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# MANAGING FRESHWATER INFLOWS TO ESTUARIES

## Historical Synthesis Of Biophysical Information Of Samana region, Dominican Republic

A. Herrera - Moreno



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# **Historical Synthesis of Biophysical Information of Samaná Region, Dominican Republic**



**Dr. Alejandro Herrera-Moreno**

**Center for the Conservation and Eco-development  
of Samaná Bay and its surroundings, CEBSE, Inc.**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

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This report is part of a study made for the Center for the Conservation and Eco-Development of the Bay of Samana and its surroundings (CEBSE), with the objective of compiling physic, biological and fishery information to have a basis for a Rapid Ecological Assessment.

Our specific objective is to characterize the biophysical regimen of Bay of Samana in regard to freshwater contribution of Yuna and Barracote Rivers through the analysis of existing information and identification of the most important lagoons to be address by the REA.

In order to do this we performed the following activities: a) collection and revision of historical information on hydrology, circulation, bathymetry, water flows, habitat distribution and fish resources of the Samana region, b) elaboration of a digital bathymetric model to help future ecological and oceanographic studies, c) revision of the fish captures in some places to complement the compiled information, d) revision and analysis of the information on the shrimp fishery in the estuary complex at the West of the Bay of Samana.

The studied region is the estuary and the interior of Bay of Samana, although if we consider that Samana region extends to Punta Arena in the north of the Samana Peninsula, and to Nisibón in the south, we additionally considered all information in this area that could be relevant for future research.

## **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

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### **INFORMATION COMPILATION AND ANALYSIS**

As a starting point of our work we took the previous coast and marine biodiversity review of Samana region made by Betancourt (1998) for the CEBSE, which is here extended and complemented. By visiting libraries and web sites of several national and international institutions we completed the search of all inedited or published information including products of projects and research papers on different themes. We reviewed the libraries of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and Center for Marine Biology Research (CIBIMA) of University of Santo Domingo.

Special attention was directed to library of CEBSE because this institution has conducted several general investigations of this region in which available information on natural resources of the basin and the north and east of the peninsula has been compiled. In the same way, we made direct contact with researchers or Cornell University and the Sea Education Association of Woods Hole to get the paper research made by these institutions at Samana.

The information on the general biota was complemented with data of CIBIMA (1994) and the most current information of the Project HISPABIOTA MARINA (Herrera-Moreno and Betancourt, 2005, for the information on fishery we used the FishBase by Froese and Pauly (2005), the review of Ramírez and Silva (1994), the report of ICRAFD (2001) and the results of the Chapter on Dominican Republic of the Regional Fishery (Herrera *et al.*, in press.).

During our search we included some international museums that have in their collections material from Samana. They are: National Museum of Natural History (NMNH, 2005), Florida Museum of Natural History (FMNH, 2005), National History Museum of Los Angeles County (NHMLC, 2005) and the California Academy of Science Catalog of Fishes (CASCF, 2005). Information of these museums regards to international expeditions of research ships Caroline, Silver Bay y J. E. Pillsbury, which conducted biological sampling in the Bay of Samana and nearby sea. General data about this is showed in Table 1.

Table 1. Data about some expeditions that have conducted biological surveys in the Samana region.

ship	Month	year	Station	Latitude N	Longitude O	Depth (m)
Caroline	Feb	1933	52	19° 10' 25''	69° 20' 55''	26-40
Silver Bay	Oct	1963	5174	19° 22' 00''	69° 27' 00''	68
Pillsbury	Jan	1970	1157	19° 06' 18''	69° 01' 00''	18-40

Information compiled on species of macroalgae, marine invertebrates and fish for Samana region was organized in tables arranged by taxonomic group, following the order by Ruppert and Barnes (1994). We tried to organized, from an ecological point of view, all species information according to the habitat, such as those from the interior of the basin, those corresponding to studies carried out in areas of the interior of the Bay of Samaná, swamps, marine grasses and reefs of scarce development, and those corresponding to external areas of the Bay of Samaná, in arrecifal habitats that are developed under the oceanic influence, although this subdivision can be in some relative cases.

Total number of species per group were added for the “external” and “internal” areas and compared to get conclusions on regional differences regarding group diversity and species richness.

In connection with the fishing data, information was compiled whenever it was possible of all the places of landing of the region of Samaná that go from Punta Arena until Nisibón.

To supplement the gathered information we carried out visits to several landing places including that of the fishermen in Sánchez, where fishing activity is directly related with the estuarine habitat. To compare the variations of the fishing resources in a gradient from the estuary to the ocean we included the data of the eight landing places proposed by Sang et to the one. (1997): Sánchez, Miches, Los Cacaos, Sabana de la Mar, Las Pascualas, Santa Bárbara de Samaná, Las Galeras and Las Terrenas. The data of these places were organized in order from the interior to the exterior of the bay offering a pattern of the species according to swamp-estuary-prairie-reef-ocean habitats.

Whenever it was possible we took the coordinates of all the points where reports of species or ecosystems/habitat information were found, for cartographic location. Some points where biophysical data were obtained for the present work are indicated in Figure 1, where the places of origin of biological oceanographic or fishing information are explained. In the case of mangrove swamps and the marine grasses, there is not a precise geographical indication of study places because all obtained information corresponds to the whole periphery of the region that is indicated in the map and in particular the mangrove swamps to the coast West of the Bay of Samaná.

## **CARTOGRAPHY**

The digital bathymetric pattern was elaborated starting from the data of Coordenates UTM WGS 84 and depth obtained using the most recent bathymetric map available in the Military Cartographic Institute, scale 1:30,000, adjusted to a previously designed grid. This way we obtained maps of the general bathymetry –two and three-dimensional - both in the GOLDEN SURFER Program Version 8, of the Golden Software, Inc., through the Krigging Model, by a previous calculation of the adjustment variogram. These maps just pretend to offer a general model of the topography of the submarine bottom to analyze its characteristics and to serve as a basis for future work on ecosystem and habitat delimitations.

To support this and because the lack of information on the bottom types of the bay, the points corresponding to the different available bottom types in the bathymetric map were equally mapped, with the interest of having a preliminary idea of the distribution of the muddy habitat associated to the contribution of the rivers.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We thank the personnel of The Nature Conservancy, the library of the Center for Marine Biology Research (CIBIMA) and especially the Center for the Conservation and Eco-Development of the Bay of Samana and its surroundings (CEBSE), for the facilities offered during the search of information. We thank to the Dr. Erik Zettler, Scientific Coordinator of Sea Education Association of Woods Hole for his collaboration by supplying information of the Cruise C-191 on board of the Research Ship Corwith Cramer from Key West to Samaná. In the University of Cornell we thank to M. Laba, S. D. Smith and S. D. DeGloria for sending us their work on land use in the low basin of the Yuna River and to Ruth Sherman for sending us her excellent works on the mangrove swamps of the Bay of Samaná.

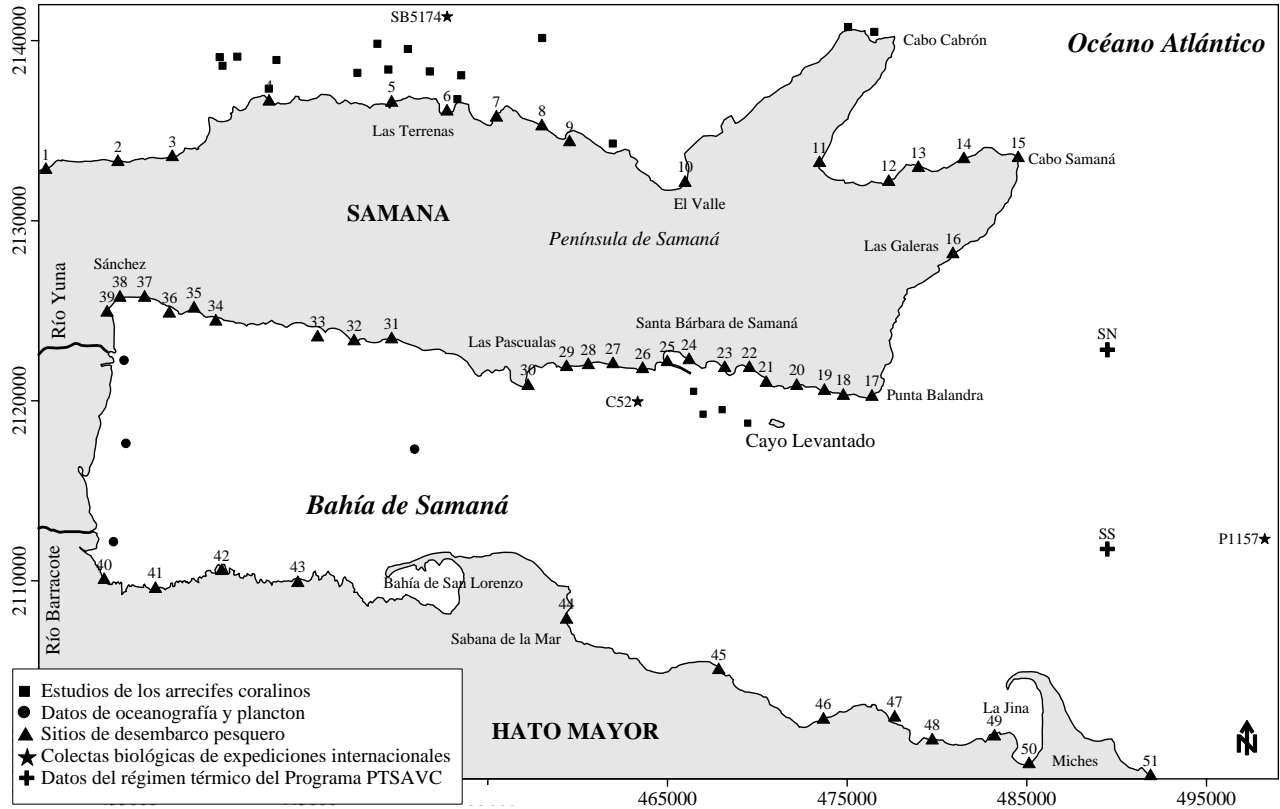


Figure 1. General map of Samana region with several points where biophysical information was obtained. *International expeditions*: SB. BI Silver Bay Estación 5174, C52. BI Caroline, Estación 52 BI Pillsbury Estación 1157. *Landing sites*: 1. Las Cañitas, 2. El Cossón, 3. Bonita Beach, 4. Las Terrenas, 5. El Estillero, 6. Punta Coquito, 7. El Limón, 8. El Morón, 9. Las Canas, 10. El Valle, 11. Rincón Beach, 12. Punta Frillet, 13. La Playita, 14. Las Galeras, 15. Madama, 16. El Francés, 17. Punta Balandra, 18. Los Cacaos, 19. Las Flechas, 20. El Caletón, 21. Simi Báez, 22. Los Gratin, 23. Carenero, 24. Punta Lirio, 25. Villa Clara, 26. Anadel, 27. Samaná, 28. Los Cocos, 29. Las Pascualas, 30. Punta Corozo, 31. Arroyo Barril, 32. Los Róbalos 33. Los Corrales 34. Arroyo Hondo 35. El Majagual 36. Las Garitas 37. Arroyo Higuero 38. Punta Gorda, 39. Sánchez, 40. Naranja Abajo, 41. Amado Cave, 42. El Coco, 43. Naranja Arriba, 44. Sabana de la Mar, 45. Capitán, 46. Las Cañitas, 47. Magua, 48. Cabezú, 49. Arroyo Rico, 50. Ensenada de la Jina y 51. Miches (taken from Herrera-Moreno and Betancourt, 2003).

## PHYSICAL ASPECTS

It can be said that physical/chemical oceanographic information on Bay of Samana is not available at all. Surprisingly, the biggest estuary in the Dominican Republic -and one of the most important of the Caribbean - it has never been object of a deep oceanographic investigation, with a seasonal approach, including the physical and chemical factors that reveal the hydrological pattern, related with the freshwater contribution of the Yuna and Barracote Rivers.

Ferreras et al (1990) and Ferreras (1991) offer the only well-known data on some oceanographic parameters in the western region of the Bay of Samaná, between November of 1988 and August

of 1989. In four stations (Fig. 1) determinations of salinity, temperature, pH, and chlorophyll concentrations were made, but only in the superficial stratum. These studies were carried out with investigations of the plankton (Lysenko, 1991). This early physical-chemical characterization showed big fluctuations of salinity (0 to 25 ‰), temperature (22 to 32 °C), pH (7.5 at 8.5) and chlorophyll concentrations (0.53 to 6.9 mg/m<sup>3</sup>), which reveals the dynamic nature of the region linked to the fluvial influence (Ferrerías et al., 1990; Ferrerías, 1991). However, these data are limited because they only refer to superficial samples that do not allow to determine the position of the saline intrusion neither to describe the estuary type appropriately. On the other hand, the works do not clarify in what phase of the tide cycle the samplings were made every month, and the scarce data are not supplemented with previous meteorological information during the samplings (for example precipitations) and do not cover a complete annual cycle of observations.

In regard to the salinity, without doubts the most excellent parameter for the characterization of the estuary, the data show the biggest variations in the proximity of the Río Yuna (0 to 4 ‰) and the Río Barracote (0 to 12 ‰). The station between both rivers (19 to 25 ‰) it never showed values so low indicating that, at least under the conditions of this sampling, the effect of the fresh water was very located at the river mouth. Finally in their station farthest to the rivers, the values varied between 18 and 25 ‰ indicating that important fluctuations of the superficial salinity can be observed up to about 18 kms from the western coast (Fig. 2), although these can be related with the contribution of other courses that exist in the riversides North and South of the bay. In fact, in the South coast at Miches, Herrera-Moreno and Betancourt (2001) report salinities of the order of 10‰ in the coastal area influenced by the La Mulata Creek and its tributary Los Ranchos stream.

A hydrological study (1993) is mentioned, carried out by the Agency of Spanish Cooperation (AECI) that seems to be the most complete previous oceanographic study of the estuary but we had no access to those data for this work. It would be of great interest to manage such information with comparative purposes, since that study contains values of salinity in surface and bottom in an extensive net of stations in the western region of the bay from 12 years back.

As part of data search on the oceanographic characteristics of breeding areas of the hunchback whales (*Megaptera novaengliae*) at Banco de la Navidad, Banco de La Plata and Samaná Bay, Betancourt and Herrera-Moreno (2005a) show information about the seasonal variation of the superficial temperature of the water in the two nearest stations to the mouth of the Bay of Samaná (Fig. 3) from Program PTSAVC<sup>1</sup> (RSMAS, 2002).

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<sup>1</sup> PTSAVC (Average Water Superficial Temperature and Wind for the Caribbean) from the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science of Miami University presents twelve maps of Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea, in which every month represents an average of twelve years of observations. From these maps it can be obtained information on superficial temperature if coordinates of the interest point are known.



