

Increasing Harvest and Promoting Sustainable Fishing in the Caribbean Spiny Lobster Fishery

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Slide 1



Slide 2



Overall landing in the Caribbean are declining. Too much fishing effort from divers, trappers. Too much removal of egg bearing females and immature lobsters

Slide 3

- Best Management Practices,
Or
Any Management Practice Will Do
- Utilize existing lobster resources better
 - *Pan-Caribbean management
 - *Local management
 - Utilize management practices that correspond with local environment and social belief systems
 - Utilize any mechanism to slow harvest and protect juveniles
 - *Closed fishing seasons
 - *Closed fishing areas
 - *Limited fishing effort
 - *Limited entry
 - *Size selective fishing gear
 - High fecundity and growth rate will compensate

Spiny lobsters grow rapidly and likely will respond favorably to several different protection measures

Slide 4

- Why Pan-Caribbean Management?
- One population - Genetic studies suggest one Caribbean population¹
 - Metapopulations - Local populations replenished by regional population (192 ± 27 day pelagic larvae² and ocean currents that can transport larvae >200 km in 2 months³)
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