

JIMAR ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 1999

P.I. NAME: Dr. Michael P. Hamnett

PROJECT PROPOSAL TITLE:

Coordinated Socio-cultural Investigation of Pelagic Fishermen in American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

FUNDING AGENCY: JIMAR\NMFS

1. Purpose of the Project:

The purpose of this project is to gather baseline information on pelagic fishermen in American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The specific objectives are to: determine the social dimensions of pelagic fishing in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa; develop social and demographic profiles of fishers in both populations describe activity systems of pelagic fishing in both locations and the relationship of pelagic fishing to other fishing activity and customary social behavior; describe contemporary indigenous categories of fishing as they relate to fishing activity and the definitions being contemplated by the National Marine Fisheries Service; and assess the potential impact of various management regimes that might be imposed by the governments and the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council on fishing activity.

2. Progress during FY 1999

The CNMI report has been completed in draft and sent out for review and a presentation was made at a WESTPC meeting in CNMI that drew some criticism. This centered on the findings that most of the fishermen interviewed did not want foreign fishing vessels to be licensed to fish in CNMI waters. Comments are being incorporated.

A completed draft of the American Samoa report is still being completed.

3. Plans for the Next Fiscal Year Publish the CNMI report and complete the American Samoa report.

4. List of Papers Published in Refereed Journals during FY 1996: None

5. Other Papers, Technical Reports, etc.: None

6. Names of Students Graduating with MS or PhD Degrees During FY 1996: None