

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

P.I. Name: Stewart Allen and Yonat Swimmer

P.I. Address: Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, 2570 Dole St., Honolulu HI 96822

FDRP Project Title and Project No.: Hawaii Longline Fishermen's Perspective on Methods for Reducing Bycatch" JIMAR project 657778

Funding Agency: NOAA

1. Purpose of the Project (one paragraph)

The purpose of the project is to develop detailed case studies of 9 successful adoptions of bycatch reduction strategies in the Hawaii-based long line fleet. The case studies would not only address existing bycatch reduction techniques but explore fishermen's perceptions of possible future techniques that may or may not be required someday, as well as explore the fishermen's own ideas for successfully reducing bycatch. Local knowledge of the resource, its management, and ways of achieving management objectives has not been taken advantage of to the extent possible. Following development of the case studies, an integral part of the project is to communicate this information to fisheries managers and policy-makers and suggest how they could be incorporated into future decisions. Managers, scientists, and other fishermen could learn a great deal by studying the successful adopters of such bycatch reduction techniques and the factors that made the adoption successful.

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):

Once the term of the FDRP projects was extended, we were able to finalize contracts for Amy Gough, the principal contractor for the project and for Eric Gilman, another contractor. These were not completed until mid-June 2007. Despite this late start, Amy Gough completed a substantive portion of the fieldwork. The product of that fieldwork was a set of field notes, delivered in person to Stewart Allen and Eric Gilman. During subsequent discussions, a set of potential case studies was developed. Some of the case studies will focus on bycatch reduction techniques such as side-setting, while others will focus on broader strategies such as communication among the fleet. Some of the case studies will focus on individual owners or captains who have a unique set of experiences with and opinions regarding multiple bycatch reduction techniques.

3. Plans for project completion:

The next phase of fieldwork is scheduled for August, 2007. The purpose will be to collect additional information relevant to the 9 emerging case studies. A draft report of the case studies should be completed in October, 2007. A final version will be developed

after a review period, which will include presentations to fishermen and management agencies. The final report is anticipated December, 2007.

4. List of papers published in refereed journals during FY 2007.

none

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

none