

ABOUT US

The Division of Fish & Wildlife's Aquatic Education Program is funded by the Sport Fish Restoration Act to enhance the public's understanding of aquatic resources, sportfishing and to promote the development of responsible attitudes and ethics toward the aquatic environment.



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**COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

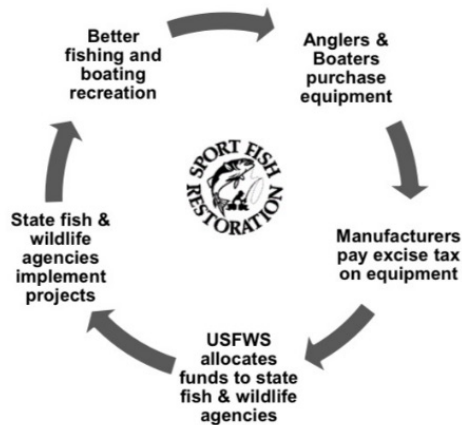
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Aquatic Education



Photos taken by DFW staff

Sport Fish Restoration Cycle



WHAT WE DO

We aim to educate individuals of all ages about various aspects of aquatic environments, water safety, and the importance of conservation. This program offers a wide range of educational opportunities, including classes, workshops, and hands-on experiences, to promote a better understanding and appreciation of aquatic ecosystems.



Photo of DFW staff presenting at Oleai Elementary School for career day!



A few of the anglers that participated in the ISLA derby 2023 - Smiling Cove Marina, Saipan
Photos taken by:
Dena N. Kamano

STRATEGIES

- Education & Outreach Programs
- Public Awareness Campaigns
- Workshops / Clinics
- Collaboration with Angling Organizations
- Interpretive Centers & Exhibits
- Citizen Science Programs
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Partnerships with Environmental Organizations
- Engage Anglers as Ambassadors

BENEFITS

- Gaining knowledge about fish species, their habitats, and their ecological roles;
- increased appreciation for aquatic ecosystems and encourage responsible fishing practices;
- learning about conservation efforts and how it can contribute to the long-term sustainability of fish populations



HOW CAN I MAKE FISHING BETTER IN THE CNMI?

- Implement sustainable fishing practices: By adopting sustainable practices, overfishing can be prevented, allowing fish stocks to replenish and ensuring a more productive fishing environment.
- Protect and restore habitat: By safeguarding and improving habitats, the overall health of fish populations can be enhanced, leading to better fishing experiences.
- Promote community involvement: Engaging in local communities & stakeholders in fishing related activities is vital for fostering a sense of ownership & stewardship over marine resources.
- Enhance management strategies: Effective fisheries management is crucial for ensuring sustainable fishing practices are followed & enforced. Additionally, collaboration between government agencies, researchers, NGOs, & local communities is essential for developing comprehensive management plans that address the unique challenges faced in the CNMI.
- Invest in research and monitoring: Continuous research & monitoring efforts are necessary to understand the dynamics of fish populations, their habitats, and the impacts of fishing activities.

By addressing these key factors, the CNMI can ensure a thriving fishing industry that benefits both present and future generations.