



# MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

## FISHERIES QUARTERLY REPORT

First Quarter 2016

Jan—Mar 2016

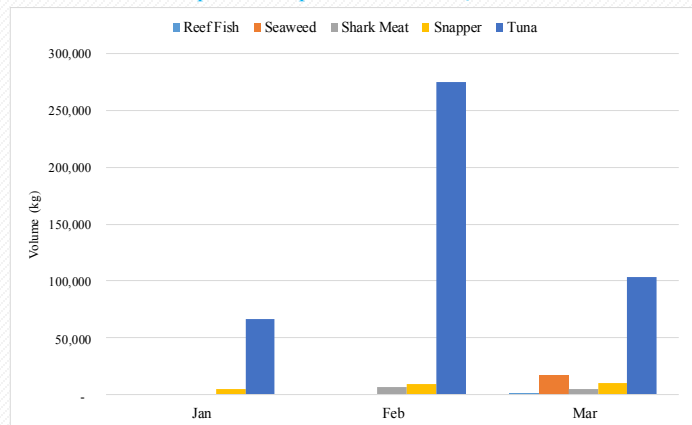


### MARINE EXPORTS

The total quantity of marine products (not including aquarium products) exported in the first quarter of 2016 was 498 metric tons. This is a 98% increase from the quantity exported during the same period last year and 44% increase from that exported in the previous quarter. The increase in total exports in this quarter is mainly due to a significant increase in the exports of tuna with 89.4% of the total exports. In the month of February, a total of 275 metric tons of Tuna was exported. The exports of snapper, sea weed and shark meat contribute 10% to the total exports and reef fish with 0.6%. The export of marine product was dominated by Japan with 33.1%, followed by Fiji with 10%, Honolulu and Taiwan with both 9% of the total amount exported.

The total FOB value of marine exports for the first quarter was TOP\$2.81 million compared to TOP\$1.70 million in the 1st quarter of 2015. This is a 65% increase in the FOB value of marine resources exported during the same period last year and 30% increase from that exported in the previous quarter.

Marine product export details, 1st Quarter 2016



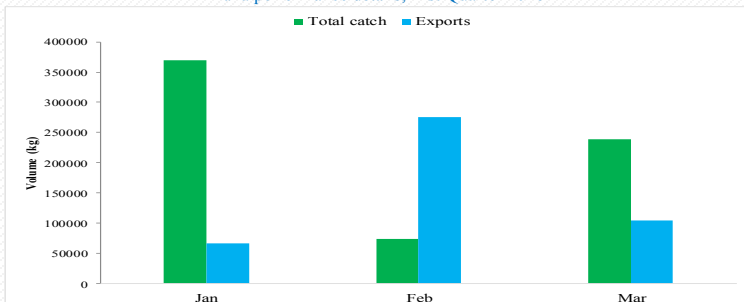
Source (above) : Ministry of Fisheries Marine Export Product

\* FOB = Free On Board, describes a price which includes goods plus the services at the time of offloading from the vessel at first landing. This is a static value designated to each export product. The value is an historical estimate and may not represent the true present value.

### TUNA FISHERY

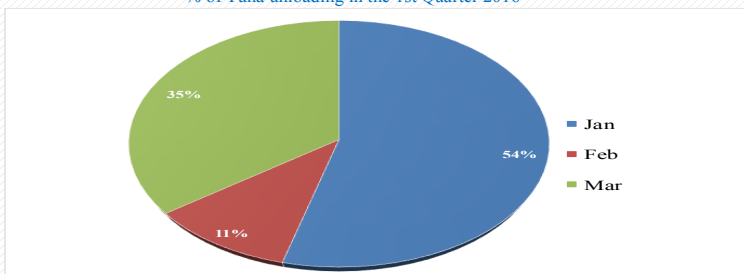
The export quantity of tuna and associated by-catch for this quarter was 445 metric tons compared to 228 metric tons in the first quarter last year and 302 metric tons in the previous quarter. This is a 95% increase from the first quarter last year and a 47% increase from the previous quarter. The total unloading catch recorded in this quarter was 682 metric tons which is a 32% increase from the previous quarter and was dominated by Yellowfin with 43%, Albacore with 31%, Bigeye with 4% and others with 22%. The remaining 237 mt after exports was recorded as local consumptions.

