – English and Samoan.** Interpretive activities and information (including maps) are to be made available in both English and Samoan. (Section 3 (c) of Public Law 100-571)
- **Employment Contracts.** The park may hire employees or contractors who are not subject to civil service laws or quotas. (Section 3 (d) of Public Law 100-571)
- **Hiring American Samoans.** The National Park Service is directed to “establish a program to train native American Samoa personnel to function as professional park service employees.” (Section 3(e) of Public Law 100-571) This involves identifying and nurturing native American Samoans who have demonstrated an interest in acquiring the academic background, skills, and experience needed to operate and manage national parks. This goal is to be achieved in two basic ways: (1) by hiring qualified native American Samoans with background, education, and experience in national park-related fields to fill professional positions at the National Park of American Samoa; and (2) hiring and training native American Samoan students to pursue and complete professional degrees in national park-related fields.
- **Advisory Board.** An advisory board is to be established to provide advice regarding the management of the park. It shall consist of five members, three of whom are nominated by the Governor of American Samoa. The board members will be unpaid, but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses related to their work. (Section 3 (g) of Public Law 100-571)
- **Ten-Year Review.** The operations and management of the park are to be reviewed at least once every 10 years by the Department of the Interior and American Samoa Government delegates. The review includes the National Park Service’s achievement of park objectives, technical assistance needs, cooperative arrangements between the National Park Service and American Samoa Government, and the lease arrangement. (Section 3 (h) of Public Law 100-571)
- **Technical Assistance.** Technical or other assistance to the American Samoa Government can be requested, including assistance from other federal agencies (Section 3 (i) of Public Law 100-571)
- **Vai’ava Straight National Natural Landmark.** The coastline north of the village of Vatia has splendid volcanic cliffs formed by wave erosion. A 350-acre area surrounding the channel between the main island of Tutuila and Pola Island was designated a national natural landmark in 1972, prior to establishment of the park.

Administrative Commitments

For more information about the existing administrative commitments and administrative support roles for National Park of American Samoa, please see appendix C.

Assessment of Planning and Data Needs

Once the core components of part 1 of the foundation document have been identified, it is important to gather and evaluate existing information about the park's fundamental resources and values, and develop a full assessment of the park's planning and data needs. The assessment of planning and data needs section presents planning issues, the planning projects that will address these issues, and the associated information requirements for planning, such as resource inventories and data collection, including GIS data.

There are three sections in the assessment of planning and data needs:

1. analysis of fundamental resources and values (see appendix B)
2. identification of key issues and associated planning and data needs
3. identification of planning and data needs (including spatial mapping activities or GIS maps)

The analysis of fundamental resources and values and identification of key issues leads up to and supports the identification of planning and data collection needs.

Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resource or value analysis table includes current conditions, potential threats and opportunities, planning and data needs, and selected laws and NPS policies related to management of the identified resource or value. Please see appendix B for the analysis of fundamental resources and values.

Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs

This section considers key issues to be addressed in planning and management and therefore takes a broader view over the primary focus of part 1. A key issue focuses on a question that is important for a park. Key issues often raise questions regarding park purpose and significance and fundamental resources and values. For example, a key issue may pertain to the potential for a fundamental resource or value in a park to be detrimentally affected by discretionary management decisions. A key issue may also address crucial questions that are not directly related to purpose and significance, but which still affect them indirectly. Usually, a key issue is one that a future planning effort or data collection needs to address and requires a decision by NPS managers.

The following are key issues for National Park of American Samoa and the associated planning and data needs to address them:

- **Health of rainforest habitat and species.** There are more than 250 nonnative plant species in American Samoa (including the invasive tamaligi, lopa, and rubber trees), some of which pose grave threats to local rainforest ecosystems. Invasive animal species such as rats, cane toads, and certain birds (mya and bulbul) are a growing problem, and the rate of new introductions is increasing over time as a result of globalization. Although significant work has been done to control the spread of invasive species and remove them from the park, substantial effort and additional funding are needed to address several related issues. These include mitigation for current and future impacts, identifying proactive and agile response strategies for new threats, enhancing efficiencies in current invasive species management programs, and ultimately, establishing a management strategy that maintains the health of the park's forests into the future.

Tied to the health of these rainforests are important animal species that depend on them, including the fruit bats that the park is legislatively mandated to protect. Some species are well studied or monitored (e.g., fruit bats and butterflies). In particular, the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network has implemented monitoring programs for land birds, freshwater animals, water quality in streams and marine areas, coral reefs, marine fish, climate and weather, and land use changes.

However, some important resources still lack baseline data on abundance, distribution, and species health (e.g., coconut crabs, terrestrial snails). More information is needed to inform management and conservation efforts.

Another concern regarding terrestrial ecosystems is legislatively permissible traditional subsistence uses (agriculture, gathering, and other cultural uses) that are not well understood, managed, or regulated. As populations increase there may be increasing demand for these uses within the park.

- *Associated planning needs:* climate change action strategy, interagency integrated terrestrial pest management plan, interagency resource stewardship strategy, park partner action strategy, terrestrial subsistence management plan, wildlife management plan
- *Associated data needs:* bryophyte and epiphyte survey, cave survey, coconut crab survey, entomology study, snake survey, survey of all species of concern, terrestrial snail survey, terrestrial subsistence use study, water quality monitoring to address acidification and contaminants, additional data related to birds, fruit bats, and vegetation in cooperation with partners

- **Threats to marine and freshwater resources.** Human impacts, both local and global, are bringing rapidly increasing pressures to marine and freshwater ecosystems in the park, and are having adverse effects on water quality. In addition, the park's enabling legislation allows traditional subsistence uses—including fishing—but does not set limits, constraints, or provide additional information for management. Fishing occurs both legally and illegally in American Samoa, and its associated impacts are not well understood or regulated within park waters. There is also a growing concern about cumulative impacts as human populations increase and fishing technologies improve.

Managers need better information about the ecological health in the park's marine and freshwater habitats. This includes the status of their associated species—especially species of concern (e.g., giant clam, sea turtles, coral species), potential chemical contamination concerns, and threats posed by invasive species and climate change associated impacts on resources within these systems (e.g., coral bleaching and altered species interactions). Additional research is needed to improve park managers' ability to use science in planning and decision-making processes.

- *Associated planning needs:* climate change action strategy, interagency integrated terrestrial pest management plan, interagency resource stewardship strategy, marine management plan
- *Associated data needs:* assessment of the cumulative impacts of coral reef research, coral reef bleaching and disease study, giant clam distribution and population data, mesophotic coral reef study, sea turtle population data, subsistence fishery assessment, survey of all species of concern, understand connectivity of coral larval dispersal, water quality monitoring to address acidification and contaminants, wild and scenic river survey

- **Effects of climate change on park resources.** Climate change is a significant threat to the National Park of American Samoa, which is already seeing the effects in forest and reef health. Over time, the impacts of climate change will further degrade the condition of natural and cultural resources in the park. Sea level rise will lead to saltwater intrusion, rising groundwater tables, and loss of land surface. High intensity storms will intensify coastal surge events, erosion, and damage to natural resources and built infrastructure. The impacts of increasing water temperatures, ocean acidification, invasive species, and numerous other changes, including coral bleaching, will continue to require highly informed monitoring and adaptive management.

From the human perspective, climate change will have unknown impacts on health and wellness, as well as the visitor experience. Disease, water quality, the food supply, and tropical storms are all potential concerns. Furthermore, American Samoa is composed of small, “high islands” with dramatic mountains and steep cliffs. This geography leaves limited options for local individuals and communities as sea levels rise and flat coastal areas are inundated.

Finally, the park must reconsider and limit its own contribution to carbon emissions and climate change as a result of park operations and visitation. Becoming a NPS Climate Friendly Park will help target appropriate reductions and improve park sustainability and environmental leadership.

- *Associated planning needs:* climate change action strategy, interagency resource stewardship strategy, park partner action strategy
- *Associated data needs:* study impacts of climate change on park resources, survey of all species of concern, water quality monitoring to address acidification and contaminants
- **Understanding and protecting cultural resources.** The cultural resources of the park, past and present, are vast, diverse, and complex. Cultural resource management faces a number of challenges including incomplete cultural and archeological resource baseline documentation, a lack of oral histories, difficulties in maintaining an appropriate collection storage facility, the location of key historical and archeological resources outside of park boundaries, and an incomplete documentation of Samoan ethnography related to the park’s resources.
 - *Associated planning needs:* cultural resources management plan, interagency resource stewardship strategy, park partner action strategy
 - *Associated data needs:* archeological overview and assessment, cultural landscape inventories (if deemed appropriate by the cultural resource condition assessment and cultural resources management plan), cultural resources condition assessment
- **Understanding and improving the visitor experience, recreation, and community engagement.** Although visiting the park is a highly rewarding, often once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for off-island visitors, the remoteness of the park makes it a challenging destination. For Samoan visitors, there can be cultural preferences that do not favor active recreation. In addition, tourists may expect greater access to facilities and resources such as service areas, archeological and historical sites, interpretation, scenic vistas, beaches, reefs, forests, as well as exciting opportunities to engage with the Samoan culture.

The park tracks visitation at its visitor center, but lacks an understanding of visitor use patterns and demographics across the lands and waters of its three units. Without this understanding it will be difficult to make changes that offer the greatest benefit to all interests—especially the Samoan community—and maintain the relevance of the park into the future.

Some individuals and communities do not have a solid understanding of the park, its value to American Samoa and the United States, and its relevance as modernization affects the traditional subsistence way of life on the islands. Given limited budgets and rapid cultural change, community support and engagement has become essential in avoiding resource degradation and meeting the park’s natural and cultural resource stewardship goals.

- *Associated planning needs:* long-range interpretive plan update, park partner action strategy, trails management plan
- *Associated data needs:* accessibility assessment, trail survey, transportation assessment, visitor use study

- **Constraints on park management, operations, and staffing.** The park faces a number of challenges for managers to achieve park priorities and meet the demands of systemwide initiatives.

Maintenance, facilities, and infrastructure issues exist in all three units and at headquarters. They include the complex maintenance needs and conditions of isolated tropical islands, persistent trash dumping on park lands, and unreliable communications infrastructure within the park and challenges in communicating outside American Samoa. Facility development and maintenance needs extend beyond the resources available, and it is necessary to carefully evaluate projects based on the park's highest priorities for management and visitor experience goals.

Park lands are leased from local villages, reappraised on 5-year intervals, and these costs have steadily increased over time. The increasing cost of the lease paired with a static budget is reducing the funding for park operations and forces managers to make cuts elsewhere. In addition, there is a lack of clarity regarding the park boundaries, occasional disputes with landowners, inadequate information about the appraisal system, concern regarding the way lease payments are made, additional development pressures on the islands, and questions about continuity beyond the 50-year lease period.

Staffing issues include fulfilling the legislative mandate to train and employ native American Samoans as well as better supporting staff health and wellness. To meet this mandate greater efforts are needed to organize existing programs and create new learning and employment opportunities for local people, and involve residents in park science and resource management projects.

Working in the context of a remote unincorporated territory of the United States poses several additional operational complexities. These include maintaining relationships and open communications with the villages, *matais* (chiefs), and the American Samoa Government, as well as operations that are done in both English and Samoan. Lack of NPS law enforcement jurisdiction also constrains the park's ability to carry out its mission when laws and regulations are broken. Because American Samoa is so remote from the United States, local park staff have little opportunity to experience National Park Service agency culture and work environments in a broader context. This remoteness also makes it difficult for off-island NPS support staff and managers to experience and fully understand the unique challenges the park faces.

Finally, the park lacks guidance on several fronts due to outdated planning documents (see appendix D). New plans are needed to direct the park's future management.

- *Associated planning needs:* maintenance plan, park partner action strategy, staffing needs assessment and plan, strategic plan
- *Associated data needs:* administrative history, boundary survey, transportation assessment
- **Challenges to administration of the Manu'a Islands.** The park operations in the distant Manu'a Islands (Ofu, Olosega, and Ta'u) have specific and unique challenges. With minimal permanent staff presence, only limited services are available for educational programming, community outreach, maintenance of village relations, and visitor engagement activities. Similarly, resource management and research coordination needs and opportunities exceed the local capacity of park staff. Infrastructure and logistical challenges range from transportation and facilities, to waste management.
 - *Associated planning needs:* Manu'a units management plan
 - *Associated data needs:* boundary survey, transportation assessment

Planning and Data Needs

To maintain connection to the core elements of the foundation and the importance of these core foundation elements, the planning and data needs listed here are directly related to protecting fundamental resources and values, park significance, and park purpose, as well as addressing key issues. To successfully undertake a planning effort, information from sources such as inventories, studies, research activities, and analyses may be required to provide adequate knowledge of park resources and visitor information. Such information sources have been identified as data needs. Geospatial mapping tasks and products are included in data needs.

Items considered of the utmost importance were identified as high priority, and other items identified, but not rising to the level of high priority, were listed as either medium- or low-priority needs. These priorities inform park management efforts to secure funding and support for planning projects.

