

Statement
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Pacific Island Approaches to Ocean Resource Management

The merge of traditional and cultural approaches with Western style management of resources is an on-going challenge for both small Pacific Island nations and US federal structures. Striking a balance in both approaches is essential in the implementation of resource management programs. Acknowledgement of existing patterns and incorporation of traditions and cultural norms is key to implementing a successful resource management program in the Pacific. Unique circumstances lend themselves to unique management approaches that are different between regions in the Pacific. Recognizing that integration is required when instituting resource management programs is advocated as critical starting points and to be merged in implementation approaches.