Update CFMC IRA Status

Martha Prada

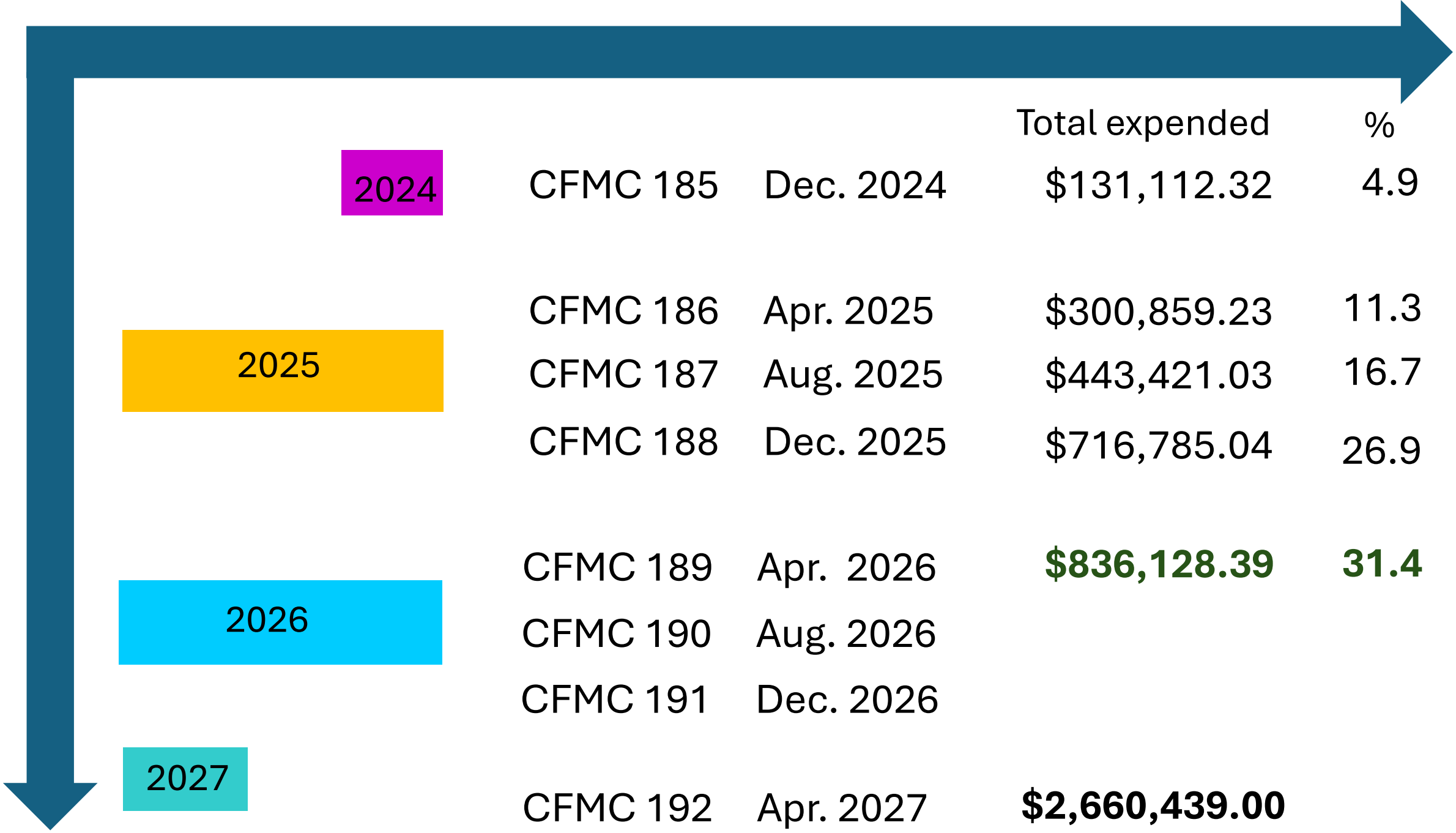
CFMC IRA Coordinator

189 CFMC Regular meeting

Buccaneer Hotel, St. Croix

April 21-22, 2026

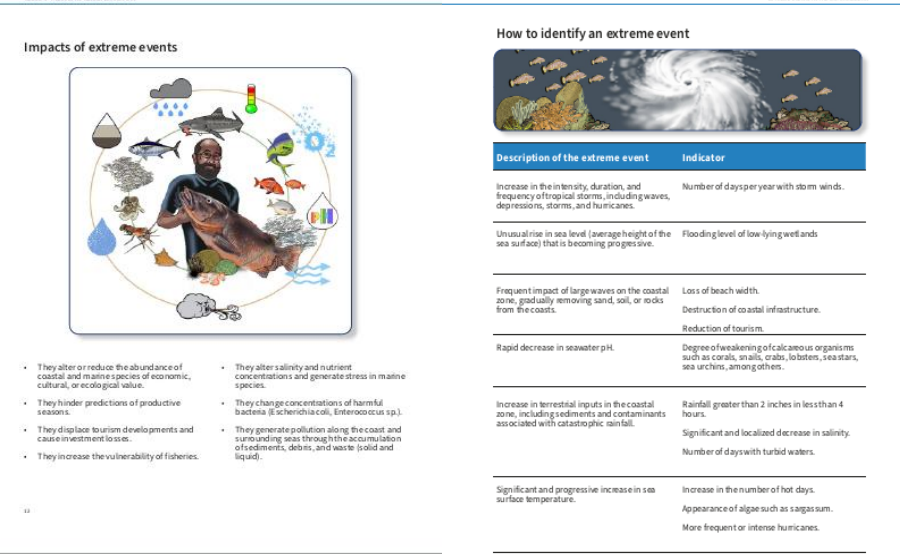
NOAA NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



		Total expended	%
CFMC 185	Dec. 2024	$131,112.32	4.9
CFMC 186	Apr. 2025	$300,859.23	11.3
CFMC 187	Aug. 2025	$443,421.03	16.7
CFMC 188	Dec. 2025	$716,785.04	26.9
CFMC 189	Apr. 2026	**$836,128.39**	**31.4**
CFMC 190	Aug. 2026		
CFMC 191	Dec. 2026		
CFMC 192	Apr. 2027	**$2,660,439.00**	

Project	Allocated funds	Total payments	% Technical progress	% financial progress
CFMC-IRA-2024-001 Martha Prada	$215,880.00	$106,489.64	58	49
CFMC-IRA-2024-002 Consultores Educativos Ambientales	$229,615.00	$157,897.60	65	69
CFMC-IRA-2024-003 HJR Reefscaping	$363,485.00	$132,128.15	40	36
CFMC-IRA-2024-004 GCFI	$349,035.00	$65,788.36	40	19
CFMC-IRA-2024-005 Beyond Our Shores Foundation	$372,921.00	$259,533.82	65	70
CFMC-IRA-2024-006 Isla Mar Research Expedition LLC	$384,082.00	$52,930.51	40	40
CFMC-IRA-2024-007 - DPNR	$575,929.00			
CFMC - Admin	$169,492	$61,360		36
Total / Average	**$2,660,439.00**	**$836,128.39**	**51**	**46**

April 15, 2026



Impacts of extreme events

- They alter or reduce the abundance of coastal and marine species of economic, cultural, or ecological value.
- They hinder predictions of productive seasons.
- They displace tourism developments and cause investment losses.
- They increase the vulnerability of fisheries.
- They alter salinity and nutrient concentrations and generate stress in marine species.
- They change concentrations of harmful bacteria (Escherichia coli, Enterococcus sp.).
- They generate pollution along the coast and surrounding seas through the accumulation of sediments, debris, and waste (solid and liquid).

