



75th Tuna Conference

Lake Arrowhead, California

May 19-22, 2025

Tuna through time: honoring 75 years of science and sustainability

First Announcement

November 4, 2024

You are cordially invited to the 75th Tuna Conference (<http://www.tunaconference.org/>) at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Lake Arrowhead Lodge (<https://lakearrowheadlodge.com/>), Monday through Thursday, **May 19-22, 2025**. Please share this announcement with any other interested parties.

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 and their associated fisheries and ecosystems. The Tuna Conference provides an informal forum for the presentation of ongoing research and developing theories, and unique opportunities for stimulating exchanges of views and opinions.

“Tuna through time: honoring 75 years of science and sustainability.” The first Tuna Conference was held in 1950 and was focused mainly on tunas and their fisheries along the U.S. West Coast. However, it has since expanded in scope and impact to become a venue that guides and informs the research, management, and conservation of tunas, tuna-like fishes, and their ecosystems around the world. While the tools and techniques available to address fundamental research questions have evolved and improved greatly over time, many of the research themes presented at the early meetings remain relevant today and will continue to be important in the future. Some examples include approaches to identify and delineate stocks, understand seasonal migration patterns, estimate variations in population abundance, determine age and characterize growth patterns, and increase efficiency in data processing. To celebrate the rich history of the conference and its contributions, we welcome presentations that capture the history of specific research avenues or the careers of dedicated researchers (i.e., the past), report on the current status of research areas or technologies (i.e., the present), or provide insights on focal areas for research moving forward (i.e., the future).

Presentations that address key challenges faced by researchers, industry personnel, stakeholders, managers and policy makers with regards to the conservation and management of large pelagic animals and their supporting ecosystems are encouraged for the 2025 Tuna Conference. However, as always, we welcome presentations on tuna and tuna-like species whether they conform to the theme or not.

Presentations and Posters

Oral presentations are allotted around 15 minutes and 5 minutes for questions and discussion depending on the number of talks being presented. Audio-visual equipment such as projectors and laptops will be available for participants making oral presentations. We will also offer an author-attended poster session, providing a less-structured opportunity for attendees to interact with their colleagues on topics of mutual interest.

Guidelines for the required one-page, single-spaced abstract are also enclosed. The abstracts must be received by **February 28, 2025** with your complete registration form and full payment.

Scholarships and Awards

The Tuna Conference provides several scholarships in support of students delivering an oral presentation. Only one abstract per student can be submitted for all available scholarships; students are not permitted to receive multiple scholarships. **Current staff and students of Tuna Conference sponsors are ineligible to apply, pursuant to Article IV, Section 11 of the “Tuna Conference Articles of Organization.” Students who have previously won scholarships are eligible to apply in subsequent years, provided that a different research topic is being presented.** A limited number of scholarships are available, and applicants must be currently enrolled in an accredited university in order to qualify. Students seeking consideration for any scholarship must read and complete the Student Scholarship Information and Application Form(s).

The application deadline for a student scholarship is **February 7, 2025**. Students who apply for a scholarship will be allowed to register no later than one week after notification of awards. Please do not send any payment with your scholarship application. Any required fees will be billed at a later date.

At present, we are pleased to announce the availability of the following four scholarships and awards for the 75^h Tuna Conference, with the possibility of further scholarships being offered in the second conference announcement:

- **Tuna Conference Scholarship (student only).**
- **Manuel Caboz Memorial Scholarship (student only).**
- **The Wildlife Computers Scholarship (student only)** was established to encourage students in their research efforts, promote good science, and provide an opportunity for students to share their research within the community. Wildlife Computers (<http://www.wildlifecomputers.com/>) produces tags for many diverse species, with a broad range of shapes and technologies that meet most research needs, while maintaining data consistency, as well as custom made designs. The Wildlife Computers Scholarship is awarded preferably to a student that will present the results of research that made use of electronic tagging technology.
- **David Linney Memorial Scholarship (student only).** This scholarship was established in memory of David Linney, an avid Atlantic bluefin tuna harpoon fisherman in the Gulf of Maine for five decades. His respect and admiration for the bluefin resource was unmatched as was his commitment to engage with and help the management and scientific community whenever possible. This scholarship will support student projects whose success is built upon cooperative research between the industry and science, a partnership David held in the highest regard.
- **The Sportfishing Association of California Scholarship (student only)** is awarded preferably to projects involving cooperative research relating to highly migratory species (HMS) or any projects relating to sampling or data collection relating to HMS. The Sportfishing Association of California is a non-profit organization that emphasizes protection of ocean resources while encouraging public access, when appropriate, to those resources.