Criteria and Considerations for Prioritization. The following criteria were used to evaluate the priority of each planning or data need:

- Greatest utility to unit management
- Has broad implications and addresses multiple interrelated issues
- Emergency or urgency of the issue
- Protects fundamental resources and values or prevents resource degradation
- Enhances visitor experience
- Leverages opportunities, including interagency partnership or other assistance
- Feasibility of completing the plan or study

High Priority Planning Needs

Climate Change Action Strategy.

Rationale — Climate change poses a significant threat to the National Park of American Samoa and the impacts on forest and reef health are already evident. Over time, the effects of climate change will further degrade the condition of natural and cultural resources in the park. Sea level rise results in the loss of land surface area, rising groundwater tables, and the intrusion of saltwater into freshwater systems. Weather and climate changes could bring higher temperatures and altered rainfall regimes, resulting in more severe droughts and intense flooding events, and stressing rainforests and their associated wildlife. More frequent high intensity storms that accompany many climate change projections will enhance waves and surges on the coast, increase erosion, and cause other damage to natural resources and built infrastructure. Also, rising ocean water temperatures may contribute to coral bleaching (the expulsion of symbiotic algae from corals), ocean acidification, and new marine invasive species challenges. All of these changes and others will require highly informed and adaptive management. In addition, the park must reconsider and limit its own contribution to carbon emissions and climate change as a result of park operations and visitation.

Scope — In order to address the many facets of this complex issue, the park would undertake climate change planning that would begin with condition assessments, synthesizing existing data and models, performing targeted modeling for key species, and assessing the exposure, vulnerability, and adaptive capacity of natural resources, cultural sites, and facilities. Planning outcomes would focus on deepening the understanding of climate change impacts, developing prioritized and targeted mitigation and adaptation strategies, and building effective climate change response partnerships.

Scenario planning would be used to augment the climate change action plan, and a vulnerability assessment would be conducted at the landscape level in collaboration with other public land managers and villages in American Samoa. This plan would also outline education strategies that would help local communities work together to reduce the drivers of climate change, such as carbon emissions, as well as mitigate the impacts of climate change. Other park planning efforts (e.g., wildlife management plan, marine management plan, cultural resources management plan, etc.) may also provide resource-specific climate change response actions.

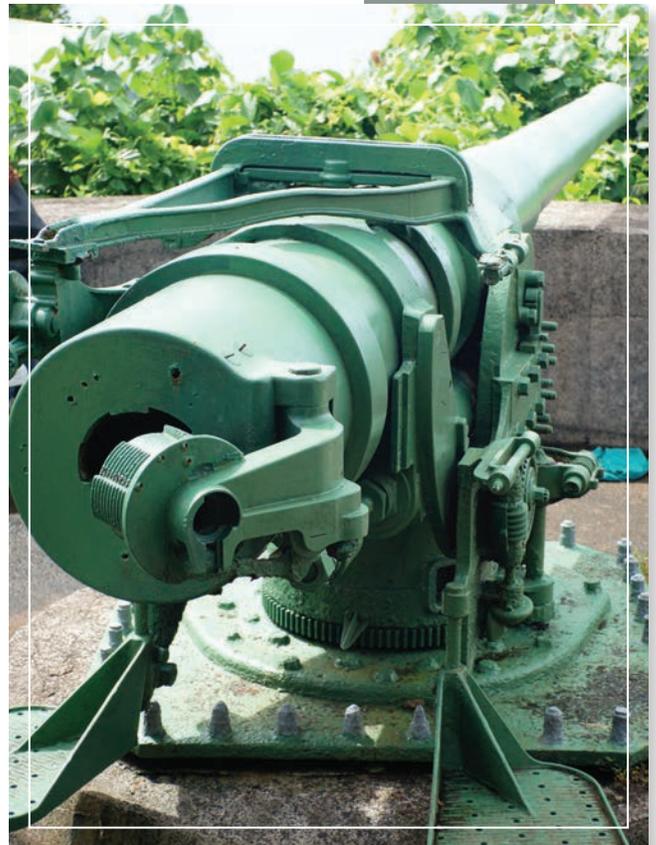
Cultural Resources Management Plan.

Rationale — While the park's cultural resources are of extraordinary value, the park has never had a comprehensive cultural resource program for managing the many different types of cultural resources.

The archeological sites are rich, numerous, and important for Polynesian research, though not well documented. Archeological work has been conducted by three separate archeologists over the past few decades but no comprehensive documentation for the entire park has been completed. There are also many important archeological sites outside the park and for which the National Park Service could provide technical assistance. Archeological sites are threatened by several factors including increased tropical storms and wave action, feral pigs, tree roots, and changes in land use. The research could also lead to the completion of National Register of Historic Places nominations, but more information and analysis are needed to make these determinations.

The park could benefit greatly from applying a nontraditional/oral history approach to cultural landscape studies. The park contains rich cultural landscapes and traditional cultural properties that justify further investigation and formal assessment (such as the Saua Site on Ta'u and the Mt. Alava Site, Pola Island, and Fagasa Bay on Tutuila). There are also military and other historic structures (such as the naval guns at Breakers and Blunts Points and the aerial tramway that once crossed Pago Pago harbor) that need more documentation and analysis. The remains of the Pago Pago aerial tramway on the summit of Mt. Alava is owned by the American Samoa Government, and the park has no plans to restore or operate this infrastructure. Collections management needs guidance to properly store and preserve the park's important archival and artifact collections.

Scope — The cultural resources management plan for the National Park of American Samoa would encompass management guidance for all cultural resource types, including ethnography, archeology, cultural landscapes, traditional cultural properties, historic structures and routes, and history. It would identify threats and opportunities for cultural resource management, including research needs, and determine treatments for different resource types. The plan would explore alternative management options and provide site-specific direction for long-term management and monitoring. The plan would also present opportunities for new resource-based interpretation and enhancement of the visitor experience.



Interagency Integrated Terrestrial Pest Management Plan.

Rationale — The park needs a clear decision-making process that coordinates knowledge of pest biology, the environment, and available technology to prevent unacceptable levels of pest damage by cost-effective means while posing the least possible risk to people, resources, and the environment. The introduction of new invasive species, and more broadly, biosecurity are a major concern for the islands' fragile ecosystems, necessitating a proactive approach to these threats. Numerous invasive plant species such as the lopa, tamaligi, and rubber trees are threatening local forest ecosystems. Invasive birds such as the bulbul and myna are threatening local land birds and driving them out of their native habitat. Rats and feral cats and dogs also threaten native birds and other wildlife. Control of these species will require substantial effort, a great deal of coordination with partners, and stable, long-term financial support. Despite current successes in invasive species management, it will not be possible to maintain the health of the park's forests over time without augmenting the current invasive species management program, identifying proactive and agile response tactics for new threats, and developing mitigation strategies for current and future impacts.

Scope — The first step would be to identify and engage key partners in the planning process. The plan would be collaboratively developed and would begin with a statement of the need for pest management, a description of impacted sites, the identification of individual pest species, and the collection of important species biology and life history information. This background information would be followed by clear objectives that articulate action thresholds, desired future conditions, prioritized strategies based on cost-benefit analysis, a range of options for management and treatments, and monitoring protocols. In addition, the plan would include a thorough discussion of policy and compliance requirements.

Long-Range Interpretive Plan (Update).

Rationale — The park's 2002 long-range interpretive plan was written well before the interpretation and education program was created in 2010. An update of this plan is not only essential to maintain the momentum of current programs, but also to expand the park's relationship with local communities. The park is composed of lands leased from local villages. Education, interpretation, and outreach are the primary modes for developing and maintaining relationships with these communities. Despite a solid foundation in its K-12 school programs and engagement with church and village council programs, there is a need to broaden the scope of the interpretation and education program for both residents and off-island visitors. The broader scope would help the park to reach more diverse visitor audiences, increase park support, and enhance learning opportunities.

Scope — This plan would identify target audiences and desired visitor experiences, and recommend ways to more directly meet visitor needs—including infrastructure requirements. Improved marketing and communication would help encouraging active use and stewardship of the park while minimizing negative impacts on park resources. As needed, the interpretive themes would be reviewed and refined, and research efforts and goals would be reviewed and clarified. Current standards and the latest technologies would be used to redefine interpretation goals and objectives. Employee responsibilities would also be outlined for exhibit management, partnerships development, and educational, interpretive, and community programming.

The plan would describe visitor experience goals and would offer a wide variety of both personal (programs and personal contacts) and independent (media and facilities) interpretive services that would best communicate the park's purpose, significance, and interpretive themes. Specific guidance for exhibits and the use of appropriate technologies (personal electronic devices, apps, and social media) would also be considered as a part of the planning process.

Park-specific needs that would be addressed in a long-range interpretive plan include assessing and recommending improvements to visitor contact infrastructure and exhibits on each of the three islands. The effort would include exploring new opportunities for transportation—a major barrier to park visitation for both residents and off-islanders. In addition, the park could better meet its purpose and goals by developing new partnerships, solidifying existing cooperative agreements, increasing volunteerism to support park programming, and strengthening ties with the villages. Further reviewing and updating the division's staffing configuration and training program would help to broaden park themes and messaging, especially for climate change, physical health, environmental conservation, and maintaining cultural connections.

Manu'a Units Management Plan.

Rationale — Park operations in the Manu'a Islands (Ofu, Olosega, and Ta'u) face a number of challenges due to their remoteness, isolation, and relative lack of development. Currently there is no formal plan in place to guide park operations on these units, and many service and infrastructure needs are unavailable. To effectively manage these units of the park, a comprehensive yet adaptable management plan is necessary to outline logistics and address issues unique to this district of the park.

Scope — This plan would cover a full range of management considerations for the Manu'a Islands including visitor services and use, transportation, facilities, waste management, operations and staffing, outreach, educational programming, and village and American Samoa Government relations. It would also provide specific resource management guidance that would be consistent with other park resource management plans.

Marine Management Plan.

Rationale — The park's enabling legislation tasks the park with preserving and protecting the park's coral reefs, while allowing for subsistence use of these marine areas. There is currently no marine management plan in place and continued impacts on park resources make this an urgent park need. There are numerous threats to the park's marine resources that have been identified by agencies and scholars, including fishing, degrading water quality, increased water temperatures, sea level rise, ocean acidification, increased coral bleaching and disease, invasive species, and outbreaks of the crown-of-thorns starfish. The introduction of new invasive species, and more broadly, biosecurity are a major concern for the islands' fragile ecosystems, necessitating a proactive approach to these threats. National Park of American Samoa and the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network monitor coral reefs, marine fish, and marine water quality, but further work is necessary to elucidate the impacts that the above threats have had on the park's marine resources. Such efforts would allow the park to develop management protocols that mitigate deleterious effects and promote the protection and restoration of resources to a level that will enable long-term ecological sustainability.

A comprehensive planning process conducted in collaboration with park villages and the American Samoa Government would help to identify the best and most practical strategies to achieve common goals and promote management consistency across organizations. It would develop strategies to protect water quality and improve the overall health of the marine ecosystem, while providing visitors with high-quality recreational opportunities and supporting sustainable fishing resources for local villages. The plan would also be a valuable communication tool by articulating management strategies, activities, and products to partners and the general public.

Scope — This plan would cover the marine areas within the Ofu, Ta'ū, and Tutuila units. The plan would involve park staff, and should also involve collaboration with regional natural resources and planning staff, inventory and monitoring staff, territorial agencies, and local villages. The plan would include sections on the latest marine science—including climate change, resource threat reduction—including invasive species, sustainable subsistence use, recreation and access, education and outreach, enforcement and resource protection, collaborative management, and community and partner relations.

The planning process would also include efforts to identify, delineate, and map features such as sensitive species and habitats, invasive and pest species, physical features, and marine management zones. The plan would evaluate, refine, and clarify the park's research priorities and guide future projects and studies. It would identify key social, economic, and ecological characteristics, establish ecosystem indicators, and use this information to assess ecosystem health. It would also study human uses of marine waters—particularly fishing and recreation—in an effort to provide better guidance for fisheries management. The plan would develop an implementation strategy that incorporates adaptive management strategies.

Staffing Needs Assessment and Plan.

Rationale — The park has a limited ability to meet DOI and NPS priorities and manage existing workloads given current staffing and budget constraints. In addition, the park's enabling legislation mandates the park to "... establish a program to train native American Samoan personnel to function as professional park service employees ... and to the extent practicable ... extend a preference for the hiring of native American Samoans ...” Furthermore, there is also a need to improve collaboration and information sharing among divisions. An assessment of staffing needs would help guide the park in addressing these issues.

Scope — The staffing needs assessment and plan would be coordinated with the park's strategic planning effort. It would outline the current status of park staffing, use a “Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats” analysis to identify staffing strategies that better meet park needs and goals, and identify near-term priorities that can be addressed through improved staffing. It would support decisions on workforce planning, set targets for future staffing levels, guide the training program for Samoan staff, and help keep current and future staffing needs in line with the park budget. The staffing assessment would be updated every three to five years as park issues and needs change.



Strategic Plan.

Rationale — It is critical to focus employee attention and energy on addressing major operational, organizational, administrative, and resource issues effectively and in a timely manner. To do so, the park needs to establish a common understanding of current conditions, desired future conditions for the next three to five years, and the actions and efforts needed to achieve that vision. A strategic plan would address these issues. Strategic planning workshops have taken place at the park in the past, but no final strategic plan has been recently completed or implemented. A strategic plan would provide park management with a clearer and stronger sense of direction by helping park staff to identify major challenges and opportunities, organize operations, establish management priorities, adapt to evolving conditions and needs, and develop a timeline for implementation.

