

Marine Outreach and Education USVI Style's Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance: 2013 Commercial Fisher Workshop Summary



Report

January 27, 2013

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for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service
(NMFS) and Coral Reef Conservation Program



Acknowledgements

Funding for this report was provided by the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program. The following individuals provided a thorough technical review: Lisamarie Carrubba (NOAA Protected Resources Division), Jocelyn Karazsia (NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program) and Marlon Hibbert (NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program).

Special thanks to the staff of the following agencies that assisted in project planning, coordination and implementation, as well as support through provision of outreach materials for this project: NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program, USVI Division of Fish and Wildlife, USVI Division of Environmental Enforcement, USVI Coastal Zone Management St. Croix East End Marine Park Office, US Coast Guard, Ecotrust, Inc., Caribbean Fishery Management Council, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southeast Regional Office (SERO) Protected Resources Division and Sustainable Fisheries Division, St. Croix Commercial Fishermen's Association, St. Thomas Fishermen's Association and the USVI commercial fishing community.

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List of Acronyms

Acronym	Phrase
ACLs	Annual Catch Limit(s)
CCR	Commercial Fisher Catch Report(s)
CFMC	Caribbean Fishery Management Council
CRCP	Coral Reef Conservation Program (NOAA)
CZM	Coastal Zone Management (DPNR)
DEE	Division of Environmental Enforcement (DPNR)
DFW	Division of Fish and Wildlife (DPNR)
DPNR	Department of Planning and Natural Resources (USVI)
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
MOES-VI	Marine Outreach and Education USVI Style
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
POC	Point of Contact
SERO	Southeast Regional Office (NOAA)
STXEEMP	St. Croix East End Marine Park
USCG	United States Coast Guard
USVI	United States Virgin Islands

Executive Summary

The *Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project* is one of several projects under the Marine Outreach and Education – Virgin Islands Style (MOES-VI) brand, led by the US Virgin Islands (USVI) Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) and with support from the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program's (CRCP) USVI Fisheries Liaison. The project creates a process for building fisher awareness and knowledge of fisheries management rules and regulations. The project is a collaboration between DPNR Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), DPNR Division of Environmental Enforcement (DEE), and CRCP, with input from the Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC). The main goal of this project is to build community awareness of current fisheries rules and regulations as well as contemporary fisheries issues and notices from relevant agencies and non-governmental organizations. This project also seeks to create a more efficient registration process by building DPNR technical and staff capacity while organizing the process of registration.

This project was first implemented in July 2012 in both the St. Thomas/St. John and St. Croix districts with a focus on topics such as annual catch limits (ACLs) and commercial catch data. During this time, approximately 220 commercial fishers and helpers viewed the presentation in both St. Thomas and St. Croix. Anecdotally, this presentation was deemed successful by many due to the details given regarding the accuracy of filling out commercial catch report (CCR) forms and the significance of reliable data collection for fisheries management (i.e. ACLs). Thus, the effort was repeated in July 2013 and presentations were expanded to include fisheries topics and facilitators from other agencies and non-governmental organizations, including USVI Division of Fish and Wildlife, USVI Division of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) St. Croix East End Marine Park (STXEEMP) Office, NOAA CRCP, US Coast Guard, and Ecotrust, Inc. A total of 213 fishers were engaged in the July 2013 implementation in both districts, which represents 73% of the total fishers on the books (290 per DFW in October 2013); thus, project implementation is deemed a success in terms of meeting awareness-building objectives. The new registration process protocol involves the scheduling of appointments for 10-15 fishers and helpers at a time, hourly from 9am-12pm and 1-3pm over the course of 3 days during the second week of July in St. Croix and the third week of July in St. Thomas/St. John. This new process proved to be more efficient than in the past where walk-ins were allowed, which could be overwhelming for agency staff and frustrating for fishers. There were some challenges and limitations as is the case with any newly implemented project, specifically technical issues and deficiencies, and lack of staff capacity and resources.

Nonetheless, building awareness of and understanding for management actions is necessary at the community level to ensure more conservation-driven actions and better informed management decisions, i.e. obtaining and using accurate data. Once community stakeholders have grasped the importance of accurate CCR data and how they are utilized in management to ensure sustainability of their resources, it is expected that there will be more community support for management actions and improved stewardship behaviors. Also, building community stakeholder understanding of the implications for rules and regulations will set a foundation for driving a sustainable future for the USVI marine environment and its resources.

Introduction

Fishing impacts, land-based sources of pollution, and climate change are the three main stressors of coral reefs and their resources in the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) and wider Caribbean as determined by both federal and local resource managers during priority setting exercises. Resource managers and community supporters (i.e., fishing associations, academia, scientists, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)) recognize the need for building USVI community capacity to participate in natural resources management and to play a more active role in community-led conservation as a way of reducing human-based stressors to coral reefs and fisheries resources. To achieve this, the USVI is making awareness a top priority, looking for ways to get the communities to take ownership of the resources, and building relationships between the community and managers in order to gain support for necessary management actions. To address these priorities, and with funding from NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program (CRCP), a series of projects has been developed under the brand of "Marine Outreach and Education USVI Style (MOES-VI)".

The *Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project* is one of several projects under the MOES-VI brand, led by the USVI Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) and with support from the NOAA CRCP USVI Fisheries Liaison. The project aims to develop an effective and efficient process for building fisher awareness and knowledge of fisheries management rules and regulations. The project has been developed as a collaboration between DPNR Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), DPNR Division of Environmental Enforcement (DEE), and CRCP, with input from the Caribbean Fishery Management Council (CFMC).

Background

The USVI DPNR DFW has recognized the need to engage and educate fishers on the importance of accurate commercial catch data. DFW sought assistance from the NOAA CRCP Fisheries Liaison, Ms. Lia Ortiz (project Coordinator and report author), in the development of an effective commercial fisher catch report (CCR) training module to be implemented during the commercial fishing license registration process, as well as assistance in making registration a more efficient process. The CCR training module was conceptualized in 2012 and developed in 2013 with funding from NOAA CRCP. This training module consists of: (1) a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the distinct sections of the CCR, outlining the instructions for each section, and illustrating the significance of accurate CCR data and its use for fisheries management. The presentation is also meant to be adaptive to highlight new regulations annually; (2) the updated DFW Commercial and Recreational Fishers Handbook, including the latest rules and regulations for territorial waters and the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), a modified CCR fishing grid map, and a fully translated version of the Fisher handbook, ; (3) a waterproof brochure with species identification and a summary of rules and regulations.

This project was first implemented in July 2012 with a focus on topics such as annual catch limits (ACLs) and commercial catch data. In July 2012, approximately 220 commercial fishers and helpers viewed the presentation in both St. Thomas and St. Croix. Anecdotally, this presentation was deemed successful by many due to the details given regarding the accuracy of filling out catch report forms and the significance of reliable data collection for fisheries management (i.e. ACLs). Due to the success of having

engaged many of the commercial fishers and helpers in 2012 and the anecdotal comments made by the fishers and local resource managers of how effective they perceived the workshops to be, MOES-VI partners decide that it would be in the best interest of USVI fisheries resource management to implement the workshops in 2013. The registration process in 2012 was also different whereby fishers were encouraged to make appointments for registration rather than just showing up whenever they wanted between the hours of 9am and 2pm. The 2013 workshops were implemented with aim to build upon the successes and reduce the limitations experience in the 2012 workshops.