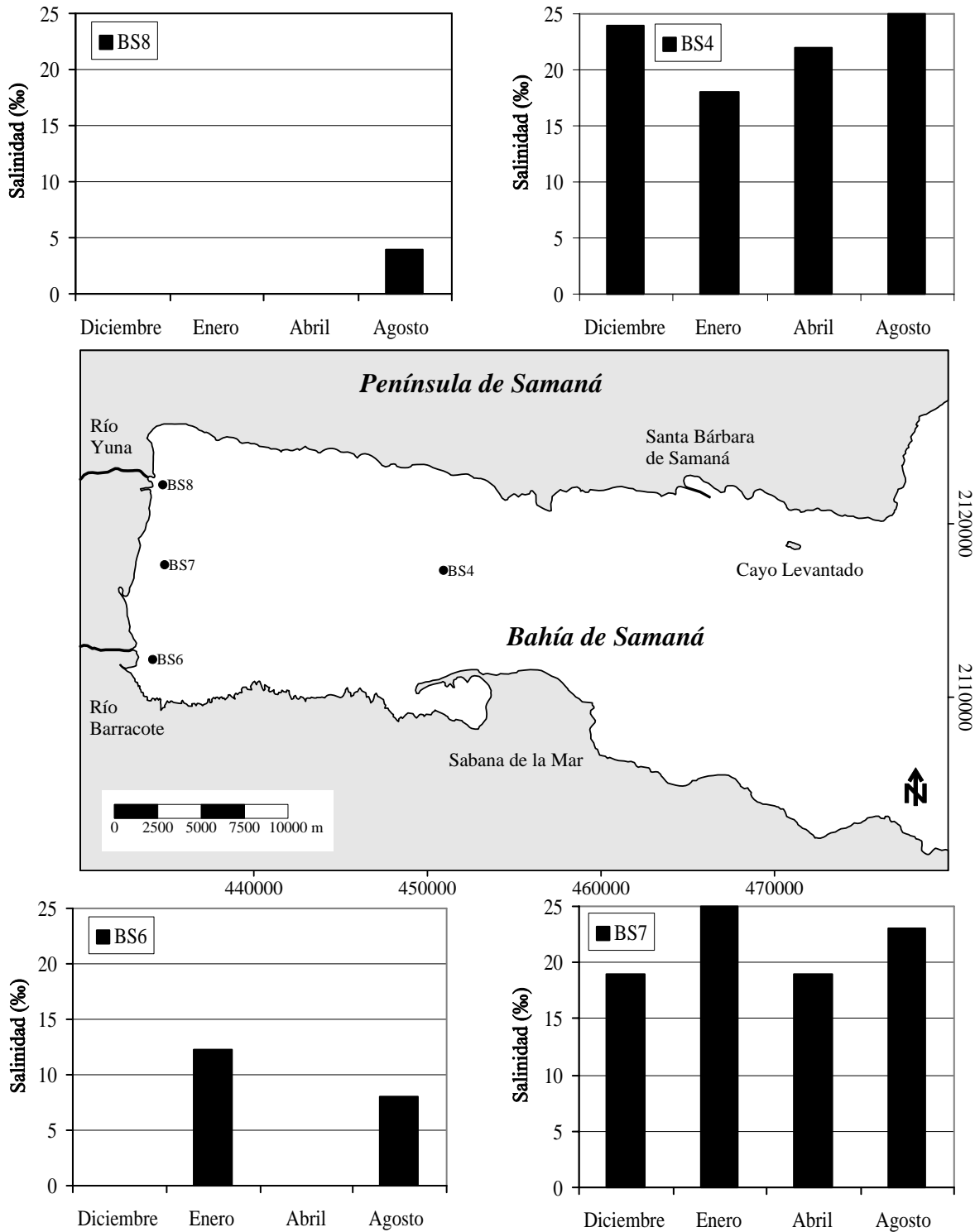


Figure 2. Variation of salinity in four stations (BS4, BS6, BS7 y BS8) in the western of Samana Bay, during four month from 1988 to 1989 (elaborated from data by Ferreras *et al.*, 1990 and Ferreras, 1991).

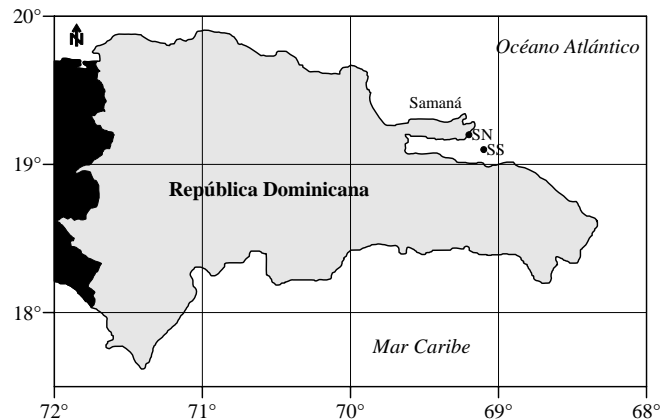
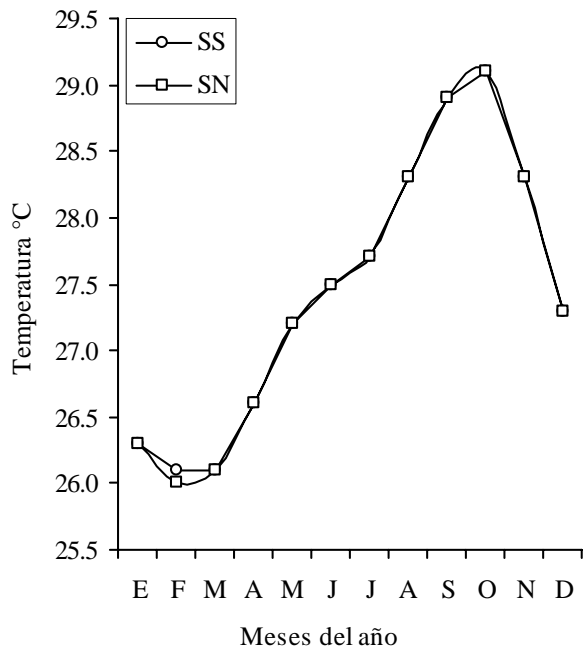


Figure 3. Right. Dominican Republic Map showing the two stations of the Program PTSAVC closest to Samaná Bay. Est. SS: 19° 06.0' 69° 06.0'; Est. SN 19° 12.0' 69° 06.0' Left. Seasonal Variation of Water Superficial Temperature at two the two stations indicated (from Betancourt and Herrera-Moreno, 2005a).

These data show the temperature seasonal tendency in the oceanic region adjacent to the bay and although they do not correspond to the estuary area of our interest they offer, nevertheless, a general comparative frame on the regional thermal pattern useful for future investigations. Lastly, we have had knowledge that the Sea Education Association of Woods Hole, Massachusetts has carried out oceanographic cruises on board the Research Ship Corwith Cramer, in the Atlantic and Central Caribbean with some stations in the Bay of Samaná (SEA, 2004). We currently are waiting answer from this institution about possible relevant oceanographic information since their investigation includes temperature, salinity, nutrients and photosynthetic pigments.

In regard to sediments, we only know that slime and clay percentages reach 40 to 76% and concentrations of organic matter are high, Ferreras *et al* (1990) and Ferreras (1991). To the present time it has not been carried out any study of the bay that allows knowing the distribution and types of superficial sediments, although the contribution of Yuna and Barracote Rivers are very important, as it is shown in Figure 4. Types of sea bottom in Figure 5 give an idea of the distribution of deposits and show in a general scale a gradient from West to East, according to the contribution of the rivers. In the western end, near the mouth river, mud bottom prevails with isolated patches of sand. This muddy area represents a deep basin of more than 30 m. The distribution of the muddy biotope extends and combines with sandy and coralline bottoms toward the East, although at a considerable distance of the West coast muddy patches are observed. Evidence of coralline bottoms appeared at about 24 km from the western coast at coordinates UTM (WGS 84) 457204 east. Such characteristics are shown in the Digital Bathymetric Model of the Annex II.

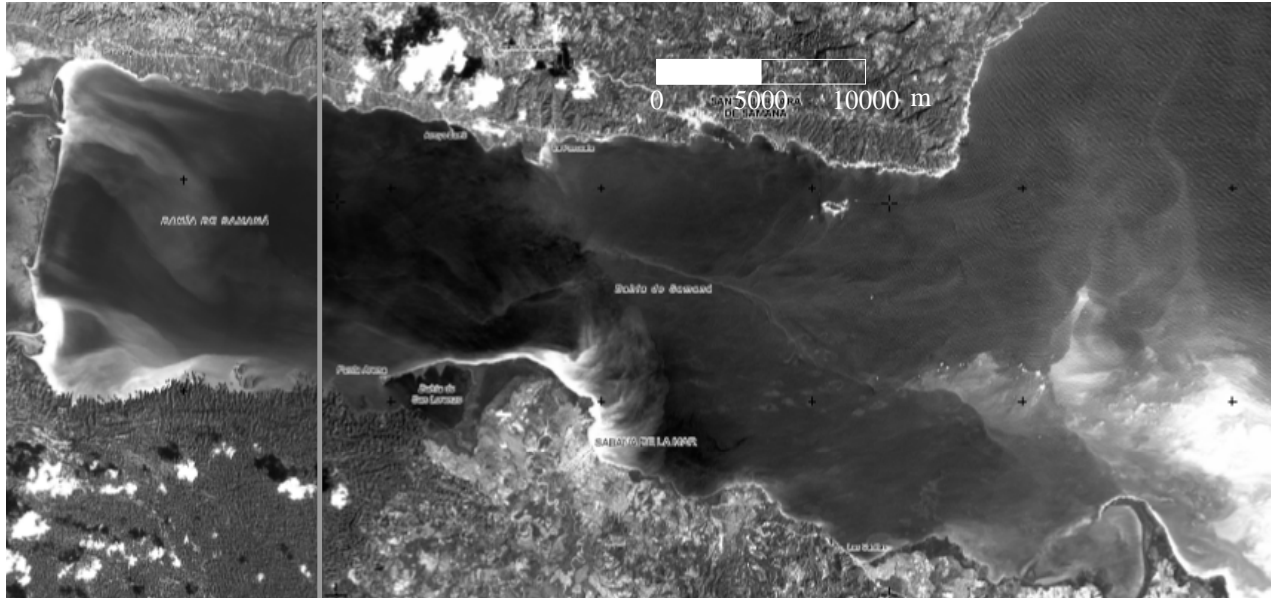


Figure 4. Aerial picture Samana region from Cartographic Military Institute. It can be observed the influence of deposits from Yuna and Barracote Rivers at the west side of the bay.

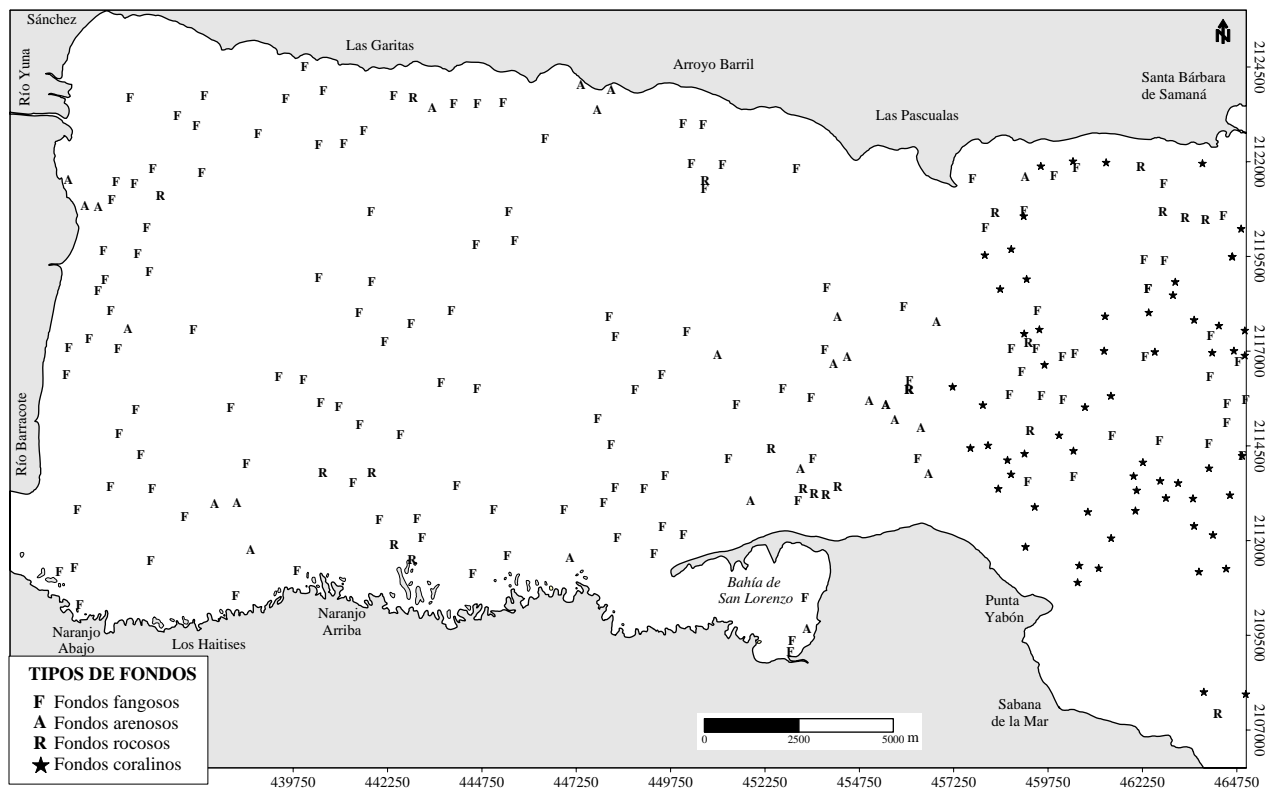


Figure 5. Map of Samana Region used for elaboration of the Digital Bathymetric Model. Types of bottom are shown: mud, sand, rock and coralline.

All these elements indicate that one of the main objectives of future investigations of this estuary should be address to know the characteristics of the hydrological regime during a tide cycle through the analysis of the -horizontal and vertical space variation - of oceanographic parameters. Also, collection of superficial sediments is very important in order to describe physical-chemical characteristics. Such a characterization is key to know the behavior of the estuary, the dynamics of the local deposits, to make inferences about the patterns of currents and to offer the physical basis for the description of benthonic habitats.

## **BIOLOGICAL ASPECTS**

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Bay of Samaná characterizes by its marked contrast among highly fluctuating estuarine conditions toward the West -related with the contribution of several courses of water - and more stable oceanic conditions toward the East, in the Atlantic direction. This interaction among terrestrial and oceanic influences, conditioned by the hydrological régime, local climate and the very particular physiography of the region generates a gradient of ecological conditions among the bay, the coastal area and the adjacent ocean that transforms Samana into a mosaic of environments where lives a highly diverse biota, which is exploited with fishing purposes.

Main coastal and marine habitats directly related with the estuary system are: mangrove forest, soft substrate bottoms, marine grasses on mud-to-sand substrate and the coralline reefs. Next chapter is a discussion of a basic review on each of these habitats by Betancourt (1998) of the Center for the Conservation and Eco-Development of the Bay of Samana and its surroundings.

### **MANGROVE SWAMPS**

Mangrove swamps of the region of Samaná have an estimated total surface between 82.1 km<sup>2</sup> (TRD, 1992) and 130 km<sup>2</sup>, equivalent to near 3% of the vegetable covering of the region (CEBSE, 1993). The knowledge about the distribution of the swamps in the region comes from different individual works whose analysis reveals that the most important extension of swamp forest is located to the occident of the bay. Isolated patches exist –more or less conserved - in the North coast and South of the bay, while in the Peninsula there are scarce mangrove sections to the North and these are practically absent to the East.

According to the available data, the mangrove swamps at the interior of Bay of Samaná, from Punta Palometa in the Northeastern end of the bay to Punta Yabón at the North of Sabana de la Mar, occupy 40 km equivalent to about 92% of the extension of swamps of this region (Sang and Lamelas, 1995). To the North and East of the Peninsula, according to Sang and Lamelas (1995a) the extension of swamps decreases to less than 4 km (Table 2).

