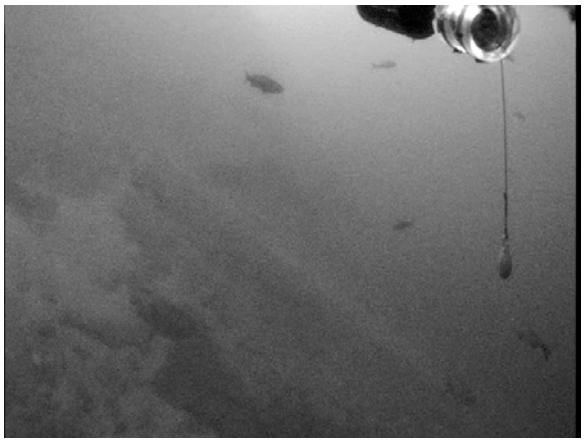
SE-11-02 March 7, 2011 progress report

The *Oscar Elton Sette* conducted nighttime targeted fishing operations over acoustic targets last night and then resumed acoustic surveys of the grid, grapple-hooked a specimen bundle of small green eye sharks (right, being welcomed aboard by Fisherman Ray Storms) from the *Okalani* (delivered via the *Hukipono*), deployed a 6-hour BotCam unit and conducted daytime acoustic surveys over it. The *Huki Pono* completed their last 3 BotCam drops today, and started transiting back to Oahu, after transferring remaining bait packets to the Sette for possible BotCam deployment tomorrow. Charter fishing operations were postponed last night and today due to bad weather. Weather is likely improving tomorrow with all 3 vessels standing by to fish. The *Sette's* acoustically-targeted fishing operations were mostly unsuccessful last night due to the fast drift and difficulty at finding promising acoustic targets. The 6-hour BotCam unit was successfully deployed at a high-relief, hard-bottom station in the northwest portion of the survey grid, in a similar spot as the day prior, but further on the summit for cleaner acoustic signals. Initial indications from the TDR, visuals from the BotCam, and acoustic signals indicate that the BotCam may have landed exactly as targeted on the upper edge of the steep slope near the flatter summit, thanks to excellent driving and coordination between bridge, acoustics, and back deck. This station had a large number of Randall's snappers (*Randallichthys filamentosus*, above left, and diffuse school at left), onaga (*Etelis coruscans*, fish near lead weight above left and school above), ehu (*Etelis carbunculus*), and opakapaka (*Pristipomoides filamentosus*). The long-lasting bait recipes appear to be working as large numbers of fish were still sighted around the BotCam bait canister in the later hours of the 6-hour deployment. Sette plans another BotCam station tomorrow prior to completing Leg 1 of SE-11-02 and proceeding into the North Pacific for oceanographic research.



