Fish Size Restrictions within the Marianas as well as a new proposed House Bill (H.B. 21-17)

“To prohibit the taking and selling of certain sizes of fish species by adding a new section 5645 to Articles 4, Chapter 6, Division 5 of Title 2 of the Commonwealth Code; and for other purposes.”

**Status:** Senate committee has not acted on House Bill 21-17. Senate Chair has shelved with no further action. However, the Attorney General Office has adopted the Size Restriction regulation on January 27th, 2020. The CNMI Department and Lands and Natural Resources and Division of Fish and Wildlife have been notified and are providing outreach to inform fishers and fish vendors.

**S.B. No. 21-24:** “To amend 2 CMC § 5631 to allow surround nets (chenchulun umesugon) in the Third Senatorial District during Bigeye Scad (Atulai) seasonal run.”

**Status:** Senate committee reviewed and made revisions. The Bill is now with the House Committee, pending adoption.

**H.B. No. 21-28:** “To prohibit the sale, offer for sale, and distribution in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands of sunscreen containing oxybenzone and octinoxate without a prescription from a licensed healthcare provider.”

**Status:** Senate Committee and House Committee have amended the bill. The said Senate Bill is still with committee and is awaiting scheduling for adoption.
H.B. 21-38: “To establish a one-day non-resident sport fishing license fee in the CNMI; and for other purposes.”

Status: Introduced by House Natural Resource Chairman Rep. Antonio San. Nicolas Borja seeks to amend Title 2, Division 5, Chapter 1 of the Commonwealth Code by adding a new section 5109 to implement a one-day non-resident sport fishing license fee in the CNMI.

The one-day trip sport fishing permit fee shall be as follows:

1. $10.00 per non-resident 16 years of age or older per day.
2. $5.00 per non-resident 15 years of age or younger per day.

The Bill is still with the House and have not been calendared or assigned to committee.