



# **UPDATED Caribbean Amendments & Actions Status**

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# Active Amendments & Priority Actions



| Amendment / Action                                            | Purpose / Objective                            | Timeline & Key Steps   |                         |      |                                  |                                |                                  |                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                               |                                                | Apr 2026<br>CFMC       | May                     | June | July                             | Aug 2026<br>CFMC               | Sep-Nov                          | Dec 2026<br>CFMC                                                    |
| <b>Puerto Rico FMP Amendment 4: Rainbow Runner</b>            | Reclassify as pelagic species                  |                        | NOA Published (5/21)    |      | NOA comment period closed (7/20) | PR comment period closed (8/7) | Final rule publication pending   |                                                                     |
|                                                               |                                                |                        | NOA/Proposed Rule Phase |      |                                  | Final Rule Phase               |                                  |                                                                     |
| <b>Stocks Evaluation for need conservation and management</b> | Maximize mgt. efficiency<br>Seafood E.O. 14276 | Reviewed Decision Tree | Developed Options       |      |                                  | Discuss Draft Options          | Form IPT and develop draft amdt. | Discuss Draft Amendment<br>Consider adding changes to the Framework |
|                                                               |                                                |                        | Scoping                 |      |                                  |                                | IPT Process                      |                                                                     |



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|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Framework 4<br>USVI Spiny Lobster based on SEDAR 91        | -Update and integrate assessments<br><br>-Revise ACLs | Apr 2026<br>CFMC                                                         | May               | June | Jul                        | Aug 2026<br>CFMC                                               | Sep-Nov                                                              | Dec 2026<br>CFMC                                                             |
|                                                            |                                                       | - Discussed action<br>- Selected preferred alternatives<br>*Final Action | Finalize document |      | CFMC submit to NMFS        | Development of Proposed Rule                                   | Proposed Rule publication pending                                    |                                                                              |
|                                                            |                                                       |                                                                          | IPT Process       |      |                            | Proposed Rule Phase                                            |                                                                      |                                                                              |
| Framework 4<br>Puerto Rico Spiny Lobster based on SEDAR 91 | -Update and integrate assessments<br><br>-Revise ACLs | Council requested additional input from SSC on ABCs & OFLs               |                   |      | SSC Mtg to revise recomms. | Council to re-evaluate SSC recomms. to develop Draft Framework | SSC Mtg (Nov)<br>Action development- Updated recommendations OFL/ABC | Discuss draft action; will include action for ref. points and action for AMs |
|                                                            |                                                       |                                                                          | AP Process        |      |                            |                                                                |                                                                      |                                                                              |
| Revision of AMs<br>Spiny Lobster PR                        | Addressing ACL overages<br><br>Reevaluating AMs       | On hold                                                                  |                   |      |                            | Add as an action to FW4                                        | IPT Process                                                          |                                                                              |

# Priority Actions

| Amendment / Action                                                                    | Purpose / Objective                                                      | Timeline & Key Steps                                       |     |      |     |                                          |                                                                                      |                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------|-----|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
|                                                                                       |                                                                          | Apr 2026<br>CFMC                                           | May | June | Jul | Aug 2026<br>CFMC                         | Sep-Nov                                                                              | Dec 2026<br>CFMC     |
| <b>Evaluation of Grouper Seasonal Closure STT/STJ</b><br><b>Priority #1</b>           |                                                                          | Staff tasked with initiating overview and info compilation |     |      |     |                                          | -Plan Council Group mtg for input;<br>-SSC input Nov<br><b>Develop Options Paper</b> | Options Paper Review |
| <b>Evaluation Tourmaline Bank &amp; Abrir La Sierra Bank PR</b><br><b>Priority #2</b> |                                                                          | Staff tasked with initiating overview and info compilation |     |      |     |                                          |                                                                                      |                      |
| <b>Evaluation Mutton Snapper Seasonal Closure STX</b><br><b>Priority #3</b>           |                                                                          | Staff tasked with initiating overview and info compilation |     |      |     |                                          |                                                                                      |                      |
| <b>Evaluation Puerto Rico Deep-Water Snapper Fishery</b><br><b>Priority #</b>         | Investigate concerns of increased fishing pressure and juvenile harvest. |                                                            |     |      |     | Staff tasked with developing white paper |                                                                                      |                      |

# Prioritized List of Actions to NMFS (E.O. 14276) and NMFS Recommendations

## Key Management Priorities

- Evaluating a transition of queen conch and spiny lobster to territorial management.
- Amending accountability measures for spiny lobster and pelagic stocks.
- Reviewing the overall effectiveness of marine protected areas.
- Assessing compatibility between federal and territorial waters.

## Strategic Mandates for Council Consideration

Evaluating managed stocks' need for active conservation and management

Expand and continue use of Exempted Fish Permits

**Development Status:** Some actions are already under development or scheduled for discussion.

# Recently Completed & Implemented Regulations

- ✓ **Amendment 2 to all FMPs (Trawl, Net Gear & Descending Devices):**  
Mandatory descending device requirement active across federal waters (Eff. April 1, 2026)  
  
Prohibition of nets in federal waters (except specific gillnets) (Eff. Nov. 3, 2025)  
**IMPLEMENTED**
- ✓ **USVI Framework 3:** SEDAR 80 Queen Triggerfish revised ACLs in place. (Eff. Apr 17, 2026)  
**IMPLEMENTED**
- ✓ **Amendment 3 to all FMPs (Dolphin & Wahoo Measures):** Harvest size limits & recreational bag limits active in all federal waters. (Eff. July 25, 2025)  
**IMPLEMENTED**
- ✓ **Puerto Rico Framework 3:** SEDAR 81 Triggerfish Stock Complex revised ACLs in place. (Eff. July 25, 2025)  
**IMPLEMENTED**

