

# **Report on current FAD Fishery**



## **Trinidad and Tobago**



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# Trinidad and Tobago

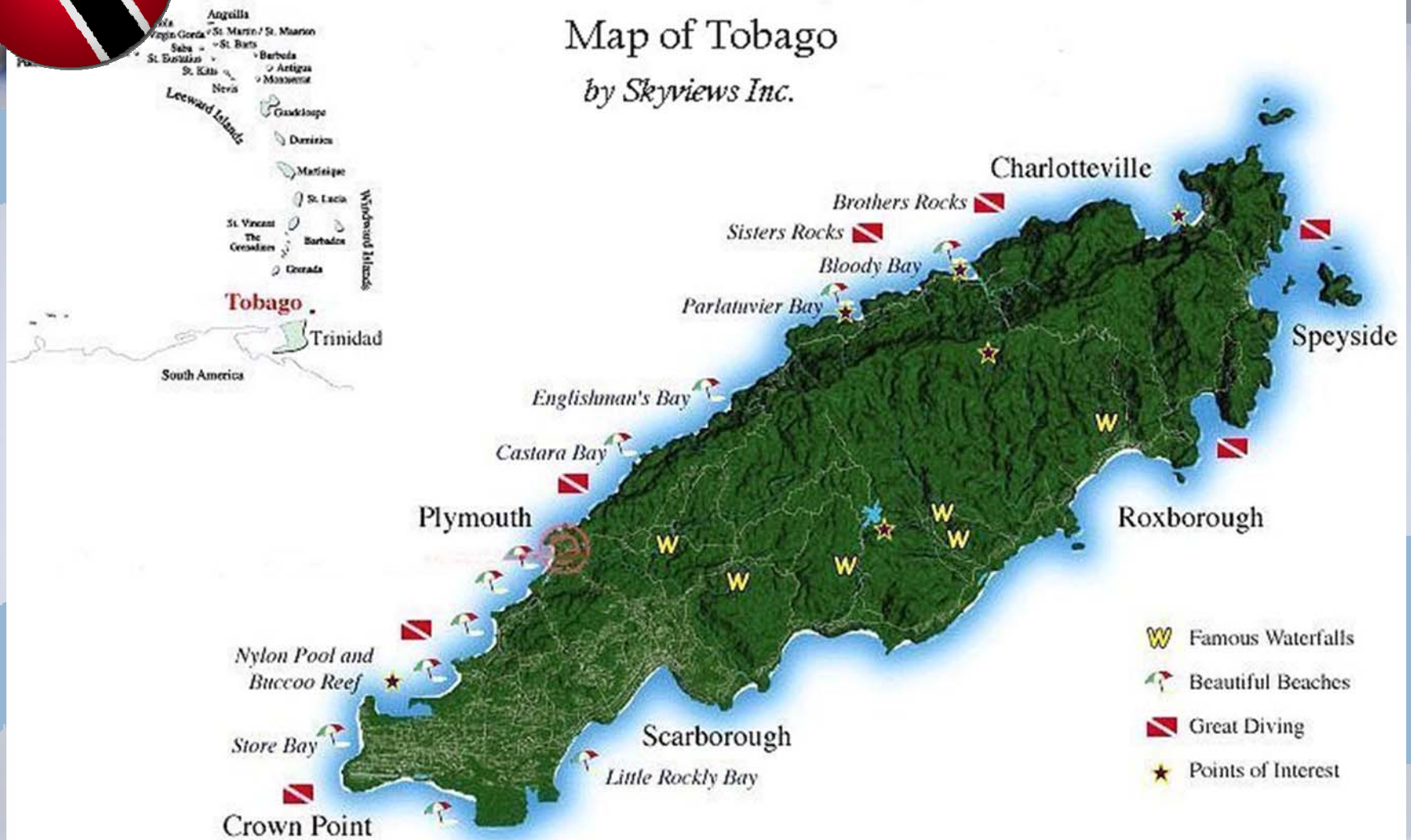


- Located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Caribbean Sea, northeast of Venezuela
- No existing FAD Fishery in Trinidad
- Report presented will relate only to the operations in Tobago.



