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The Commercial Marine Aquarium Fishery in Hawai‘i 1976-2003

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Abstract

The commercial aquarium fishery in Hawai‘i has developed over the last 50 years into one of the state’s major inshore fisheries, with landings of over 708,000 specimens with a reported value of \$1.06 million. The true economic value of this fishery is substantially underestimated. The catch is diverse, with a total of over 200 different fish and invertebrates collected. The top 10 species constitute 73% of the entire catch. In the early days of the fishery, most collecting activity was centered on the island of O‘ahu. This fishery has declined over the years due to hurricane impacts and localized overfishing. Low-value invertebrates are increasingly replacing previously caught fishes. In contrast to O‘ahu, the aquarium fishery on the island of Hawai‘i is expanding and now accounts for 55% of the catch and 68% of the total state value. Recent research shows that collecting activities can significantly affect targeted species. A network of Fish Replenishment Areas (FRAs) has been established on the island of Hawai‘i to ensure sustainability of the aquarium fishery and to reduce user conflicts. Three years after implementation of the FRAs there are significant increases in several targeted species, and the overall value of the fishery is at an all-time high. Catch report compliance is low on this island and likely elsewhere within the state. Actual aquarium catch is underreported. Specific management actions increase reporting compliance by collectors.

Introduction

The marine aquarium fish trade has expanded into a multi-million dollar industry in fisheries throughout the tropical world. Total annual catch may exceed 30 million fish (Wood, 2001). Many of the marine ornamentals originating from the U.S. are caught in Hawai‘i, which is known for its high-quality fishes and rare endemics of high value. Here fish are collected without the use of chemicals or explosives; instead small-mesh fence and hand nets are used, resulting in a high survival rate of collected animals.

Background

Commercial aquarium collectors have been working Hawaiian waters for at least 50 years. The early collectors operated almost exclusively in the nearshore waters along the leeward coast of the island of O‘ahu. These collectors were usually experienced

watermen skilled at spearing fish for food, and many of the same skills proved useful in collecting aquarium animals. Their equipment was rudimentary and included primitive goggles (bone and glass), pole spears, and cotton or linen nets. To collect specimens they practiced breath-hold diving. (DAR, undated a).

SCUBA gradually became more commonplace among collectors in the years following World War II. Synthetic nets were also introduced, which greatly increased the efficiency of collecting. In 1953 the territorial government of Hawai‘i enacted Act 154, which authorized the Board of Agriculture and Forestry to establish a permit system for the use of fine-mesh nets and traps for the taking of aquarium fish. The law permitted the use of such otherwise-prohibited gear to take small fish that were not considered to be of food value. In creating the permit system, the legislature apparently anticipated that the aquarium fishery would grow over time and ultimately prove to be a substantial source of employment and export revenue (DAR, undated b).

The early growth of the aquarium fishery was constrained by the lack of airline connections and slow overseas flight times. With the arrival of commercial jet service to Hawai‘i in 1959, exporters could now ship expeditiously to the U.S. mainland. Beginning in 1969 there was a rapid increase in the number of aquarium permittees, especially non-commercial ones collecting for their own aquaria. The number of commercial collectors began to increase substantially after 1971. (Table 1).

Table 1. Number of aquarium permits issued statewide for Fiscal Years 1969-1975.

| Fiscal Year | Non-Commercial | Commercial |
|-------------|----------------|------------|
| 1975 | 218 | 78 |
| 1974 | 230 | 82 |
| 1973 | 360 | 36 |
| 1972 | 238 | 28 |
| 1971 | 144 | 6 |
| 1970 | 42 | 7 |
| 1969 | 55 | 4 |

Commercial aquarium collecting was well established on O‘ahu by 1973, when public concern about the fishery prompted the Division of Fish and Game (precursor to DAR) to place a moratorium on aquarium collecting and to suspend the issuance of aquarium fishing permits. This moratorium was to commence July 1, 1973, the start of the fiscal year, but was rescinded two days prior to its start. After the suspension was lifted, the ten-member State Animal Species Advisory Commission recommended restricting the issuance of aquarium fishing permits pending “full and extensive study.” At a September, 1973, meeting called by Fish and Game, a number of university marine scientists recommended the establishment of sanctuary areas and the prohibition of collecting within their confines (Walsh 1999).

