

## JIMAR – PFRP ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2006

P.I Name: John Sibert

Project Title: Pelagic Fisheries Research Program: Program Management

Funding Agency: NOAA

NOAA Goal (Check those that apply):

- To protect, restore, and manage the use of coastal and ocean resources through ecosystem-base 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

### 1. Purpose of the Project (one paragraph)

Manage the activities of the PFRP, solicit and implement new research proposal, and promote science based management of fisheries for highly migratory fisheries in the western Pacific Ocean.

### 2. Progress during FY 2006:

- Work closely with the PIFSC to improve budgetary arrangements and coordination of research programming.

A new “umbrella” proposal was jointly developed with PIFSC to enable the PFRP to more effectively interact with NOAA. A programmatic environmental assessment document was prepared for the umbrella proposal covering all PFRP activities and a draft FONSI was approved.

- Convene a workshop to identify new research priorities for the PFRP.

The original PFRP research priorities were established in a 1992 workshop. Most of the topics identified during that workshop were addressed in the first few years of PFRP operations. In the intervening years, management concerns, governance arrangements, and the fisheries themselves have changed drastically. A second workshop to identify new research priorities for the PFRP was convened November 16-18, 2005.

Representative from the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, NOAA/PIFSC, National Research Institute for Far Seas Fisheries (Japan), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, and Secretariat of the Pacific Community presented views on research priorities around the Pacific. Scientists and resource

managers developed lists of research priorities in the four general disciplines: applied economics, ecosystem integration, biology and life history and fishing communities.

The workshop report, "Pacific Ocean Connections: Priorities for pelagic fisheries research in the Twenty-first Century", was used as the basis for the request for proposals. The RFP attracted interest from 59 potential researchers; and after a peer review process, 14 of 28 proposals were selected for funding.

- Facilitate international collaboration in research on pelagic fisheries.

The PFRP remains active in international tuna research and management. The PFRP Program Manager and several PFRP scientists were a members of the United States Delegation to the first meeting of the Scientific Committee of the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in Western and Central Pacific (WCPFC). The PFRP hosted the first meeting Steering Committee of the of the new GLOBEC project, CLIOTOP( Climate Impacts on Oceanic Top Predators).

The successful research proposals in the recent FRP will provide funding for research collaboration in Australia, France, New Caledonia and Papua New Guinea.

- Education and training

The PFRP currently supports two graduate research assistants. Brittany Graham, a PhD candidate in the Oceanography Department, continues to be productive member of the pelagic food web project, "Trophic structure and tuna movement in the cold tongue-warm pool pelagic ecosystem of the equatorial Pacific". Peter Ajtai is a new graduate student with the Oceanography Department and is working with PFRP staff. Richard Hall, a Masters candidate in the Geography Department, has completed his tenure with the PFRP, and has submitted a draft dissertation on optimizing marine protected areas for the WCPO tuna purse seine fishery.

### 3. Plans for the next fiscal year (one paragraph):

- Education and training

The PFRP will continue to promote graduate education at UH and will work closely with SOEST administration and PIFSC staff to create a graduate degree curricula.

- Facilitate international collaboration in research on pelagic fisheries.

The SCTB has been supplanted by the Scientific Committee and Specialist Working Groups of the WCPFC. PFRP staff and researchers will be participating in these groups. The PFRP Program Manager will participate fully in the CLIOTOP Steering Committee.

### 4. List of papers published in refereed journals during FY 2006.

See attached Publications List

5. Other papers, technical reports, meeting presentations, etc.

See attached Publications List

6. Graduates (Names of students graduating with MS or PhD degrees during FY 2005. Provide titles of their thesis or dissertation):

7. Awards (List awards given to JIMAR employees or to the project itself during the period):

8. Publication Count (Total count of publications for the reporting period and previous periods categorized by NOAA lead author and Institute (or subgrantee) lead author and whether it was peer-reviewed or non peer-reviewed (not including presentations):

	JL Lead Author			NOAA Lead Author			Other Lead Author		
	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY03	FY04	FY05	FY03	FY04	FY05
Peer-reviewed									
Non-peer reviewed									

9. Students and Post-docs (Number of students and post-docs that were associated with NOAA funded research. Please indicate if they received any NOAA funding. For institutes that award subcontracts, please include information from your subgrantees):

10. Personnel:

(i) Number of employees by job title and terminal degree that received more than 50% support from NOAA, including visiting scientists (this information is not required from subgrantees):

(ii) Number of employees/students that received 100% of their funding from an OAR laboratory and/or are located within that laboratory.

(iii) Number of employees/students that were hired by NOAA during the past year:

11. Images and Captions (JIMAR will be including images in the annual report. Please send two of your best high-resolution, color images (photo, graphic, schematic) as a JPEG or TIFF with a caption for each image. Hardcopies of images can be dropped off at the JIMAR office if no electronic versions are available.