Building awareness of and understanding for management actions is necessary at the community level to ensure more conservation-driven actions and better informed decisions for management, i.e. by obtaining and using accurate data in decision-making. Once community stakeholders have grasped the importance of accurate CCR data and how they are utilized in management to ensure sustainability of their resources, more community support for management actions and improved stewardship behaviors are expected. Also, building community stakeholder understanding of the implications of rules and regulations will set a foundation for driving a sustainable future for the USVI marine environment and its resources.

Workshop Goals and Objectives

Implementation of the 2012 workshop and its perceived success and limitations, as well as the need for continued engagement and education of commercial fishers pertaining to fisheries resource management and conservation contributed to the conception of the following goals and objectives:

Goals

1. To develop, implement, and institutionalize an effective and efficient commercial fisher catch report training for USVI commercial fishers.
2. To develop, implement, and institutionalize an effective and efficient fishing license registration protocol for the USVI DPNR DFW and DEE.
3. To improve fishing community awareness of contemporary fisheries issues, rules, and regulations.
4. To improve fisher compliance with fisheries rules and regulations.

Objectives

- 1A.** Develop a comprehensive CCR training module for commercial fishers.
- 1B.** Incorporate this CCR training module in DFW's annual work plan.
- 2A.** Develop a protocol for fishing license registration to be executed by DFW and DEE annually.
- 2B.** Seek administrative approval for institutionalizing this protocol to ensure sustainability of the protocol through time while allowing flexibility.

3 and 4. Provide commercial fishers with educational workshop sessions and modules on an annual basis.

Planning and Coordination

In January of 2013, project partners reconvened at the USVI DPNR Division of Environmental Enforcement in St. Croix to discuss outcomes of the 2012 implementation of the fisher registration workshops. Partners agreed that the introduction of appointments in the 2012 implementation worked well but rather than just a newspaper announcement, for 2013 fishers would receive courtesy calls by USVI DFW. Also, in order to make the registration process more efficient, DFW and DEE worked together with support from CRCP to create an Access database which stores all relevant registration information for DFW and DEE. This database was accessed during the 2013 registration to print out both DFW and DEE licensing forms. During the 2012 workshops, the fishers received one presentation which was a collaborative effort between DFW and CRCP which stressed the significance of accurately filling out their commercial catch reports and what that means for fisheries management, specifically annual catch limits (ACLs). This presentation was given as part of a module the included an updated USVI DFW Commercial and Recreational Fisher Handbook which the fishers received and a water proof brochure with some local and Federal fishing regulations on either side (these were not funded in time and were given to fishers in 2013 as a result of FY13 CRCP funds). Partners realized from the 2012 the value of the fisher registration process as a venue for engaging with and reaching out to commercial fishers and so there was continued support for implementation of the 2013 workshops with increased educational opportunities.

As a result of this January 2013 meeting, a steering committee has been formed comprised of DFW and DEE personnel, the CFMC Chair and the NOAA CRCP's USVI Fisheries Liaison (Coordinator) in order to develop and implement the previously-stated goals and objectives of the project. Table 1 lists the steering committee members and the agencies they represent. Throughout FY13, there were approximately 5 steering committee meetings where in some instances not all members were present but were kept in the loop via e-mails and phone calls by the Coordinator. Tasks and deadlines were assigned to committee members for driving the goals and objectives forward.

For FY13, The steering committee decided that other resource management agencies and conservation organizations should be invited to give presentations on marine and fisheries management objectives that their entities were proposing or are in the process of executing. Invitations were given to entities that have displayed interest in participation after the 2012 workshops, i.e. US Coast Guard, USVI DPNR Coastal Zone Management, Ecotrust, Inc., Caribbean Fishery Management Council and NOAA NMFS SERO Protected Resources Division, which all showed interest and committed to providing either a formal presentation or outreach materials. The Nature Conservancy's Sustainable Seafood Campaign's coordinator was also invited to present but wasn't able to due to time conflicts. Table 2 lists these entities, the point of contacts (POCs), the name of their presentation and materials disseminated as part of their presentations. Copies of the presentations can be found in Appendix C. Workshop registration packets with handouts and materials can be requested from the Coordinator. Appendix D is a notice of corrections for the CCR training module's waterproof brochure component. Planning and coordination occurred with minimal funding from CRCP and resources were leveraged from local resource managers.

Name	Organization	Position	Contact	Role
Lia Ortiz	NOAA CRCP	USVI Fisheries Liaison	Lia.Ortiz@noaa.gov	Project Coordinator
Juan Cruz	DFW	Environmental Specialist Trainee	juan.cruz@dpnr.vi.gov	Advisor and Facilitator
Mekisha George	DFW	Environmental Specialist I	mekisha.george@dpnr.vi.gov	Advisor and Facilitator
Roy Pemberton, Jr.	DFW	Director	roy.pemberton@dpnr.vi.gov	Advisor
William Coles	DFW	Chief of Education	William.coles@dpnr.vi.gov	Advisor
Howard Forbes	DEE	Acting Director	Howard.Forbes@dpnr.vi.gov	Advisor
Carlos Farchette	CFMC	Chair	carlosfarchette@gmail.com	Advisor

Table 1. Steering Committee Members

As a result of the 2012 and 2013 fisher registration workshop implementations, project partners are having concerned about the sustainability of this effort and so there are plans to include this activity as part of a programmatic plan under the Marine Outreach and Education USVI Style initiative, which is described further in following sections.

Table 2. Presenters, Presentations and Outreach Materials

Entity	Point (s) of Contact	Presentation (s)	Disseminated Materials	STX Registration	STT Registration
NOAA CRCP	Lia Ortiz	Commercial Fisher Training and Registration 2013-2014	Water proof regulations brochure and fish ID guide; 2012 DFW Fisher Handbook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		"What are we proposing? ESA listing of 66 coral species nationwide" Provided by Jenn Moore of NOAA PRD SERO		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Theresa Goedeke		St. Croix Shore-Based Recreational Fisher Survey Project Flyer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
DFW	Juan Cruz	Commercial Fisher Training and Registration 2013-2014	Water proof regulations brochure and fish ID guide; 2012 DFW Fisher Handbook; Catch reports and grid maps	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Mekisha George	Commercial Fisher Training and Registration 2013-2014	Water proof regulations brochure and fish ID guide; 2012 DFW Fisher Handbook; Catch reports and grid maps		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEE	Howard Forbes		Boating Safety coloring books, crayons and pens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
STXEEMP-CZM	John Farchette	STXEEMP Zoning Regulations	STXEEMP Zoning Regulations Map	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ecotrust, Inc.	Charles Steinback and Megan Mackey	USVI Digital Deck Project	USVI Digital Deck Project Handout	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NMFS SFD and NOAA Media Office	Bill Arnold and Allison Garrett		CFMC Scoping Meeting Announcement Flyer (i.e. Proposition of Island-Based Management Plans)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CFMC	Diana Martino		CFMC Scoping Meeting Announcement Flyer (i.e. Proposition of Island-Based Management Plans); Handouts on ACLS and AMs.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
USCG	Officer Daniel Jarrett	USCG Authority to Examine Fishing Vessels	Dockside Examination Checklist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	Officer Stephen Brewer	USCG Authority to Examine Fishing Vessels	Dockside Examination Checklist; Marine Casualty Pamphlet		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Implementation and Outcomes

This project was first implemented during July 2012 and again in 2013, with focus on topics such as regulations for annual catch limits and commercial catch data reporting (2012) and additional topics in 2013 (See Table 2). During this time, approximately 220 commercial fishers and helpers were engaged in registration and the workshop in 2012 and a total of 213 in 2013. Anecdotally, registration and the workshops were deemed successful both years in terms of content and efficiency. As a result, a new commercial fishing license registration protocol has been developed to be more effective and efficient for DFW, DEE, and licensees.