# Tobago

Map of Tobago  
*by Skyviews Inc.*





# General Information

- FAD in Tobago is associated with the Flying Fish Fisheries
  - Privately operated ([Locations](#))
- Approximately 25% of around 400 fishers use FAD during the drift/ flying fish season
  - Flying fish season: October to June of following year

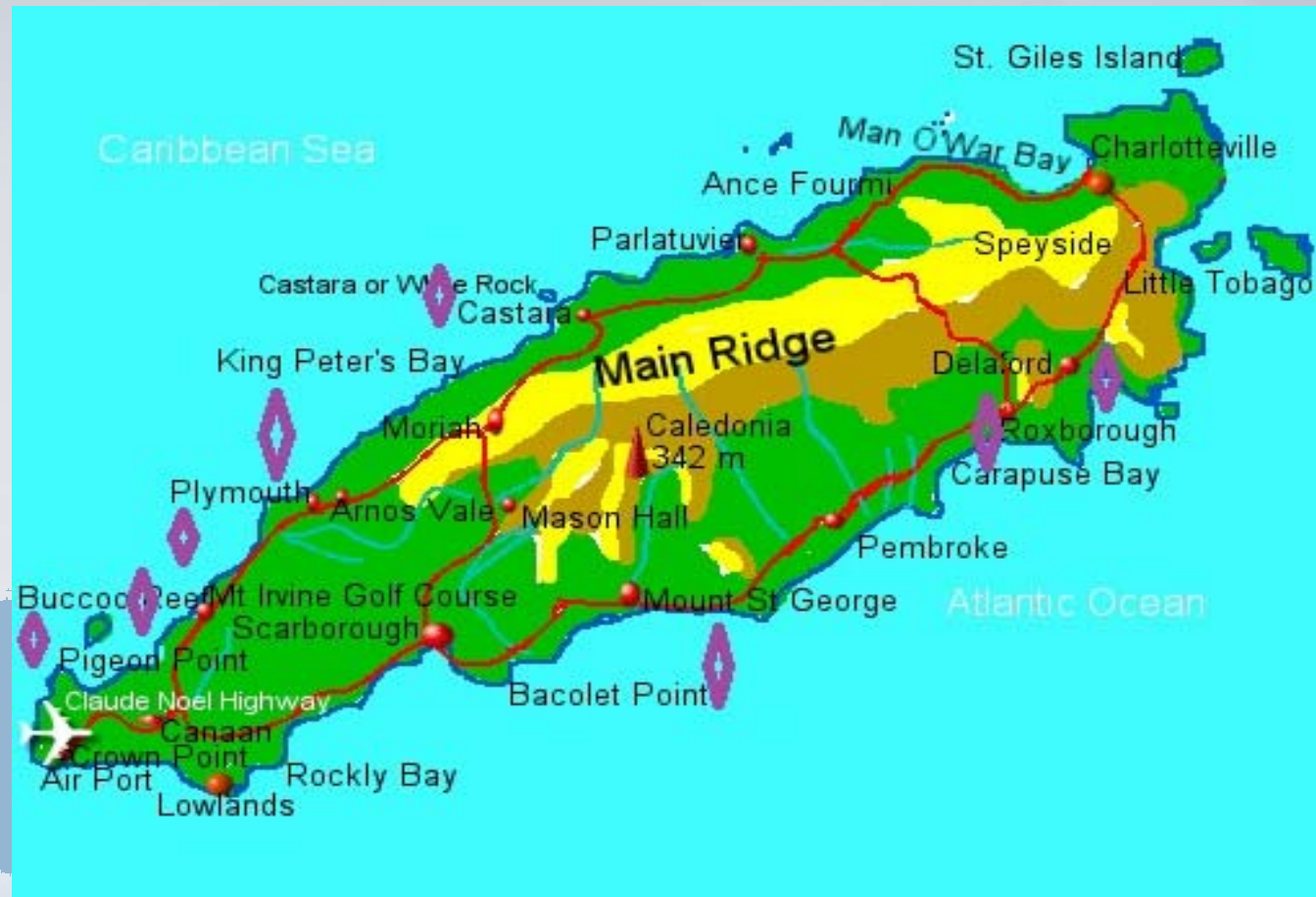
**FAD in Tobago**





# Main FAD sites in Tobago

- Mt Irvine
- Pigeon Point
- Plymouth
- Buccoo
- Studley Park
- Castara
- Belle Garden
- Delaford





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**FAD in Tobago**



# FAD construction

- Made from mangrove wood or bamboo, different sizes of rope, buoys and nets
  - About 6-8 square feet.
- Anchored by cemented engine block or steel anchor
- Costs between \$800.00 to \$2,500.00 TT
- A flag of ownership may be tied to the top of the FAD

**FAD in Tobago**



# The Catch

- Type of Catch:
  - Main targeted fish: Dolphin fish/ Mahi Mahi
  - Significant Bi-catch: Flying fish
  - Others: Wahoo and tuna
- Average weight of catch:
  - Dolphin: 250- 400 lbs
  - Flying Fish: 1000 lbs

**FAD in Tobago**





# The Catch



**FAD in Tobago**



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Flying fish

**FAD in Tobago**



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**FAD in Tobago**





# The Catch

- Method of fishing: Trolling
  - Fisher would drive the boat slowly around the FAD with baited hook on a line
  - Dolphin would follow baited line and is caught
  - Net that is hung with FADs trap flying fish
- After the catch:
  - FAD fish not differentiated from fish caught by other methods
  - Fishers make their own arrangements for their sale

**FAD in Tobago**



# Registration and Licenses

Currently, legislation does not allow for registration and licensing of FADs; However, there is a draft Fisheries Management Bill which addresses this issue.

