

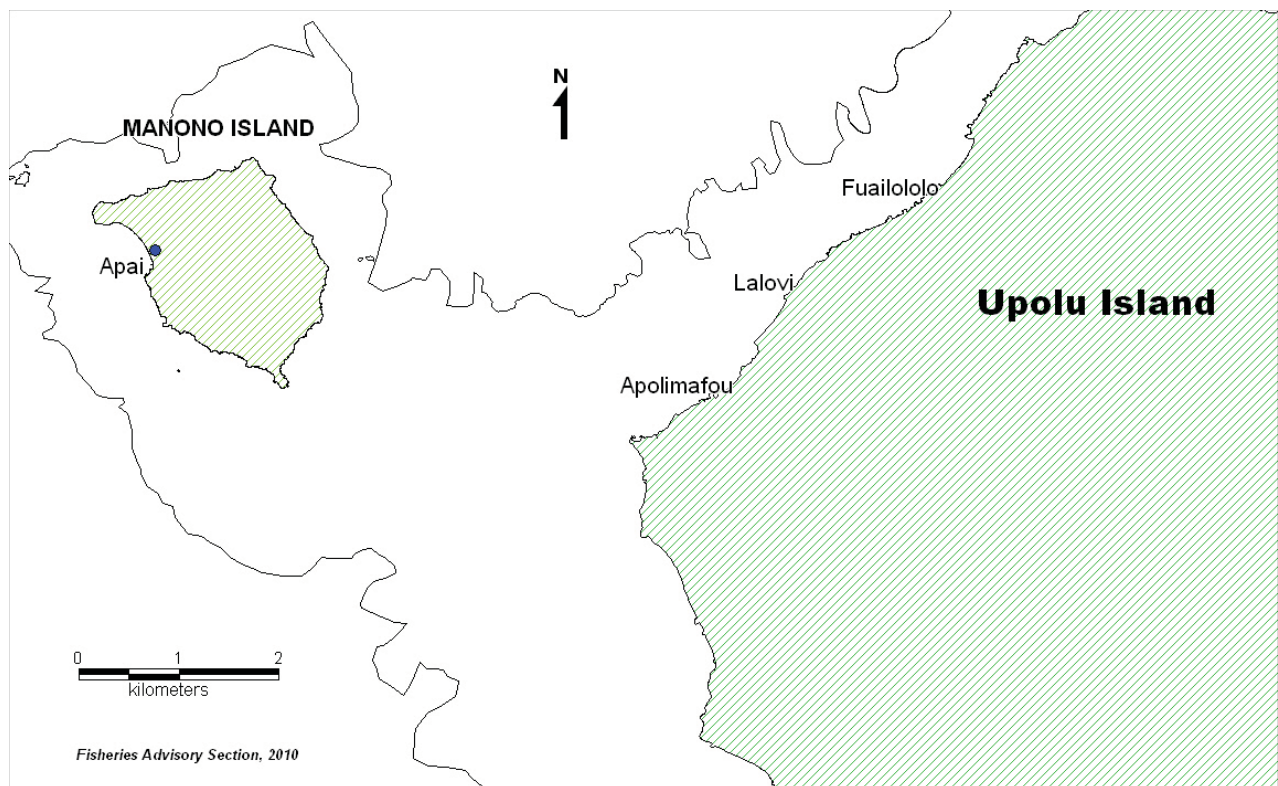
APAI – MANONO TAI

1. INTRODUCTION

The management plan of the village of Apai was first established on the 27th of September, 1996. The by-laws resulting from this management plan were passed into law on the 30th of September 1998.

Apai is located on the west side of Manono Island (see Figure 1). The total in 2006 was 111 which was consisted of 54 males and 57 females (Bureau of Statistics, 2006).