Scope — Preliminary information about issues facing the park and its individual programs would be gathered through a survey of staff and managers. Next, key park partners, villages, and other stakeholders would be surveyed to solicit information on key issues that could be addressed by the plan. A short workshop would then be held, in which representatives from all of the park's management divisions would work collaboratively to draft the plan. Goals and strategies would be defined for areas of the park and individual programs with the intent of improving resource protection, visitor services, operational efficiency, and interdivisional collaboration.

Wildlife Management Plan.

Rationale — The National Park of American Samoa's rainforests contain many fruit-bearing plant species and the health of these forests is maintained by the wildlife species that serve in vital flower pollination and seeds dispersal roles. The importance of these forests and the wildlife resources therein are clearly articulated in the park's enabling legislation, including the significance of the fruit bats. Native wildlife also faces many threats including overhunting, diseases, competition from invasive species, habitat destruction, disturbance, and the effects of climate change. Collaborators and partners have contributed valuable data through their scientific research publications and surveys over the years, and the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network monitors freshwater animals and land birds. The plan would help identify gaps in baseline data for the park's terrestrial animal species, both vertebrates and invertebrates. The plan could help identify which species or aspects of species health and population dynamics require more research. This information could also be used to inform future studies for species of concern. Gathering and incorporating these important data into a wildlife management plan would go a long way in helping park managers establish solid conservation priorities and undertake well-informed management actions.

Scope — The wildlife management plan would help park managers better understand what information is lacking regarding species-specific ecological needs, geographic distributions, and population statuses. The plan would outline the protocols and methodology for conducting wildlife assessments, inventories, and monitoring surveys. Wildlife management planning would also help park staff address major threats to native wildlife populations by prescribing disease treatments, invasive species controls, habitat restoration targets, and offering greater protection to rare (threatened and endangered) animal species. In addition, the plan would provide guidance for the allocation of financial resources and staff time.

High Priority Data Needs

Cave Survey.

Rationale — Little is known about the caves in the National Park of American Samoa. A better understanding of their locations, geology, ecology, and any associated human history is needed to determine appropriate conservation efforts and to better understand the value of this important habitat to the broader island ecosystem. The cave survey would also provide valuable information for the wildlife management plan. Caves provide habitat for many species, some of which are wholly dependent on caves for their survival. For example, the Pacific sheath-tailed bat was last seen in American Samoa in 1991 and is thought to be extinct from the islands. This species is known to inhabit caves and further research would update understanding of its status.

Scope — A pre-planning assessment of the park would be conducted to identify areas with caves on all three park units—Tutuila, Ta'ū, and Ofu—and to establish the methodologies for gathering and documenting data. A multidisciplinary team would then be formed to conduct inventories, monitoring, and research of the cave environments. Partnerships might be leveraged to gain resources and expertise for the survey efforts.

Coral Reef Bleaching and Disease Study.

Rationale — Coral reefs provide habitat for marine wildlife, recreational opportunities, income from tourism, and protection from storm damage. American Samoa is home to more than 230 species of coral, some of which are known to be resistant to coral bleaching and are being studied to help understand if corals can adapt or acclimate to high ocean temperatures. Coral bleaching is anticipated by many scientists to reach catastrophic levels in the South Pacific in the near future. Coral bleaching and disease have been increasing over the past few decades, and are expected to continue in the face of increasing climate change and sea temperature warming. New, specific efforts that target bleaching and disease (such as black band disease, lethal orange disease, and crustose coralline algae diseases) would augment the current NPS inventory and monitoring programs and marine research at the park, and would provide a better understanding of the process and effects of bleaching and coral diseases, coral's ability to recover from such events, and would help the park develop a long-term coral monitoring program. Data from this effort would also be used to inform the marine management plan.

Scope — This effort would tag and collect data on both bleached and unbleached corals over a period of three years. It would also assess the recovery potential of disturbed reefs over time.

Cultural Resources Condition Assessment.

Rationale — The National Park of American Samoa lacks comprehensive baseline data for the different cultural resources present in the park, including ethnographic resources, archeological resources, cultural landscapes, traditional cultural properties, historic structures and routes, and history. While the park's cultural resources are of extraordinary value to the park, the park has never had a cultural resource program or staff to guide the necessary documentation. This assessment would be used to inform the cultural resources management plan.

Scope — A cultural resources condition assessment would document all of the park's existing cultural resource data, identify gaps in documentation, and determine which documentation is needed to meet NPS requirements.

Giant Clam Distribution and Population Data.

Rationale — Giant Clams (*Tridacna* sp. and *Hippopopus* sp.), known locally as *faisua*, are a traditionally harvested seafood in American Samoa. However, populations are diminishing due to overfishing, especially in depths accessible to free divers (0–10 meters [m]). Their slow growth rate and low recruitment make population recovery difficult. Giant clams are important filter feeders, and important prey for other species. Distribution and population data could be used to aid in the development of *faisua* nurseries in marine protected areas to improve the survivorship and longevity of this species.

Scope — Surveys would be conducted at 10m, 15m, 20m, 25m, and 30m in park waters on the island of Tutuila in order to assess the current status of *faisua* populations. This information could inform the potential development of nurseries.

Sea Turtle Population Data.

Rationale — Green and hawksbill sea turtles are considered endangered in American Samoa, and are known nesters in the park on Ofu and Olosega Islands. The green sea turtle population has recently been split into 11 segments and the Central South Pacific segment in American Samoan waters is now considered unique and distinct under the Endangered Species Act. Little data have been collected on their nightly nesting patterns, population size, or residency. Morning beach walks have been conducted to locate possible nests, but few turtles have been tagged and the current size of the nesting population is unknown. This study would monitor nightly nesting and would be the first study to provide reliable nesting and population size information.

Scope — This project would monitor the nesting of two species of endangered sea turtles at the National Park of American Samoa for three years. Nightly surveys of Ofu and Olosega beaches would be conducted to identify every nesting individual and document the nesting time and location. Nests would be excavated after hatching to determine hatching success. An additional goal of the project would be to educate young Samoans about sea turtles.

Subsistence Fishery Assessment.

Rationale — The park's enabling legislation allows traditional subsistence uses (agriculture, gathering, fishing, and other cultural uses) but does not set limits, constraints, or provide additional information for management of these natural resources. Consumptive uses and their impacts are not well understood or regulated and there is growing concern about the cumulative impacts—especially on park fisheries as human populations increase and fishing technologies improve. Subsistence uses of the park's fisheries are very important to villages, village chiefs, and other stakeholders, but the park does not currently have good data to offer these partners regarding the impacts of these uses and associated changes on the health of the islands' ecosystems.

Overfishing has been well documented with significant adverse impacts on coral reef ecosystems worldwide. In the National Park of American Samoa coral reef fish are harvested in subsistence and recreational fisheries, potentially impairing the reefs by removing large fish and reducing overall biomass and fecundity. There is a growing concern about fishing pressures from more modernized “markets” (villages trading fish caught in Ofu for chicken bought in Pago Pago), threats from chemical contamination, and from increasingly advanced technology, such as modern fishing vessels that allow easier access to park waters for more people. Statistically valid fisheries surveys require a great deal of time, effort, and money. However, they provide an important measure of the anthropogenic impacts on a coral reef and are vital to proper management of the resource. Results from this assessment would be used to educate the public and government agencies and could result in fishing regulations.

Scope — The assessment would use a statistically robust, peer-reviewed fisheries harvest protocol developed by the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network to monitor local fisheries catch and effort. The assessment would describe and quantify the fishery associated with Tutuila, Ta'u, and Ofu Islands and evaluate the statistical properties of these data to determine the desired level of future monitoring. More specifically, the effort would track fishing effort by gear type, catch per unit effort, and composition and size of species harvested within park waters. Field data would be collected for a period, such as one year, on each of the islands in the park.

Visitor Use Study.

Rationale — The National Park of American Samoa has very limited data about visitors to the park. It is important for park staff to understand the visitor base—both locals and off-islanders, the different audiences present, the diversity of visitor needs, and how these needs change over time. This understanding of the park's audiences, their expectations, and their experiences would be the first step in adjusting management to better meet visitor needs. Visitor use information would help park staff to improve programming, better understand the potential for commercial services, anticipate future visitor management, and maintain relevance as visitorship and demographics change over time. The visitor use study would also provide insights on visitor accessibility needs, which are critical to both visitor enjoyment and safety.

Currently, interpretive and education staff collect basic data from visitors entering the visitor center in Pago Pago; however, there are few if any data available regarding visitation to all park lands on Tutuila, Ofu and Ta'u, trail use, or the demographics of interpretive program participants. Collecting visitor use data would support and inform numerous other planning and data gathering efforts, including the update to the long-range interpretive plan.

Scope — The visitor use study would gather and evaluate data on visitors, establish baseline conditions related to visitor use levels and patterns, and inform ongoing park management and future decision making. The study would provide assessments of visitor characteristics, preferences, and motivations. Findings and recommendations would help guide the park in determining the effectiveness of exhibits, if visitor interests are being met, and the best options for addressing visitor use issues.

See appendix D for completed and ongoing planning and data collection efforts.

Summary of High Priority Planning and Data Needs	
Plan name	Data need
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change action strategy • Cultural resources management plan • Interagency integrated terrestrial pest management plan • Long-range interpretive plan (update) • Manu'a units management plan • Marine management plan • Staffing needs assessment and plan • Strategic plan • Wildlife management plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cave survey • Coral reef bleaching and disease study • Cultural resources condition assessment • Giant clam distribution and population data • Sea turtle population data • Subsistence fishery assessment • Visitor use study

Summary of Planning and Data Needs		
Planning or Data Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
Natural Resources		
Planning Needs		
Climate change action strategy	High	This could include plans for becoming a Climate Friendly Park.
Interagency integrated terrestrial pest management plan	High	
Marine management plan	High	Would include fisheries management planning conducted in partnership with villages.
Wildlife management plan	High	
Interagency resource stewardship strategy	Low	
Night sky plan	Low	In areas close to villages, street lights attract sea turtles.
Terrestrial subsistence management plan	Low	Conducted in collaboration with village <i>matais</i> (chiefs).
Data Needs and Studies		
Cave survey	High	Needed for wildlife plan.
Coral reef bleaching and disease study	High	Additional information could enhance reef management. Diseases such as lack band, lethal orange, and those associated with crustose coralline algae would be included in the study. Study would also inform the marine management plan.
Giant clam distribution and population data	High	Giant clams are being overharvested.
Sea turtle population data	High	
Subsistence fishery assessment	High	Important to village chiefs and other stakeholders to understand level of subsistence use.
Coconut crab survey	Medium	
Fruit bat population study	Medium	Study would cover population, resource availability, and change over time. Data have been collected through the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network and/or the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, but additional research, collaboration, and data sharing are needed to translate the information into management actions.

Summary of Planning and Data Needs		
Planning or Data Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
Natural Resources		
Data Needs and Studies (continued)		
Study impacts of climate change on park resources (continue)	Medium	Study would include current and new research on sea level rise, ocean acidification, ocean temperature (including sea surface temperature), and benthic surveys.
Survey of all species of concern	Medium	The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service both maintain lists of species of concern. The National Park Service also has a list of species of concern that changes regularly according to conditions and reef/marine waters changes. In addition, data have been collected through the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network and/or the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, but additional research, collaboration, and data sharing are needed to translate the information into management actions.
Terrestrial snail survey	Medium	
Terrestrial subsistence use study	Medium	
Water quality monitoring to address acidification and contaminants	Medium	This monitoring effort would identify anthropogenic sources of contaminants and nutrients, which can have a severe impact on aquatic resources such as algae, corals, and fish.
Air quality data and reports	Low	Determine air quality status and threats for the Manu'a Islands by partnering with organizations currently conducting long-term air quality monitoring in American Samoa. Determine impacts of tuna canneries on the air quality of the Tutuila unit. Monitoring might include visibility, ozone, nitrogen and sulfur deposition, and bioaccumulative toxins.
Assessment of the cumulative impacts of coral reef research	Low	
Bird surveys	Low	Include seabirds.
Bryophyte and epiphyte surveys	Low	
Entomology study	Low	
Mesophotic coral reef study	Low	

Summary of Planning and Data Needs		
Planning or Data Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
Natural Resources		
Data Needs and Studies (continued)		
Monitoring of key resources or ecological functions as indicators of ecosystem health	Low	Data have been collected through the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network and/or the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, but additional research, collaboration, and data sharing are needed to translate the information into management actions.
Night sky data	Low	
Snake survey	Low	
Understand connectivity of coral larval dispersal	Low	
Vegetation plot survey	Low	Data have been collected through the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network and/or the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, but additional research, collaboration, and data sharing are needed to translate the information into management actions.
Wild and scenic river survey	Low	
Other Park Strategies and Actions		
Analyze data from inventory and monitoring work done at the park		Data have been collected through the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network and/or the American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, but additional research, collaboration, and data sharing are needed to translate the information into management actions.
Coral larval dispersal and recruitment work		
Herbicide storage		
Invasive species removal projects		
Pig fence		
Rainforest restoration		
Ta'ū weather station		
Cultural Resources		
Planning Needs		
Cultural resources management plan	High	Include all cultural resource types; incorporate climate change considerations.

