

**FISHERIES DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAM (FDRP)
ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2007**

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FDRP Project Title: The Use of Temperature-Depth-Recorders in the Hawaii-based Longline Fishery to Characterize Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) Fishing Grounds,
FDRP Project No. 657779

Funding Agency: NOAA

1. Purpose of the Project (one paragraph)

The purpose of this project is to use TDR data collected from deep tuna gear and catch information (logbooks) to define and improve estimates of fishing depth and temperature for Hawaii's longline fishery. By doing so we hope to improve catches of bigeye tuna and reduce bycatch for the fishery. The project also provides direct methods for improving fishing gear performance (i.e., travel and line shooter speed adjustments, and possible gear modifications) within the fishing grounds.

2. Progress during FY 2007 (One-two paragraphs, including a comparison of the actual accomplishments to the objectives established for the period, and the reasons for slippage if established objectives were not met):

All established objectives of the project were successfully met for the first quarter. The main database for TDR data deposition has been created and contains approximately 792 TDR profiles representing 132 fishing sets (11 trips). Currently there are three vessels at sea deploying TDRs. To date, we have received from the manufacturer 40% of our TDR purchase order and expect the remaining order to be completed by the end of July.

3. Plans for project completion:

June 30, 2008

4. List of papers published in refereed journals during FY 2007.
NONE

5. Other papers, technical reports, meeting presentations, etc.
NONE