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FISHERIES**



# NOAA Office of Law Enforcement Overview

Caribbean Fishery Management Council Meeting  
August 19, 2023



Manny Antonaras, Assistant Director  
Alex Terrero, Enforcement Officer, USVI



# Enforcement Partnerships & Referrals

## • CFMC Enforcement Partners



## • Cooperative Enforcement

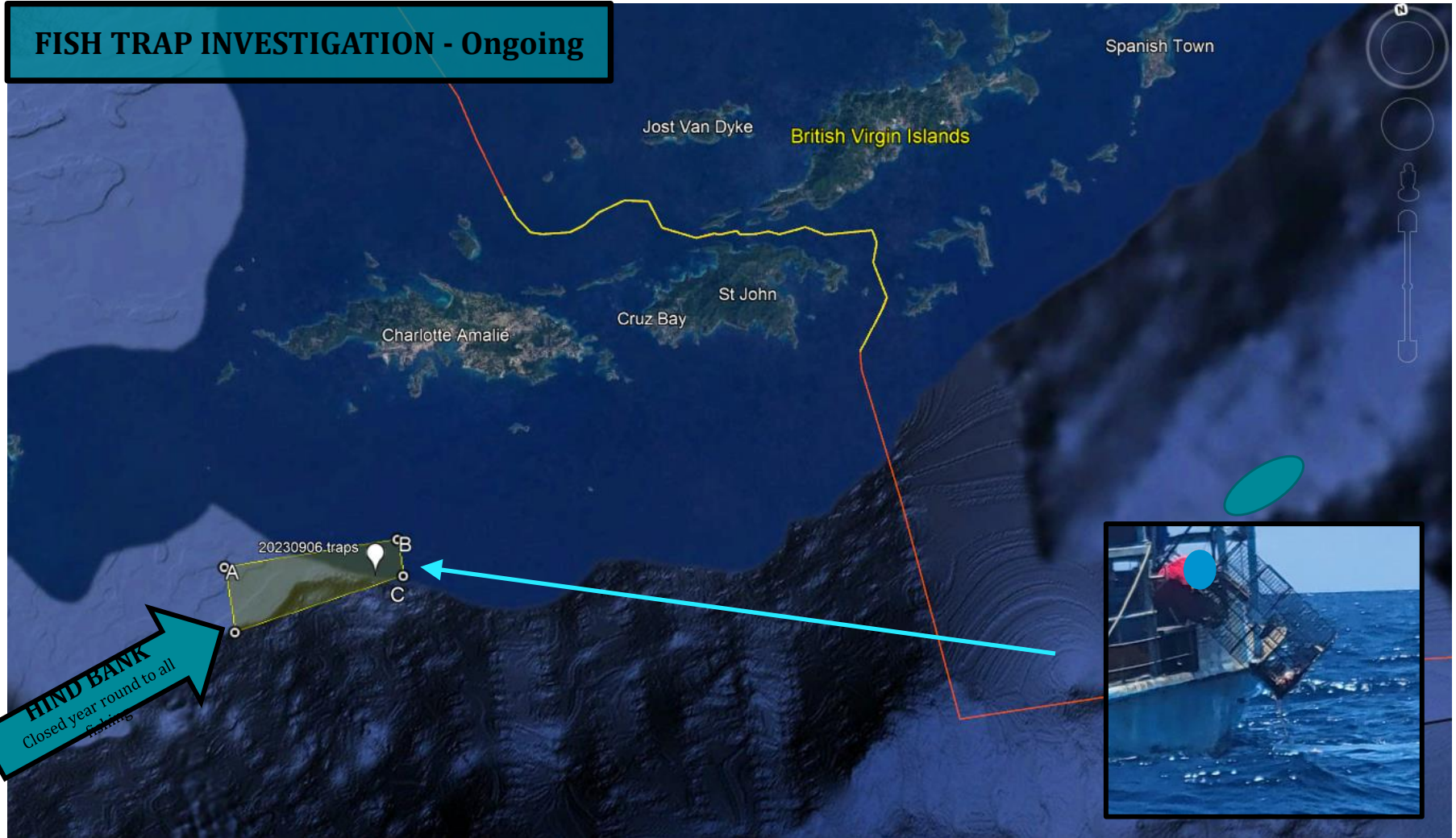
- Trainings
- Joint Patrols



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# OLE Caribbean Updates – Hind Bank

