

Mathew Icari - Hawai'i Island, Marine 2nd

For the interview I talked stories with my grandpa. We talked about how fishing and diving currently is way different than how it is now. He told me that back in the day when he was younger jumping in the water and diving was like swimming in an aquarium which is vastly different from how it is now. He said that he used to bring home coolers of fish with very little effort. Nowadays it requires a lot of skill and patience to catch even a few fish. He told me that the difference now is incomprehensible and it was something that was hard to believe because of how different the ocean is now. He also said that back when he used to go fishing he used to catch a lot of big nabeta which is a pretty rare fish to find now and they sell for a lot of money even for the small ones. One thing we also talked about was the fish sanctuaries where people can dive and see the fish but are not allowed to move, disturb or harm the fish, he said that if they were to go around the island and make certain places fish sanctuaries they would probably return to how they formerly were in around 10-15 years which I think would be a pretty good way to let the coral and fish recuperate. I think by 2070 if significant action is not taken by then the fish are probably going to be gone. I think that the difference from back then and now are so large that if people continue to over-fish and catch the fish that are too small. I think now that there are not an abundance of fish people are starting to catch anything that they can. I see pictures of people catching small fish and being happy with that. I do not think that this is gonna help the environment and if this continues the fish population will definitely die off and without fish the coral will also struggle and the entirety of the reef will be gone.