

Preserving the giants

The fragile journey of *pa'ua* through life and reef

Pa'ua populations have been severely depleted by overharvesting. The challenging life cycle of *pa'ua* makes it even more difficult for them to recover. In some areas, *pa'ua* densities have decreased to a point where they can no longer successfully reproduce.

Mature *pa'ua*

Pa'ua don't move and must be close to each other to reproduce.

Spawning

Adults release eggs and sperm into the water that must mix to create larvae.

Drifting larvae

Only 1 out of 10,000 larvae will become an adult.

Juveniles

A juvenile can take up to 10 years to become an adult.

