

**AGENDA**  
**FISHSMART PACIFIC WORKSHOP ON IMPROVING THE SURVIVAL**  
**OF RELEASED FISH**  
**FOCUSSING ON BAROTRAUMA**

**May 8-9, 2012**  
**Portland, Oregon**

Workshop Goals:

*Specific to the Pacific Coast, Alaska, and Hawaii fisheries being constrained by high release mortality:*

1. *Identify best practices and equipment* to employ by anglers and regulatory agencies in the Pacific region to increase the survival of angler-sought saltwater fishes constrained by high release mortality under a variety of conditions/fisheries.
2. *Develop outline for messages* directed to anglers to employ in their interaction with these saltwater species in the Pacific region.
3. *Provide guidance* to management bodies to reduce the interaction and lethality of such interactions, with these species by anglers through the consideration of management actions such as time/area closures, gear modifications, restrictions/usage and size restrictions and account for and incorporate release mortality/survivability into the regulatory process.
4. Identify gaps in the current state of knowledge in need of additional research efforts/funding in the Pacific region

Tuesday May 8: Plenary

8:00 Welcome & Logistics

8:10 Introduction – Barry Thom, the Deputy Regional Administrator, NOAA Fisheries

8:30 FishSmart Initiative – Gil Radonski/Andrew Loftus

8:50 Overview of Atlanta and St. Petersburg Workshop Results/Pacific Results of FMP Analysis -Gil Radonski/ Andrew Loftus

9:10 Framing the Issue of Release Mortality in General - ?

9:45 Questions

10:00 Break

## DRAFT-PRESENTERS AND TIMING SUBJECT TO CHANGE

### 10:15 Framing Regional Recreational Fisheries Impacted by High Release Mortality

- Pacific Coast (15 minutes) and Alaska (15 minutes)–Dan Wolford
- Hawaii (20 minutes) – Clay Tam

### 11:00 Overview of Issues

- ◆ Avoidance: Management techniques and Fishing Techniques designed to prevent encounters of unwanted species/sizes - Panel Discussion
  - Tom Ohaus-Alaska
  - Clay Tam-Hawaii
  - John Holloway-Oregon
  - Tom Mattusch- California (northern and southern)

### Noon Lunch

### 1:00 Continue Overview of Issues (20 minutes each)

- ◆ Size: Effect of catching/releasing various sizes of fish on stock sustainability- Chris Lunsford
- ◆ Venting *and* Decompression/Recompression: Techniques and appropriate uses of various techniques. –Alena Pribyl
- ◆ Fish Friendly Tackle: Techniques and gear for releasing fish-Steve Theberge

### 2:00 Breakout groups: Loftus/Radonski group leaders

Attendees will be assigned to one of two breakout groups. The purpose of each breakout group is to delve into the current state of knowledge of each of the issues, describe what is known about the issue and address each of the four workshop objectives. *One group will be asked to emphasize northern Pacific and Alaska coast issues and one will focus on southern Pacific and Hawaii issues.*

### 3:00 Break

### 3:15 Reconvene in Breakout groups

### 5:30 Adjourn

## Wednesday May 9

### 8:00 Announcements

8:15 Breakout reports-20 minutes each-each group reports on the results of their discussions addressing the 5 issues. Commonalities and divergences between groups will be identified.

## DRAFT-PRESENTERS AND TIMING SUBJECT TO CHANGE

9:00 Group Discussion Develop final recommendations on best practices, angler messages, and management guidance for fisheries constrained by high release mortality in the Pacific region (3 workshop goals).

- ◆ *Best practices and gear* for anglers to increase the survival of angler-sought saltwater fishes under variety of conditions (species, temperature, depth caught, hook size, etc).
- ◆ *Develop the outline of messages* directed to anglers to employ in their interaction with these saltwater species

10:00 Break

10:15: Continue Development of Recommendations

- ◆ *Develop guidance* to regulatory bodies to reduce the interaction (avoidance) and lethality of such interactions, with those species by anglers.
- ◆ Catalogue gaps in the current state of knowledge in need of additional research efforts/funding and initial prioritization of research in the Pacific region

12:00 Lunch

Lunch Speaker: The Journey from Science to Management;” what does it take to go from developing/compiling information to changing management and regulations - Gway Kircher ODFW

Including a focus on:

- identify legal thresholds for the quality of scientific information that may be the basis for revising regulations under the MSA and ESA.
- identify regulatory avenues for collaborative research to improve scientific information (e.g., EFP process).
- identify and map State and Federal regulatory processes to implement barotraumas reduction practices.
- identify and map State and Federal regulatory processes to allow increased harvest rates by implementation of best practices.

1:00: Communications: Development and Delivery of Message Content: How Will We Use It?

Online and Social Media - RBFF? (20 minutes)

Cross Fertilization: introducing recompression gear to anglers in the Gulf and S.

Atlantic – Bryan Fluech and John Stevely, Florida Sea Grant

Region Specific Communications in the Pacific – ????

## DRAFT-PRESENTERS AND TIMING SUBJECT TO CHANGE

2:00 Facilitated Group Collaboration : Finding a Unifying Message: Communicating Messages on Best Practices and Management Guidance (3 workshop goals). –Andrew Loftus/Gil Radonski facilitators

Using the previous day outcomes, develop messages specific to the Pacific region for:

- Best practices and gear for anglers to increase the survival of angler-sought saltwater fishes under variety of conditions (species, temperature, depth caught, hook size, etc.
  - ◆ Develop the outline of messages directed to anglers to employ in their interaction with saltwater species, and
  - ◆ Develop guidance to regulatory bodies to reduce the interaction (avoidance) and lethality of such interactions, with those species by anglers.
- Catalogue` gaps in the current state of knowledge in need of additional research
  - ◆ efforts/funding

3:00 Break

3:15 Finalize Recommendations

4:00: Wrap Up- Russ Dunn, National Policy Advisor for Recreational Fisheries, NOAA Fisheries

4:30 Adjourn