



61st Tuna Conference

Lake Arrowhead, California
May 17-20, 2010

***It's Not About the Catch,
but the Bycatch***

First Announcement

October 29, 2009

You are cordially invited to the 61st Tuna Conference at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Lake Arrowhead Conference Center, Monday through Thursday, May 17-20, 2010.

The annual Tuna Conference is sponsored by the NOAA Fisheries and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, and it attracts an international community of scientists and participants interested in research on tunas and 'tuna-like' species. The informal forum for discussion provides a unique opportunity to present ongoing studies and developing theories, and opportunities for open, stimulating exchanges of views and opinions. Please also pass this announcement on to any interested parties.

"It's Not About the Catch, but the Bycatch" will be the theme of the 2010 Tuna Conference.

Fisheries for tuna and other highly migratory species are often constrained by the incidental take of vulnerable non-target species. Even fisheries that target productive, healthy stocks can face restrictions if interactions with protected species occur. In order to manage fisheries so that yield of target species is optimized and bycatch interactions are minimized, a multi-disciplinary, ecosystem approach is required. At the multi-species level, a better understanding of the pelagic ecosystem, species interactions, and how the environment affects species distribution is needed. For individual species, research into data-poor assessment methodologies, fine-scale habitat use patterns, and gear modifications to reduce bycatch will all contribute to inform management and help to promote healthy, sustainable fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species. The 2010 Tuna Conference will address some of these issues and papers addressing these challenges are encouraged. As always, we welcome presentations on tuna and 'tuna-like' species that may not be directly related to the topic theme.

Presentation Particulars

Each presentation may run for up to 20 minutes, followed by up to 5 minutes for questions. There will also be an author-attended poster session. Preliminary titles of papers or posters must be submitted with the information requested on the enclosed registration form by **January 11, 2010**. A one-page, single-spaced abstract will be required for papers and posters. The final abstracts must be received by **March 15, 2010**. Guidelines are enclosed. Facilities for overheads, slides, video tapes, and computer presentations will be provided.

Please note the following logistic- and attendance-related concerns:

1. The Conference will begin on Monday (May 17th), with the first session starting at 2:00 p.m. and ending at 5:00 p.m.
2. You may not check into your room until Monday at 4:00 p.m. (no early 'check-in') – this is Conference Center management policy. Please do not bring any pets.
3. Conference registration will be open starting at 1 p.m. on Monday. Conference registration will also be available throughout the week for later-arriving individuals.

4. Long-distance travelers should plan to book accommodations in a nearby city for Sunday night and drive to the Conference on Monday, arriving in time for the first session that begins at 2:00 p.m. For those wishing to spend nights in the local area either before or after the Conference, accommodations must be arranged independently. A list of La Jolla area hotels and contact information for the Lake Arrowhead Conference Center are available on the Tuna Conference website: www.tunaconference.org.
5. The Conference will finish at 1:00 p.m. (lunch will be served at 12:00 p.m.) on Thursday, May 20th.
6. Individuals who choose to attend any Conference-related event, but do not stay overnight at the Conference Center itself, will be charged \$75 per full day (referred to as a 'Commuter Attendee' guest charge). This daily charge includes all meals served that day (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) and the use of facilities and services – this is Conference Center management policy. Please note that Commuter Attendance may not be available, depending on the overall level of bookings at the Conference Center. Keep in mind that 'commuters' must also pay the one-time Conference registration fee of \$75.
7. There are outdated addresses in our mailing list. Please return the registration form or notify us if you wish to update your current information. Please include your e-mail address as we are using e-mail to announce future Tuna Conferences. E-mail use will reduce the postage and labor involved in mailing hard copies – money saved is used for scholarship funds.

The Tuna Conference provides scholarships in support of students presenting papers. A limited number of scholarships are available, and students must be enrolled in an accredited university to qualify and should not have received a Tuna Conference scholarship previously. See the enclosed information sheet (i.e., Student Financial Assistance Form and Application) if you are interested. The application deadline for a student scholarship is **January 11, 2010**. Students who apply for a scholarship will be allowed to register no later than one week after notification of awards.

We are pleased to announce that the ADMB Award will again be available this year. The Automatic Differentiation Model Builder (ADMB) Foundation has established an award to recognize outstanding achievement (student or non-student) in the application of statistical modeling in fisheries. See the enclosed information sheet (i.e., Application Information for ADMB Award Form and Application)

Please complete the enclosed Registration Form and return it with your room deposit fee by **January 11, 2010**, otherwise, room reservations cannot be guaranteed. Both registration and room deposit fees are non-refundable. **Checks must be made payable through a U.S. bank to the "Tuna Conference."** Final payment on room fees will be due on **March 15, 2010**. We look forward to your early reply, and hope to see you at Lake Arrowhead.

IMPORTANT DATES

- January 11** – Student scholarship applications due
- January 11** – Registration form and deposit fee due
- January 11** – Preliminary poster and presentation titles due
- March 15** – Final payment and abstract due

Suzanne Kohin and Sarah Shoffler
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Visit the Tuna Conference's World Wide Web home page at: www.tunaconference.org.