



TERRITORY OF AMERICAN SAMOA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799



Tauese P. F. Sunia
Governor

Togiola T. A. Tulafono
Lieutenant Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 02 - -2000

AN ORDER PROHIBITING COLLECTION AND EXPORT OF LIVE ROCK

Section 1: Authority

This Executive Order is issued under the authority granted to the Governor in Article IV, Section 6, American Samoa Revised Constitution.

Section 2: Preamble

Whereas, preservation of our coral reefs should be a priority issue for the benefit of present and future generations; and

Whereas, American Samoa is actively involved in the conservation and protection of coral reefs through its participation on the President's Coral Reef Task Force; and

Whereas, a coral reef workshop in American Samoa concluded that our coral reefs are seriously over-fished, and "live rock" provides food and habitat for coral reef fish; and

Whereas, A.S.A.C. Section 26.0220(F) provides:

Coral Reefs are:

- (1) "Living marine resources and their habitats shall be protected from over-harvesting and degradation..." and
- (2) "Coral reefs shall be protected from sedimentation, over-fishing, runoff, and the impacts resulting directly and indirectly from other activities to the maximum extent feasible. Degraded reefs shall be restored wherever feasible..."

Section 3: Order

(a) The collection of any "live rock", defined as any coral or basalt rock with living organisms growing on it, from reefs in the Territory is prohibited.

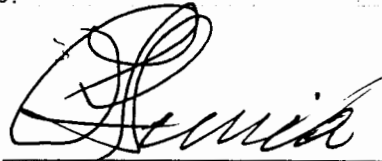
(b) Export of any live rock taken from reefs is prohibited.

(c) Export of cultured live rock must be permitted by the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources in accordance with administrative rules and regulations which that department shall promulgate.

Section 4: **Effective Date**

This order is effective upon signing.

Dated: 6/5, 2000.



TAUESE P.F. SUNIA
Governor

cc: Per Standard List