

fundora-mateo-2019-02-24.mp4

Translator [00:00:09] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora [00:00:20] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:00:28] Generally, the kids, they fill a special interest around fishing. Mostly when you live a life that is around by water.

Mateo Fundora [00:00:38] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:00:54] In my case, even though my father died when I was really young. My father was a fisherman. He introduced me about fishing, because normally there are a lot of fishermen in most families.

Mateo Fundora [00:01:25] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:01:41] The Cuban Sport Fishing Federation, I am the Vice President. It's an organization who meet all the sport fishermens around Cuba.

Mateo Fundora [00:01:56] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:02:15] We have a group of different kinds of modalities of fishing. Some people pratice sea spinning from the reef. We have a big group of person dedicated to bass fishing in freshwater.

Mateo Fundora [00:02:33] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:02:41] And we have another small group, who practice fly fishing too.

Mateo Fundora [00:02:41] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:02:57] We have several fishing tournaments all around the island in saltwater and freshwater.

Mateo Fundora [00:02:58] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:03:19] These tournaments have a, give you a punctuation. And every fishermen accumulates an amount of points, who at the end makes a national ranking of saltwater and freshwater.

Mateo Fundora [00:03:49] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:04:07] Even I am not a fishermen who goes fishing too much, because I have a lot of work to do. The organization of the tournaments, and my job that is not fishing because, he says, we do it for free.

Mateo Fundora [00:04:25] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:04:48] We have two kind of tournaments. We have the national tournaments. Those tournaments, it starts in the municipal tournament, provincial

tournament, and the winners go to the national tournaments. And we have open tournaments. Tournaments that start only some years ago, and every fishermen pays for their inclusion in the tournament, and there's a group that will go to this special kind of tournament we call 'open.'

Mateo Fundora [00:05:24] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:05:51] In all the fishermen who compete, it's innate. It's something that's inside you, you want to get the bigger fish. So there is this group of people that made these tournaments because they love, fishermen love to compete.

Mateo Fundora [00:06:11] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:06:37] We as the federation or association, we have seen the necessity of reduce the number of fishing, or fishes, captured in the tournament. Before it was, you weight all the fishes you catch. In this moment for bass, only 3 fishes per day, per fishermen, in 3 or 4 days of tournament. And the sea will be from 3 to 5 so it's a big difference from when we start, to now, to conserve the fishes.

Mateo Fundora [00:07:14] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:07:53] Search for human beings who love fishing, is something that's inside you, to even talking, is you love even talking about fishing. It's not only the fishing action. It's the fishing is, fishes are ,in all your life. And even if i don't go to a lot of tournaments, I sometimes like to go and compete.

Mateo Fundora [00:08:22] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:08:45] He says that his wife don't like to go too much, when he goes fishing, but his wife especially says that fishermen are happy 3 times. Once, when they are preparing their fishing, or everything to go fishing. Second when they are fishing. And third, and most important, when they tell the stories, their fishing stories.

James Thull [00:08:46] Haha very good. Very good.

Mateo Fundora [00:09:19] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:09:30] He says there are many times that we meet and we are always talking about fishing. And you make the same story over and over but there's always something, a new detail you can put in the story and make it be different.

Mateo Fundora [00:09:46] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:09:50] The story you never repeat, is the one that you never catch a fish, the time you didn't catch a fish.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:10:29] [Spanish.]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:10:29] I was in a tournament, a spinning tournament in Playa Borea in Santiago de Cuba. (Spanish). In Las Tunas excuse me. And it was the best of the best in Cuba, in the ranking of the sea fishing.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:10:50] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:10:59] They selected a really bad time for fishing and the fishes did not want to bite.

Mateo Fundora [00:10:59] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:11:23] And what he had a right to assume was, the National Championship of the last year and it was moving. There were small fish in the water but none that wanted to bite.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:11:46] [Spanish.]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:11:46] It was fishing with the bait that was similar to the one that was used in the national champion and he decided to change it to another bait and this bait was more for bass than for fishing in the sea.

Mateo Fundora [00:12:05] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:12:06] I caught the fish that was the first place in the tournament.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:12:07] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:12:17] I feel really, really happy that day.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:12:31] [Unintelligible.]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:12:42] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:12:43] I work with my hands. I make handcraft and I made a special, like a trophy, for that person with a special dedication on it.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:13:01] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:13:27] I think that everyday there is more fishing pressure, there are more fishermen and there are more new techniques in fishing.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:13:37] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:13:50] So everything of this, made of the fishing, everyday costs less.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:13:51] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:14:08] I think that the climate change hurts too, in the behavior of the species that we use to go fishing.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:14:09] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:14:37] We saw a video of a commercial fishermen on his boat, far away, and we saw killer whales in Cuba, that we never saw before.

Mateo Fundora [00:14:38] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:15:02] And that's got a great influence on the commercial fishermen. I don't have a lot of contact with them but I know for them, that the influence in the commercial fishing, because the killer whales they eat what the people have in their longlines. They eat the fishes they have in their longlines.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:15:03] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:15:58] He says the climate change. Because there are times when it must be raining, it's not raining. So the water gets higher temperature and the fishes that must be at that time, they disappear so you cannot enjoy fishing as much.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:15:59] [Spanish].

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:16:37] For these reasons the behavior of the fishes, for feeding time or laying the eggs time, makes a difference. And that's the refuse of the capture by a sport fisherman.

Translator [00:16:57] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora [00:17:14] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:17:24] The fact that he select Cuba to pass part of his life, has made the Cubans really proud of that.

Mateo Fundora [00:17:33] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:18:58] He says that the most important legacy of Ernest Hemingway in Cuba is the International Bill Fishing Tournament that celebrating Cuba every year. And there are people coming from all around the world. Mostly people from the United States and we expect that they come this year, like they did some years ago. Came around 70 boats from the United States. Mostly they like to go fishing for Marlin.

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:19:42] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:20:00] Even though we know that there are fishermen coming from around the world, we know that the American fishermen love, love, feel a lot of passion for this, Marlin and fishing.

Mateo Fundora [00:20:17] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:20:24] And these fishermen feel this passion to come here, fishing for Marlin. That's a big part of the legacy that Ernest Hemingway left for Cuba and the world.

Mateo Fundora [00:20:39] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:21:02] A lot fishes, different kind of fishes.

Mateo Fundora [00:21:02] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:21:19] That the important is not how far the place is, how complicated, the difficulty you have to going there. The most important is, how many fish you can catch, how you enjoy the fishing.

Mateo Fundora [00:21:19] [Spanish]

Mateo Fundora/Translator [00:21:38] Another thing the wife says is that some people deserve to be hit by another person to be punished by another person.