

H Williams Option 2

To earn credit, participate in the live webcast alone (10 points) or with your students (20 points) and write a short reflection of what you and your students gained from the experience. Your instructor will apprise you of upcoming events.

I participated in this on my own without students.

Risk Factors for Seabird Bycatch in the Hawaii Longline Deep-set Tuna Fishery

OneNOAA Science Seminar Series

Presenter: Eric Gilman, Tuna Program, The Nature Conservancy.

This presentation was bit over my students heads, but I do think there was a lot to learn here that I could “interpret” for them:

- Bring awareness to the need for more studies about the interactions of seabirds and fisheries.
- There is a long term effect on the birds as they take several years between mating.
- If one of the parent birds die, the chicks often starve.
- Bring awareness that in some instances legislation does make a difference, 90% reduction in bycatch since 2001 regulations for fisherman.
- I would like to present the challenge to students to track birds to find or direct legislation to avoid high bird areas.
- What are the risk factors for these birds? Do the risk factors change based on the season? This web cast spoke a lot about regulations north of the 23° latitude. I wonder what is so magical for the birds to north.
- How do the adaptations of specific bird species put them at risk? Diving birds vs. surface feeders. Why does the hook shape not affect bird mortality? Can the students compare anatomy between the birds and the fish to see whether new hook shapes could be developed?
- What are the current regulations and techniques employed by fishermen? Can they be more user friendly? He spoke about how the fishermen don't like any of the regulations. IE the bait dye is very messy and ruins their clothing and decks of the ships.
- There seems to be a trend in recent years that there is an increase of bycatch but they don't seem to be affecting the overall numbers of birds. Can the students model or graph this to look for patterns?