

Special Session at IIFET 2016 – Fishing Cost Data Collection and Implications in Fisheries Management

Minling Pan

NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center

Economic data are paramount in fisheries management because they give fisheries managers the ability to accurately assess the economic health of the fisheries and to evaluate economic effects of fishery management decisions. Both revenue (or outputs) and cost (or inputs) data are needed to measure economic performance, such as costs, earnings, profitability, productivity, and economic efficiency, as well as the changes/trends of these indicators. While revenue data are easier to access, cost data usually are more difficult to obtain.

In some fisheries, efforts were made to build and expand systematic cost data collection programs so that rich and time series datasets become available, while some other fisheries are still lacking of necessary economic data to support analysis in fisheries management decisions. This special session in IIFET 2016 intend to create a platform for fisheries economists and fisheries managers to exchange ideas on improvement of cost data collection and the uses of cost data in fisheries management. The detailed topics include, but not limited to:

- How cost data were collected (sampling and collection methods);
- How to proceed data quality control and linkage with other fisheries dependent data;
- How to handle cost allocation for fixed costs or costs that are not associated with a single trip;
- How cost data collected were used (specially in support of fisheries management);
- Any obstacles for cost data collection and how to improve data quality.

The format of the special session includes papers and discussion. This session received 14 abstracts and a total of 9 oral presentations were given in the session. After the oral presentations, we had about 30 minutes for discussion on this topic which was led by Dr. Doug Lipton, the NOAA Fisheries Senior Scientist for Economics.

The presenters and their titles included in this the session are listed as follow:

1. **Megan Bailey**, The Challenges of Allocating Joint and Common Fixed Costs: An Example from the U.S Northeast Groundfish Fishery
2. **Natacha Carvalho**: Economic advice for fisheries management and policy: from data collection to policy-making
3. **Geret DePiper**, Estimation of Commercial Fishing Trip Costs Using Sea Sampling Data
4. **Ola Flaaten**: Profit and resource rent in fisheries
5. **Steven Lawrence**: Fishing Cost Data Collection and Implications in Fisheries Management - Overcoming obstacles for cost data collection by engaging with participants and demonstrating the value of data
6. **Christopher Liese**: Using Performance Indicators Based on Cost Data to Understand the Effects of Fluctuating Bio-economic Conditions in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery: 2006 through 2014

7. **Minling Pan:** Collection and Use of Trip Level Economic Data in Pacific Islands Commercial Fisheries Management
8. **Fatma Sobo:** Shared management of fishery resources in Tanzania
9. **Erin Steiner:** U.S. West Coast Commercial Cost Earnings Surveys, 12 years of experience