

JIMAR ANNUAL REPORT FOR FY 1999

1. P.I. NAME: Kenneth E. McConnell

2. PROJECT TITLE: The Economics of Recreational Fishing for Pelagics in Hawaii.

FUNDING AGENCY: NOAA through JIMAR

1. Purpose of the Project.

- To estimate the marginal economic value of catching the most important pelagic species by the small boat anglers in the marine recreational sector of the main Hawaiian islands;
- To model and estimate the behavior that leads to the marginal value;
- To develop an empirical basis for understanding the substitution between pelagics and other fish sought by the small boat anglers

2. Progress during FY 1999.

The data gathering and preparation phase of the project was completed during the year. In January and February, a small survey (sample size of 180) was completed to test whether those anglers who could not be reached during the main telephone survey were different from those who completed the survey. The results demonstrated that the original phone survey was representative of the general population of anglers with boats registered with the state of Hawaii. During the past year we have also begun the partitioning of data to support the estimation of a random utility model, the main empirical effort for the project.

3. Plans for the next Fiscal Year.

In the coming year, model estimation from the data will be completed. This will entail two types of models. The first is a behavioral model that estimates a nested logit model of where boats are launched from and where the boats fish, given their launching location. This analysis is currently underway with anglers who fished from the island of Oahu, using not only the survey data but also data landings by area from the auction data. The second is a contingent valuation model of willingness to pay for a fishing trip. This model will be estimated from a series of questions that respondents answered during the phone interview.

4. List of Papers Published in Refereed Journals during FY 1999.

Hedonic Prices for Fish: Tuna Prices in Hawaii. *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, forthcoming.

5. Other Papers, Technical Reports.

"An Analysis of Auction Prices of Tuna in Hawaii" JIMAR report.

6. Students with Degrees.

No students completed degrees during the past fiscal year.