Summary of Planning and Data Needs		
Planning or Data Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
Cultural Resources		
Data Needs and Studies		
Cultural resources condition assessment	High	Needed for cultural resources management plan.
Administrative history	Medium	
Archeological overview and assessment	Medium	
Cultural landscape inventories	Medium	In particular, the Saua Site on Ta'ū and the Mt. Alava Site on Tutuila. Other sites may be determined by cultural resource condition assessment and cultural resources management plan.
Other Park Strategies and Actions		
Collection storage evaluation		
Oral history collection report		
Work with the American Samoa Historic Preservation Office to establish an interpretive historic trail		
Administration and Operations		
Planning Needs		
Manu'a units management plan	High	
Staffing needs assessment and plan	High	Needed for (or a component of) the strategic plan.
Strategic plan	High	
Maintenance plan	Medium	In collaboration with village <i>matais</i> (chiefs).
Park partner action strategy	Medium	
Data Needs and Studies		
Boundary survey	Medium	
Accessibility assessment	Low	
Trail survey	Low	
Transportation assessment	Low	The American Samoa Government may address this problem by providing new options for transportation to Manu'a.
Other Park Strategies and Actions		
Boat ramp on Ofu		
Boundary marking		
Grant proposals for NPS and non-NPS funding sources		
Holistic wellness program		

Summary of Planning and Data Needs		
Planning or Data Needs	Priority (H, M, L)	Notes
Administration and Operations		
Other Park Strategies and Actions (continued)		
Improve transportation between units		
Ranger station on Ta'ū		
Visitor Experience		
Planning Needs		
Long-range interpretive plan (update)	High	Include marketing and communication planning, as well as an evaluation of visitor contact infrastructure and exhibits on all three units.
Trails management plan	Medium	
Visual resource management plan	Low	The plan would use the visual resource inventory as a baseline and identify goals, objectives and implementation strategies to protect important views. The plan would support the Scenery and Cultural Landscapes FRVs.
Data Needs and Studies		
Visitor use study	High	Needed for long-range interpretive plan, include trail use and demographic overview.
Local survey assessing needs, perceptions, and barriers of experiencing the outdoors	Medium	This survey would 1) assess what barriers exist to Samoans recreating outdoors and 2) identify what opportunities are desired. Currently, the perception is that Samoans do not recreate outdoors because natural resources are only used for food and cultural practice purposes.
School survey	Medium	This survey would assess the educational needs of the schools and how the national park can help meet them.
Visual resource inventory	Low	The inventory would identify the park's scenic qualities and gather information on visitors' values of important views. It would also serve as the baseline for developing a visual resource management plan.
Other Park Strategies and Actions		
Build canopy walkways – Tutuila & Ta'ū		
Fruit bat watching tower – Tutuila (Vatia) & Ta'ū		
More waysides		

Part 3: Contributors

National Park of American Samoa

Scott Burch – Superintendent

Tim Clark – Marine Ecologist

Mino (Tominiko) Fialua – Maintenance Supervisor

Lina (Onolina) Fuamatu – Administrative Officer

Michael Larson – Chief of Interpretation and Education

Samuel Meleisea – Biological Science Technician (Terrestrial)

Tavi (Tavita) Togia – Terrestrial Ecologist

Pua Tuaua – Interpretive Park Guide

Visa Vaivai – Biological Science Technician (Inventory and Monitoring)

NPS Pacific West Region

Jared Bowman – Outdoor Recreation Planner (former)

Martha Crusius – Program Chief, Park Planning and Environmental Compliance

Allen McCoy – GIS Data Manager

Anna Tamura – Landscape Architect

Other NPS Staff

Melody Bentfield – Contract Librarian (former), Denver Service Center, Planning Division

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Appendixes

Appendix A: Enabling Legislation and Legislative Acts for National Park of American Samoa

PUBLIC LAW 100-571—OCT. 31, 1988

102 STAT. 2879

Public Law 100-571
100th Congress

An Act

To establish the National Park of American Samoa.

Oct. 31, 1988
[H.R. 4818]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that:

- (1) Tropical forests are declining worldwide.
- (2) Tropical forests contain 50 percent of the world's plant and animal species, contribute significantly to the advancement of science, medicine, and agriculture and produce much of the earth's oxygen. The loss of these forests leads to the extinction of species, lessening the world's biological diversity, reduces the potential for new medicines and crops and increases carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere contributing to the greenhouse effect that is altering the global climate.
- (3) The tropical forest of American Samoa is one of the last remaining undisturbed paleotropical forests.
- (4) The tropical forest in American Samoa is the largest such forest under direct control of the United States.
- (5) The tropical forest of American Samoa contains the habitat of one of the last remaining populations of Pacific flying foxes.
- (6) The flying foxes of American Samoa are responsible for a large part of the pollination which maintains a significant portion of the species which inhabit the Samoan tropical forest.
- (7) Information presently available indicates the existence of extensive archaeological evidence related to the development of the Samoan culture which needs to be examined and protected.
- (8) The people of American Samoa have expressed a desire to have a portion of the tropical forest protected as a unit of the National Park System.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to preserve and protect the tropical forest and archaeological and cultural resources of American Samoa, and of associated reefs, to maintain the habitat of flying foxes, preserve the ecological balance of the Samoan tropical forest, and, consistent with the preservation of these resources, to provide for the enjoyment of the unique resources of the Samoan tropical forest by visitors from around the world.

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In order to carry out the purposes expressed in section 1(b), the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall establish the National Park of American Samoa (hereinafter in this Act referred to as the "park"). The Secretary shall establish the park only when the Governor of American Samoa has entered into a lease with the Secretary under which the Secretary will lease for a period of 50 years the lands and waters generally referred to in subsection (b) for use solely for

Conservation.
Environmental protection.
Forests and forest products.
Historic preservation.
Wildlife.
16 USC 410qq.

16 USC 410qq-1.

Contracts.

purposes of the park. Immediately after enactment of the Act, the Secretary shall commence negotiations with the Governor of American Samoa respecting such a lease agreement. On or before the expiration of the lease agreement as set forth in this subsection, the Governor of American Samoa is encouraged to extend the lease to maintain the area as a unit of the National Park System. At such time as the lease may terminate the Government of American Samoa is urged to provide assurances to the Secretary that the lands and waters generally referred to in subsection (b) will be protected and preserved to the same standards as are applicable to national parks.

Public information.

(b) **AREA INCLUDED.**—The park shall consist of three units as generally depicted on the following maps entitled “Boundary Map, National Park of American Samoa”: (1) map number NP-AS 80,000A, dated August 1988, (2) map number NP-AS 80,000B, dated August 1988, and (3) map number NP-AS 80,000C, dated August 1988. Before publication of the maps, the Secretary, after consultation with the Governor of American Samoa and other appropriate leaders, may adjust the boundaries of the park to correspond with the appropriate village boundaries and modify the maps accordingly. The maps shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The Secretary may at any time make revisions of the boundary of the park in accordance with section 7(c) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 and following), pursuant to agreement with the Governor of American Samoa, and contingent upon the lease to the Secretary of lands within the new boundaries.

Contracts.

(c) **MANAGEMENT BY AMERICAN SAMOA.**—Notwithstanding section 3(a), after 50 years after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall, if requested by the Governor of American Samoa, enter into an extension of the lease referred to in subsection (a). If the Governor does not request such an extension the Secretary shall transfer to the Governor the sole authority to administer the park. Whenever the Secretary makes such a transfer he shall also transfer any improvements constructed by the Secretary in the park to the Governor without compensation.

(d) **COMPENSATION UNDER LEASE AGREEMENT.**—(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary is authorized and directed to negotiate with the Governor of American Samoa the amount of the payments to be made by the United States under the 50-year lease referred to in subsection (a). The Secretary shall make such payments as may be mutually agreed to by the Secretary and the Governor pursuant to such negotiations.

(2) The Secretary shall place all lease payments made by the United States under the lease in an interest bearing escrow account in American Samoa. Funds in such account may be disbursed only by the Governor, in amounts determined by the High Court of American Samoa, to those villages and families located within the boundaries of the park. The High Court of American Samoa shall have exclusive jurisdiction to determine the amount to be disbursed under this section to any person.

(3) If the amount of the lease payments to be made under the lease is not agreed upon within 1 year after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish the escrow account referred to in paragraph (2) within 30 days after the expiration of such 1-year period and shall make monthly payments of \$25,000 per month into the

PUBLIC LAW 100-571—OCT. 31, 1988

102 STAT. 2881

account until such time as the full value of the lease payments is agreed to and deposited. Such deposits, together with the interest thereon, may be used only to cover the amounts of the lease payments due and payable pursuant to an agreement under this subsection. If the amounts deposited in such account, together with interest thereon, exceeds the amount of the lease payments due and payable at the time the agreement is entered into, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the excess shall be transferred to the accounts provided to the Secretary for operation and maintenance and for development of the park.

SEC. 3. ADMINISTRATION.

16 USC 410qq-2.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall administer the park in accordance with this Act and with the provisions of law generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including the Act entitled “An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes”, approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1-4). In the administration of the park, the Secretary may utilize such statutory authority available to him for the conservation of wildlife and natural and cultural resources as he deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, except that he may not acquire any lands or waters or interests therein for purposes of the park other than by lease.

(b) **TRADITIONAL SUBSISTENCE USES.**—(1) Agricultural, cultural, and gathering uses shall be permitted in the park for subsistence purposes if such uses are generally prior existing uses conducted in areas used for such purposes as of the date of enactment of this Act and if such uses are conducted in the traditional manner and by traditional methods. No such uses shall be permitted in the park for other than subsistence purposes.

(2) Subsistence uses of the marine areas of the park shall also be permitted in accordance with paragraph (1), and no fishing or gathering shall be permitted in such marine areas for other than subsistence purposes.

Fish and fishing.

(c) **INTERPRETIVE FACILITIES, ETC.**—Interpretative activities and interpretative facilities for the park (including maps) shall be in at least the following languages: English and Samoan.

(d) **EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTS.**—In addition to the Secretary's authority to employ persons to carry out provisions of this Act in accordance with the civil service laws, and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary is authorized to—

(1) hire employees for such purposes who shall not be subject to the civil service laws, including quotas, and

(2) enter into contracts with individuals for purposes of exercising any authority of the Secretary within the park.

(e) **NATIVE AMERICAN SAMOAN PERSONNEL.**—The Secretary shall establish a program to train native American Samoan personnel to function as professional park service employees, to provide services to visitors (including the interpretation of park resources), and operate and maintain park facilities. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and to the extent practicable the Secretary shall extend a preference for the hiring of native American Samoans to carry out the Secretary's authorities under this Act (including both employees and persons operating under contract).

(f) **MANAGEMENT PLAN.**—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Governor of American Samoa, shall prepare a general management plan for the park. The plan shall comply with section 12(b) of the

Act of August 18, 1970 (16 U.S.C. 1a-1 through 1a-7) and shall contain specific measures for the protection and preservation of tropical forest resources and archaeological and cultural resources within the park, including, but not limited to, protection of flying foxes and measures to enhance visitation to the park from throughout the world, to the extent consistent with the protection and preservation of such resources.

(g) **ADVISORY BOARD.**—(1) The Secretary shall establish an Advisory Board to provide advice to the Secretary regarding the management of the park. The Advisory Board shall be comprised of 5 members, 3 of whom shall be nominated by the Governor of American Samoa. The Advisory Board shall designate one of its members as Chairman.

(2) The Advisory Board shall meet on a regular basis. Notice of meetings and agenda shall be announced in advance and meetings shall be held at locations and in such a manner as to insure adequate public involvement.

(3) Members of the Advisory Board shall serve without compensation as such, but the Secretary may pay expenses reasonably incurred in carrying out their responsibilities under this Act on vouchers signed by the Chairman.

(4) The provisions of section 14(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Act of October 6, 1972; 86 Stat. 776), are hereby waived with respect to this Advisory Board.

(h) **REVIEW.**—At least every 10 years, the Secretary and the Governor, or their designees, shall review the operation and management of the park. Such review shall include, but need not be limited to, consideration of how the objectives of the park can better be achieved, the need for additional technical or other assistance, cooperative arrangements between the Government of American Samoa and the National Park Service in the interpretation and management of the park, and the desirability of extension of the lease arrangement.

(i) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary, in providing technical or other assistance to the Government of American Samoa may use any authority otherwise provided to him, including requesting assistance from other Federal agencies.

16 USC 410qq-3. **SEC. 4. DEFINITION.**

For purposes of this Act the term “native American Samoan” means a person who is a citizen or national of the United States and who is a lineal descendant of an inhabitant of the Samoan Islands on April 18, 1900. For purposes of this Act, Swains Island shall be considered part of the Samoan Islands.

SEC. 5. FUNDING.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

Approved October 31, 1988.