Table 2. Extension of the mangrove forest in different areas of Samana region.

Location	Limits	Coast line (km)	Mangrove Extension (km)	Reference
Bahía de Samaná	Punta Yabón to Punta La Palometa	140.0	40.0	Sang and Lamelas, 1995
Península Este	Punta Palometa to Cabo Cabrón	39.5	0.1	Herrera and Peguero, 2004
Península Norte	Cabo Cabrón to Punta Arena	63.4	3.6	Sang and Lamelas, 1995a
Total		242.9	43.7	

### WESTERN COAST OF SAMANÁ BAY

In the western portion of the bay, associated mainly to the contribution of Yuna and Barracote Rivers, it is developed the biggest mangrove forest of Samaná region and the biggest continuous extension of this ecosystem in the Dominican Republic (CEBSE, 1993). With 17.6 km (Sang and Lamelas, 1995), this forest occupies the whole occidental portion of the Samaná Bay, from the town of Sánchez until the south margin of the Barracote mouth. General estimates on their surface give 65 km<sup>2</sup> (Álvarez and Cintrón, 1984) and 62.6 km<sup>2</sup> (Pérez et al, 1994) which has been more precise after the calculation from air pictures by Sherman (1996) reducing it to 42 km<sup>2</sup>.

Typical species of the Caribbean mangrove swamps: *Rhizophora mangle* (red mangrove), *Laguncularia racemosa* (white mangrove) and *Avicennia germinans* (black mangrove) are structured in that same order from sea to land, (Sang et al., 1994). Sherman (1994) offers the first quantitative data of the frequency of these species (Fig. 6), the density and basal area of the trees.

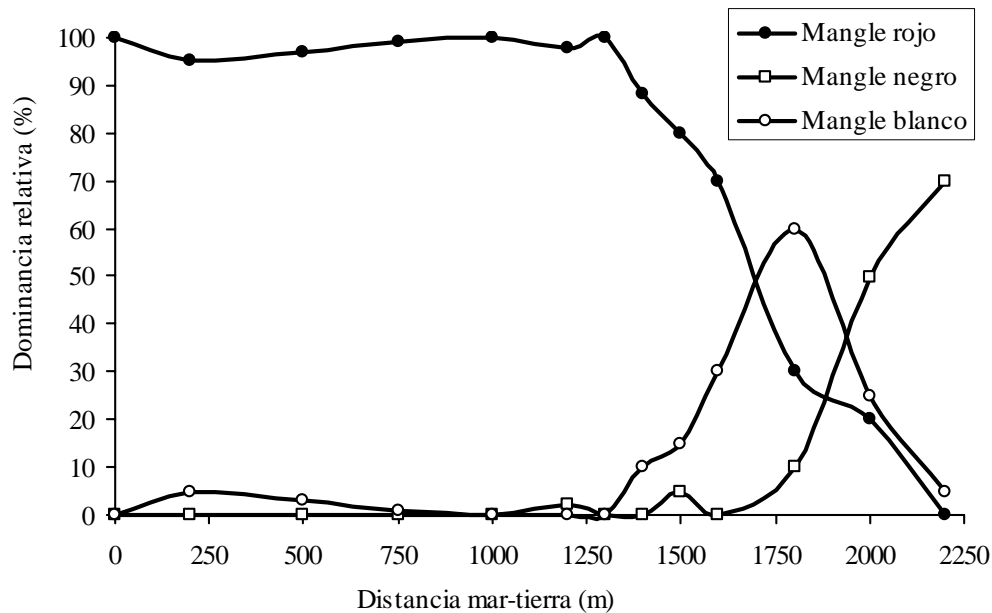


Figure 6. Changes in relative abundance of three species of mangrove in the western portion of Samaná Bay (according to Sherman, 1994).



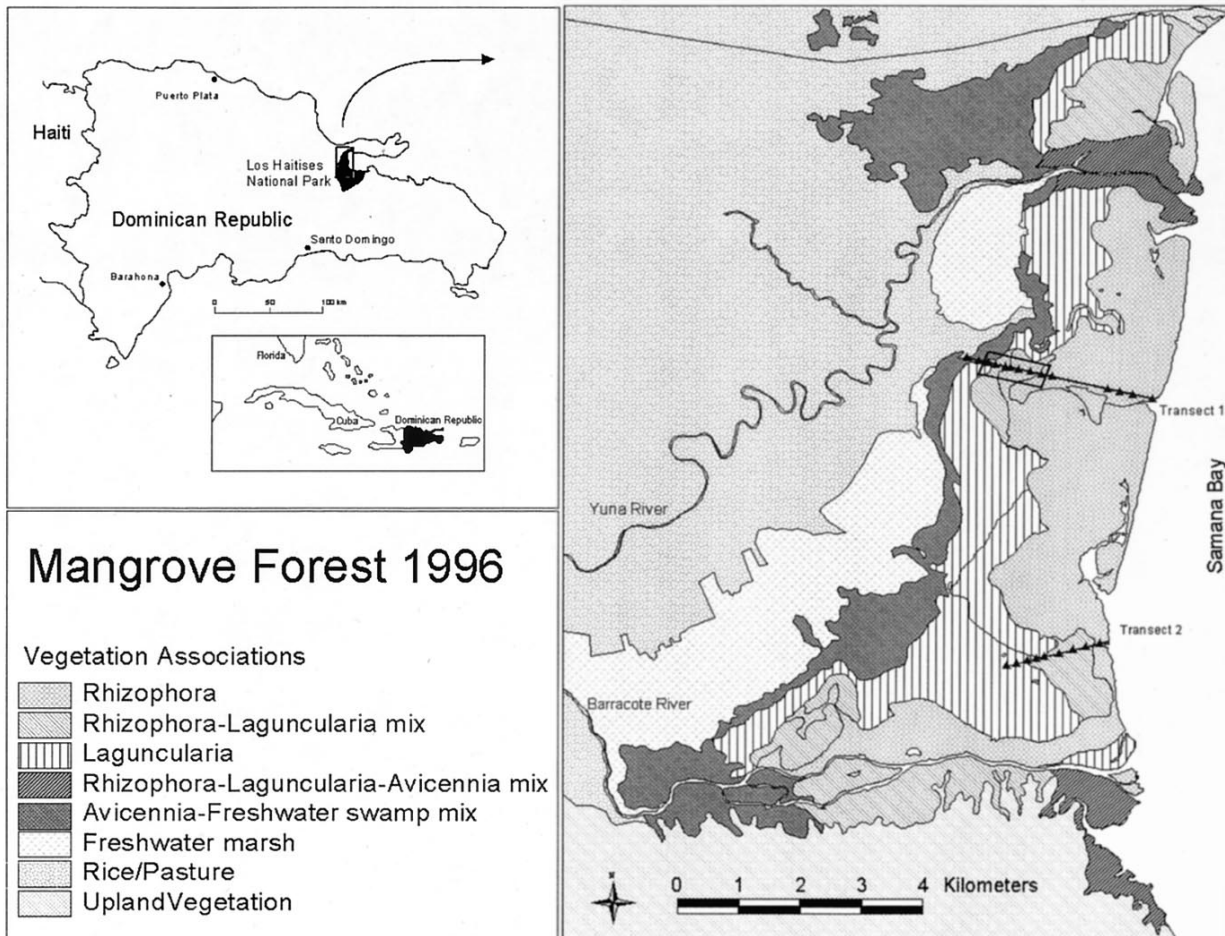


Figure 7. Species associations in the mangrove forest at the western portion of Samaná Bay (Sherman, 2003).

With support of physical-chemical data of the interstitial water (salinity, pH and nutrients) and soil (organic matter, nutrients and soil grain) Sherman (1994) bases the ecological factors that determine the abundance and distribution of mangrove species. This study and their later species associations' cartography (Sherman, 2003) in the mangrove forest (Fig. 7) constitute an important starting point for the understanding of the structure and function of mangrove forests at Samaná Bay, supplementing by this way previous descriptive studies (Álvarez and Cintrón, 1984).

Later investigations of the University of Cornell have offered information on the soil cover in the low basin of Yuna River (Laba et al, 1997), the historical evolution of the mangrove (Fig. 8) through the analysis of aerial pictures (Sherman, 1994; 2000), the relationship between the vegetation and the physical-chemical characteristics of the soil (Sherman, 1998; Sherman et al, 1998b), the roll of small-scale disturbances, like lightning, in the distribution and abundance of mangrove (Sherman, 1998a; Sherman, 2000; Sherman et al, 2000), the disturbance-recovery

patterns before hurricanes (Sherman et al, 2001) and the space patterns of the biomass and the productivity (Sherman et al., 2003).

After 1946 tsunami that destroyed great part of the forest (Álvarez and Cintrón, 1984), the mangrove forest has rapidly colonized and expanded increasing its total area from 33 km<sup>2</sup> in 1959 to 47 km<sup>2</sup> in 1996, according to aerial pictures by Sherman (2000) (Fig. 8). These results were in fact the starting point from Sherman et al. (2001) who evaluate the structural damage of Georges Hurricane on the mangrove ecosystem in Samaná Bay and their later recovery. This work that values the impact on the density and the interspecific differences in vulnerability constitutes an important contribution to the knowledge of the dynamics of mangrove forests in the case of great scale meteorological events.

#### **NORTH COAST OF SAMANÁ BAY**

Sang and Lamelas (1995) describe the mangrove places along the North coast of the Samaná Bay. The biggest swamp forest is reported between Los Corozos and Punta Mangle, occupying 1.6 km of coast line and an area of 0.75 km<sup>2</sup> (Sang and Lamelas, 1995). Red mangrove areas are observed at Los Caceros, Majagual, Patosa, Escolástica and Cayito associated to freshwater effluents (Sang et al, 1994). The presence of red mangrove is reported in marshes, behind the sandy costs of the beaches Las Pascualas and Las Garitas. More to the east, in the bay of Santa Bárbara de Samaná, there are small patches in the mouth of the stream Pueblo Viejo and in the beach La Aguada (Sang et al. 1994).

#### **SOUTH COAST OF SAMANÁ BAY**

Álvarez (1978) offers general information about the mangrove between Sabana de la Mar and Miches and Sang and Lamelas (1995) describe the mangrove places along the south coast of Samaná Bay. The biggest mangrove tract is in San Lorenzo's Bay with an extension of 11 km<sup>2</sup> associated to Caño Hondo and Chiquito Rivers that end to the southwest of this bay. In the north coast of San Lorenzo's Peninsula, another extension of mangrove of 8.1 km of coast line related with Yabón River is presented (Sang et al., 1994). Álvarez and García (1986) describe the swamps of San Lorenzo's Bay and their associate biota. In the coast of Jina Bay, located to the west of Miches, they are also located an important extension of red mangrove (Ferrerías et al., 1990).

#### **NORTH AND WEST COAST OF SAMANÁ PENINSULA**

In the north coast of the peninsula mangrove are reported in several isolated points such as: La Majagua, Playa Balatá, El Anclón, El Estillero, The Moron, Playa El Hermitaño and La Ensenada of la Poza (Salazar and Peguero, 1994; Sang and Lamelas, 1995; Peguero, 1995; Herrera-Moreno and Betancourt, 2001). A thick forest of red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*) whose width varies between 16 and 65 m and it reaches a total extension of 26,000 m<sup>2</sup> occurs in the periphery of the Laguna Maricó at Las Terrenas never referred before in the literature (Herrera-Moreno and Betancourt, 2004). In the coast east of Samaná Peninsula, the mangrove

areas are much scarcer, being the most interesting one that of Caño Frío River mouth at Playa Rincón (Herrera-Moreno and Peguero, 2004).

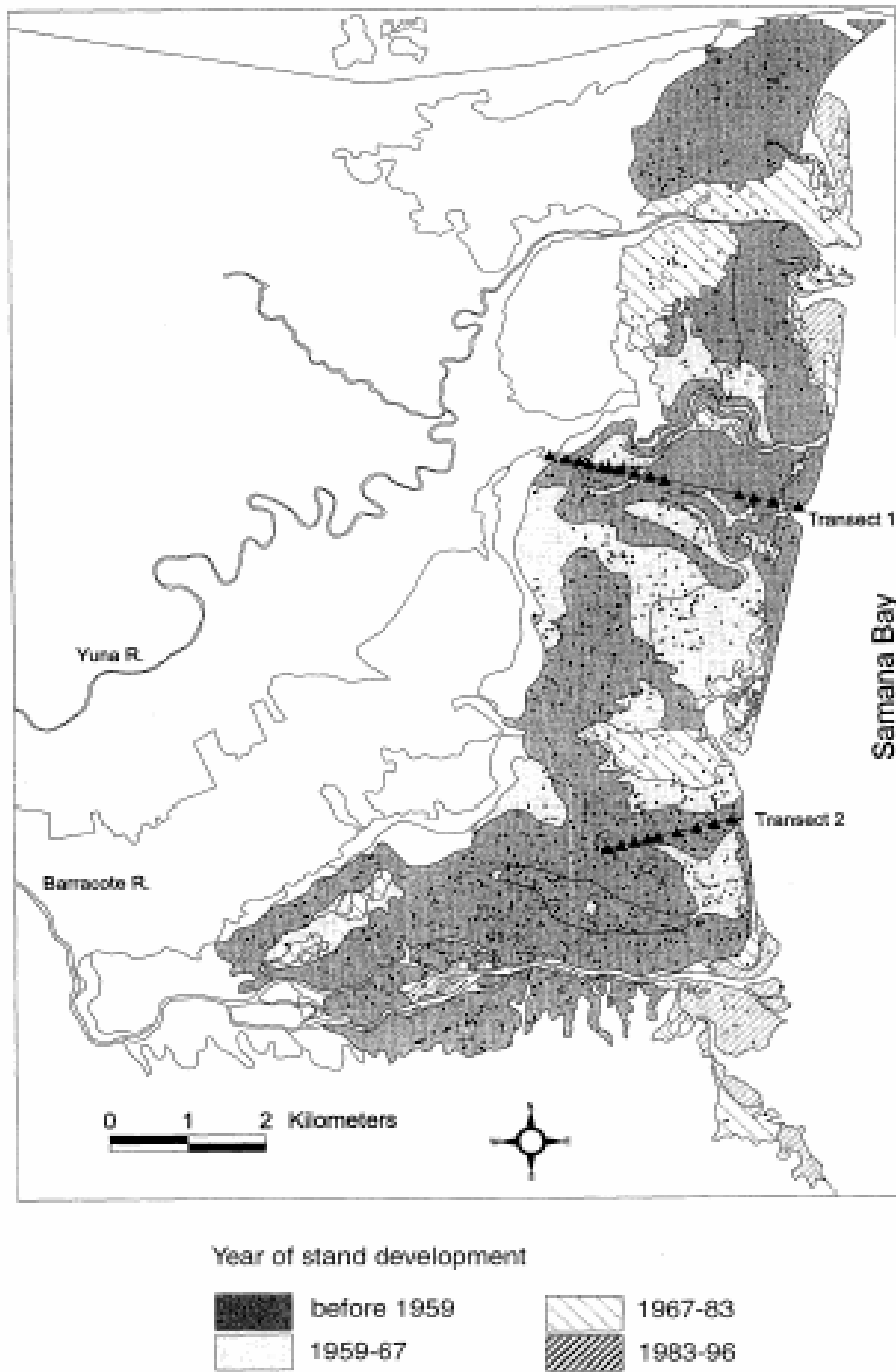


Figure 8. Development of mangrove forest in the west part of Samaná Bay. (after Sherman, 1996; 2000).

