



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
270 MUÑOZ RIVERA AVE. STE 401
SAN JUAN PR 00918-1903



January 12 2022

Dr. Clay Porch
Dr. John Walter
SEFSC
75 Virginia Beach Dr.
Miami, FL 33149

Dear Clay,

The Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC) respectfully requests the assistance of the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) to conduct a spiny lobster assessment update (outside the SEDAR process) in 2022, for OFLs/ABCs for 2024-2026. The CFMC and the SEFSC can work on establishing a timeline for the completion of the update and need to confirm the terminal year for the update, dependent on staff workload and data availability respectively. The assessment should provide OFLs/ABCs for 2022 and later years.

The CFMC has currently included the spiny lobster in the SEDAR Assessment schedule for each, Puerto Rico, St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix for 2024, but an update in 2022, following the already established data-limited methodology recommended by the scientists is herewith requested. This would also be included in the on-going discussions of the amendments awaiting implementation of the Islands-Based FMPs.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Marcos Hanke'.

Marcos Hanke, Chair

C Miguel Rolón, Graciela García-Moliner