

**CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
268 MUÑOZ RIVERA AVENUE, SUITE 1108
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO 00918**

**PUBLIC HEARING ON DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE AMENDMENT TO
THE US CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS (FMPS))
AND ANNUAL CATCH LIMIT CONTROL RULE
NAGUABO, PUERTO RICO
JUNE 30, 2014**

SUMMARY MINUTES

The public hearing was held at the “Asociación de Pescadores de Naguabo”, in Naguabo, Puerto Rico. It was chaired by Mr. Carlos Farchette, Council Chairman.

Mr. Miguel A. Rolón gave a presentation (attached) on the proposed options.

Following are the comments provided:

1. Roberto Silva –Commercial Fisher

- The statistical data used for this document is incorrect. New ACLs need to be established with the correct scientific data for Puerto Rico
- The bases for ACLs are not well established.
- This document is too complicated for him to understand well.
- There is a need for more port agents so that data can be properly collected.

2. Carlos Velazquez – Commercial Fisher. President of Naguabo’s Fishermen Association

- The data does not reflect the reality of the fishermen. It should not be used to set catch limits.
- One to one talks with the fishers could help to see the reality of the fishers.
- Does not agree with the percentage for annual catch limits. There is no base to set these percentages.
- What is being reported is not real, that is the reason why he does not agree with the percentages set for annual catch limit.

3. Luis Melendez – Commercial Fisher

- These laws are for federal waters, but they can be applied to Puerto Rico.

4. Hector Acosta – Commercial Fisher

- Does not agree with this document.

5. Martinez Jimenez – Commercial Fisher

- Agrees with alternative 3, as long as the data is from the current or previous year, and not using data older than 2 years to apply the percentages.
- Electronic direct reports should be implemented.

6. **Jose M. Cartagena – Commercial Fisher**

- Agrees on alternative three as long as there is a good data base used for this.
- In favor of establishing an electronic reporting system.

7. **Victor Garcia – Commercial Fisher – Asociacion de Pescadores Unidos del Tinglar**

- Does not agree with the system they want to implement because it is based in incorrect data.
- There is a need for more port agents to improve the way the data is being collected and reported.

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.