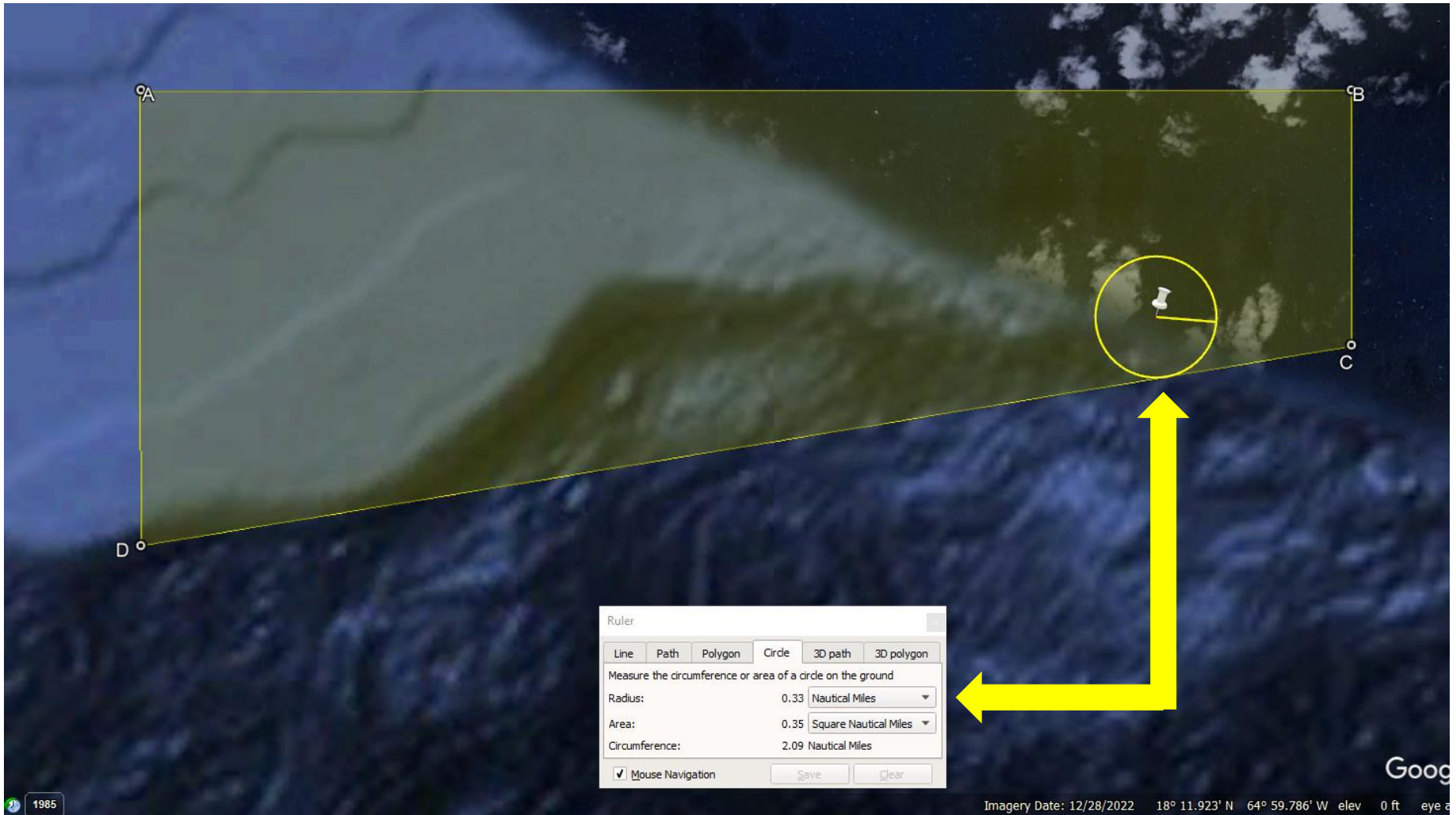
**FISH TRAP INVESTIGATION - Ongoing**



**HIND BANK**  
Closed year round to all fishing



# OLE Caribbean Updates



# OLE Caribbean Updates

SSO of \$2,750.00 issued to a recreational fisherman for landing a blue marlin in the EEZ without an HMS permit and not maintaining the HMS in specified form.



