

Raven Walker, MARS

Consumer Predator (Humans) – Prey (Lionfish) Model for Controlling Lionfish Populations



Taken in Aruba at the “Fisherman’s Dock” in summer 2014. I’m pictured here interviewing the fisherman about fishing habits, total fish catches, familiarity with lionfish, and willingness to eat lionfish. They are showing me the hand lines they use to catch grouper and explaining the equipment/tools involved. I spent two months in Aruba surveying tourists, fisherman, local Arubans, restaurant owners, divers, and government officials of their awareness of lionfish, their interest in eating lionfish (if they haven’t already), and willingness to be involved in resolving the issue. I also collected lionfish while diving in order to record their weight and total length data. My overall goal for the project is to develop a consumer predator (human) – prey (lionfish) model to develop a “sustainable” fishery in efforts of lionfish removal.