

Outreach and Education Advisory Panel (OEAP)

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

176th CFMC Regular Meeting

Virtual and in person

December 7 -8, 2021

Marriott Courtyard Hotel Isla Verde, PR





Meetings attended



Marine Resource Education Program (MREP) meetings to review content of Puerto Rico Fishers' Workshop in August 2022.

Webinars: FAO Ocean Decade, 2022 Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture, impact of Sargassum accumulation on fisheries, importance of MPAs for sustainable fisheries, climate change and fisheries and, fisheries management in the Caribbean.

Importance of these issues for O & E initiatives.

Updates on O &E initiatives proposed for 2022 - 2025

- **Calendar 2022 MAPs**



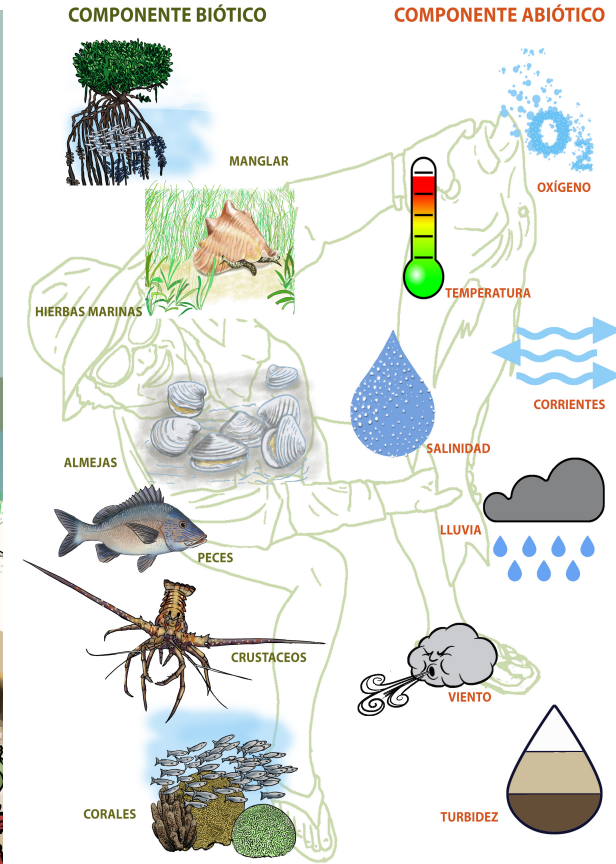
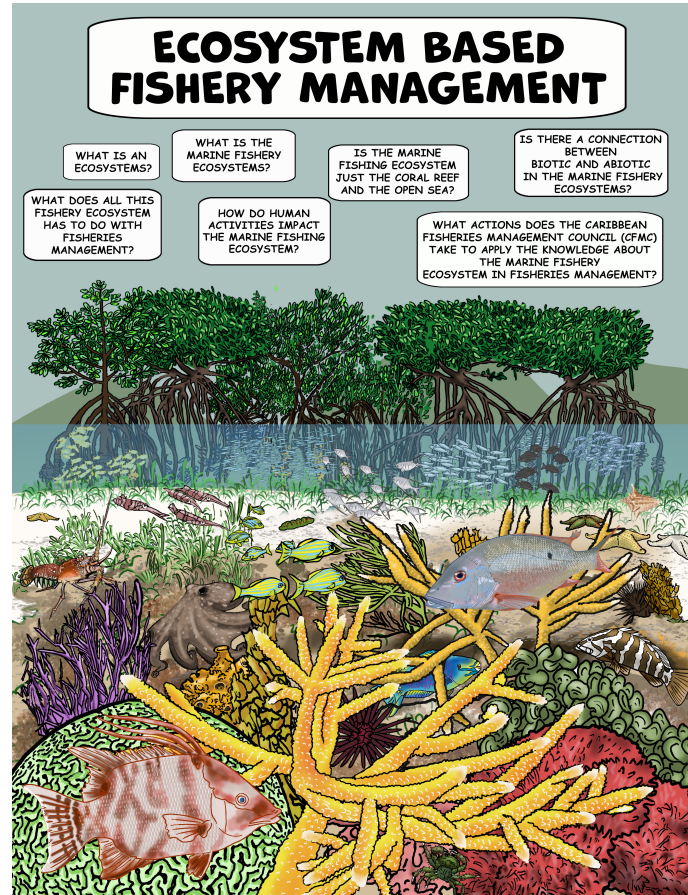
- **January, February, March, April) MPAs in PR:** Bajo de Sico, AbrirLa Sierra, Tourmaline, Reserva Marina de la Parguera.
- **May, June, July, August) MPAs in St. Thomas/St. John:** Red Hind Bank Marine Conservation District, Grammanik Bank, Virgin Islands National Park, Virgin Islands Coral Reef National Monument .
- **September, October, November, December MPAs in St. Croix:** Lang Bank Red Hind Spawning Aggregation Area, Mutton Snapper Spawning Aggregation Area, Buck Island Reef National Monument, St. Croix East End Marine Park.
- **For 2023: Fisher’s Families. Please, contribute potos and information**

Updates on current O &E products

Illustrated Booklet on EBFM

16 questions

1. What is an ecosystem?
2. What is the marine fishery ecosystem?
3. Is there a connection between biotic and abiotic in the marine fishery ecosystem?
4. Is the marine fishing ecosystem just the coral reef and the open sea?
5. How do human activities impact the marine fishing ecosystem?
6. What does all this fishery ecosystem has to do with fisheries management?
7. What actions does the CFMC take to apply the knowledge about the marine fishery ecosystem in fisheries management?.....