**FAD in Tobago**



# Rules and regulations for FAD Fisheries Management

This Draft Bill does not explicitly mention the management of FAD Fisheries, as this would be covered in a separate Fisheries Management Plan.

**FAD in Tobago**



# Rules and regulations for FAD Fisheries Management

There have been instances of fishers anchoring and fishing off of FADs that they did not set. While there is some measure of self-regulation, there is need for rules and regulations regarding FADs and their management.

**FAD in Tobago**





# Catch and Effort Data

There is no differentiation in data collected of the catch from FAD fishing against other fishing methods.

Presently:

- Random sampling of 8 out of 28 landing sites in Tobago
- Sites: Castara, Plymouth, Pigeon Point, Buccoo, Mt. Irvine, Studley Park, Roxborough and Charlotteville
- THA has approved employment of 17 additional data collectors to comprehensively cover our Fisheries

**FAD in Tobago**



# Fishermen's Organization

- More than 10 fishermen organizations
  - 4 are well-organized with good structure
- All Fishing Organizations fall under the umbrella of the “All Tobago Fishermen Association” (ATFA).
  - This functions as the voice of Tobago's Fisherfolk on the national organization, “Trinidad and Tobago Unified Fisherfolk” (TTUF)

**FAD in Tobago**



# Fisheries Centres

- 10 Centres operating in Tobago
  - Delaford, Castara, Speyside, Mt. Irvine, Buccoo, Culloden, Courland Bay, Studley Park, Charlotteville and Grandby Bay
  - 4 new ones are to be commissioned within this month: Belle Garden, Lambeau, Roxborough and Argyle
- Managed jointly by the Marketing Department and the Fisheries Department of the Tobago House of Assembly

**FAD in Tobago**



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## **Questions?**