## SOFT SUBSTRATE ESTUARINE BOTTOM

The presence of numerous pipes and rivers that end in the coast at Samaná Bay contribute to create estuarine conditions at a small scale, but little it is known about these habitats. The biggest estuary in the region, whose influence even determines the distribution of other ecosystems like marine grasses and coral reefs, is related with Yuna and Barracote Rivers. The Yuna River ends in the northwest part of the Samaná Bay, with an extension of 5,495 km<sup>2</sup> and a flow that it oscillates from 52 m<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> to 57 m<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> (monthly minimum averages) and it reaches an average of 144 m<sup>3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> in the month of July (CEBSE, 1993). Barracote River ends in the southwest coast and it is an important tributary of the Yuna River. Among these two rivers other courses of freshwater of smaller flow occur, they are called from North to South: Boca Caimán, Boca Grande, Boca del Barraquito, Boca del Caño La Ceja y Boca del Caño Los Pinitos; to the North of the main outlet of the Yuna River there is a small pipe called Boca Colorao (Sang et al. 1994).

The important contribution of sediments that flows to this coast (Fig. 4) is responsible for an extensive muddy basin that constitutes, for their extension and ecological value, one of the most important biotopes of the bay (Fig. 5). These estuarine bottoms are compound for fine sediments of terrestrial origin, probably lacking macro-vegetation. As we have already described, the physical-chemical characterization of this area shows big fluctuations of all parameters in the water, high slime and clay percentages in the sediments and high concentrations of organic matter. The physical-chemical processes that take place when entering in contact the freshwater with the sea water, make a large quantity of sediments associated to the organic matter to settle down and in fact, the coast west of the bay is defined as of constructive type where the thickness of the sediments can reach 15 m (Ferrerias et al., 1990). Annex II Maps show that this deposition seems to be much bigger in the area of the Barracote River where the flow of water is comparatively smaller. This group of estuarine characteristics promotes the development of peneid shrimp populations and other eurihaline species.

## PRAIRIES OF MARINE GRASSES

In the Samaná region marine grasses bottoms are represented by the fanerogams *Thalassia testudinum* and *Syringodium filiforme* and in less proportion *Halophila decipiens* and *Holodule wrightii* (Ferrerias et al., 1990; CEBSE, 1993). Research carried out on this ecosystem corresponds mainly to qualitative reports of observations from the border of the coast or diving with snorkel to less than 10m (Ferrerias et al., 1990; Sang and Lamelas, 1995). Because of this, the compiled information is insufficient to have a complete idea of the limits of the marine prairies in the region that have never been mapped. The most detailed study corresponds to Sang and Lysenko (1994) that in 10 stations in the north coast of the Samaná Bay and to the south in San Lorenzo Bay determined the distribution and extension of the marine grasses and estimated the density and several foliar parameters of the main fanerogam species. In the north bank of the bay development of marine grasses is reported starting from the beach Los Cacaos (Sang and Lysenko, 1994) where the vegetation is developed in muddy to sandy soil. These fanerogam

portions are of variable extension with widths from 40 to 150 m growing from the very border to a depth not bigger than 9 m, according to the limit of the observations (Sang and Lysenko, 1994).

Toward the east, starting from Cayo Levantado, these prairies are associated to coralline reefs. In the south coast of Samaná Bay patches of marine herbs occur associated to several areas of the rocky coast of Los Haitises and isolated patches to the south of San Lorenzo Bay. However, starting from this point, it appears an extensive and more or less continuous area of marine grasses that can reach up to 100 m starting from the border of the coast (Sang and Lysenko, 1994). In the west coast of the bay, development of marine grasses is not observed due to the influence of the rivers Yuna and Barracote that impose conditions of high turbidity, sedimentation and wide fluctuations of salinity (Sang and Lysenko, 1994). The marine prairies to the north and east of Samaná Peninsula, from Punta Arena until Cabo Cabrón, have registered in all the costs growing on sandy substrates, most of them related with ecosystems of adjacent coralline reefs (Sang and Lamelas, 1995).

From these results it can be concluded that the presence of the marine grasses in the Samaná Bay is only known by observations from the coast or by means of diving in a reduced interval of depths (Sang and Lysenko, 1994). It allows saying that the marine grasses are broadly distributed along most of the coast border of the bay but when not existing data on the central area, where bigger depths are reached, it is not possible to establish the extension of this biotope. It might possibly be the most extended sublittoral ecosystem in Samaná Bay and their surroundings, with a distribution ruled by the sediment and hydrological conditions.

## **CORALLINE REEFS**

The studies of the reefs in the region of Samaná are scarce and limited. It is known that the development of the coralline reefs inside the Samaná Bay is limited due to the influence of the sedimentation and the turbidity associated to the typical estuarine conditions of this area. However, to the present it has not been defined with accuracy which the limits of this influence are neither mapped the reef formations of the region. For this reason distribution and development is inferred starting from the results of particular studies or evidence of general maps of bottom types (Fig. 5) or bathymetric (Annexed II). Ferrera et al. (1990) make some qualitative valuations on the fluvial influence in the reef development and comment that just starting from the 69° 21' (equals to UTM WGS 84 461054 AND) coralline formations begin to be observed. The coralline development is increased toward the exterior of the bay with a bank in the north entrance: the Canadaigua, and others of more extension to the east of the Ensenada de la Jina (Sang, 1994), but the biggest development is to the north and east of the peninsula where a strong oceanic influence exists. Geraldés (1994) describes the reef at 12 m of depth in front of El Portillo, but the biggest study carried out in the reefs of the region corresponds to Sang (1996) that offers data of the covering and the diversity of the communities of fish, corals, octocorals and sponges from Las Terrenas to Cabo Cabrón at 21m of depth.



## MARINE BIOTA

A total of 445 representative species of the coast and marine biota were collected, known for the Samaná region: 262 species in the internal area and 312 in the external area. It includes 72 species of algae: 24 rhodophyta, 16 phaeophyta and 30 chlorophyta, some 258 species of invertebrates belonging to about 22 high taxonomic groups and 236 species of bony fish, sharks and rays (Annex 1). Table 3 summarizes the number of compiled species -total and for areas- for the best represented taxonomic groups. Although in comparative terms the internal area and the external one have similar total number of species interesting differences can be observed at the level of particular groups.

For example, algae have 23 reports of species in the internal area while in the external area 52 species, including two cyanophytic species related with the reef habitat. For the invertebrates, variation of the number of species reported in both areas is reported. This way, sponge, octocorals and corals increase richness of species to the external area and lobsters and crinoids only have reports outside of the bay. On the other hand, bivalve, crabs and gastropods, increase their number of species toward the interior of the bay, where the only found reports of shrimps and holothurians exist.

Table 3. Species number per area and total number of species per taxonomic group, considered in this study.. **AI**: Internal areas of Samana Bay, mangrove habitats, marine grasses and low development reefs. **AE**: External area of Samana Bay, reef habitats under strong oceanic influence.

Group	AI	AE	Total	Group	AI	AE	Total
Algae	23	52	72	Lobster	0	3	3
Espunges	2	22	24	Crinoids	0	2	2
Corals	8	38	38	Starfish	2	1	2
Octocorals	4	17	17	Sea urchins	5	4	6
Gastropods	34	2	35	Holothurians	3	0	3
Bivalve	10	3	13	Other groups	5	15	20
Shrimp	3	0	3	Fish	144	151	187
Crabs	19	2	20	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>445</b>

Although the heterogeneity of studies does not allow arriving to definitive conclusions the ecological regularity that emerges of this compilation exists. In the first place, toward the external area an increment exists -in some significant cases - of the number of benthonic typically- reef species (for e.g. sponges, corals, octocorals or crinoids). Toward the internal area an increment of macro-benthic groups linked to sedimentary habitats (for e.g. gastropods, bivalve and holothurians). Although in these differences the nature and heterogeneity of the compiled data as well as the intention and depth of the studies influence, we consider that they are also a reflection of the strong contrast between the richness of species inside of and outside of the bay related with the environmental stability and variability imposed by two

different environmental circumstances: an area with fluvial influence and an under oceanic influence.

In the case of fish, total numbers of species are almost same in both areas: 144 in the internal area and 151 in the external one (Table 3). However, it includes 85 species that were only present in the internal area, 92 species only reported for the external area and 59 shared species. It evidences there is an ichthyofauna association typical for each habitat, as well as a movement of species among them, and this is clear when families of fish that are disembarked in places of the interior and in the exterior of the bay are analyzed (Chart 4).

Table 4. Presence and absence of crustacean and fish families in seven fishery places of Samana arranged according to a gradient from estuary to ocean. (after data from Sang *et al.*, 1997 and current field data). Letters indicate landing places: SZ: Sánchez, M: Miches, LC: Los Cacaos, SM: Sabana de la Mar, LP: Las Pascualas, LG: Las Galeras y LT: Las Terrenas.

Families	Habitat: Mangrove-Estuary-Prairies-Reef-Ocean						
	Landing places						
	SZ	M	LC	SM	LP	LG	LT
Pristigasteridae	X						
Ophidiidae	X						
Cynoglosidae	X						
Elopidae	X						
Engraulidae	X	X					
Stromateidae	X	X		X			
Trichiuridae	X	X			X		
Clupeidae	X	X	X		X		
Penaidae	X	X		X	X		
Synodontidae	X		X		X		
Mugilidae	X	X		X	X		
Centropomidae	X	X		X			
Ephippidae	X	X		X	X		
Gerreidae	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Scianidae	X	X		X	X	X	X
Carangidae	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lutjanidae	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Haemulidae	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sphyraenidae	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Scombridae	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Polynemidae		X		X	X	X	
Scaridae		X	X	X	X	X	X
Mullidae		X	X	X	X	X	X
Sparidae		X	X	X	X	X	X
Serranidae		X	X	X	X	X	X
Holocentridae		X	X	X	X	X	X
Priacanthidae		X	X	X	X		X
Balistidae		X	X	X	X	X	X
Belonidae			X	X	X	X	X
Palinuridae		X	X	X		X	X
Labridae		X	X	X		X	X
Acanthuridae			X	X		X	X
Ostracidae			X		X	X	

Pomacanthidae	X	X	X		
Coryphaenidae				X	X

For it, Table 4 has been elaborated starting from the information of the study “Composition and diversity of fisheries in eight places of landing of Samaná Bay” (Sang et al., 1997) and the information obtained during our visits for the present work. Data was arranged following an ecological-geographical sense, from estuary to ocean. Gradual changes are observed in families of fish represented in different landing places that vary according to their geographical position regarding the different adjacent fishing habitats: estuary, mangrove swamps, marine grasses and coralline reefs. In the areas of the interior, in the northwest of the bay (such as Sánchez), the biggest captures of peneids shrimps and typically estuarine ichthyofauna are registered, with demersal species belonging to the families Centropomidae and Mugilidae and pelagic such as Engraulidae.

As we leave the influence of the estuary in the occident of the bay and begins the development of marine grasses and coralline reefs (see Bathymetric Digital Model in Annex II), like it happens toward Las Pascualas, Los Cacaos (to the North and center of the bay), Sabana de la Mar and Miches (to the Southeast almost outside of the bay) it increases the representation of neritic, demersal reef families like Serranidae, Holocentridae, Balistidae and Scaridae although for the gradient effect some estuary and typically pelagic species are also registered.

In Las Galeras y Las Terrenas (outside of the bay and to the north of the peninsula) which represent the end of the gradient toward the ocean, some of the previous families are absent, while others of the marine-reefs grasses complex appear (indicating their relationship with these ecosystems that reach great development outside of the bay) and pelagic families such as Coryphaenidae and Istiophoridae appear, in agreement with the location of these places in the proximities of open sea. This regularity has been the base for a proposal of a new regional fishing classification that supplements the current one (based alone in commercial categories) considering three ecological complexes of fishing for the estuary coast, marine grasses-coralline reefs and oceanic area (Herrera, 2000).

## **FISHING ASPECTS**

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Due to the richness in fishing resources, based in the ecological characteristics presented in the previous sections, the region of Samaná has historically been very important place in the national fish captures (CEBSE, 1993), concentrating about 34% of the fishermen of the country (CEBSE, 1996). According to the census of Colom et al (1994), the total number of fishermen estimated for the country was 8,640, from which 3,223 for Samaná region, data has stayed according to the last data that SERCM offers (2004). This chapter discusses information gathered on the fishing activity in the region of Samaná, which has been enlarged and supplemented from the basic compilation of Betancourt (1998).

## GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF FISHING ACTIVITY

Fishing community of Samaná has shown through the years a continuous tendency of increment in men's number, fishing arts and landing places. From 1991 to 1993, the number of boats passed from 999 to 1029 and the number of fishing arts from 957 to 1120. In a longer interval of time, 1980 to 1993, the number of fishermen was increased from 1197 to 2103 (Silva and Aquino, 1993). In Sabana de la Mar and Miches, Aquino and Silva (1995) report that from 1980 to 1994 the number of boats was increased from 173 to 446, and the number of fishermen from 342 to 846. Currently, about 55 landing places have been detected (Fig. 1).

Technologically, the fishery in Samaná is completely handmade for all the fishing resources, with some regional variations in the fishing means. Silva and Aquino (1993) and Aquino and Silva (1995) reported a total of 1475 fishing crafts divided in wood boat (30), fiber glass boats (181), pivots (26), ships (8) and wood kayaks (1230). According to the last data of SERCM (2004), the proportion seems to have been maintained in a general way.

The fishing arts also vary regionally according to the port location and interest species. They are different types of fishing cages, fishing lines, bottom nests, diving with or without equipment (Silva and Aquino, 1993; Aquino and Silva, 1995) and the drag net locally known "licuadora" (spanish for blender) (Sang *et al.*, 1997). For the pelagic fishery, rafts are used (León, 1996). No current data exist about the fishing arts although it is known that the traditional ones have stayed in a general way and some new ones have been introduced and promoted, especially by japanese specialists, like those used for pelagic or deep fishing (Hara 1999).

## IDENTIFICATION OF FISHING TYPES IN SAMANA REGION

In order to organize fishing information gathered for this report we took fishery types by Herrera *et al.* (in preparation) to adapt them to Samaná fishing situation, considering: a) fish resource type and their importance, b) areas of fishing, c) fishing arts, d) intervals of depth and, d) importance of the resource in the national fishing regulations. With these approaches we identified fishery types that are indicated in Table 5 and described next.

### Shrimp Fishery

Colom *et al.* (1994) they recognize like a national unit the shrimps fishery with gill nets and hand nests of Sánchez in Samaná, described by Núñez and García (1983) and Silva and Aquino (1993). This fishing activity began at the beginnings of 1960 with the closing of the rail operations in Sánchez that forced local residents to look for other income sources. The most important region due to its extension, abundance of the resource and number of fishermen is, with no doubts, the western region Samaná Bay, where the flows of Yuna and Barracote Rivers contribute to define an extensive estuary region.

The high productivity of the region makes this fishing area something unique in the country. In the town of Sánchez, where landing place is located, three species of shrimps are disembarked (Núñez and García, 1983): the Atlantic sea bob or "flechúo" *Xiphopenaeus kroyeri*, the pink

shrimp *Penaeus durorarum* and the white shrimp *P. schmitti*. This last shrimp can be considered the key species since its represents around 86% (Sang et al., 1997) and 95% (Then et al., 1995) of the total capture of shrimps.

