

(Translation in Samoan)

**\*\*NOTE:** Certain technical terms and scientific concepts may not have a direct translation from English to Samoan, and the translated text may contain errors or inconsistencies.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS for**  
Proposed Rule for 10 Species of Giant Clams under the Endangered Species Act (ESA)

**FESILI E MASANI ONA FESILIIA mo**

Tulafono Faatuina atu mo Ituaiga e 10 o Faisua Lapopo'a i lalo o le Tulafono o Ituaiga Lamatia (ESA)

**Proposed Rule: General Questions**

**Tulafono Faatuina atu: Fesili Masani**

**Q: What actions is NOAA Fisheries proposing?**

**A:** NOAA Fisheries is proposing to list five species of giant clams as endangered (*Hippopus porcellanus*, *Tridacna derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, and *T. squamosina*) and one species of giant clam as threatened (*H. hippopus*) under the ESA because they are in danger of extinction now or in the foreseeable future. We are also proposing to extend all of the prohibitions of [section 9 of the ESA](#) to *H. hippopus*. Section 9 of the ESA prohibits certain activities, such as importing, exporting, taking, and selling the species. While these prohibitions automatically apply to any species listed as endangered, a regulation under section 4(d) of the ESA must be published in the *Federal Register* and become effective before any of these prohibitions can be applied to species that are listed as threatened.

In addition, we are proposing to treat four other species of giant clams (*T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa*) as threatened species due to their similarity of appearance to the giant clams that we are proposing to list under the ESA. Specifically, we are proposing to prohibit the import and export of derivative parts and products of these species, such as meat and shell carvings, of *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa* into and from the United States and its territories.

**Fesili (F): O a gaioiga o loo faatuina atu e le NOAA Fisheries?**

**Tali (T):** O loo faatuina atu e le NOAA Fisheries ina ia lisiina ituaiga e lima o faisua lapopo'a faapea e lamatia (*Hippopus porcellanus*, *Tridacna derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, ma le *T. squamosina*) ma e tasi se ituaiga o faisua lapopo'a faapea ua faamata'u (*H. hippopus*) i lalo o le ESA ona o loo lamatia i latou i le faaumatia i le taimi nei po o le lumanai o loo vaavaai atu i ai. Ua matou faatuina atu foi ina ia faa'umi'umi atu faasa uma o le [section 9 of the ESA](#) i le *H. hippopus*. Section 9 o le ESA faasa ai ituaiga gaioiga, e pei o le aumai i totonu o le atunuu, auina atu i fafo, 'aveina, ma le faatauina atu o ituaiga. A o nei faasa e otomeki ona apalai i soo se ituaiga o loo lisiina faapea e lamatia, o se aiaiga i lalo o le section 4(d) o le ESA e tatau ona

lomia i le *Federal Register* ma oo ai ina aoga ae lei mafai ona apalai i ai soo se faasa i ituaiga faapea o loo lisiina e faapea e faamata'u.

E fa'aopopo i ai, o loo matou faatuina atu ina ia faia isi ituaiga e fa o faisua lapopo'a (*T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa*) faapea o ituaiga e lamatia ona o latou foliga tali tutusa i faisua lapopo'a faapea o loo matou faatuina atu ina ia lisiina i lalo o le ESA. Aemaise ai lava, o loo matou faatuina atu ina ia faasa le aumai i totonu ma le auina atu i fafo o vaega e vave ona i ai suiga ma oloa o ituaiga nei, e pei o 'a'ano ma mea taulima o atiga, o *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, ma *T. squamosa* i totonu ma mai le Iunaite Setete ma ona teritori.

**Q: What is a “giant clam”?**

**A:** The name “giant clam” refers to 12 closely related species of clams that are grouped within the taxonomic subfamily Tridacninae. As their name suggests, some of these species are truly giant. *T. gigas*, for example, can grow to over a meter wide and up to 500 pounds. Other species are considerably smaller, with maximum sizes around 15-30 cm wide. In fact, the common name for *T. maxima* is quite confusingly the “small giant clam.” In addition to their size, several features of their life history make giant clams unique from other clam species. In particular, they orient themselves with the hinge of their shell facing downwards and their enlarged, brightly colored mantle (*i.e.*, tissue) pointed upwards toward the sunlight. This is because they have symbiotic algae living within their tissue that use the sunlight to perform photosynthesis, which provides supplemental nutrition to the clam.

**F: O le a se “faisua lapo'a”?**

**T:** O le igoa “faisua lapo'a” e faatatau i le 12 e tai aiga tutusa lava ituaiga nei o faisua faapea e tuu faatasi i totonu o le aiga laitiiti e tuufaatasi ai ma faaigoa ai ituaiga o le Tridacninae. E pei ona fautuaina mai e lo latou igoa, o nisi o nei ituaiga e moni e lapopo'a tele. *T. gigas*, mo se faataitaiga, e mafai ona tuputupu a'e e ova atu i le mita le lautele ma e oo atu i le 500 pauna. O isi ituaiga e vaavaai i ai e fai lava si laiti ane, faatasi ai ma tino lapopo'a e ta'i 15-30 cm le lautele. O le mea moni lava ia, o le igoa masani mo le *T. maxima* e fai lava si le malamalama ai faapea o le “faisua lapo'a e itiiti.” Fa'aopopo i ai i lo latou lapopo'a, o nai vaega e ese mai ai lo latou tala'aga o olaga e uiga ese ai faisua lapopo'a mai isi ituaiga o faisua. Aemaise ai lava, latou te faatulaga i latou lava ia i le pito o latou atigi e faasaga agai i lalo ma o latou ufita'i i tua ua faalapo'a, lanu iila (*i.e.*, 'a'ano) ua faasaga agai i luga i le malamalama o le la. O le mea lea e mafua mai e i ai le limulimu e ola faatasi i totonu o latou 'a'ano faapea e fa'aoga ai le malamalama o le la e faatino ai le fa'aogaina o le la e maua ai le okesene ma le malos, faapea e maua ai mea'ai fa'aopopo i le faisua.

