



## **Rapid Vulnerability Assessment Workshop of the National Marine Sanctuary and Territory of American Samoa**

### **July 19-20, 2016**

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#### **Location:**

Tauese P.F. Sunia Ocean Center, Pago Pago, American Samoa

#### **Workshop Description:**

This rapid climate change vulnerability assessment workshop for the National Marine Sanctuary and American Samoa is part of a larger project intended to increase resilience and support adaptation for the region. The goal of this workshop is to assess the vulnerability of 8-10 focal resources (species, habitats, and ecosystem services) to climate change that were chosen based on participant input.

#### **Workshop Objectives:**

1. Provide participants with baseline knowledge and understanding of climate trends (current, historic, projected future) for American Samoa.
2. Assess vulnerabilities of habitats, species, and ecosystem services to climate change including evaluating sensitivity, exposure, and adaptive capacity.
3. Evaluate potential vulnerabilities of management goals and brainstorm adaptation strategies to reduce those vulnerabilities.
4. Provide vulnerability assessment training, resources, support, and tools to participants to extend this process to similar efforts in their own work

#### **Agenda**

##### **Tuesday July 19, 2016**

- 8:30 – 8:45 Sanctuary Welcome, Gene Brighthouse, Superintendent NMS American Samoa
- 8:45 – 9:00 Participant Introductions: name and affiliation
- 9:00 – 9:15 Introduction to workshop goals and objectives, Joseph Paulin, NMS American Samoa
- 9:15 – 9:30 Presentation: Climate trends in American Samoa, Melissa Snover, NMS American Samoa
- 9:30-9:45 Presentation: American Samoan Government Climate Initiatives, Kim McGuire, Coral Reef Advisory Group
- 9:45-10:00 Presentation: National Park Service Climate Initiatives, Scott Burch, Superintendent NPSA
- 10:00 – 10:15 Presentation: Introduction to vulnerability assessments – foundational elements and key steps and orientation to vulnerability assessment worksheets, Sara Hutto, Greater Farallones NMS

### **Habitat Vulnerability Assessment**

10:15 – 12:15 Vulnerability Assessment Breakout Groups: Habitat type

Objectives for breakout groups:

- Complete worksheets: sensitivity and exposure, adaptive capacity
- Discuss overall vulnerability

LUNCH: 12:15 – 1:00 PM

### **Species Vulnerability Assessment**

1:00 – 3:00 Vulnerability Assessment Breakout Groups: Species

Objectives for breakout groups:

- Complete worksheets: sensitivity and exposure, adaptive capacity
- Discuss overall vulnerability

3:00 – 3:45 Breakout groups report back to share species vulnerability assessment findings with all participants and discuss rankings

3:45 – 4:00 Wrap up Day 1 and Set up Day 2

### **Wednesday July 20, 2016**

8:30 – 8:45 Opening comments and overview of day's objectives

### **Ecosystem Services Vulnerability Assessment**

8:45 – 10:15 Vulnerability Assessment Breakout Groups: Ecosystem Services

Objectives for breakout groups:

- Complete worksheets: sensitivity, and exposure, adaptive capacity
- Discuss overall vulnerability

10:15 – 10:30 Breakout groups report back to share human and economic vulnerability assessment findings with all participants and discuss rankings

10:30-11:45 Group Discussion: Key Vulnerabilities and Potential Management Responses for their species and habitats from Day 1 and ecosystem services from Day 2

- Discuss overall vulnerability
- Brainstorm management responses for all focal resources

11:45 – 12:00 Workshop wrap up and next steps

LUNCH: 12:00 – 1:00 PM

### **Optional Review Session**

\* 1:00 – 3:00 PM Optional session for those who missed part of Day 1 or Day 2 to review or provide additional input on species, habitats and ecosystem services vulnerability assessments.