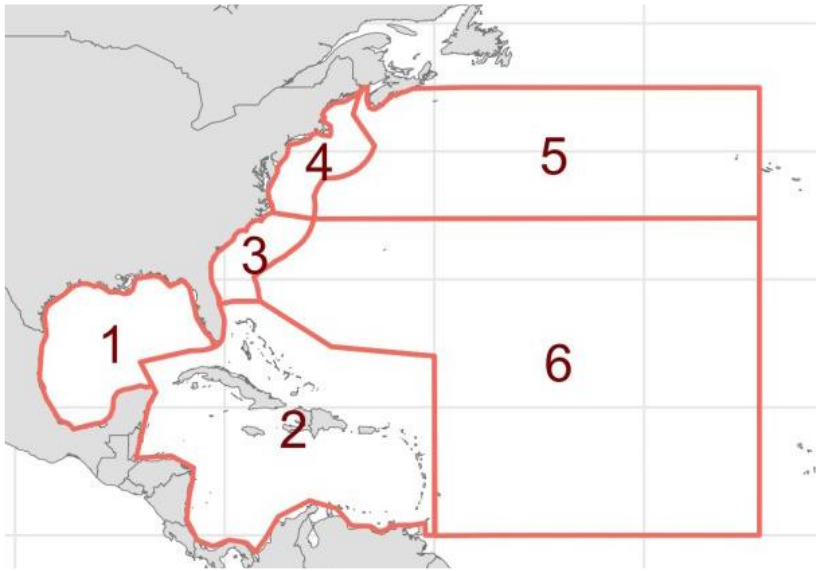
How to identify an extreme event

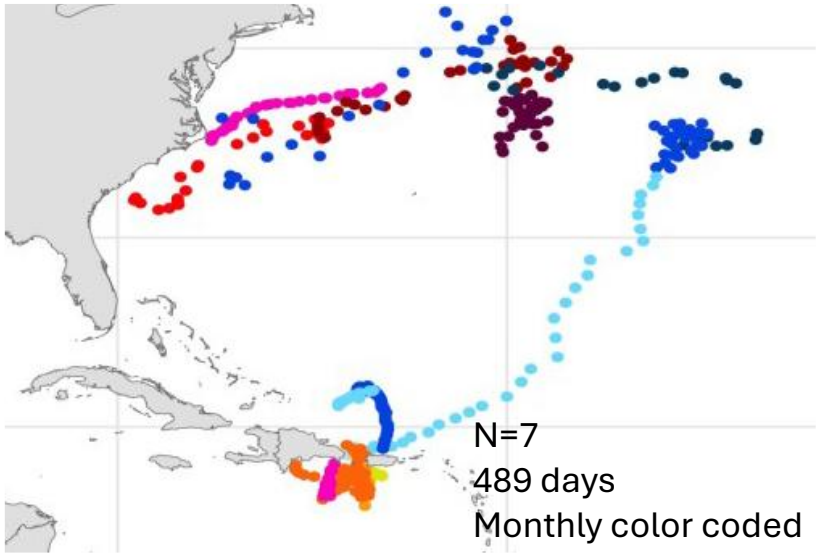
Description of the extreme event	Indicator
Increase in the intensity, duration, and frequency of tropical storms, including waves, depressions, storms, and hurricanes.	Number of days per year with storm winds.
Unusual rise in sea level (average height of the sea surface) that is becoming progressive.	Flooding level of low-lying wetlands
Frequent impact of large waves on the coastal zone, gradually removing sand, soil, or rocks from the coasts.	Loss of beach width. Destruction of coastal infrastructure. Reduction of tourism.
Rapid decrease in seawater pH.	Degree of weakening of calcareous organisms such as corals, snails, crabs, lobsters, sea stars, sea urchins, among others.
Increase in terrestrial inputs in the coastal zone, including sediments and contaminants associated with catastrophic rainfall.	Rainfall greater than 2 inches in less than 4 hours. Significant and localized decrease in salinity. Number of days with turbid waters.
Significant and progressive increase in sea surface temperature.	Increase in the number of hot days. Appearance of algae such as sargassum. More frequent or intense hurricanes.

1. Understanding extreme events and its impact on the fishery ecosystem and the fishers

- Storybook with new graphic design.
- 2 in-person workshops in USVI (11 teachers, 8 fishers).
- Storybook texts going through second adjustments with USVI LEK.
- ***Upcoming work***: 4 final virtual workshops, text updates completed and translated. Graphic design finalized.

2. Understanding Impacts of changing environments and Fishing Pressure on Dolphinfish



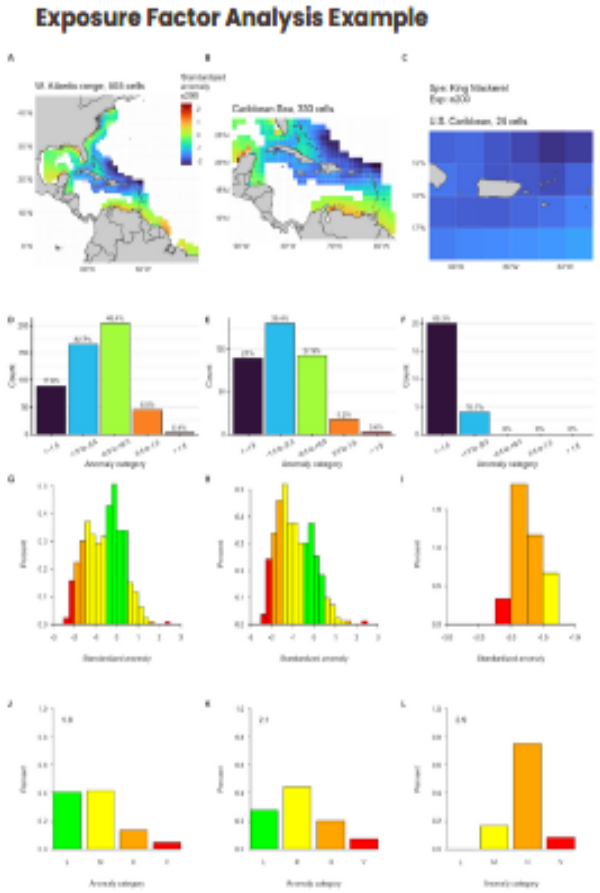


www.dolphintagging.com/caribbean-sea

- **Species movement:** drifters (2002 – to present), 21 satellite tags (12 PR; 7 USVI; 5 MAB**),** tag records (22), recaptures (9), 324 conventional tags (MAB 260; PR 31; USVI 33), 24 trips.
- **Environmental datasets**: SST, Sargassum, wind, Tecon-nection patterns, currents Gulf Stream, Charleston Gyre, Mona Passage.
- **Fishing datasets**: FAO, MRIP, FWC, ICCAT, SAU DF landings, PR recreational & CPUE, DR commercial catch.
- ***Data analysis*: SatTagSim seasonal Markovian movement matrix, 6 spatial strata.
- ***Upcoming work*: 4** trips MAB (NC, FL, RI), data analysis continue.