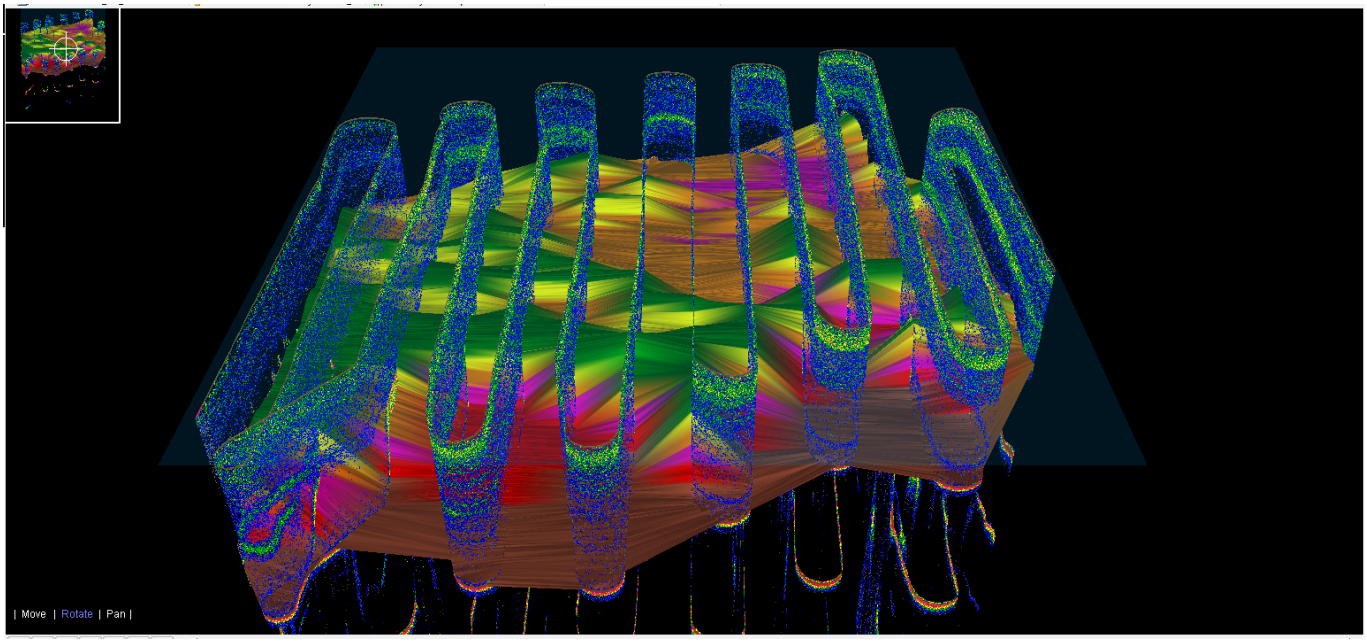
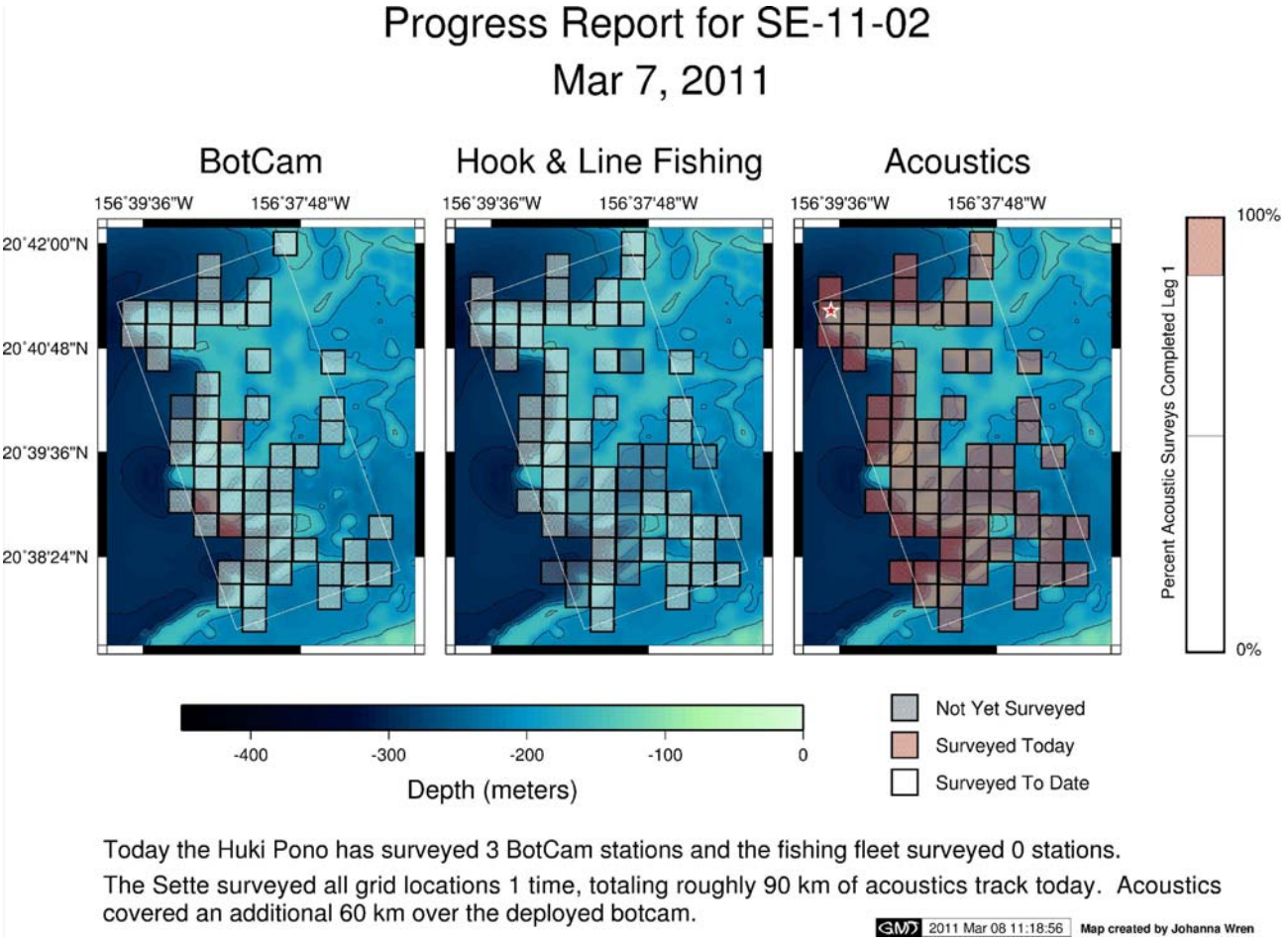