An interesting aspect of this fishery is that, in spite of the time operating, has not still been able to exhaust the estuary fishing potential due to its handmade character. Fishermen inform that they can only operate their fishing arts in the proximity of the coast (Fig. 5) between Las Pascualas and Punta Yabón (being the areas of more capture near Los Haitises and the river mouth), at a depth not bigger than 7m. This fact limits them to fish in a narrow tract of about 100 km<sup>2</sup> or smaller, being the deep muddy basin outside (to see Bathymetric Digital Model in Annex II) which might contain an important exploitable potential.

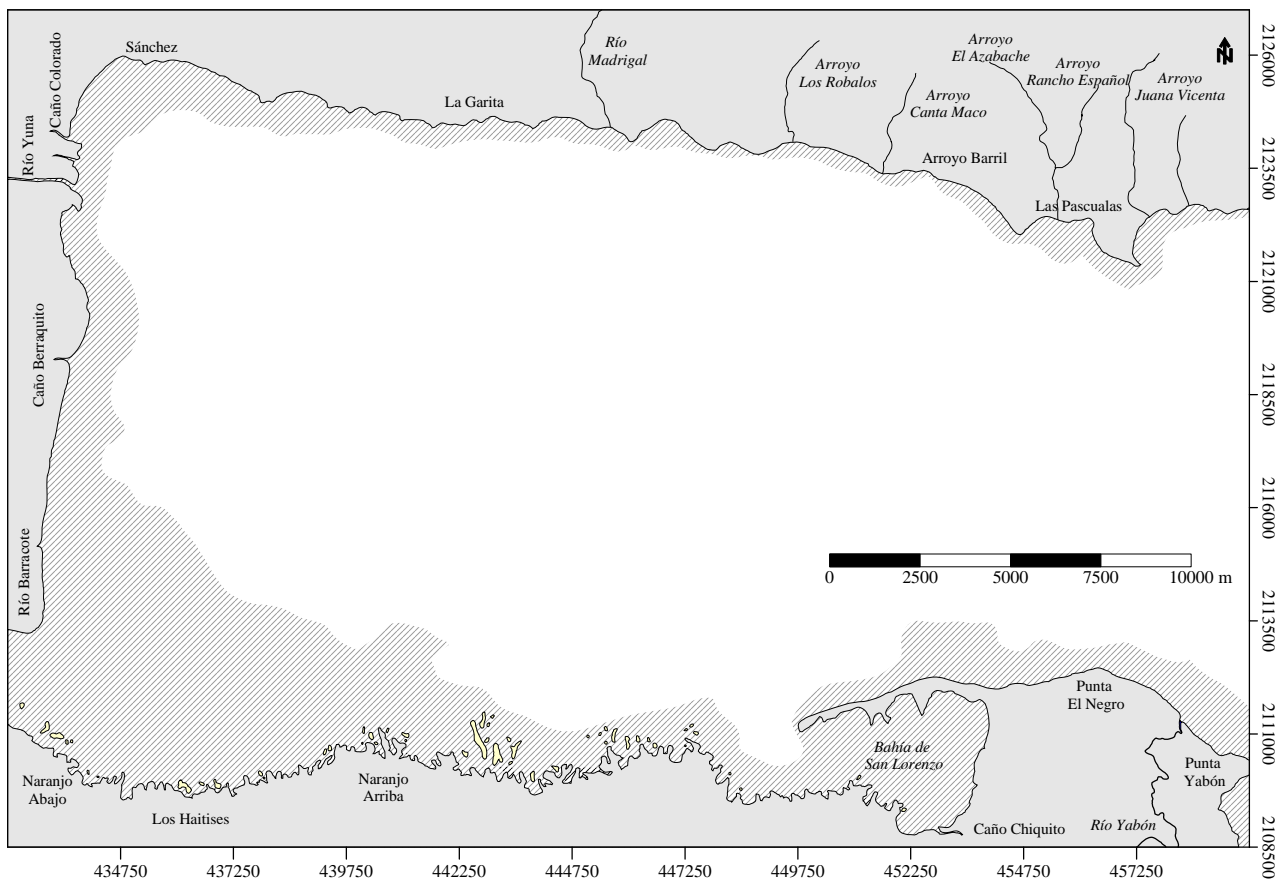


Figure 9. Map of Samaná region showing the 7m depth isobar (striped zone). It indicates the approximate area of shrimp fishery, according to fishermen information.

Table 5. Fishery types in Samana Region. Abbreviations: Types: Co. Coast, De. Demersal, Es. Estuary. Pe. Pelagic, Re. Coral Reef. CP. Fishery Character: SSC. Commercial Small Scale, MSC. Commercial Medium Scale, SSA. Artesanal Small Scale, SI. Semi-industrial, S. Subsistence, TA. All year, ES. Seasonal. Fishery Arts: At. Atarraya,



Ba. Balsa, Bu. Buceo, Chah. Chinchorro de ahorque, Char. Chinchorro de arrastre, Cd. Cordel, LC. Línea para calamar, Nb. Nasa del bajo, Nc. Nasa chillera, PA. Palangre (after Herrera *et al.*, en preparation).

Name	Key specie (local name/ latin/ common name)	Type	Depth. (m)	Art	CP	Time	References
Shrimp fishery	<i>Penaeus schmitti</i> (white shrimp), <i>P. duorarum</i> (pink shrimp), <i>Xiphopenaeus kroyeri</i> (Atlantic seabob)	De/ Es	0-5	Char, At	SSA	TA	Sang <i>et al.</i> , 1997
Reef fishery	Several fish species (Lutjanidae, Haemulidae, Acanthuridae, Balistidae, Holocentridae, Serranidae, Pomacanthidae, Pomacentridae, Sparidae, Labridae) and crustacean (Majidae & Xanthidae), <i>Panulirus argus</i> (Caribbean spiny lobster) and <i>Strombus gigas</i> (queen conch)	Co/ Re	0-30	Nb, Bu, Chah, Cd	SSA	TA	Sang <i>et al.</i> , 1997;
Deep fishery at the border of the plataforma	Chillo <i>Lutjanus vivanus</i> (Silk snapper), chillo oreja negra <i>L. bucanella</i> (black-fin snapper), boral <i>Etelis oculatus</i> (queen snapper), roamo <i>Pristipomoides macropthalmus</i> , (cardinal snapper), besugo <i>Romboplites aerorubens</i> (vermillion snapper), meros <i>Epinephelus mystacinus</i> , (misty yellowedge grouper) <i>E. flavolimbatus</i> (misty grouper).	De	100-500	Pa, Nc, Cd	SSA	TA	Sang <i>et al.</i> , 1997; Arima, 1997; 1998; 1989a; 1998b; 1999; 1999a; 1999b
Pelagic fishery or FAD'S fishery	Atunes, bonitos y albacoras: <i>Thunnus albacares</i> (yellowfin tuna), <i>Euthymus alleteratus</i> (little tunny), <i>Auxis thazard</i> (frigate tuna), <i>Katsuwomis pelamis</i> (skipjack tuna), macarelas <i>Scomberomorus</i> sp. (mackerels), guatapaná <i>Acanthocybium solandri</i> (wahoo), dorado <i>Coryphaena hippurus</i> (dolphinsfish) y la aguja <i>Istiphorus albicans</i> (Atlantic sailfish)	Pe	-	Co, Ba, Cu	SSA	ES	Sang <i>et al.</i> , 1997; León, 1996
Squid Fishery	Calamar diamante <i>Thysanoteuthis rhombus</i> (diamond squid)	Pe	300-750	LC	SSC	ES	SERCM, 2004
Coast-Pelagic fishery	Carangidae (jacks), Clupeidae (herrings), Atherinidae (silversides), Hemiramphidae (balyhoo), Gerridae, Scianidae (drums), Centropomidae (snooks), Engraulidae (anchovies), Sphyrnaenidae (juvenile barracuda), tiburones (bull, blackfin, hammerhead, nurse, reef, lemon sharks).	Pe/ Co	0-10	At, Co, Cu	SSC	TA	CFRM, 2004

The arts used for the shrimp fishery accidentally capture a great quantity of species that can occupy up to 54% of the total capture. Sang et al. (1997) found that in this sub-capture could be represented up to 24 families of fish and two of crustaceans. Among this species are: *Cetengraulis edentulous* (Atlantic anchoveta), *Cynoscion jamaicensis* (Jamaica weakfish), *Stellifer colonensis* (stardrum), *Micropogonias furnieri* (whitemouth croaker), *Mugil hospes* (hospe mullet), *Centropomus ensiferus* (swordspine snook), *Callinectes sapidus* y *C. danae* (blue crabs). It is known that a small proportion of small fish are discarded before landing, so there is

no information available about them. This is a small scale fishery activity that extends all year including the prohibited period from February to March. Se conoce que una proporción de peces pequeños se descartan pero no existen cifras pues éstos no llegan al sitio de desembarco. This is a fishery of small scale that takes place during the whole year excluding the months of prohibited from February to March (Presidential Decree 3546-73).

### **Coralline Reef Fishery**

Coralline reefs fishery in Samaná is typical for its more external areas where reef development exists and takes place approximately until 30 m of depth, Sang et al. (1998). Key species of this type of fishery belong to a group of typically reef families like, Lutjanidae, Haemulidae, Acanthuridae, Balistidae, Holocentridae, Serranidae, Pomacanthidae, Pomacentridae, Sparidae and Labridae. These species are distributed in the interval of depth from the mangrove swamps and marine grasses (juvenile stages) and the coralline reefs (mature stages) for what the value of each one of them in number and weight in the capture can vary locally and according to the art and the fishing place. For example, in the reef fishery with several different arts at Sabana de la Mar, Sang et al (1998) report that half of the capture is occupied by Lutjanidae (33%), Haemulidae (15%) and Scaridae (8%) while in Las Terrenas the most abundant families are Scaridae (28%), Lutjanidae (22%) and Serranidae (14%).

Among the species more frequently reported in the captures of the reef are: *Lutjanus analis* (mutton snapper), *L. griseus* (gray snapper), *L. synagris* (lane snapper), *Ocyurus chrysurus* (yellowtail snapper), *Cephalopholis cruentata* (graysby), *Epinephelus striatus* (Nassau grouper), *Sparisoma aurofrenatum* and *Scarus taeniopterus* (parrotfishes), *Haemulon aeorolineatum*, *H. flavolineatum*, *H. plumieri* and *Acanthurus bahianus* (Chart 5).

This fishing also has three species of crabs (Majidae and Xanthidae) as key species: *Carpilius corallinus* (coral crab), *Mitrax spinosissimus* and *Stenocionops furcata* (spider crabs), although the most important crustacean is the lobster *Panulirus argus*, (Herrera-Moreno and Betancourt, 2003). This is a small scale, handmade, coastal fishery dedicated in their biggest part to the domestic market. It is characterized by their variety of arts -in agreement with their diversity of species - that includes fishing cages, gill nets, diving with or without equipment and all line types. This fishery takes place during the whole year (Chart 5). Collected data shows that the resources are subjected to high exploitation. There are not precise information on production.

### **Deep Fishing in the border of the platform**

In the north and east coast of Samaná Peninsula takes place a deep fishing below the bank in depths among 100 to 500 m. The most important areas are those where the 100 m can be reached with a handmade boat at short distance from the coast, because the platform is narrow or because the lines of depth come closer to the coast due to geographical accidents (Sang et al., 1998; Arima, 1997; 1998; 1998a; 1998b; 1999; 1999a; 1999b). The fishing is directed to lutjanids and serranids with seven key species that occupy more than 80% of the captures and in order of importance include *Pristipomoides macropthalmus* (cardinal snapper), *Lutjanus vivanus* (silk snapper), *L. bucanella* (blackfin snapper), *Rhomboplites aeorubens* (vermillion snapper), *Etelis*

*oculatus* (queen snapper), *Epinephelus mystacinus* (misty yellow-edge grouper) and *E. flavolimbatus* (Table 5). The analyses of captures reveal that this group of species is dominant in capture weight, although their proportions can vary according to the locality, depth and fishing art. Fishing arts include fishing cages, lines and drag net. This is a small scale, handmade fishery that exploits big specimens, takes place along the year and seems to concentrate on annual spawn places well-known places for the fishermen.

### **Pelagic-Oceanic Fishery or FAD's fishery**

Pelagic fishing in Samana is documented by León (1996) and Sang et al. (1997). It is practice with drag nets, gill nets, and others, with or without fish aggregating devices (FAD's). Key species are several migratory species from family Scombridae: *Thunnus albacares* (yellowfin tuna), *Euthynnus alleteratus* (little tunny), *Auxis thazard* (frigate tuna), *Katsuwomis pelamis* (skipjack tuna), *Scomberomorus sp.* (mackerels), *Acanthocybium solandri* (wahoo); *Coryphaena hippurus* (dolphinfish) and *Istiphorus albicans* (Atlantic sailfish) (Table 5). It can include some sharks incidentally. This is a handmade fishery of small scale with seasonal character. Nevertheless, since it involves so many species -the migratory bigger part of them - the fishing stays during the whole year according to availability of the resources.

### **Pelagic-Coast Fishery**

CFRM (2004) reports this fishery type that takes place particularly near the coastal border on bottoms of marine grasses that, as we said before, practically border the coast of Samaná. It includes a big group of species of the families Carangidae (jacks), Atherinidae (silversides), Hemiramphidae (balyhoo), Scianidae (drums), Sphyaenidae (juvenile barracuda), Gerridae (mojarra), Clupeidae (herrings), Centropomidae (snooks) and Engraulidae (anchovies). These last four families are generally associated to freshwater flows near the coast, where we can also include family Mugilidae (mullet). This fishing also includes some juvenile sharks. The captures are carried out along the year, both for key or incidental species, mainly with gill nets, cast nets, lines and sometimes fishing cages, according species. It is considered a moderately exploited fishery, although there is not data for a complete evaluation. Stocks can also be affected by the coastal contamination.

### **Giant squid fishery**

Recently, Japanese specialists introduced in Samaná the fishing of giant squid. The key species is the diamond squid *Thysanoteuthis rhombus*, epipelagic oceanic species that reaches 100m of longitude of the mantel and 20 kg of weight. Their distribution includes tropical and subtropical waters of the world. Fishing depth varies from 300 to 750m and the place of main fishing is located 3 miles to the east of El Francés, in the coast east of Samaná Peninsula. Squids are captured using a squid drop line fishing. This is a small scale, handmade, incipient fishing that takes place seasonally although fishing stations are not clear because migration of this species in oceanic waters are practically unknown (Table 1). According to the authorities at the Sub-

secretary of Coastal and Marine Resources, this resource will turn to be one of the most important in next years (SERCM, 2004).

## **CURRENT STATE OF THE MAIN FISHING RESOURCES**

### **White Shrimp *Penaeus schmitti***

Shrimp is fished only in shallow areas (less than 7 m) of the western region of the Bay of Samaná using 250 cast nets and 350 drag nets operated from 512 kayaks with a 2 men average crew. About 900 fishermen participate in this fishing (Colom et al., 1994) and although the resource seems to be over exploited in its traditional areas, the contribution of specimens that come from deep areas, 10m to 30 m where it is not fished, it seems to contribute to maintain certain capture levels, always promoted by the high price of the product (about \$180 to \$240 Dominican pesos per pound = US\$6- 8/pound). Fishermen argue that it has taken place a reduction of the captures and an increment of the fishing effort. There is not any biological study of this shrimp in the Dominican Republic and the stocks have never been evaluated. As the fishermen referred us, the use of no-sustainable fishing arts takes place secretly in hours of the night.

