

Table 2.2.6. Species included in the St. Thomas/St. John FMP based on Criteria A-E of Preferred Alternative 2. The Council proposed these stocks for management at their 153rd Regular Meeting (August 2015). Species marked with an asterisk would be new to federal management.

Family or Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	Criterion
Strombidae -- True conchs	<i>Lobatus gigas</i>	Queen conch	A
Palinuridae -- Spiny lobster	<i>Panulirus argus</i>	Caribbean spiny lobster	A
Lutjanidae -- Snappers	<i>Apsilus dentatus</i>	Black snapper	A
	<i>Lutjanus buccanella</i>	Blackfin snapper	A
	<i>Lutjanus vivanus</i>	Silk snapper	A
	<i>Rhomboplites aurorubens</i>	Vermilion snapper	A
	<i>Lutjanus synagris</i>	Lane snapper	A
	<i>Lutjanus analis</i>	Mutton snapper	A
	<i>Ocyurus chrysurus</i>	Yellowtail snapper	A
	<i>Etelis oculatus</i>	Queen snapper	D
Serranidae -- Groupers	<i>Epinephelus striatus</i>	Nassau Grouper	A
	<i>Epinephelus itajara</i>	Goliath grouper	A
	<i>Epinephelus guttatus</i>	Red hind grouper	A
	<i>Mycteroperca bonaci</i>	Black grouper	A
	<i>Epinephelus morio</i>	Red grouper	A
	<i>Mycteroperca tigris</i>	Tiger grouper	A
	<i>Mycteroperca venenosa</i>	Yellowfin grouper	A
	<i>Hyporthodus flavolimbatus</i>	Yellowedge grouper	A
	<i>Cephalopholis fulva</i>	Coney	C
	<i>Hyporthodus mystacinus</i>	Misty grouper	C
	<i>Mycteroperca interstitialis</i>	Yellowmouth grouper*	C
Scaridae -- Parrotfishes	<i>Scarus coeruleus</i>	Blue parrotfish	A
	<i>Scarus coelestinus</i>	Midnight parrotfish	A
	<i>Scarus guacamaia</i>	Rainbow parrotfish	A
	<i>Scarus vetula</i>	Queen parrotfish	C
	<i>Scarus taeniopterus</i>	Princess parrotfish	C
	<i>Sparisoma chrysotermum</i>	Redtail parrotfish	C
	<i>Sparisoma viride</i>	Stoplight parrotfish	C
	<i>Sparisoma aurofrenatum</i>	Redband parrotfish	C
	<i>Scarus iseri</i>	Striped parrotfish	C
	<i>Sparisoma rubripinne</i>	Redfin parrotfish	C
Haemulidae -- Grunts	<i>Haemulon plumieri</i>	White grunt	C
	<i>Haemulon album</i>	Margate	C
	<i>Haemulon sciurus</i>	Bluestriped grunt	C
Sparidae -- Porgies	<i>Calamus bajonado</i>	Jolthead porgy	C
	<i>Archosargus rhomboidalis</i>	Sea bream	C
	<i>Calamus penna</i>	Sheepshead porgy	C
	<i>Calamus calamus</i>	Saucereye porgy	C
Carangidae -- Jacks	<i>Caranx crysos</i>	Blue runner	D
Acanthuridae -- Surgeonfishes	<i>Acanthurus coeruleus</i>	Blue tang	C
	<i>Acanthurus bahianus</i>	Ocean surgeonfish	C
	<i>Acanthurus chirurgus</i>	Doctorfish	C

Family or Class	Scientific Name	Common Name	Criterion
Labridae -- Wrasses	<i>Lachnolaimus maximus</i>	Hogfish	C
Pomacanthidae -- Angelfishes	<i>Holacanthus ciliaris</i>	Queen angelfish	C
	<i>Pomacanthus arcuatus</i>	Gray angelfish	C
	<i>Pomacanthus paru</i>	French angelfish	C
Balistidae -- Triggerfishes	<i>Balistes vetula</i>	Queen triggerfish	D
Coryphaenidae -- Dolphinfish	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Dolphin*	D
Scombridae – Mackerels and Tunas	<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>	Wahoo*	D
Class Holothuroidea – Sea Cucumbers	All (See Appendix E)	Sea cucumbers	E
Class Echinoidea ¹ – Sea Urchins	All (See Appendix E)	Sea urchins	E
Corals (soft, hard, mesophotic, deep-water)	All (See Appendix E)	Corals	A

¹ Orders Arbacioida, Camarodonta, Cassiduloida, Cidaroida, Diadematoida, Echinolampadoida, Echinoneoida, Echinothurioida, Pedinoida, Salenioida, and Spatangoida.

Comparison of Action 2 Alternatives and Summary of Effects

Alternative 1 (No Action) would continue management of those stocks that are included under the U.S. Caribbean-wide FMPs, without alteration. When compared to **Alternative 1, Preferred Alternative 2** would identify species in need of conservation and management using an expert-based analysis of available data and information applied within an ordered set of evaluation criteria. The outcome of this ordered selection process would result in a change in the number of stocks subject to federal management in St. Thomas/St. John EEZ waters relative to **Alternative 1**. Although three reef fish stocks would be newly included in the federal management regime, 37 reef fish stocks would be simultaneously removed from management, resulting in an overall decrease in the number and composition of managed fish (from 81 to 47). Both alternatives would include spiny lobster and queen conch. Under **Preferred Alternative 2**, all species of corals, sea cucumbers, and sea urchins that occur in St. Thomas/St. John EEZ waters would be added to the federal management regime (see Appendix E). In contrast, under **Alternative 1**, only the species or genera of corals, sea urchins, and sea cucumbers that were included in the Coral FMP would be managed in St. Thomas/St. John EEZ waters.

Alternative 1 would not have direct physical, biological/ecological, socio-economic, or administrative effects relative to the present situation. **Alternative 1** would be expected to have indirect biological/ecological, and socio-economic effects because it would not extend management to other species in need of conservation and management based on the criteria established in the guidance on the Magnuson-Stevens Act. The Council would not set management reference points or other conservation measures for those species, or otherwise ensure those species are managed in a manner that prevents overfishing while achieving, on a continuing basis, the OY from the fishery as required by National Standard (NS) 1 of the