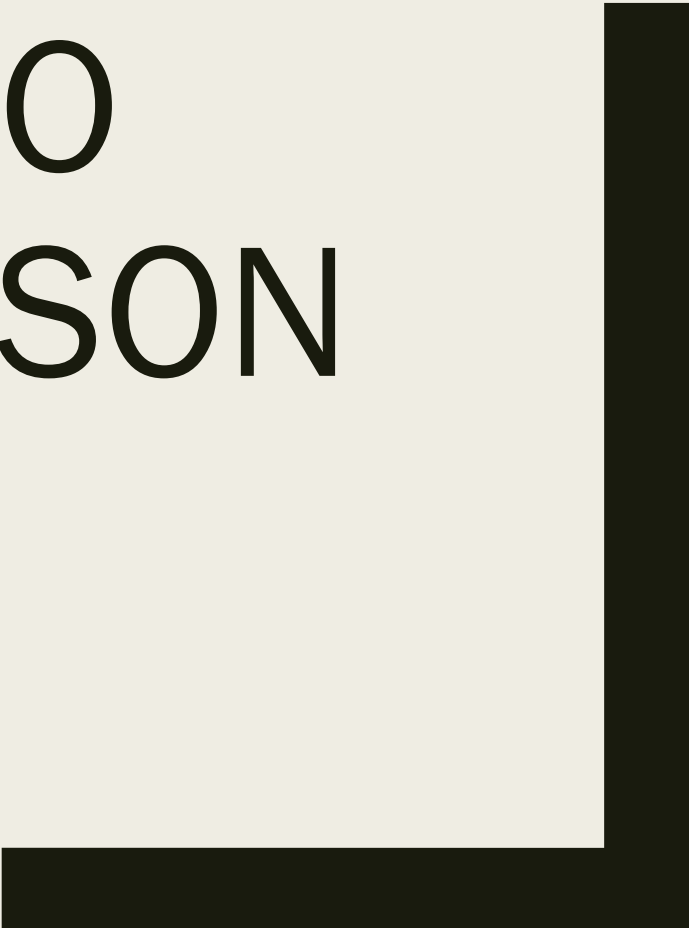




PUERTO RICO FISHERIES LIAISON

Wilson G. Santiago Soler
CFMC 179th Regular Meeting
August 11 - 12 2022



2022 Liaison Participation

- Give educational program for commercial fishers (PEPCO)
- Support Cristina Olán with post at CFMC social media for the “Repaso de PEPCO”
- Participate in MREP committee meetings for August 2022 fishers workshop in Puerto Rico
- Send weekly educational posts via WhatsApp
- Support fishers with issues and information of DNER State and Federal Closures
- Give educational materials for the fishers and fishing communities
- Give recreational fishers educational program (PEPR) virtual
- Participate in “ Festival del Pescao” with a CFMC educational material table

2022 Liaison Participation

- Take information and photos of fishers from Aguadilla (Crash Boat) for the CFMC 2023 calendar
- Bring Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture Agronomist a workshop with topics about the commercial fishers process, certification and programs in commercial fisheries
- Support DAP-PR with information about deep water snappers trap fishing
- Include topic about the IBFMP to PEPCO presentation