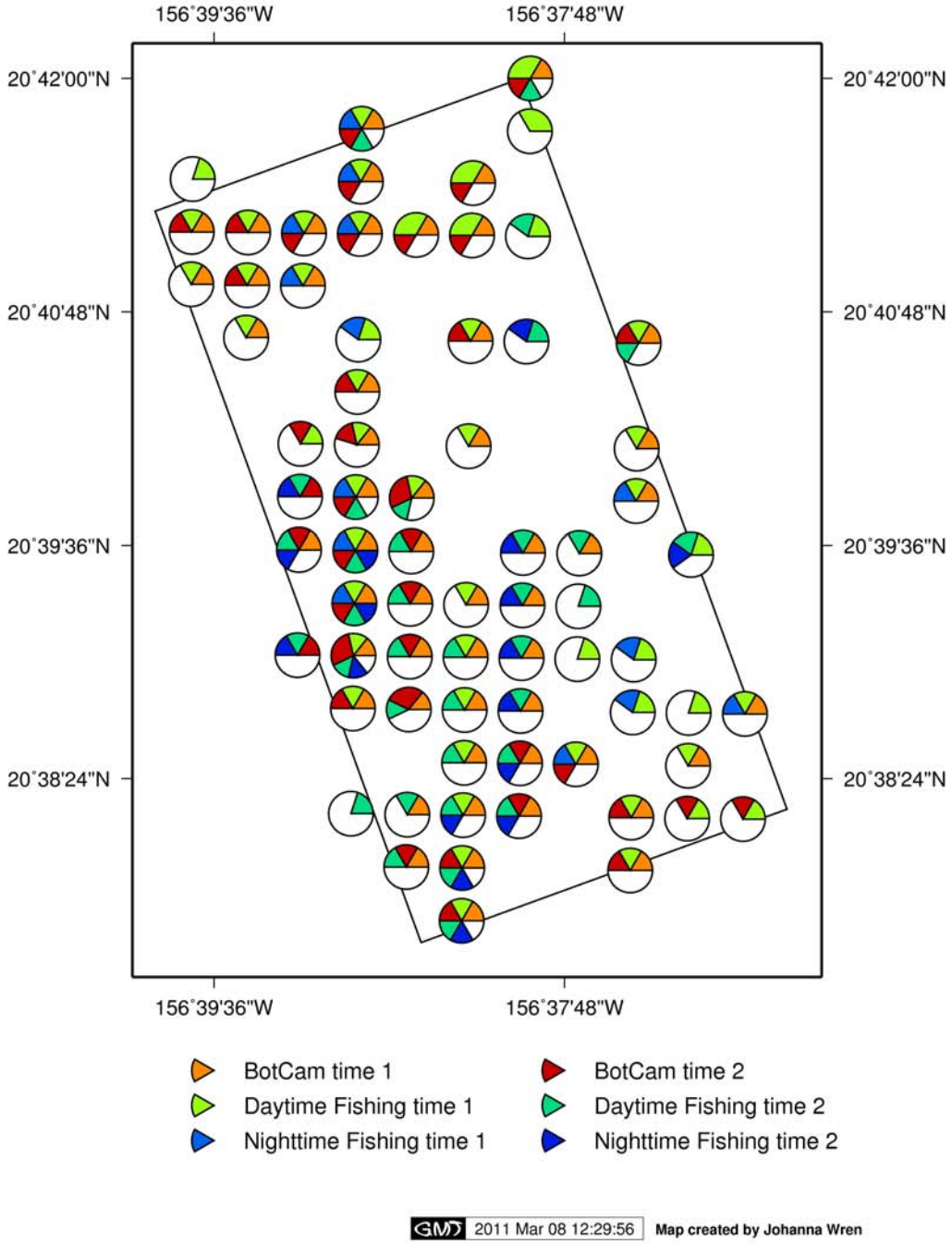