Public Law 107-336
107th Congress

An Act

Dec. 16, 2002
[H.R. 1712]

To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make adjustments to the boundary of the National Park of American Samoa to include certain portions of the islands of Ofu and Olosega within the park, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT OF THE NATIONAL PARK OF AMERICAN SAMOA.

Section 2(b) of the Act entitled “An Act to establish the National Park of American Samoa” (16 U.S.C. 410qq-1(b)), approved October 31, 1988, is amended—

- (1) by striking “(1)”, “(2)”, and “(3)” and inserting “(A)”, “(B)”, and “(C)”, respectively;
- (2) by inserting “(1)” after “INCLUDED.—”; and
- (3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) The Secretary may make adjustments to the boundary of the park to include within the park certain portions of the islands of Ofu and Olosega, as depicted on the map entitled ‘National Park of American Samoa, Proposed Boundary Adjustment’, numbered 82,035 and dated February 2002, pursuant to an agreement with the Governor of American Samoa and contingent upon the lease to the Secretary of the newly added lands. As soon as practicable after a boundary adjustment under this paragraph, the Secretary shall modify the maps referred to in paragraph (1) accordingly.”.

Approved December 16, 2002.

Appendix B: Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values

Fundamental Resource or Value	Paleotropical Rainforest Ecosystem
Description	The National Park of American Samoa protects three types of paleotropical rainforest (lowland, montane, and cloud) which support a rich diversity of native and endemic species including more than 475 plant species, 50 animal species, and 2 species of pe'a (fruit bats)—the only terrestrial mammals indigenous to American Samoa.
Related Significance Statements	Significance statements 1, 5, and 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest is in excellent condition. • Recovering from invasive species, including tamaligi removal. • Reforestation activities currently underway. • Cyclones on approximately 13 year intervals, impacting the forests and species. • Five species are proposed for listing as threatened or endangered species: two birds, one bat, and two snails. • Bat populations are doing well. • Potentially one rare species of <i>pe'ape'avai</i> (Pacific sheath-tailed bat, insectivorous). • Many invasive birds (e.g., myna and bulbul) are impacting native land bird populations. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest health needs continued maintenance and management. • Additional support is needed for invasive bird management.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive plants and animals (e.g., feral pigs, dogs, cats, and rats; snails; myna and bulbul birds). • Increasing human population and economic development. • Deforestation due to farming and residential development. • Wind turbine development. • Climate change impacts, including increasing storm frequency and intensity, shifts in species ranges, and an increase in invasive species. • Noise and artificial light from increasing population and development. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing work in the forests through new partnerships and funding sources. • Support from organized community volunteer groups. • The creation of new local legislation that further protects and benefits the forests. • Education opportunities to build local capacity including community-based curricula; scholarship, internship, and apprenticeship opportunities for students (particularly on the Manu'a Islands). • Employment of local youth. • Research – invasive species, climate change. • Improved transportation between the park units to improve resource management.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network has implemented on-the-ground, long-term monitoring programs for land birds, vegetation (forest plots and invasive plant transects). The American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources monitors fruit bat populations. • Research publications (see appendix D), including vegetation mapping, water quality studies, and acoustic monitoring report. • Terrestrial species database.

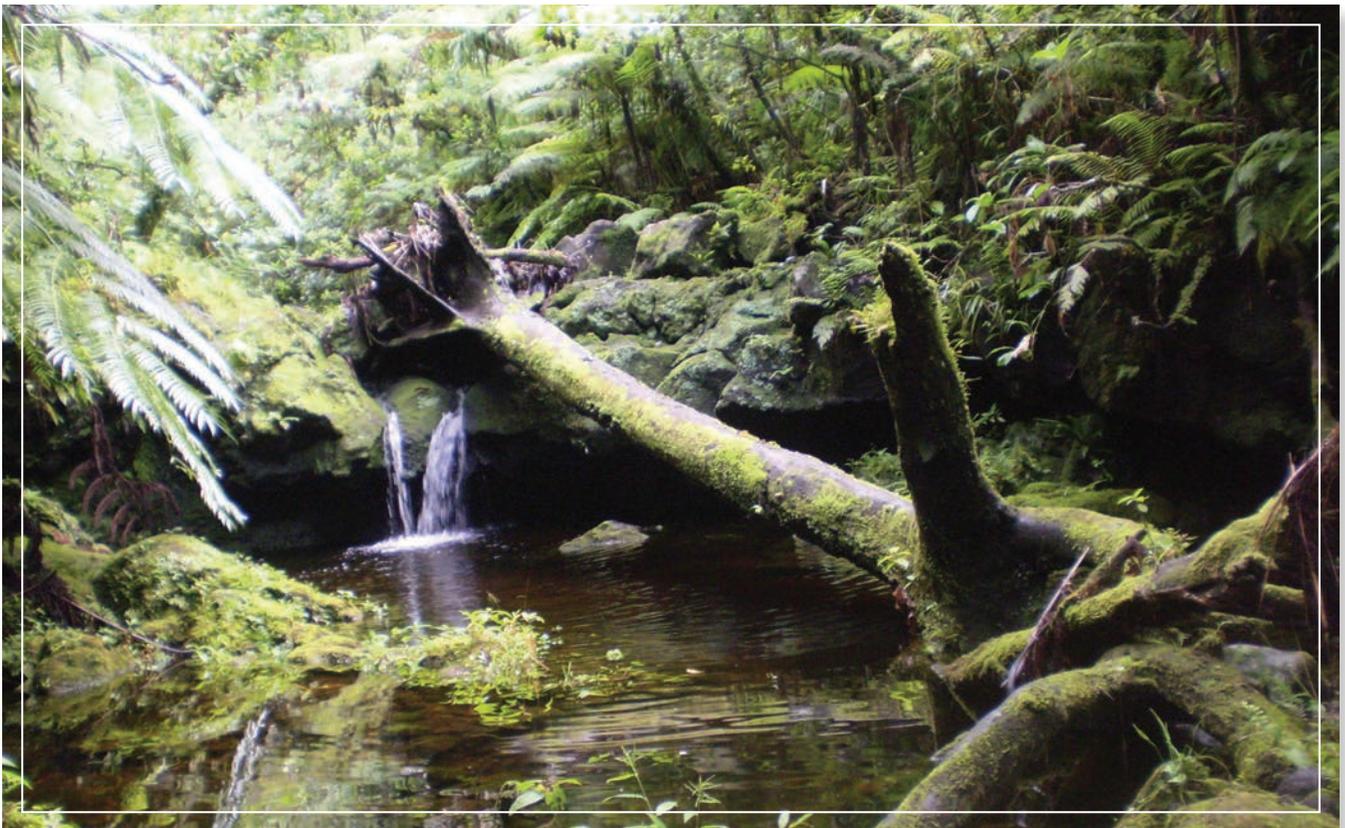
Fundamental Resource or Value	Paleotropical Rainforest Ecosystem
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bird surveys (increase collaboration, data sharing, and reporting). • Bryophyte and epiphyte surveys. • Cave survey. • Coconut crab survey. • Entomology study. • Fruit bat population study (increase collaboration, data sharing, and reporting). • Monitoring of key resources or ecological functions as indicators of ecosystem health. • Snake survey (increase collaboration, data sharing, and reporting). • Study impacts of climate change on park resources. • Survey of all species of concern. • Terrestrial snail survey. • Terrestrial subsistence use study. • Vegetation plot survey (increase collaboration, data sharing, and reporting).
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change action strategy. • Interagency integrated terrestrial pest management plan. • Interagency resource stewardship strategy. • Wildlife management plan.
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended • National Invasive Species Act of 1996 • Lacey Act of 1900, as amended • Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 • Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974, as amended • Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended • Clean Air Act of 1977 (42 USC 7401 et seq.) • Executive Order 12088, "Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards" • Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" • "Resource Management" (54 USC 1007) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1) "General Management Concepts" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1.4) "Partnerships" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.4.1) "General Principles for Managing Biological Resources" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.6.1) "Protection of Surface Waters and Groundwaters" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.7.2) "Weather and Climate" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.9) "Soundscape Management" • NPS <i>Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i> • Director's Order 47: <i>Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management</i> • Director's Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Protection</i> • Director's Order 79: <i>Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities</i>

Fundamental Resource or Value	Marine Ecosystems
Description	The National Park of American Samoa contains a highly diverse marine ecosystem with more than 900 species of fish, more than 230 species of coral, 2 species of sea turtle, and numerous species of marine mammals. Thriving coral reefs fringe the islands of Tutuila, Ofu, and Ta'u.
Related Significance Statements	Significance statements 2, 3, 5, and 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The endangered green sea turtle and the critically endangered hawksbill sea turtle are residents of park waters, and Ofu's beaches provide critical nesting habitat. • The endangered South Pacific humpback whale migrates through park waters every austral winter. • Good coral coverage. • Low fish biomass, lack of large individuals. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been no significant change in coral coverage over the past nine years according to NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network surveys. • Fish biomass is stable, but remains low. • Some data suggest that coral disease may be increasing.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing threats from climate change, including severe storm events, shifts in species ranges, and an increase in invasive species. • Crown-of-thorns starfish outbreak since 2013. • Bleaching event in 2015 with possible second event in 2016. • Historic and present overfishing. • Fishing methods include poison, which kills both fish and corals. • <i>Faisua</i> (giant clams) and <i>palolo</i> (polychaete worm) are important traditional and cultural delicacies and are targeted for human consumption, threatening the survival of these populations. • Contamination of marine waters by chemical contaminants and nutrient rich terrestrial runoff. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve management through village outreach. • Marine education through high school and college internships.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benthic cover data. • National Park of American Samoa and the NPS Pacific Island Inventory and Monitoring Network have implemented long-term marine fish and marine water quality monitoring. • Coral reef management five year plan (1999). • Crown-of-thorns starfish eradication data. • Fish movement data. • Limited data on sea turtle nesting. • Marine protected area program master plan (2008). • Ocean resource management plan (2003).

Fundamental Resource or Value	Marine Ecosystems
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of the cumulative impacts of coral reef research. • Coral reef bleaching and disease study. • Giant clam distribution and population data. • Mesophotic coral reef study. • Sea turtle population data. • Subsistence fishery assessment. • Subsistence use study. • Survey of all species of concern. • Study impacts of climate change on park resources. • Understand connectivity of coral larval dispersal. • Wild and scenic river survey.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change action strategy. • Interagency integrated terrestrial pest management plan. • Interagency resource stewardship strategy. • Marine management plan.
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended • National Invasive Species Act of 1996 • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • Marine Mammal Protection Act • Lacey Act, as amended • Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended • Clean Air Act of 1977 (42 USC 7401 et seq.) • Coastal Zone Management Act • Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species" • Executive Order 13547, "Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" • "Resource Management" (54 USC 1007) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1) "General Management Concepts" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1.4) "Partnerships" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.4.1) "General Principles for Managing Biological Resources" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.7.2) "Weather and Climate" • NPS <i>Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i> • NPS <i>Ocean and Coastal Resource Management Reference Manual 39-1: Ocean and Coastal Park Jurisdiction</i> • Director's Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Protection</i> • Director's Order 79: <i>Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities</i>

Fundamental Resource or Value	Freshwater Ecosystems
Description	The National Park of American Samoa contains four perennial streams (Le Afu, Fagatuitui, and Amalau Streams on Tutuila Island and Laufuti Stream on Ta'ū Island) with native species of freshwater fish, eel, snail, and shrimp.
Related Significance Statements	Significance statements 1, 5, and 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, with respect to water quality, the streams of the National Park of American Samoa are in excellent condition, showing low nutrient concentrations, high oxygenation, and no cause for concern with pH, turbidity, salinity, or chlorophyll. • The inventory and monitoring division monitors Fagatuitui, Leafu, and Amalau Streams on Tutuila, and Laufuti Stream on Ta'ū. The data collection allows for the examination of the effect of villages on stream water quality (Leafu and Amalau), differences between effectively pristine streams on different islands (Fagatuitui and Laufuti), and the ecological differences between isolated pools within stream channels and flowing water conditions (upper Laufuti vs. lower Laufuti). • At Amalau, there is a general decrease in suspended nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations in the stream as it flows from the forest through the village. • At Leafu, there is a decrease in phosphorus as the stream flows from the forest through the village, but an increase in nitrogen. This suggests an anthropogenic influence on the chemistry of the stream, possibly by pig farming. • Fagatuitui on Tutuila and lower flowing reaches of Laufuti on Ta'ū are relatively pristine. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary analysis suggests there are no temporal trends present in any water quality parameter within the park's streams.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invasive species (e.g., toads, feral pigs, introduced fish). • Deforestation. • Erosion (e.g., Mount Alava Road, fallen trees). • Weather (cyclones). • Proximity to human settlement and waste (water quality). • Runoff from pig farms. • Climate change. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase education, outreach, and overall awareness regarding water resources and freshwater ecosystems. • Water quality management. • Invasive species management. • Erosion control.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory and monitoring data on freshwater animals. • Water quality data.
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study impacts of climate change on park resources. • Survey of all species of concern. • Wild and scenic river survey.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interagency resource stewardship strategy.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Freshwater Ecosystems
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 • Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended • National Invasive Species Act of 1996 • Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended • Clean Air Act of 1977 (42 USC 7401 et seq.) • Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" • "Resource Management" (54 USC 1007) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1) "General Management Concepts" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1.4) "Partnerships" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.4.1) "General Principles for Managing Biological Resources" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.6.1) "Protection of Surface Waters and Groundwaters" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.7.2) "Weather and Climate" • NPS <i>Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i> • Director's Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Protection</i> • Director's Order 79: <i>Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities</i>