3. Life history of priority managed species and evaluating their vulnerability to changing environmental conditions

25 species!!!



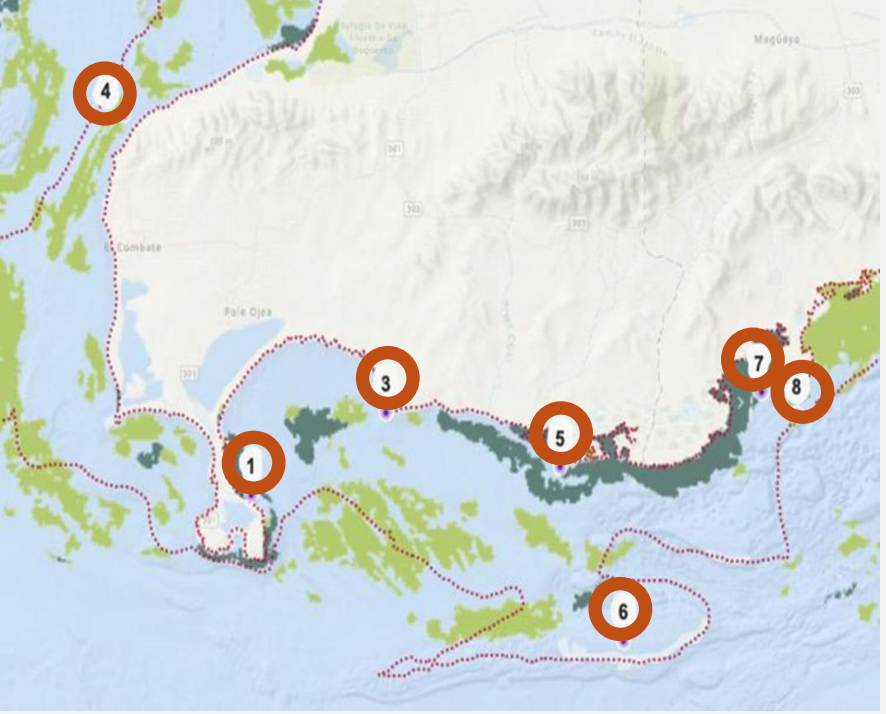
Anomalies!!!

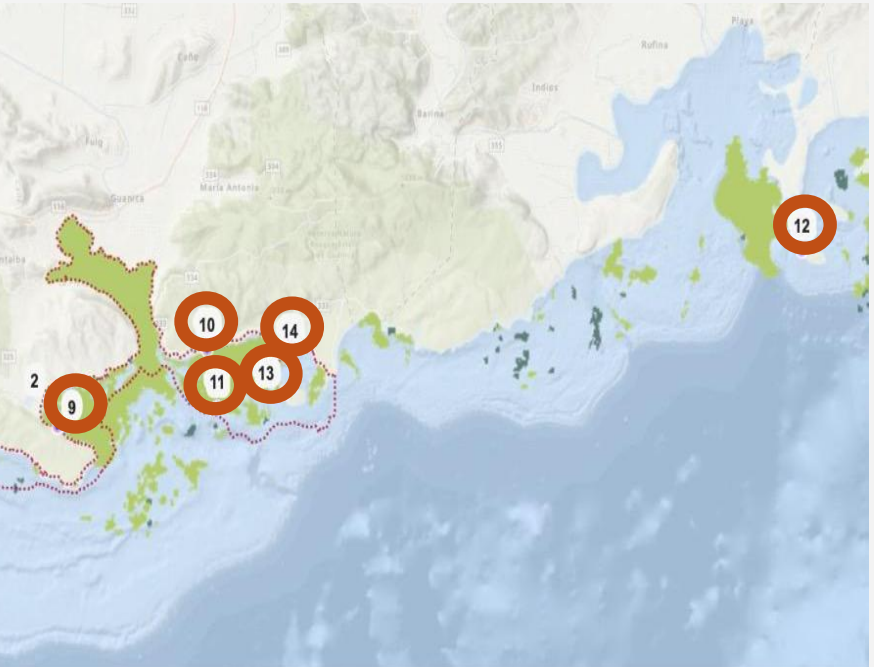
Matrices: Habitat, prey, ocean acidification tolerance, reproductive strategy, stock range, early life history requirements, stock size status, other stressors, population growth rate, mobility & dispersal early life stages, adult mobility, spawning characteristics, predation & competition, genetic diversity .

Scores: low, moderate, high, very high.

Exposure factors: 13 different quantitative & 3 qualitative environmental factors.