Sang et al. (1998) offer minimum (0.7cm) and maximum (7.3 cm) values of cephalotorax length (including the rostrum), with an average of 3.5 cm, values that are in the order of those that we detect during our visit. There is a serious lack of biological and fishing information of the resource and the levels of exploitation. The Decree 3546-73 prohibits the fishing of the shrimp between February and May, but it doesn't clarify to which species is directed the prohibition and fishermen admit that fishing stays all year. Between 1963 to 1980 landings varied from 125 to 200 MT (Fisheries Development Limited, 1980). According to CFRM (2004), the capture annual averages is in the order of 184 TM, that which is below the productions that are already achieving with culture methods in other regions of the country with amounts of 400 TM (FAO, 2001).

### **Groupers (Pisces: Serranidae)**

In the region of Samaná serranids are represented in the reef fishery with thirteen species (Sang et al., 1998). *Cephalopholis fulva*, *C. cruentata* (graysby), *Epinephelus guttatus* and *E. striatus* are registered practically in all fishing areas, although presence and diversity of species in the captures vary according to the landing place. This way, in Sánchez they do not register serranid captures while to the north of the peninsula it is common to find them (Table 6). Serranids are fished with lines, fishing cages (made of wire or fiber similar to those used for lobster fishery), or diving for reef fishing, but for deep fishing, it is used palangre, lines and fishing cages. This indiscriminated fishing and the absence of effective regulations have made that numerous species are in critical situation in some regions. Sizes registered in biological-fishing studies of Samaná (Sang et al., 1998) reveal that all the reef fishing species are being captured before reaching their size of first maturation.

Table 6. Presence and absence of serranid and lutjanid species of fishery places of Samaná in seven landing sites, arranged according to a gradient from estuary to ocean (from data by Sang *et al.* (1997) and current field data. Letters indicate landing places: SZ: Sánchez, M: Miches, LC: Los Cacaos, SM: Sabana de la Mar, LP: Las Pascualas, LG: Las Galeras and LT: Las Terrenas.

Family	Especies	Estuary-Prairie-Reef-Ocean							
		Landing places							
		SZ	M	LC	SM	LP	PS	LT	LG
Serranidae	<i>Ephinephelus guttatus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<i>Ephinephelus striatus</i>		X	X	X	X		X	X
	<i>Ephinephelus cruentatus</i>		X	X	X		X	X	X
	<i>Ephinephelus fulvus</i>		X	X			X	X	X
	<i>Alphestes afer</i>		X						X
	<i>Hypoplectrus puella</i>			X					
	<i>Mycteroperca venenosa</i>				X			X	X
	<i>Ephinephelus itajara</i>				X				X
	<i>Ephinephelus adscensionis</i>							X	X
	<i>Mycteroperca bonaci</i>								X
	<i>Serranus tabacarius</i>								X
	<i>Serranus. Phoebe</i>								X
	<i>Paranthias furcifer</i>								X
	Lutjanidae	<i>Lutjanus analis</i>	X	X	X	X		X	X
<i>Lutjanus synagris</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Lutjanus apodus</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Lutjanus griseus</i>			X		X	X			
<i>Ocyurus chrysurus</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Rhomboplites aurorubens</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>Lutjanus mahogoni</i>						X	X	X	
<i>Lutjanus buccanella</i>								X	X
<i>Lutjanus vivanus</i>								X	X
<i>Lutjanus cyanopterus</i>								X	
<i>Etelis oculatus</i>								X	X
<i>Apsilus dentatus</i>								X	X
<i>Pristipomoides macrophthalmus</i>								X	X

### Snappers (Pisces: Lutjanidae)

In the region of Samaná Lutjanidae family is represented in the reef and deep fishery for fourteen species (Sang et al., 1998). *Lutjanus analis*, *L. griseus*, *L. synagris* and *Ocyurus chrysurus* are registered practically in all reef fishing areas, while bigger species as *Lutjanus vivanus*, *L. buccanella*, *Etelis oculatus*, *Pristipomoides macrophthalmus* and *Rhomboplites aerorubens* are reported in deep fishing in the border of the platform. Lutjanids are fished with the same arts that the serranids: lines, bottom fishing cages, or diving for reef fishing palangre and lines for deep fishing. As we pointed out for the serranids sizes registered in the biological-fishing studies reveal that all species in the reef fishing are being captured before reaching their size of first maturation (Table 6).

### Diamond Squid *Thysanoteuthis rhombus*

Diamond squid are captured from boats with a three men crew, using a squid drop line fishing. Currently, only 20 fishermen, 6 boats and 12 fishing arts are involved in this capture that can reach up to 4 to 5 squids per day. There are not any biological study about this species whose migratory patterns, feeding behaviour and breeding are unknown. (Kazunari *et al.*, 2001).

## **SITUATION OF FISHING INFORMATION**

From information analyzed we can conclude that biological-fishing studies in the region of Samaná, as in the rest of the country, have had a descriptive character, for all approaches: economic, commercial, technological, social, taxonomic or evaluation of fishing arts. Strictly biological-fishing investigations of long term, with evaluations of key species stocks are practically nonexistent.

In spite of the importance in fishing biology of studying the composition for sizes and sex of populations under exploitation with a time-space approach, there are not studies in this respect and many population data lack statistical consistency. Some works in Samaná have been directed to carry out estimates of capture and the sustainable maximum effort (Silva, 1995) but they have been single isolated efforts. One of the serious problems of the regional fishing investigation is the lack of evaluations of fishing stock. Resources have generally been exploited without being studied, as has already happened with the shrimp and is beginning to occur with the giant squid. One of the main problems for the regional fishing organization is the lack of continuous series of temporary, properly standardized data that allow analyzing regional and national tendency of the captures. In Samaná the statistical data has been kept for some years by CEBSE (Silva and Aquino 1994; Silva et al., 1995; Aquino and Silva, 1995) but this effort could not have continuity. It has been demonstrated that the concept of the fishing ecological complexes constitute an approach of high methodological and practical value (Silva and Colom, 1996; Herrera, 2000).

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## **ANNEX I. MARINE BIOTA**

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Lists of benthic marine algae species reported for the region of Samaná, considering two general areas of distribution. **AI**: interior areas of the Bay of Samaná in mangrove swamps, marine grasses and reef habitats of scarce development. **AE**: external areas of the Bay of Samaná in reef habitats that are developed under the oceanic influence. *References*. 1. Álvarez and García (1986), 2. Sang and Lysenko (1994), 3. Geraldès (1994), 4. Sang (1996). The order is alphabetical for species inside each Class.

Class	Specie	AI	AE
Cyanophyceae	<i>Phormidium coralyticum</i> Ruetzler y Santavy		4
	<i>Schizothrix calcicola</i> (C. Agardh) Gomont		4
Clorophyceae	<i>Anadyomene stellata</i> (Wulfen) C. Agardh		4
	<i>Avrainvillea longicaulis</i> (Kuetzing) Murray y Boodle		4
	<i>Caulerpa cupressoides</i> (Vahl) C. Agardh		4,3
	<i>Caulerpa mexicana</i> Kuetzing	2	
	<i>Caulerpa racemosa</i> (Forsskal) J. Agardh	1,2	
	<i>Caulerpa sertularioides</i> (S. G. Gmelin) Howe	2	
	<i>Caulerpa verticillata</i> J. Agardh	1	4
	<i>Cladophora</i> sp.	1	
	<i>Codium repens</i> Vickers		4
	<i>Derbesia</i> sp.		3
	<i>Dictyosphaeria cavernosa</i> (Forsskal) Boergesen		4
	<i>Dictyosphaeria ocellata</i> (Howe) Olsen-Stojkovich		4
	<i>Enteromorpha chaetomorphoides</i> Børgesen	1	
	<i>Halimeda copiosa</i> Goreau y Graham		4
	<i>Halimeda discoidea</i> Decaisne		4
	<i>Halimeda goreauii</i> W. Taylor		4
	<i>Halimeda opuntia</i> (Linnaeus) Lamouroux	1	4,3
	<i>Halimeda tuna</i> (Ellis y Solander) Lamouroux		4
	<i>Halimeda incrassata</i> (J. Ellis) J. V. Lamouroux	1	
	<i>Neomeris annulata</i> Dickie		3
	<i>Neomeris annulata</i> Dickie		4
	<i>Penicillus capitatus</i> Lamouroux	1	
	<i>Rhiphocephalus phoenix</i> (Ellis y Solander) Kuetzing		4
	<i>Rhizoclonium</i> sp.	1	
	<i>Udotea cyathiformis</i> Descaine		4
	<i>Udotea flabellum</i> (Ellis y Solander) Lamouroux		4
	<i>Ulva lactuca</i> Linnaeus	1	
<i>Valonia macrophysa</i> Kütz.		3	
<i>Ventricaria ventricosa</i> (J. Agardh)		3	
<i>Ventricaria ventricosa</i> (J. Agardh) Olsen y West		4	
Phaeophyceae	<i>Dyctiopteris delicatula</i> Lamouroux		4
	<i>Dyctiota bartayresii</i> Lamouroux		4,3
	<i>Dyctiota cervicornis</i> Kuetzing		4,3
	<i>Dyctiota divaricata</i> Lamouroux		4,3
	<i>Dyctiota menstrualis</i> (Hoyt) Schnetter, Hörnig y Weber-Peukert	1	
	<i>Dyctiota jamaicensis</i> W. Taylor		4
	<i>Dictyopteris. justii</i> J. V. Lamouroux	1	
	<i>Giffordia</i> sp.	1	

Class	Specie	AI	AE
	<i>Lobophora variegata</i> (Lamouroux) Womersley		4,3
	<i>Padina boergesenii</i> Allender & Kraft		4



	<i>Padina sanctae-crucis</i> Boergesen	4
	<i>Sargassum hystrix</i> J. Agardh	4
	<i>Sargassum platycarpum</i> Montagne	4
	<i>Styopodium zonale</i> (Lamoroux) Papenfuss	4,3
	<i>Turbinaria tricostata</i> Barton	4
	<i>Turbinaria turbinata</i> (Linnaeus) Kuntze	1 4
Rodophyceae	<i>Acanthophora. spicifera</i> (Vahl) Børgesen	1
	<i>Amphiroa brasilana</i> Decaisne	4,3
	<i>Amphiroa fragilissima</i> (Linnaeus) Lamouroux	4
	<i>Amphiroa rigida</i> Boergesen	4
	<i>Amphiroa tribulus</i> (Ellis y Solander) Lamouroux	4,3
	<i>Caloglossa leprieurii</i> (Mont.) G. Martens	1
	<i>Chondria. littoralis</i> Harv.	1
	<i>Coelothrix irregularis</i> (Harvey) Boergesen	4
	<i>Eucheuma isiforme</i> (C. Agardh) J. Agardh	2
	<i>Flahaultia tegetiformis</i> W. Taylor	4
	<i>Fosliella</i> sp.	1
	<i>Galaxaura oblongata</i> (Ellis y Solander) Lam.	4
	<i>Gelidium pusillum</i> (Stackhouse) Le Jolis	4,3
	<i>Hydrolithon boergesenii</i> (Foslie) Foslie	4
	<i>Hypnea cervicornis</i> J. Agardh	4
	<i>Hypnea valentiae</i> (Turner) Mont.	1
	<i>Kallimonia limminghii</i> Montagne	4
	<i>Laurencia intricata</i> J. V. Lamouroux	3
	<i>Martensia pavonia</i> (J. Agardh) J. Agardh	4
	<i>Mesophyllum mesomorphum</i> (Foslie) Adey	4
	<i>Murrayella pericladus</i> (C. Agardh) F. Schmitz	1
	<i>Neogoniolithon strictum</i> (F.) Setchell y Mason	4,3
	<i>Polysiphonia</i> sp.	1
	<i>Wrangelia argus</i> (Montagne) Montagne	4

Lists of benthic marine invertebrate species reported for the region of Samaná, considering two general areas of distribution. . **AI.** Interior areas of the Bay of Samaná in mangrove swamps, marine grasses and reef habitats of scarce development. **AE:** external areas of the Bay of Samaná in reef habitats that are developed under the oceanic influence... *References.* **1.** Álvarez and García (1986), **2.** DNP (1989), **3.** Suriel (1990), **4.** Silva and Aquino (1993), **5.** Sang et al. (1994), **6.** Sang and Lysenko (1994), **7.** Sang and Martínez (1994), **8.** Sang (1994), **9** Geraldés (1994);

10. Lockward et al. (1995), 11. Sang (1996), 12. Sang et al. (1997), 13. Herrera and Betancourt (2003), 14. Herrera and Betancourt (2004), 15. Steiner and Kabat (2004), 16. NHMLC (2005), 17. FMNH (2005), 18. NMNH (2005). Notes. Some taxonomic hierarchies may require bring up to date. Name in alphabetical order for family and species inside each group.

Phylum	Class/Order	Family	Species	AI	AE
PORIFERA	Demospongiae	Agelasidae	<i>Agelas clathrodes</i> (Schmidt)		11
		Agelasidae	<i>Agelas conifera</i> (Schmidt)		11
		Aplysinidae	<i>Aplysina archeri</i> (Higgin)		11
		Aplysinidae	<i>Aplysina cauliformis</i> Carter		11
		Aplysinidae	<i>Aplysina fistularis</i> (Pallas)		11
		Aplysinidae	<i>Aplysina lacunosa</i> (Lamarck)		11
		Aplysinidae	<i>Verongula gigantea</i> (Hyatt)		11
		Aplysinidae	<i>Verongula rigida</i> (Esper)		11
		Callyspongiidae	<i>Callyspongia plicifera</i> (Lamarck)		11
		Callyspongiidae	<i>Callyspongia vaginalis</i> (Lamarck)		11
		Chalinidae	<i>Haliclona</i> sp.		11
		Clionidae	<i>Cliona langae</i> Pang		11
		Clionidae	<i>Cliona varians</i> (Duch. y Michelotti)		11
		Crambidae	<i>Monanchora unguifera</i> (Laubenfels)		11
		Desmacellidae	<i>Neofibularia nolitangere</i> (Duch. y Michelotti)		11
		Dictyonellidae	<i>Scopalina ruetzleri</i> (Wiedenmayer)		11
		Druinellidae	<i>Aiolochoira crassa</i> (Hyatt)		11
		Irciniidae	<i>Ircinia strobilina</i> (Lamarck)		11
		Mycalidae	<i>Mycale laevis</i> Carter		11
		Niphatidae	<i>Aka coralliphaga</i> (Ruetzler)		11
		Niphatidae	<i>Cribochalina vasculum</i> (Lamarck)		11
		Petrosiidae	<i>Xestospongia muta</i> (Schmidt)		11
		Spirophoridae	<i>Chondrilla nucula</i> Schmidt		6
		Tedaniidae	<i>Tedania ignis</i> (Duchassaing y Michelotti)		1
		CTENOPHORA	Tentaculata	Mnemiidae	<i>Mnemiopsis</i> sp.
COELENTERATA Hydrozoa	Stylasterina Hydroida	Stylasteridae	<i>Stylaster roseus</i> Pallas		18
		Milleporidae	<i>Millepora alcicornis</i> Linnaeus	8	11
		Milleporidae	<i>Millepora complanata</i> Lamarck	8	11
		Milleporidae	<i>Millepora squarrosa</i> Linnaeus		11
Scyphozoa	Rhizostomeae	Cassiopeidae	<i>Cassiopeia</i> sp.	1	
Anthozoa	Actiniaria Scleractinea	Aiptasiidae	<i>Bartholomea annulata</i>	1	
		Acroporidae	<i>Acropora palmata</i> (Lamarck)	8	11
		Agariciidae	<i>Agaricia agaricites</i> (Linnaeus)		11
		Agariciidae	<i>Agaricia fragilis</i> Dana		11
		Agariciidae	<i>Agaricia grahamae</i> Wells		11
		Agariciidae	<i>Agaricia humilis</i> Verrill		11
		Agariciidae	<i>Agaricia lamarcki</i> M. Edwards y Haime		18
		Agariciidae	<i>Agaricia tenuifolia</i> (Dana)		11
		Agariciidae	<i>Leptoseris cucullata</i> (Ellis y Solander)		11
				Astrocoeniidae	<i>Stephanocoenia intersepta</i> Lamarck
		Caryophyllidae	<i>Eusmilia fastigiata</i> (Pallas)		11
		Faviidae	<i>Colpophyllia natans</i> (Houttuyn)		11