Figure 1: Location of Apai Village in Manono Island



2. MANAGEMENT PLAN AND BYLAWS

TABLE 1: Village Management Undertakings, Bans and Penalties

Management Undertaking/Ban	Resident Penalty	Non-resident Penalty/Undertaking
Destructive fishing methods	To be determined and handle by Ali'i ma Faipule during	Fisheries Act 1988 / Regulation 1995

	meeting	
Advertise village by-laws	Radio, TV, newspaper	Radio, TV, newspaper
Ban the use of underwater torches	To be determined and handle by Ali'i ma Faipule during meeting	Village By-laws
Set mesh size limits	To be determined and handle by Ali'i ma Faipule during meeting	Fisheries Regulations 1995
Promote offshore fishing	-	Village & committee
Aquaculture - fish and shellfish	-	Village & committee
Removal of Crown-of-Thorns	-	Village & committee
Establish Fish Reserve and Ban activity within the Reserve	-	Village By-laws
Ban the export of sea cucumbers	To be determined and handle by Ali'i ma Faipule during meeting	Regulations / Village by-laws
Support by the village churches and spiritual leaders	-	Village & church leaders

Table 2: Bylaws of Apai, Manonotai – 30 September 1998

Conservation and Management Measures		
1. Establish Fish Reserve on part of the reef and lagoon		- Outer limits of the FR area are marked by poles. - Trespassing and fishing of any nature in FR is prohibited
2. Illegal Fishing Methods		- Dynamite, ava niukini & other poisons as prohibited under Fisheries Act 88 are prohibited within the fishery waters of Apai, Manono-tai
3. Regulations		- Prohibition & conservation measures concerning minimum size limit for fish and shellfish and minimum mesh size for nets and fish traps & other restrictions under Regulations 1995 are declared bylaws in Apai
4. Export of Brown Sandfish (Fugafuga)		- Collection for export is prohibited within the fishery water of Apai, Manono-tai
5. Underwater Breathing Equipment		- Use of any equipment that enables underwater breathing for fishing purposes within the fishery

for fishing purposes	waters of Apai are prohibited (SCUBA & Hooker diving gears)
Penalties	
Any person who breaches any provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine not exceeding \$100 and where breach is a continuing one to a further fine not exceeding \$20 for every day on which the breach has continued. - Breach involves Fisheries Act 1988 or Regulation 1995 applicable fines under those respective laws will apply or a fine impose by the village council of Apai as they may see just and in accordance with the Village Fono Act 1990.

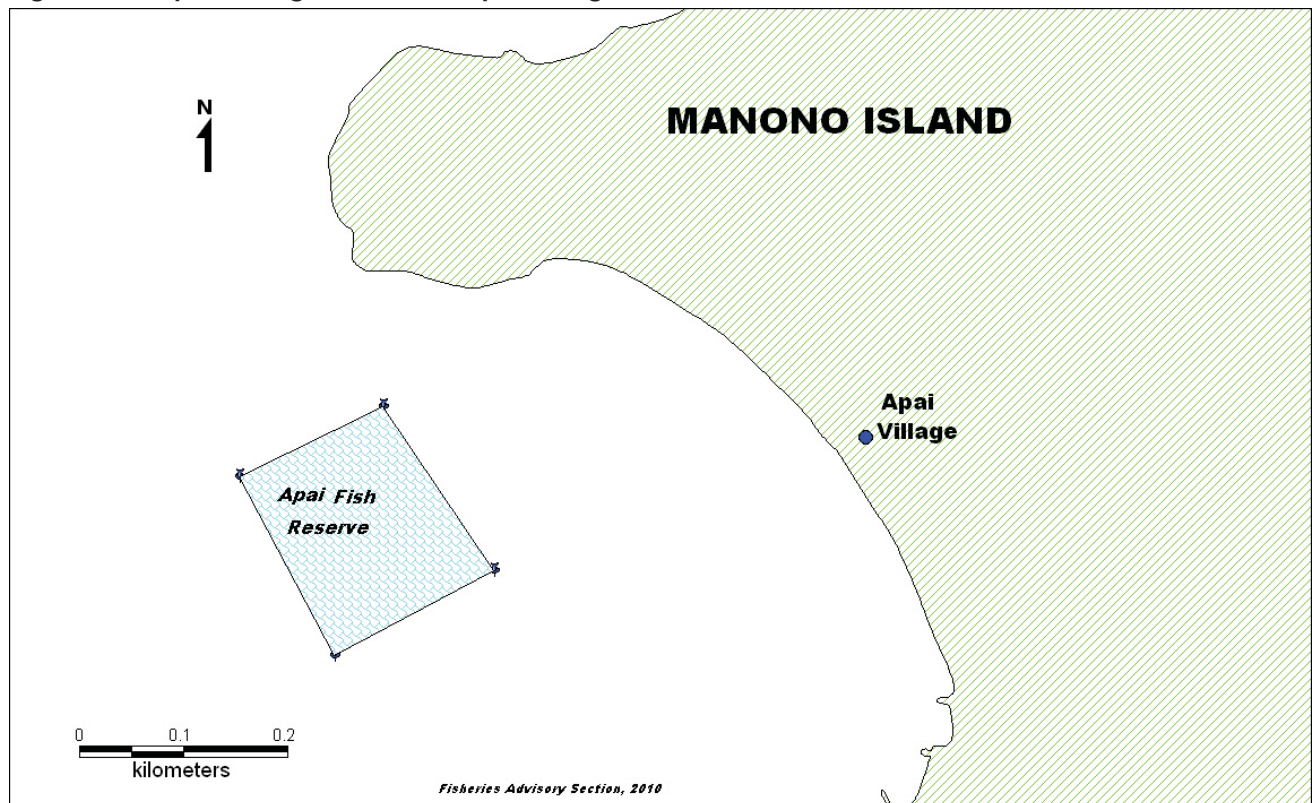
“The purpose of these by-laws shall be to promote the protection, conservation, management and sustainable development of the fishery and marine resources of the village of...”