**Q: Why is NOAA Fisheries proposing to list six species of giant clams under the ESA?**

**A:** We are taking this action in response to a petition we received requesting the listing of 10 species of giant clams under the ESA. We reviewed the petition and found that it provided substantial scientific or commercial information indicating that listing may be warranted for 7 of the 10 species and then initiated a status review for those 7 species, as required by the ESA (see [82 FR 28946, 06/26/2017](#)). After reviewing the best available scientific and commercial information regarding the status and threats to these species, we found that five of the seven species are in danger of extinction (*H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, and *T. squamosa*) and one of the seven species is likely to become in danger of extinction within the

foreseeable future (*H. hippopus*). Therefore, we are proposing to list five species as endangered and one species as threatened under section 4(a) of the ESA. We also found that one of the seven species (*T. squamosa*) is not currently in danger of extinction nor is likely to become so in the foreseeable future, and therefore does not warrant listing under the ESA.

**F: Aisea ua faatuina mai ai e le NOAA Fisheries ina ia lisiina ituaiga e ono o faisua lapopo'a i lalo o le ESA?**

**T:** Ua matou faia le gaioiga lenei e tali atu ai i se tusi na matou mauaina ina ia talosaga le lisi o ituaiga e 10 o ituaiga faisua lapopo'a i lalo o le ESA. Ua matou mauaina le tusi ma maua ai faapea na tuuina atu ai faamatalaga faasaieineisi e tele po o faamatalaga faapisinisi e faailoa ai faapea o le lisiina atonu e faamaonia ai mo le 7 mai le 10 ituaiga ma faama'oti ai se tulaga o iloiloga mo le 7 o ituaiga na, e pei ona manaomia e le ESA (tagai ane i le [82 FR 28946, 06/26/2017](#)). Ina ua mae'a ona iloilo faamatalaga e sili atu faasaieinisi o loo maua ma faamatalaga faapisinisi e faatatau i tulaga ma faamata'u i nei ituaiga, ua matou mauaina ai faapea o le lima o le 7 o ituaiga o loo lamatia i le faaumatia (*H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, ma le *T. squamosina*) ma le tasi o le fitu o ituaiga e ono oo i le lamatia i le faaumatia i totonu o le lumanai o tagataga'i atu i ai (*H. hippopus*). O le mea lea, ua matou faatuina atu ina ia lisiina ituaiga e lima faapea e lamatia ma e tasi le ituaiga faapea e lamatia i lalo o le section 4(a) a le ESA. Ua matou mauaina foi faapea e tasi o le fitu ituaiga (*T. squamosa*) e le o lamatia i le faaumatia i le taimi nei pe faapea foi e oo ina lamatia i le lumanai o vaavaai atu i ai, ma o le mea lea e le faamaonia ai le lisiina i lalo o le ESA.

**Q: What information did NOAA Fisheries use to evaluate the extinction risk for the species proposed for listing as an endangered or threatened species?**

**A:** In order to assess the extinction risk of the seven species we considered for listing under the ESA (i.e., *H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, *T. squamosa*, and *T. squamosina*), we considered the best scientific and commercial data available regarding the status and threats to these species - which we are required to do under section 4 of the ESA. The ESA does not require, nor is it always possible, to conduct new research in order to complete a status review. The best available information we considered includes peer-reviewed articles; trade and survey reports from various governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations; relevant information on public websites, such as the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List website; trade records compiled by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES); data from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement database; foreign statutes and regulations; and public comments received in response to the published 90-day finding ([82 FR 28946](#)). We also consulted members of academia and NOAA Fisheries staff with expert knowledge of these species. A complete list of references is available in our draft [Status Review Report](#) and online at <https://www.regulations.gov/document/NOAA-NMFS-2017-0029-0029>.

During the public comment period, we are seeking any additional, relevant data that could inform our final rule.

**F: O a faamatalaga na fa'aaoga e le NOAA Fisheries ina ia iloilo ai le lamatia i le faaumatia mo ituaiga na faatuina mai mo le lisiina faapea ua lamatia po o ituaiga ua faamata'uina?**

**T:** Ina ia maua le lamatia o le faaumatia o ituaiga e fitu ua matou vaavaai i ai mo le lisiina i lalo o le ESA (i.e., *H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, *T. squamosa*, ma le *T. squamosina*), ua matou mafaufau faapea o faamaumauga faasaienisi e sili atu ma faamaumauga faapisinisi o loo maua e faatatau i tulaga ma le faamata'u i nei ituaiga – e faapea e manaomia matou ina ia faia i lalo o le section 4 a le ESA. E le manaomia e le ESA, pe le masani foi ona mafai, ina ia faatautaia suesuega fou ina ia faapena ona faamae'a ai se tulaga o se iloiloga. O faamatalaga e sili atu o loo maua ua matou vaavaai i ai e aofia ai tusitusiga e iloiloia-ta'i vaega; fefaatauaiga ma lipoti o suesuega mai faalapotopotoga 'ese'ese a le malo ma faalapotopotoga e le o i lalo o le malo; faamatalaga talafeagai i luga o upega tafa'ilagi a le mamalu lautele, e pei o le International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List website; faamaumauga o fefaatauaiga na tuufaatasia e le Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES); faamaumauga mai le U.S. Fish ma le Ofisa o faamaumauga autu o le Wildlife Service Office of Law Enforcement; tulafono a isi atunuu ma aiaiga; ma manatu fa'aalia mai le mamalu lautele na maua e tali atu ai i lomiga na maua 90-aso ([82 FR 28946](#)). Na matou faatalanoaina foi sui o le au tomai ma le aufaigaluega a le NOAA Fisheries e i ai tomai e silafia ai nei ituaiga. O se lisi atoa o faasinomaga o loo maua i le matou tusi [Status Review Report](#) ma luga o le upega tafa'ilagi i le <https://www.regulations.gov/document/NOAA-NMFS-2017-0029-0029>.

I taimi o manatu fa'aalia a le mamalu lautele, o loo matou sailia soo se fa'aopopoga, faamaumauga talafeagai e faapea e mafai ai ona faailoa le matou tulafono mulimuli.

**Q: Why is NOAA Fisheries proposing additional regulations for four other species of giant clams (i.e., *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa*)?**

**A:** We are proposing additional regulations for four other species of giant clams to help ensure effective enforcement of the proposed listings. The giant clam species we are proposing to list as endangered or threatened species under the ESA face several threats, the most significant of which is harvest for their meat and shells. Meat, shells, and shell products from different species of giant clams look very similar, and enforcement personnel would have substantial difficulty in attempting to differentiate between products of the listed and non-listed species. The effect of this substantial difficulty would pose an additional threat to the species we are proposing to list as endangered or threatened. To facilitate effective enforcement, we are therefore proposing to treat four additional species of giant clams as threatened under the ESA and prohibit only the import and export of parts and products of these species into and from the United States and its territories.

