

JIMAR ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 2000

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PROJECT PROPOSAL TITLE: The Economics of Small Vessel Fishing in Hawaii

Funding Agency: JIMAR, Pelagic Fisheries Research Program

1. Purpose of the Project:

This project is designed to enhance understanding of the small vessel fleet in Hawaii. This fleet, partly recreational, partly subsistence and partly commercial, operates in the waters adjacent to the main Hawaiian islands. The small boat fleet fishes for some of the same species that large commercial vessels catch. As a consequence, a variety of regulations have been implemented to protect the small vessel fishery. Yet little is known about the fishery. In this project, we will find out about the behavior and the economic value of catching fish in the small vessel fishery. This will help understand the efficacy of regulating other fisheries to protect the small vessel fishery.

2. Progress during FY 2000:

During the past year we have estimated the basic models pertaining to economic choices and economic values for the target fishery. Both a dichotomous choice model of contingent value choices and a multiple choice model of location—ramp and ocean location for trailered boats—have been estimated. These models were estimated on the survey data that from a survey that was completed in March 1999. These models can be used to calculate the economic value of catching different species as well as the economic costs of restrictions on small vessel fishing. For example the contingent valuation study estimates the net value of one day of fishing, averaged for all types of fishing, to be in the neighborhood of \$75. For some species groups, such as bill fish, the value is much higher.

Also during past year a draft of the report for this stage of the project was completed. This draft includes a basic description of the survey data and the analysis of the two estimated models. The draft has been circulated to informed readers in Hawaii and elsewhere for comments. Several presentations were made on the research during the past year, including a workshop random utility models.

3. Plans for the next Fiscal Year:

The work scheduled includes completing the report of the research and writing papers for publication on the report. At least three different papers are planned for the coming year.

4. List of Papers Published in Referred Journals during FY 2000:

No papers during the previous year.

5. Other Papers, Technical Reports, etc.

K.E. McConnell and T. C. Haab “Small Vessel Fishing in Hawaii: Models for Economic Values and Behavior” Draft technical report. June 2000.