

# Fishery Ecosystem Plan

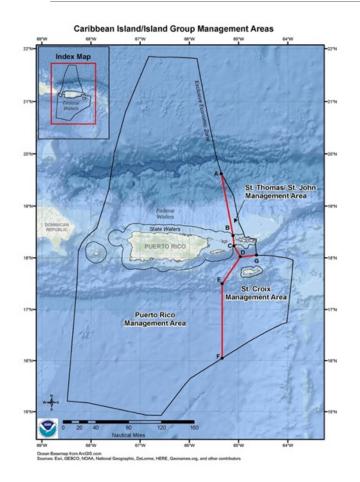
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## The Stage



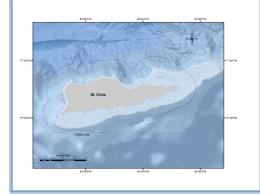


Versión final Diciembre 2019

(Traducción al español no oficial. Versión corregida del 31 de agosto de 2020.)







Comprehensive Fishery Management Plan for the St. Croix Exclusive Economic Zone

Including Environmental Assessment, Regulatory Impact Review, and Fishery Impact Statement

Final Version
December 2019





Comprehensive Fishery Management Plan for the St. Thomas/St. John Exclusive Economic Zone

Including Environmental Assessment, Regulatory Impact Review, and Fishery Impact Statement

Final Version
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### Began talking about EBFM-FEP

EBFM Regional Implementation RoadMap for the US Caribbean

Informal group begins work on the FEP (collaborators from NGOs, Universities, CFMC, SERO, others) ...then came Hurricanes Irma and Maria!

– needed to make it legal!

Lenfest grant approved (long list of collaborators)

DAPs and SSC working on ECMs

Council establishes the EBFM-Technical Advisory Panel (EBFM TAP) ...then came the earthquakes!

Almost finished with the DAPS\* ECMs but then came the COVID-19 pandemic!

Resume final meetings in 2020-2021 – ... it did take a while to get everyone used to virtual meetings!

ECMs finalized in 2021 – presented to the Council and to the EBFM-TAP and data forwarded to modelers

EBFM-TAP worked on Mission, goals and objectives, outline of the FEP, created working groups

SEFSC begins development of the ESR

Working groups gathering data sets

All data shared with others working on melding these CMs,



EBFM TAP
Charter

The EBFM TAP shall provide the Council ongoing scientific advice on ecosystembased fishery management for fishery management decisions, including recommendations for habitat status, social and economic impacts of management measures, and ecosystembased impacts (stressors) on sustainability of fishing practices

#### Mission

The overarching *goal* of the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) is to promote ecosystem-based approaches to ensure healthy, resilient and productive marine ecosystems and the fisheries resources dependent upon those ecosystems, within the context of the unique biological, ecological, economic, social and cultural characteristics of those fishery resources and the communities dependent on them.

#### Framework that promotes the following goals:

- Increase human community resilience within the context of changing ecosystems;
- Promote ecosystem resilience within the context of changing ecosystems;
- Define present ecosystem status/functionality;
- Understand dynamics of fisheries and ecosystem services;
- Describe key ecosystem linkages;
- Identify research priorities;
- Identify additional ecosystem-essential species in need of conservation and management;
- Understand the risks to the fishery ecosystem and tradeoffs from different management strategies;
- Improve the data and information needed to support marine ecosystem management;
- Prevent overfishing and/or ecosystem overfishing;
- Achieve optimum yield;
- Incorporate ecosystem considerations into stock assessments;
- Bring ecosystem considerations into the decisionmaking process;
- Promote adaptive management policies (Revising MSA, National SSC, CCC).

Next Steps

Activity	Expected Date of Completion
Revise and draft EBFM TAP goals and objectives	December 2020
Draft FEP goals and objectives	April 2021
<ul> <li>Continue to collect and analyze existing data sets from Lenfest, SeaMap, ESR, etc</li> <li>Expected products = a centralized repository of data (e.g., MBON, Caricoos, etc); summary analyses of pertinent datasets; potentially peer-reviewed publications</li> </ul>	April - December 2021 (ongoing)
Complete all conceptual models	June 2022 √
Meld conceptual models to create island-specific conceptual models	December 2022 (need more time)
Use the conceptual models & additional products to create island-specific risk assessments for consideration by the SSC, that will be used to inform approaches that will be presented in the FEP.	December 2022 (now 2023)
Use the conceptual models and other products produced by the ESR, EBFM TAP, and by the Lenfest FEP project to identify ecosystem indicators that should be monitored. In addition to inclusion in the FEP, these indicators will be presented to the SSC and the CFMC for consideration to include in EBFM management practices.	December 2022 (1st presentation to SSC November 2022) (continue into 2023)

Next Steps

Activity	Expected Date of Completion
Develop strategic objectives, prioritize the objectives, and outline a vision for the use of the FEP for consideration in the CFMC processes.	Mar 2023
Develop operational objectives with concrete action items to be presented in the FEP, for consideration by the CFMC.	May 2023
Develop performance measures and draft a management strategy that can be used situationally during CFMC decision making, to be presented in the FEP, for consideration by the CFMC.	July 2023
Develop a feedback mechanism for adaptive management to be presented in the FEP, for consideration by the CFMC.	July 2023
Develop a draft FEP document	August 2023
Submit FEP for council approval	December 2023

### FEP Outline



e. FEP development process and reassessment

management

f. Local interface between fisheries, fishery communities and ecosystem

¡Gracias!

# Thank you!