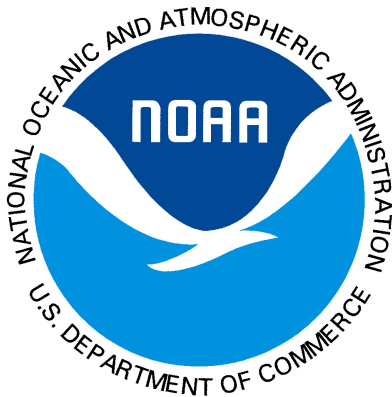




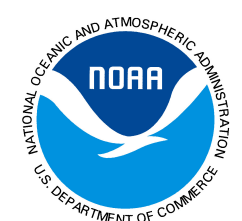
Outreach and Education Advisory Panel (OEAP)

July 19, 2023, Hybrid Meeting
Marriot Courtyard Hotel Isla Verde,
Carolina, PR



Agenda

July 19, 2023



9:30 a.m.

- Call to Order
- Adoption of Agenda

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

- OEAP Chairperson's Report
- Updates:
 - Meetings and Webinars Attended: CFMC 181st Meeting, Ponce, PR
 - DAP Workshops, St. Croix, U.S.V.I. and Puerto Rico for Outreach & Education Materials for the IBFMPs
 - EEJ Focus Group
 - SSC EBFM TAP Joint Meeting
 - NOAA Caribbean
 - MREP
 - Illustrated Booklet on Climate Change and U.S. Caribbean Fisheries

10:15 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.

Break

10:20 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

- Update on Status of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) – Liajay Rivera

11 a.m.–12 p.m.

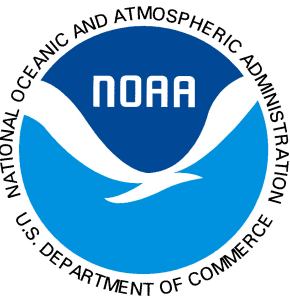
- Update of the Island-Based Fishery Management Plans
- Fact Sheets on IBFMP

—12 p.m.–1 p.m.

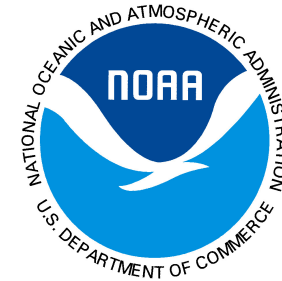
- Lunch break

1 p.m.–5 p.m.

- OEAP Recommendation of Outreach Strategies on IBFMPs for Puerto Rico, St. Thomas/St. John, and St. Croix, U.S.V.I.
- Liaisons Recommendations
- Liaisons Reports:
 - Wilson Santiago—Puerto Rico
 - Nicole Greaux/St. Thomas, U.S.V.I.
 - Mavel Maldonado/St. Croix, U.S.V.I.
- CFMC Facebook, Instagram and YouTube Communications with Stakeholders
- Other Business



OEAP Chair Report



Specific areas of action for Outreach and Education in the CFMC 5YSP

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

Goal: Engage, educate, and inform a variety of audiences to improve public understanding and participation in the Council process.

Objective 20: Use a variety of communication tools that consider the social, cultural, and economic characteristics of target audiences in coordination with the Outreach and Education Advisory Panel (OEAP).

Objective 21: Promote participation of a variety of stakeholders in the Council process.

Objective 22: Improve public and stakeholder understanding and awareness of fisheries management, current issues, and the Council process.



5YSP Communication objectives that we are following



- 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.

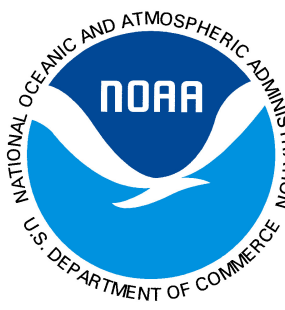


In person, virtual meetings and webinars attended

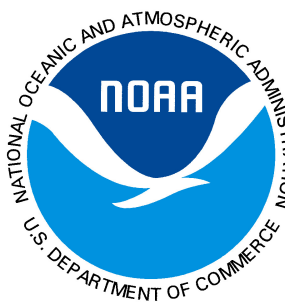
- Marine Resources Education Program(MREP). **MREP Puerto Rico will meet on Friday 25-26 at Fajardo, Fajardo Inn.** Emphasis on participation of fishers from the east coast, specially Vieques and Culebra.
- SSC EBFM-TAP joint meeting, at the Courtyard Marriott from May 1 to May 5. EBFM-TAP meeting May 18, 2023. Updates on the status of these issues. Liajay Rivera will give the information.
- Participate on a PR Legislature meeting in Cabo Rojo with Graciela García-Moliner to present the CFMC management actions in the Federal jurisdiction.



