



Outreach and Education Advisory Panel (OEAP)

March 22, 2023, Hybrid Meeting
Marriot Courtyard Hotel Isla Verde, Carolina, PR



Agenda

March 22, 2023



9:30 a.m.—Call to Order

9:45 a.m.—10:15 a.m.

—OEAP Chairperson's Report

—Updates:—Meetings and Webinars Attended:: NOAA Caribbean, MREP, EBFM, NOAA webinar, Descending devices outreach webinar, CFMC 180th Meeting

—Calendar 2024

—Recipe Book

—Illustrated Booklet on Climate Change and U.S. Caribbean Fisheries

—MREP update

—DAP Workshop in St. Thomas/St. John, U.S.V.I. on IBFMP

10:15 a.m.—10:20 a.m.

—Short Break

10:20 a.m.—11 a.m.

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

—Outreach Materials on MPAs in Puerto Rico—Vilmarie Román—UPR Sea Grant Activities on Consumption of Underutilized Species—Jannette Ramos

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

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.



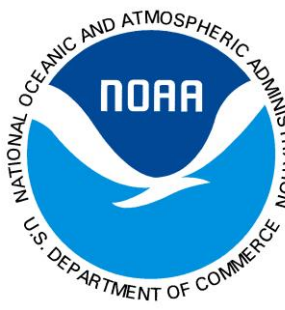
Virtual Meetings and Webinars attended



- Several Marine Resource Education Program (MREP) meetings of the Steering Committee to review the results of 2022 Workshop and the proposed content for the MREPworkshop in 2023.
- Presentation to the SSC on the Outreach products and receive suggestions for new products.



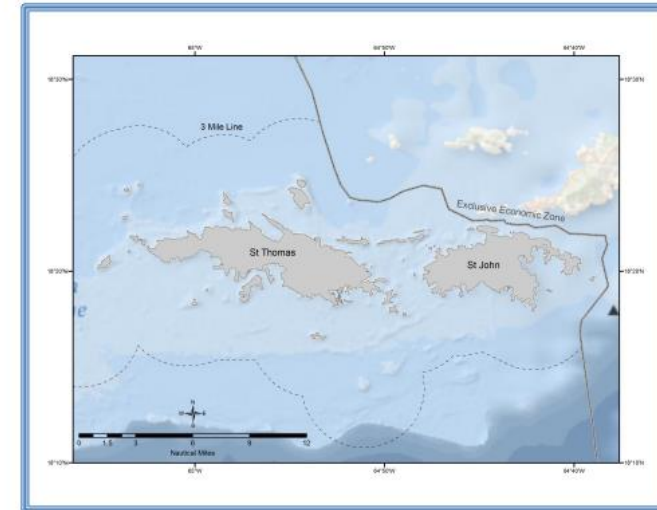
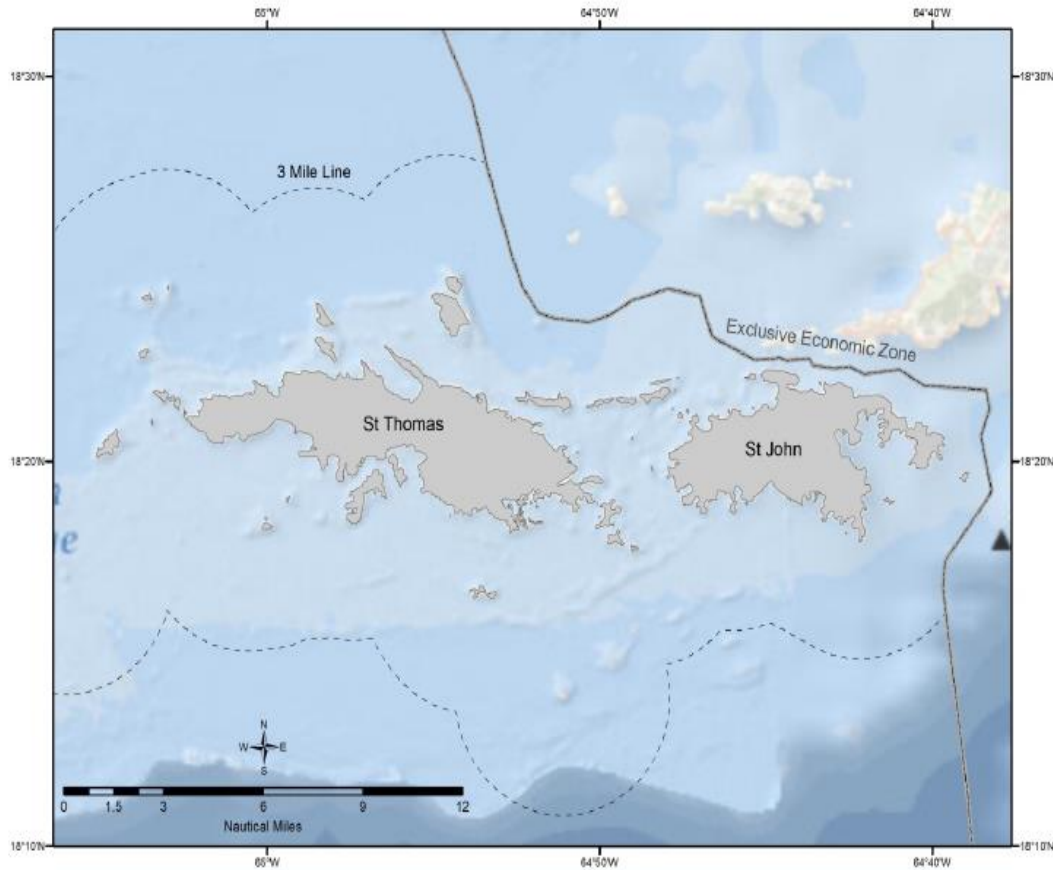
Virtual Meetings and Webinars attended