Registration occurs annually at the DPNR DEE in both jurisdictions, during the second week of July for the St. Croix district and during the third week of July for the St. Thomas/St. John district. This year the first three days of each week were solely dedicated to commercial fishing and boating license registration. The last few days of those weeks, and a month prior to these weeks in July, were designated for boating license registration. One month prior to all registrations, a newspaper advertisement was sent out by DEE outlining the new registration dates and protocol (Appendix A). DFW also provided commercial fishers with a courtesy call to schedule an appointment and to be informed of all necessary materials to bring to registration. DEE officers were given handouts to disseminate to fishers at fish markets and landing sites (Appendix B). Appointments were set for 10-15 fishers at a time for the workshop and registration. There were five appointment slots available for this small group of fishers per day: 9am, 10am, 11am, 1pm, and 2pm. During these appointments, fishers entered and provided their registration information to the DEE receptionists and DFW staff/student interns and proceeded into the workshop. Fishers and helpers were then instructed to wait in the outreach area until they were called in for the series of presentations. Upon entering the presentation area, fishers and helpers were given housekeeping rules which included a provision regarding asking questions. The fishers were then given an overview of what was in the registration packets that they received when they signed in for registration. The fishers and helpers then received an hour long of presentations and were encouraged to ask questions of each presenter in the outreach room once they had registered. Fishers and helpers were given the opportunity to provide feedback in a comment box and also to meet one-on-one with presenters for more information. Fishers then proceeded to register and obtain their licenses. This process continued every hour between 9am and 3pm. Those fishers that did not schedule appointments or attend registration, but followed up with DFW and DEE to register later, during which they received the CCR training module (i.e. presentation, brochure, and DFW handbook) from DPNR staff. Table 3 outlines the total number of fishers and helpers that participated in the scheduled registration and workshop.

In 2013, 100 commercial fishers and 7 helpers were engaged in registration and the workshop in St. Croix, and 92 and 14 in St. Thomas/St. John, respectively; totaling 213 individuals in both districts. According to DFW (2013), in 2012 in St. Croix, the total number of commercial fishers on the books was 176 (17 in *sleep status*-not actively fishing) and in St. Thomas/St. John there were 114 (1 in *sleep status*). These 2012 numbers represent the total number of fishers registered in 2012 including those that did not register during the annual registration process, which in turn did not attend the fisher workshop that year; for this reason, a comparison of fisher and helper numbers for 2012 versus 2013 is not

employed here. In 2013, 63% of all St. Croix commercial fishers were engaged in the registration and workshop and 81% in St. Thomas/St. John. Currently, the number of active helpers is not logged in the DEE database and this will be changed in time for the 2014 registration. Overall, of the 290 commercial fishers that exist within the US Virgin Islands, 213 or 73% of these fishers were engaged in the 2013 registration and workshop. The steering committee considered 60% engaged to be successful and this percentage was exceeded by 13%. Thus, the registration and workshop is considered to have been successful in engaging and educating commercial fishers. Figures 1-3 represent commercial fisher engagement and education during the 2013 registration and workshop process. As noted previously, fishers were given the opportunity to provide comments in a comment box which amounted to two comments for both districts (1 in St. Croix and 1 in St. Thomas/St. John), as follows:

St. Croix (commercial fisher): *“This meeting was very interesting but next time, please provide coffee.”*

St. Thomas (commercial fisher): *“The staff presenting the permitting rules and the fishing regulations was very professional! Voices were clear and personalities were friendly! Thanks for doing a great job representing the Government of the US Virgin Islands and NOAA!”*

	<i>St. Croix</i>	<i>St. Thomas/St. John</i>	Total
No. of Fishers engaged (2013)	100	92	192
No. of Helpers engaged (2013)	7	14	21
		Total No. of Individuals	213
	<i>St. Croix</i>	<i>St. Thomas/St. John</i>	Total
Total No. of Fishers Registered in 2012 (number in sleep status)-this represents the number of fishers registered including those that did not attend the annual registration workshop.	176 (17)	114 (1)	290 (18)
Percentage of Fishers engaged in 2013	63%	81%	73%

Table 3. Number of Fishers and Helpers Engaged in 2013 Registration and Workshop Compared to Total Registered in 2012



Figure 1. Agency and Organization Staff. This figure represents several participating agency staff/workshop facilitators: [from left to right] (a) Charles Steinback and Megan Mackey of Ecotrust, Inc. in the outreach area during the St. Croix registration; (b) John Farchette of STXEEMP and Officer Daniel Jarrett and fellow officer from USCG in the outreach area during the St. Croix registration; and (c) Juan Cruz of DFW and DFW student intern preparing to register fishers.



Figure 2. *Active Roles of Steering Committee Members and Workshop facilitators.* This figure represents the active roles of steering committee members and workshop facilitators: (a) Director Pemberton of DFW listens in during a presentation in St. Croix; (b) Mekisha George of DFW prepares to register fishers in St. Thomas; (c) Juan Cruz of DFW registers fishers after they've been engaged in the St. Croix workshop; (d) John Farchette explains the zoning rules and regulations of the STXEEMP.



Figure 3. Fisher Engagement. This figure represents fisher engagement in workshops and the active roles of steering committee members and workshop facilitators: (a) Officer Daniel Jarrett of USCG presents to fishers on the upcoming mandatory dock examination process during the St. Croix workshop; (b) Megan Mackey prepares to illustrate the tablets to be used by fishers in the Ecotrust, Inc. USVI Digital Deck project (during the St. Thomas workshop); (c) Charles Steinback presents the details of the USVI Digital Deck project to St. Croix fishers; (d) Megan Mackey providing fishers in St. Thomas with handouts about the USVI Digital Deck project.

In future project implementations, the primary educational module will consistently be used, i.e. the Commercial Fisher Training and Registration PowerPoint highlighting the importance of accurate and efficient catch reporting, the USVI DFW fisher handbook and the waterproof brochure summary of regulation. In order to maintain flexibility in terms of topics to be covered, on an annual basis, MOES-VI partners will be invited for the opportunity to reach out to fishers on any contemporary issues and management decisions their agency/organization is handling or proposing, respectively.

Limitations, Opportunities for Improvement, and Next Steps

Anecdotally, registration and the workshops were deemed successful both years in terms of content and efficiency. The fishers were overall very receptive to the information and the new process, though as with any new process there were some initial challenges, i.e. keeping with appointment schedule due to late arrivals and walk-ins, technological issues, and limited resources (e.g. staff, computers, and other electronic equipment). We found that the 2012 and 2013 registration and workshop process was held

up by the lack of equipment, namely picture ID cameras and laptops, and lack of staff. This caused notable lapses in time for completion of registration and caused much frustration amongst personnel and fishers. Ideally, with more equipment and staff, the process would be more efficient. Also, there is a need to determine whether empirically, these fisher workshops have been effective.