Tuna performance details, first Quarter 2016



As shown in the bar chart above, the exports quantity of tuna in the month of February exceed the quantity of Tuna recorded by 202 mt. This is because a large portion of total catch recorded in January was exported in the month of February.

% of Tuna unloading in the 1st Quarter 2016

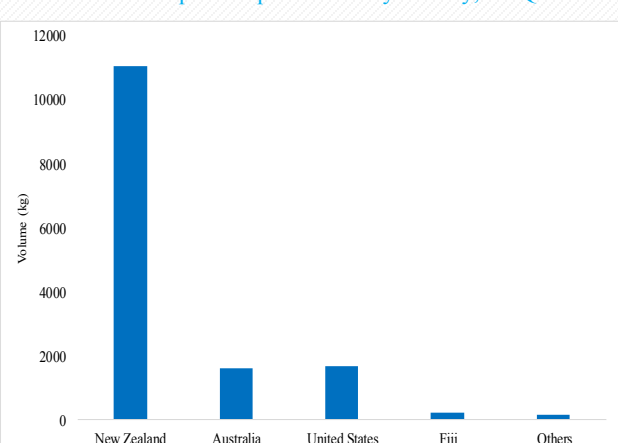


### HOME CONSUMPTION

A total of 15 tons seafood were exported for home consumption purpose in this quarter. This is a 73% decrease in home consumption data from the previous quarter and decrease by 66% from the same quarter last year. The home consumption exports was dominated by fish with 35% of the total sea food, followed by Holothurian, Molluscs and Crustaceans with 12%, 11% and 8% respectively. A total of 9,001 pieces of souvenir from marine organisms were taken under home consumption in this quarter which is a 47% decrease from that exported in the first quarter of 2015. The figures above are made up of total marine product taken through the airport with passengers and total consumption exported by cargo. The dominant country of home consumption was New Zealand with 69% of the total sea food, followed by USA with 13% and Australia with 8%.

Source: Home consumption exports database

Home consumption export details by country, 1st Quarter

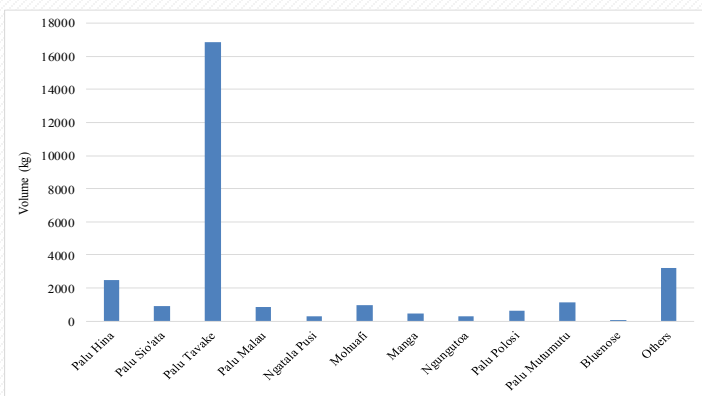


## SNAPPER FISHERY

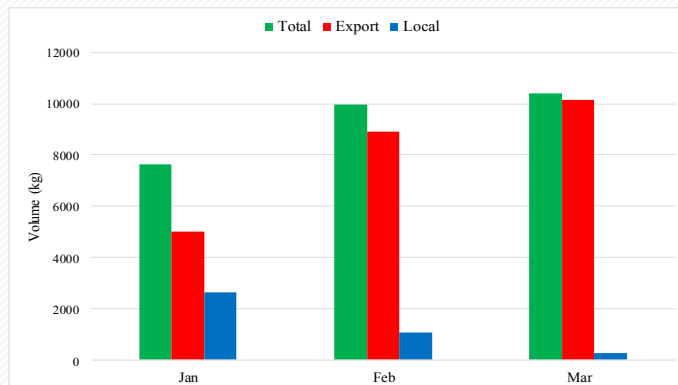
The total quantity of snapper and grouper exported in the first quarter 2016 was 24 metric tons. This is 50% increased in the quantity of snapper and grouper exported during the same period last year and a 14% decrease compared to the previous quarter. Total landed catch of 28 metric tons was recorded in this quarter which is increase by 13% compared to the first quarter of 2015 and 41% decrease from the previous quarter. The total catch was dominated by Palu Tavake with 58%, followed by snappers recorded as others with 12%, Palu Hina with 10% and Palu Mutumutu with 4.3%.