**F: Aisea ua faatuina mai ai e le NOAA Fisheries aiaiga fa'aopopo mo isi ituaiga e fa o faisua lapopo'a (i.e., *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa*)?**

**T:** Ua matou faatuina atu aiaiga fa'aopopo mo isi ituaiga e fa o faisua lapopo'a ina ia fesoasoani ia mautinoa le aoga o le faamalositia o lisi na faatuina atu. O le ituaiga o faisua lapopo'a o loo matou faatuina atu ina ia lisi faapea e lamatia po o ituaiga faamata'u i lalo o le ESA o loo feagai ma nei faamata'u, o le mea e sili atu le taua e faapea o le fafai lea mo o latou 'a'ano ma atigi. O 'a'ano, atigi, ma oloa o atigi mai ituaiga 'ese'ese o faisua lapopo'a e foliga tutusa lava, ma le aufaigaluega e faamalositia tulafono o le a faafaigata tele i le taumafai ina ia iloa le 'ese'esega o oloa o ituaiga o loo lisi ma ituaiga e lei lisiina. O le faafaigata tele lenei o le a tula'i mai ai se faamata'u fa'aopopo i ituaiga o loo matou faatuina atu ina ia lisiina faapea e lamatia pe

faamata'u. Ina ia faatautaia ina ia aoga le faamalositia, ua matou faatuina atu faapea ina ia faia isi ituaiga e fa fa'aopopo o faisua lapopo'a faapea o loo faamata'uina i lalo o le ESA ma faasa **na o** le aumai i totonu ma le auina atu i fafo o vaega ma oloa o nei ituaiga i totonu ma mai le lunitete Setete ma ona teritori.

**Q: What happens now that a proposed rule has been published?**

**A:** The proposed rule is now undergoing public review and comment. A 60-day public comment period was opened on July 25, 2024, and, in response to requests, has since been [extended](#) for an additional 120 days. Comments must be received by February 19, 2025. Comments on the proposed rule were also solicited during a series of [six public hearings](#). During the comment period, we are soliciting relevant information and data from the public, other governmental agencies, the scientific community, cultural practitioners, indigenous communities, and any other interested parties, to inform a final rule. Prior to developing and issuing any final rule, we will consider all relevant public comments received and any relevant new information that may become available. Under section 4(b) of the ESA, we must base a final listing determination on the best scientific and commercial data available.

**F: O le a nei le mea e tupu faapea ua lomia se tulafono na faatuina atu?**

**T:** O le tulafono na faatuina atu o loo i ai nei i iloiloga ma manatu fa'aalia a le mamalu lautele. O se taimi e 60-aso o manatu fa'aalia a le mamalu lautele sa tatalaina ia Iulai 25, 2024, ma, i le tali atu i talosaga, ua faapea ona [faa'umi'umi atu](#) mo le isi 120 aso fa'aopopo. O manatu fa'aalia e tataua ona mauaina ia Fepuari 19, 2025. O manatu fa'aalia i tulafono faafaaofia na faapea foi ona faatalanoaina i taimi o se faasologa o [tolaulauga faalauaitele e ono](#). I taimi o manatu fa'aalia, o loo matou faatalanoaina faamatalaga talafeagai ma faamaumauga mai le mamalu lautele, isi faalapopotoga a le malo, le komiuniti faasaienisi, tagata o loo a'oa'oina le aganuu, komiuniti o tagatanuu moni, ma soo se isi itu e fia iloaina, ina ia fa'aailoa se tulafono mulimuli. Ae lei faavaeina ma faamatuu atu soo se tulafono mulimuli, o le a matou vaavaai i manatu fa'aalia uma talafeagai a le mamalu lautele na mauaina ma soo se faamatalaga fou e talafeagai atonu e maua mai. I lalo o le section 4(b) a le ESA, e tataua ona fua se matou lisi o aiaiga mulimuli i le mea e sili atu faasaienisi ma faamaumauga faapisinisi o loo maua.

**Q: Is critical habitat being proposed for the six species proposed for listing under section 4(a) of the ESA (*H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, and *T. squamosina*)?**

**A:** No. Because critical habitat is not yet determinable for these species, we are not proposing to designate critical habitat at this time. To inform our consideration of potential critical habitat, we are soliciting scientific information regarding the habitats of these species, including any essential physical and biological features of their habitats, as well as information on potential impacts of designating any particular area as critical habitat for these species in U.S. waters. Note that critical habitat cannot be designated in areas outside U.S. jurisdiction.

**F: Na faatuina atu nofoaga faaletonu mo ituaiga e ono na faatu atu mo le lisiina i lalo o le section 4(a) a le ESA (*H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, ma le *T. squamosina*)?**

**T:** E leai. Ona o nofoaga faaletonu e lei oo ina aiaia mo ituaiga nei, matou te lei faatuina atu ina ia filifilia nofoaga faaletonu i le taimi nei. A fia faailoa o matou mafauauga loloto o nofoaga e

ono faaletonu, o loo matou faatalanoaina faamatalaga faasaaienisi e faatatau i nofoaga o ituaiga nei, e aofia ai soo se foliga e aoga faaletino ma ni vaega aoga o meaola nini'i i o latou nofoaga o ola ai, faapea foi faamatalaga o aafiaga aoga o le filifilia o soo se ituaiga nofoaga faapitoa faapea o se nofoaga e faaletonu mo ituaiga nei i ogasami o le Iunaite Setete. Ia utagia mai faapea o nofoaga faaletonu e le mafai ona filifilia i vaega i tua atu o puleaga a le Iunaite Setete.

**Q: Can critical habitat be designated for the four species proposed to be treated as threatened due to their similarity of appearance (*T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa*)?**

**A:** No. Critical habitat cannot be designated for species that are regulated under section 4(e) of the ESA due to their similarity of appearance to a listed species. Critical habitat can only be designated for threatened and endangered species listed under section 4(a) of the ESA. Therefore, critical habitat will not be designated for *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa*.

**F: E mafai e nofoaga faaletonu ona tofia mo ituaiga e fa o loo faatuina atu ina ia faia faapea ua faamata'u ona o lo latou foliga tali tutusa (*T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, ma le *T. squamosa*)?**

**T:** E leai. O nofoaga faaletonu e le mafai ona tofia mo ituaiga faapea e aiaia i lalo o le section 4(e) o le ESA ona o lo latou foliga tali tutusa i se ituaiga o loo lisiina. O nofoaga faaletonu e mafai ona tofia mo na o ituaiga faamata'u ma lamatia i lalo o le section 4(a) o le ESA. O le mea lea, o nofoaga faaletonu o le a le tofia mo *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, ma le *T. squamosa*.

