

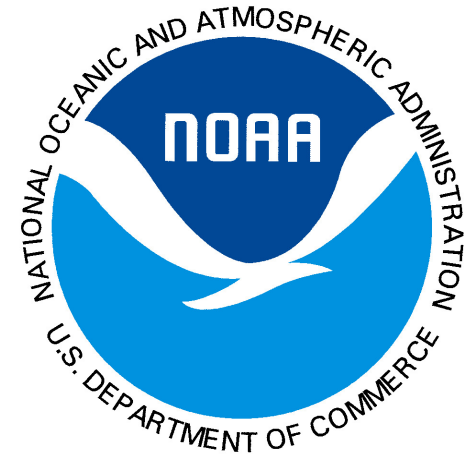
Outreach and Education Advisory Panel (OEAP)

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

182nd CFMC Regular Hybrid Meeting

August 15 - 16, 2023

Embassy Suite Hotel, San Juan, PR



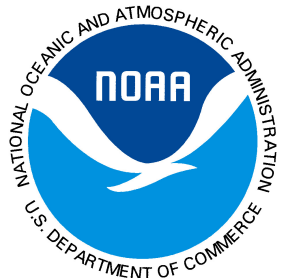
5YSP Communication objectives that we are following

- 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.



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Outreach & Education participation in Equity and Environmental Justice (EEJ) and Marine Resources Education Program (MREP) Focus groups

- Heather Blough, NOAA made a presentation to the OEAP and the DAP-PR
 - There will be 4 sessions in PR as recommended by the OEAP: Manatí (North), Cabo Rojo (West), Ponce (South) and Ceiba (East) from August 21-24.
 - Wilson Santiago, PR Liaison and Jannette Ramos, OEAP member have been part of the Focus Group and helpful in identifying potential participants and sites for the meetings.
- Several meetings with Courtney Pickett to discuss content and presentations of the MREP workshop in Fajardo, Puerto Rico August 25-27.



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O & E Products for Council approval

- **Illustrated Catalogue of the Fish and Invertebrate Species included in the IBFMPs** for Puerto Rico, St. Thomas/St. John, and St. Croix, with clear illustrations and short descriptions of each species. The objective of this product is to familiarize the stakeholders -fishers and consumers- in easy-to-understand language and illustrations with the important issues related to the species managed in each island. The text will be in English and Spanish.
 - **Members of each DAP in the working group: Ruth Gómez- DAP St.Thomas/St. Jhon, Carlos Farchette- DAP St. Croix and Nelson Crespo- DAP PR. There will additional collaborators from each island.**



EXAMPLE FOR THE BOOK

Lutjanus analis Mutton snapper Sama Puerto Rico St. Thomas/St. John
St. Croix

Color reddish-brown to grayish with a black spot between the lateral line and the spiny part of the dorsal fin. 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 Territorial Waters.

Color marrón rojizo a grisáceo con una mancha negra entre la línea lateral y la parte espinosa de la aleta dorsal. Está catalogado como Casi Amenazado por la UICN. **Vedas estacionales** del 1 de abril al 30 de junio en toda el área federal y territorial del área de agregación de la Sama en Puerto Rico, St. Thomas St. John y el sur de St. Croix. 1 de abril al 31 de mayo en aguas Territoriales de Puerto Rico.



O & E Products for Council approval...cont.

- **Calendar 2024 ...Island Based Fishery Management Plans**
 - Information from each IBFMP: indicator species, managed species, maps
 - Puerto Rico: January, February, March, April
 - St. Croix: May, June, July, August
 - St. Thomas/St. John: September, October, November, December

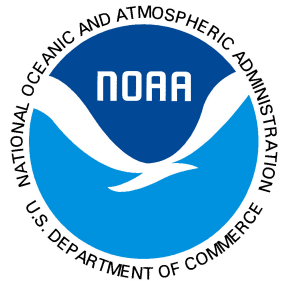
Must be completed for printing by September



Activities and Products to be completed 2023-2024

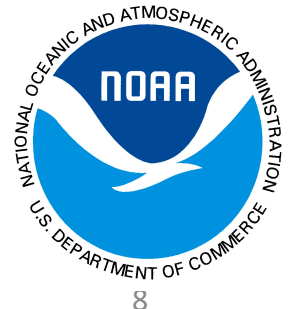
Fact Sheets and booklets on:

- IBFMP essential topics (Chap. 5) for PR, St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix: Fact sheets, stickers and infographics on each IBFMP.
- Content of FEP: Conceptual model, Endangered Species Act and Clean Water Act.
- Fish identification booklets for children based on IBFMPs.
- Integration of concepts on marine fisheries in the US Caribbean to the regular education curriculum.



O & E Products...

- **Materials for snapper/grouper deep-water fishing**
DAPs recommendations for materials on deep-water snapper/grouper fishing regulations.
- Understanding Stock assessment...not only fishers but all stakeholders
- Understanding management terminology: Optimum Yield (OY), Allowable Catch Limit (ACL), Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC), and others.



Cont...

- Produce Fact Sheet on Bajo de Sico and the fishery management regulations in the area.
- OEAP should offer a workshop on fishery management regulations for new DAP members similar to the PEPCO workshop



Questions?



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