Though it was not possible to implement an effectiveness survey during the past two years, in years to come it would be of great interest to have quantifiable data illustrating the effectiveness of this outreach and education effort. A tool such as Survey Monkey or the like would be highly appropriate for addressing this data gap and WIFI induced tablets (e.g. IOS or Android) to utilize the program would be ideal to foster efficiency. Also, there is a need for revision and reprinting of outreach materials, e.g. waterproof brochures, and purchase of materials and supplies (e.g. registration packet folders, notepads, pens, paper, etc.). Overall, effectiveness is difficult to measure in terms of evaluating compliance. One way to accomplish this would be the quality and rate of return of catch reports being turned in to DFW. However, at this time, the technical and staff capacity is lacking to insure this quality assurance and the current mechanism by which the data is received, stored and managed is not conducive to such an evaluation. Discussions are being had by local and regional resource managers at this time in regards to improving data collection and management in the US Caribbean in general. With a move towards island-specific management plans in the near future, now would be the ideal time to reconstruct the data collection and management process in the USVI. Though these plans are island-specific and may require differing information on a variety of species and fishing methods, the mechanisms by which this data is collected, stored, managed and assessed should be the same for ease of decision making when decisions for management are considered Territorial.

Another aspect to consider is the improvement of the new electronic Microsoft Access registration system, which was developed by DFW staff for both DFW permits and DEE permits and licenses. This included building new databases in Microsoft Access (for which DEE holds a license) so that all registration information for DFW and DEE may be stored and utilized during registration and for data reporting. The paper system that is currently in place for registration has proven tedious and time consuming, not to mention costly due to the need to print forms. The process now involves the printing of a registration form, a registration permit, and an ID card. The idea behind the database is to reduce the use of paper and include all information for registration on the fishers' ID cards. In order to do so, DEE (Territorially) is in need of two more laptops, two 1TB hard drives to back up the database, and four electronic signature pads.

With the current economic climate and cutbacks in the Territory's budget as well as internal DPNR's funding obstacles, the project coordinator has submitted a proposal to the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program through internal FY14 grants supported by local and regional project partners. The purpose of this proposal is to seek funding for continued implementation of MOES-VI projects throughout FY14 with a primary focus on implementation of the MOES-VI: Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project which incorporates the annual commercial fisher registration and workshop. NOAA CRCP has accepted this proposal and will be awarding funding in FY14 and FY15 for the improvement and continuation of the MOES-VI: Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project. The following tasks will be funded under this award:

- Building of technical and staff capacity to ensure continued and improved success of the commercial fisher annual registration through purchase of equipment and hiring an undergraduate to assist with coordination, for both the process and CRCP coordinated fisher workshops that focus on improving awareness of the significance of reporting accurate catch data for fisheries management, especially annual catch limits.
- The fisher workshops will be evaluated by a contractor with guidance and support from the project steering committee and the USVI Division of Fish and Wildlife and Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC); this will be done through questionnaires for fishers to evaluate improvement of awareness on workshop topics (presented by several resource management agencies) and fisher perspectives on enforcement issues, as well as the assessment of catch reporting trends from data provided by SEFSC.

Ideally, a programmatic structure for the implementation of the Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project would be of interest by all partners; however, in the meantime, consistency in planning, coordination and implementation of the project should be maintained. The process of planning and implementation entails coordination and facilitation by the NOAA CRCP USVI Fisheries Liaison. The fisheries liaison works closely with the steering committee to plan and coordinate tasks and activities that amount to implementation of registration. Currently, the fisheries liaison is committed to this role; however, this may not be sustainable in that the current lack of capacity could prove detrimental to the project in the case that the fisheries liaison is not able to serve as coordinator and facilitator. Furthermore, need for improvements through building technical and staff capacity is evident through limitations and challenges experienced.

Overall, to allow for the annual workshop and registration process to run more efficiently and to improve the experience for fishers and facilitators, equipment, staff capacity and data collection gaps need to be filled. Receiving the NOAA CRCP FY14-15 award will aid in implementing the MOES-VI: Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project in 2015 and 2016; however, a more sustainable financing and strategic plan needs to be developed to ensure that this project will be long-lived. The following are recommendations for continuous implementation of this project over the next few years:

- The NOAA Coral reef program has funded the development of the Marine Outreach and Education USVI Style initiative's Strategizing for Improved Outreach, Education and Communication Pertaining to USVI Marine and Fisheries Management and Conservation. This project will provide insight on the gaps in communication, outreach and education (C,O&E) pertaining to marine and fisheries management and conservation in the USVI, underlying factors that contribute to these gaps and solutions for filling these gaps through the development of a comprehensive plan to be implemented in 2015-2020. This plan will be developed from data collected through implementation of an extensive literature review, focus group meetings and interviews. This project is currently being implemented by MRAG Americas and the C,O&E plan is expected to be finalized by September 2014. Incorporating existing MOES-VI projects, such as the Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project, will (1) help to support the overall mission of MOES-VI; (2) cater to the

pre-determined gaps in C,O&E; (3) allow for more strategic planning of C,O,&E efforts; (4) build upon the trust already developed amongst managers and stakeholders in the process; and (4) create a foundation for continued support of the Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project which will aid in making this project more programmatic in structure.

- Every year, the USVI Department of Planning and Natural Resources Coastal Zone Management Division submits a proposal for funding to the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program for the Territorial Cooperative Agreement Grants opportunity. Funds provided through this agreement are used to sustain the Territorial Coral Reef Initiative. These funds are used for a range of activities and programs to support coral reef management in the Territory. It would be appropriate for DPNR to consider funding in support of MOES-VI initiative under this agreement, including the Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project. This would provide the Territory with a sense of ownership in the process and potentially provide the motivation and momentum needed to create a programmatic structure for MOES-VI.
- Any grant or funding opportunities provided by governmental and non-governmental entities should be considered and taken advantage of for the continued support of the Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project in the meantime.

Future implementation of the MOES-VI Improving Fishing Community Awareness and Compliance project while require increased funding, staff and technical capacity, firm commitment from all partners, and a well-defined systemic structure for coordination and implementation accounting for uncertainty and lack of capacity.

Appendix A-Newspaper Advertisement



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

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DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES

No. 45 Estate Mars Hill, Frederiksted
St. Croix, Virgin Islands 00840

CONTACT: Jamal Nielsen, Media Relations Coordinator
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, April 19, 2013

DPNR ANNOUNCES BOATING REGISTRATION AND COMMERCIAL FISHERS' LICENSING

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources advises the public that all boating registration and commercial fishers' licensing for 2013-2014 will be conducted as follows [Please note the new license registration protocol]:

- St. Thomas/St. John- Division of Environmental Enforcement, Cyril E. King Airport from 9am-12pm and 1-3pm.
 - Recreational boat & mooring registration - June 3 to June 28, 2013
 - Commercial fishers' licensing and boat registration July 15 to July 17, 2013

Commercial fishers are required to call the Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) at 340-775-6762 for an appointment slot. Please be advised that fishers are to receive a collaborative presentation from DFW, NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program and US Coast Guard which may require 30 minutes prior to registration.

Fishermen on the island of St. John will be required to travel to Department of Planning and Natural Resources on St. Thomas.

- St. Croix- Division of Environmental Enforcement, 6003 Estate Anna's Hope, 9 a.m.-12pm and 1-3 p.m.
 - Recreational boat & mooring registration - June 3 to June 28, 2013

- Commercial fishers' licensing and boat registration - July 8 to July 10, 2013

Commercial fishers are required to call the Division of Fish and Wildlife at 340-772-1955 for an appointment slot. Please be advised that fishers are to receive a collaborative presentation from DFW, NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program and US Coast Guard which may require 30 minutes prior to registration.