**Q: Numerous aquaculture facilities are producing giant clams throughout the Indo-Pacific. How did NOAA Fisheries account for these operations in the extinction risk assessments for *H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, *T. squamosa*, and *T. squamosina*?**

**A:** We considered the best scientific and commercial data available regarding giant clam aquaculture (or “mariculture”) at the time we published the proposed rule. Specifically, we considered the more than 20 facilities in the Pacific Islands and South Asia that are breeding and raising giant clams or have done so in the past. According to the best available data, most of these facilities were established with the primary goal of generating food and income for local communities. Some facilities have explored the possibility of replenishing natural stocks with culture-raised clams. However, we were unable to find evidence that these operations have reduced pressure on wild populations or enhanced the abundance or productivity of wild giant clam populations. Common challenges with giant clam aquaculture include the low survival rate of giant clam larvae post-fertilization, insufficient resources to protect juveniles once they have been out-planted, illegal poaching, and storm damage. Thus, although we considered these operations and initiatives, they did not alter our conclusions regarding extinction risk of the seven giant clam species we reviewed.

**F: O le tele o nofoaga faafaatoaga o loo gaosia ai faisua lapopo'a i ogasami atoa o le Indo-Pacific. Na faapefea e le NOAA Fisheries ona faitauina nei gaioiga faatino i suesuega e ono tulai mai ai le faaumatia mo *H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. gigas*, *T. mbalavuana*, *T. squamosa*, ma le *T. squamosina*?**

**T:** Na matou vaavaai i ai o faamaumauga faasaienisi e sili atu ma faamaumauga faapisinisi o loo maua e faatatau i faatoaga o faisua lapopo'a (po o "faatoaga i gataifale") i le taimi na matou lomua ai le tulafono na faatuina atu. Aemaise ai lava, ua matou vaavaai i ai ua sili atu ma le 20 nofoaga i le Pacific Islands ma le South Asia faapea o loo faafanafanau ai ma faatutupu ai faisua lapopo'a pe sa faia i le taimi ua tuanai. A fua atu i faamaumauga sili atu o loo maua, o le tele o nei nofoaga sa faavaeina faatasi ma le sini autu o le maua ai pea o mea'ai ma tupe maua mo komiuniti faalotoifale. O nisi nofoaga ua sailiili atu i le mafai ona toe maua mai oloa faalenatura faatasi ai faisua sa faatutupu mai sa faafaileleina. Ae ui i lea, sa le mafai ona matou mauaina ni faamaoniga faapea o nei gaioiga faatino ua tu'uititia ai le mamafa i luga o le faitau aofai o se kulupu pe tasi se ituaiga e ola faatasi pe faaleleia ai le tele po o le gaosiaina o le faitau aofai o faisua lapopo'a e so'ona ola solo. O lu'itau masani i faatoaga o faisua lapopo'a e aofia ai le maualalo o le ola a'e o le anufe o le faisua lapo'a ae lei tupu a'e, e le lava punaoa ina ia puipuia ai vaega laiti i taimi lava na faatupu ai i fafo, gaioi faasolitulafono, ma faaleagaina e afa. O le mea lea, e ui ina tatou vaavaai i ai i nei gaioiga ma faatinoga muamua, latou te lei suia le matou faaiuga e faatatau i le ono tulai mai o le faaumatia o ituaiga o faisua lapopo'a e fitu na matou iloiloaina.

## **Species Information**

### **Faamatalaga o Ituaiga**

#### **Q: Where do the six species proposed for listing as endangered or threatened live?**

**A:** *H. porcellanus*, *T. mbalavuana*, and *T. squamosina* have highly restricted ranges that comprise small areas of the Indo-Malay Archipelago, western Pacific, and the Red Sea, respectively. *H. hippopus*, *T. derasa*, and *T. gigas* occupy overlapping ranges centered in the Indo-Malay and western Pacific regions. *H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. gigas*, and *T. squamosina* prefer shallow coastal habitats, typically within or adjacent to coral reefs or nearshore seagrass beds. *T. derasa* prefers the clear waters of offshore oceanic environments (*i.e.*, small islands and atolls) more than fringing reefs adjacent to large land masses, and it can be found as deep as 25 m. *T. mbalavuana* is adapted to deepwater environments and is typically found on reef slopes at depths greater than 20 m.

With respect to U.S. waters, fossil evidence indicates that two of these species historically lived in waters of the U.S. Pacific Territories – *H. hippopus* in American Samoa, Guam, and CNMI; and *T. gigas* in Guam and CNMI. However, based on the best available information, both species disappeared from these areas likely before humans settled the region. Certain giant clam species, including *H. hippopus*, *T. derasa*, and *T. gigas*, have been introduced or re-introduced to the U.S. Pacific Territories via aquaculture; however, based on the best available information, very few, if any, individuals of these species are believed to have survived in the wild.

#### **F: O fea ituaiga e ono na faatuina mai mo le lisiina faapea e lamatia po ua faamata'uina?**

**T:** *H. porcellanus*, *T. mbalavuana*, ma le *T. squamosina* e maualuga faasologa tapulaa faapea e afaina ai vaega laiti o le Indo-Malay Archipelago, Pasefika i sisifo, ma le Sami Ulaula, i le faasologa a o olaola ai. *H. hippopus*, *T. derasa*, ma le *T. gigas* e nofoia vaega e ufitia e le isi e faasolo tutotonu i le Indo-Malay ma vaega o le Pasefika i sisifo. *H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. gigas*, ma le *T. squamosina* e fiafia i nofoaga tumatafaga papa'u, e masani lava ona i totonu pe



faafesagai i a’au ‘amu’amu pe lata ane i le matafaga i mea e ola ai le vaovao. *T. derasa* e fiafia i vai manino mamao ese ma siosiomaga ogasami tu matafaga (i.e., motu laiti ma papa tetele) tele atu i pito a’au e faafesagai i ele’ele tetele, ma e mafai ona maua i le loloto e pei o le 25 mita. *T. mbalavuana* ua masani i siosiomaga o ogasami loloto ma e masani ona maua i luga o le autafa o a’au i le loloto e sili atu i le 20 mita.

