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Date:

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**Project:** 

Local Fisheries Knowledge: Its application to the Management and Development of Small-Scale Tuna Fisheries in US Pacific Islands.

**Project No:** 

RCUH Project No. 2117

P.I. (s):

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**Subcontract Period:** 

Re:

Progress Report 4: June 1, 1998 to September 10, 1999

The final phase of field work has been completed. The project survey efforts have included the Hawaii handline yellowfin fishery, the Guam troll marlin fishery and the Samoa small-scale longline albacore fishery. During the course of the Hawaii interviews, questions regarding yellowfin and bigeye tuna resource knowledge were posed. The group interviewed held stronger beliefs about the yellowfin tuna resource than for bigeye tuna. For the final project survey effort, the team decided to interview long-term, Hawaii-based longline fishermen who have a history of targeting bigeye tuna in Hawaii.

## 1. The Hawaii longline bigeye tuna fishery.

A set of belief statements regarding bigeye tuna resource knowledge was prepared. Twentyseven (27) belief statements were drafted, many of which were based on the original statements used during the previous surveys of Hawaii's handline fishermen and fishery scientists. A total of 14 long-term longline fishing boat captains were interviewed. All had a minimum of 13 years in the fishery. The oldest fisherman started longlining in Hawaii in 1938. The group interviewed had a total of 326 years of experience as longline captains targeting bigeye tuna in Hawaii. Ten (10) out of the 14 expert fishermen interviewed had made longline sets at the Cross Seamount prior to 1989. Analysis of interview results is on-going.

## 2. Final report preparation.

The final report is being drafted. It will be finalized when the bigeye tuna interviews are analyzed.

## 3. Next work anticipated:

- Finalize analysis of bigeye tuna belief statements for longline fishermen
- Final Report write up.

4. Submitted by:

John Kaneko MS, DVM Project Director, PacMar, Inc.