



# 63<sup>rd</sup> Tuna Conference

Lake Arrowhead, California  
May 21-24, 2012

## *Natural and Anthropogenic Effects on Highly Migratory Fish Populations*

---

---

### First Announcement

October 18, 2011

You are cordially invited to the 63<sup>rd</sup> Tuna Conference at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Lake Arrowhead Conference Center, Monday through Thursday, May 21-24, 2012.

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.

Our oceans are dynamic ecosystems that are constantly changing as a result of both natural and anthropogenic events. These events include, but are not limited to, natural large-scale oscillations such as ENSO, PDO, and NAO, global warming, acidification, hypoxia, increased frequency of natural disasters (e.g. hurricanes, tsunamis), aquaculture expansion, oil spill contamination, and the addition or removal of natural and artificial structures as habitat. Effects of these events on ocean systems and natural mortality of individual stocks are poorly known or are beginning to be unraveled and will continue to be a major research focus in the coming years. We invite researchers to present on results and challenges of documenting the effects of these events on highly migratory species (HMS) populations. Given the valuable economic resource of these fisheries it is important for both scientists and fishery managers to understand the processes that effect HMS population dynamics.

The 2012 Tuna Conference will address some of these issues, and papers dealing with 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 18, 2012**. A one-page, single-spaced abstract will be required for papers and posters. The final abstracts must be received by **March 15, 2012**. 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 21<sup>st</sup>), 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](http://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 24<sup>th</sup>.
6. Individuals who choose to attend any Conference-related event, but do not stay overnight at the Conference Center itself, will be charged \$95 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 \$85.
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 **February 1, 2012**. 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)

The Wildlife Computers Scholarship will also be available this year. Wildlife Computers has established an annual scholarship in an effort to encourage students in their research, promote good science, and provide opportunity for sharing research results within the community. The scholarship is intended for a student who will present results of a project which made use of electronic tagging technology.

We are very pleased to announce that this year there will be round-trip shuttle service available from NMFS/IATTC in La Jolla, CA to Lake Arrowhead provided by an outside transportation company! The cost per person will depend on the number of riders. We estimate your cost range to be \$50-\$100 per person (round trip, including tax and tip). This service is available on a first-come-first-serve basis. To reserve a seat, please mark "Ride the Shuttle" on your registration form. At this time you do not need to send money, we will get back to you with a price when we get an estimated number of individuals interested in taking the shuttle in order to select a bus size. Remember the more people that ride the shuttle the cheaper the cost. Please note the shuttle will leave our facility in La Jolla, CA on Monday May 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m. and return on Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup> at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Please complete the enclosed Registration Form and return it with your room deposit fee by **January 18, 2012**, 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, 2012**. We look forward to your early reply, and hope to see you at Lake Arrowhead.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**January 18** – Registration form and deposit fee, and preliminary poster and presentation titles are due.

**February 1** – Student scholarship applications due.

**March 15** – Final payments and abstracts due.

James Wraith and David Wells  
Co-Chairs, 63<sup>rd</sup> Tuna Conference

Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA/NMFS  
8604 La Jolla Shores Drive  
La Jolla, CA 92037-1508 U.S.A.  
Tel: (858) 546-7087 / 546-5619  
Fax: (858) 546-5651

E-mail: [info@tunaconference.org](mailto:info@tunaconference.org)

Visit the Tuna Conference's World Wide Web home page at: [www.tunaconference.org](http://www.tunaconference.org).