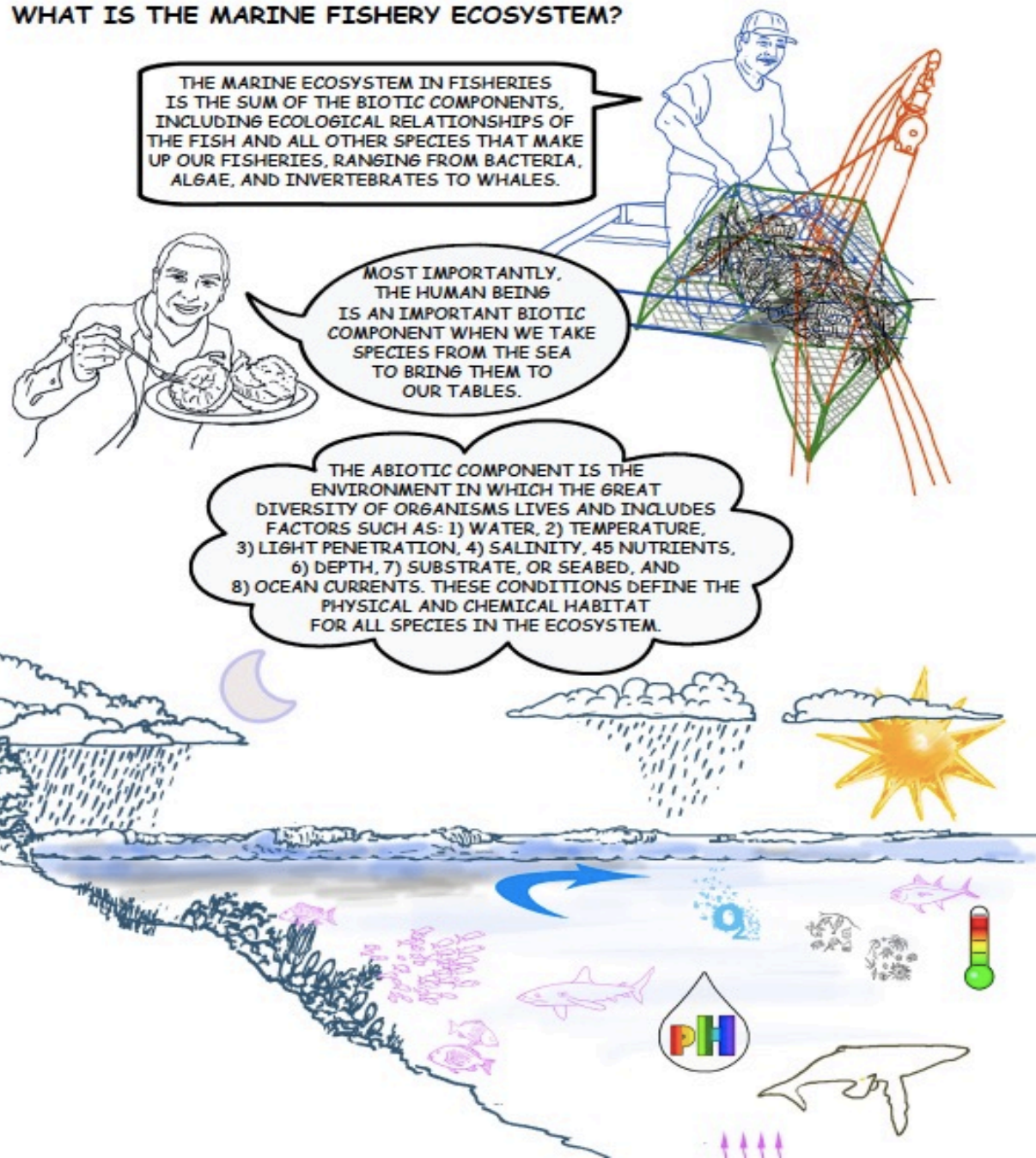


WHAT IS THE MARINE FISHERY ECOSYSTEM?

THE MARINE ECOSYSTEM IN FISHERIES IS THE SUM OF THE BIOTIC COMPONENTS, INCLUDING ECOLOGICAL RELATIONSHIPS OF THE FISH AND ALL OTHER SPECIES THAT MAKE UP OUR FISHERIES, RANGING FROM BACTERIA, ALGAE, AND INVERTEBRATES TO WHALES.