Appointments in both jurisdictions range between 9am-12pm and 1-3pm, with limited slots per appointment time. Please call early to secure an appointment time and confirm how many helpers you intend to have accompany you.

Note: Presentations must be received during the registration process. If you are not able to register during the allotted time frame, late registration will still entail the presentation component; thus, it is recommended that you register during the allotted times in July.

In order to be eligible for registration, commercial fishers must come prepared with all necessary documents at the time scheduled for their appointment and be up to date on submitted commercial catch report forms.

The registration and fisher ID processing fees are as follows:

Full Time Fishermen	\$15.00
Part Time Fishermen	\$20.00
Helper (each)	\$20.00
Replacement Cards	\$20.00

You **MUST** have this ID card on person while conducting commercial fishing activity.

Contact the Division of Fish & Wildlife at 340-775-6762 on St. Thomas or 340-772-1955 on St. Croix at 45 Mars Hill, Frederiksted, to schedule appointments and for further information.

Appendix B-Fisher Handouts

St. Croix Handout

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources advises the public that all boating registration and commercial fishers' licensing for 2013-2014 will be conducted as follows [Please note the new license registration protocol]:

St. Croix- Division of Environmental Enforcement, 6003 Estate Anna's Hope, 9 a.m.-12pm and 1-3 p.m.

- Recreational boat & mooring registration - June 3 to June 28, 2013
- Commercial fishermen licensing and boat registration - July 8 to July 10, 2013

Commercial fishers are required to call the Division of Fish and Wildlife at 340-772-1955 for an appointment slot. Please be advised that fishers are to receive a collaborative presentation from DFW, NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program and US Coast Guard which may require 30 minutes prior to registration.

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Note: Presentations must be received prior to registration. If you are not able to register during the allotted time frame, late registration will still entail the presentation component. Thus it is recommended that you register during the allotted times in July.

In order to be eligible for registration, commercial fishermen must come prepared with all necessary documents at the time scheduled for their appointment and be up to date on submitted commercial catch report forms.

You **MUST** have this commercial card on person while fishing.

Contact the Division of Fish & Wildlife at 772-1955 on St. Croix at 45 Mars Hill, Frederiksted, to schedule appointments and for further information.

St. Thomas/St. John Handout

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources advises the public that all boating registration and commercial fishers' licensing for 2013-2014 will be conducted as follows [Please note the new license registration protocol]:

- St. Thomas/St. John- Division of Environmental Enforcement, Cyril E. King Airport from 9am-12pm and 1-3pm.
 - Recreational boat & mooring registration - June 3 to June 28, 2013
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Note: Presentations must be received prior to registration. If you are not able to register during the allotted time frame, late registration will still entail the presentation component. Thus it is recommended that you register during the allotted times in July.

In order to be eligible for registration, commercial fishermen must come prepared with all necessary documents at the time scheduled for their appointment and be up to date on submitted commercial catch report forms.

You **MUST** have this commercial card on person while fishing.

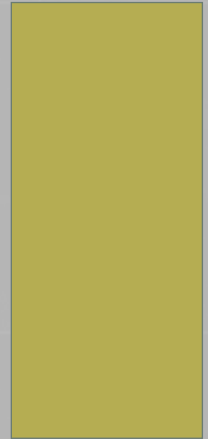
Contact the Division of Fish & Wildlife at 775-6762 on St. Thomas to schedule appointments and for further information.

Appendix C-Presentations



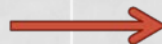
COMMERCIAL FISHER TRAINING & LICENSE REGISTRATION

2013-2014



KNOWING YOUR CCR

- **Vessel Number #** : Boater Registration number
- **License #** : Number provided to You by the Division of Fish & Wildlife
- **HMS Permit #** : Highly Migratory Species permit number issued by NOAA fisheries for catching Pelagics (billfish, tuna, etc...) in the Caribbean Sea
- **Partner License #** : This is not a helper. If two licensed Commercial fishers fish together and split catch, enter partner's information in this section.



LAST NAME : _____
FIRST NAME : _____
Vessel #:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

License #:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

 # of Helpers:

--	--

HMS Species Permit #:

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Did other Permit Holders Split Catch: No Yes
Partner #1

--	--	--	--	--	--

License #: _____
Name (last,first): _____

COMMERCIAL CATCH REPORT FORMS (CCRS)

2011 - 2012 USVI COMMERCIAL CATCH REPORT FORM - ST. CROIX
A SEPARATE FORM MUST BE COMPLETED FOR EACH TRIP OR MONTH OF NO FISHING

LAST NAME: _____ FIRST NAME: _____ Vessel #: _____ License #: _____ HMS Species Permit #: _____

LANDED DATE: MM/DD/YY _____ OR DID NOT FISH FOR MONTH OF: MM/YY _____ Trip Landing Site: (Town/Estate) _____ Trip Port Sampled: No Yes

Partner #1 License # _____ Name (last,first) _____ Partner #2 License # _____ Name (last,first) _____

Trip Ticket # _____ (DFW USE ONLY)
 Total Trip Pounds: _____
 Total # Traps in Water: _____
 Fishing Manky at Night: No Yes
 Paying Customers Aboard: No Yes
 Fished 3 or more miles from Shore: No Yes

HOOK & LINE / ROD & REEL
 Hand Powerbands Bury
 # of Lines _____ Hooks _____
 FAD fished name _____
 Hours Fished _____ Area 1 Fished _____
 Bottom Depth _____ Area 2 Fished _____
 Fathoms Fath _____ Area 3 Fished _____

TRAPS
 Lobster Trap Fish Traps
 # of Trap _____ Hauls _____
 Days Soaked _____ Hours Soaked _____
 Bottom Depth _____ Area 1 Fished _____
 Area 2 Fished _____
 Area 3 Fished _____

NETS
 Surface Gill _____ Seine Cast
 Length _____ Mesh (ft) _____
 Fathoms _____ # _____
 Feet _____ Nets _____
 Hours Fished _____ Area 1 Fished _____
 Bottom Depth _____ Area 2 Fished _____
 Fathoms Fath _____ Area 3 Fished _____

SPEAR or BY HAND
 # Boats _____ Free Diving
 # Divers _____ # Divers Diving _____
 Hours Diving _____ Area 1 Fished _____
 Bottom Depth _____ Area 2 Fished _____
 Fathoms Fath _____ Area 3 Fished _____

