



First Announcement

Pelagic Fisheries Research Program

PFRP Principal Investigators Workshop

Associative behavior: fisheries, FADs and conservation

November 13 – 15, 2007

Imin Conference Center

University of Hawaii, Honolulu

The Pelagic Fisheries Research Program convenes occasional meetings of scientists currently conducting PFRP sponsored research. The primary purpose of these meetings is to create avenues of collaboration among scientists from different disciplines. In order to place PFRP research in a wider context, the PI meetings are generally organized around specific themes. Previous PI meeting have focused, for example, on Pacific tuna fisheries, genetic studies of population structure, economic considerations for international tuna management, scales of spatial variability, ecosystem-based fishery management, secure deployment of electronic tags on large pelagic animals, and “data rescue”.

Tuna aggregation has been an on-going research theme for the PFRP and featured prominently in discussions around the 2000 PI meeting theme, “Exploitation, predation, and scales of spatial variability in pelagic fisheries”. A large amount of research has been accomplished around the world on the topic of aggregation. The use of FADs in purse seine fisheries has increased since 2000 in spite of recommendations to restrict the use of FADs. Inevitably, bycatch of all species, especially bigeye tunas, has also increased. We will revisit aggregation with the theme for 2007 “Associative behavior: fisheries, FADs and conservation”.

Please contact John Sibert sibert@hawaii.edu or Dodie Lau lau@hawaii.edu if you are interested in attending or making a presentation to the PI workshop. See <http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/PFRP/> for latest details.