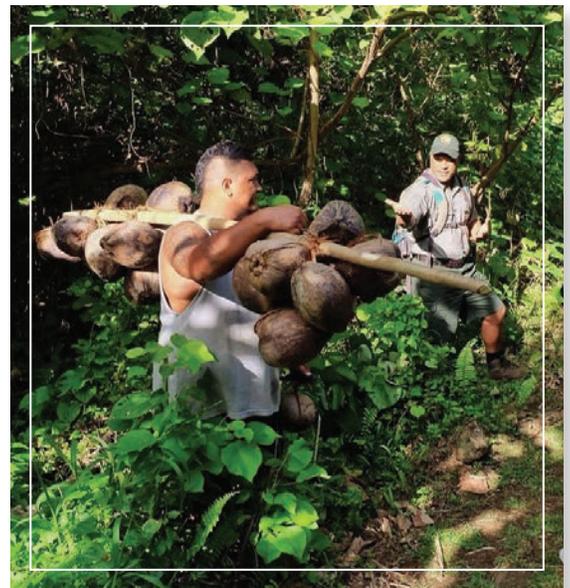
Fundamental Resource or Value	Cultural Landscapes and Archeological Sites
Description	The National Park of American Samoa contains important Samoan archeological and cultural sites and landscapes. Ancient villages and home sites, burial grounds, star mounds, stone tool production sites, travel routes, as well as countless natural features including streams, waterfalls, mountaintops, and natural sounds create a sacred sense of place for all Samoans. Some of the park's important sites include the Saua site on Ta'u Island, the To'aga area on Ofu Island, and Pola Island and the old Vatia Village site on Tutuila Island.
Related Significance Statements	Significance statements 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only a small percentage of the archeological sites have been surveyed or excavated. • Archeological sites are generally well preserved because they are remote, underground, and there is minimal development in the areas. • Cultural landscapes have not been adequately inventoried and assessed. • Minimal collection and digging have occurred. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition of sites may be slowly degrading from natural processes. • Coastal sites may experience higher risk of impacts from stronger, less predictable, and more frequent tropical storms (associated with climate change).
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threats to archeological sites are primarily damage from plant roots and erosion caused by tropical storms. • Threats from climate change are increasing, including severe storms and sea level rise. • Invasive animals (i.e., pigs digging into cultural sites). • Noise and artificial light from increasing population and development. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More research is needed to determine whether or not the park contains defined cultural landscapes (including the Saua Site on Ta'u, the Mount Alava site on Tutuila, and others) and traditional cultural properties (the entire park or specific sites, such as the Saua Site). • Archeological research and scholarly information related to increased understanding of Polynesian history. • More interviews with local villagers and chiefs.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnographic assessment and overview of the National Park of American Samoa (2006). • Historic preservation plan (1996). • Limited surveys have been completed recently on Mount Alava and at the Saua Site. • Museum management plan (2009).
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archeological overview and assessment. • Cultural landscape inventories. • Cultural resources condition assessment. • Visual resource inventory.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural resources management plan. • Interagency resource stewardship strategy. • Visual resource management plan.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Cultural Landscapes and Archeological Sites
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Antiquities Act of 1906 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Historic Sites Act of 1935 • Museum Properties Management Act of 1955, as amended • Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, 2009 • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • Secretarial Order 3289 "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" • "Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archaeological Collections" (36 CFR 79) • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> and <i>Director's Orders</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§2.3.1.4) "Science and Scholarship" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 4) "Natural Resource Management" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 24: <i>NPS Museum Collections Management</i> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • Director's Order 28A: <i>Archeology</i> • Director's Order 47: <i>Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management</i> • Director's Order 79: <i>Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities</i> • NPS <i>Museum Handbook</i>, parts I, II, and III • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation</i> • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties</i> • <i>The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes</i>



Fundamental Resource or Value	<i>Fa’asamoa</i>
Description	<i>Fa’asamoa</i> (Samoan way of life) is interconnected with Samoan lands and waters and is of utmost value to the National Park of American Samoa. The park perpetuates <i>Fa’asamoa</i> by sharing the living and vibrant Samoan traditions, language, legends, oral histories, protocols, values, and beliefs.
Related Significance Statements	Significance statements 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People continue to practice many aspects of <i>Fa’asamoa</i>, but it has changed dramatically in the last 30 years due to modernization and exposure to Western culture. • Changes have impacted all aspects of Samoan life, such as moving from open-air <i>fales</i> (huts) to Western style houses. • Samoans continue to speak the Samoan language, though some children use English as their primary language. • Many traditions are still intact while others are fading. • An oral history collection exists, but is not well organized or documented. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The <i>Fa’asamoa</i> and <i>matai</i> (chief) systems are waning. • The Samoan language may be declining and the use of English may be increasing due to more common use by younger generations. • The connections to land and sea are declining, and there is a growing reliance on off-island goods. • The education system is working to include Samoan language and traditions. • The communal nature of the culture is changing and becoming increasingly individualistic.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern influences, such as development, technology, and a monetary economy. • Lack of teachers in public schools that are qualified to teach Samoan culture and language. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better connect Samoan youth to their culture and increase stewardship of the land, sea, and cultural history. • Educational and cultural programs for local Samoans and off-island visitors. • Collect and document oral histories. • Natural resource management partnerships related to <i>Fa’asamoa</i>.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral histories.
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural landscape inventories. • Cultural resources condition assessment. • Subsistence fishery assessment. • Terrestrial subsistence use study. • Visitor use study.

Fundamental Resource or Value	<i>Fa'asamoa</i>
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural resources management plan. • Interagency resource stewardship strategy. • Long-range interpretive plan (update). • Marine management plan (including fisheries). • Park partner action strategy. • Terrestrial subsistence management plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§2.3.1.4) "Science and Scholarship" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1) "General Management Concepts" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1.4) "Partnerships" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.2) "Studies and Collections" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.4.1) "General Principles for Managing Biological Resources" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 24: <i>NPS Museum Collections Management</i> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • Director's Order 77: <i>Natural Resource Protection</i> • Director's Order 79: <i>Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities</i> • NPS <i>National Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i>





Fundamental Resource or Value	Scenery
Description	The National Park of American Samoa boasts exquisite scenery from ridge to reef; the rich ambient sounds of wind, ocean, and wildlife; globally recognized clean air; and a crystal clear southern hemisphere night sky experience.
Related Significance Statements	Significance statements 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scenery is in good condition. • The park works in partnership with local villages to maintain trails, vistas, and trail access to scenic views. • Due to tropical conditions, the park's trails require constant maintenance; they are currently in moderately good condition. • The landscape is actively used by people. • Litter cleanup and waste removal are a consistent problem. • Trail access is poor in some locations – limited parking and accessibility. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park is expanding its network of trails, including interpretive components. • Park staff continually try to provide better public access to park resources.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change. • Land-based point-source pollution. • Development. • Litter and dumping. • Inappropriate and/or illegal take of resources, mostly occurring off trails. • Invasive species. • Light pollution from street lights and other upward-facing lights. • Noise from increasing population and development. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential designations of resources, including wild and scenic river and cultural resource designations. • Partner with local villages to increase awareness and protection of the park scenic views and night sky. • Pursue “Dark Sky Park” designation through the International Dark Sky Association. • Partner with organizations currently conducting long-term air quality monitoring in American Samoa to receive air quality summary reports and investigate threats and future opportunities for mitigation and monitoring. • Develop partnerships with local organizations to address maintenance needs.

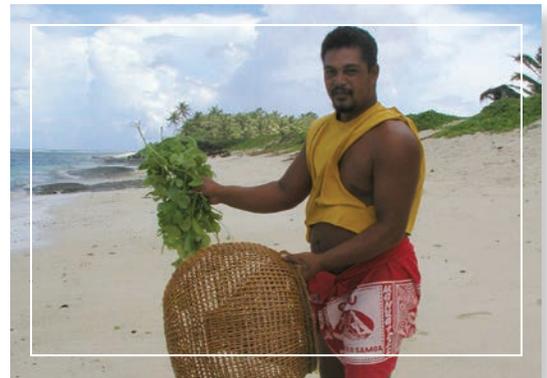
Fundamental Resource or Value	Scenery
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water quality data. • Air quality monitoring of atmospheric composition, including ozone, greenhouse gases, and other important trace gases, has been carried out on American Samoa since the mid-1980s.
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility assessment. • Air quality data and reports. • Night sky data. • Study impacts of climate change on park resources. • Trail survey. • Transportation assessment. • Visitor use study (including trail use). • Visual resource inventory. • Wild and scenic river survey.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change action strategy. • Interagency resource stewardship strategy. • Night sky plan. • Strategic plan. • Visual resource management plan.
Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended • Clean Air Act of 1977 (42 USC 7401 et seq.) • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§1.4) "Park Management" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 3) "Land Protection" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.1.4) "Partnerships" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.4.1) "General Principles for Managing Biological Resources" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.6.1) "Protection of Surface Waters and Groundwaters" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.7) "Air Resource Management" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.9) "Soundscape Management" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§4.10) "Lightscape Management" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (§5.3.1.7) "Cultural Soundscape Management" • NPS Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77 • Director's Order 47: <i>Soundscape Preservation and Noise Management</i>



Fundamental Resource or Value	Scientific Research
<p>Description</p>	<p>The National Park of American Samoa's paleotropical rainforests, coral reefs, and tropical freshwater streams provide living laboratories for research in conservation and wildlife biology, evolution, geology, and climate change. Cultural sites and <i>Fa'asamoa</i> offer insights in the fields of archeology, linguistics, cultural and biological anthropology, and many other disciplines.</p>
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>Significance statements 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park engages in collaborative research with the U.S. Forest Service – Institute of Pacific Island Forestry, U.S. Geological Survey, American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources, American Samoa Community College, U.S. Department of Agriculture Land Grant Program, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), American Conservation Experience, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and local villages. • Outside researchers work independently in the park and in collaboration with park staff. • A significant amount of climate change research is done in Ofu lagoon. • The park has years of inventory and monitoring data collected for land birds, freshwater animals, vegetation (forest plots and invasive transects), water quality in streams and marine areas, coral reef (collected in conjunction with park staff), marine fish (collected in conjunction with park staff), climate/weather, and land use changes (data collected, protocol in development). • Unreliable transportation to Manu'a Islands. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research programs, collaboration, and funding have been increasing.
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change and severe weather. • Decreasing federal budget. • Safety concerns (steep terrain, water transportation). • Inadequate transportation between park units. • Mosquito-borne illnesses (zika, dengue, chikungunya). <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased funding and new sources. • New collaborations with learning institutions, federal and territorial agencies, nonprofits, local communities, and philanthropists. • Increasing capacity through scholarships, internships, volunteer opportunities, and other means. • Exchange programs with outside agencies, neighboring Pacific islands, and learning institutions. • Increasing youth interest in scientific fields.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Scientific Research
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality monitoring of atmospheric composition, including ozone, greenhouse gases, and other important trace gases, has been carried out on American Samoa since the mid-1980s. • Archeological and anthropological research. • Crown-of-thorns starfish outbreak data. • Inventory and monitoring data for coral reefs (e.g., coral, benthic organisms, and fish), terrestrial habitats (e.g., vegetation, land birds), and freshwater systems. • Museum management plan (2009). • Ofu coral data regarding climate change. • Water quality data. • Weather data.
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air quality data and reports. • Archeological overview and assessment. • Assessment of the cumulative impacts of coral reef research. • Bird surveys (increase collaboration, data sharing, and reporting). • Bryophyte and epiphyte surveys. • Cave survey. • Coconut crab survey. • Coral reef bleaching and disease study. • Cultural landscape inventories. • Cultural resources condition assessment. • Entomology study. • Fruit bat population study (increase collaboration, data sharing, and reporting). • Giant clam distribution and population data. • Mesophotic coral reef study. • Sea turtle population data. • Snake survey. • Study impacts of climate change on park resources. • Subsistence fishery assessment. • Survey of all species of concern. • Terrestrial snail survey. • Terrestrial subsistence use study. • Understand connectivity of coral larval dispersal. • Vegetation plot survey (increase collaboration, data sharing, and reporting).
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change action strategy. • Cultural resources management plan. • Interagency integrated terrestrial pest management plan. • Interagency resource stewardship strategy. • Marine management plan. • Terrestrial subsistence management plan. • Wildlife management plan.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Scientific Research
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended • National Invasive Species Act of 1996 • Lacey Act of 1900, as amended • Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 • Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974, as amended • Clean Water Act of 1972, as amended • Clean Air Act of 1977 (42 USC 7401 et seq.) • Antiquities Act of 1906 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Historic Sites Act of 1935 • Museum Properties Management Act of 1955, as amended • Paleontological Resources Preservation Act, 2009 • Executive Order 12088, "Federal Compliance with Pollution Control Standards" • Executive Order 13112, "Invasive Species" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" • Executive Order 13547, "Stewardship of the Ocean, Our Coasts, and the Great Lakes" • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • "Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archaeological Collections" (36 CFR 79) • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§2.3.1.4) "Science and Scholarship" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1) "General Management Concepts" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.1.4) "Partnerships" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.2) "Studies and Collections" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.4.1) "General Principles for Managing Biological Resources" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§4.7.2) "Weather and Climate" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§5.1) "Research" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 24: <i>NPS Museum Collections Management</i> • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • Director's Order 79: <i>Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities</i> • NPS <i>Museum Handbook</i>, parts I, II, and III • NPS-75 <i>Natural Resources Inventory and Monitoring Guidelines</i> • NPS <i>Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i>