Faatasi ai ma se manatu i ogasami o le Iunaite Setete, o faamaoniga o mea sa ola ai ua iloa ai faapea o le lua o nei ituaiga sa ola ai i le tala faasolopito i totonu o ogasami o le U.S. Pacific Territories – *H. hippopus* i American Samoa, Guam, ma CNMI; ma le *T. gigas* i Guam ma CNMI. Ae ui i lea, a fua i luga o faamatalaga sili atu o loo maua, o ituaiga uma ia e lua na mou ese atu mai ogasami nei ae lei nofoia e tagata pitonuu ia. O isi ituaiga o faisua lapopo’a, e aofia ai *H. hippopus*, *T. derasa*, ma le *T. gigas*, sa faafeiloai atu pe sa toe faafeiloai atu i le U.S. Pacific Territories e ala i faa-faatoaga i le sami; i le ma lea, a fua i luga o faamatalaga e sili atu o loo maua, ua feololo lava, pe afai e i ai, o mea taitasi o nei ituaiga o loo talitonuina na so’ona ola solo.

### **Q: Where do the four “similarity of appearance” species live?**

**A:** *T. maxima* and *T. squamosa* have the broadest distributions, which span from the western Indian Ocean and the Red Sea in the west to the central Pacific Islands in the east. *T. crocea* is distributed from the Andaman Islands in the west to Palau and Vanuatu in the east, and from the Great Barrier Reef in the south to Japan in the north. *T. noae* was only recently described as a species, and therefore its full geographic range is not known. To date, it has been observed throughout the Indo-Malay and western Pacific region, as far east as Kiribati and the Cook Islands, and from western Australia in the south to Japan in the north. All four species can be found in shallow coastal waters (less than 15 m depth), typically on or adjacent to coral reefs, although *T. squamosa* can also be found along deeper reef slopes (up to 40 m depth).

With respect to U.S. waters, *T. squamosa* has been observed in American Samoa and Guam, *T. crocea* and *T. noae* have been observed in CNMI and Guam, and *T. maxima* occurs in all three of these territories.

### **F: O fea o ola ai le fa o vaega ia e “tali tutusa foliga”?**

**T:** *T. maxima* ma le *T. squamosa* e mamao le lautele o le ola solo, e faapea e faasolo mai le Indian Ocean ma le Red Sea i sisifo tutotonu o le Pacific Islands i sasa’e. *T. crocea* na tufaina atu mai Andaman Islands i sisifo agai i Palau ma Vanuatu i sasa’e, ma mai le Great Barrier Reef i saute agai i Japan i matu. *T. noae* sa le’i leva atu nei ona faamatalaina mai faapea o se ituaiga, ma o le mea lea o le tala’aga o lona faagasologa e le o mailoa. E oo mai i le aso nei, sa mata’ituina i le atu vasa atoa o le Indo-Malay ma sisifo o vaega o le Pacific, e pei o le mamao i sasa’e o Kiribati ma le Cook Islands, ma sisifo o Australia i saute o Japan i matu. O ituaiga uma e fa e mafai ona maua i talafatai i le vaega papa’u o le sami (itiiti ane i le 15 mita le loloto), e masani lava i luga pe faafesagai i a’au ‘amu, ae ui i lea o le *T. squamosa* e mafai foi ona maua e faasolo atu i autafa o a’au e loloto atu (e oo atu i le 40 mita le loloto).

Faatasi ai ma le manatu i ogasami o le Iunaite Setete, o le *T. squamosa* sa mata’ituina i American Samoa ma Guam, *T. crocea* ma *T. noae* sa mata’ituina i CNMI ma Guam, ma le *T. maxima* o loo tulai mai i teritori uma nei e tolu.



**Q: Are any giant clams listed under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)?**

**A:** Yes. In fact, *all* species of giant clams have been listed under Appendix II of CITES since 1985. This means that, while trade in these species is not prohibited, it is supposed to be closely monitored to ensure that the trade is not detrimental to the survival of the species. Countries that are a party to CITES and that are engaging in the export of giant clams or their products must make such a non-detriment finding and issue accompanying CITES export or re-export permits. We note that Palau has taken a reservation to the Appendix II listings of giant clams. This means that, although Palau is a party to CITES, it is effectively not bound by the provisions of CITES with respect to these species. If finalized as proposed, the rule is more stringent in its application than the current CITES requirements by generally prohibiting import into and export from the United States of the five species proposed to be listed under section 4(a) of the ESA.

**F: O lisi ni faisua lapopo'a i lalo o le Maliiega i luga o Fefaatauaiga Faa-va-o-Malo i Ituaiga Lamatia o Ituaiga Puipuia e Ola Solo ma La'au e i lalo o Vaavaaiga (CITES)?**

**T:** Ioe. O le mea moni, o ituaiga *uma* o faisua lapopo'a sa lisiina i lalo o le Appendix II a le CITES talu mai le 1985. O le uiga o lea mea e faapea, a o fefaatauaiga o ituaiga nei e le faasaina, sa fuafua ina ia mata'ituina vavalalata ina ia mautinoa faapea o fefaatauaiga e le faapea ina ia afaina ai le ola o ituaiga. O atunuu faapea e faipa'aga i le CITES ma faapea o loo auai i le auina atu i fafo o faisua lapopo'a po o latou oloa e tatau faia se tulaga ia le afaina ai ma faamatuu atu pepa e auina atu ai i fafo e le CITES po o pemit e toe auina atu ai i fafo. Ua matou maituina faapea o Palau ua i ai se faapolopolo i le Appendix II i le lisiina o faisua lapopo'a. O le uiga lea e faapea, e ui lava o Palau e faipa'aga i le CITES, e mautinoa e le o taofiofia e ala i mea e tuuina atu e le CITES faatasi ai ma le manatu i ituaiga nei. Afai ae mae'a e pei ona faatuina atu, o le tulafono e sili atu le mamalu i lona talosagaina nai lo mea e manaomia i le taimi nei e le CITES e ala i le faasa masani o le auina mai i totonu ma auina atu i fafo mai le Iunaite Setete o ituaiga e lima na faatuina atu ina ia lisiina i lalo o le section 4(a) o le ESA.

