



Second Announcement

**Pelagic Fisheries Research Program
Principal Investigators Workshop**

**November 19-20, 2009
Asia Room, Imin Conference Center
University of Hawaii, Honolulu**

**Pelagic ecosystem structure and the forage of high trophic level species
and
Managing fisheries: catch limits and catch shares**

Guest Speakers:

"Models and Money: Two Tools for Evaluating Bycatch of Billfishes"
Dr. James Kitchell, Hasler Professor of Zoology, Center for Limnology, University of Wisconsin

"Alternative Catch Share Approaches: Trade-off among Economic Benefits, Administrative Costs, and Political Acceptability"
Dr. Ralph Townsend, Chief Economist, New Zealand Ministry of Fisheries

Two paramount issues in fisheries science are getting a handle on ecosystem processes, and figuring out how to best manage large, diverse fisheries. The 2009 PFRP PI Workshop will focus on these themes. The first theme, *Pelagic ecosystem structure and the forage of high trophic level species*, follows closely on the heels of the 2008 theme, *Tuna Forage and Synoptic Estimates of Mid-trophic Level Biomass*. The 2009 PFRP funding cycle has awarded grants to several projects focused on this area of research. The second theme, *Managing fisheries: catch limits and catch shares*, focuses on management systems that seek to create incentives for sustainable fishing practices. The Western and Central Pacific Fishery Commission (WCPFC) is presently managing bigeye tuna via a total allowable catch system (TAC), while the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council is considering catch shares as a management mechanism for some fisheries in Hawaiian waters. The 2009 PFRP funding cycle has awarded a grant to a project seeking to improve the TAC setting process at the WCPFC.

In addition, we would like to facilitate additional interchange and collaboration between researchers, so please feel free to propose additional topics, breakout sessions, and the like. Additional meeting rooms can be reserved in the conference center or activities can be arranged in the days just before or after the meeting.

Please contact Kevin Weng (kevin.weng@hawaii.edu) or Dodie Lau (lau@hawaii.edu) if you are interested in attending or making a presentation at the PI workshop.

See the PFRP website for further details, <http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/pfrp/>

PI Workshop Wiki <http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/PFRP/wiki/>. Please feel free to contribute to this on-line discussion.



A Hands-On Introduction to TrackIt

The task of geo-correcting archival and pop-up archival tags can be daunting, given the availability of increasingly complex modeling tools. Since 2003, PFRP has been supporting the development of open-source software tools to assist geo-correction. TrackIt is the most recent addition to the suite of state-space Kalman filter models, first pioneered by John Sibert and Anders Nielsen. As an add-on to the free and powerful statistical software R, TrackIt is available to any researchers who wish to estimate tracks for their tags.

The remaining challenge is to get oneself familiarize with the use the tools, namely R and TrackIt, and obtain an understanding of the modeling process. This breakout session aims to take on this challenge through a brief hands-on tutorial on TrackIt. Specifically, we want to:

1. Introduce the various PRFP-developed state-space Kalman filter models for geo-correction
2. Further explore the TrackIt model and understand its strengths and limitations
3. Experiment how to run TrackIt in the R software environment
4. Evaluate TrackIt outputs and refine the modeling process
5. Perform an analysis of your own with your tag data (with some data preparation prior to the session)
6. Demonstrate the use of a tag data management tool, TagBase

This session will take place on **November 18, 2009** (Wed) for approximately half a day. Chi Hin Lam (Tim) from the University of Southern California will provide the instruction.

If you are interested, please RSVP with Dodie Lau (lau@hawaii.edu)

For more information on TrackIt, please refer to www.soest.hawaii.edu/tag-data/trackit/