		Faviidae	<i>Diploria clivosa</i> (Ellis y Solander)	8	11
		Faviidae	<i>Diploria labyrinthiformis</i> (Linnaeus)		11
		Faviidae	<i>Diploria strigosa</i> (Dana)		11
		Faviidae	<i>Favia fragum</i> (Esper)		11
		Faviidae	<i>Manicina areolata</i> (Linnaeus)		11
		Faviidae	<i>Montastraea annularis</i> (Ellis y Solander)		11
		Faviidae	<i>Montastraea cavernosa</i> (Linnaeus)	8	11
		Meandrinidae	<i>Dichocoenia stokesi</i> M. Edwards y Haime	8	11
		Meandrinidae	<i>Meandrina meandrites</i> Linnaeus		11
		Musiidae	<i>Isophyllastrea rigida</i> (Dana)		11
		Musiidae	<i>Mussa angulosa</i> (Pallas)		11
		Musiidae	<i>Mycetophyllia aliciae</i> Wells		11
		Musiidae	<i>Mycetophyllia danaana</i> M. Edwards y Haime		11
		Musiidae	<i>Mycetophyllia ferox</i> Wells		11
		Musiidae	<i>Mycetophyllia lamarckiana</i> M. Edwards y Haime		11
		Poecilloporidae	<i>Madracis decactis</i> (Lyman)		11
		Poecilloporidae	<i>Madracis formosa</i> Wells		11
		Poecilloporidae	<i>Madracis mirabilis</i> (Duchassaing y Michelotti)		11
		Poritiidae	<i>Porites astreoides</i> Lamarck		11
		Poritiidae	<i>Porites porites</i> (Pallas)	8	11
		Rhizangiidae	<i>Colangia immersa</i> Pourtales		18
		Siderastreidae	<i>Siderastrea radians</i> (Pallas)	1,8	11
		Siderastreidae	<i>Siderastrea siderea</i> (Ellis y Solander)		11
		Siderastreidae	<i>Solenastrea hyades</i> (Dana)		11
	Octocorallia	Anthothelidae	<i>Erythropodium caribaeum</i> (Duch. y Michelotti)	8	9,11
		Briareidae	<i>Briareum asbestinum</i> (Pallas)	8	9,11
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Gorgonia flabellum</i> Linnaeus	8	9,11
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Gorgonia mariae</i> Bayer		11
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Gorgonia ventallina</i> Linnaeus		9,11
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Muricea muricata</i> (Pallas)	8	9,11
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Muriceopsis flavida</i> Lamarck		9,11
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Pseudoplexaura flagellosa</i>		11
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Pseudopterogorgia acerosa</i> (Pallas)		9
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Pseudopterogorgia americana</i> (Gmelin)		9,11
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Pseudopterogorgia bipinnata</i> (Verrill)		9,11
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Pseudopterogorgia navia</i> Bayer		18
		Gorgoniidae	<i>Pterogorgia anceps</i> (Pallas)		11
		Plexauridae	<i>Eunicea mammosa</i> Lamouroux		9,11
		Plexauridae	<i>Plexaura homomalla</i> f. <i>homomalla</i> Bayer		9,11
		Plexauridae	<i>Plexaurella grisea</i> Kunze		9
		Plexauridae	<i>Plexaurella nuttans</i> Duch. y Michelotti		9,11
	Anthipatharia	Antipathidae	<i>Antipathes gracilis</i> Gray		18
	Stolonifera	Clavulariidae	<i>Carijoa rupicola</i> Muller		18
		Clavulariidae	<i>Carijoa riisei</i> (Duch. y Michelotti)		18
		Clavulariidae	<i>Scleranthelia musiva</i> Studer		18
		Clavulariidae	<i>Scleranthelia rugosa</i> Pourtales		18
	Telestacea	Telestidae	<i>Telesto</i> sp.		18
		Telestidae	<i>Telestula</i> sp.		18
MOLLUSCA	Scaphopoda	Dentaliidae	<i>Dentalium callipeplum</i> Dall		15
Phylum	Clase/Orden	Familia	Especies	AI	AE
		Dentaliidae	<i>Dentalium matara</i> Dall		15
		Gadilidae	<i>Cadulus acus</i> Dall		15
	Gastropoda	Bullidae	<i>Builla striata</i> Bruguiere	17	

		Cassidae	<i>Cassis madagascariensis</i> Lamarck	10	
		Cassidae	<i>Cassis tuberosa</i> (Linnaeus)	10	
		Cerithidae	<i>Cerithium lutosum</i> Menke	17	
		Cypraeidae	<i>Cypraea zebra</i> Linnaeus	10	
		Ellobiidae	<i>Melampus bidentatus</i> Say	17	
		Fascioliariidae	<i>Fasciolaria tulipa</i> Linnaeus	1,2	
		Littorinidae	<i>Littorina angulifera</i> (Lamarck)	1,5	
		Littorinidae	<i>Littorina meleagris</i> (Potiez y Michaud)	17	
		Modulidae	<i>Modulus modulus</i> (Linnaeus)	17	
		Muricidae	<i>Phyllonotus pomun</i> Gmelin	1,2	
		Nassaridae	<i>Nassarius vibex</i> (Say)	17	
		Naticidae	<i>Natica marochiensis</i> Gmelin	17	
		Neritidae	<i>Nerita fulgurans</i> Gmelin	17	
		Neritidae	<i>Nerita peloronta</i> Linnaeus	17	
		Neritidae	<i>Neritina clenchi</i> Russell	3	
		Neritidae	<i>Neritina piratica</i> Russell	5	
		Neritidae	<i>Neritina virginea</i> Linnaeus	17	
		Neritidae	<i>Smaragdia viridis</i> (Linnaeus)	10	
		Olividae	<i>Olivella mutica</i> (Say)	17	
		Potamididae	<i>Batillaria minima</i> Gmelin	17	
		Propeamussiidae	<i>Parvamussium sayanum</i> (Dall)	18	
		Psammobidae	<i>Asaphis deflorata</i> (Linnaeus)	17	
		Psammobidae	<i>Sanguinolaria sanguinolenta</i> (Gmelin)	17	17
		Psammobidae	<i>Tagelus plebeius</i> Lightfoot	17	
		Ranellydae	<i>Charonia variegata</i> (Lamarck)	10,12	
		Strombidae	<i>Strombus costatus</i> Gmelin	8, 12	
		Strombidae	<i>Strombus gigas</i> Linnaeus	10, 12	
		Strombidae	<i>Strombus pugilis</i> Linnaeus	10, 12	
		Terebridae	<i>Hastula maryeelae</i> R. D. Burch		16
		Triphoridae	<i>Triphoris samanae</i> Dall	18	
		Trochidae	<i>Cittarium pica</i> (Linnaeus)	10	
		Trochidae	<i>Euchelus guttarosea</i> Dall	16	
		Turbinidae	<i>Arene miniata</i> Dall	17	
		Turbinidae	<i>Turbo castaneus</i> Gmelin	17	
	Bivalvia	Cuspidariidae	<i>Cuspidaria</i> sp.	3	
		Donacidae	<i>Donax variabilis</i> Say	17	
		Isognomonidae	<i>Isognomon alatus</i> (Gmelin)	5	
		Lucinidae	<i>Lucina muricata</i> (Sprengler)	17	
		Mytilidae	<i>Brachidontes recurvus</i> Rafinesque	5	
		Ostreidae	<i>Cassostrea rhizophorae</i> Guilding	5	
		Pectinidae	<i>Chlamys munda</i> (Reeve)		18
		Pectinidae	<i>Nodipecten nodosus</i> (Linnaeus)		18
		Pectinidae	<i>Pecten chazaliei</i> Dautzenberg		18
		Pinnidae	<i>Pinna carnea</i> Gmelin	6	
		Semelidae	<i>Semele proficua</i> (Pulteney)	17	
		Veneridae	<i>Anomalocardia brasiliiana</i> (Gmelin)	17	
		Veneridae	<i>Chione cancellata</i> Linnaeus	3	
	Polyplacophora	Chitonidae	<i>Chiton squamosus</i> Linnaeus	7	
	Cephalopoda	Loliginidae	<i>Sepiotheutis sepioidea</i> (Blainville)		12
Phyllum	Clase/Orden	Familia	Especies	AI	AE
		Octopodidade	<i>Octopus briareus</i> Robson		12
		Octopodidade	<i>Octopus vulgaris</i> Cuvier		12
ARTHROPODA	Stomatopoda	Squillidae	<i>Cloridopsis dubia</i> (H. Milne Edwards)	13	

Natantia	Penaeidae	<i>Penaeus duorarum</i> Burkenroad	12	
	Penaeidae	<i>Penaeus schmitti</i> Burkenroad	12	
	Penaeidae	<i>Xiphopenaeus kroyeri</i> (Heller)	12	
Brachyura	Gecarcinidae	<i>Cardisoma guanhumi</i> Latreille	4	
	Grapsidae	<i>Aratus pisoni</i> (Milne Edwards)	5	
	Grapsidae	<i>Geograpsus lividus</i> (H. Milne Edwards)	1,2	
	Grapsidae	<i>Goniopsis cruentata</i> (Latreille)	1,2	
	Grapsidae	<i>Grapsus grapsus</i> (Linnaeus)	7	
	Grapsidae	<i>Pachygrapsus gracilis</i> (Saussure)	1,2	
	Grapsidae	<i>Sesarma miersi</i> Rathbun	1,2	
	Majidae	<i>Mithrax spinosissimus</i> (Lamarck)	14	12
	Majidae	<i>Stenorhynchus seticornis</i> (Herbst)	1,2	
	Ocypodidae	<i>Ocypode quadrata</i> (Fabricius)	7	
	Ocypodidae	<i>Uca</i> sp.	2,5	
	Ocypodidae	<i>Ucides cordatus</i> (Linnaeus)	2,5	
	Portunidae	<i>Areneus cribarius</i> (Lamarck)	12	
	Portunidae	<i>Callinectes danae</i>	12	
	Portunidae	<i>Callinectes sapidus</i> Rathbun	12	
	Portunidae	<i>Lupella forceps</i> (Fabricius)	5	
	Portunidae	<i>Portunus gigbesi</i> (Stimpson)	2	
	Raninidae	<i>Raninoides lamarcki</i> Milne-Edwards y Bouvier		18
	Xanthidae	<i>Carpilius coralinus</i> (Herbst)	12	
	Xanthidae	<i>Panopeus herbsti</i> H. Milne Edwards	1,2	
Palinura	Palinuridae	<i>Panulirus argus</i> (Latreille)		11,12
	Palinuridae	<i>Panulirus guttatus</i> (Latreille)		11,12
	Scyllaridae	<i>Scyllarides aequinoctialis</i> (Lund)		12
Isopoda	Sphaeromatidae	<i>Sphaeroma terebrans</i> Bate	1,2	
ECHINODERMATA Crinoidea	Comasteridae	<i>Nemaster rubiginosus</i>		14
	Comasteridae	<i>Neocomatella pulchella</i>		14
Asteroidea	Ophidiasteridae	<i>Linckia guildingii</i> Gray	6,8	
	Oreasteridae	<i>Oreaster reticulatus</i> (Linnaeus)	6,10	10
	Cidaridae	<i>Eucidaris tribuloides</i> (Lamarck)	6,8	11
	Diadematidae	<i>Diadema antillarum</i> (Philippi)		14
	Echinometridae	<i>Echinometra lucunter</i> (Linnaeus)	8	11
Echinoidea	Echinometridae	<i>Echinometra viridis</i> (Linnaeus)		14
	Toxopneustidae	<i>Lytechinus variegatus</i> (Lamarck)	6	
	Toxopneustidae	<i>Tripneustes ventricosus</i> (Lamarck)	6,10	11
Holothuroidea	Holothuriidae	<i>Actinopyga agassizi</i> (Selenka)	6	
	Holothuriidae	<i>Holothuria mexicana</i> Ludwig	6	
	Stichopodidae	<i>Isostichopus badionotus</i> (Selenka)	6	

Lists of species of bony fish, sharks and rays reported for the region of Samaná, considering two distribution areas. **ES.** Estuary, **AI.** interior areas of the Bay of Samaná in habitats of mangrove swamps, marine grasses and reefs of scarce development for the estuary influence. **AE:** external areas of the Bay of Samaná in habitats of coralline reefs that are developed under the oceanic influence. *References.* **1** García (1981), **2.** Sang (1994), **3.** Sang and Martínez (1944), **4.** Sang and Lysenko (1994), **5.** Sang et al. (1994), **6.** Lockward et al. (1995), **7.** Sang (1996), **8.** Sang et al.

(1997), 9. León (1997), 10. Van Tassell (2002) 11. CASCF (2005), 12. NMNH (2005). Notes. Some taxonomic hierarchies may require bring up to date. Name in alphabetical order for family and species inside each group.

