

From: Asociación de Pescadores'  
La Villa del Ojo Inc.  
Aguadilla, P.R.  
Tel. 787-208-2246  
Email: Rayalma11@outlook.com

To: Randy Blankinship  
Division Chief of NOAA Fisheries Highly Migratory Species Division

Delisse Ortiz  
Fisheries Management Specialist

July 27 ,2022

Dear Mr.Randy Blankinship, Ms.Delisse Ortiz  
Receive a cordial greeting from the members of the Aguadilla Fishermen's Association and myself.

We hereby wish to inform you that the fishermen of Association Villa del Ojo Inc. Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. and the residents of Crash Boat Beach, would like to inform the HMS Caribbean permit fishing council that commercial fishermen are extremely concerned about the regulations regarding the tuna species allowed and limited to only 10 tunas per boat. Two of the species (Aleta amarilla, Thunnus albacares, Yellowfin tuna ) ( Bonito, Katsuwonus pelamis, Skipjack tuna ) that are mostly caught on the Island.

The limitation of 10 Thunnus albacares yellow fin tuna. I really do not think it would affect the fisherman on this side of the island. My main concerns is the Katsuwonus pelamis, Skipjack tuna. The skipjack tuna is what mainly is use for bait for bottom fishing. The limitation of Skipjack tuna would be a total disaster for the local fisherman.

The fishermen live all year round fishing these species that are our livelihood and also during the closed season for Queen snapper, Silk snapper, Grouper, Lobster and other species. And Bonito, Katsuwonus pelamis, Skipjack tuna ) are also our source for bottom fishing, as we use them for bait year-round. This regulation would affect us in a catastrophic way for the commercial fisherman. We urge the relevant agencies that work with the Caribbean HMS permits to take into consideration the problems that this would bring to commercial fishermen who live from these species on a daily basis. The fishermen from Aguadilla PR. and from our neighborly towns such as Isabela, Rincón, Arecibo and Aguada are extremely concerned and ask the council to work on this matter.

Sincerely,

Ray Alma  
President Villa Pesquera, La Villa dell Ojo, Inc.

Enrique Hernández  
Vice President Villa Pesquera, La Villa del Ojo, Inc.