

# THE JOURNEY OF FISHERIES WARDENS



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



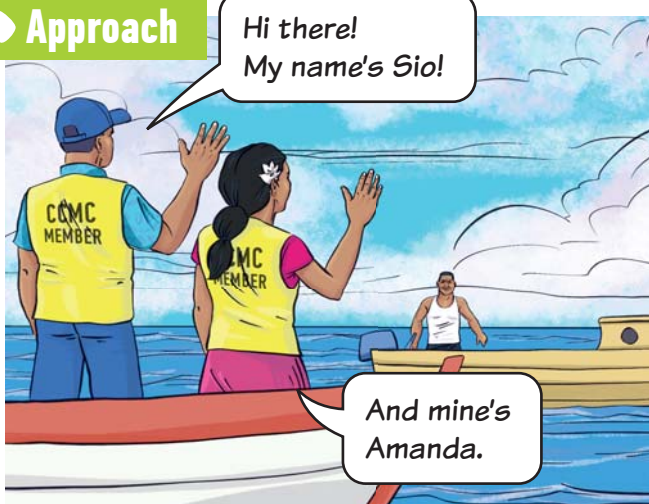


# 1

## WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON OR VESSEL IN YOUR SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA (SMA)



### Approach



Approach the person or vessel.



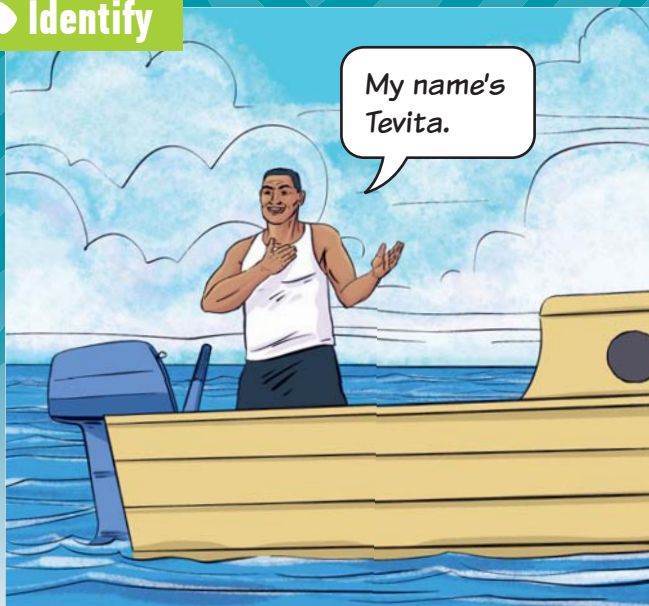
Introduce yourself.



Explain the purpose of your intervention.



## Identify



Identify the person or vessel.



Verify if they are registered to fish in the SMA.



Determine if they were fishing.

### If the person/vessel was not fishing



Let them go.

### If the person/vessel was fishing without being registered



Request to carry out an inspection.



# 2

## HOW TO CARRY OUT AN INSPECTION

### ◆ Request an inspection

#### If the fisher agrees...

Ok, go ahead with your inspection, but make it quick.



Thanks



...you can proceed to the inspection.

#### If the fisher disagrees...

I don't have time for an inspection. Leave me alone!



We'll leave you, but will report this situation.



...leave and report immediately to your compliance officer. In this situation, a warrant must be issued for the search.

#### If you are concerned with your safety...

What? You want to inspect MY boat? Good luck with that!



...abort and immediately contact the Ministry of Fisheries and Tonga Police.



Contact numbers on last page.



## ◆ Inspect



Verify the catch: check for any banned species, size limits...



...verify the fishing gear/methods used: check for any poisons, explosives...



...mesh size of nets, metal bars, etc.

### If no offence was committed...

Ok. This fisher is registered, with a nice catch that follows the rules!

Everything is good to go! Thanks for your cooperation.



...fill in as much detail as possible on the SMA Incident Form. Report at next committee meeting.

### If you detect one or more offences...

First, you are fishing without authorisation. Plus, these lobsters are definitely too small.

We'll have to confiscate them.



...collect the evidence.



# 3 HOW TO COLLECT EVIDENCE DURING THE INSPECTION

## ● Collect if illegal activity



Carefully collect, identify and tag the illegal catch...



...and any items used in the offence.



Only confiscate items if you have reasonable grounds that an offence has been committed.

No way we will eat these lobsters.



Here in this SMA, we have established rules that allow small fish to grow and reproduce before being caught, and there is a national regulation protecting lobsters.



Our goal is for everyone to fish smart and respect the rules...







Fill in the SMA Incident Form and make sure you complete the Record of Seizure and Seizure Receipt sections. Use a notebook if forms are not available.



Smile little lobsters!

Take photos of the illegal catch or property, if possible.



Could you please sign here? This is the record of seizure.

Ask the fisher to sign the Record of Seizure and Seizure Receipt sections, then sign it yourself.



Ok, and here's your receipt.

Detach the Seizure Receipt from the Incident Form and give it to the fisher as their record of the property that has been seized.

## Report



Hi Tupu! Here are the undersized lobsters that we collected yesterday. Could you please store them?

Hand over the seized catch or property to the Ministry of Fisheries or Tonga Police as soon as possible.



Last Monday, at 8:00 in the morning, Sione and I conducted a boat inspection near the reef...

Report what happened at the next community gathering.

VAVA'U  
GROUP



NEIAFU

PANGAI

HA'APAI  
GROUP



NUKU'ALOFA

TONGATAPU

'OHONUA

'EUA

TONGATAPU  
GROUP



## CONTACT NUMBERS

	MOF office numbers	Tonga Police head office numbers
<b>TONGATAPU</b>	Ministry of Fisheries, Nuku'alofa 740 1200 / 740 1201	Central Police Station, Nuku'alofa 740 1630
<b>VAVA'U</b>	Ministry of Fisheries, Vava'u 70399/ 70892	Neiafu Police Station, Neiafu 70233
<b>HA'APAI</b>	Ministry of Fisheries, Ha'apai 60399	Ha'apai Police Station, Pangai 60222
<b>'EUA</b>	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food 50122	'Eua Police Station, 'Ohonua 50112

Office hours 8:30-4:40pm



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