Upcoming work: complete/understand experts scores, vulnerability, traits, variability, directional effects, scores narratives.

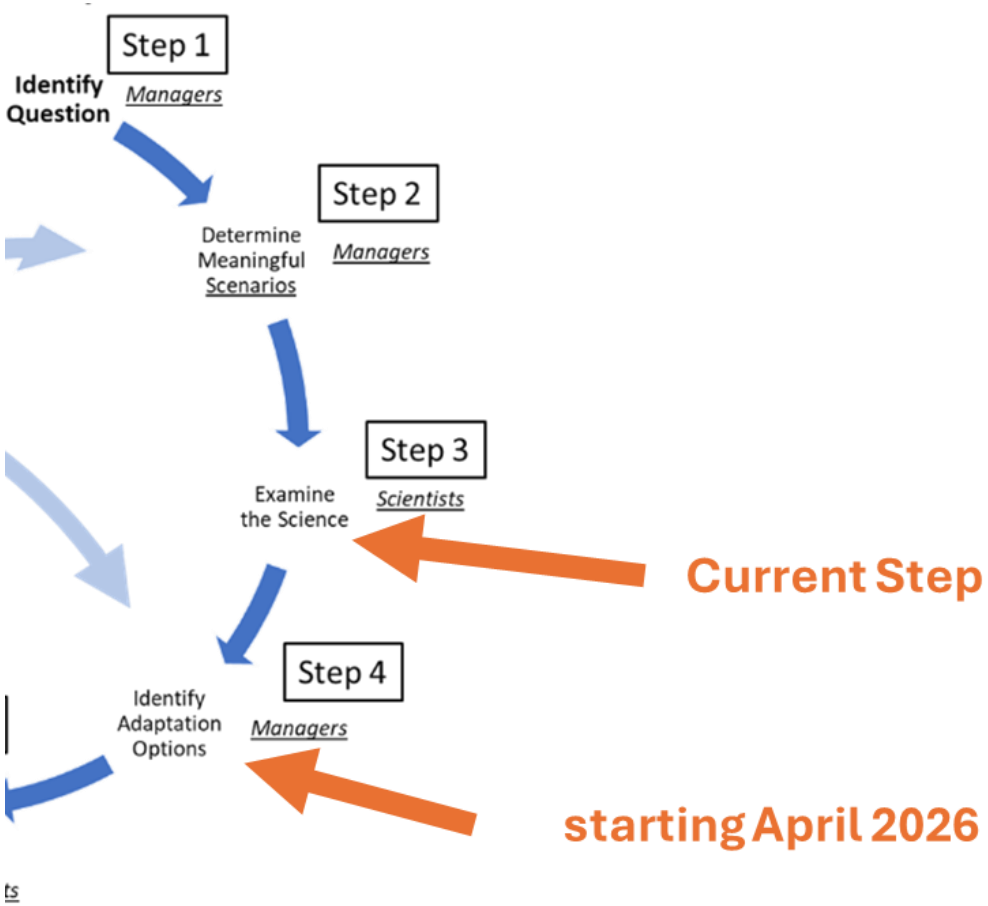




4. Environmental vulnerability to Assess the ecological under a recovery plan: queen conch & Nassau grouper

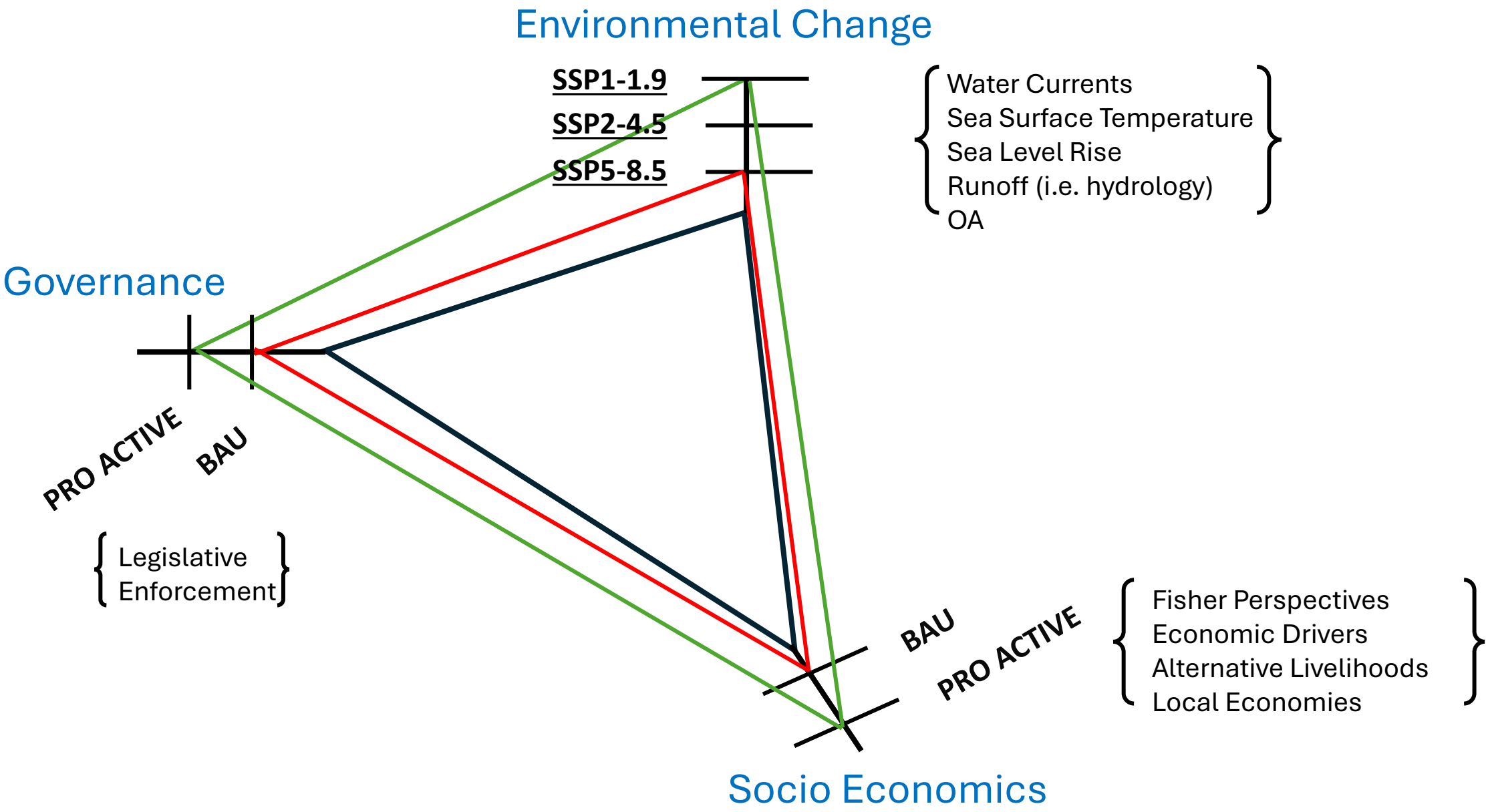
- Cabo Rojo to Guánica: 404 juvenile conch & 2 juvenile Nassau grouper registered.
- Sal: 37.0-33.5; °T: 28-31°C, D.O.:80-120%, pH: 7.5-8.3
- Surveys for adult conch completed. reproductive activity.
- Workshop: Fishers PR west area.
- ***Upcoming work***: Continue surveys, data analysis, 1 workshop in STCX.

5. Adapting to Extreme events in the U.S. Caribbean: Implementing a Smart Approach to Ensure Sustainable Red Hind and Lobster Fishing

