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SERO

# Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) Updates

169th Caribbean Fishery Management Council Meeting  
June 23-24, 2020

# Overview

Through MRIP, NOAA Fisheries and its state, regional, and federal partners use in-person, telephone, and mail surveys to measure the number of trips saltwater anglers take (effort) and the number of fish they catch (catch).

While NOAA Fisheries maintains a central role in developing survey methods and establishing best practices, MRIP Regional Implementation Teams are responsible for selecting survey methods and managing data collection.

# Caribbean Regional Implementation Team

Regional Implementation Teams develop Regional Implementation Plans that:

- identify regional recreational fishing catch and effort data needs;
- identify, prioritize, and estimate the cost of additions and improvements to data collection programs.

Caribbean MRIP published in 2017

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/document/mrip-regional-implementation-plan-us-caribbean-2017>



## Marine Recreational Information Program Regional Implementation Plan for the U.S. Caribbean Region



February 2017

# 2017 RIP Recommendations

1. Develop a Governance Structure
  - Establish a regional Steering Committee to guide all subsequent steps.
  - Develop a centralized personnel management mechanism.
2. Design and Implement USVI MRIP
  - Develop an effort sampling frame.
  - Develop a register of public fishing sites.
  - Develop an angler intercept survey design (catch).
3. Refine Puerto Rico MRIP
  - Replace the phone survey with a mail survey to obtaining effort information.
  - Consider alternative shoreline fishing methods (e.g., kayak, jet ski, snorkel/SCUBA).
  - Include ecologically and economically important invertebrate species such as queen conch and spiny lobster.



# What's Happened Since the 2017 Regional Implementation Plan was Published

- 2017 hurricane season
- Personnel changes in partner agencies
- Development of Island-based FMPs
  - Resuming collection of recreational catch data is key



# Caribbean Regional Implementation Team Reconstituted

- 1<sup>st</sup> meeting on May 27, 2020
- Introductions and provide regional updates related to recreational fishing
- Review recommendations from the 2017 Plan
- Discuss options for a governance structure
  - Appoint a small working group to develop an options paper
  - Options paper reviewed by Caribbean Team at future meeting



# Regional Implementation Team

NAME	REPRESENTING
Sarah Stephenson	NMFS Southeast Regional Office
Mike Larkin	NMFS Southeast Regional Office
Tom Sminkey	NMFS Office of Science and Technology
Nancie Cummings	NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Vivian Matter	NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Kevin McCarthy	NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Matthew Nuttall	NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Adyan Rios	NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center
Damaris Delgado	Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources
Grisel Rodriguez	Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources
Kelvin Serrano	Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources
Nicole Angeli	USVI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
Graciela Garcia-Moliner	Caribbean Fishery Management Council
Liajay Rivera	Caribbean Fishery Management Council
Miguel Rolon	Caribbean Fishery Management Council
Jen Cudney	NMFS Office of Sustainable Fisheries/HMS
Cliff Hutt	NMFS Office of Sustainable Fisheries/HMS
Gregg Bray	Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
Gordon Colvin	NMFS Office of Science and Technology/MRIP