The total FOB values of snapper and grouper exported in the first quarter 2016 was TOP\$0.16 million. This is a 49% increase from the values of snapper and grouper exported in the same period last year and a 14% decrease from that exported in the previous quarter.

SNAPPER COMPOSITION BY SPECIES, 1ST QUARTER 2016



SNAPPER PERFORMANCE 1st QUARTER 2016



Source (above and left) : Ministry of Fisheries Snapper Database

There were 14 licensed fishing vessels actively fishing during the first quarter of 2016 which is declined from 17 vessels in the previous quarter. The table below shows the details of Fishing trips and number of active boats in this quarter.

FIISHING TRIPS, FIRST QUARTER 2016

Vessels	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
No. of trips	11	8	13	32
No. of boats	8	7	6	21

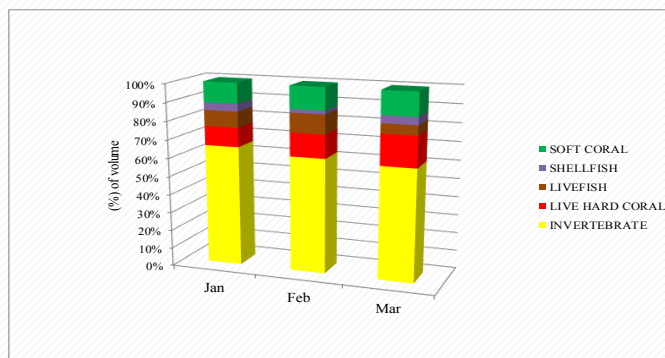
## AQUARIUM FISHERY

The total quantity of aquarium products exported in this quarter was 33,306 pieces compared to 38,000 pieces in the first quarter of 2015 which is a 12% decrease from the same period last year and 9% decrease from the previous quarter. The aquarium export was lead by invertebrates with 62% of the total amount exported, followed by live hard coral with 14%, soft coral with 12%, live fish with 8% and Shellfish with 4%.

The total FOB value of the exported aquarium products in the first quarter of 2016 was \$TOP89,737 compared to \$TOP90,000 in the first quarter of 2015. This is 0.015% decrease from the value of product exported in the same quarter of 2015 and 13.4% decrease from the previous quarter.

Source: Aquarium exports database

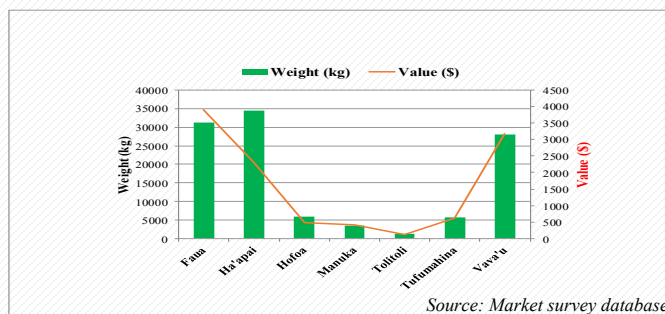
Aquarium product exported by pieces, first Quarter 2016



## DOMESTIC MARKET

A survey is conducted once every week in some main local fish market with a purpose to gathered information based on marine resources market price and estimated volume sold in local markets. This survey includes Vava'u, Ha'apai and four main fish market in Tongatapu. A total of 12 metric tons of marine resources was recorded in this quarter which is approximately valued to \$TOP97,771.5. The average price varied according to market demand for fish and production cost, but a change in fish market price is determined by quantity of marine products available in the market in a particular time. The local market was dominated by Ha'apai market with 31% of the total marine product, Fava with 28%, Vava'u with 25%. These data reflect inshore fishing only.

Local market survey details by weight by value, first Quarter 2016



Source: Market survey database