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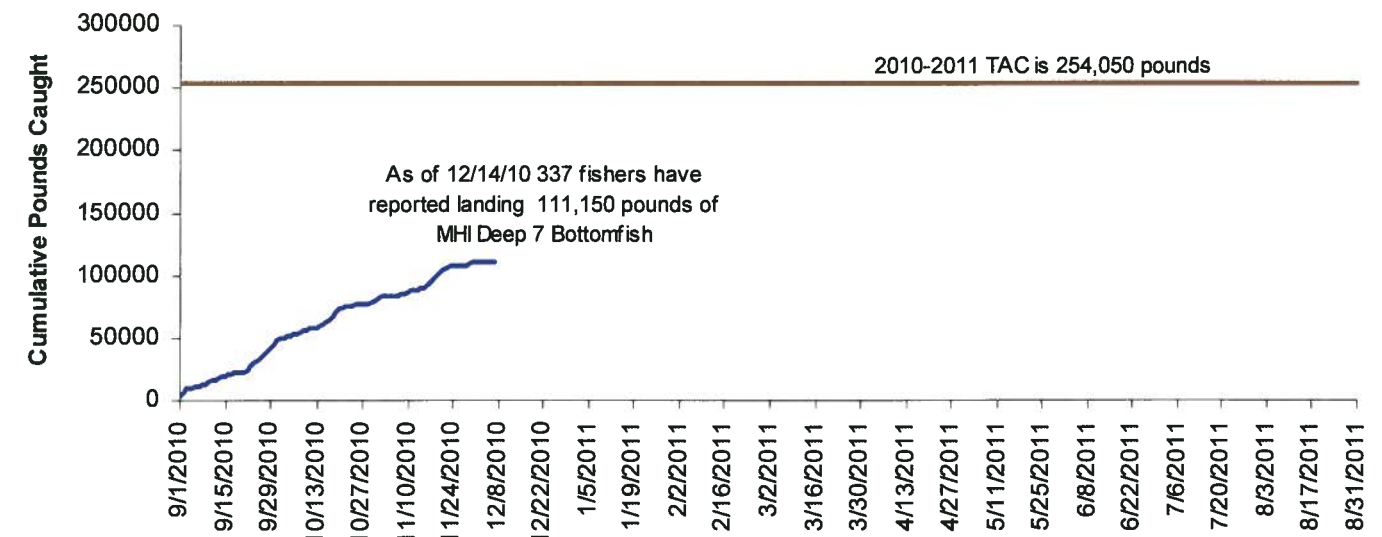
Volume 9
 December 2010

BOTTOMFISH NEWS



As of 12/14/10 44% of the 254,050 pound TAC has been reported landed

Cumulative MHI Deep 7 landings for the 2010-2011 fishing year as of 12/14/10



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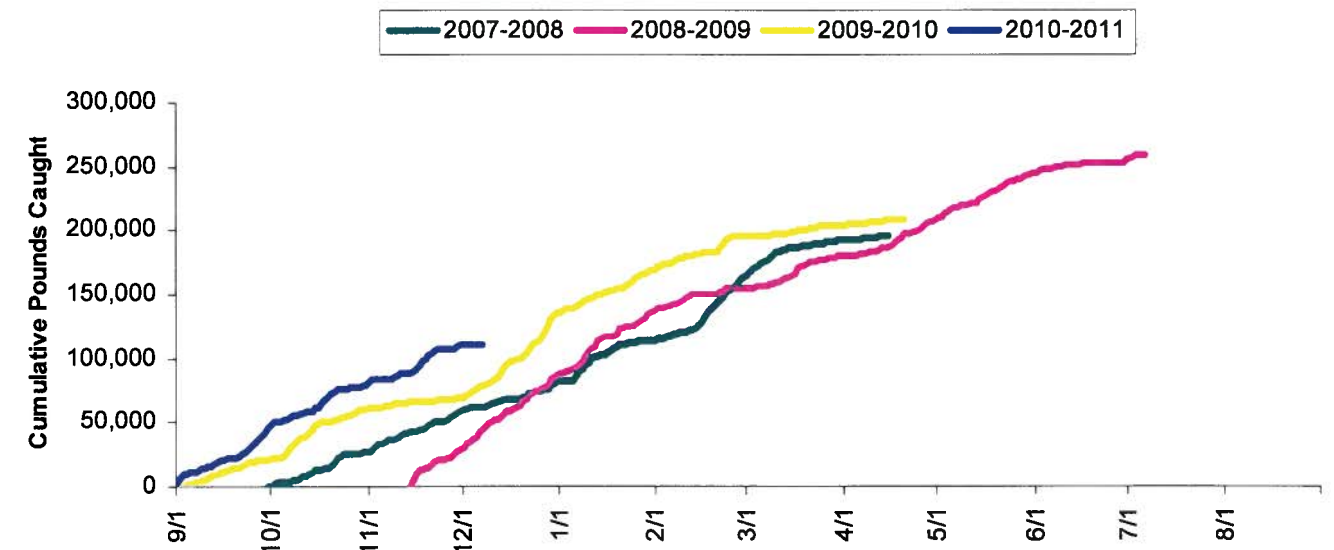
Dear Commercial Bottomfish fishers and dealers-Please let us know what kind of information is useful to you. We welcome your feedback! Any feedback about the newsletter, positive or negative, is greatly appreciated! **PLEASE CALL** statistical staff member, **Jessica Phelps**, (808) 587-0594 or e-mail jessica.phelps@hawaii.gov. Mahalo! - DAR Statistical Unit