By-laws are drawn up by the village with the help of the Extension Section and set into law through legal channels facilitated by the Fisheries Division. The village implements and enforces these bylaws within their village.

2.1 FISH RESERVE

Also resulting from this management plan is a 31,380m² fish reserve (see Figure 2) with a perimeter of 712.4m. This reserve is marked by buoys.

Figure 2: Map showing the area of Apai Village's Fish Reserve



Fish Reserve Area: 31,380m²

3. MONITORINGS

A. ADVISORY SECTION

Advisory or Extension Section conducts 6 monthly or annual reviews to assess management plan activities of village Fisheries Management Committees (FMCs) and the villages themselves.

TABLE 3: Results of Apai 6 Monthly Reviews

Dates Conducted	Score Results (%)
18 Nov 1999	80.06
10 May 2000	68.42
28 Nov 2000	74.2
13 Aug 2004	72.34
8 Aug 2007	87.84
28 May 2009	79.58
19 Jan 2010	62.6

Table 2 outlines the seven reviews of Apai Village's management since its establishment in 1999. The score remain average due to weak implementation of undertakings by the FMC. The last two years shows that the programme in the village needs stronger support from the village council and people and also the Fisheries Division to strengthen its work relation with the village and its committee.

B. INSHORE SECTION

The Inshore Section conducts assessments to record the biological and ecological status of the Fish Reserve (FR). These reports are carried out roughly yearly in an attempt to note any changes, to mitigate any new problems and to determine whether the FR is improving the local habitat as desired.

Last Inshore Assessment: No inshore report can be found for the Apai FR.

C. AQUACULTURE SECTION

No aquaculture projects have been attempted in the village of Apai.

D. ENFORCEMENT SECTION

The purpose of the by-laws is to empower the village to be able to take legal action over fish reserve offenders. The village is free to take actions against residents of the village without any legal proceedings; however, the by-laws both heighten potential enforcement within the village and provide an official means to prosecute outside offenders.

4. Other Developments and Initiatives

Apai received a project grant from the UNDP GEF/SGP grant in 2006 to assist their Marine Conservation/Fish Reserve such as doing coral restoration. Thus far, they have deployed buoys to mark the fish reserve and have constructed fish houses and coral gardening blocks. A signboard in front of the reserve denotes the project and regular reports have been made by the Fisheries Division on the progress of the project.