In person, virtual meetings and webinars attended



- CFMC 181st Meeting April 2023 Meeting
- Reef Fish Extension meeting; **Descending devices** virtual meetings; NOAA Fisheries webinar on EBFM
- **EEJ Focus Group** - St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix groups met in June 12 and 15, 2023. Puerto Rico will meet in August 21(Cibuco), Aug. 22 (Cabo Rojo), Aug. 23 (Ponce) and Aug. 24 (Fajardo). **Heather Blough/ Brent Stoffle will give more information.**
- NOAA in the Caribbean virtual meeting
- June 10 Presentation of Importance of coral reefs in our marine fisheries in the closing session of the Coral Reef Week 2023 celebration. C3Tec, Caguas, PR
- July 6 Conference on Marine Fishery Ecosystem and Sustainable Fishing in Cabo Rojo for secondary and high school students.



Projects in progress.... Need approval from OEAP for CFMC presentation

1. Catalogue of Fish and Invertebrate Species in the IBFMPs ...English & Spanish.

- One book with species from Puerto Rico, St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix
- Include 73 species: fishes and invertebrates
 - Scientific and common names, short description of each species, illustrations from UPR Sea Grant,
 - **Collaborators:** Ruth Gómez, Nicole Greaux ... (St. Thomas), Carlos Farchette, Gerson Martínez (St. Croix) and Nelson Crespo, Wilson Santiago....(Puerto Rico)
 - Illustrator – Paco López
- Introduction
- References

Color reddish-brown to grayish with a black spot between the lateral line and the spiny part of the dorsal fin. There is a pair of blue stripes beneath the eyes and the higher one continues to the operculum. Fins are red, and the caudal fin has a black margin. This species is caught using hook and line, seines, gill nets, bottom longlines and traps, it is also taken by spearfishing. It is listed as Near Threatened by the IUCN. Seasonal closures from April 1 to June 30 in all Federal and Territorial area of Mutton Snapper Spawning Aggregation Area in Puerto Rico, St. Thomas St. John and south of St. Croix. April 1 to May 31 in Puerto Rico's State waters

Color marrón rojizo a grisáceo con una mancha negra entre la línea lateral y la parte espinosa de la aleta dorsal. Hay un par de rayas azules debajo de los ojos y la superior continúa hasta el opérculo. Las aletas son rojas y la aleta caudal tiene un margen negro. Esta especie se captura con anzuelo, jábega, redes de enmalle, palangre de fondo y almadrabas, también se captura con pesca submarina. Está catalogado como Casi Amenazado por la UICN. Cierres de temporada del 1 de abril al 31 de mayo. Vedas estacionales del 1 de abril al 30 de junio en toda el área Federal y Territorial del Área de Agregación de Desove de la Sama en Puerto Rico, St. Thomas St. John y el sur de St. Croix. Del 1 de abril al 31 de mayo en aguas Territoriales de Puerto Rico.



First draft will be sent to Collaborators for their review:

- Fishing gear used
- Different common names
- Information specific for each island
- Reduce text???

Projects in progress... Working on IBFMP's fact sheets for PR, St. Croix, and St. Thomas/St. John

Need Designer, the texts are ready



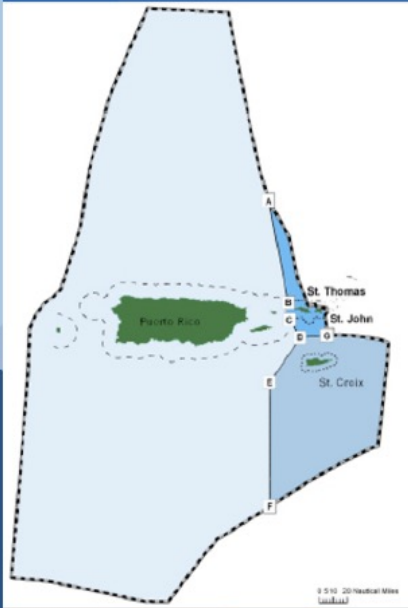
FACT SHEET

ISLAND BASED FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

What is an IBFMP?

The Island Based Fishery Management Plans are management updates of federal fisheries in the U.S. Caribbean. There will be three (3) separate fishery management plans: one for Puerto Rico, one for St. Thomas-St. John and one for St. Croix.

For each island there are management measures for Reef Fish Fishery, Spiny Lobster Fishery, Queen Conch Resources and for the Corals and Reef associated Plants and Invertebrates. These are basically the same species that have been managed in the previous US Caribbean FMPs.

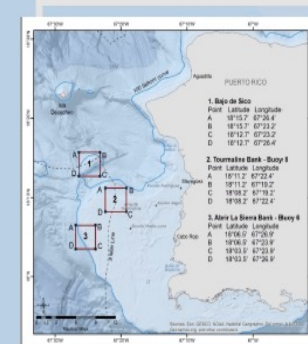


What are the changes in the new IBFMPs?