**Effects of the Rule if it is Finalized as Proposed:**

**O aoga o le Tulafono pe afai e Mae'a e pei ona Faatuina atu:**

**Q: What activities would not be allowed for the species proposed for listing as a threatened species under the ESA (*H. hippopus*)?**

**A:** If the protective regulation for *H. hippopus* under section 4(d) of the ESA is finalized as proposed, all of the acts prohibited by section 9(a)(1) of the ESA would apply to this species. Under section 4(d) of the ESA, we may prohibit any of the acts listed in section 9(a)(1) that automatically apply to endangered species.

The section 9(a)(1) prohibitions that would apply to *H. hippopus* (and its parts or products) include:

- importing it into, or exporting it from, the United States;
- possessing, selling, delivering, carrying, transporting, or shipping any *H. hippopus* that was illegally taken;

- delivering, receiving, carrying, transporting, or shipping in interstate or foreign commerce any *H. hippopus* in the course of a commercial activity;
- selling or offering *H. hippopus* for sale in interstate or foreign commerce; and
- “taking” *H. hippopus* within the United States or its territorial sea, or upon the high seas.

“Take” is defined under the ESA as “to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or an attempt to engage in any such conduct.” These prohibitions would apply to all persons subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, including in the United States, its territorial sea, or on the high seas.

**F: O a gaioiga o le a le faatagaina mo ituaiga o loo faatauina atu mo le lisina faapea o se ituaiga taufaamata’u i lalo o le ESA (*H. hippopus*)?**

**T:** Afai o aiaiga puipuia mo le *H. hippopus* i lalo o le section 4(d) o le ESA ua mae’a e pei ona faatauina atu, o tulafono uma e faasa ai e ala i le section 9(a)(1) o le ESA o le a apalai i lenei ituaiga. I lalo o le section 4(d) o le ESA, atonu matou te faasaina soo se tulafono o loo lisiina i le section 9(a)(1) faapea e otomeki i ituaiga lamatia.

O le section 9(a)(1) o faasa faapea o le a apalai i le *H. hippopus* (ma ona vaega po o oloa) e aofia ai:

- Aumai lea i totonu, po o le auina atu mai, le Iunaite Setete;
- o le anaina lea, faatauina atu, kilivaina, tau’aveina, fela’uaiga, po o fela’uaiga i vaa o soo se *H. hippopus* faapea sa aveina faasolitulafono;
- kilivaina, taliaina, tau’aveina, fela’uaiga, po o fela’uaiga i vaa i totonu o setete po o fefaatauaiga faapisinisi i atunuu i fafo o soo se *H. hippopus* i tulaga faapea o se gaioiga faapisinisi;
- faatauina atu po o le ofoina atu o *H. hippopus* mo le faatauina atu i totonu o setete po o fefaatauaiga faapisinisi i atunuu i fafo; ma
- “aveina” o *H. hippopus* i totonu o le Iunaite Setete po o ona ogasami faateritori, po o luga o le vasaloloa.

“O le ‘ave” o loo faamaninoina i lalo o le ESA e faapea “ina ia faalavelavea, faaleaga, tulituliloa, tutuli, fana, faamanu’a, tape, mailei, pu’e/maua, po o le aoina, po o le taumafai ina ia auai i soo se amio/uiga.” O nei faasa o le a apalai i tagata uma na faatalanoaina e le puleaga a le Iunaite Setete, e aofia ai i totonu o le Iunaite Setete, o ona ogasami faateritori, po o le vasaloloa.

**Q: What activities would not be allowed for the species included in the proposed rule due similarity of appearance (i.e., *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa*)?**

**A:** If the rule is finalized as proposed, the import and export of derivative parts and products of *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa* into and from the United States and its territories would be prohibited. No other prohibitions are proposed for these four species. This means that, for these four species, activities like aquaculture, consumption, collection from the wild, as well as possession of live clams or their parts and products **would be allowed**. Import and export of live specimens or intact shells of these four species would also be allowed. This also means that while domestic travel with shell carvings derived from these species would be allowed, international travel with shell carvings would not be allowed, as that is considered to be export from the United States.

**F: O a gaioiga o le a le faatagaina mo ituaiga o loo aofia i le tulafono na faatuina atu ona o foliga tali tutusa (i.e., *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, ma le *T. squamosa*)?**

**T:** Afai ae faamae'a le tulafono e pei ona faatuina mai, o le auina mai i totonu ma le auina atu i fafo o vaega faatupu ma oloa o *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, ma *T. squamosa* i totonu ma mai le Iunaite Setete ma ona teritori o le a faasa. E leai nisi faasa o loo faatuina atu mo ituaiga nei e fa. O lea uiga e faapea, mo ituaiga nei e fa, o gaioiga e pei o faatoaga faafailele, taumafaina, aoina mai ogasami, faapea foi le ia te oe o faisua ola po o latou vaega ma oloa **o le a faatagaina**. O le aumai i totonu ma le auina atu i fafo o ituaiga o loo ola po o i totonu o atigi o nei ituaiga e fa o le a faapea foi ona faataga. O le uiga o lenei foi mea e faapea a o femalaga'i i totonu o le atunuu faatasi ma atigi na vaneina mai atigi o nei ituaiga o le a faapea foi ona faataga, a o le faimalaga i atunuu i fafo ma atigi na vaneina o le a le faatagaina, ona e faapea o mea na ua vaavaai i ai faapea o mea e auina atu i fafo mai le Iunaite Setete.

**Q: What is proposed to be regulated as “derivative parts and products” for the similarity of appearance species?**

**A:** “Derivative parts and products” are proposed to include (a) any tissue part that has been removed from the shell, including mantle tissue, adductor muscle, portions thereof, or the whole flesh of the animal comprising both the mantle and adductor muscle; (b) any worked shell product, including handicrafts, sculptures, jewelry, tableware, decorative ornaments, and other carvings, but not raw, unworked shells; and (c) pearls or any product derived from a pearl.

**F: O a mea ua faatuina atu faapea ua faatulafonoina faapea “o vaega ma oloa faatupu” mo ituaiga e tali tutusa foliga?**

**T:** “O vaega ma oloa faatupu” o loo faatuina atu ina ia aofia ai (a) soo se vaega o le ‘a’ano faapea na ‘ave’ese mai le atigi, e aofia ‘a’ano o le ufi i tua e kava ai, le maso e matala ma mapuni ai le faisua, ni vaega o loo i ai, po o le ‘a’ano atoa o le faisua e aofia ai kava uma e lua ma maso e matala ma mapuni ai; (b) soo se oloa faigaluega o atigi, e aofia ai mea taulima, faatagata, mea teuteu, mea teu ai laulau, faatagata teu fale, ma isi mea na vaneina, ae le mata, atigi e le faafaigaluegaina; ma le (c) penina po o isi oloa e maua mai se penina.

