

**CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
ST. CROIX DISTRICT ADVISORY PANEL MEETING
BUCCANEER HOTEL
ST. CROIX, USVI
JULY 20-21, 2015**

The St. Croix District Advisory Panel (DAP/STX) of the Caribbean Fishery Management Council convened at the Buccaneer Hotel in St. Croix, USVI, on July 20, 2015, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Edward Schuster. Mr. William Tobias excused himself for not being able to attend.

(Attendance list and agenda attached.)

The species selection list was provided to the panel members. After a thorough discussion the DAP/STX members made the following recommendations to the CFMC:

- I. To include the following species in the management unit in EEZ waters off St. Croix, USVI:

Table 3 as it stands (except for the species that are included in the list as ecosystem component species.)

All parrotfishes.

Aquarium trade species.

All hard and soft corals.

Aquarium trade species under the coral FMP.

- II. To exclude the following species from the Management unit in EEZ waters off St. Croix, USVI:

Grey and queen snappers, since these are not targeted species.

- III. Since the following species are not targeted off St Croix at this time, but are important ecologically or are biologically vulnerable and should be monitored, they should be listed as Ecosystem Component Species:

Schoolmaster, graysby, rock hind, misty grouper, yellowedge grouper, white grunt, bluestripped grunt, longspine squirrel, ocean surgeonfish, queen angelfish, grey

angelfish, French angelfish, queen snapper, grey snapper, Caesar grunt, cottonwick, great barracuda, little tunny, blackfin tuna, wenchman, cardinal, dog snapper.

- IV. That table 3 is left as it stands off the management unit, except for the species that are to be included in the ecosystem component species list.

MOTIONS

-Not to include grey and queen snappers in the management unit because they are not targeted species. Skov/Viera. 10 in favor. 2 not in favor. No abstentions.

-Because these species are not targeted off St. Croix at this time, but are important ecologically or are biologically vulnerable and should be monitored, the St. Croix DAP recommends including the following species as ecosystem component species: schoolmaster, graysby, rock hind, misty grouper, yellowedge grouper, white grunt, blue striped grunt, longspine squirrelfish, ocean surgeonfish, queen angelfish, gray angelfish, French angelfish, queen snapper, grey snapper. Binn/Angus. 12 in favor. 1 abstention.

-To include the dolphin fish in the ecosystem component species list. (Not identified) 10 in favor. 2 abstentions.

-To include the wahoo in the ecosystem component species list. Fuller/not identified. 10 in favor. 2 not in favor. 1 abstention.

-To include aquarium trade species in the management unit, and to recommend the Council that there be a prohibition on taking these species. Chad/Pugh. 10 in favor. 1 not in favor. 2 abstentions.

-That table 3 be left as it stands off of the management. (Except for the following species that are to be included in the list of ecosystem component species: Caesar grunt, cottonwick, great barracuda, little tunny, blackfin tuna, dolphin and wahoo). Angus/Fuller. 12 in favor. One abstention.

-To include all hard and soft corals in the management unit, and to request the Council to prohibit the taking of corals. (Kenit/Brown) All in favor.

-To include all aquarium trade species under the Coral FMP in the management unit, and to prohibit the taking of these species. Brown/Angus. All in favor.