Prior to 1973, commercial aquarium collectors reported their catches on the same forms (C-3) as those used by all other commercial fishermen. These forms proved unsuitable for the multi-species aquarium catch, and the resulting data is considered unreliable. As part of the lifting of the 1973 moratorium, collectors were now required to report their monthly catch on a separate, more detailed aquarium fish catch report (C-6). The penalty for failing to submit timely catch reports is revocation of the aquarium permit and prosecution of an enforcement action.

Much of the data provided in this report are from monthly catch reports. In 1989 the aquarium permit statute (HRS §188-31) was amended to require a report to the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) of the monthly catch of each species of aquarium fish. Annual summaries were reported by DAR until 1994. The last catch report was a five-year summary for FY 1995-1999 (Miyasaka 2000).

As has been noted, the reliability of this data is dependent upon the sincerity (and integrity) of the permittees (Katekaru, 1978). At present there is no provision for verification of submitted reports. Given that there are indications of underreporting (see Kona section), catch numbers and dollar amounts should be regarded as minimum and not absolute values. Data from FY 74 and FY75 are not included in this analysis due to problems with early C-6 versions, which produced data not comparable with that of subsequent years. Only commercial data are presented, as non-commercial permit holders are not required to submit monthly catch reports. Non-commercial permit holders are also limited to a total take of five fish or aquatic specimens per person per day, so their overall potential catch is considerably less than that of commercial collectors. In FY 2003, 108 non-commercial permits were issued in comparison to 116 commercial ones.

Statewide Perspective

The Hawai'i aquarium fishery developed at an extraordinary rate in the early 1970s. During FY 1973, 36 commercial permit holders reported a catch of 35,556 animals, which sold for a value of \$74,100 (Ego, 1973). Five years later in 1978 the catch had increased 500% (179,900 specimens) and the value of the fishery had increased 400% to \$296,850 (\$812,900 adjusted value) (Figure 1). There were now 138 commercial collectors. This period of expansion ended at the end of the decade as a recession took hold in Hawai'i and the United States. The recession was closely tied to a substantial cutback in production by oil-producing nations, resulting in worldwide oil and fuel shortages. Inflation during 1978 to 1981 averaged over 10%, further eroding the real value of the catch. The number of commercial collectors fell to 42, the lowest number recorded since reporting began.

