

# FisherFolk Net

## Will We Become the Land of the Amber Fish?

Excerpt of an article by IRIS MONNEREAU and HAZEL OXENFORD



Picture courtesy Vernel Nicholls

IS THERE ANYTHING more Barbadian than the flying fish?

We are known the world over as the “land of the flying fish” (never mind that flying fish live in the sea). The national dish is flying fish and cou cou, and a staple in Bajan rum shops is flying fish cutters, or simply roasted on an open fire with breadfruit to accompany a game of dominoes at the beach. In almost every restaurant, you will (or used to) find flying fish on the menu.

But that’s not all. Check out our dollar coin, or the hologram in

your Barbadian passport. Yes, the flying fish is *part ah we*. But what about this thing called climate change? It seems it is not just changing our climate; it’s changing our fish too! Gone are the days when vendors could buy 100 flying fish for \$25 or less, and one would hear their calls ringing out in the neighbourhood: “Fish! Fish! Four fuh ah dolla! Four fuh ah dolla!” ...**Read Full article:**

<https://www.nationnews.com/nationnews/news/239966/land-amber-fish>

## Barbuda Celebrating Fisherfolk Day

Barbuda Fisherfolk Day was celebrated on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2019 with a fishing tournament. Sixteen boats and over sixty fishers participated. This was the first year of celebration.



Picture submitted by Devon Warner

## 17<sup>th</sup> Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC)

Vernel Nicholls participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> WECAFC meeting held 15 - 18 July 2019, Miami. In her comments she informed that the CNFO is interested in the management of the fisheries resources and is committed to the ecosystem approach. She also reminded those present that the decisions being made must take fishers livelihoods into consideration. There were discussions on MPAs, the RFMO, IUU and other topics.



L-R Vernel Nicholls, Patrick Mcconney and Alejandro Acosta

The CNFO always praise those who support us, Mr. Andre Kong, Director of Fisheries, Jamaica and Mr. Milton Houghton, Executive Director of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism Secretariat (CRFM) among many other great partners who ensure that the CNFO is included in the conversation.

## Suriname/ Guyana News

A more organized approach to security for Guyanese fishermen plying their trade in Surinamese water is to be put in place but they must follow the correct procedures to get into the country.



*Pictured: Mr. Mark Lall*

Mr. Mark Lall says that the main challenge is to keep track of Guyanese fishers. The best advice he can offer is for the fishers of Guyana to come to Suriname legally, get their documents in order to get protection against piracy. Suriname Fisherfolk feel safe at sea right now because of some safety at sea projects. Fishing vessels have radio sets.

## Caribbean countries to benefit from access to insurance for the fisheries sector

**Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.** CCRIF SPC and the World Bank are pleased to announce that on July 1, the

Facility issued the Caribbean Oceans and Aquaculture Sustainability Facility (COAST) fisheries parametric insurance policy to two of its member governments – Grenada and Saint Lucia. The COAST insurance policies provide coverage for fisherfolk and other players in the fisheries industry to enable them to recover quickly after weather-related events. Initial funding for COAST has been provided by the U.S. State Department.

**Read link for full news:**  
<https://www.preventionweb.net/news/view/66495>

## Fourth body found, three friends still missing at sea (Trinidad and Tobago News Today)

July 25, 2019, Relatives of three fishermen still missing at sea are continuing to hope for the best but expecting the worst, as the bodies of four friends have been found since the brutal attack by pirates on Monday night.

## LAUNCHING OF CC4FISH PROJECT IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CNFO representative Mr. Joslyn LeeQuay attended a launching of the Climate Change Adaptation in the Caribbean Fisheries (CC4FISH) on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019. He reported on the discussions at the meeting.

Under the project fisherfolks will get the opportunity to participate in two workshops. One workshop will be on value change, how to handle fish and how to preserve it, also, looking at the possibility to export to the EU, (Currently, T&T only exports to the USA). The other workshop will be on climate change.

He mentioned that there were discussions on exotic ice cream made with shark. Recipes were shared. Also, they will look at handling and controlling sargassum. Satellites will be used to locate its position. Sargassum is used in Saint Lucia as fertilizers. It is recommended that they conduct tests to ensure that the salt from sargassum does not affect the soil.



*Picture of poster created by Kerton Jobe*

## Another Shark Attack in the Bahamas

July 5, 2019 An American tourist was injured in a shark attack in the Bahamas according to the Royal Bahamas Police Force. The attack comes just a week after a 21-year-old woman died after being attacked by three sharks.



# Dominica Fisheries Minister Plans to Grow Boat Building Industry

(Taken from KairiFM)

July 8, 2019 Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries Reginald Austrie says local boat builders will be contracted to build 80 fishing boats under a 65-million-dollar world bank-project. **Read full story at: <https://kairifm.com/fisheries-minister-plans-to-grow-boat-building-industry-in-dominica/>**



Photo by Amanda Kabat (KAIRIFM NEWS PAGE)

## World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP) represented at Agricultural Biodiversity Working Group

Ms. Dannie James President of Saint Lucia Fisherfolk Cooperative Society Ltd. participated in a meeting of the International Planning Committee (IPC) for Food Sovereignty Working Group on Agricultural Biodiversity. The meeting was held in Rome July 16-19, 2019.

In 2020 the Convention on Biological Diversity will adopt a post-2020 global biodiversity framework as a stepping stone towards the 2050 Vision of "Living in harmony with nature". Ms. James says it is very important that we in the western hemisphere/ Caribbean see food security as a threat to our sustainable livelihood.



Ms. Dannie James at meeting

## Bahamas News

The Bahamas spiny lobster (*Panulirus argus*) season opens on August 1<sup>st</sup> and runs through to March 31<sup>st</sup>. Since August 2018 the Bahamas Lobster fishery has become the first Caribbean fishery to receive certification of the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) programme.



Picture Courtesy Adrian LaRoda. A fishing vessel heading out to sea to drop lobster traps ahead of the lobster season.

## SOME DOMINICA FISHERFOLK UPSET

On July 5, 2019 fisherfolk were invited to a ceremony where the government handed over one 23ft fiberglass boat and one forty horsepower engine to three fishermen Julie Jno Baptist, Alvin Laudat and John St Rose. Roseau Fisheries group felt that the selection process was meant to promote and build on the government's politic agenda and not necessarily to look after the best interest of the fisherfolk affected by hurricane Maria.



Julie Jno Baptist and his brand new boat

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Send a whatsapp message to +501-624-5364 and make the request. Currently 91 people fishers from CNFO member countries share real time news.