**If the listings of *H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. qiqas*, *T. mbalavuana*, and *T. squamosina* are finalized as proposed...**

**Afai o le lisiina o *H. hippopus*, *H. porcellanus*, *T. derasa*, *T. qiqas*, *T. mbalavuana*, ma le *T. squamosina* o loo faamae'aina faapea ua faatuina atu...**

**Q: Could I keep shells or jewelry of these species that I currently own?**

**A:** Yes. Parts and products of these species that are held in possession at the time of listing can be kept in possession. Individuals should be able to provide evidence demonstrating that the listed species that makes up the part or product was taken prior to the date the species was listed under the ESA and that the item has not been involved in commerce since the listing.

**F: E maafai ona ou teuina atigi po o mea teuteu o nei ituaiga faapea o loo ou anaina i le taimi nei?**

**T:** Ioe. O vaega ma oloa o ituaiga nei faapea o loo taofia faapea o a'u e ana i le taimi o le lisiina e mafai ona teuina o a'u e ana. O tagata taitoatasi e tataua ona mafai ona teuina mai faamaoniga ia iloa ai faapea o ituaiga o loo lisiina faapea o loo maua ai le vaega po o le oloa sa aveina ae lei oo i le aso na lisiina ai i lalo o le ESA ma faapea o le mea faitino lea e le aafia i ni fefaatauaiga faapisinisi talu mai le lisiina.

**Q: Could I keep the live clams that I currently have in captivity?**

**A:** Yes. Continuing to hold and provide normal care for captive specimens of listed species that were legally obtained prior to listing would be allowed. Normal care includes activities such as handling, cleaning, maintaining water quality within an acceptable range, and treating of maladies such as disease or parasites using established methods proven to be effective. Individuals or organizations should be able to provide evidence that specimens of listed species were in captivity prior to their listing.

**F: Pe mafai ona tuu ia te a'u faisua ola faapea o loo ia te a'u i le taimi nei?**

**T:** Ioe. O le fa'aauau ona taofia ma teuina atu le tausiga masani mo ituaiga na maua mai o ituaiga na lisiina faapea na maua mai faatulafono ae lei faia le lisiina o le a faatagaina. O le tausiga masani e aofia ai gaioiga e pei o le taulimaina, faamamaina, o le tausisia o le lelei o le suavai i totonu o se tulaga e taliaina, ma togafiti ni ma'i e pei o faamai po o anufe e fa'aaoga ai metotia faavaeina ua faamaonia e aoga. O tagata taitoatasi po o faalapotopotoga e tataua ona mafai ona teuina atu faamaoniga faapea o mea mai ituaiga na lisiina na maua mai ae lei teuina i latou i le lisi.

**Q: Could I outplant giant clams that I am currently maintaining in captivity?**

**A:** Releasing captive or cultured specimens of these species into the wild would not be allowed. However, depending on the circumstances of the case, NOAA Fisheries may authorize the release of a captive animal through an ESA section [10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\) permit](#).

**F: Pe mafai ona ou si'iina faisua lapopo'a e faaola i se isi mea faapea o loo ou tausia i le taimi nei?**

**T:** O le faamatuuina atu o faisua o loo ia te a'u po o vaega na faafailele i faatoaga o nei ituaiga i ogasami o le a le faatagaina. Ae ui i lea, e faalagolago i tulaga o le mataupu, atonu e faataga e le NOAA Fisheries le faamamuluina o meaola na pu'eina mai e ala i se ESA section [10\(a\)\(1\)\(A\) permit](#).

**Q: Are giant clams that are held in open-water nurseries or grow-out facilities considered to be in captivity?**

**A:** Specimens are considered to be in captivity if they are maintained in a controlled environment (*e.g.*, land-based aquaria) or under human care in open-water nurseries (*i.e.*, protected nearshore enclosures under the active management of humans). Specimens are not considered to be in captivity if they have been outplanted to a natural habitat or restoration site.

**F: Faamata o faisua lapopo'a o loo taofia i faatoaga i ogasami po o nofoaga e faatutupu ai o loo vaavaai i ai po o aoina mai ma taofia?**

**T:** O meaola nini'i e faaola o loo vaavaai i ai o loo aoina mai ma taofia pe afai o loo teuina i latou i se siosiomaga e puleaina (e.g., pusa tioata e tuu ai i luga o le foga ele'ele) po o lalo o le tausiga e tagata i faatoaga e faafailele ai i ogasami tetele (i.e., nofoaga puipuia e lata i matafaga i lalo o le puleaga e tagata). O meaola nini'i e le o vaavaai i ai faapea o loo aoina mai ma taofia pe afai na faatutupu solo i se nofoaga faalenatura e ola ai po o se nofoaga ua toe faaleleia.

**Q: Could I harvest and eat wild clams from these six species?**

**A:** No, harvest and consumption of these species would not be allowed. According to the best available information, these six species are currently very rare or absent in the wild in American Samoa, Guam, and CNMI. Certain species, such as *H. hippopus*, *T. derasa*, and *T. gigas*, have been introduced or re-introduced to the U.S. Pacific Territories; however, very few, if any, individuals of these species are believed to have survived in the wild. When alive, these six species are distinguishable from *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, and *T. squamosa*, the four species proposed to be regulated based on similarity of appearance.

**F: Pe mafai ona ou aoina mai e 'ai faisua e ola solo mai nei ituaiga e ono?**

**T:** E leai, o le aoina mai ma 'ai o nei ituaiga o le a le faatagaina. A faatatau i faamatalaga e sili atu o loo maua, o ituaiga nei e ono o le taimi nei o ituaiga e seasea pe le ola solo i American Samoa, Guam, ma CNMI. O ituaiga faapitoa, e pei o *H. hippopus*, *T. derasa*, ma le *T. gigas*, na faailoaina mai pe sa toe faalauiloaina i le U.S. Pacific Territories; ae ui i lea, e toaititi lava, pe afai e i ai, o mea taitoatasi o nei ituaiga o loo talitunuina na ola solo. A o ola, o ituaiga nei e ono e ese mai le *T. crocea*, *T. maxima*, *T. noae*, ma le *T. squamosa*, o le fa o ituaiga na faatuina atu ina ia faatulafonoina i luga o le tali tutusa o foliga.