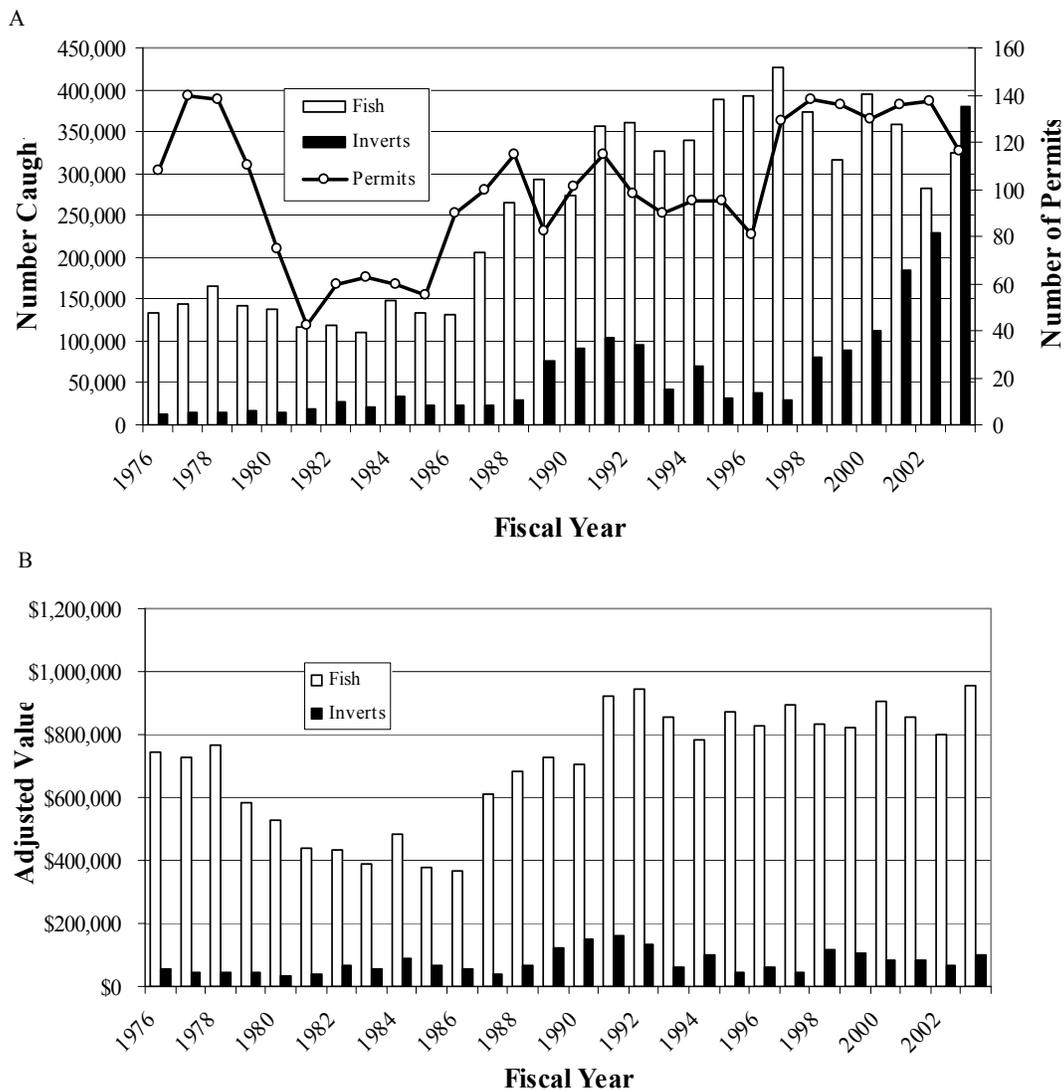


Figure 1. A. Number of commercial aquarium permits issued statewide and the numbers of fish and invertebrates reported caught. B. Dollar value of commercially caught fish and invertebrate aquarium specimens. Value is adjusted for inflation by means of Honolulu Consumer Price Index (Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations, State of Hawai‘i).

The overall aquarium catch has been diverse, comprised of a total of 235 taxa of fish and 37 of invertebrates (Appendix A). A relatively small number of species dominates the catch; the top 10 species constitutes 73.3% of the total historical catch (Table 2). Surgeonfishes, Butterflyfishes, and wrasses are the most commonly caught fish species, while feather duster worms, hermit crabs, and shrimp predominate among the invertebrates. Particularly noteworthy is the substantial increase in invertebrate catch over the last several years (see Island section).

Table 2. Top ten taxa of collected animals over the period FY 1976-2003.

| Taxa | Common Name | Total Caught | % of Total |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|------------|
| <i>Zebrasoma flavescens</i> | Yellow Tang | 3,386,860 | 37.2 |
| <i>Sabellastarte sanctijosephi</i> | Feather Duster Worm | 741,949 | 8.1 |
| Hermit Crabs | Hermit Crabs | 707,654 | 7.8 |
| <i>Ctenochaetus strigosus</i> | Goldring Surgeonfish | 346,944 | 3.8 |
| <i>Acanthurus achilles</i> | Achilles Tang | 337,781 | 3.7 |
| <i>Naso lituratus</i> | Orangespine Unicornfish | 298,884 | 3.3 |
| <i>Centropyge potteri</i> | Potter's Angelfish | 287,668 | 3.2 |
| <i>Forcipiger flavissimus</i> | Forcepsfish | 251,523 | 2.8 |
| <i>Zanclus cornutus</i> | Moorish Idol | 187,662 | 2.1 |
| <i>Halichoeres ornatissimus</i> | Ornate Wrasse | 121,766 | 1.3 |

Based upon catch report data (DAR 2001), the value of the aquarium fishery is among the highest of all inshore fisheries in Hawai'i, exceeded only by the akule (bigeye scad - *Selar crumenophthalmus*) hook and line/net fishery (Figure 2).

