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SEFSC

December 2022

SEFSC US Caribbean Projects Update

A Non-Comprehensive Summary of Projects

- SEFSC is providing funding for two University of Puerto Rico graduate students to collaborate with UPR and MER Consultants in ongoing port sampling research projects
- Additional funding was received to expand a deepwater snapper survey in Puerto Rico that is conducted in collaboration with commercial fishers
- Additional funding was received to continue a life history sampling project conducted in collaboration with commercial fishers in Puerto Rico
- Funding was received to begin a fishery dependent lobster survey in collaboration with commercial fishers. The project is designed to collect size and CPUE information.
- Additional funding was received to continue an fishery independent lobster recruit survey in collaboration with commercial fishers in Puerto Rico.



A Non-Comprehensive Summary of Projects

- Port sampling survey design work in the US Virgin Islands is ongoing in partnership with DPNR DFW
- Support of DNER recreational port sampling design work is ongoing
- New funding was received to begin work to improve port sampling efficiency and accuracy
- **Critical goal for 2023 is to establish a mechanism to move collaborative research funds to USVI**



Caribbean Strategic Planning Workshop



OBJECTIVE: The SEFSC is in the second year of a three year project to develop a strategic plan for data collection that informs stock assessment and EBFM in the U.S. Caribbean.

WHAT:

- In the first year, we convened a virtual SEFSC-specific workshop to identify and prioritize projects and activities that would improve the availability of data that informs stock assessment and EBFM, as well as, education and outreach, and collaborative efforts.
- We are preparing for an additional strategic planning workshop in May 2023, which will include regional partners and stakeholders, SEFSC staff, SERO, and university researchers to continue identifying actionable items and collaborative efforts.
- These items will be addressed in working groups.

WHO:

- Council staff and SSC
- DNER and DPNR DFW
- UPR and UVI
- SERO, SEFSC, and NPS



Proposals Submitted

- **“Modernize and automate the provision of existing and EM fishery dependent length composition data required for all US Caribbean assessments and wider research needs” Collaborators: Adyan Rios and Molly Stevens.**
- **"Establishing husbandry and grow-out aquaculture techniques for Blackfin Snapper in the US Caribbean: A Marine Aquaculture Pilot Project“ Collaborators: David Miranda, PhD (CEO, MarePesca LLC), Jose Rivera, MS and Refik Orhun, PhD (NOAA Fisheries), and Puerto Rico Sea Grant Program.**





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Questions