Figure 1. 3D compilation of Simrad EK-60 micronekton acoustic transects in survey box D overlain on bathymetric mesh, using EchoView software (image prepared by Amy Comer).

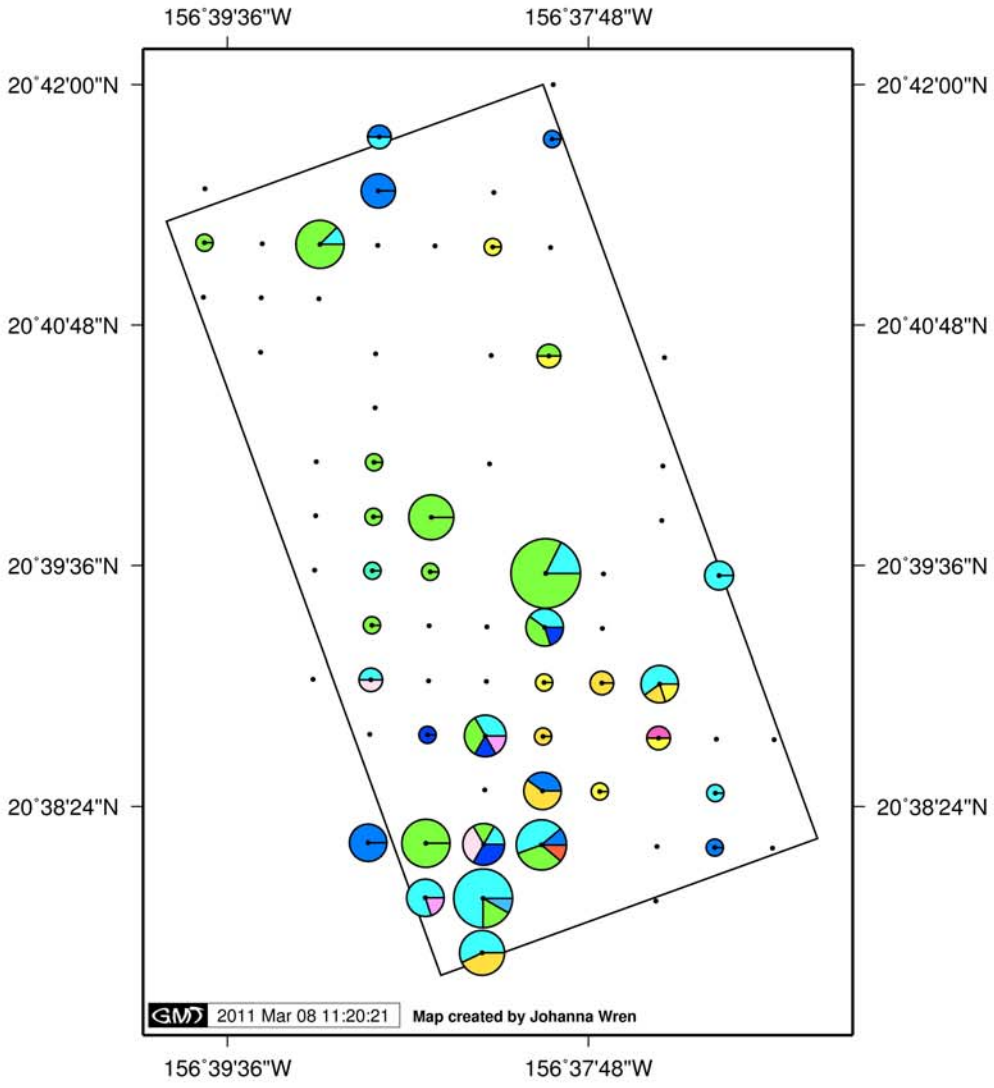


Sampling Gear Coverage Box D



GMT 2011 Mar 08 12:29:56 **Map created by Johanna Wren**

Fishing Catch Box D



- opakapaka
- ehu
- kalekale
- kahala
- puhi
- gindai
- no catch
- onaga
- hapuupuu
- aweoweo
- shark
- menpachi
- hogo