



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

NOAA Activities in the WECAFC Region

**Southeast Fisheries Science Center,
Sustainable Fisheries Division**

Nancie Cummings

Acknowledgements

- NOAA Fisheries, SEFSC Directorate

Content

- Data Collection and Improvements in basic fishery information
 - Catch statistics, life history
- Stock Assessment Activities
 - US Caribbean,
 - Gulf of Mexico, and
 - ICCAT small tunas
- Fishery management and monitoring

Data collection capacity efforts- improvements in informing basic fishery information

- Commercial fishery statistics
 - Logbook forms expanded for US Virgin Islands St. Thomas fisheries
 - Spatial maps expanded for US VI
 - In-house capacity developed for US VI
 - Exploration of electronic data collection tools for Puerto Rico fisheries (through external funding) to be presented in GCFI conference session (CLME+ tools)
- Recreational statistics: Recreational data collection plan
 - MRIP pilot developed for US Virgin Islands
 - MRIP for Puerto Rico reviewed

Data collection improvements: Life history

- NOAA CRP: genetics, reproduction, age and growth
- MARFIN: reproduction, growth, MPAs
- Salstonstall-Kennedy: growth

Stock Assessment Activities

Explored data limited assessment models for US Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico stocks, and ICCAT small tuna stocks

- MSE Operating models developed for six US Caribbean stocks and 9 GOM stocks
- MSE Analyses conducted for 6 US Caribbean stocks and 9 GOM stocks
- Applied DLM Toolkit (reference) to 6 US Caribbean stocks and 9 GOM stocks
- Conducted external Peer Review for DLMTool applications
 - Submitted 2 DLM manuscripts to Peer Review Journal
 - Submitted 2 DLM presentations to ICES, AFS scientific conferences

US Caribbean management

- Draft Island based fishery management plans developed for Puerto Rico, St. Croix, St. Thomas/St. John
 - Addresses need for appropriate spatial considerations of US Caribbean marine resources
- Drafted Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule for US Caribbean Fishery Resources
 - For use in applying stock assessment results into management framework mechanism (e.g., setting ACLs)
- Conducted informal PSA analyses for US Caribbean marine resources to identify overfishing/overfished stocks

Thank you