Republic of Palau ~ Conservation Laws

For centuries, Palauans have followed traditional fishing rules, observing spawning seasons of species, and ensuring their conservation for the future generations.

It is Against Domestic Fishing Laws of Palau to:

- **Grouper:** Buy, sell or fish for from April 1 - July 31
- **Rabbit-fish:** Buy, sell or fish for from February - March
- **Hump Head Parrot Fish:** Buy, sell or fish at all time
- **Napoleon Wrasse:** Fish, Buy or sell at all time
- **Aquarium Fish:** Only Palauan citizens can apply for an Aquarium Collection Permit
- **Rock Lobster:** Fish, sell or buy egg-bearing female, or any less than 3.5 inches in total length of the carapace
- **Mangrove Crab:** Fish, buy or sell any less than 6 inches in length; Export, or fish for, buy or sell with the intent to export
- **Coconut Crab:** Fish, sell or buy any egg-bearing female, whatever size; Fish, buy or sell any if less than 4 inches across the shell; Export, or to fish for, buy or sell with the intent to export, whatever size
- **Turtles:** Take any female turtle while she is on land, take turtle eggs; taking any turtle during the months of May, June, July, August, September, October, & January; take, on open season, green turtle with carapace less than 34 inches in length; take hawksbill turtles at all times
- **Giant Clams:** Export, or to fish for, buy or sell with the intent to export
- **Trochus:** During open season, take any trochus less than 3 inches in diameter at the base
- **Black Tip Pearl Oyster:** Harvest any with a shell width of less than 4 inches; harvest any from Aug to Dec
- **Sea Cucumber:** Export, or to fish for, buy or sell with intent to export
- **Dugong:** Kill, or posses dugongs
- **Sponges:** No Sponges may be exported
- **Hard Corals:** No Hard Corals may be exported
- **Marine Rocks:** No Marine Rocks may be exported

**Historical & Cultural Preservation Act**

Under Palau National Code Title 19, it is against the law for any person take, appropriate, excavate, injure, destroy or alter any registered historical site or tangible cultural property.