Fundamental Resource or Value	Subsistence Use
<p>Description</p>	<p>The National Park of American Samoa supports the continuation of Samoan land tenure and sustainable subsistence uses, including traditional fishing, gathering, and agriculture in established areas. The overlap of Samoan traditional uses of the land and sea with National Park Service management is an important and valued aspect of the National Park of American Samoa.</p>
<p>Related Significance Statements</p>	<p>Significance statements 1, 2, 4, and 5.</p>
<p>Current Conditions and Trends</p>	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine resources are degraded because of overfishing and climate change. • Overfishing is the result of an increasing human population and easier access to marine resources due to powerful boats and new technologies. • American Samoa’s waters have a history of being overfished. • The islands are remote with no larval source. • Agriculture and gathering is generally stable. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing and marine resources use has increased dramatically since the designation of the park.
<p>Threats and Opportunities</p>	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing human populations and economic development. • The <i>matai</i> (chief) system is no longer the primary food distribution mechanism, so individuals are increasingly taking what they want without considering sustainability. • There is a lack of clarity about NPS authority to regulate marine use. • Invasive species. • Pressure from villages to expand agricultural areas. • Lack of park funding to assess and manage subsistence uses of the park. • Contamination of marine waters by chemical contaminants and nutrient-rich terrestrial runoff. • Ongoing threats from climate change, including severe storm events, shifts in species ranges, and an increase in invasive species. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased education opportunities regarding sustainable subsistence practices. • Working more closely with <i>matais</i> to explore and potentially regulate uses, as well as meet enforcement needs. • Funding to promote agroforestry.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Subsistence Use
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subsistence fishery assessment. • Survey of all species of concern. • Study impacts of climate change on park resources. • Terrestrial subsistence use study. • Visitor use study.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change action strategy. • Interagency integrated terrestrial pest management plan. • Interagency resource stewardship strategy. • Marine management plan (conducted in partnership with villages). • Park partner action strategy. • Terrestrial subsistence management plan. • Wildlife management plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended • Lacey Act of 1900, as amended • Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 • National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended • Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 • Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 • Executive Order 11593, "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" • Secretarial Order 3289, "Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change on America's Water, Land, and Other Natural and Cultural Resources" • "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR 800) • "Curation of Federally-Owned and Administered Archaeological Collections" (36 CFR 79) • "Resource Management" (54 USC 1007) <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§1.6) "Cooperative Conservation Beyond Park Boundaries" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 3) "Land Protection" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 4) "Natural Resource Management" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (chapter 5) "Cultural Resource Management" • NPS <i>Management Policies 2006</i> (§8.10) "Natural and Cultural Studies, Research, and Collection Activities" • Director's Order 28: <i>Cultural Resource Management</i> • NPS <i>Natural Resource Management Reference Manual 77</i>

Fundamental Resource or Value	Connecting the Public to Samoan Heritage and Homelands
Description	The National Park of American Samoa is steadfast in its commitment to promoting resource stewardship, helping Samoans connect to their cultural heritage, and providing high-quality interpretation and education opportunities for the public. The park is a valuable and trusted local source of educational experiences in Samoan and English for both local Samoans and visitors.
Related Significance Statements	Significance statements 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The park's education and interpretation program has a good reputation within the community. • Education and interpretation efforts exist on Tutuila, but are limited on Ofu and Ta'ū. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program is growing – both staffing and the scope within the community. • The program is continually developing partnerships with local organizations.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding and limited staffing. • Limited resources for local educational institutions to provide students with access to the park. • Limited awareness of the national park within the community. • Limited, expensive transportation for both visitors and park staff to travel to all three units of the park. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion of the visitor center and visitor contact stations. • Developing new partnerships with local organizations and institutions. • Internships and volunteer opportunities for local students. • Coordination with local artists and cultural experts to design interpretive materials. • Create an artist-in-residence program. • Greater use of the Youth Conservation Corps and Student Conservation Association programs. • Youth employment leading to increased collaboration between park divisions. • Greater interdivisional exposure and interaction for park staff. • Improve transportation options and bring more students to the park. • Expand and improve programming in the Manu'a Islands.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-range interpretive plan (2002). • Visitor learning center design concept plan (2001).
Data and/or GIS Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local survey assessing needs, perceptions, and barriers of experiencing the outdoors. • School survey. • Visitor use study.
Planning Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-range interpretive plan (including marketing and communications planning). • Park partner action strategy. • Staffing needs assessment and plan. • Strategic plan.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Connecting the Public to Samoan Heritage and Homelands
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 • Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 • "Accessibility Guidelines" (36 CFR 1191.1) • Rehabilitation Act of 1973 • NPS Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998 <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 7) "Interpretation and Education" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 8) "Use of the Parks" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 9) "Park Facilities" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 10) "Commercial Visitor Services" • Director's Order 6: <i>Interpretation and Education</i> • Director's Order 7: <i>Volunteers in Parks</i> • Director's Order 42: <i>Accessibility for Visitors with Disabilities in National Park Service Programs and Services</i>



Fundamental Resource or Value	Recreational Opportunities
Description	The National Park of American Samoa provides visitors and local Samoans with a variety of memorable recreational opportunities that are compatible with <i>Fa'asamoa</i> and promote health and wellness. Opportunities include hiking rainforest trails to mountaintops and Samoan cultural sites; swimming, snorkeling, diving, and boating in the park's tropical waters; and immersion in Samoan cultural programs and experiences.
Related Significance Statements	Significance statements 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6.
Current Conditions and Trends	<p>Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The park has limited recreational opportunities—predominantly trail hiking, beach walking, snorkeling, diving, and participation in cultural activities. The number of off-island visitors is low. <p>Trends</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The trail system is growing and improving public access. The park is exploring new transportation options for visitors to have access to recreational opportunities. Efforts to engage youth in park activities are increasing. Awareness about health and wellness is becoming more important, resulting in more interest in recreational opportunities.
Threats and Opportunities	<p>Threats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited funding, staffing, and other means of economic support. Uncertain federal budget climate. Limited resources for local educational institutions to provide students with access to the park. Limited local awareness of the national park and interest in recreational activities. Limited, expensive transportation for both visitors and park staff to travel to all three units of the park. Lack of commercial services. <p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop better recreational opportunities for the Manu'a Islands. Use youth employment, internships, and volunteers to work on trails and increase understanding and appreciation of park resources. Develop partnerships with local organizations and institutions. Increase the Samoans' understanding of the park through programming designed to connect the local population to the resources. More guided hikes during the week. More wayside exhibits. Work to increase commercial services available to visitors.
Existing Data and Plans Related to the FRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality monitoring of atmospheric composition, including ozone, greenhouse gases, and other important trace gases, has been carried out on American Samoa since the mid-1980s. Alternative transportation study (2001). Research publications (see appendix D), including visitation and climate change.

Fundamental Resource or Value	Recreational Opportunities
<p>Data and/or GIS Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility assessment. • Air quality data and reports. • Local survey assessing needs, perceptions, and barriers of experiencing the outdoors. • Night sky data. • School survey. • Trail survey. • Transportation assessment. • Visitor use study.
<p>Planning Needs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change action strategy. • Long-range interpretive plan (including marketing and communications planning). • Maintenance plan. • Manu'a units management plan. • Park partner action strategy. • Strategic plan. • Trails management plan.
<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV, and NPS Policy-level Guidance</p>	<p>Laws, Executive Orders, and Regulations That Apply to the FRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability by Public Accommodations and in Commercial Facilities" (28 CFR 36) • Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 • "Accessibility Guidelines" (36 CFR 1191.1) • Clean Air Act of 1977 (42 USC 7401 et seq.) • NPS Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998 <p>NPS Policy-level Guidance (NPS Management Policies 2006 and Director's Orders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 7) "Interpretation and Education" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 8) "Use of the Parks" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 9) "Park Facilities" • NPS Management Policies 2006 (chapter 10) "Commercial Visitor Services" • Director's Order 6: <i>Interpretation and Education</i> • Director's Order 7: <i>Volunteers in Parks</i> • Director's Order 42: <i>Accessibility for Visitors with Disabilities in National Park Service Programs and Services</i> • NPS Transportation Planning Guidebook (1999)



Appendix C: Inventory of Administrative Commitments and Administrative Support Roles

Administrative Commitments

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date – Expiration Date	Stakeholders
Agreement to Establish and Implement the Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (PaIOOS)	Memorandum of agreement	July 23, 2015 - None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Park of American Samoa
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Outlines functions and responsibilities by the participating parties to establish and implement a regional association to develop, operate, and improve the regional coastal ocean observing system known as PaIOOS. The intent of the system is to monitor, maintain, and protect the long-term sustainability and health of the insular Pacific marine ecosystems, their habitats, and resources. It also provides a framework for the parties to work cooperatively to more effectively accomplish their individual and common missions and enhance broad user access to ocean knowledge, data, tools, and products.</p>			
Land Lease	Lease agreement	Sept. 23, 1993 – Sept. 23, 2043	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> American Samoa Government National Park Service
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Establishes the National Park in American Samoa and permits the management and use of village, family, and individual lands in the boundaries of the park by the National Park Service.</p>			
Memorandum of Understanding for Marine and Natural Resource Management	Memorandum of understanding		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries - Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary National Park of American Samoa
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Identifies the roles and responsibilities of the parties for collaboration in marine and natural resource management to include, but not limited to, shared support of boat operations where practical, cooperative education and outreach opportunities, and to examine new and innovative partnerships between programs including sharing staff, volunteers, equipment, training, facilities, and other resources.</p>			
General Agreement for Agency Collaboration	Memorandum of agreement	Aug. 21, 2006 – Aug. 21, 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Park Service
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Establishes and articulates a formal working relationship between the three agencies in American Samoa.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> Expired without renewal.</p>			

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date – Expiration Date	Stakeholders
Memorandum of Understanding for Shared Office Space	Memorandum of understanding	Dec. 8, 2010 – Unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Pacific Reefs National Wildlife Refuge Complex • National Park Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Memorial Park • National Park of American Samoa
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Supplements the General Agreement (# MOA-2006-036/7196,8/21/06) for sharing office space, resources, and expertise in carrying out agency management responsibilities.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> This memorandum of understanding is for the purposes of more efficiently and economically conserving and managing the Department of the Interior-administered natural, historic, and cultural resources in American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands through joint and cooperative sharing of resources, staff, office, and maintenance space, equipment, education and interpretation, and law enforcement.</p>			
Memorandum of Understanding for Removal of Invasive Tamaligi Tree	Memorandum of understanding	May, 2011 – May, 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor's Coral Reef Advisory Group • American Samoa Resource, Conservation, and Development Council • National Park Service
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Establishes the terms and conditions under which the parties agree to cooperate in the shared mission to remove all known populations of the highly invasive, nitrogen-fixing tree, tamaligi (<i>Falcataria moluccana</i>) present in selected villages across Tutuila Island. The principal roles of the parties are: Governor's Coral Reef Advisory Group will provide the project funds, National Park Service will manage all phases of the project, and American Samoa Resource, Conservation, and Development Council will pay participating villager workers.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> Current agreement in draft form, new agreement in process.</p>			
Collaboration with Keep American Samoa Beautiful	Memorandum of understanding	Feb. 9, 2016 – None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency • National Park of American Samoa
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Encourages participation in the Keep American Samoa Beautiful program and to improve the appearance of roadsides, streams, and coastal areas.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> The park has committed to doing regular cleanups along the coasts in Pago Pago harbor, from the Pago Way Gas Station to the Tool Shop building.</p>			
Collaboration with Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association	Cooperating association agreement	Dec. 20, 2015 – Dec. 20, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association • National Park Service
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Defines a working relationship to provide park visitors with interpretive and educational materials that facilitate and expand appreciation of the national park.</p>			

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date – Expiration Date	Stakeholders
Governor's Coral Reef Advisory Group	Memorandum of understanding (draft, see notes)	The park has been an invited member since 1999; the memorandum of understanding is renewed on five year intervals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources • Department of Commerce • American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency • American Samoa Community College • National Park of American Samoa
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Formalizes the collaboration of five agencies in the territory that have links to the coral reef environment and its management. They serve as a functioning advisory task force through a mandate from the governor's office.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> The group plans achievable programs, identifies and collaborates with other partners, obtains funding for projects, tracks project compliance, promotes public awareness, and develops local capacity for eventual self-sustainability. The memorandum of understanding is in draft form, awaiting signatures.</p>			
Agreement for Scientific Permits	Interagency agreement	Mar. 2, 2011 – n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources • National Park of American Samoa
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Agreement affirms that the national park will obtain a permit from the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources for work conducted outside of NPS boundaries, and the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources will obtain a permit from the national park for work they conduct within NPS boundaries.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> No end date is specified, however, the agreement can be amended on all existing or future memorandums of understanding between the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources and the park.</p>			