HOOK & LINE SPECIES	WHOLE POUNDS	OUTFIT POUNDS	TRAP SPECIES	WHOLE POUNDS	OUTFIT POUNDS	NET SPECIES	WHOLE POUNDS	OUTFIT POUNDS	SPEAR OR BY HAND	WHOLE POUNDS	OUTFIT POUNDS
GROUPERS Subfinlet (Cone) Canebrake Red Head Waley Type Yellowtail SNOGERS Buckeye Cardinal Dogfish (Schwanmacker) Lime Queen Silk Yellowtail Vermillion Virgin Mullus Shrimpman Yellowtail JACKS Big Eye Blue Runner Honey Eye Morgan Lionfish Pinnacles			LOBSTERS Blue Crab SNOGERS Subfinlet (Cone) Canebrake Red Head SNOGERS Black Dogfish (Schwanmacker) Lime Mangrove Silk Vermillion Virgin Mullus GRAYS Shrimpman Coral Pinefish Turquoise White Blue Runner Red Runner Morgan Lionfish Pinnacles			BLUETAIL/PANCAUSPECIES Pinnacles Queen Redbelly Straght Redbelly Redbelly Redbelly SAY AND OTHERS Notion Shrimp Seal JACKS BASSON SPECIES Queen Doctor (Doctorfish) GRAYS Other Species Other Species Other Species TRAPS CONTINUED Trap Species Code BELLOUSE SPECIES Shrimp Seal Saided Turfish Honeycomb Grouper Strawberry Grouper SNOGERS Purple BLUETAIL/PANCAUSPECIES Pinnacles DOXIES BASSON SPECIES Purple GRAYS ELLY Queen Mullus Other Species (Silk E)			LOBSTERS & MOLLYS Blue Crab Queen Shrimp Yellowtail Mangrove (Ginger) Dogfish (Schwanmacker) Yellowtail Virgin Mullus GRAYS Shrimpman Pinefish Turquoise Queen Redbelly Redbelly Redbelly Redbelly Redbelly Redbelly HONEYCOMB SPECIES French Gray Queen TRUSSERS On Site (Queen) BASSON SPECIES Blue Doctor (Blue Tang) Redbelly Other (Other than Turf) SNOGERS Lionfish Lionfish Other (Other than Silk E)		

FISH RELEASED ALIVE
FISH RELEASED DEAD

- The Division of Fish & Wildlife monitors the health of the Fishery resources through the use of CCRs.
- All submitted information is strictly confidential, and maintained in a confidential database.
- Validity of this information depends upon cooperation of all commercial fishers.
- Accurate CCRs are essential to Fishery Management
- Inaccurate catch reports provides misleading data that may generate undue concern over a fishery resource.

KNOWING YOUR CCR (CNTD.)

- **Landed Date:** Day that Fishing Trip Occurred
- **Did Not Fish for Month Of:** Fill out this section only if you have not Fished for that month. (You will only submit **1** sheet indicating this)
- **Trip Landing Site:** Location where boat was launched and picked up. (Altona Lagoon, Molasses Pier, Frederiksted pier, etc...)

LANDED
DATE:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
M M		D D		Y Y	

OR

DID NOT FISH
FOR MONTH OF:

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
M M		Y Y	

Trip Landing Site:
(Town/Estate)

KNOWING YOUR CCR (CNTD.)

- **Trip Ticket #:** Unique number assigned by DFW
- **Total Trip Pounds:** Sum of all species caught during entire trip.
- **Total # Traps in Water:** Number of Fish/Lobster pots currently in the water.
- **Trip Port Sampled:** If DFW inspected your catch
- **Fishing Mainly at night:** Trip occurred at night
- **Paying Customers aboard:** If someone is paying you to carry them fishing aboard your vessel.
- **Fished 3 or more miles from shore:** If you fish 3 or more miles from shore.

Trip Ticket #	
DFW USE ONLY	
Total Trip Pounds:	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Total # Traps in Water:	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Trip Port Sampled:	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Fishing Mainly at Night:	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Paying Customers Aboard:	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes
Fished 3 or more miles from Shore:	<input type="radio"/> No <input type="radio"/> Yes

KNOWING YOUR CCR (CNTD.)

HOOK & LINE / ROD & REEL

Choose appropriate method

Hand Power/bandit Buoy

Number of lines used

Lines Hooks / Line

Number of hooks on each line

FAD fished

FAD fished name

Area 1 Fished

Hours Fished

Amount of hours fished

Area 2 Fished

Bottom Depth

Approximately how deep is water in area fished

Fathoms
Feet

Area 3 Fished

See Grid Map

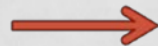
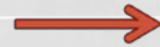
Identify which form of measurement used, please

KNOWING YOUR CCR (CNTD.)

How many traps
did you pull up
on trip

How many days
were traps soaked

If less than 24 hours
please state number
of hours soaked



TRAPS					
<u>Lobster Trap</u>			<u>Fish Traps</u>		
# of trap	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	# of trap	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Hauls	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Hauls	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Days	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Days	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Soaked	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Soaked	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Hours	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Hours	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Soaked	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Soaked	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

KNOWING YOUR CCR (CNTD.)

Please choose appropriate net type

Please state proper length of net
(example 8 feet)

NETS					
Surface Gill	<input type="radio"/>	Seine	<input type="radio"/>	Cast	<input type="radio"/>
Length	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Mesh (In)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Fathoms	<input type="radio"/>		#.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Feet	<input type="radio"/>		Nets	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

State size mesh
(½ in ... etc.)

State how many nets

KNOWING YOUR CCR (CNTD.)

Choose appropriate method

How many divers were in the water

How many hours you spent diving

SPEAR or BY HAND

	Scuba <input type="radio"/>	Free Diving <input type="radio"/>
#. Divers	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	#. Dives <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>
Hours Diving	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	

How many times did divers enter the water

KNOWING YOUR CCR (CNTD.)

HOOK & LINE SPECIES	WHOLE POUNDS	GUTTED POUNDS	TRAP SPECIES	WHOLE POUNDS	GUTTED POUNDS	NET SPECIES	WHOLE POUNDS	GUTTED POUNDS	SPEAR OR BY HAND	WHOLE POUNDS	GUTTED POUNDS
GROUPEERS			LOBSTERS			BLUEFISH (PARROTFISHES)			LOBSTERS & MOLLUSCKS		
Butterfish (Coney)			Spiny Lobster			Princess			Spiny Lobster		
Cabrilla (Red Hind)			GROUPEERS			Queen			Conch		
Misty			Butterfish (Coney)			Redband			Whelk		
Tiger			Cabrilla (Red Hind)			Red Belly (Stoplight)			GROUPEERS		
Yellowfin			SNAPPERS			Redfin			Butterfish (Coney)		
			Blackfin			Redtail			Cabrilla (Red Hind)		
			Dogtooth (Schoolmaster)			BAIT AND OTHERS			Yellowfin		
SNAPPERS			Lane			Ballyhoo			SNAPPERS		
Blackfin			Mahogany			Bigeye Scad			Mangrove (Gray)		
Cardinal			Silk			JACKS			Dogtooth (Schoolmaster)		
Dogtooth (Schoolmaster)			Vermillion			Barjack			Yellowtail		
Lane			Virgin (Mutton)			SURGONFISHES			Virgin (Mutton)		
Queen						Brown Doctor (Doctorfish)					
						GRUNTS					

ANNUAL CATCH LIMITS (ACLS)

- On January 12, 2007, President Bush signed the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006.
(<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/msa2007/>)
- The new law mandates the use of annual catch limits and accountability measures to end overfishing
- ACLs are calculated yearly using commercial catch report data collected by YOU.