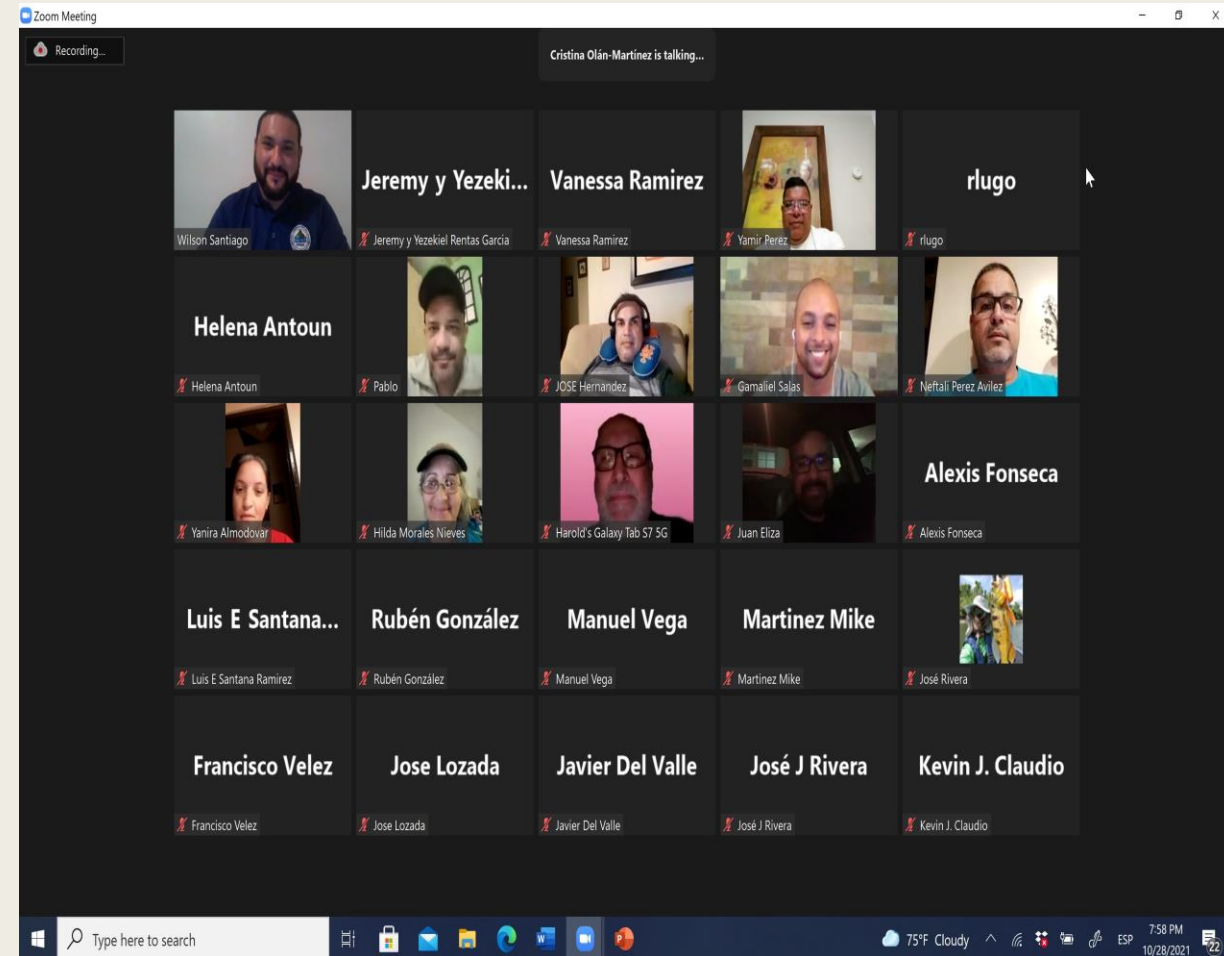
Educational Program for Commercial Fishers (PEPCO) in Puerto Rico



- 4 workshops around the island has been given with a total of 121 participants were 103 are commercial fishers, 47 of them with the commercial license for first time and 56 fishers that were taking the program for continuing education. 18 of the other participants were families from the fishers that are part too of the chain of processing and distribution in the fishers communities.
- For all the participants that completed the program we gave them a certificate of completion. (Thanks to DNER, CFMC, Sea Grant)
- The municipalities impacted were Cabo Rojo, Aguada, Luquillo and Mayagüez

Educational Program for Recreational Salt Water Fishers

- 2022 1st virtual workshop was in March 31, 2022
- Topics were Laws, Regulations, marine species and areas managements in state and federal waters for recreational fishers
- Thanks to Helena Antoun and Cristina Olán for their support in the workshop
- Continue with the workshop face to face 2023



Festival del Pescao Puerto Real, Cabo Rojo



Puerto Rico's Fishers Issues

- The Issues with the commercial fishing license with the DNER has been resolved. Fishers has been receiving their fishing license and letters from the DNER.
- New fishers misinformation about fishing closures, statistics report (eReporting app), licenses and permits for state and federal waters in Puerto Rico
- Low enforcement to watch the closures and illegal commercial fishing in state and federal waters
- Fishers need support with different funding opportunities
- Fishers from Aguadilla has issue with the bag limit of Tuna of the HMS Caribbean Small Boat Permit. They sent a letter regarding this issue.

2022 Liaison Next Step

- Continue with PEPCO face-to—face workshops
- Continuing of the virtual PEPR workshops
- Continuing supporting CFMC social media
- Find out and support fishers in their issues, visiting fishing villages and fishers communities
- Visit fishing villages and fishing communities around the island giving educational materials

Questions?

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