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date – Expiration Date	Stakeholders
<p>American Samoa Invasive Species Team (ASIST)</p>	<p>Memorandum of understanding (draft, see notes)</p>	<p>Program was formed in 2004 – n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Samoa Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Samoa Community College Land Grant • Department of Education • Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources • Department of Port Administration • Department of Agriculture • Department of Treasury/ Customs • Environmental Protection Agency • U.S. Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service • U.S. Department of Homeland Security – U.S. Coast Guard • U.S. Department of the Interior – National Park Service
<p><i>Purpose:</i> Establishes the ASIST team to reduce the rate of invasion and impact of invasive species in American Samoa. The team goals are promoting education and awareness of invasive species, and preventing, controlling, and eradicating invasive species.</p> <p><i>Notes:</i> Memorandum of understanding was drafted in 2005 but was never finalized or signed. The commitment dates of the memorandum of understanding were from July 1, 2005 to July 1, 2010.</p>			
<p>Pacific Invasive Learning Network</p>	<p>No formal agreement</p>	<p>Program was formed in 2003 – n/a</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are currently 16 participating teams across the Pacific: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Samoa • Commonwealth of Northern Marianas • Federated States of Micronesia (Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap States) • Fiji • French Polynesia • Guam • Hawaii • Kiribati • Kiritimati • Marshall Islands • New Caledonia • Niue • Palau • Samoa • Wallis & Futuna

Name	Agreement Type	Start Date – Expiration Date	Stakeholders
<i>Purpose:</i> Established by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme headquartered in Apia, Samoa. The intent is to develop and support peer learning networks that improve conservation and cooperation for invasive species management among Pacific Island nations.			
Park Boundary Adjustment	Congressional authorization	December 2002 – n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> American Samoa Government U.S. Department of the Interior – National Park Service
<i>Purpose:</i> Congress authorized a 30% park expansion of the park boundary on Olosega and Ofu islands. (Section 1 of Public Law 107-336.)			
<i>Notes:</i> The boundary of the park will only change if the decision is made to add new lands and waters from these villages to the park and the current lease agreement is revised.			

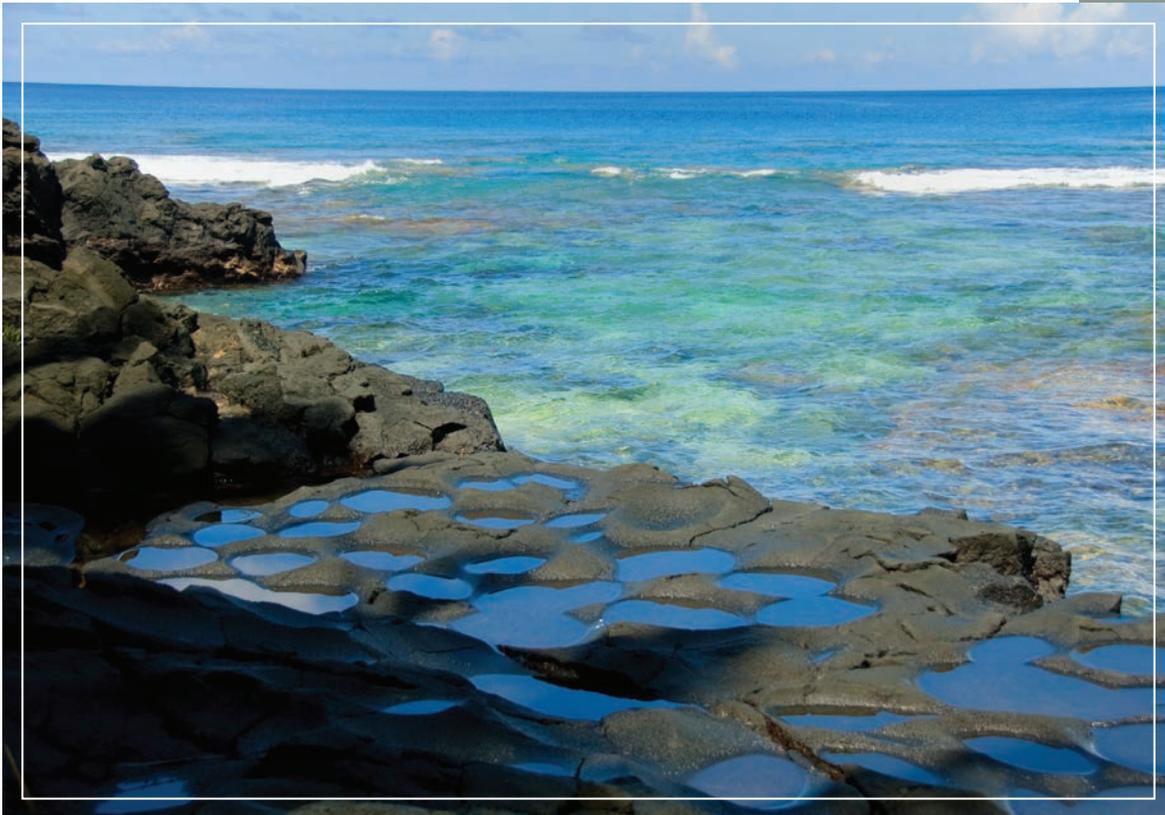
Administrative Support Roles

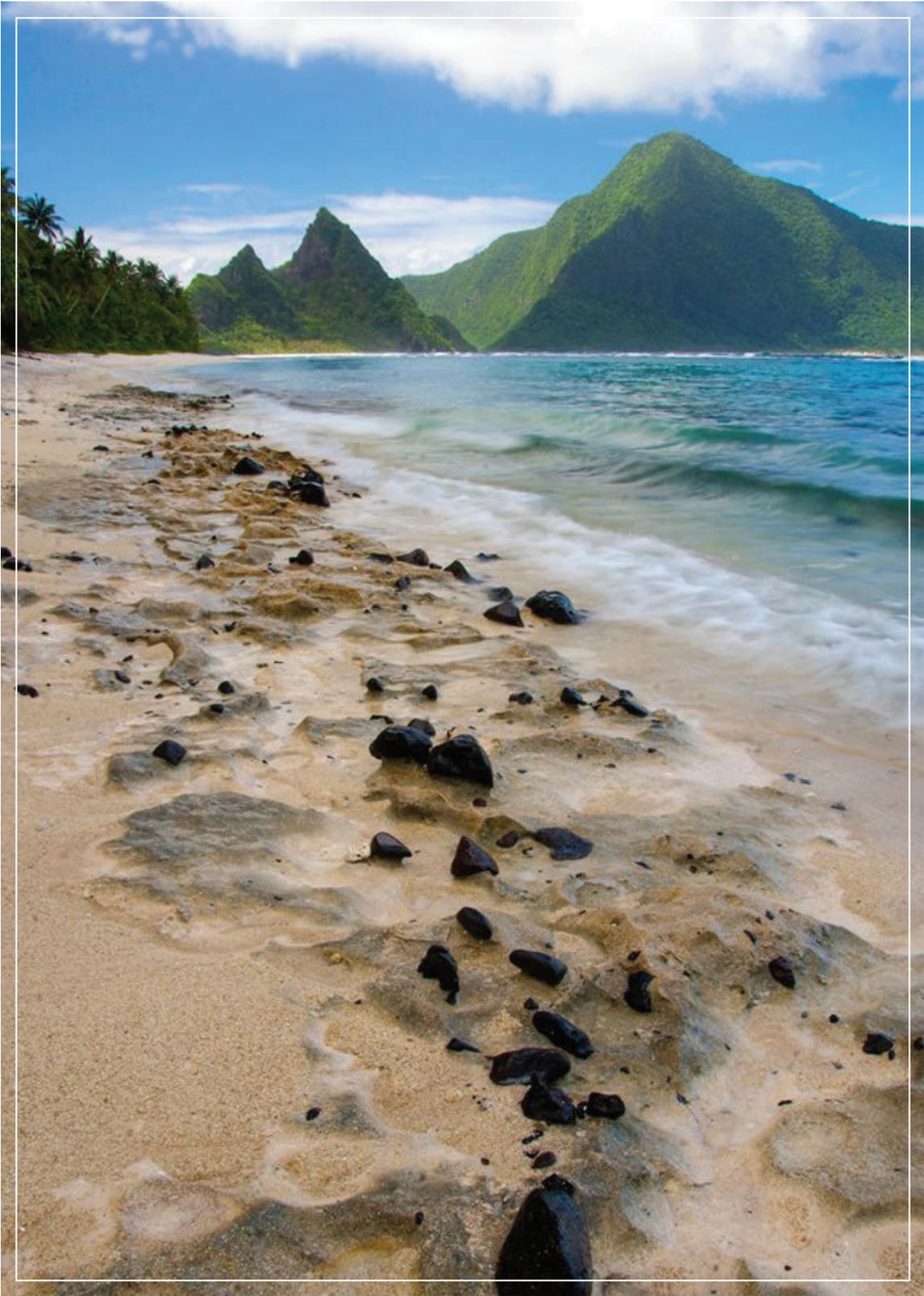
Name	Agreement Type	Start Date – Expiration Date	Stakeholders
Le Tausagi	No formal agreement		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> American Samoa Government American Samoa Community College Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources Department of Commerce – Coastal Zone Management Program Environmental Protection Agency Department of Youth and Women Affairs National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pacific Islands Regional Office – National Marine Sanctuary of American Samoa U.S. Department of Agriculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural Resources Conservation Service U.S. Department of the Interior <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Park of American Samoa
<i>Purpose:</i> Translated as “the morning song of the bird,” this group of government environmental educators collaborates on environmental outreach throughout American Samoa.			
<i>Notes:</i> Example programs and activities include EnviroDiscoveries, Village Outreach, Earth Day, Arbor Week, and Coastweeks.			

Appendix D: Past and Ongoing Park Planning Efforts

Ongoing Plans/Data	Date	Status	Notes
Natural Resources Condition Assessment		Underway	Some components complete and ready for review.
Collection Storage Evaluation		Underway	
Oral History Collection Report		Underway	Data collected, report needs written.
Fern and Flora Studies		Underway	Data collected, report needs written.
Past Plans	Date	Status	Notes
Museum Management Plan	2009	Complete	
Marine Protected Area Program Master Plan	2008	Complete	Oram, R. G. Marine Protected Area Program Master Plan: A Manual to Guide the Establishment and Management of No-Take Marine Protected Areas. Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources. Pago Pago, SA.
Samoa Resource Overview - Vital Signs Monitoring Plan	2006	Complete	Hart, R. Vital Signs Monitoring Plan Appendix A: National Park of American Samoa Resource Overview. National Park of American Samoa. Fort Collins, CO.
Ocean Resource Management Plan	2003	Complete	Draft American Samoa Ocean Resource Management Plan. Pago Pago, AS.
Long-Range Interpretive Plan	2002	Complete	
Visitor Learning Center Design Concept Plan	2001	Complete	
Alternative Transportation Study	2001	Complete	
Watershed Protection Plan	2000	Complete	American Samoa Watershed Protection Plan - Volume 3: Watersheds 36-41. Pago Pago, AS.
Watershed Protection Plan	2000	Complete	American Samoa Watershed Protection Plan - Volume 4: Stormwater Management Evaluations. Pago Pago, AS.

Past Plans	Date	Status	Notes
Coral Reef Management Five-Year Plan	1999	Complete	Coral Reef Management for Small Islands: 5-Year Plan for American Samoa. Pago Pago, AS.
Emergency Restoration Plan – Pago Pago Harbor	1999	Complete	
General Management Plan/ EIS	1998	Complete	
Strategic Plan	1997	Complete	
Historic Preservation Plan	1996	Complete	
Resource Management Plan	1994	Complete	
Statement for Management	1994	Complete	
Wetlands Management Plan	1992	Complete	A Comprehensive Wetlands Management Plan for the Islands of Tutuila and Aunu'u, American Samoa. Pago Pago, AS.
Manu'a Economic Environmental Plan	1986	Complete	
A Park Program for American Samoa	1965	Complete	





Pacific West Region Foundation Document Recommendation National Park of American Samoa

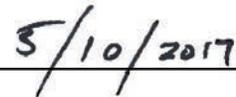
May 2017

This Foundation Document has been prepared as a collaborative effort between park and regional staff and is recommended for approval by the Pacific West Regional Director.

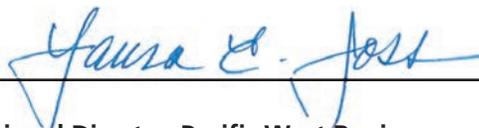


RECOMMENDED

Scott Burch, Superintendent, National Park of American Samoa

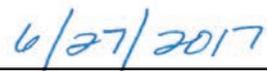


Date



APPROVED

Laura E. Joss, Regional Director, Pacific West Region



Date



As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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June 2017