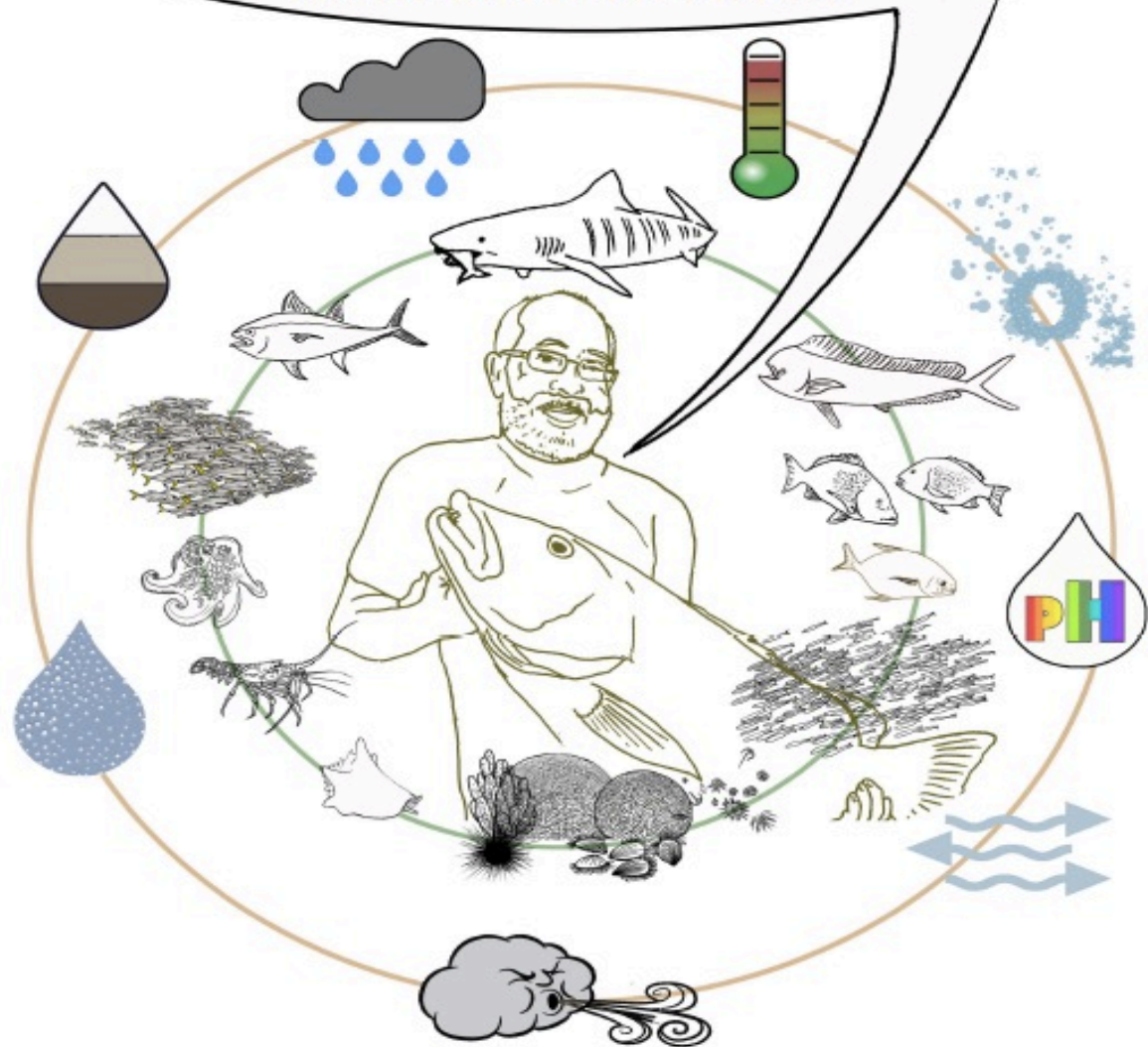
MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE HUMAN BEING IS AN IMPORTANT BIOTIC COMPONENT WHEN WE TAKE SPECIES FROM THE SEA TO BRING THEM TO OUR TABLES.

THE ABIOTIC COMPONENT IS THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THE GREAT DIVERSITY OF ORGANISMS LIVES AND INCLUDES FACTORS SUCH AS: 1) WATER, 2) TEMPERATURE, 3) LIGHT PENETRATION, 4) SALINITY, 5) NUTRIENTS, 6) DEPTH, 7) SUBSTRATE, OR SEABED, AND 8) OCEAN CURRENTS. THESE CONDITIONS DEFINE THE PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL HABITAT FOR ALL SPECIES IN THE ECOSYSTEM.



IS THERE A CONNECTION BETWEEN BIOTIC AND ABIOTIC IN THE MARINE FISHERY ECOSYSTEM?

DIFFERENT PROCESSES IN THE ECOSYSTEM CONNECT ONE SPECIES TO ANOTHER, ESPECIALLY THROUGH FOOD WEBS. ALSO, BIOGEOCHEMICAL CYCLES CONNECT THE ABIOTIC COMPONENT WITH THE BIOTIC COMPONENT. FOR EXAMPLE, CORALS, WHICH MAKE UP REEFS, OBTAIN CALCIUM CARBONATE FROM SEAWATER WITH WHICH THEY FORM THE EXTERNAL SKELETON, AND THE CONCH USES IT TO FORM ITS SHELL. THE OCEAN CURRENTS AND TIDES CONNECT FROM THE SHORE TO THE DEEP WATERS AND FROM OTHER AREAS WHERE THEY COME FROM.



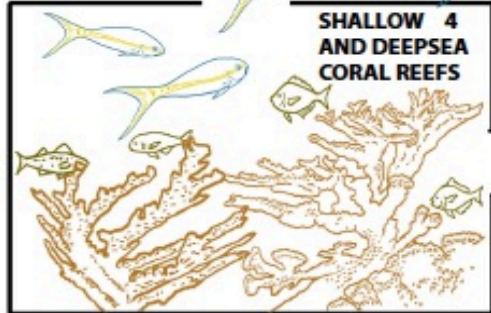
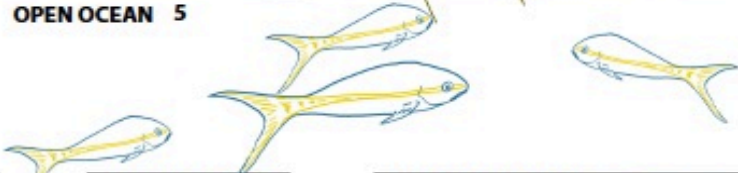
IS THE MARINE FISHING ECOSYSTEM JUST THE CORAL REEF AND THE OPEN SEA?



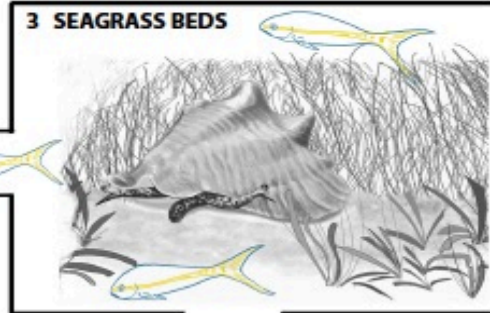
IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION, THE FISHERY ECOSYSTEM INCLUDES, FROM SHORE, MANGROVES, ESTUARIES, SANDY BOTTOMS, SEAGRASS BEDS, SHALLOW AND DEEP-SEA CORAL REEFS, AND THE WATERS OF THE OPEN OCEAN. FISHES MOVE THROUGH THESE SPACES DURING THEIR LIFE CYCLE. INLAND ACTIVITIES SUCH AS RUNOFF, WHICH TRANSPORT WHAT WE DEPOSIT IN RIVERS AND END UP IN THE SEA, AND CONSTRUCTION ON THE COAST, CAN NEGATIVELY IMPACT THE MARINE ECOSYSTEM.



