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Pacific Islands Region Species of Concern FY 2011 Year-End Report

National SOC Internal Grants Program

Due to limited funds for fiscal year 2011, only approximately \$280,000 was available to fund roughly nine proposals submitted to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Species of Concern (SOC) Internal Grant Program. Of the nine, one project requesting \$12,400 from the Pacific Islands region was selected for funding titled “Bomb radiocarbon dating to validate ages of humphead wrasse (*Cheilinus undulatus*) and bumphead parrotfish (*Bolbometopon muricatum*).”

National SOC External Grants Program

In addition to funding being significantly reduced for the SOC Internal Grant Program, funding was also greatly reduced for our SOC External Grant Program. Only one new project (not from the Pacific Islands region) was selected for funding.

Regional Projects Involving Pacific Islands Species of Concern

Despite reduced funding for proposals this year, the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UH) was able to continue with a project that the NMFS SOC Internal Grant Program has helped fund from 2007-2009 titled “Assessment and habitat restoration for two NOAA Species of Concern (*Lingula reevii* and *Montipora dilatata*) in Kaneohe Bay, Oahu, Hawaii.” The goal of this work, conducted by Dr. Cindy Hunter, was to continue the monitoring of these two SOC and provide insight to better inform management strategies to encourage their survival in the wild. Initial qualitative presence/absence surveys of SOC (and other *Montipora* spp.) and alien algae has been conducted followed by quantitative estimations of population sizes and removal of alien algal threats to the SOC. Dr. Hunter’s technical reports can be found on our website at www.fpir.noaa.gov/PRD/prd_species_of_concern.html.

Technical Reports

NMFS received the following technical reports:

- Technical report from Dr. Cindy Hunter of UH. “GIS and Spatial Distribution of *Lingula reevii* and *Montipora dilatata* in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, 2010.” This technical report can be downloaded from our website at: www.fpir.noaa.gov/Library/PRD/SOC/Biol403_2011_final_report_Spatial.pdf.
- Technical report from Dr. Cindy Hunter of UH. “Habitat Characteristics of *Lingula reevii* in Kaneohe Bay, Oahu, Hawaii, 2010.” This technical report can be downloaded from our website at: www.fpir.noaa.gov/Library/PRD/SOC/Biol403_2011_final_report_Lingula.pdf.

Please visit our NMFS Species of Concern websites for more information:

http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/PRD/prd_species_of_concern.html and
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/concern/>