



NAAFE Forum 2017 Report

NAAFE Forum 2017, the ninth biennial conference of the North American Association of Fisheries Economics & Trade (NAAFE), was held at the Costa Baja hotel in La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico March 22-24, 2017; pre-conference events were held March 21. Following plenary sessions, 3-4 concurrent sessions were held throughout the 2 1/2 day conference.

Organization

A diverse team of Mexican institutions worked together to organize and host this conference, with Universidad Autonoma de Baja California Sur (UABCS) in the lead, and collaboration from CIBNOR, CICIMAR, Universidad Marista de Merida (UMM), Conacyt, and the NAAFE Business Office. Leading members of the Organizing Committee were Victor Hernandez Trejo (UABCS), German Ponce Diaz (CICIMAR), Juan Antonio de Anda (CIBNOR) and Juan Carlos Seijo (UMM). The Scientific Committee was co-chaired by Dr. Juan Carlos Seijo of UMM, and Dr. Gil Sylvia of Oregon State University, President of NAAFE, with assistance from Smit Vasquez Caballero (PhD Candidate, Oregon State University.)

Participation

150 participants from 15 countries (US, Mexico, Canada, Japan, Norway, Spain, India, Solomon Islands, China, Iceland, Denmark, UK, Ecuador, Colombia, and Chile) attended, representing academia, government, industry, and domestic and international agencies.

Conference Program

*Gordon Munro, UBC (emeritus)
delivering keynote talk*



136 individual presentations were made in 15 general sessions, 11 special sessions, 1 poster session, and 3 plenary sessions

Plenary session presentations

- Keynote 1: Escaping the Fisheries Subsidies Trap: the Role of Cooperative Fisheries Management (Gordon Munro)
- Keynote 2: Catch Shares: Potential for Optimal Use of Marine Resources (Ragnar Arnason)

Special session titles

- Ecosystem Services Valuation for Ecosystem Based Management in the U.S.: Current Practices, Opportunities, and Challenges
- Coastal and marine spatial planning in North America: case studies and data needs
- Evaluation and Analysis of Catch Share Performance and Cost-Earnings Data Collection Effort

- The Fishery Performance Indicators – Value for Fisheries Management, Impact Investing and Recreational Fisheries
- Distribution and ITQs
- Economics of Protected Marine Species
- Designing rights-based management systems to achieve social objectives in fisheries
- How climate change is shaping fisheries and fishing communities in the Polar region
- Investing in fisheries recoveries
- The Three M's of Recreational Fishing Demand: Measurement, Modeling, and Management
- Saving the World's most Endangered Marine Mammal: the role of economic incentives for affected communities



Ragnar Arnason, University of Iceland, receiving gift from Victor Hernandez Trejo after his keynote address

General session titles

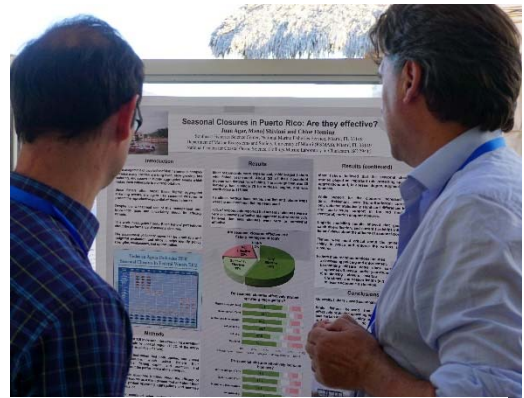
- Seafood Trade & Markets (parts 1, 2, and 3)
- Ecosystem-Based Management
- Economic Indicators
- Subsidies and Their (un)Intended Consequences
- Rights-Based Management (parts 1 and 2)
- Bioeconomic Models and Applications (parts 1 and 2)
- Aquaculture Models and Applications
- Governance and Compliance
- Small-Scale Fisheries (parts 1 and 2)
- Recreational Fisheries



Plenary audience

Poster session

- 10 posters were presented, on a variety of topics



NOAA's Juan Agar answering questions about his poster



NAAFE Forums are great places for government economists to get the most from interaction with academia, as in this special session on spatial planning addressed by Kristy Wallmo, NOAA