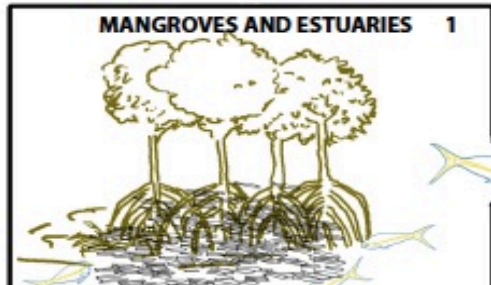
OPEN OCEAN 5



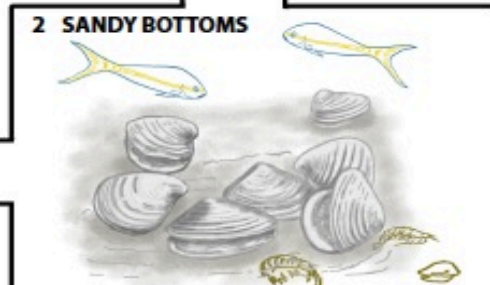
SHALLOW 4 AND DEEPSEA CORAL REEFS



3 SEAGRASS BEDS



MANGROVES AND ESTUARIES 1



2 SANDY BOTTOMS

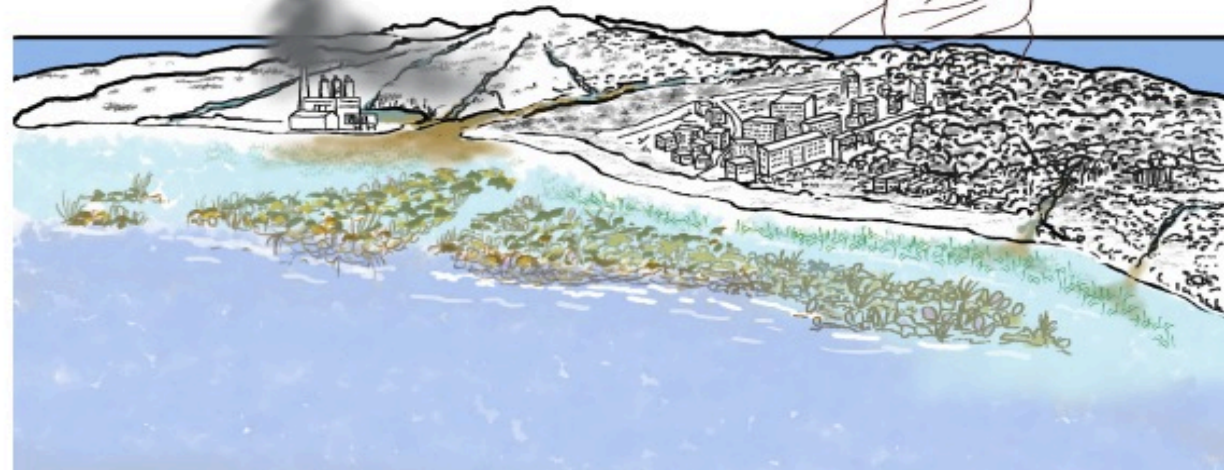
HOW DO HUMAN ACTIVITIES IMPACT THE MARINE FISHING ECOSYSTEM?



EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED IN THE MARINE FISHERY ECOSYSTEM. OUR ACTIVITY AS CONSUMERS (PREDATORS OF THE HIGHEST LEVEL) AND AS A SOCIAL ENTITY SHAPE MANY OF THE ECOLOGICAL RELATIONSHIPS AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ECOSYSTEM.

WE ALWAYS NEED TO BE AWARE THAT WHEN WE DISPOSE OF USED WATER, WE BREAK A CORAL, WE ERODE THE COASTS AND WE FISH, WE IMPACT THE ECOSYSTEM, THE SPECIES, AND THEIR ECOLOGICAL BALANCE.

FOR EXAMPLE, FISHING IMPACTS THE COMPOSITION AND SIZE OF FISH AND INVERTEBRATE (LOBSTER, CONCH) POPULATIONS PRESENT IN THE ECOSYSTEM. THEREFORE, IT IS NECESSARY THAT BOTH FISHERMEN AND ALL OF US WHO USE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS, KNOW, AND UNDERSTAND THE ECOLOGICAL PROCESSES THAT OCCUR IN THE MARINE ECOSYSTEM AND SUSTAIN THE FISHERIES.



SUSTAINABLE SEAFOOD CONSUMPTION CAMPAIGN: Recipe Book

Recipes for cooking underutilized... but delicious

fish and seafood

species in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands



14/7/21

Alida Ortiz OEAP



Blue runner
(*Caranx crysos*)

Blue runner shallow poach in coconut water served with rum coconut butter

- Juan C. Vicens
(4 portions)



1. In a medium size pan prepare the poaching liquid, combine coconut water, garlic cloves, bay leaves, rum, limejuice and condiments.
2. Heat at medium heat (Must not boil) 185° F / 86° C. Carefully add the fish filets, cook about 3 minutes each side.
3. When cooked, remove the fish to a plate.
4. Increase heat to medium hi and reduce liquid to a third.
5. Add whole butter, stir to blend and have a creamy sauce. Add heavy cream and keep cooking until it blend in. Taste and adjust flavor if necessary. Serve over fish.

