



**NOAA
FISHERIES**



Enforcement Overview

Caribbean Fishery Management Council Meeting
December 5, 2024





Puerto Rico

Workshops

- Queen Conch-also in Florida
 - OLE and DNER present due to online threats
 - Regulation process explained
- HMS
 - Present with HMS staff on regulations
 - 25-40 stakeholders. Arecibo & Dorado Fishing Village



Training

- Sector San Juan-all Commanding Officers of cutters
- Ranger Trainings
- Fisheries Regulations/Case Package



NOAA
FISHERIES



USVI

Queen Conch Workshops

IUU/Seafood Import Monitoring Program (SIMP)

- Patrols at airport
- Compliance **HIGH**
- Daily calls to EO from BVI importers
- Compliance Assistance and info provided
- Lacey Act implications BVI vs USVI





RECENT CASES

Endangered Species

- Joint Effort
- Coral damage due to grounding
- Vessel removed/still assessing



Northern Right Whale Casework

Highly Migratory Species

- Prohibited Catch
- Territorial Waters
- OLE referred to DNER



NOAA
FISHERIES

Eel Smuggling Case

February 2024

- Vessel intercepted in federal waters N of PR
- NOAA led investigation
- Joint Collaboration



November 2024

- DOJ Sentencing
- Combined 4 years in prison; supervised release
- [Press Release](#)

The screenshot shows a NOAA Fisheries news article. The main headline is "Illegal Wildlife Smuggling Operation Shut Down in Puerto Rico" dated November 26, 2024. The sub-headline reads "Two men sentenced to prison for illegally smuggling live eels from Puerto Rico." The article text describes how NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Coast Guard, and U.S. Customs and Border Protection intercepted a boat in February 2024. It mentions that two Dominican nationals were sentenced to a combined 4 years in prison for smuggling live eels. The article also notes that the smugglers refused to leave and follow USCG orders, leading to the seizure of two outboard motors, a large bag containing live eels and anesthetics, and a firearm and ammunition. The article concludes with a "More Information" section listing "NOAA Collaborators Uncover Multiple Illegal Seafood Export Operations" and "Seafood Import Monitoring Program". There are also "Recent News" and "Feature Story" sections with small images and titles.



NOAA
FISHERIES



Report A Violation

NOAA's Law Enforcement Hotline,
available 24/7 at
(800) 853-1964

- Location, time, and date of the activity.
- Description of the activity.
- Name(s) of the vessel, owner/operator, captain, crew, or additional witnesses.



NOAA
FISHERIES

QUESTIONS