# Partnerships: Joint ESA Investigation - USVI

Initiated by USVI DPNR

- SA traveled to St. Croix USVI to attend a sentencing hearing of the second defendant in a criminal case regarding a sea turtle take.
- Hector Soto-Encarnacion was sentenced to one-year probation and \$500 fine.
- Defendant Roberto Carmona pled guilty to two counts and was sentenced to one year of probation and a fine of \$500.00.



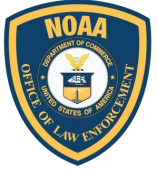
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# Partnerships: Joint ESA Investigation – Puerto Rico

Initiated by PR DRNA

- SA and EO executed an arrest warrant of a subject charged with the take of an endangered sea turtle (16 U.S.C. § 1538(a)(1)(G)).
- The subject was arrested and taken to the NOAA OLE office for processing and to the federal courthouse for the initial appearance.
- Defendant was released under his own recognizance.

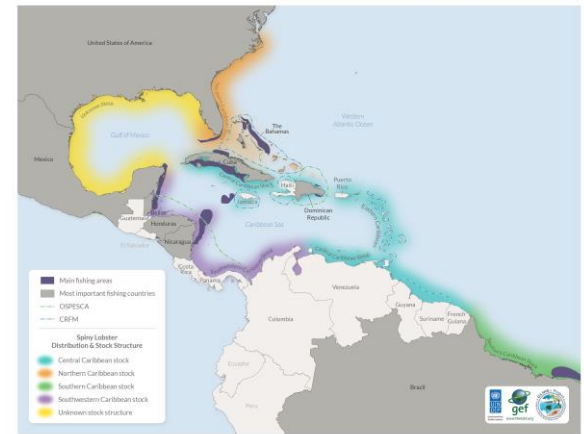




# SED Caribbean Updates – Trade Monitoring

## STT/SJU Airport Inspections

- Coordination with CBP and FDA
- SIMP and other species to include lobster, snapper, mahi, and tuna
- CITES Compliance in conjunction with USFWS – imports of Queen Conch



CLME+ PCU, 2019



# Partnerships: PR and USVI Environmental Crimes Task Force

- PR and USVI Environmental Crimes Task Force
- Jobs Bay: Two Men Indicted for Environmental Crimes Committed in the Jobs Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and Las Mareas Community of Salinas, Puerto Rico



# Training and Outreach & Education

- SA participated and presented in the Marine Resource Educational Program (MREP) held at Fajardo. Approximately 30 commercial and recreational fishers participated in the training. SA gave a presentation covering the laws and regulations of the Caribbean governed by OLE.
- SA provided a training for the Border Patrol Agents at their station in Aguadilla PR. The SA presented the federal regulations we enforce by OLE and the potential scenarios





# OUTREACH

➤ Enforcement Priorities 2023-2027

➤ IUU Partnership Fact Sheet

## NEWS Request for Comments: NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement Priorities

March 15, 2023  
NOAA Fisheries seeks public comment on enforcement priorities for 2023-2027. The comment period is open through April 17, 2023.  
Feature Story | National



- Recent News
- FEATURE STORY  
Meet Dr. Katherine Bennis, National Systematics Laboratory  
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Marsh Madness 2023  
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Is It a Seal or a Sea Lion?  
National

NOAA Fisheries released the Office of Law Enforcement's [Draft Enforcement Priorities for 2023-2027](#).



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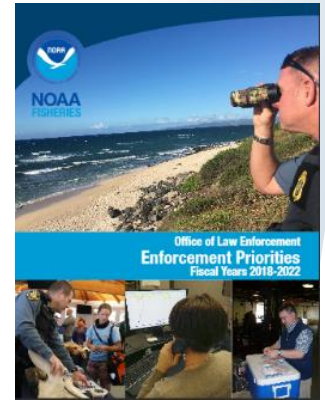


# OLE Resources

NOAA OLE Website:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/about/office-law-enforcement>

- Enforcement Priorities; Annual Reports
- Vessel Monitoring Information (system requirements and type approvals)
- IUU Information



Subscribe to NOAA Fishery Bulletins and News:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNOAAFISHERIES/subscriber/new>

- Proposed/Upcoming notices
- Rewards/Tips
- Unpermitted Charters

NOAA Office of General Counsel Enforcement Actions:

<https://www.gc.noaa.gov/enforce-office7.html>

SED OLE Fishery Council Report (Quarterly)

- Effort throughout 3 regional councils; in Briefing Book



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# QUESTIONS



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