



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



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**OUTREACH AND EDUCATION  
ADVISORY PANEL MEETING**

**CFMC CONFERENCE ROOM  
AUGUST 14 - 15, 2018**

**NOTES FROM THE MEETING**

1. Changes in the agenda included the presentations of the CFMC GIS Project under development by GMTP Corp. and Dr. María Cruz Project with fishers in the East area of Puerto Rico
  - a. Dr. Graciela García-Moliner, Council's FMP and Habitat Specialist made the introduction and Alberto Millán from GMTP Corp. presented the project. DEVELOPMENT OF GIS ACCESS TO COMMERCIAL LANDINGS AND MESOPHOTIC REEF DATA PUERTO RICO AND VIRGIN ISLANDS. The information presented in these maps is highly valuable for students, scientists, municipal governments Information may be accessed through <https://cfmc.maps.arcgis.com> .
  - b. Dr. María Cruz and students from UPR-Humacao Marine Biology Program presented the initial findings of their field research on ***The Contribution of Small-Scale Fisheries to the Culture, Economy, and Food Security of Coastal Communities in Eastern Puerto Rico*** conducted in Fajardo, Ceiba, Maunabo, Patillas, Culebra and Vieques. Dr. Cruz will send a proposal to the Council to continue with a second phase of the Project: questionnaire to validate the interviews, gather specific information about the fisheries and the fishers at this moment post hurricane, identify ways to recruit new fishers in the area, among other issues. Recommendations were made by the OEAP to conduct similar research in the USVI in 2020.
  
2. Ms Helena Antoun, Coral Reef Ecology Specialist and Fishery Liaison ERT Inc, in support of NOAA-NMFS, made a presentation on the coral reef conservation projects in PR. After her presentation, the OEAP recommended the following actions:
  - a. Recognizing that recreational fishing may have adverse impacts on the fisheries resources as well as the commercial fishing there is a need for an education program directed to salt water recreational fishers.
  - b. Initiate a sustainable fisheries social marketing campaign for recreational fishers.

- c. OEAP presented the idea to the Council to provide support for the creation of a webpage for recreational fishers in USVI and PR.
  - d. Develop a phone app for fishing reporting. Develop a Code that may be downloaded to report their catch. Special email account to receive the information in the Agency. QR CODE is for recreational but may be developed for the commercial as well. Dr. Ruth Gómez, USVI-DPNR explained to the OEAP how the QR Code developed for the USVI is being used and its effectiveness in collecting data from recreational fishers.
3. After Ms. Antoun presentation and discussions with Ms. Tania Metz, Ms. Tania Metz Coral Reef Management and Conservation Program, DNER Puerto Rico, the OEAP discussed how can the Council collaborate with the Coral Reef Conservation Program? And presented the following recommendations:
- a. CFMC/OEAP develop educational materials for recreational fishers along with Helena and Tania. Importance of herbivores: surgeons, parrotfish, urchins, etc.
  - b. Helena Antoune, Tania Metz, Vilmarie Román, Alida Ortiz and Miguel Rolón should meet Thursday, August 16 at CFMC to identify species and products to present to Ernesto Díaz.
4. USVI activities. Ms. Ruth Gómez, USVI-DPNR presented the activities and outreach materials that they have developed.
- a. Recreational and commercial fisher log books to record catch in every trip
  - b. Aquatic education
  - c. ST Thomas big Fair whole day early 2020
  - d. Monofilament recycling
  - e. Tourism education through field trips DDNR pays for the trip buying the tickets. DPNR personnel do the fishing clinics.
  - f. Field trips. Include EBFM and Essential Habitats in the information for the Field trip guides. The person that will substitute Sarah-Ann Charles will meet with us to develop the Guides. She/he will substitute Sarah in the OEAP.
5. The OEAP recommends the Council to adopt as much as possible the initiatives of DPNR for PR. Alida will write a letter for Chapa about the USVI activities and suggest that they make them for PR. Schedule for OEAP: budget, materials and present to December. If it is too much extend to March 2019. Fishing clinics UPRSG between here and December. Ms. Ruth Gómez requests that we coordinate the fishing clinics in USVI and PR to be shared and if it can be common.
6. On the issue of the CFMC webpage revision, Natalia Perdomo, who oversees the webpage presented the status. The main question is: What is that the users want from the webpage? It was suggested to add link to FAD program PR & USVI, and to Come pezLeon. An informal CFMC survey reveals that stakeholders want more information every 30 days; prefer written materials through regular mail; distribution of information in different ways.

7. On the CFMC social media, Mrs. Cristina Olán, who oversees them, presented the status of the Facebook and YouTube pages. There are 528 followers of Facebook and YouTube. The preferred topic is regulations. It was recommended to use UPRSG materials and that Cristina attend the CFMCs meetings to take pictures and live videos for the Facebook page. Other recommendations were:
  - a. to include the Responsible Fish-Seafood Campaign and 3min videos on essential fish habitats,
  - b. what to buy when the preferred species are on closure or prohibited,
  - c. Put Geo Ambiente in YouTube
  - d. Suggest a video contest on essential fish habitats
  - e. Three videos: STX, ST Thomas/St. John, The CFMC, Spawning aggregations
  - f. Mr. Andy Maldonado recommends having a space for fisher's comments in the Facebook. He will open a page in Facebook to obtain photos and videos from fishers/divers in PR and will send them to Cristina for the YouTube
8. FEP  
Meet with Bill Arnold at the CFMC August meeting to discuss this issue of the interviews effective CFMC and PEW participation.

February 28, 2019

Alida Ortiz-Sotomayor

OEAP Chair