

Village-Based Giant Clam Protection Outperforms Federal No-Take Zones in American Samoa

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

Quality score: 40/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

A 30-year, six-island survey (1994-2024, PeerJ) found giant clams under traditional village fa'asao closures reached larger average sizes (17cm) than in federal no-take reserves (11.2cm), with protection level significantly affecting density ($p<0.001$).

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-24

[Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology; American Samoa Department of Marine & Wildlife Resources](#) — accessed 2026-09-24

[University of Hawai'i News coverage](#) — accessed 2026-09-24

[NOAA - American Samoa's Marine Protected Area System](#) — accessed 2026-09-24

Cite this — Evidoria. *Village-Based Giant Clam Protection Outperforms Federal No-Take Zones in American Samoa*. Persistent ID: cf64d9bf-7dda-4886-b048-80296ebf22c3.