2 lb / .9 k cleaned blue runner filets cut in 8oz / 113g portions

Salt, pepper (optional) to taste

16 oz / 473 ml pure coconut water

2 ea bay leaves

8 ea garlic cloves

4 oz / 118 ml white rum

2 oz / 59 ml limejuice

8 oz / 113 g cold butter cut in cubes

4 oz / 118 ml heavy cream

2 oz / 56 g Chopped fresh herbs (parsley, cilantro, culantro)

Nutrition Facts		Per serving / Por ración		Per 100g / % DV*		Per serving / Por ración		Per 100g / % DV*	
Datos de Nutrición		% DV** / % DV**		% DV** / % DV**		% DV** / % DV**		% DV** / % DV**	
Total Fat / Grasa Total		20g	40%	114g	144%	Total Carbohydrate / Carbohidrato Total		2g	4%
Saturated Fat / Grasa Saturada		10g	20%	54g	68%	Dietary Fiber / Fibra Dietética		1g	2%
Trans Fat / Grasa Trans		0g	0%	0g	0%	Total Sugar / Azúcar Total		1g	2%
Cholesterol / Colesterol		50mg	10%	267mg	334%	Sodium / Sodio		0g	0%
Sodium / Sodio		100mg	20%	500mg	100%	Protein / Proteína		0g	0%
Vitamin D / Vitamina D		0.1mg	0%	0.5mg	1%	Calcium / Calcio		60mg	12%
Iron / Hierro		1.8mg	4%	9.0mg	20%	Potassium / Potasio		100mg	2%
Total Fat / Grasa Total		20g	40%	114g	144%	Total Carbohydrate / Carbohidrato Total		2g	4%
Saturated Fat / Grasa Saturada		10g	20%	54g	68%	Dietary Fiber / Fibra Dietética		1g	2%
Trans Fat / Grasa Trans		0g	0%	0g	0%	Total Sugar / Azúcar Total		1g	2%
Cholesterol / Colesterol		50mg	10%	267mg	334%	Sodium / Sodio		0g	0%
Sodium / Sodio		100mg	20%	500mg	100%	Protein / Proteína		0g	0%
Vitamin D / Vitamina D		0.1mg	0%	0.5mg	1%	Calcium / Calcio		60mg	12%
Iron / Hierro		1.8mg	4%	9.0mg	20%	Potassium / Potasio		100mg	2%



Tripletail
(*Lobotes surinamensis*)

Tripletail Amandine - Cedric Taquin (4 portions)



4 - 8 oz / 4 - 227 g portions of tripletail fillets

- Salt and pepper to taste
- 4 oz / 113 g all-purpose flour
- 6 oz / 170 g butter
- 2 fl oz / 60 ml white wine
- 4 oz / 113 g sliced almonds
- 3 tbsp / 18 g chopped parsley
- 2 ea limes (juice)
- 1 minced garlic clove, optional
- Oil for sautéing

Procedure:

1. Season fish, dredge fillets in the flour and pat off excess.
2. Warm non-stick pan. Add oil.
3. Cook the fillets lightly on each side until lightly golden. Immediately add and melt the butter
4. Add garlic and almonds and gently toast in the hot butter constantly swirling the fillets in the pan and spooning butter and almonds over fillets to finish cooking.
5. Add white wine, lime and parsley to finish. Allow to dry wine and lime for a few seconds while spooning juices on fillets. Serve immediately.

Nutrition Facts / Datos de Nutrición		Servings / Raciones: 4	Serv. size / Tamaño por ración: 6 oz. (326g)
Amount per serving / Cantidad por ración: Calories / Calorías 600 , Total Fat / Grasa Total 41g (83% DV* / % VD*), Saturated Fat / Grasa Saturada 16g (80% DV* / % VD*), Trans Fat / Grasa Trans 1g, Cholesterol / Colesterol 145mg (49% DV* / % VD*), Sodium / Sodio 910mg (40% DV* / % VD*), Total Carbohydrate / Carbohidrato Total 3g (3% DV* / % VD*), Dietary Fiber / Fibra Dietética 4g (14% DV* / % VD*), Total Sugars / Azúcares Totales 2g (Includes 0g Added Sugars / Incluye 0g Azúcares Añadidos, 0% DV* / % VD*), Protein / Proteínas 51g, Vitamin D / Vitamina D (100% DV* / % VD*), Calcium / Calcio (8% DV* / % VD*), Iron / Hierro (15% DV* / % VD*), Potassium / Potasio (25% DV* / % VD*)			
Ingredients: Pargo legítimo ori (Red porgy, raw), Butter, Salted, Almonds, Skced, Juice, Lime, Wine, White, Oil, Corn, Parsley, Chopped, Salt, Table, Garlic Clove, Pepper, Black, Ground			
Contains: Tree Nuts, Fish, Wheat			
Ingredientes: Pargo legítimo ori (Red porgy, raw), Butter, Salted, Almonds, Skced, Juice, Lime, Wine, White, Oil, Corn, Parsley, Chopped, Salt, Table, Garlic Clove, Pepper, Black, Ground			
Contiene: nueces de árbol, pescados, trigo			



Blue runner
(*Caranx crysos*)

Blue Runner wrap in banana leaves - Wanda Pantojas (4 portions)



- 4 ea whole and cleaned blue runners
- 4 oz / 120 ml olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 3 ea bananas leaves (big size)
- 2 ea celery stalk, medium, diced
- 1 ea onion, sliced thin
- 1 ea red bell pepper, sliced thin
- 1 1/2 oz / 45 g seaweed
- 12 ea lemons slices for garnish

1. Rub the fish with olive oil, salt and pepper. Keep fish cold.
2. Place the banana leaf over the heat (on top of the burner), to soften until glossy.
3. Cut the leaves into four rectangles.
4. Place the vegetables in the center of the leaves. Season the vegetables with olive oil, salt and pepper.
5. On top of the vegetables, place the blue runner and 3 lemon slices for garnish.
6. Fold the leaf lengthwise, turn side toward middle, turn ends down and tie across.
7. Bake at 325 grades F. (163 grade C.) for 25 minutes.