ANNUAL CATCH LIMITS (ACLS)

- The stock size (or amount of fish in a specific species) and the efficiency of the fishery determines how long it takes to reach the ACL.
- By monitoring the amount of fish caught by our fishers, managers can then determine how close the population is to the ACL.
- **Once the fishery reaches its ACL accountability measures come into place.**
- **The Caribbean Fishery Management Council meets 4 times a year to discuss fisheries regulations including ACLs and accountability measures. This is an opportunity for you to participate in fisheries management by providing a voice for the fishing community of which you are a significant part.**

ANNUAL CATCH LIMITS (ACLS)

	St. Croix	St. Thomas/ St. John
Species	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(2):	50 CFR 622.49 (c)(3):
Parrotfishes	240,000 lb (108,863 kg)	42,500 lb (19,278 kg)
Snappers	102,946 lb (46,696 kg)	133,775 lb (60,679 kg)
Groupers	30,435 lb (13,805 kg)	51,849 lb (23,518 kg)
Angelfish	305 lb (138 kg)	7,897 lb (3,582 kg)
Boxfish	8,433 lb (3,825 kg)	27,880 lb (12,646 kg)
Goatfishes	3,766 lb (1,708 kg)	320 lb (145 kg)
Grunts	36,881 lb (16,729 kg)	37,617 lb (17,063 kg)
Wrasses	7 lb (3 kg)	585 lb (265 kg)
Jacks	15,489 lb (7,076 kg)	52,907 lb (23,998 kg)
Scups and porgies, combined	4,638 lb (2,104 kg)	21,819 lb (9,897 kg)
Squirrelfish	121 lb (55 kg).	4,241 lb (1,924 kg)
Surgeonfish	33,603 lb (15,242 kg)	29,249 lb (13,267 kg)
Triggerfish and filefish,	24,980 lb (11,331 kg)	74,447 lb (33,769 kg)
Spiny lobster	107,307 lb (48,674 kg)	104,199 lb (47,264 kg)

What are we proposing?

- NOAA proposed listing 66 coral species and reclassifying two under the ESA
 - Of the 66 species, 54 are proposed as threatened and 12 as endangered
 - 2 Caribbean species – elkhorn and staghorn corals – are being proposed for reclassification from threatened to endangered
 - 16 of the 82 species contained in the original petition are not warranted for listing under the ESA
- NOAA Must make its Final Determinations by December 2013

Proposed Endangered

Montastraea annularis (lobed star coral)

Montastraea faveolata (mountainous star coral)

Montastraea franksi (knobby star coral)

Dendrogyra cylindrus (pillar coral)

Mycetophyllia ferox (rough cactus coral)

Reclassified from threatened

Acropora cervicornis (staghorn coral)

Acropora palmata (elkhorn coral)

Proposed Threatened

Agaricia lamarki (Lamark's sheet coral)

Dichocoenia stokesii (elliptical star coral)

What If corals are listed?

	Endangered	Threatened
Increased protection from impacts from federal activities	✓	✓
Restrictions on removal, harm, transport, or sale	✓	*
Development of Recovery Plans	✓	✓
Potential funding for State, Territorial, and Commonwealth fisheries & wildlife agencies	✓	✓

- *Prohibitions are NOT automatic for threatened species. A separate rule must be developed, proposed, and noticed for comment before prohibitions are extended to threatened species, if necessary and advisable for their conservation*

Listing does NOT automatically:

- PROHIBIT recreation around coral reefs.
- BAN fishing around coral reefs.
- PREVENT boating near coral reefs.
- STOP research on coral reefs.



NOAA FISHERIES

corals

**ST. CROIX / S.T THOMAS
COAST GUARD AUTHORITY TO
EXAMINE FISHING VESSELS**

**46 USC 4501 – 4508
46 CFR SUBPART C: Parts 25, 28
Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of
2012**

MANDATORY inspections will go into effect October 15, 2015 to ensure compliance with all regulations. Dockside inspections are currently voluntary.

Dockside Examination Process

Pre-examination work sheets are available for pick up at the RIO ST Croix office. Vessel representatives are encouraged to review these closely, and contact the office with any questions.

After review a date can be scheduled for an on-site inspection of the vessel at a set location. (Private residences are not acceptable locations on ST. Croix).

Average examinations take approximately 30 minutes to an hour to complete.

These exams do not have monetary fines or enforcement for discrepancies.

The only time penalties may occur is when the vessel does not have required equipment available for a coast guard boarding team while engaged in fishing activities.

This may include termination of the operations.

**RIO St. Croix
6081 Castle Coakley
Christiansted, VI 00820**

340-772-5557

**MSD St. Thomas
1 KingWharf Waterfront,
St. Thomas, VI 00804**

340-776-3497

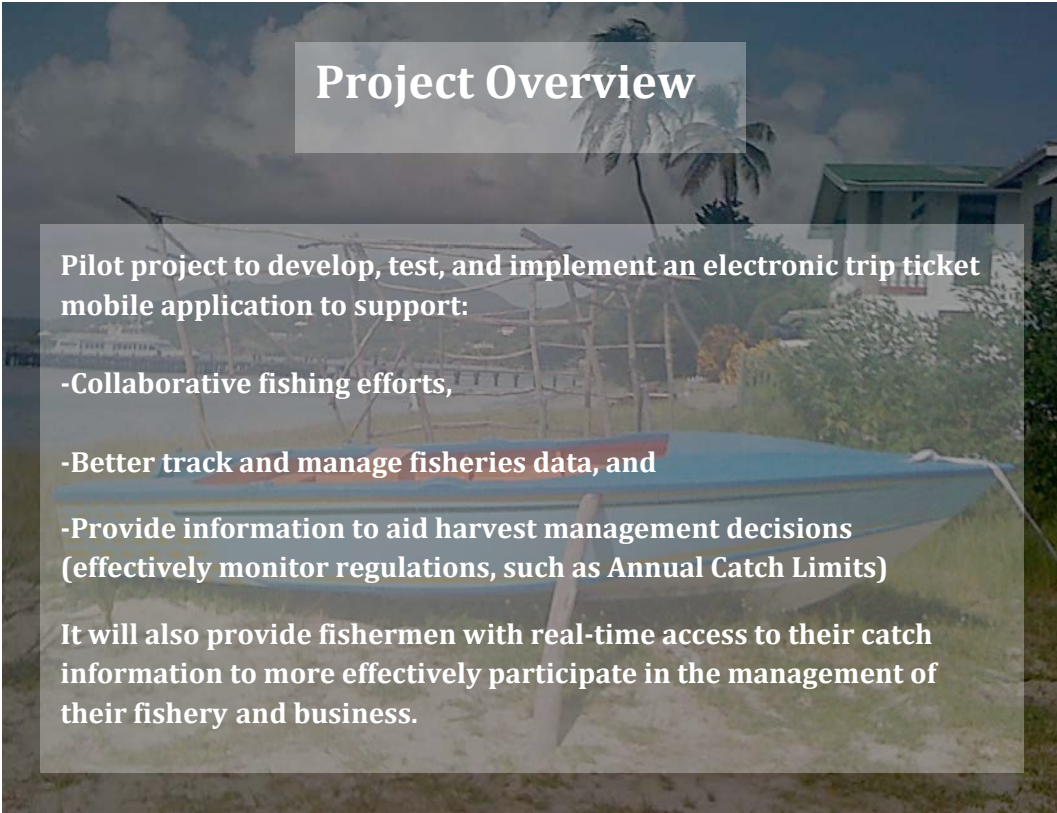
More information online at: **www.FishSafe.info**

**Pre – Examination work sheets are
available today.**



USVI and Puerto Rico Digital Deck Pilot Project

Project Introduction July 8 – 19, 2013
Charles Steinback & Megan Mackey
Ecotrust



Project Overview

Pilot project to develop, test, and implement an electronic trip ticket mobile application to support:

- Collaborative fishing efforts,
- Better track and manage fisheries data, and
- Provide information to aid harvest management decisions (effectively monitor regulations, such as Annual Catch Limits)