Family	Specie	AI	AE
Acanthuridae	<i>Acanthurus bahianus</i> Castelnau		2,7,8
	<i>Acanthurus chirurgus</i> (Bloch)	4,8	2,8
	<i>Acanthurus coeruleus</i> Bloch y Schneider		2,7,8
Albulidae	<i>Albula vulpes</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
Apogonidae	<i>Apogon</i> sp.		7
Atherinidae	<i>Hypoatherina harringtonensis</i> (Goode)	8	
Aulostomidae	<i>Aulostomus maculatus</i> Valenciennes		2,7
Balistidae	<i>Balistes capriscus</i> Gmelin	8	
	<i>Balistes vetula</i> (Linnaeus)	9	7,8
	<i>Canthidermis sufflamen</i> (Mitchill )		7,8
	<i>Melichthys niger</i> (Bloch)		8
	<i>Xanthichthys ringens</i> (Linnaeus)		8
Belonidae	<i>Tylosurus crocodilus</i> (Peron y LeSueur )	8	
Bleniidae	<i>Ophioblennius atlanticus</i> (Cuvier y Valenciennes)		7
Bothidae	<i>Citharichthys spilopterus</i> Gunther	8	
	<i>Bothus lunatus</i> (Linnaeus)		7
Carangidae	<i>Alectis ciliaris</i> (Bloch)	8	
	<i>Caranx bartholomaei</i> Cuvier	8,9	
	<i>Caranx crysos</i> (Mitchill)	8,9	
	<i>Caranx hippos</i> (Linnaeus)	9	7,8
	<i>Caranx latus</i> (Agassiz)	8,9	8
	<i>Caranx lugubris</i> Poey	9	
	<i>Caranx ruber</i> (Mitchill)	4,9	7,8
	<i>Chloroscombrus chrysurus</i> (Linnaeus)	5,8	
	<i>Decapterus punctatus</i> (Cuvier)	8	
	<i>Oligoplites saurus</i> (Bloch y Schneider)	8,9	
	<i>Selene setapinnis</i> (Mitchill)		8
	<i>Selene vomer</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
	<i>Selar crumenophthalmus</i> (Bloch)	8,9	8
	<i>Seriola dumerili</i> (Risso)		8,9
	<i>Seriola rivoliana</i> Cuvier		8,9
<i>Trachinotus falcatus</i> (Linnaeus)	8,9		
<i>Trachinotus goodei</i> Jordan y Everman	8,9		
<i>Uraspis secunda</i> Poey	9		
Carcharhinidae	<i>Carcharhinus perezii</i> (Poey)		6
	<i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i> (Müller y Henle)		9
	<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i> (LeSueur)		1,8
	<i>Rhizoprionodon porosus</i> (Poey)		7,8
Centropomidae	<i>Centropomus ensiferus</i> Poey	5,8	
	<i>Centropomus undecimalis</i> (Bloch)	8	
Chaetodontidae	<i>Chaetodon capistratus</i> Linnaeus		2
	<i>Chaetodon striatus</i> Linnaeus		7
	<i>Chaetodon ocellatus</i> Bloch		7
Family	Specie	AI	AE
	<i>Chaetodon aculeatus</i> (Poey)		7
Cirrhitidae	<i>Amblycirrhitus pinos</i> (Mowbray)		7
Clupeide	<i>Anchovia clupeoides</i> (Swainson)	5	
	<i>Harengula clupeola</i> (Cuvier)	8	
	<i>Opisthonema oglinum</i> (LeSueur)	8	

	<i>Sardinella aurita</i> Valenciennes	8	
Coryphaenidae	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i> Linnaeus		8,9
Cynoglossidae	<i>Symphurus plagusia</i> (Bloch y Schneider)	8	
Dasyatidae	<i>Dasyatis americana</i> Hildebrand y Schroeder	6,8	
	<i>Himantura schmardae</i> (Werner)	8	
	<i>Urolophus jamaicensis</i> (Cuvier)	4	2,7
Eleotridae	<i>Gobiomorus dormitor</i> Lacepede	3	
Elopidae	<i>Elops saurus</i> Linnaeus	8	
Engraulidae	<i>Anchoa filifera</i> (Fowler)	8	
Engraulidae	<i>Anchoa lamprotaenia</i> Hildebrand	12	
	<i>Centengraulis edentulus</i> (Cuvier)	8	
Ephippidae	<i>Chaetodipterus faber</i> (Broussonet)	8	
Gerreidae	<i>Diapterus auratus</i> Ranzani	8	
	<i>Diapterus rhombeus</i> (Cuvier)	8	
	<i>Eucinostomus gula</i> (Cuvier)	8	
	<i>Eucinostomus argenteus</i> Baird y Girard	8	
	<i>Eucinostomus melanopterus</i> (Bleeker)	9	
	<i>Gerres cinereus</i> (Walbaum)	8,9	
Gobiidae	<i>Awaous tajasica</i> (Lichtenstein)	3,12	
	<i>Bollmannia litura</i> Ginsburg	10	
	<i>Bathygobius</i> sp.	3	
	<i>Gobionellus</i> sp.	3	
	<i>Coryphopterus personatus</i> (Jordan y Thompson)		2,7
	<i>Coryphopterus</i> sp.		2
	<i>Gobisoma</i> sp.		7
Grammidae	<i>Gramma loreto</i> Poey		7
Grammistidae	<i>Rypticus saponaceus</i> Scheneider		7,8
Haemulidae	<i>Anisotremus surinamensis</i> (Bloch)	8	8
	<i>Anisotremus virginicus</i> (Linnaeus)	8	8
	<i>Conodon nobilis</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
	<i>Haemulon aerolineatum</i> Cuvier		7,8
	<i>Haemulon album</i> Cuvier		8,9
	<i>Haemulon bonaeriensi</i> Cuvier	8	
	<i>Haemulon carbonarium</i> Poey	8	7,8
	<i>Haemulon flavolineatum</i> (Desmarest)	4	7,8
	<i>Haemulon macrostomum</i> Gunther	4,9	7,8
	<i>Haemulon parrai</i> (Desmarest)	8	7,8
	<i>Haemulon plumieri</i> (Lacépede)	9	7,8
	<i>Haemulon sciurus</i> (Shaw)	9	2,7,8
	<i>Haemulon striatum</i> (Linnaeus)		8
	<i>Haemulon chrysargyreum</i> Gunther		7
	<i>Pomadasys corvinaeformis</i> (Steindachner)	8	
Hemiramphidae	<i>Hemiramphus brasiliensis</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
Holocentridae	<i>Holocentrus ascencionis</i> (Osbeck)	8	7,8
	<i>Holocentrus rufus</i> (Walbaum)	8	2,7,8
	<i>Holocentrus marianus</i> (Cuvier)		7
	<i>Holocentrus vexillarius</i> (Poey)		7
Family	Specie	AI	AE
	<i>Myripristis jacobus</i> Cuvier		7,8
Istiophoridae	<i>Tetrapturus albidus</i> Poey		8,9
Kyphosidae	<i>Kyphosus sectatrix</i> (Linnaeus)	9	7,8
Labridae	<i>Bodianus rufus</i> (Linnaeus)	9	7,8
	<i>Halichoeres bivittatus</i> (Bloch)	4,9	2,7,8

	<i>Halichoeres garnoti</i> Valenciennes		2,7
	<i>Halichoeres macupilinna</i> (Muller y Troschell)		2,7
	<i>Halichoeres poeyi</i> (Steindachner)	4,9	2,7,8
	<i>Halichoeres radiatus</i> (Linnaeus)	9	7,8
	<i>Lachnolaimus maximus</i> (Walbaum)		8
	<i>Thalassoma bifasciatum</i> (Bloch)		7,8
	<i>Clepticus parra</i> (Bloch y Schneider)		7
	<i>Xyrichthys cf. splendens</i> (Castelnau)		7
Labrisomidae	<i>Malacoctenus triangulatus</i> Springuer		7
	<i>Malacoctenus gilli</i> (Steindachner)	12	
	<i>Labrisomus filamentosus</i> (Springer)		7
Lobotidae	<i>Lobotes surinamensis</i> (Bloch)	8,9	8
Lutjanidae	<i>Apsilus dentatus</i> Guichenot		8
	<i>Etelis oculatus</i> (Valenciennes)		8, 9
	<i>Lutjanus analis</i> (Cuvier)	4,8,9	8
	<i>Lutjanus apodus</i> (Walbaum)	9	7,8
	<i>Lutjanus bucanella</i> (Cuvier)		8,9
	<i>Lutjanus cyanopterus</i> (Cuvier)		8
	<i>Lutjanus griseus</i> (Linnaeus)	3,5,8,9	
	<i>Lutjanus jocu</i> (Schneider)	9	7
	<i>Lutjanus mahogoni</i> (Cuvier)	9	7,8
	<i>Lutjanus synagris</i> (Linnaeus)	8,9	8
	<i>Lutjanus vivanus</i> (Cuvier)		8,9
	<i>Ocyurus chrysurus</i> (Bloch)	4,8,9	2,7
	<i>Pristipomoides macrophthalmus</i> (Muller y Troschel)	8,9	
	<i>Rhomboplites aurorubens</i> (Cuvier)	8,9	8
Malacanthidae	<i>Malacanthus plumieri</i> (Bloch)		7,8
Megalopidae	<i>Tarpon atlanticus</i> (Valenciennes)	8	
Monacanthidae	<i>Aluterus monoceros</i> Linnaeus	8	
	<i>Cantherhines macrocerus</i> (Hoolard)	8	7,8
	<i>Cantherhines pullus</i> (Ranzani)		7
	<i>Monacanthus</i> sp.	2,4	
Mugilidae	<i>Agonostomus monticola</i> Bancrofti	3	
	<i>Mugil curema</i> Valenciennes	8	
	<i>Mugil hospes</i> Jordan y Cuvier	8	
Mullidae	<i>Mulloidichthys martinicus</i> (Cuvier)	9	7,8
	<i>Pseudupeneus maculatus</i> (Bloch)	9	2,7,8
Muraenesocidae	<i>Cynoponticus savanna</i> (Bancroft)	8	
Muraenidae	<i>Gymnothorax vicinus</i> (Castelnau)	4	
	<i>Gymnothorax funebris</i> (Ranzani)	4	
	<i>Muraena miliaris</i> (Kaup)		7
Myliobatidae	<i>Aetobatus narinari</i> (Euphrasen)	8	
Ophidiidae	<i>Lepophidium brevibarbe</i> (Cuvier)	8	
Orectolobidae	<i>Ginglymostoma cirratum</i> (Bonnaterre)		7
Ostracidae	<i>Lactophrys bicaudalis</i> (Linnaeus)	8	7,8
	<i>Lactophrys quadricornis</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
	<i>Lactophrys triqueter</i> (Linnaeus)		7,8
Family	Specie	AI	AE
	<i>Lactophrys tricornis</i> Linnaeus	12	
Pempheridae	<i>Pempheris schomburgkii</i> Müller y Troschel		7
Polymixidae	<i>Polymixia lowei</i> Gunther		8
Polynemidae	<i>Polydactylus virginicus</i> (Linnaeus)	8,9	8
Pomacanthidae	<i>Holacanthus ciliaris</i> (Linnaeus)	8	7,8



	<i>Holacanthus tricolor</i> (Bloch)		7
	<i>Pomacanthus arcuatus</i> (Linnaeus)	2,8,9	
Pomacentridae	<i>Abudefduf saxatilis</i> (Linnaeus)		7
	<i>Chromis cyanea</i> (Poey)		7
	<i>Chromis multilineata</i> (Guichenot)		7
	<i>Microspathodon chrysurus</i> (Cuvier)		2,7
	<i>Stegastes variabilis</i> (Castelnau)		2
	<i>Stegastes dorsopunicans</i> (Poey)		2
	<i>Stegastes partitus</i> (Poey)		2,7
	<i>Stegastes planifrons</i> (Cuvier y Valenciennes)		2
	<i>Stegastes fuscus</i> Cuvier		7
	<i>Stegastes leucostictus</i> (Muller y Troschel)		7
	<i>Stegastes diencaeus</i> Jordan y Rutter		7
	<i>Stegastes variabilis</i> (Castelnau)		7
Priacanthidae	<i>Cookeolus japonicus</i> Cuvier		8
	<i>Priacanthus cruentatus</i> (Lacepede)	8	7,8
Pristigasteridae	<i>Chirocentrodon bleekermanus</i> (Poey)	8	
Rachycentridae	<i>Rachycentron canadum</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
Scaridae	<i>Nicholsina usta</i> (Cuvier y Valenciennes)	8	
	<i>Scarus coeruleus</i> (Bolch)	9	2,12
	<i>Scarus iserti</i> (Bloch)	4	2, 7,8
	<i>Scarus taeniopterus</i> Desmarest	4	7,8
	<i>Scarus vetula</i> Bloch y Schneider	9	7,8
	<i>Scarus guacamaia</i> Cuvier	7	
	<i>Sparisoma aurofrenatum</i> (Valenciennes)	9	2,7,8
	<i>Sparisoma chrysopterum</i> (Bloch y Schneider)	9	7,8
	<i>Sparisoma radians</i> (Valenciennes)	8	
	<i>Sparisoma rubripinne</i> (Cuvier y Valenciennes)	4, 9	7,8
	<i>Sparisoma viride</i> (Bonaterre)	9	2,7,8,12
	<i>Sparisoma atomarium</i> (Poey)		7
Sciaenidae	<i>Bairdiella ronchus</i> (Cuvier)	8	
	<i>Bairdiella sanctae-luciae</i> (Jordan)	8	
	<i>Cynoscion jamaicensis</i> (Vaillant y Bocourt)	5,8,9	
	<i>Larimus breviceps</i> (Cuvier)	5,8	
	<i>Menticirrhus americanus</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
	<i>Micropogonias furnieri</i> (Desmarest)	8,9	
	<i>Stellifer colonensis</i> Meek y Hildebrand	8	
	<i>Odontoscion dentex</i> (Cuvier)	8	2,7,8
	<i>Umbrina coroides</i> (Cuvier)	8	9
	<i>Equetus acuminatus</i> (Schneider)		7
Scombridae	<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i> (Cuvier)		8,9
	<i>Scomberomorus cavalla</i> (Cuvier)	8	8
	<i>Scomberomorus regalis</i> (Bloch)	9	7,8
	<i>Scomberomorus maculatus</i> (Mitchill)		9
	<i>Thunnus obesus</i> (Lowe)		8,9
	<i>Thunnus albacares</i> (Bonaterre)		8,9
	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i> (Linnaeus)		8
Family	Specie	AI	AE
Scyliorhinidae	<i>Apristurus riveri</i> Bigelow y Schroeder		12
	<i>Apristurus laurussoni</i> (Saemundsson)		12
Serranidae	<i>Alphestes afer</i> (Bloch)		8
	<i>Diplectrum formosum</i> (Linnaeus)	4	
	<i>Ephinephelus adscencionis</i> (Osbeck)	9	7,8

	<i>Ephinephelus cruentatus</i> (Lacépede)	9	7,8
	<i>Ephinephelus fulvus</i> (Linnaeus)	8	7,8
	<i>Ephinephelus guttatus</i> (Linnaeus)	2,8	8,9
	<i>Ephinephelus itajara</i> (Lichtenstein)		6,8,9
	<i>Ephinephelus striatus</i> (Bloch)	9	7,8
	<i>Hypoplectrus puella</i> (Cuvier y Valenciennes)	4	2,7,8
	<i>Hypoplectrus nigricans</i> (Poey)		2
	<i>Hypoplectrus unicolor</i> (Walbaum)		2
	<i>Hypoplectrus chlorurus</i> (Valenciennes)		7
	<i>Mycteroperca bonaci</i> (Poey)		8
	<i>Mycteroperca venenosa</i> (Linnaeus)	9	7,8
	<i>Mycteroperca tigris</i> Valenciennes		7
	<i>Serranus tabacarius</i> (Cuvier)		8
	<i>Serranus phoebe</i> (Poey)		8
	<i>Serranus tigrinus</i> (Bloch)		7
	<i>Paranthias furcifer</i> (Valenciennes)		7,8
Sparidae	<i>Archosargus rhomboidalis</i> (Linnaeus)	8,9	
	<i>Calamus penna</i> (Valenciennes)	8	
	<i>Calamus pennatula</i> Guichenot	8,9	8
Sphyraenidae	<i>Sphyraena barracuda</i> (Walbaum)	6, 9	7,8
	<i>Sphyraena guagancho</i> Cuvier	8,9	
	<i>Sphyraena picudilla</i> (Poey)	8	
Stromateidae	<i>Peprilus paru</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
Synodontidae	<i>Synodus foetens</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
	<i>Synodus intermedius</i> (Agassiz)	8	2,7,8
Syngnathidae	<i>Cosmocampus elucens</i> Poey		11
Tetraodontidae	<i>Canthigaster rostrata</i> (Bloch)		2,7
	<i>Lagocephalus laevigatus</i> (Linnaeus)	8	
	<i>Sphoeroides testudineus</i> (Linnaeus)	4	
	<i>Sphoeroides spengleri</i> (Bloch)		2,7
Trichiuridae	<i>Trichiurus lepturus</i> (Linnaeus)	5,8	
Triglidae	<i>Prionotus punctatus</i> (Bloch )	8	

**ANEXX II.**  
**DIGITAL BATHYMETRIC MODEL:**  
**2 AND 3-DIMENSIONAL**

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