



Puerto Rico Fisheries Liaison Outreach and Education

WILSON G. SANTIAGO SOLER

OEAP HYBRID MEETING

JULY 27, 2022

Liaison Outreach and Education 2022

- ▶ Educate the commercial fishers in Puerto Rico with the Educational Program for Commercial Fishers (PEPCO).
- ▶ Distribute educational videos and information for commercial fishers regarding federal and state regulations, closures and protection of our fisheries via social media and WhatsApp broadcast.
- ▶ Distribute all educational materials of the CFMC, Sea Grant and DNER for the fishers and fishing villages at the North, East and West Coast of the island.
- ▶ Give support to CFMC and DNER social medias.
- ▶ Channel problems and concerns from fishers to CFMC and DNER.
- ▶ Participate with a educational desk at the “Festival del Pescao” at Puerto Real, Cabo Rojo with the CFMC educational materials.
- ▶ Take pictures and information about fishing family in Aguadilla for the 2023 CFMC calendar. Coordinating with other family at Cabo Rojo.

Educational Program for Puerto Rico Commercial Fishers (PEPCO)

- ▶ We start in 2022 with the presential PEPCO workshop.
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ The municipalities impacted are Cabo Rojo, Aguada, Luquillo and Mayagüez.
- ▶ We included the topic if IBFMP to the PEPCO presentation

Island Base Fisheries Management Plan Outreach

- ▶ Recommendations for the outreach that we can present to fishing communities:
 - Make public announcements and interviews in local radios networks around the fishing communities (Will have a list of radio stations and a proposal from a radio station at Mayagüez this week)
 - Educate with flyers and communications via social networks, emails and What's App broadcasts explaining the fishing communities about the IBFMP
 - Give to PEPCO participants flyers or educational materials regarding the IBFMP
 - Create a language for the outreach to be used in workshops, flyer, interviews and public announcements.
 - As Liaison visit the fishing communities and gather a list of issues and opinions about the IBFMP
 - Bring to fishing communities educational materials made for the IBFMP outreach and education

Liaison Outreach and Education

Next Steps

- ▶ Coordinate with Helena Antoun a presential workshop for recreational fishers in 2022
- ▶ Continuing of the PEPCO program presential. Tentative dates: August (Ponce), September (Dorado and Salinas), October (Culebra).
- ▶ Continue giving support for CFMC, DNER and other agencies regarding communications for fishing communities around Puerto Rico.
- ▶ Continue giving support for the CFMC and DNER social medias
- ▶ Continue educating in process of license, statistics and state laws to maintain their responsibility with the DNER and when a economic help comes they could be up to date and therefore they can have the economic help needed.
- ▶ Participate in workshops, festivals and fishing tournaments bringing educational materials and presentations of the Puerto Rico fisheries.
- ▶ Coordinate effective communications with the fishers regarding the IBFMP.

Issues and concerns from fishers

- ▶ Queen Snapper and Cardinal Snapper state permit
- ▶ HMS permit for Caribbean Small Boat (Attended with PEPCO and with the

“Fuate y Verguilla” magazine from Sea Grant program.

- ▶ Puerto Rico commercial fishing license and permits, the time waiting for the DNER to respond
- ▶ Education in new regulation regarding the Spiny Lobster in federal waters
- ▶ Fishers from Aguadilla have concerns and are not happy with the bag limit in the catch of Tunas with the HMS Caribbean Small Boat Permit



¿Questions?

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