



TERRITORY OF AMERICAN SAMOA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA 96799



TAUSEE P. F. SUNIA  
Governor

TOA OLA T. A. TULAFONO  
Lieutenant Governor

ATTN: PETER

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 002 -2001

AN ORDER PROHIBITING THE USE OF UNDERWATER BREATHING APPARATUS (SCUBA, HOOKAH AND REBREATHERS) FOR FISHING

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 living marine resources associated with coral reefs (including algae, fish and marine invertebrates) 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: "Over-fishing is a serious and urgent problem on coral reefs in American Samoa. A major contributor to this problem is scuba fishing which should be prohibited in all territorial fisheries..." and

Whereas, A.S.C.A. Section 24 0304 provides that:

DMWIC is to "manage, protect, preserve and perpetuate the marine and wildlife resources in the Territory;" and

Whereas, A.S.A.C. Section 25.0220(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."

Section 3: Order

(a) Taking of any living marine resource using underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA, hookah gear or rebreather equipment) is prohibited.

(b) Possession of underwater breathing apparatus and spear (or modified spear) together is prohibited on vehicles, vessels, shoreline and in the sea.

(c) Export of marine resources associated with coral reefs (including algae, fish and marine invertebrates) taken using underwater breathing apparatus is prohibited.

Section 4: Rules

The Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources shall promulgate administrative rules to further implement the intent of this Order.

Section 5: Effective Date

This order is effective upon signing.

Dated: 4/10 2001.



TAUESE P.F. SUNIA  
Governor

cc: Per Standard List