



CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
270 MUÑOZ RIVERA AVENUE, SUITE 401
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO 00918-1903
(787) 766-5926 – www.caribbeanfmc.com



MEMORANDUM

To: CFMC Webinar Participants

From: Miguel A. Rolón
Executive Director

Subject: Background Information for the October 23rd, 2019 Webinar

Date: October 4, 2019

During this webinar the Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC) will consider establishing an advisory body to continue developing the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP).

Points to be considered include:

1. The CFMC is interested in understanding the ecosystem of each of the island-groups and ensuring that management measures developed under the Magnuson-Stevens Act reflect and account for different ecosystem functions and stressors.
2. This new ecosystem advisory body could: (1) provide formal direction to the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and District Advisory Panels (DAPs) about compiling ecosystem information, including preparing conceptual models, (2) review information from the conceptual models, (3) provide a risk assessment tool that the SSC could use to evaluate risks to the ecosystem, and (4) generally provide direction on the technical questions to be answered in ecosystem-based fishery management.
3. It is important to continue the technical work started by the ecosystem plan group.
4. The creation of an advisory body of scientists dedicated to the task of developing the FEP documents, will allow the technical work to continue under the CFMC guidance.

5. Consideration and discussion of issues should address:
 - a. The need for such advisory body,
 - b. Roadmap for the next steps needed to continue working in the FEP,
 - c. Role of this body in relation to DAPs, Outreach and Education Advisory Panel (OEAP), SSC, National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office (SERO), National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), and CFMC.
6. CFMC staff will be available for any questions from members on this matter
7. If the decision is made to create this advisory panel or committee, there is a closed session in the agenda of this meeting where membership will be discussed.
8. If the decision is not to create the advisory body, the agenda will go then to “Time Schedule for Continuing Development of ... EBFMP”, “Other Business” and/or “Public Comments.”