

INVITATION TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMENTS OR CONCERNS REGARDING THE PROPOSED COASTAL COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR TAUNGA ISLAND

INVITATION CLOSES 3RD OCTOBER 2011

A public consultation is currently in progress to invite any comments or concerns from the general public with regards to Taunga's proposed Coastal Community Management Plan. It is hereby announced for the general public to be known that the island of Taunga in the Motu District of Vava'u, has proposed to establish a community-based Special Management Area within their coastal waters. This is in accordance to the Fisheries Management Act 2002, in which the Minister responsible for Fisheries, may by Order published in a Gazette, declare an area of the fisheries waters and corresponding subjacent area to be a Special Management Area for the purposes of coastal community management.

The people of Taunga have drafted a Coastal Community Management Plan, which will result in restrictions of fishing activities within the Special Management Area. The Plan also includes the designation of a Fish Habitat Reserve, which prohibits any fishing activity to anyone, for the purpose of conserving and protecting marine life and habitats.

Any comments or concerns are hereby invited to anyone or entities who may be interested or affected by the proposed Plan, to please submit this in writing to the Director for Agriculture & Food, Forests and Fisheries. This opportunity will only be valid for 28 days, **commencing on the 5th of September 2011, till no later than the 3rd of October 2011.** For more information, please contact the Fisheries Division offices.