Each of the island-based fishery management plans retain most of the management measures established under the U.S. Caribbean-wide fishery management plans that apply to the respective island management area, including seasonal and area closures, minimum size limits, and recreational bag limits. The island-based fishery management plans revise certain management measures, such as the species included for Federal management, and annual catch limits and accountability measures.

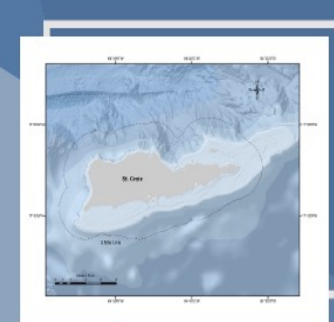
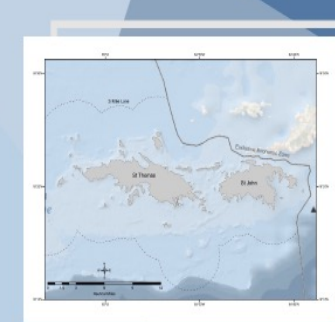
What are the benefits of the IBFMPs?

NOAA Fisheries and the Caribbean Fishery Management Council expect the island-based approach to fisheries management to better account for the existing differences among the U.S. Caribbean islands with respect to culture, markets, fishing gear used, seafood preferences, and ecological impacts.



What species will be covered in the IBFMPs?

The Reef Fish, Spiny Lobster, Queen Conch, and Coral FMPs and the regulations implementing those FMPs include 81 species of reef fish, 58 species of aquarium trade fish, spiny lobster, queen conch, 94 genera or species of corals, and 63 genera or species of aquarium trade invertebrates. The Council's Scientific and Statistical Advisory Committee (SSC) and the District Advisory Panel (DAP) from each island management area provided recommendations on the criteria used for the Council to select the species to be managed under each island-based FMP.



When will the IBFMPs will be initiated?

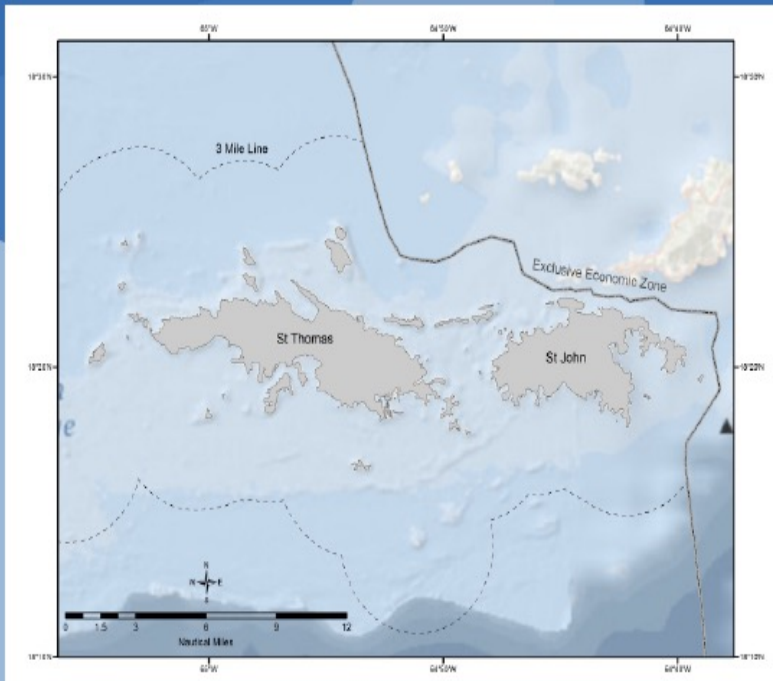
Since October 13, 2022, the Puerto Rico Fishery Management Plan, the St. Thomas-St. John, and the St. Croix are the legal document to be followed in the US Caribbean.

Where can you get more information on each IBFMP?

Visit the CFMC website:
www.caribbeanfmc.com



Fisheries governed by the St. Thomas/St. John FMP are located primarily in the U.S. EEZ surrounding St. Thomas/St. John (i.e., the St. Thomas/St. John EEZ), defined as federal waters ranging from 3 to 200 nautical miles (nm) (6–370 kilometers [km]) from the nearest coastline point of the islands of St. Thomas and St. John. Fishery resources within three nautical miles of the USVI coast are managed by the territorial government of the USVI.



The St. Thomas/St. John FMP is intended to ensure productive and sustainable fisheries for the long-term livelihood, enjoyment, economy, and environment of St. Thomas/St. John and the U.S.; conserve and manage the fisheries of St. Thomas/St. John within an island-based approach; and enhance stewardship among fishermen, residents, and others who value the fishery resources and the marine and coastal environments of St. Thomas/St. John and the U.S.

