



NOAA
FISHERIES



Caribbean Amendments and Actions Status

December 2025

Maria López-Mercer, NMFS SERO
188th Caribbean Fishery Management Council Meeting
St. Thomas, USVI
December 3-4, 2025

Caribbean Amendments and Actions Status

Years: 2025 - 2026

Amendment/Action	Aug CFMC	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec CFMC	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr CFMC
Amendment 2 to all FMPs: Trawl, Net Gear, and Descending Devices	NOA published	Proposed Rule Published	Final Rule Published	Effective on November 3, 2025, except Descending Device Requirement (Effective April 1, 2026)					
Framework 3 to USVI FMPs: SEDAR 80 Queen Triggerfish			Proposed Rule published	Comment Period ended	Final rule under development				
Amendment 4 to Puerto Rico FMP: Reclassify Rainbow Runner as Pelagic				Proposed Rule under development					

- Size limits for ALL harvest of dolphin and wahoo are in place
- Recreational bag limits for dolphin and wahoo are in place
- Prohibition on the use of nets (except for specific gillnet for certain species - See regs) in federal waters is in place
- Descending device requirement will be in place April 1, 2026 (Thanks to all fishers out there that are already using the devices!)

Caribbean Amendments and Actions Status

Years: 2025-2026



Amendment/Action	Why?	Aug 2025 CFMC	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec 2025 CFMC	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr 2026 CFMC
Modification of Pelagic Accountability Measures (AM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undefined AM corrective action - Get Council input - Focus on AM trigger 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Draft Options Paper - Motion for IPT creation 	Workgroup Discussion		Workgroup Discussion	Discuss options	Working Group to refine options		Review Options Paper	
Review stocks – Need for conservation and management (Matrix) Priority 1 Aug 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maximize mgt. efficiency - Seafood E.O. 14276 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Matrix presentation - Move forward with action 			Workgroup Discussion	Discuss options	Working Group to refine options		Review Options Paper	
SEDAR 91 Spiny Lobster St. Croix St. Thomas/St. John	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update Assessments - Revise ACLs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update provided - Motion to develop amendments 	SSC review USVI – accepted			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss SSC recommendations - Council selects p^* - Provide options for ACLs 	Develop Framework Action		Council selects preferred alts.	
SEDAR 84 - Yellowtail PR, STT/STJ Stoplight Parrotfish STX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stock Assessments - Revise ACLs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review Panel Report Overview 	SSC preliminary review			SSC/SEFSC updates				

TBD /Other
 Completed
 No action
 Council action/decision
 AP process
 IPT process
 Information gathering/Scoping

 Rule Phases
 Other NMFS action

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SEDAR 91 Spiny Lobster Puerto Rico	- Update Assessment - Revise ACL	- Motion to develop amendments - Pending revision SEDAR 91 and outcomes				- Pending SEDAR 91 updates SEFSC, SSC review, Council discussion				
Revision of AMs for Puerto Rico Spiny Lobster	- Address ACL overages - Reevaluate current AMs					On hold until SEDAR 91 reviews				

- Prioritized List of Actions to NMFS on EO 14276**
- Revision of Incompatible Regulations between Territorial and Federal Waters
 - Revision of Duplicative Regulations in Federal Waters
 - Exploration of Carry-over of Unused ACLs
 - SEDAR 103 – US Caribbean Application of Alternative Assessment Methods
 - Other (Council to provide input)