DEPARTMENT OF MARINE & WILDLIFE RESOURCES



LEMANU PELETI MAUGA Governor TALAUEGA ELEASALO ALE Lt. Governor AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT P.O. BOX 3730 PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA96799

> PHONE: (684) 633-4456 FAX: (684) 633-5944



Taotasi Archie Soliai Director Selaina Vaitautolu-Tuimavave Deputy Director

(Press Release) April 8, 2021

2021 "Catch It, Log It" Flag Day Fishing Tournament

The ASG Department of Marine & Wildlife Resources (DMWR) is spearheading the 2021 Tutuila Island Flag Day Fishing Tournament. The two-day fishing tournament is scheduled for April 15th and 16th. According to DMWR Director Archie Soliai, "the goal of the tournament is not only to promote fishing, but also to encourage the anglers to use the Catch-It-Log-It App to enter their catch data. The newly developed App will aid DMWR and American Samoa to improve data collection gaps that currently exist."

The registration and boat captain's meeting will be on April 13 from 4-7 pm at Sadies' By the Sea. "We'll also be conducting training for the App during the Captain's meeting as well," said Soliai.

There are 8 categories for the tournament: marlin, sailfish, yellowfin, masimasi, dogtooth tuna, wahoo, skipjack & miscellaneous. The top 3 heaviest fish for each category will qualify for cash prizes. There will be many other prizes too, as well as raffles for the fishermen during the tournament.

The tournament will be held in the Malaloa marina and will feature end-of-day auction of fish catch for the public for both days of the tournament. "We want to try something different this year, and offer to sell the fish to the public which has never been done before," continued Soliai. Proceeds from the fish sale will benefit the Pago Pago Gamefishing Association, the American Samoa Alia Fishing Association, as well as Hope House.

The major sponsors of the 2021 Flag Day Fishing Tournament are DMWR, Department of Agriculture, the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, the American Samoa Visitors' Bureau, the Governor's Office, the Pago Pago Gamefishing Association, Accords Collision and GHC Reid.

For more information, please contact DMWR at 684-633-4456 or Sean Felise at 258-9019.