- CFMC December 2022 Meeting
- Reef Fish Extension meeting; Descending devices virtual meetings; NOAA Fisheries webinar on EBFM
- Best Practices for Chairing Meetings webinar- Katharine Zamboni, NOAA
- NOAA in the Caribbean virtual meeting
- **In-person meeting with St. Thomas/St. John DAP members and Liaison to discuss O & E strategies for the IBFMP.**

There were many other zoom meetings and calls to discuss O & E initiatives on different topics for O & E.

Outreach & Education Strategies for St. Thomas/St. John FMP...we are just beginning



Comprehensive Fishery Management Plan for the St. Thomas/St. John Exclusive Economic Zone

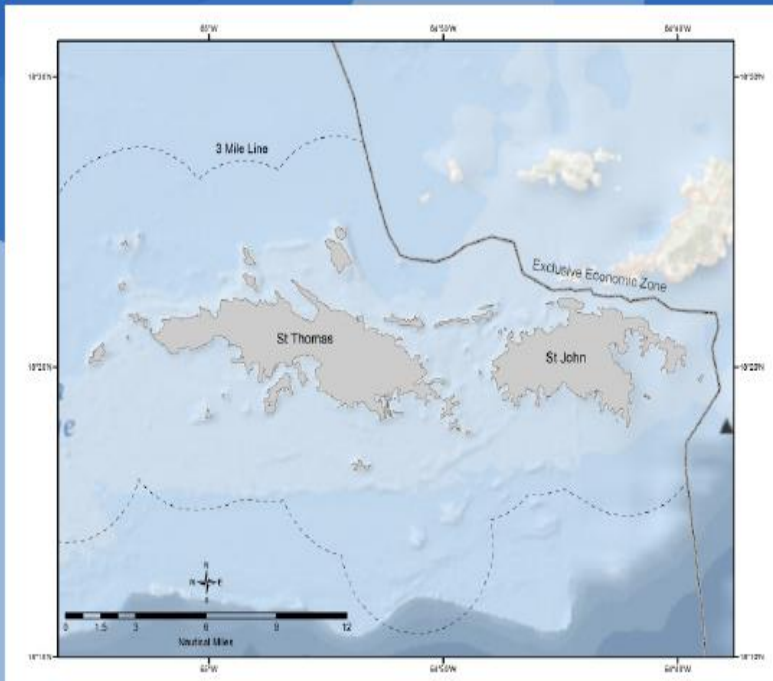
Including Environmental Assessment, Regulatory Impact Review,
and Fishery Impact Statement

Final Version

December 2019



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



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.