Rapt audience for Jim Anderson's special session on indicators





Marty Smith teaching participants about strategic approaches to publishing

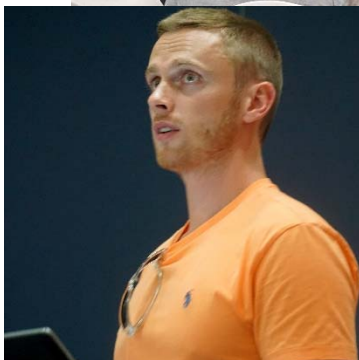
Pre-conference Events

- “Get Published” workshop: strategies for building a publication record, presented by Dr. Marty Smith, Duke University and past Editor, Marine Resource Economics. This event was supported by a generous donation from NAAFE Forum 2015 Alaska.
- Field trip to Earth Ocean Farm facilities of Totoaba aquaculture production facility, provided free by CICIMAR
- Field trip to Grupo Acuicola Mexicano Hatchery Facilities (Intensive Shrimp Aquaculture), provided free by CICIMAR

Molly Stevens, University of Miami, and other graduate students, found opportunities to both listen to renowned speakers, and present their own research



Silvia Salas, a new member of NAAFE leadership, presented on skipper effects in Mexican fisheries (below)



Graduate students and others got valuable input on refining the "hook" for their research topic



NAAFE Forums provide unique opportunities for young professionals to interact with the leaders of their profession (l-r: Josh Abbott, Stephanie Stefanski, Jim Wilen)

Prizes!

- NAAFE Forum 2017 Best Student Paper Contest, generously supported by US NOAA, organized by Alan Haynie, NOAA
 - Winner: Harvesters' Dynamic Decision on Fishing Trip Length, by Keita Abe, University of Washington
 - Honorable Mention: Common Property Resources, Property Rights and Natural Disasters, by Renato Molina, University of California, Santa Barbara.
- NAAFE Forum 2017 Best Student Presentation Contest, generously supported by MRE, organized by Barbara Best, DFO and Dan Lew, NOAA
 - Winner: William Goldsmith, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William & Mary, for "Modeling angler choices, preferences, and values in the U.S. east coast recreational Atlantic bluefin tuna fishery"
 - Honorable mention: Jennifer Meredith, University of Washington, for "Fish or Flight: Household Survey Evidence of the Impact of Transferable Permits on the Migration Decisions of Rural Alaskan Salmon Harvesters"



Jen Meredith of UW receiving Best Student Presentation honorable mention from Selection Committee Chair Dan Lew



William Goldsmith of VPI receiving Best Student Presentation Award from Dan Lew



Keita Abe of UW presenting his Best Student Paper



Renato Molina of UCSB giving his honorably mentioned paper

Social Events

NAAFE's social events are carefully tailored to maximize interactions and develop collaborative relationships for future research.

- Welcoming Reception, Tuesday March 21, 5:30-7:00 pm, Costa Baja terrace
- Conference Banquet, Thursday evening 6:30 pm, including performance of the State Band of Baja California Sur, Costa Baja Foyer
- Optional post conference snorkeling tour



Old friends, new places...Jim Sanchirico (UC Davis), Alan Haynie (NOAA), Jim Anderson (UFI)



Former students meet up with their professors, now colleagues, at NAAFE, like this University of British Columbia group

Organizational Continuity

NAAFE's Board of Directors met Monday, March 20, the day prior to the conference, to meet governance requirements of the organization, formalize selection of the next Forum host, and discuss future directions. NAAFE President Gil Sylvia (OSU) presided; participants included Board members Sherry Larkin (President Elect, UFI), Alvaro Hernandez Flores (UMM), Barbara Best (treasurer, DFO), Alan Haynie (NOAA), and incoming Board member Silvia Salas (Conacyt). Incoming President elect Cathy Roheim (U of Idaho) attended via



Barbara Best, DFO, Board Member and Treasurer

Skype. Also participating were Executive Director Ann Shriver, Forum 2017 program coordinator Smit Vasquez Caballero, and Forum 2017 organizers Victor Hernandez Trejo and German Ponce Diaz.

A proposal led by Megan Bailey and Peter Tyedmers of Dalhousie University, and Tony Charles of St. Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada to organize NAAFE's 10th Forum--NAAFE Forum 2019--was formally accepted during the Board meeting. The 2019 site and organizers were announced during the conference banquet and an invitation to all to participate was presented during the closing session.



Incoming NAAFE President Sherry Larkin (left) symbolically passes on the honor of hosting the next NAAFE Forum to Megan Bailey (Dalhousie, Halifax, Canada) at the closing ceremony



Tony Charles (St. Mary's, Halifax, Canada) could not be with us in person but welcomed participants to NAAFE Forum 2019 in Halifax via video