JIMAR ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2008

P.I./SPONSOR NAME: Edward W. Glazier, Ph. D., Principal Investigator/Impact Assessment, Inc., and Stewart Allen, Ph. D., Co-Principal Investigator/National Marine Fisheries Service, Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center / Dr. John Sibert, UH JIMAR

NOAA OFFICE (Of the primary technical contact): PIFSC

PROJECT PROPOSAL TITLE: “Distribution and Use of Seafood in the Context of the Community: A Case Study of the Main Hawaiian Islands”

FUNDING AGENCY: NOAA

NOAA GOAL (Check those that apply):

☒ To protect, restore, and manage the use of coastal and ocean resources through ecosystem-based management

☐ To understand climate variability and change to enhance society’s ability to plan and respond

☐ To serve society’s needs for weather and water information

☐ To support the nation’s commerce with information for safe, efficient, and environmentally sound transportation

PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT (One paragraph):

The primary goal of the project is to provide fishery managers in the region with empirically-based information about variation in the manner and context of the distribution and use of pelagic seafood products in the Main Hawaiian Islands. A case study approach is being used to assess “fish flow” – seafood distribution and related cultural and community dynamics – for both consumption- and commerce-oriented small boat fleets at Waianae on the Leeward Coast of Oahu and at Haleiwa on the North Shore of Oahu. Patterns of seafood distribution for the Hawaii-based longline fleet are also being examined.

PROGRESS DURING FY 2008:

Fieldwork for this study was completed in June 2008. This was the culmination of an extended period of research interactions with networks of commercial, recreational, consumptive, and mixed-motivation fishermen at Haleiwa and Waianae. Once rapport with the research participants was established, a long series of in-depth interviews was conducted to aid in documenting the manner in which pelagic species were and are typically distributed in terms of percentages (a) sold, (b) kept and consumed, (c) shared, and/or (d) subjected to some form of reciprocity. Interviews also involved discussion of whether and how such patterns vary over time, and why. The locations of families and
business entities receiving the seafood were carefully documented, and motivations for pursuing and using seafood in various ways in extended family and community settings were explored in depth. Field staff observed and participated in numerous fishing trips and ohana/community events related to fish and fishing so as to better understand and document the social and cultural context of fishing and consuming seafood on Oahu. Field staff also worked closely with captains in the Hawaii-based longline fleet to better understand and document patterns of commercial and non-commercial distribution of seafood products landed by that fleet, and to examine how fishing strategies are influenced by understanding of constraints and opportunities in the marketplace.

PLANS FOR THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR:

Data analyses and a draft project report will be completed prior to the new fiscal year. The final report will be completed early in the new fiscal year. The report will be focused on description and analysis of geographic, economic, social, and sociocultural factors associated with the distribution of seafood on Oahu, and on implications for fishery management efforts across the region.

LIST OF PAPERS PUBLISHED IN REFERRED JOURNALS DURING FY 2008:
None

OTHER PAPERS, TECHNICAL REPORTS, ETC.:
None to date

GRADUATES:

Dr. Courtney Carothers, who conducted extensive fieldwork for the project, completed her doctorate at the University of Washington, Department of Anthropology, with a dissertation titled: “Privatizing the Right to Fish: Challenges to Livelihood and Community in Kodiak, Alaska.”

Ms. Melissa Iwamoto, who also conducted extensive fieldwork for the project, received the M.A. in Geography at the University of Hawaii at Manoa late in FY 2007, with a thesis titled “Wisdom in the Basket: Cognitive Mapping and the Articulation of Perceptions and Values Regarding Coastal Resources of Wa’ab, Yap State, Federated States of Micronesia.”

AWARDS:
None

PUBLICATION COUNT:
None to date

PERSONNEL: One doctoral student, one master’s student
IMAGES AND CAPTIONS:

Preparing Ahi for the Grill: Early Summer 2008

Kaukau!