

National Park of American Samoa Village Land Lease — 50-Year Conservation Rent

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · American Samoa

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Descriptive / self-reported

Summary

Unable to buy land under Samoa's inalienable customary tenure, the US National Park Service signed a 50-year lease (1993-2043) with eight village councils, paying reappraised rent — capped at \$377,000 for years one-five — to keep 8,003 acres of rainforest and reef undeveloped.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	2/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	0/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

[U.S. National Park Service / American Samoa Government / Eight Village Councils \(Fono\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

[NPS — American Samoa Village Land Lease \(official document\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

[National Geographic — National Park of American Samoa](#) — accessed 2026-08-08

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