Note:

1. Serve with rice and chickpeas, tossing with bacon.

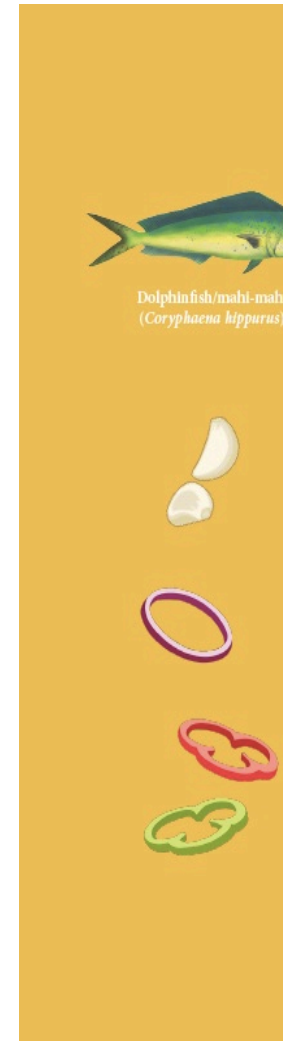
Nutrition Facts		Per serving / Por ración	Per container / Por envase	Per serving / Por ración	Per container / Por envase	
Datos de Nutrición		% DV* / % VD*	% DV* / % VD*	% DV* / % VD*	% DV* / % VD*	
Total Fat / Grasa Total	30g	60%	120%	Total Carbohydrate / Carbohidrato Total	4g	8%
Saturated Fat / Grasa Saturada	5g	10%	20%	Dietary Fiber / Fibra Dietética	1g	4%
Trans Fat / Grasa Trans	0g	0%	0%	Total Sugars / Azúcares Totales	2g	4%
Cholesterol / Colesterol	150mg	30%	300%	Includes Added Sugars / Incluye Azúcares Añadidos	0g	0%
Calories / Calorías	510			Protein / Proteínas	51g	102%
Vitamin D / Vitamina D	1000IU	20%	2000%	Calcium / Calcio	40mg	8%
Iron / Hierro	2.5mg	50%	500%	Potassium / Potasio	1130mg	22.6%

*Percent Daily Values are based on a diet of other people's secrets.

Ingredients: Bluefish, Baked or Broiled, Pepper, Salt or Sweet, Red, Orions, Chopped, Oil, Olive, Celery, Stalk, Seaweed, Lemon (Pate), Salt, Table, Pepper, Black, Ground
Contains: Crustacean Shellfish, Fish
Ingredientes: Bluefish, Baked or Broiled, Pepper, Sal or Sweet, Red, Orions, Chopped, Oil, Olive, Celery, Stalk, Seaweed, Lemon (Pate), Sal, Table, Pepper, Black, Ground
Contiene: crustáceos y mariscos, pescado

Sustainable Sea food Consumption... Other products

- Short videos on home cooking of underutilized species – Jannette Ramos and Cristina Olán.
- Develop a **Guide to analyze underutilized species for educational purposes**. It will help fishermen, fisheries managers, educators and the general public to understand what is an underutilized species and the appropriate considerations when recommending its consumption.



Fresh Herb Roasted mahi-mahi and Fruit Salsa - Cory Magrass
(4 portions)



- 4 ea 7 oz / 198 g portions of fresh Mahi Mahi (Typically Bull Mahi are larger with better portions, Chicken Mahi are smaller with very thin portions)
- ½ ea. bunch scallions (root ends trimmed off)
- 4 ea. sprigs thyme (stems removed)
- 1 fl oz / 30 ml white vinegar
- 1 ea. garlic clove (crushed)
- 1 fl oz / 30 ml olive oil
- 1 tsp / 2 g pepper flakes
- 1 tbsp / 15 ml honey

- 1 tsp / 6 g sugar
 - 1 tbsp / 18 g salt
1. In a blender, place the scallions, thyme, garlic, pepper, salt, sugar and white vinegar. Blend until smooth. Slowly add the olive oil to for an emulsion.
 2. Pour over the Mahi Mahi portions and let marinate for at least 1 hour.
 3. In a 450 °F / 232 °C oven, place the mahi portions on a lined roasted pan, with marinade covering the fish. Roast for 10 to 15 minutes or until the fish is firm to the touch. Serve with Fruit salsa.

- Fruit Salsa**
- ½ ea. green bell pepper (diced)
 - ½ ea. ripe mango medium size (peeled and diced)
 - ½ ea. ripe papaya small size (peeled, seeded and diced)
 - ½- ea red onion small size (diced)
 - ½- ea lemon (juice)
 - 1 fl oz / 30 ml olive oil
 - Salt and Pepper

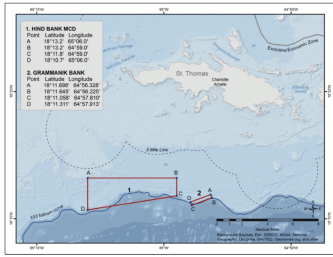
1. Combine all ingredients in a mixing bowl and refrigerate.
2. Spoon cold salsa over the roasted fish at the time of service.

		Per serving / Por ración	Per container / Por envase			Per serving / Por ración	Per container / Por envase
		% DV* / % VD*	% DV* / % VD*			% DV* / % VD*	% DV* / % VD*
Total Fat / Grasa Total		5g	10%	Total Carbohydrate / Carbohidrato Total		5g	10%
Sodium / Sodio		100mg	20%	Total Sugar / Azúcar Total		5g	10%
Calories / Calorías	200			Total Protein / Proteína		5g	10%
	820			Total Fat / Grasa Total		5g	10%

Outreach materials on MPAs in St. Thomas/St. John, USVI

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the U.S. Virgin Islands St. Thomas/ St. John

The fisheries of St. Thomas/St. John constitute an important part of the U.S. Caribbean. One of the most powerful and effective methods for protecting fisheries resources and ocean life is the Marine Protected Area (MPA). According to the Executive Order 13158 of May 26, 2000 Marine Protected Areas, "Marine protected areas are created by Federal, State, territorial, tribal, or local laws or regulations to provide lasting protection for part or all of the natural and cultural resources therein. The MPA provides a refuge for the managed species and at the same time gives animals within its boundaries time to grow larger than those that occur outside of the area."



Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the U.S. Virgin Islands St. Thomas/ St. John

The fisheries of St. Thomas/St. John constitute an important part of the ecosystems in the U.S. Caribbean. One of the most powerful and effective methods for protecting fisheries resources and ocean life is the Marine Protected Area (MPA). According to the Executive Order 13158 of May 26, 2000 Marine Protected Areas a "Marine protected area" means any area of the marine environment that has been reserved by Federal, State, territorial, tribal, or local laws or regulations to provide lasting protection for part or all of the natural and cultural resources therein. The MPA provides a refuge for the managed species and at the same time gives animals within its boundaries time to grow larger than those that occur outside of the area.

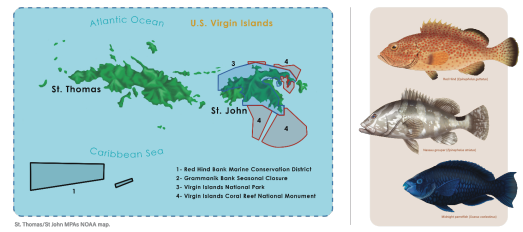
There are two MPAs in St. Thomas/St. John in the U.S. Caribbean Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ): the Grammanik Bank and the Hind Bank Marine Conservation District (MCD). These are very valuable for the protection of spawning aggregations of important fishery species such as the Red Hind (*Epinephelus guttatus*) and the Nassau grouper (*Epinephelus striatus*). There are other important and valuable fish species in these MPAs including: midnight parrotfish (*Scarus coelestinus*), blue parrotfish (*Scarus coeruleus*), rainbow parrotfish (*Scarus guacamaia*), Nassau grouper (*Epinephelus striatus*) and goliath grouper (*Epinephelus itajara*) (Pittman, S.J., L. et al.). Seasonal species closures exist for specific large-bodied grouper and snapper species. Trammel nets are prohibited throughout the USVI and surface gill nets are restricted to baitfish only. Catch limits and size restrictions on specific species also exist. These MPAs have also been designated by the Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC) as Habitat Areas of Particular Concern (HAPC).

Grammanik Bank
The Grammanik Bank is a submerged area located 14 km south, on the south end of St. Thomas (USVI) and extends from the U.S. and the Hind Bank. The Grammanik Bank banks habitat a primarily composed of a mangrove reef, shallow banks, and reefs. This is the only habitat in the U.S. Caribbean where researchers (Barnett, 2000) have found signs of habitat grouper (*Epinephelus striatus*) spawning from coral-encrusted rocks in the EEZ and the possibility of a population restoration in the near future.
In 2001, it was designated by the CFMC as a 2-Mile Zone (MCD) from February 1 to April 30 within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This means that no fishing or harvesting of any species of fish is allowed during the closure. This area has been closed to fishing, all or seasonal area is prohibited during the closure. The prohibition does not apply to highly migratory species.

Hind Bank Marine Conservation District
A Marine Conservation District (MCD) is a discrete geographical area of special value and significance to the marine ecosystem that is established in the federal waters. The purpose of the MCD is to conserve and manage representative samples of marine habitats and ecosystems and to protect and manage the marine resources therein. The MCD is established for the protection, conservation and management of scientifically important species. MCDs are used for the conservation of species which are designated to ensure preservation of reef fish stocks and habitats. Their primary objective is to protect older and larger fish. The benefits derived from this are the protection of the critical spawning fish habitat, fish-specific genetic diversity, population age structure, recruitment supply, and ecosystem balance while ensuring a sustainable fish harvest.

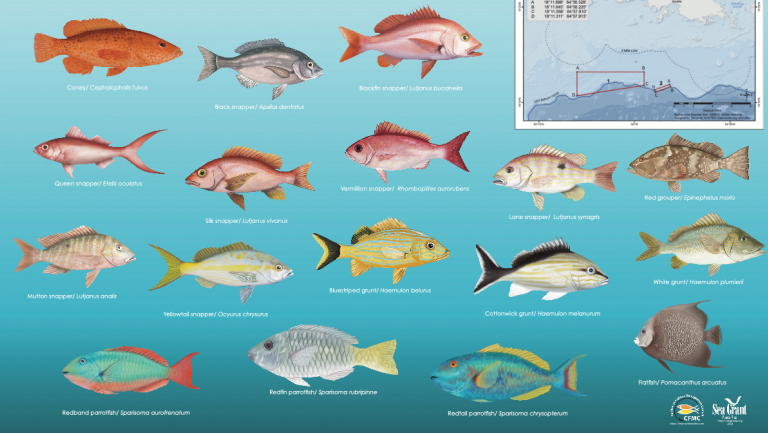
The Hind Bank MCD, area of St. Thomas was established by the CFMC in 1999 as a seasonal MCD to ensure spawning aggregations of Red Hind (*Epinephelus guttatus*). However in 2002, the MCD was expanded to include the US Virgin Islands (USVI) and the Caribbean Sea (CS) MCD. The MCD extends to the southern edge of the southern edge of the northern edge of the northern edge of the Virgin Passage. The majority of the southern is less than 20 m in depth, and is composed of sand and is the largest reef-encrusted emergent coral reef complex in the U.S. Caribbean.