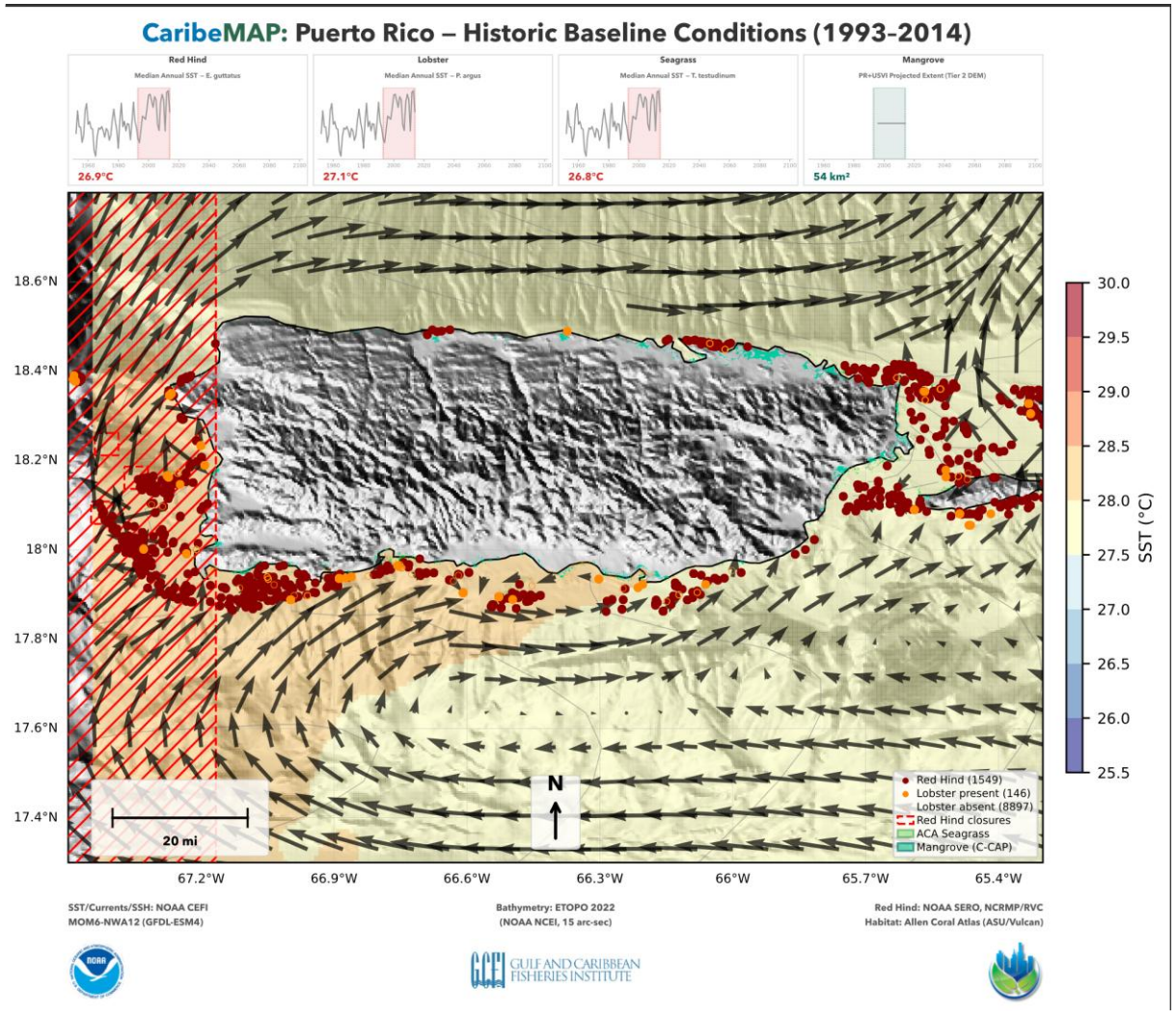


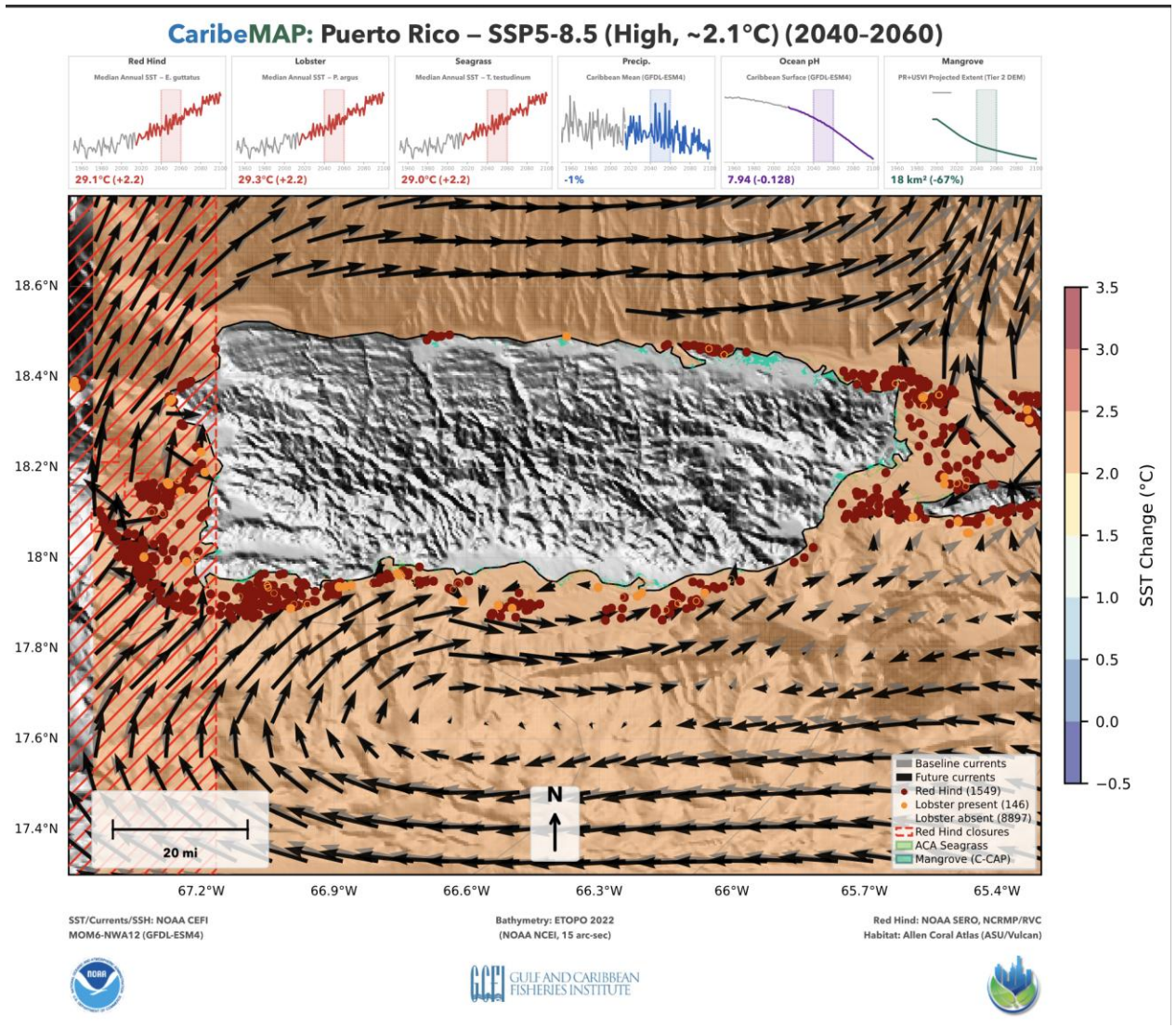
- **Science analysis**: Listed scientific topics require in-depth examination in step Structure scenarios IPCC\ AR6 RCP 4.5, 6.5, 8.5 variables (minimum – aggressive).