FACT SHEET

ST. THOMAS / ST. JOHN

FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN



FISHERY RESOURCES MANAGED IN THE ST. THOMAS/ST. JOHN EEZ BY FISHERY GROUP:

Prior to development of the St. Thomas/St. John FMP, stocks, and stock complexes in the St. Thomas/St. John EEZ (and throughout the U.S. Caribbean) were managed within the Spiny Lobster FMP (CFMC 1981), the Reef Fish FMP (CFMC 1985), the Coral FMP (CFMC 1995), and the Queen Conch FMP (CFMC 1996), as respectively amended.

Although the St. Thomas/St. John FMP replaces the Council's Reef Fish, Spiny Lobster, Queen Conch, and Coral FMPs, the new FMP carries forward most of the management measures from those four U.S. Caribbean-wide FMPs as they apply to the St. Thomas/St. John EEZ. It is important to know that the Thomas/St. John FMP introduces some new management measures as well as new reference points and status determination criteria (SDC) evaluated and ultimately selected by the Council in the environmental assessment.

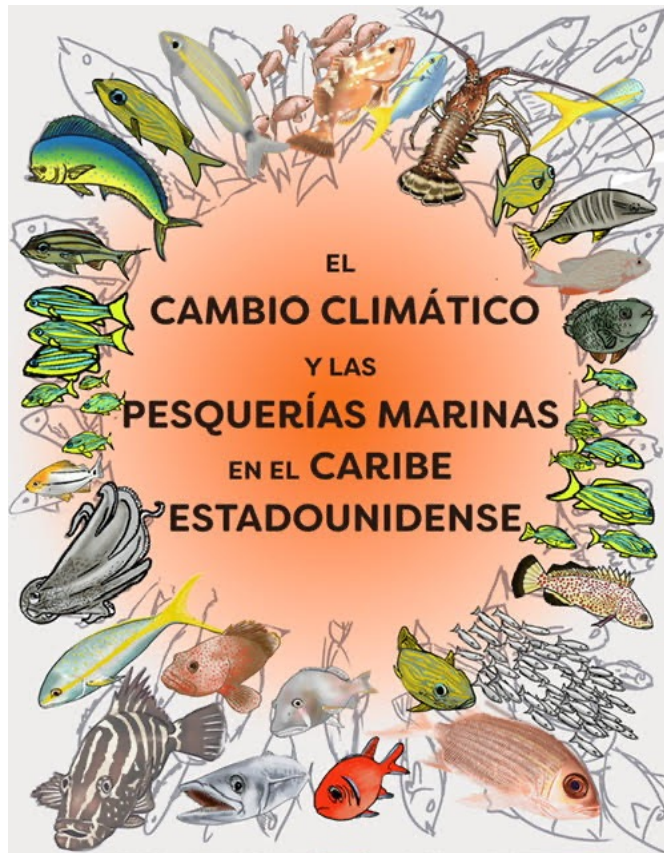
Management measures include harvest guidelines, minimum size limits, gear restrictions and identification, seasonal and areal closures, and harvest limits (among others) for all stocks managed by the Council in the Thomas/St. John EEZ.

For the complete list of species, the application of management measures, such as: harvest prohibitions/restrictions, gear, and methods regulations you can reach the St. Thomas-St. John FMP through the QR Code.



Projects in progress....

Climate change booklet

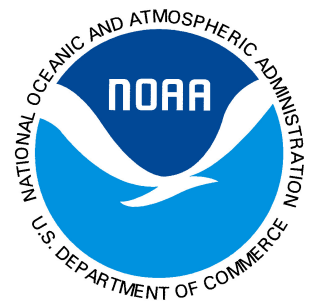


- **2024 Calendar: Island Based FMP:**
 - 4 PR
 - 4 ST. Croix
 - 4 St. Thomas/St. John
 - **Has to be ready for printing SEPTEMBER**
- **Calendar 2025 ???**
- **Materials for snapper/grouper deep-water fishing**

Gerson Martínez, Mavel Maldonado and Edward Schuster

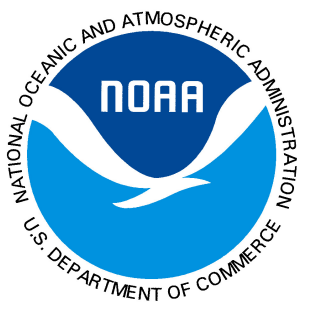


Recommendations from OEAP members





CFMC Social Media Update



- Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. **Cristina Olán**



Liaison Reports: Update on status of Fisher's communities in PR, ST. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix.



- **Liaisons:**

- **Nicole Greaux** – St. Thomas/St. John
- **Wilson Santiago** - Puerto Rico
- **Mavel Maldonado/Liandry De La Cruz Quiñones** – St. Croix