



Puerto Rico Fisheries Liaison Outreach and Education

WILSON G. SANTIAGO SOLER

OEAP MEETING

MARCH 22, 2023

Liaison Outreach and Education 2023

- ▶ 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.
- ▶ Visit fishers in fishing villages for orientation and take notes on what are their necessities.

Educational Program for Puerto Rico Commercial Fishers (PEPCO)

► Next PEPCO workshops starting April 2023

Río Grande

Arecibo

Culebra

Naguabo

Educational Program for Puerto Rico Recreational Fishers (PEPR)

▶ Next PEPR workshop starting April 2023

Río Grande

Arecibo

San Juan

PR Liaison Recommendations for Equity and Environmental Justice Strategy

- ▶ Identify a representative leader of the fishing community.
- ▶ Identify areas where scientist think that there are no fishing activities and give them orientation, help and send them information (Whats App, social medias) of meeting so they can participate.
- ▶ Continue bringing the PEPCO and PEPR programs adding empowerment topics for the fishing communities.

Liaison Outreach and Education

Next Steps

- ▶ Educational workshop for recreational fishers
- ▶ Educational workshop for commercial fishers
- ▶ 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.

Issues and Concerns from Fishers

- ▶ Queen Snapper and Cardinal Snapper state permit
- ▶ Puerto Rico commercial fishing license and permits, the time waiting for the DNER to respond
- ▶ Financial assistance for commercial fishers



Questions?

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