- ***Upcoming work:*** finalize science, adaptation options (Step 4) workshops & online surveys. *Complete fishers interviews.*


Environmental Change
SSP1-1.9
SSP2-4.5
SSP5-8.5
Water Currents
Sea Surface Temperature
Sea Level Rise
Runoff (i.e. hydrology)
OA
Governance
PRO ACTIVE
BAU
Legislative
Enforcement
BAU
PRO ACTIVE
Fisher Perspectives
Economic Drivers
Alternative Livelihoods
Local Economies
Socio Economics

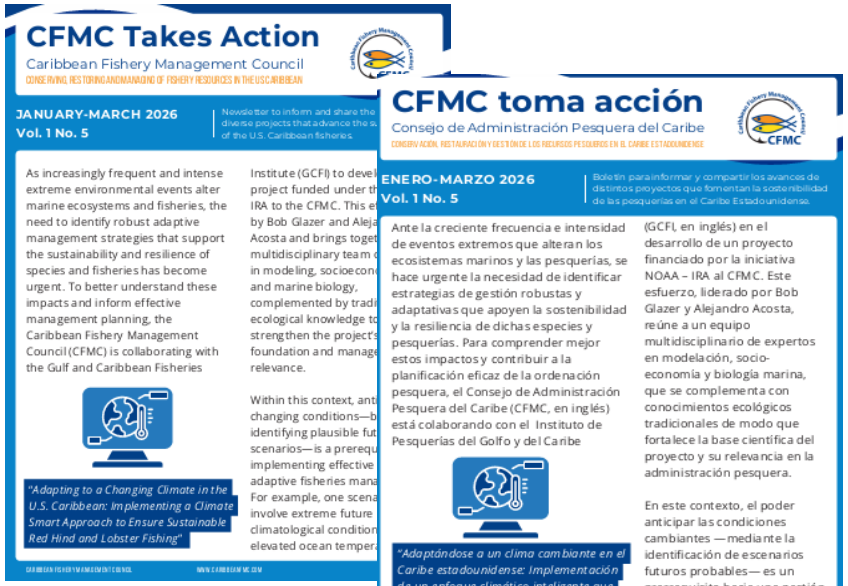
SST & currents modeling: current condition vs. high variation

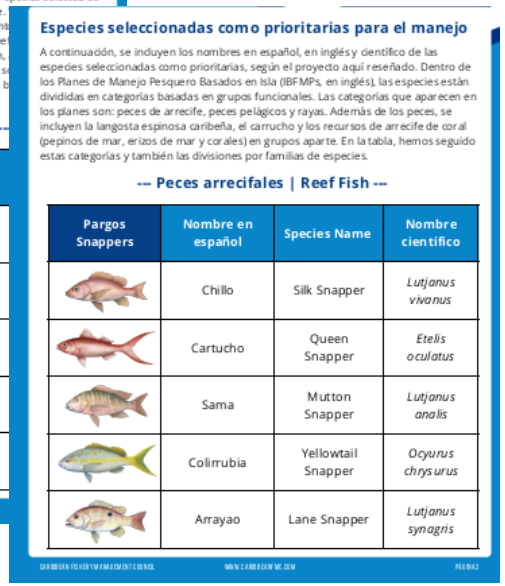




6. US Caribbean Community of Practice Hub to Operationalize Ecosystems Based Fisheries Management

- Developing strategies for reallocation of funds





Additional updates

- **Two new bulletins:** CVA & Scenario planning
- **Council projects, Lunch & Learn**: Caribbean spiny lobster & red hind done. Remaining projects scheduled.
- **Additional communication IRA projects:** DAPs & OEAP.

https://www.caribbeanfmc.com/advancing-sustainable-fisheries

Thank you

Questions?