

**CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
PUERTO RICO DISTRICT ADVISORY PANEL MEETING
VERDANZA HOTEL
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO
JULY 29, 2015**

The Puerto Rico District Advisory Panel (DAP/PR) of the Caribbean Fishery Management Council convened at the Verdanza Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico, on July 29, 2015, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Israel Umpierre, new elected Chairman. Mr. Carlos Velazquez, former Chair, has been appointed Council member and will no longer be a member of the DAP/PR. Mr. Gary Rogers was elected Vice Chair.

(Attendance list and agenda attached.)

The species selection list was provided to the panel members. After a thorough discussion, the DAP/PR made the following recommendations to the CFMC:

I. To include the following species in the management unit in EEZ waters off Puerto Rico:

-All species included in Table 1, plus the wenchman, cardinal snapper, queen snapper, dog snapper, schoolmaster and cubera snapper.

-All aquarium trade species in the Coral FMP (invertebrates) and in the Reefish FMP (vertebrates)

-All corals (soft, hard, mesophotic and deep water corals.)

II. To exclude the following species from the Management unit in EEZ waters off Puerto Rico :

As per Table 2:

Gray snapper

Mahogany snapper

Margate

Tomtate

Bluestriped grunt

French grunt

Porkfish

Spotted goatfish

Yellow goatfish

Jolthead porgy

Sea bream

Sheepshead porgy
Pluma
Blackbar soldierfish
bigeye
Longspine squirrelfish
Squirrelfish
Blackline tilefish
Sand tilefish
Blue runner
Horse-eye jack
Black jack
Almaco jack
Bar jack
Greater amberjack
Yellow jack
Sargassum triggerfish
Scrawled filefish
Whitespotted filefish
Black durgon
Honeycomb cowfish
Scrawled cowfish
Trunkfish
Spotted trunkfish
Smooth trunkfish

III. Since the following species are not targeted in the EEZ waters off Puerto Rico at this time, but are ecologically important, or are biologically vulnerable and should be monitored, they should be listed as Ecosystem Component Species:

-Manta birostri, spotted eagle ray, sting gray.

MOTIONS

1-To include the following species be included in the list of species for management in the federal waters off Puerto Rico: wenchman, cardinal snapper, queen snapper, dog snapper, schoolmaster and cubera snapper. Crespo/Roman. 7 in favor. 2 not in favor. 2 abstentions.

2-That there should be a mechanism to provide information to the fishers about how effective are the management measures that are in place. The DAP/PR should be taken into consideration in this evaluation. Silva/Padro. 11 in favor. 1 abstention.

3-That the species in Table 1 (document submitted to the DAP/PR members) be included for federal management in the EEZ waters off Puerto Rico. Espinoza/Crespo. 7 in favor. 2 not in favor. 2 abstained.

4-That the DAP/PR be consulted about what specific management measures are put in place for the species that the DAP/PR have suggested be included for federal management. Dunmire/Espinoza. All in favor.

5-To exclude the species as per Table 2 (as shown on screen). (Excluded are in white, included are in yellow in file AP/PR tables July 29, 2015.xls.) Silva/Crespo. 11 in favor. 1 abstention.

6-To develop an ecosystem component species list. Espinoza/Crespo. All in favor.

7-To include the following species in the ecosystem component species list: Manta birostris, spotted eagle ray (chucho), sting ray. Espinoza/RS all in favor.

8-That all corals (soft, hard, mesophotic, and deep water corals) be included for management in the federal waters off Puerto Rico. Ray/Cedric. 11 in favor. One absent.

9-That aquarium trade species in the Coral FMP (invertebrates) and in the Reefish FMP (vertebrates) be included for management in the federal waters off Puerto Rico. Dunmire/Taquin. 11 in favor. 1 absent.