

BY ANDREW COX



The Castillo San Felipe del Morro is the iconic backdrop for the IBT at Club Náutico de San Juan, now a 30-pound-test tournament.

tournament.” Visiting anglers wishing to fish the peak of marlin season off Puerto Rico can also take advantage of the rotating boat system the tournament offers, allowing anglers to fish and compete on a different boat every day.



IGFA PARTNERS ON CARIBBEAN BILLFISH PROJECT

The International Game Fish Association will be the lead recreational fishing organization for the Caribbean Billfish Project. The three-year project is a \$1.95 million component implemented by the World Bank and financed by the Global Environment Facility that aims to develop one or more long-term pilot projects for sustainable management and conservation of billfish within the western central Atlantic Ocean. The IGFA will provide scientific advice on measures concerning the conservation and management of billfish resources, including biological, social and economic aspects of billfish fisheries in the Caribbean. IGFA will also establish and serve as the secretariat for the Consortium on Billfish Management and Conservation in the western central Atlantic, which will comprise relevant organizations working together with an agreed work

IBT Changes to 30-Pound-Test-Line Fishing Tournament

The International Billfish Tournament of Club Náutico de San Juan, being held Sept. 24-30, is set to become a 30-pound-test event for the first time, providing anglers with increased challenges while setting the bar higher for conservation efforts. “We are

hoping to increase the international angler participation with a change to 30-pound-test line,” says Ricky Jaén, chairman of the 62nd tournament. “Boats will still be allowed to fish with the same group of anglers throughout the tournament, and we will keep innovating ways to offer the best

GULF OF MEXICO BLUE MARLIN RECAPTURE

The Billfish Foundation recently reported a recapture of a blue marlin originally tagged in the Gulf of Mexico and caught along the coast of Costa Rica. The estimated 150-pound blue marlin was caught and tagged off Venice, Louisiana, on July 26, 2014, aboard *Miss Remy* by angler Joy Lobrano, her first-ever blue marlin. More than 1,300 miles from where it was originally tagged, the fish was recaptured 242 days later on March 25, 2015, off Puerto Limon along the Caribbean coast of Costa Rica.



COURTESY SAN JUAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT / RICHARD GIBSON (TOP), COURTESY AMERICAN SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION (OPPOSITE)