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





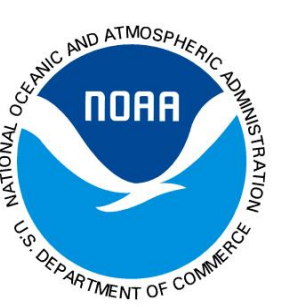
PProposed content for St. Thomas/St. John FMP Fact Sheet (s)

Based on summary of Chapter 1: Introduction and Chapter 5: Conservation and Management Measures – Action Plan.

❖ **Goals and Objectives:** 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.



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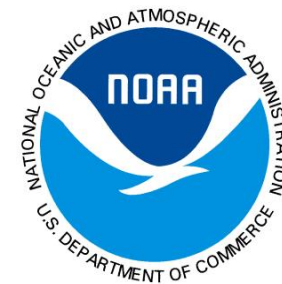
❖ Fishery resources managed in the St. Thomas/St. John EEZ by fishery group: fish (reef fish, pelagic fish), spiny lobster, queen conch, and coral reef resources.

❖ **Reef fish:**

- Snappers/ *Lutjanidae*
- Groupers/ Serranidae (one new species of grouper: Yellowmouth grouper *Mycteroperca interstitialis*),
- Parrotfish/ *Scaridae*
- Grunts/ *Haemulidae*
- Porgies/ *Sparidae*
- Jacks/ *Carangidae*
- Surgeonfish/ *Acanthuridae*
- Wrasses/ *Labridae*
- Angelfish/ *Pomacantidae*
- Triggerfish/ *Balistidae*



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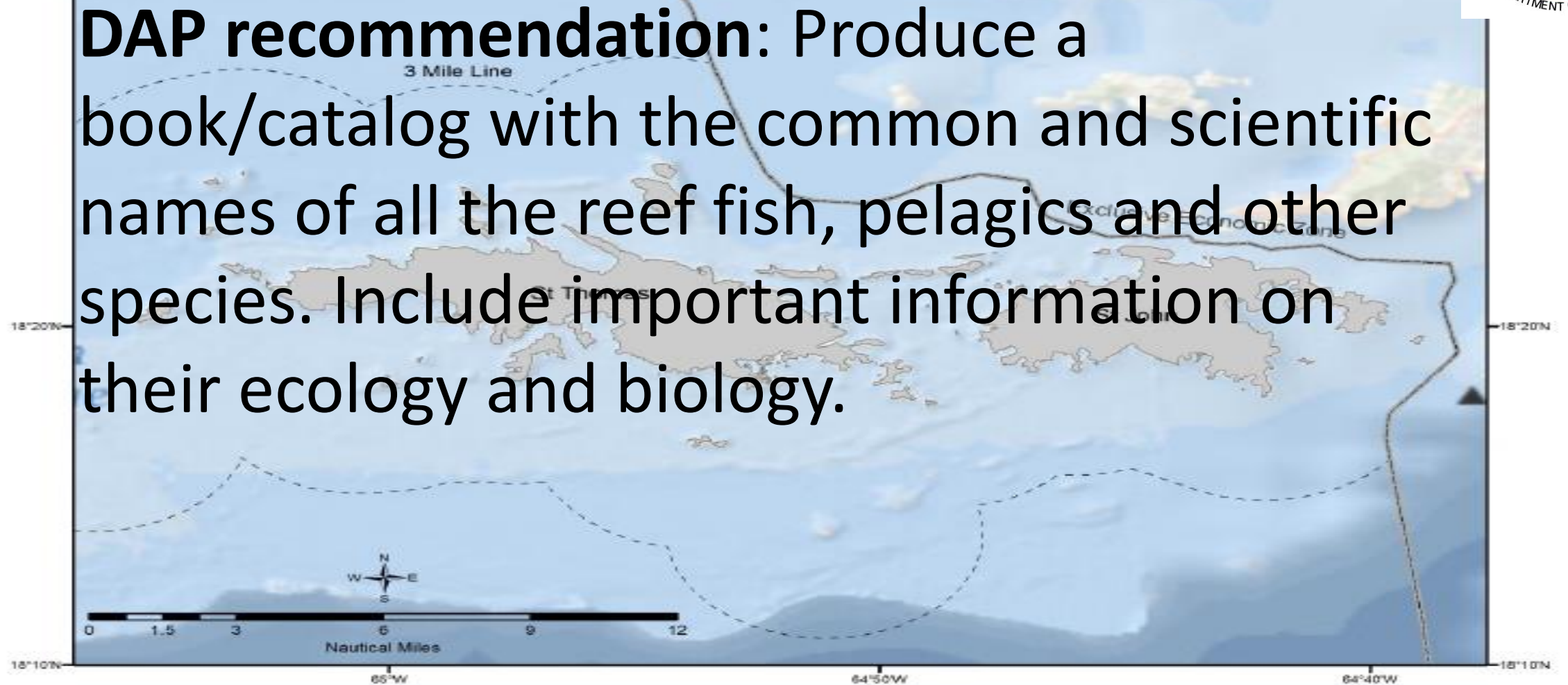