Additionally, all scholarship recipients will automatically be considered for travel scholarships generously provided by the **International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF)**.

Registration

The attached registration form and **full payment** (except for students applying for scholarships) must be returned by **February 28, 2025** in order to secure your room and this **payment is non-refundable**. All meals are included in the room rates. Buffets with a variety of selections are available for breakfast and lunch, and a four-course meal is served for dinner. It is recommended that reservations be made as soon as possible as the number of rooms available will be based upon responses received by **February 28, 2025**. Reservations may be transmitted using any of the following options:

- Fax to (858) 546-5652
- Email to tunaconferenceinfo@gmail.com or
- Mail to Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA\NMFS
75th Tuna Conference, Attn: Stephanie Flores
8901 La Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037-1509

Payments may be made as follows (in US dollars):

- Check/Money Order: Made payable through a US Bank to the “**Tuna Conference**”
- Credit Card through Paypal: go to <https://www.tunaconference.org/current-information> – look for the document titled “Credit Card Reference Sheet” for fees. (note service fees are included in the amounts given) and push “**Buy Now**” button on the same page to pay thru Paypal.
- Wire transfer: please contact us directly and we will send instruction
- Government Purchase Order for NMFS employees only

Please note that **full payment** is **non-refundable**, due to contractual obligations assumed by the Tuna Conference with the UCLA Lake Arrowhead Lodge.

Rooms

There is one main options for lodging: shared rooms. The **shared rooms** are in a two-story cabins with shared living room area and a wood-burning fireplace. All rooms have private baths and queen size beds. The upstairs room is a loft that opens to the living room and the downstairs “room” is a bed as part of the living room. There are also a few other limited options for rooms. See registration form for pricing if interested.

Shuttle

A round-trip shuttle service will be available to those attending all four days of the conference. The shuttle leaves from SWFSC/IATTC facility in La Jolla on **Monday, May 19th, at 9:00 a.m. sharp** and will return from Lake Arrowhead on **Thursday, May 22nd**, arriving back in La Jolla around **6:00 p.m.**

This service is chartered by a private company and pricing will depend on the number of participants riding the shuttle; the more people that ride the shuttle, the cheaper the cost. We estimate the cost per person will range from \$40 to \$175 (round-trip ride, taxes and tip). A required **non-refundable** deposit of \$40 will be collected on or before **February 28, 2025**. Please note your interest in riding the shuttle on your registration form; and provide the deposit to your full payment to reserve your spot. The remaining balance will be due at the time of arrival on **May 19, 2024** during check-in.

General Notes:

1. The Conference will begin on Monday (May 19th), with the first session starting at 1:00 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 (unless it is a service animal).
3. **No** smoking is allowed anywhere within the UCLA Conference facilities and grounds.
4. Conference registration will be open starting at 11 a.m. on Monday in the Library. Conference registration will also be available throughout the week for late-arriving individuals in the same location.
5. Long-distance travelers should plan to book accommodations in La Jolla/San Diego or surroundings for Sunday night and ride the shuttle (or drive) to the Conference on Monday, arriving in time for the first session that begins at 1:00 p.m. Those wishing to spend additional nights at Lake Arrowhead either before or after the Conference, must arrange accommodations independently or can work with the Tuna Conference Coordinator.
6. The Conference will finish at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 22nd, after lunch, which will be served at 12:00 p.m. Check-out time is 11:00 a.m. from your room.
7. Individuals who choose to attend any Conference-related event, but do not wish to stay overnight at the Conference Center itself, will be charged **\$141 per full day** (referred to as a ‘Commuter Attendee’ guest charge) is **non-refundable**. 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 \$150 which is also **non-refundable**.
8. Whether you attend or not - please return the registration form or notify us if you wish to update your current information. Please include your e-mail address and/or fax number as we would like to send you information about future Tuna Conferences. Also, information is always available on our website www.tunaconference.org

IMPORTANT DATES

February 7, 2024 – Student scholarship application and required documentation are due.

February 28, 2024 – **Non-refundable** Full payment, registration form, abstract, and shuttle **non-refundable** deposit are due.

Brad Erisman and Travis Richards, Chairs of the 75th Tuna Conference
Stephanie Flores, 75th Tuna Conference Coordinator
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Visit the Tuna Conference's webpage at: www.tunaconference.org