

# South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission National Report by

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT STATE  
OF SAMOA**

# **SAMOA**



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# Main achievements during the year

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## **Pacific Regional Navigation Initiative Samoa Survey Data Handover New Zealand Hydrographic Authority 21 April 2021**

- The Hydrographic Risk Assessment completed in 2017 identified areas for survey and in discussion with the Government of Samoa, a prioritised survey programme was agreed.
- In 2019 ToituTe Whenua LINZ contracted Discovery Marine Limited (DML) to undertake Hydrographic Survey at ten locations around Samoa. Between August and November 2019 surveys were completed at: Salelologa, Mulifanua, Vaitele Bay, Saluafata Bay, Fagaloa Bay, Aleipata, Safata Bay, and Siumu.

### **Samoa**

#### **Aids to Navigation (Aton) Regulations 2022**

- In 2022 the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) assisted Maritime (Ministry of Works, Transport and Infrastructure) for the first drafting of Atons Regulations 2022.
- The Atons assessment, and discussion in 2023 and final review and completed in 2024
- A requirement of Atons specifications is to collect information about features important to Navigation Safety.



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# Main challenges and/or obstructions

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- Samoa has only one International Port located at the Capital of Apia, with two Domestic Wharves (Mulifanua Harbour Upolu Island and Salelologa Harbour Savai'i Island) Apolima Strait between the two islands, where Samoa is the highest traffic area which the inter island ferry crosses the Main International shipping route.
- Mulifanua Wharf has a very shallow dredged channel charter at 2.5m deep and ferry MV Lady Samoa III has a register draft of 2.35m and MV Samoa Express II has a designed draft of 2.5m and operate on normal services routine of 6 Inter Island trip per day, and it's a must to dredge the channel to provide greater under keel clearance. In some state of the tide and in some weather conditions interaction between the vessel and the seabed could occur and it may cause a resulting in an accident.

## Samoa EEZ

- Samoa is one of the country has a small Maritime Exclusive Economic Zone it's limited by neighbouring Islands States of Tokelau in the North, American Samoa in the North East ,Tonga in the South ana Willis and Futuna in the West.



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# Any other matters of interest

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## Apia International Port

- In 2022 the Samoa Port Authority contracted China Harbour Engineering Company Limited to undertake SPA ADB Project (Enhancing Safety, Security and Sustainability of Apia Port Project). This project include the upgrading of the Break Water to prevent very strong sea swell from enter to the Main International Port.
- During the bad weather there will be no ship berth alongside at the wharf because of very strong swell cause ship lines broke and not safety for any operation on the wharf.
- On the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 was the worst sea swell and swept one of the Foreign Fishing Vessel aground at Apia Harbour,

Thanks

Etuale Tolo



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