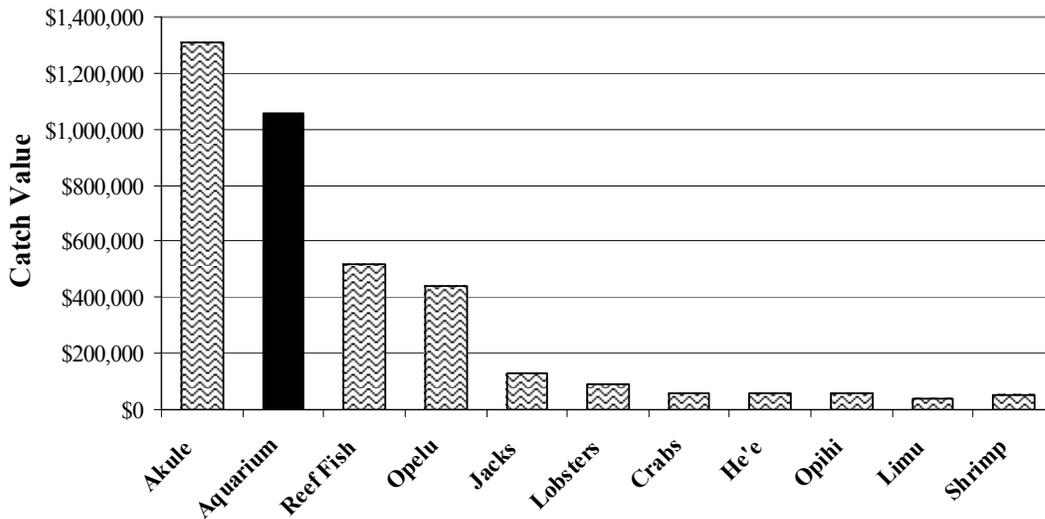


Figure 2. Value of Hawai'i commercial marine landings for FY 2001.

Due to the fact that the aquarium industry is composed of both independent contractors (collectors) and wholesalers, who may or may not be collectors themselves, the overall economic value of the aquarium fishery is estimated to be substantially higher than shown in Figure 2. Cesar et al. (2002) estimated industry gross sales at \$3.2 million and industry profits at \$1.2 million. A 1993 analysis based on export figures by an aquarium trade group (Hawai'i Tropical Fish Association 1993) pegged total sales of Hawaiian fish (inclusive of freight and packing) at \$4,909,654. DAR reported total average value for FY 1993 /FY 1994 as only \$819,957 (Miyasaka 1994a, 1994b).

It is difficult to precisely compare the scale of the Hawai‘i aquarium fishery with those of other countries around the world. The international distribution network for marine ornamentals is often complex, involving a number of intermediaries, and record keeping has not been standardized or centralized. Although it is clear that aquarium collecting is one of the most important inshore fisheries in Hawai‘i, total catch is substantially less than that of the major exporting countries such as the Philippines and Indonesia. The Philippines exports 6 million aquarium fish a year (Wood, 2001). Aquarium fishery data from Indonesia is scarce, but its 40 exporters of marine ornamentals (NAFED 2002) and a 1999 export value of US\$11.4 million (Suara Pembaruan 1998) attest to its international prominence. Hawai‘i nonetheless is one of the major exporters among the second-tier countries (Figure 3).