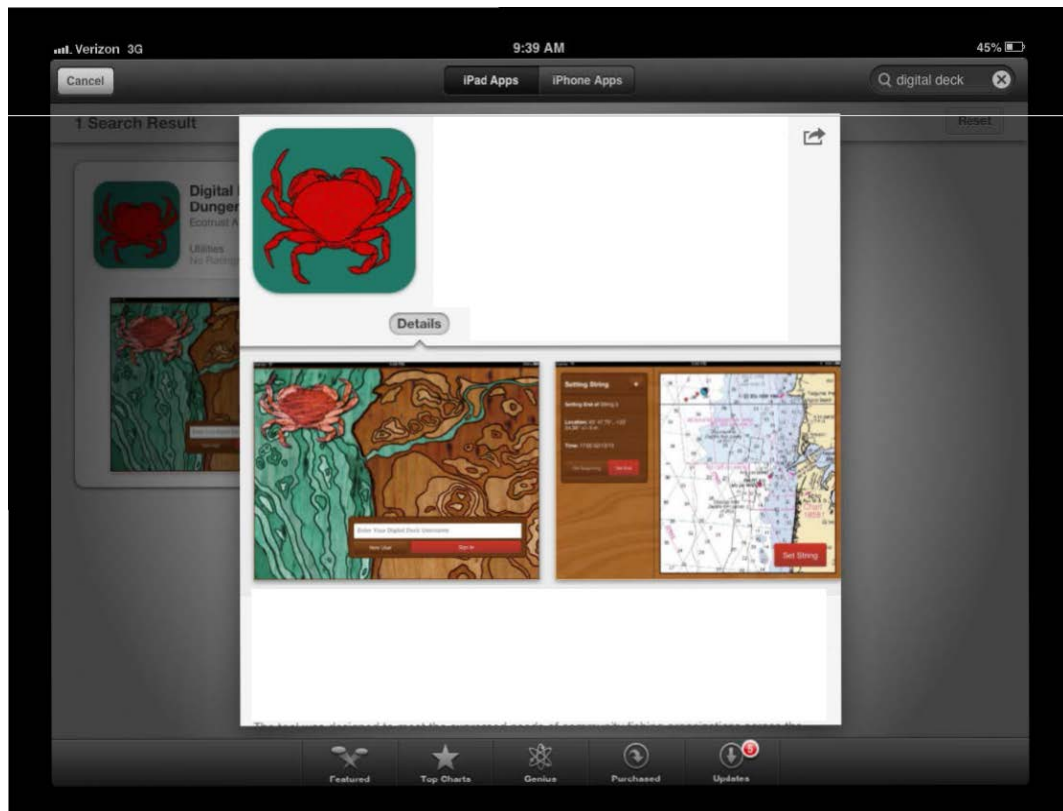
It will also provide fishermen with real-time access to their catch information to more effectively participate in the management of their fishery and business.

Partners and Timeline

We will be working with fishermen on St. Croix, St. Thomas and Puerto Rico, and collaborating with local Fisheries Associations, the USVI Division of Fish and Wildlife, the Caribbean Fishery Management Council, and NOAA.

12 month project, starting July 2013:

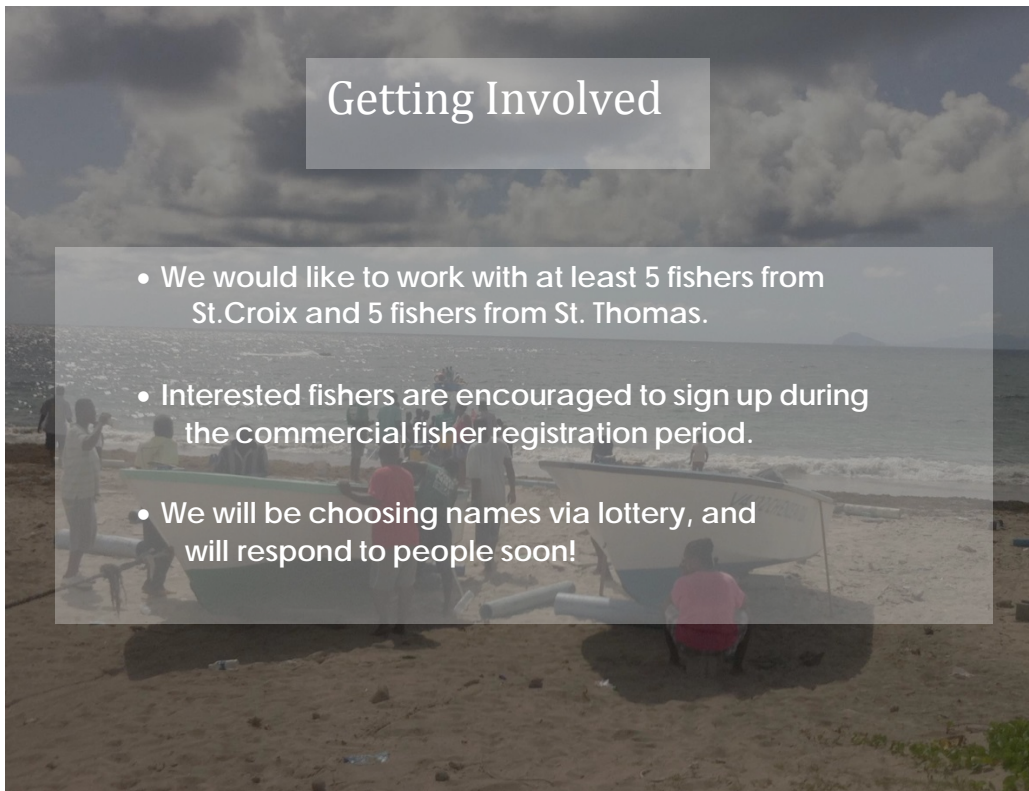
- Needs assessment (months 1-3)
- System design (months 2-3)
- Prototype and testing (months 3-7)
- System implementation (months 8-12)





Getting Involved

- We would like to work with at least 5 fishers from St. Croix and 5 fishers from St. Thomas.
- Interested fishers are encouraged to sign up during the commercial fisher registration period.
- We will be choosing names via lottery, and will respond to people soon!



Appendix D- Notice of Corrections

Notice of Corrections: *A Measurement Guide for Regulated Fishes of the USVI-July 2013*

Fish Identification Guide:

Incorrect

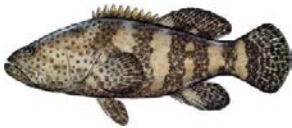


Nassau Grouper
Epinephelus striatus
Endangered Species
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession

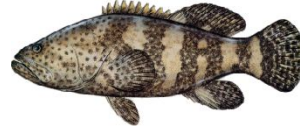
Correct



Nassau Grouper
Epinephelus striatus
IUCN Species of Concern
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession, Undergoing a status review



Goliath Grouper
Epinephelus itajara
Endangered Species
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession



Goliath Grouper
Epinephelus itajara
IUCN Species of Concern
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession



Blue Parrotfish
Scarus coeruleus
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession



Blue Parrotfish
Scarus coeruleus
IUCN Species of Concern
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession



Rainbow Parrotfish
Scarus guacamaia
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession



Rainbow Parrotfish
Scarus guacamaia
IUCN Species of Concern
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession



Midnight Parrotfish
Scarus coelestinus
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession



Midnight Parrotfish
Scarus coelestinus
IUCN Species of Concern
Harvest prohibited, NO Possession

This notice of corrections is meant to accompany the CCR training module's water proof brochure: *A Measurement Guide for Regulated Fishes of the USVI-July 2013*, which is available upon request. Please forward requests to Lia.Ortiz@noaa.gov for a copy of the brochure.