Thank you to everyone for your ideas and assistance in editing the Bottomfish Newsletter Volume 9! A special thanks to: Justin Hospital, Courtney Beavers, Caitlin Burgess, Lynne Gray, Francis Oishi, Clayward Tam, Reginald Kokubun, and The Bottomfish Outreach Team.

Editor: Jessica Phelps

Check <http://www.hawaiibottomfish.info> for weekly MHI Deep 7 Bottomfish TAC updates!

Comparison of MHI Deep 7 bottomfish fishing years from 2007 to present



Fishermen identify levels of investment and annual fishing expenditures

Aloha! In this article we want to share more preliminary results from the Hawaii bottomfish survey. First, we wish to thank all of you who returned the survey, and we appreciate your time and insights into the fishery. In early November, we mailed a preliminary results brochure to everyone who received a survey. If you did not receive a copy of this brochure or simply would like to receive more copies please contact us at 808-944-2188, or by email: Justin.Hospital@noaa.gov

A key outcome of this research will be to identify the important economic contributions that your fishing provides to the State's economy. A total of 519 fishermen across the State of Hawaii completed the Hawaii bottomfish survey and your responses allow us to make preliminary estimates of the levels of investment and annual fishing expenditures by the Hawaii bottomfish fleet, both commercial and recreational.

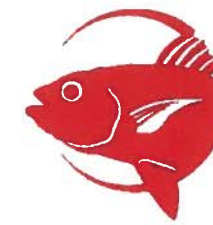
In the survey, you were asked to estimate an approximate market value for major investment categories such as your electronics and gear, and your vessel itself. Preliminary results on levels of investment are presented in Table 1. On average, commercially-licensed bottomfish fishermen have invested approximately \$8,354 in electronics. Seventeen percent of them indicated that they upgraded their electronics in the past year, 42% upgraded 1-3 years ago, and 41% have not upgraded in over 3 years. Fishermen estimated the market value of gear currently used at an average of \$5,759. Additionally, in considering the current market value of fishing vessels (not including gear and electronics), fishermen reported an average value of \$40,465.

In addition, you spend money every year on fixed-cost goods and services that are a valuable contribution to the State of Hawaii economy. In Table 2, we present estimates of annual fixed-cost expenditure levels within the fishery. Each individual fisherman had different expenditure patterns, and the percentage of fishermen reporting any expenditure for each category is also presented in the table. The most common expenditures in 2009 were tied to fishing operations including repair and maintenance (94% of fishermen), gear (92%), fees (92%), and oil and lube (89%); although a majority of fishermen (64%) also reported expenditures on safety equipment. The average values in Table 2 exclude fishermen that reported no expenditures for each category. The survey findings indicate that Hawaii bottomfish fishermen contribute greatly to the State's economy. Moreover, 47% of the fleet reported that 100% of their annual expenditures were local, creating revenues, value-added benefits and supporting jobs here in the State. Even for those who reported purchasing some items out-of-state, approximately 65% of their expenditures were contributing directly to the local economy.

Thanks again for your help with this important fisheries research. If you have any further questions, please contact us. We wish you an enjoyable holiday season.

Justin Hospital and Courtney Beavers
NOAA Fisheries – Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center

Tables displaying levels of investment for MHI bottomfish fishermen



Hawaii Bottomfish Survey 2010

Table 1. Levels of investment for MHI bottomfish fishermen*

Investment Category	Average approximate market value (in dollars)
Electronics	8,354
Gear	5,759
Boat	40,465

* - preliminary results subject to revision

Table 2. 2009 Fishing Expenditures for MHI bottomfish fishermen*

Expenditure Category	% of fishers reporting expenditure in 2009	Average expenditure for those with expenditure in 2009 (in dollars)
Boat insurance	39	1,215
Loan payments	18	4,976
Financial services (accounting, taxes)	36	617
Moorage Fees	20	1,770
Repair/Maintenance/Improvements for vessel, engines, or trailer	94	3,645
Oil and lube	89	399
Gear (lines, lures, rods, reels, coolers, etc)	92	1,793
Electronics	42	1,659
Fees (CML, truck/trailer registration, club dues, etc.)	92	352
Safety Equipment	62	353
Other	9	3,872

* - preliminary results subject to revision