

Note

There is a weight limit when exporting corals, and shells of 2kg per permit per person. This applies to CITES and not CITES listed species.

Office Hours

Permits can be obtained from the National Environment Service office from Monday to Friday 8am to 4pm

For further information
contact the National Environment Service (682) 21 256
resources@cookislands.gov.ck
www.environment.gov.ck

**Biodiversity Conservation Unit
Islands Futures Division
National Environment Service
2016**



Te Ao Ora Natura o te Kuki Airani
Cook Islands Biodiversity

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT SERVICE
TU'ANGA TAPOROPORO
COOK ISLANDS

CITES Species List

CITES

CITES LISTED CORALS

CITES stands for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. The Cook Islands is not a party to this convention but obligated to meet the CITES requirements for CITES member countries.

All corals require an export permit.



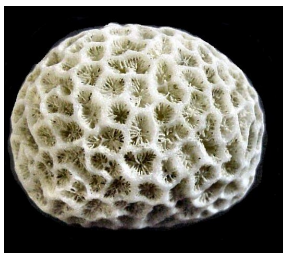
Common Name: Wart Coral
Scientific Coral: *Pocillopora sp.*
Local Name: Kaoa
Appendix: II



Common Name: Staghorn Coral
Scientific Name: *Acropora sp.*
Local Name: Kaoa
Description – *Acropora* is fairly similar to *Pocillopora* except that *Acropora* is a longer slender type, with single indented bumps. *Acropora* also lacks the reddish-brown colouration.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Porites Coral
Scientific Name: *Porites sp.*
Local Name: Punga
Description – Beach washed specimens are very smooth and often mistaken for a 'white rock'; Punga is sometimes collected for export and lime making.
Appendix: II

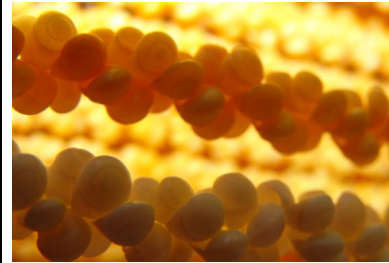


Common Name: Sunflower Coral
Scientific Name: *Goniastrea sp.*
Local Name: Kaoa
Appendix: II



Common Name: Star-shaped Limpet
Scientific Name: *Scutellastra flexuosa*
Local Name: Māpi'i

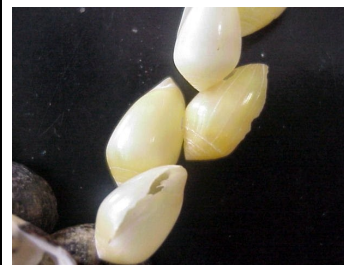
Common Name: Winged Mussel
Scientific Name: *Modiolus auriculatus*
Local Name: Kuku



Common Name: Yellow necklace shell
Scientific Name: *Helicina flavescens*
Local Name: Pūpū



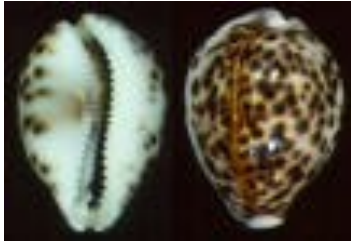
Common Name: Plicate nerite
Scientific Name: *Nerita plicata*
Local Name: 'Īi



Common Name: Yellow ear-shell
Scientific Name: *Melampus luteus*
Local Name: Roro'ara



Common Name: Money cowrie
Scientific Name: *Cypraea moneta*
Local Name: Pōre‘o Tea
Description – Similar to *cypraea obvelata* but does not have the golden ring in the groove.



Common Name: Tiger cowrie
Scientific Name: *Cypraea tigris*
Local Name: Poreo



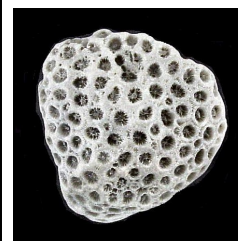
Common Name: Pacific strawberry cockle
Scientific Name: *Fragum fragum*
Local Name: Tunani



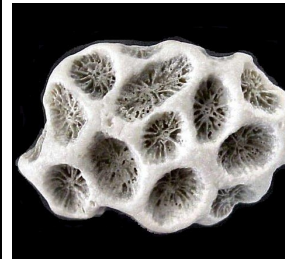
Common Name: Pacific Asaphis
Scientific Name: *Asaphis violascens*
Local Name: Ka'i



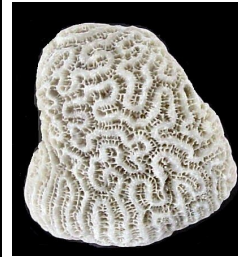
Common Name: Tellin shell
Scientific Name: *Tellina scobinata*
Local Name:



Common Name: Golfball Coral
Scientific Name: *cyphastrea sp.*
Local Name: Koa
Description – *Favia* is, as the name suggests, golfball like in appearance. Polyp marks tend to be more circular and smoother.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Honeycomb Coral
Scientific Name: *Favites sp.*
Local Name: Koa
Description – *Favites* is similar to *Favia* except that the coral polyps reproduce by “pinching” and this is evident on the coral pieces. Look for elongation of polyps and signs of portioning within the polyp cell.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Brain Coral
Scientific Name: *Leptoria sp.*
Local Name: Koa
Description – *Leptoria* looks just like a brain, with waving ridges and valleys. Very common piece brought in for export.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Crispy Coral
Scientific Name: *Hydnophora sp.*
Local Name: Koa
Description – *Merulina* has sharp triangulate edges with very thin closely spaced valley.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Horse's Tooth Coral
Scientific Name: *Lobophyllia sp.*
Local Name: Koa
Description – *Lobophyllia* is somewhat toothlike and is high standing, resembling a molar.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Starburst Coral
Scientific Name: *Galaxea sp.*
Local Name: Koa
Description – *Galaxea* has raised polyps ($\approx 0.5 - 0.75\text{cm}$) forming nice circles with ridges radiating out from a central point.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Cone Coral
Scientific Name: *Hydnophora sp.*
Local Name: Koa
Description – As the name suggests, *Hydnophora* has many conical bumps with radial ridges emanating from a central “bump”.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Mushroom Coral
Scientific Name: *Fungia sp.*
Local Name: Koa
Description – *Fungia* is a solitary coral with an appearance that somewhat resembles the underside of a mushroom i.e. a central focus with many valleys radiating out from that point.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Organ Pipe Coral
Scientific Name: *Tubipora sp.*
Description – *Tubipora* is a red, hollow piped form coral, and it is commonly collected for export
Appendix: II



Common Name: Black Coral
Scientific Name: *Antipathes sp.*
Description – As the name denotes, *Antipathes* is black. It is not normally found washed up on our shores. Specimens are purchasable from Goldmine and possibly Island Craft. Not commonly purchased for export.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Subulate Auger
Scientific Name: *Terebra subulata*



Common Name: Giant Knobbed Cerith
Scientific Name: *Cerithium nodulosum*
Local Name: Roroa



Common Name: Polynesian Rose-mouthed Turban
Scientific Name: *Astrarium rhodostoma*
Local Name: Karikao



Common Name: Gold-leaf Cone
Scientific Name: *Conus auricomus*



Common Name: Cowrie
Scientific Name: *Cypraea obvelata*
Local Name: Pore'o
Description – A small pale yellow cowrie with a narrow golden ring in a groove on the adult.

NOT CITES LISTED SHELLS

NOTES: These shells are NOT CITES LISTED. however these needs to be checked and a weight restriction is put in place.



Common Name: Trumpet Triton
Scientific Name: *Chronia tritonis*
Local Name: Pu



Common Name: Pacific Partridge Tun
Scientific Name: *Tonna perdix*
Local Name: Pu



Common Name: Fine-net Spindle
Scientific Name: *Peristernia nassatula*
Local Name: Pu



Common Name: Pacific Grinning Tun
Scientific Name: *Malea pomum*

CITES LISTED SHELLS

NOTES: Shells below require an export permit.



Common Name: Queen conch
Scientific Name: *Strombus gigas*
Local Name: Pu
Appendix: I



Common Name: Rugose Giant Clam
Scientific Name: *Tridacna maxima*
Local Name: Pa'ua

Description – Pa'ua comes in 2 forms' shell or flesh. Each half of shell is considered as one piece. Flesh is usually transported in 1kg snap lock bags, ice cream containers or chillybins. Please try to get exact amount being transported for record keeping purposes.
Appendix: II



Common Name: Smooth Giant Clam
Scientific Name: *Tridacna derasa*
Local Name: Pa'ua

Description – *Derasa* is grown in the Aitutaki hatchery and does not occur naturally in Cook Islands waters. *Derasa* is usually shipped by the Ministry of Marine Resources as live juveniles. Sometimes people collect the smooth shells from the hatchery for export.
Appendix: II

NOT CITES LISTED SEA FOOD

NOTES: These species are mainly exported as seafood by locals and are not CITES listed species therefore does not need a permit. A permit can be issued upon request by the customer to ensure their seafood does not get confiscated.



Common Name: Butcher Landcrab
Scientific Name: *Cardisoma carnifex*
Local Name: Tupa



Common Name: Coconut Crab
Scientific Name: *Birgus latro*
Local Name: Unga



Common Name: Golden Rock Lobster
Scientific Name: *Panulirus penicillatus*
Local Name: Koura tai



Common Name: Sea Cucumber
Scientific Name: *Holothuria leucopsilota*
Local Name: Rori Ka'a / Matu Rori
Description – Rori Ka'a is harvested for the Matu or the reproductive system, it is described as the Gonads.



Common Name: Flower Sea-cucumber
Scientific Name: *Holothuria cinerascens*
Local Name: Rori Pua
Description – Rori Pua is harvested for its meat



Common Name: Black-lipped Pearl Oyster
Scientific Name: *Pinctada margaritifera*
Local Name: Korori (flesh) Parau (shell)
Description – This is not a CITES species but the flesh could be mistaken for *Tridacna* sp. It is prudent to issue a permit for this species.



Common Name: Rough Turban
Scientific Name: *Turbo setosus*
Local Name: Ariri



Common Name: Trochus
Scientific Name: *Trochus niloticus*



Common Name: Great Worm Snail
Scientific Name: *Dendropoma maxima*
Local Name: Ungakoa
Description – Ungakoa is brought in either as flesh or the coral tube where it lives, in which case it is described as coral. Not a CITES listed species but it could be confused with *Tridacna* sp.