

**CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
268 MUÑOZ RIVERA AVENUE, SUITE 1108
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO 00918**

**PUBLIC MEETING
BAJO DE SICO
MAYAGUEZ, PUERTO RICO
APRIL 27, 2009**

SUMMARY MINUTES

The public meeting was held at the Mayaguez Resort and Casino hotel in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, and was chaired by Mr. Marcos Hanke, Council member.

Mr. Miguel Rolón gave a PowerPoint presentation (attached) on the proposed management measures for Bajo de Sico.

A list of attendees is attached to the minutes.

Following are the comments provided at the public meeting.

- 1. Nelson Crespo –Commercial Fisherman – President of the Rincón Commercial Fisherman’s Union.**
 - **The Rincón Commercial Fisherman’s Union is in favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D.**
 - **The Rincón Commercial Fisherman’s Union is in favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2.**
 - **Written statement presented is attached as part of the minutes.**

- 2. Victor Oliver Blas – Representing the Group of Breath Hold Spearfishing from the West Coast.**
 - **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D.**
 - **In favor of Alternative 3 in action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**
 - **Written statement presented is attached as part of the minutes.**

- 3. Gregg Engstrong – Charter Boat Captain off Rincón Puerto Rico.**
 - **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
 - **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**
 - **Written statement presented is attached as part of the minutes.**

4. **Robert McMurty – Recreational Angler, Rincón, PR**
 - **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
 - **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**
 - **Written statement presented is attached as part of the minutes.**

5. **Francisco Rosario – Charter Boat**
 - **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
 - **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**

6. **Jeff Kruse – Recreational Fisherman**
 - **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
 - **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**
 - **Written statement presented is attached as part of the minutes.**

7. **Edwin Font - Commercial Fisherman, Rincón, PR**
 - **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
 - **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**

8. **Fred Lentz – Commercial Fisherman, Rincón, PR**
 - **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 1 (No action).**
 - **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**
 - **Written statement presented is attached as part of the minutes.**

9. **Hommy Ramos Barrios – “Asociación de Pesca Deportiva de PR”, Vice President of “Club Nautico de Mayaguez”**
 - **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
 - **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**

10. **Mariano Carrero Ramirez – Commercial Fisherman (Deep-water)**
 - **Does not support alternative 3 in Action 2.**

11. **Thomas Badillo- Spearfishing/Pelagic Fish Fisher**
 - **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
 - **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**

12. Nelson Rivera Acosta – Commercial Fisher, “Asociación de Pescadores de Añasco”

- **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
- **Fishermen should receive an incentive during the closed months**

13. José Martínez – SCUBA Sharks Society, Inc.

- **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
- **Studies should be conducted to determine an anchoring area for Bajo de Sico.**

14. Carlos Nieves Rivera – Commercial Fisher

- **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 1 (No action).**
- **Regulations should be also established for sport fishermen and recreational fishermen as well.**

15. Martin Quiñonez – Commercial Fisher

- **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 1 (No action).**

16. Christian Mercado (Alberto J. Cintrón) – Puerto Rico Freedivers

- **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
- **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**
- **Written statement presented is attached as part of the minutes.**

17. Omar Gandía Lugo – Commercial Fisherman

- **In favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
- **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**

18. Alberto Cintrón – Commercial Fisherman

- **Fishing for pelagic species should be allowed all year round.**
- **favor of Action 1, Alternative 2, Option D**
- **In favor of Alternative 3 in Action 2, prohibit anchoring year round.**

After having listened to the persons present who came forward to offer their input and comments on this issue, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.