

**US Coral Reef Task Force Meeting**  
**San Juan, Puerto Rico**  
**October 30-November 5, 2009**  
**Week Summary**

**Friday October 30th:**

- 9am to 5pm: Recreational Stewardship Workshop, by invitation only
  - The Coral Reef Alliance, in association with the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and other local partners, is hosting a free learning workshop in San Juan to give dive and marine tourism professionals a background in coral reef ecology, conservation, and best environmental business practices. This interactive workshop will give tourism operators the chance to learn about local coral reef issues, see examples of strategies that are working in other coral reef jurisdictions, while developing their own local response to reduce reef threats from marine recreation.

**Saturday October 31st:**

- 9am to 4:30pm: Watersheds and Partnerships Workshop
  - This full-day workshop will explore watershed case studies and highlight Federal/local partnerships making a difference in watershed management. The needs of watershed managers and opportunities for partnership will be identified in facilitated discussions.
- 8am to 12pm: Restoration: Acropora and Montastrea Workshop
  - This workshop will focus on the process and criteria to list a species of coral in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). The workshop will discuss the criteria used to list Acropora (*palmata* and *cervicornis*) and review the status of the species. There will be a series of short presentations on the work, projects and monitoring of Acropora in the Caribbean. This background will be used to address the status of the Montastrea complex in Puerto Rico. Discussion will generate specific recommendations to be provided to the US Coral Reef Task Force to protect the Montastrea complex.
- 1pm to 4pm: Using Socioeconomic Information for Management in the US Caribbean Workshop
  - This workshop will provide a forum for presenting results of socioeconomic assessments completed in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands in 2008 and 2009. Attendees will hear from reserve managers on how they are using the socioeconomic information collected for management decisions and how the information is being integrated with biological data. There will be the opportunity for representatives from the community as well as from other jurisdictions to ask questions and learn more about the SocMon methodology.

**Sunday November 1st:**

- No events scheduled. Enjoy beautiful Puerto Rico!

**Monday November 2nd:**

- 8:30am to 1:00 pm: Steering Committee Meeting
  - Open to all meeting participants
- 3:00pm to 4:30pm: Working Group Meetings
- 6pm to 10pm: Welcome Reception, by invitation only
  - Place: La Arcada, Old San Juan *\*transportation provided, departing from the hotel lobby at 5:30*
  - Dress code: Cocktail Formal (example: suits for men, no ties necessary, and cocktail dresses for women)

**Tuesday November 3rd:**

- 8am to 9:00am: Business Meeting Registration
- 9am to 5:15pm: Business Meeting
  - Dress code: Island Casual
- 6pm to 10pm: Award Reception “Un Minuto de Coral”
  - Place: Parque de la Laguna del Condado, Jaime Benitez *\*transportation provided, departing from the hotel lobby at 5:30*
  - Dress code: Island Casual
  - Open to all meeting participants

**Wednesday November 4th:**

- 6:45am to 7pm: Field trip 1- Trip to Jobos and Guanica Watersheds , by invitation only
  - This trip will explore 2 land-based project sites impacting Guanica and nearby environments with a ridge to reef theme. It will highlight Federal/state/local partnerships making a difference in watershed management in the south of Puerto Rico. Meet with local users, state, and federal managers, scientists, and others to discuss the current status of Guanica and how to address its nearshore reefs, ideas for response plans, lessons learned, and planning for future projects. There will be a boat ride with the opportunity for snorkeling so please bring your bathing suit, towel, hat, sunscreen, water, snacks, and clothes that can get wet. Lunch will be provided.
- 6:45am to 5pm: Field trip 2-Water-based field trip to Isla Caja de Muertos, by invitation only
  - Please join your Puerto Rico hosts at DNER for a special guided tour - by boat and by foot - of the newly re-inaugurated Isla Caja de Muertos, a special nature preserve of high ecological importance, corals, caves, birds, and marine life. There will be an opportunity for snorkeling, so please bring your bathing suit, towel, hat, sunscreen, water, snacks, and clothes that can get wet. Lunch will be provided.

**Thursday November 5th:**

- 9am to 12:45 pm: Business Meeting
  - Dress code: Island Casual