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PUBLIC NOTICE

From the COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS
COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
Of the DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

DATE: October 16, 2026

NOTICE: The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) under the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ), the State's federally approved coastal management program (CMP), is currently reviewing a Consistency Determination by the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) in accordance with Section 307(c)(1) of the Coastal Zone management Act (CZMA) of 1972, as amended, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) regulations at 15 CFR § 930.35.

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Project Name: Proposed Annual Catch Limits (ACL) CNMI Bottomfish Management Unit Species (BMUS).

Proponent: National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS).

Location: CNMI and Federal Waters

The federal action proposes to establish a revised Annual Catch Limit (ACL) of 72,000 lbs. and an Annual Catch Target (ACT) of 66,000 lbs. for bottomfish management unit species (BMUS) in both local and federal waters around the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) for the 2026 through 2029 fishing (calendar) years.

The proposed federal action is subject to review for consistency under the policies of the CNMI Management Program, and is published for compliance with 15 CFR § 930.42. All comments must be received by 4:00PM Ch.ST. on October 27, 2026 to be considered in DCRM's final consistency evaluation.

Federal Consistency is a provision of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) that requires federal actions that affect the coastal zone to be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of a State's federally approved coastal management program (CMP). To submit comments, or access more information about the proposed activities, you may contact Ms. Sam Sablan at DCRM via email at fedcon@dcrm.gov.mp, (670) 664-8300, or access the DCRM website under Public Notices at: <https://dcrm.gov.mp/our-programs/permitting/federal-consistency/>.