The MCD became a much accepted management closed area in 1999, with fishing and harvesting by fishing vessels prohibited throughout the year, thus protecting critical coral reef habitats. Research indicates the recovery of the Red Hind, whose numbers increased during the 1990s and 2000 (Crawford, et al., 2004). Red hind represents one of the most common reef fish in the St. Thomas coastal waters.

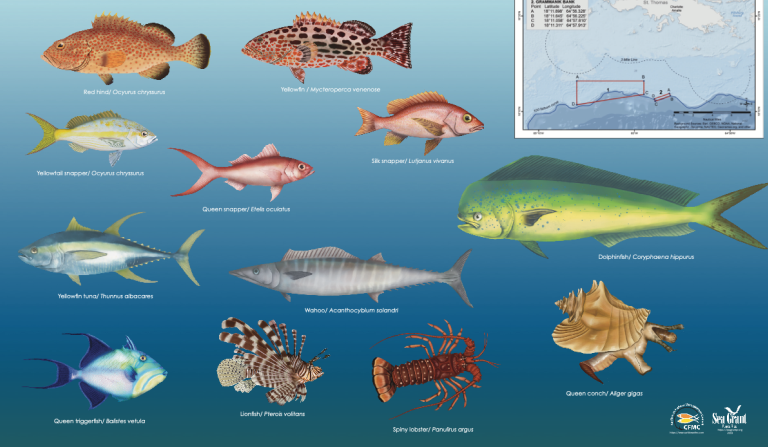


References:
Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC). Assessment Report 13: The Fishery Management Plan for Grouper and Reef Associated Species and Management of Fisheries Resources. 2004. Washington, DC: Caribbean Fishery Management Council. Available at: <http://www.cfmcc.org>
Herring, S.J., et al. 2004. Population characteristics of a recovering US Virgin Islands reef spawning aggregation following protection. Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser. 266: 41-57.
Herring, S.J., et al. 2004. Marine Protected Areas of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Ecological Protection Report. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS FPO-360. Silver Spring, MD: NOAA.
Schiffman, W.T. et al. 2004. Marine Protected Areas and Associated Fisheries in the U.S. Caribbean. Advances in Marine Biology, Vol 50: 101-120. Oxford: Elsevier.

Seafood of St. Thomas & St. John

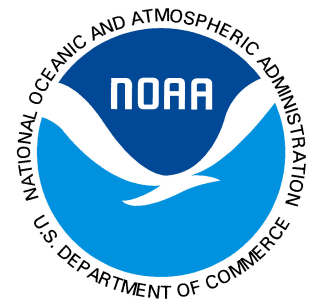


Seafood of St. Thomas & St. John





O & E Initiatives proposed for 2022-2025

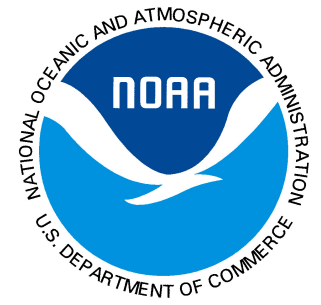


- **IBFMPs** – Fact sheets/Infographics for PR, St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix
 - - Graciela García Moliner, María López (NOAA) will collaborate.
- **MPAS – February 9, 2022, MPA Symposium in San Juan, PR**
 - **Fact sheets/Infographics, short videos** on MPAs in the region and their impact on fisheries and their importance for fisheries sustainability. 2022 -2023
- **Illustrated Booklets**
 - Climate Change impacts on fisheries 2022
 - MPAs in the US Caribbean 2022
- **Fisheries Education in PR and USVI**
 - Need for new fishers in our region.
 - Council support for the Escuela de Pesca Project in Cabo Rojo, PR

All products will have a QR code to the CFMC webpage for the documents and other items.



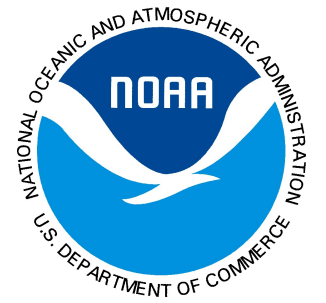
Specific areas of action for Outreach and Education in 2020-2025



- Basic concepts of **Ecosystem Based Management** and their application to the management measures. The objective is to help fishers and consumers in general to understand the components of the marine ecosystem, the importance of the **Fishery Ecosystem Plan** for the marine fishery ecosystem and their responsibility in keeping it healthy and sustainable.
- **Island Based Fishery Management Plans (IBFMP) for Puerto Rico, St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix.** The objective is for fishers and consumers to recognize the species being managed, their natural function in the marine ecosystem and the importance of management measures to keep the ecosystem healthy and the fishery resources sustainable.
- **Sustainable Fish and Seafood consumption** to educate consumers on the importance to consume these products and, at the same time be aware of the impact of removing those species from the ecosystem.
- **Marine Protected Areas in Puerto Rico, St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix.** Their importance as instruments for the protection of fishes spawning aggregation and the regulations applied to these areas from territorial and federal government agencies.



Social Media

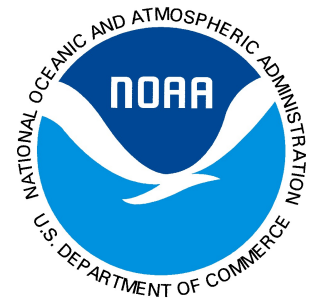


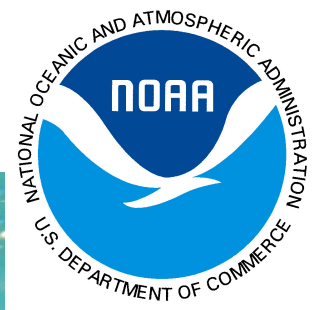
- Cristina Olán, presentation



Liaisons reports...

- Wilson Santiago – Puerto Rico
- Mavel Maldonado – St. Croix
- Nikole Greaux – St. Thomas/ St. John





QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU



HAPPY NEW YEAR