❖ **Pelagics:** Both pelagic stocks are new to management under the St. Thomas/St. John FMP.

- Dolphinfinh – *Coryphaenidae*: Dolphin/*Coryphaena hippurus**.
- Mackerels and Tunas – *Scombridae*: Wahoo/*Acanthocybium solandri*.



- **Caribbean Spiny Lobster** - the species, *Panulirus argus*. This species is managed as a single stock.
- **Queen Conch** - the species, *Aliger gigas* (formerly *Strombus gigas*, *Lobatus gigas*). This species is managed as a single stock.
- **Coral Reef Resources** - The Coral Reef Resources is divided into three groups: (1) **Sea cucumbers**; (2) **Sea urchins**; and (3) **Corals**. There are species within each of the groups that would be new to management under the St. Thomas/St. John FMP.





O & E Products...

- **2024 Calendar: Island Based FMP:**
 - 4 PR
 - 4 ST. Croix
 - 4 St. Thomas/St. John
 - **Has to be ready for printing SEPTEMBER**
- **Fact sheets for IBFMPs for each island**
- **Illustrated booklet on Climate change and marine fisheries**
- **Materials for snapper/grouper deep-water fishing**
Gerson Martínez, Mavel Maldonado and Edward Schuster
- **Calendar 2025**

NOAA Fisheries EEJ Strategy

Six Objectives

Equity in research and monitoring

Incorporation of EEJ into policies and plans

Inclusive governance

Equitable distribution of benefits

Equitable outreach and engagement

Empowering environment

National Strategy and Regional Implementation

National Strategy Rollout

- Fishery Bulletin
 - English
 - Spanish
 - Vietnamese
- Council presentations
 - Gulf - April
 - Caribbean - April
 - South Atlantic - June

Regional Implementation Strategy

- 20 Focus Group meetings
 - Caribbean: 4
 - Gulf: 7
 - South Atlantic: 7
 - South Florida: 2
- Council coordination (CCC reps)
- Other internal and external partners

Focus Groups

- One of a suite of ethnographic methods used to consult and collect data from local stakeholders
- Bring together a small group of people selected based on predefined experience or knowledge in order to answer questions in a moderated setting designed to shed light on a topic of interest
- Each will include up to 15 stakeholders from underserved communities that are impacted by our work to help us understand how to advance our 6 national EEJ objectives in the U.S. Caribbean

Tentative Plan for Caribbean Focus Groups

USVI

- May 8-12
 - St. Croix
 - St. Thomas /
St. John

Puerto Rico

- June 5-9
 - San Juan
 - Cabo Rojo



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** – St. Croix



Recommendations from OEAP members





CFMC Social Media Update



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