**Q: Could I collect the shells from these species if they washed onto the beach?**

**A:** No, shells (or any other parts) of listed species cannot be collected without a permit or other authorization under the ESA.

**F: Pe mafai ona ou aoina atigi mai ituaiga nei pe afai na tafea mai i luga o le matafaga?**

**T:** E leai, o atigi (pe soo se isi vaega) o ituaiga na lisiina e le mafai ona aoina mai e aunoa ma se pemitā po o isi faatagana i lalo o le ESA.

**Q: Could I collect giant clam shells that have been excavated from the land (e.g., during construction activities)?**

**A:** It would depend. Parts (including shells) of species that are listed under the ESA may not be collected without a permit or other authorization. However, if the excavated parts are fossilized, no ESA permit is required, because fossils of listed species are not protected under the ESA. It is important to note that not all old shells are fossils.

**F: Pe mafai ona ou aoina mai atigi o faisua lapopo'a na 'eliina mai le palapala (e.g., i taimi o gaioiga faufale)?**

**T:** O le a faalagolago. O vaega (e aofia ai atigi) o ituaiga o loo lisiina i lalo o le ESA atonu e le aoina e aunoa ma se pemita po o isi faatagana. Ae ui i lea, afai o vaega na 'eliina o loo puipuia, e le manaomia se pemita e le ESA, ona o ituaiga puipuia na lisiina e le o puipuia i lalo o le ESA. E taua ina ia maitauina faapea e le o atigi tuai uma e puipuia.

**Q: Could I travel with my giant clam shell jewelry domestically or internationally?**

**A:** Domestic and international travel with shell carvings made from the listed species would be allowed, provided the carvings were obtained legally and the carvings are not involved in inter-state or foreign commerce. A Letter of Determination would be required for evidence of legal possession of the item while travelling. More information about Letters of Determination is available [here](#).

**F: Pe mafai ona ou malaga i totonu o le atunuu po o atunuu i fafo faatasi ma la'u mea teuteu o atigi o faisua lapopo'a?**

**T:** O malaga i totonu o le atunuu ma isi atunuu faatasi ai ma atigi na vaneina mai ituaiga na lisiina o le a le faatagaina, faatasi ai faapea o mea na vaneina na maua faaletulafono ma o nei mea e lei aafia i ni fefaatauaiga faapisinisi i totonu o le setete. O se Tusi Faamaonia o le a manaomia mo faamaoniga o le i ai faaletulafono o mea faitino a o malaga. Mo nisi faamatalaga e uiga i le Letter of Determination o loo maua iinei [here](#).

**Q: Could I sell shell carvings of these species domestically?**

**A:** Offering for sale or selling shell carvings made from these species within a Territory or within a State would be allowed, provided the shell was legally obtained. Selling or offering for sale shell carvings made from these species in *interstate* or *foreign* commerce, however, would not be allowed.

**F: Pe mafai ona ou faatauina atu atigi ua vaneina o ituaiga nei i totonu o le atunuu?**

**T:** O le ofoina e faatau atu po o le faatauina atu o atigi ua vaneina na gaosia mai ituaiga nei i totonu o se Teritori po o i totonu o le Setete o le a faatagaina, faatasi ai faapea o le atigi na maua mai faaletulafono. O le faatauina atu po o le ofoina mo le faatauina atu o atigi na vaneina mai nei atigi i *totonu o setete* po o fefaatauaiga faapisinisi ma *isi atunuu i fafo*, ae ui i lea, o le a le faatagaina.

**Q: Could I sell shell carvings of these species internationally?**

**A:** No. Exporting, selling, or offering for sale shell carvings made from these species in foreign commerce would not be allowed.

**F: Pe mafai ona ou faatauina atu atigi na vaneina mai ituaiga nei i isi atunuu?**

**T:** E leai. O le auina atu i fafo, faatauina atu, po o le ofoina mo le faatauina atu o atigi na vaneina na gaosia mai ituaiga nei i fefaatauaiga faapisinisi i atunuu i fafo o le a le faatagaina.

**Q: Could I import live specimens, parts, or products of these six species from another country?**

**A:** Importation of live specimens, parts, or products could potentially be authorized under an ESA section 10(a)(1)(A) permit issued by NOAA Fisheries. Such permits are issued

only for scientific research or to propagate and enhance the survival of the species in the wild. Importation of live specimens or parts or products of these species would not be allowed for commercial purposes.

Importation of live specimens, parts, or products of these species may also be authorized if they are held in possession at the time of listing; the importation is not occurring in the course of a commercial activity; and, for live specimens, the possession or holding was not related to commercial activity. A [Letter of Determination](#) would be required to import these animals, parts, or products into the United States or its territories. There are also certain exceptions for antique articles that are at least 100 years old (see [here](#) for more information).

**F: Pe mafai ona ou auina mai i totonu meaola nini'i o loo ola, ni vaega, po o ni oloa o ituaiga nei e ono mai se isi atunuu?**

**T:** O le auina mai i totonu o meaola nini'i o loo ola, ni vaega, po o ni oloa atonu e mafai ona faataga i lalo o le ESA section 10(a)(1)(A) o le pemitā e faamatuuina mai e le NOAA Fisheries. O nei ituaiga pemitā o loo faamatuu atu mo na o suesuega faasaaienisi pe faafanafanau ma faaleleia ai le olaola o le ituaiga i ogasami. O le auina mai i totonu o meaola nini'i o loo ola po o vaega po o ni oloa o nei ituaiga o le a le faatagaina mo le faamoemoe faapisinisi.

O le auina mai o meaola nini'i o loo ola, o ni vaega, po o ni oloa o ituaiga nei atonu foi e faatagaina pe afai o loo taofia i latou i le taimi na lisiina ai; o le auina mai i totonu e le tulai mai i taimi o gaioiga faapisinisi; ma, mo meaola nini'i o loo ola, o le anaina po o le taofia sa lei faatatau lea i gaioiga faapisinisi. O se [Letter of Determination](#) o le a manaomia ina ia auina mai ai i totonu nei meaola, ni vaega, po o ni oloa i totonu o le Iunaite Setete po o ona teritori. O loo i ai foi faatagana faapitoa mo tusitusiga tuai faapea a itiiti ane a e 100 tausaga le matua (tagai ane iinei [here](#) mo nisi faamatalaga).