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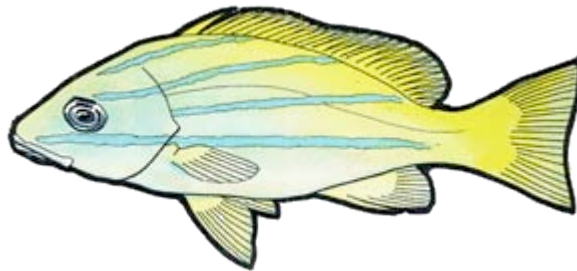


Date: May 12, 2008

Aloha!

The County of Maui is proud to be hosting **Reef Night** on June 22, 2008 at The Maui Ocean Center. This community event is one of many activities designed to celebrate the 2008 International Year of the Reef. The Ola Nā Papa I Pūlama 'ia (Cherish the Living Reefs) campaign was created to raise awareness about the uniqueness and value of our reefs, in addition to highlighting the need for better protection of this important natural resource.

Many exciting events are planned for Reef Night ... One such is the "Ta'ape Cook-off!" We would like to extend an invitation to all amateur and professional chefs to submit recipes using the invasive species Ta'ape, scientific name *Lutjanus kasmira*, aka Blue-lined Snapper. Ta'ape was introduced into Hawaiian waters in the mid to late 1950s from French Polynesia. It has since flourished but has not yet developed its commercial potential.



These recipes should serve as a main dish (entrée). The main focus is to promote consumption of this fish, as well as the use of locally grown produce. All entries should be submitted via email to [Kuhea.Paracuelles@mauicounty.gov](mailto:Kuhea.Paracuelles@mauicounty.gov), or faxed to (808) 242-1187 or mailed to the above listed address, **no later than May 30, 2008**. In addition to your name and contact information please include the name of your dish, type of cuisine, as well as all ingredients. Bear in mind that preparation time must be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes. A panel will review all entries and select the top six amateur and professional recipes. Chefs will be notified no later than June 6<sup>th</sup> and must be available to prepare their dish at the Reef Night event on June 22<sup>nd</sup> in person. Select locally grown produce will be available for the cook-off, courtesy of the Maui County Farm Bureau.

The judges for the cook-off are:

Mayor Charmaine Tavares  
Mike Gallagher, Celebrity Chef and Author  
Allen Tom, Regional Coordinator, Hawaiian Islands Humpback  
Whale National Marine Sanctuary  
Brian Yoshikawa, Owner, Maui Sporting Goods  
Kate Zolezzi, General Manager, Maui Ocean Center

You will be judged equally on the following four categories:

- 1) Presentation
- 2) Taste
- 3) Reef message (to help promote reef stewardship)
- 4) Ingredients

Should you have additional questions please feel free to contact us. Otherwise we look forward to receiving your entries and please help spread the word to friends and family.

*Mahalo nui loa!*

Stephanie Kowalski