

PUERTO RICO FISHERIES LIAISON REPORT

Wilson G. Santiago Soler
182th CFMC Regular Meeting
Embassy Suites, Isla Verde
August 15-16, 2023

2023 Liaison Participation

- Coordinate and bring Educational Program for Commercial Fishers (PEPCO)
- Support Helena Antoun with Educational Program for Recreational Fishers (PEPR)
- Send weekly educational posts via WhatsApp
- Support fishers with issues and information via mobile and in person
- Give educational materials for the fishers and fishing communities
- Evaluation of the state of fishing communities, fishing villages, landing areas and fishing equipment (boats, gears) around the island.
- Focal group as Liaison with UPRM students
- Conservatory with fishers from Dorado fishing village
- MREP-PR steering committee
- Participate at Caribbean Branch spatial data development workshop
- Participate at sea weed workshop
- Educational table at “Festival del Pescao” at Puerto Real, Cabo Rojo

PEPCO / PEPR Educational Programs

- PEPCO: Offered Educational Program for Commercial Fishers to 3 municipalities with a participation of 56 fishers and their families
 - i. Naguabo
 - ii. Dorado
 - iii. Vieques
- PEPR: Support Helena Antoun to offered the Educational Program for Recreational Fishers to 2 municipalities
 - i. Rio Grande
 - ii. Dorado

We attend the necessity and issues of commercial and recreational fishers helping them to have a better communication with the management organizations (DNER,CFMC)

Liaison Next Steps

- Continue supporting the Educational Program for Recreational Fishers
- Continuing of the PEPCO program at different municipalities
- Creation of a 2nd part of the PEPCO program with topics of importance for the 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 management agencies
- Participate in workshops for learning new topics that we can pass to the fishers communities
- Support fishers to resolved their issues with DNER license and permits process
- Bring educational materials and posters to fishing communities and communicate with them to know where we can do better regarding the outreach and education of fishers communities

Issues, concerns and participation from fishers

- Queen Snapper and Cardinal Snapper state permit
- Puerto Rico DNER commercial fishing license and permits
- Electronic statistics reports (how to use it)
- Fishers, via feedback that they sent from the WhatsApp broadcast list are more interesting in participate at meetings and bring comments

Questions?

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