



Informational Report 4
June 2016

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8th International Fisheries Observer and Monitoring Conference

29 August – 2 September 2016

BAHIA Resort Hotel San Diego, California

Invitation

We would like to invite you to attend and participate in the **8th International Fisheries Observer and Monitoring Conference** – to be held from August 29 to September 2, 2016, at the Bahia Resort Hotel, San Diego, California, USA. This conference is the premier international forum for working on the critical issues of fisheries observer programs, emerging monitoring technologies, and other approaches to fishery-dependent data collection and analyses.

Since 1998, this conference series has been the only one of its kind to specifically address the many issues surrounding fisheries monitoring programs. In 2016, we're expecting around 300 delegates from more than 40 countries to attend, including representatives

from many data collection programs around the world, fishing industry groups, and end-users of the data that these programs collect. The conference format includes keynote speakers, presented papers, panel discussion sessions, workshops and networking opportunities, such as trade exhibits, poster sessions and enjoyable social events.

- Abstract submissions still open, Closing 12 June 2016
- Registrations Open May 2016

The vision of this world-leading series of conferences is:

To develop, promote and enhance effective fishery monitoring programs to ensure sustainable resource management throughout the world's oceans.

Our Mission is:

To improve fishery monitoring programs worldwide through sharing of practices and development of new methods of data collection and analysis. We also provide a forum for dialog between those responsible for monitoring fisheries and those who rely upon the data they collect.



Conference Program

The conference program will focus on a variety of topics such as:

1. *What can we learn from observer programs around the world?*
2. *How do we train and prepare observers, provide opportunities for professional growth and reward performance?*
3. *How can fisheries observers improve the quality, diversity and use of fisheries dependent information?*
4. *Reducing risk in a high risk job*
5. *Can observers effectively perform scientific AND compliance functions?*
6. *What are the latest technology trends for fisheries monitoring programs?*
7. *What are the challenges with integrating Electronic Monitoring / Electronic Reporting technology into fishery monitoring programs?*
8. *How do we best monitor recreational and pay-for-hire (charter) fisheries?*
9. *How do we observe and monitor artisanal fisheries?*
10. *What are the future trends of transshipment observer programs?*
11. *How much observer coverage and monitoring is enough? Methods for reducing and/or incorporating biased data collection*
12. *Can data from the fishing industry be used to monitor fisheries compliance, seafood traceability and/or fisheries certification?*
13. *How can fisheries monitoring programs support an ecosystem based approach to fisheries management?*

Sponsorship and Exhibition

Sponsorship and Exhibition packages are also available which provide agencies and companies with opportunities to showcase their services and products at this major international event.

Details of the 2016 conference are posted at www.ifomc.com including proceedings from previous conferences in this world-leading series.

Further Information

For further information on accommodation, social events, sponsorship and exhibition opportunities, or tours around San Diego please contact the Conference Managers. Alternatively, please visit the website to be updated as information becomes available and register your interest via the mailing list.

The 2016 Conference will be the calendar highlight for the year and not to be missed. We look forward to seeing you in San Diego in 2016.

Conference Managers

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