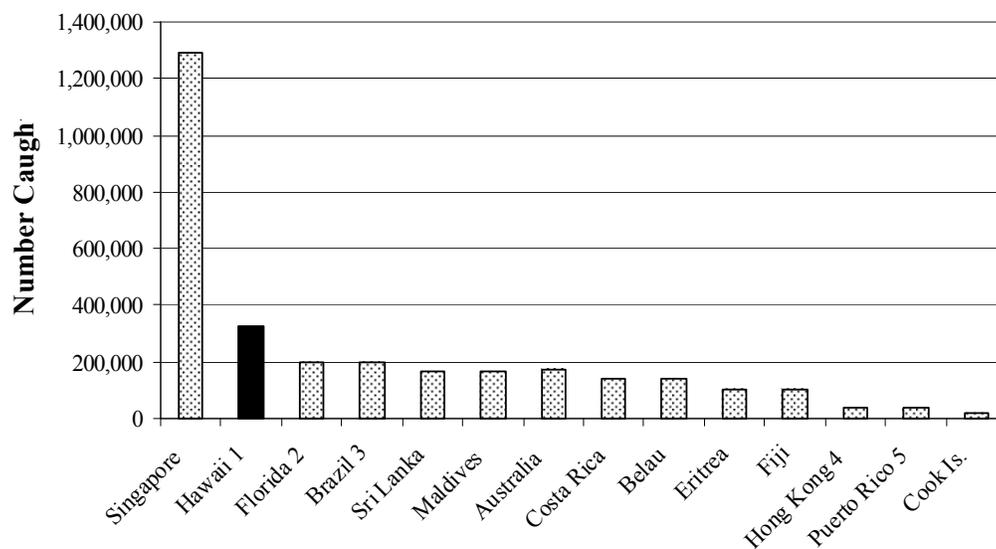


Figure 3. Number of marine aquarium fish caught or exported in recent years. All data from Wood 2001 except for 1-This study; 2- Adams et al. 2001; 3-Cassiano et al. 2003; 4- Chan and Sadovy 1998; 5-Mote 2002.

Island Comparison

Subsequent to the overall contraction of the aquarium fishery in the late 1970s and early 1980s, there has been a trend for an increasing number of commercial permits on all islands (Figure 4). The largest growth has occurred on the island of Hawai‘i, which has experienced a 645% increase over the last two decades. The expansion on Hawai‘i was due to both an influx of new collectors and the relocation of collectors from O‘ahu.

In the early years of the aquarium fishery, O‘ahu was the most productive area, accounting for between 64% (1976) and 84% (1981) of the fish catch (Figure 5). The southern and leeward reefs of the island were prime collecting areas. While there is

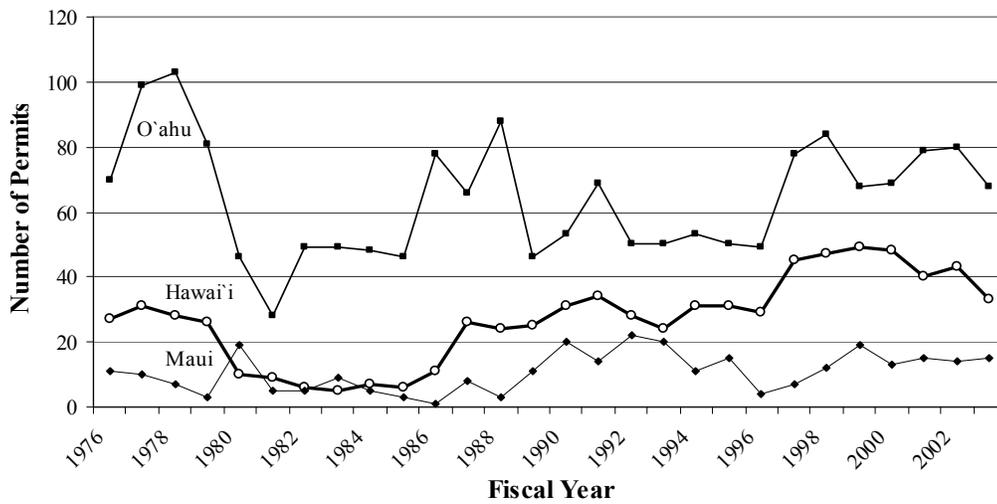


Figure 4. Number of commercial aquarium permits issued on each island per fiscal year. Maui refers to Maui county and includes the islands of Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i. Kaua'i is not shown due to the low number of permits (mostly 0 and 2, 1 and 3 in the last three fiscal years).

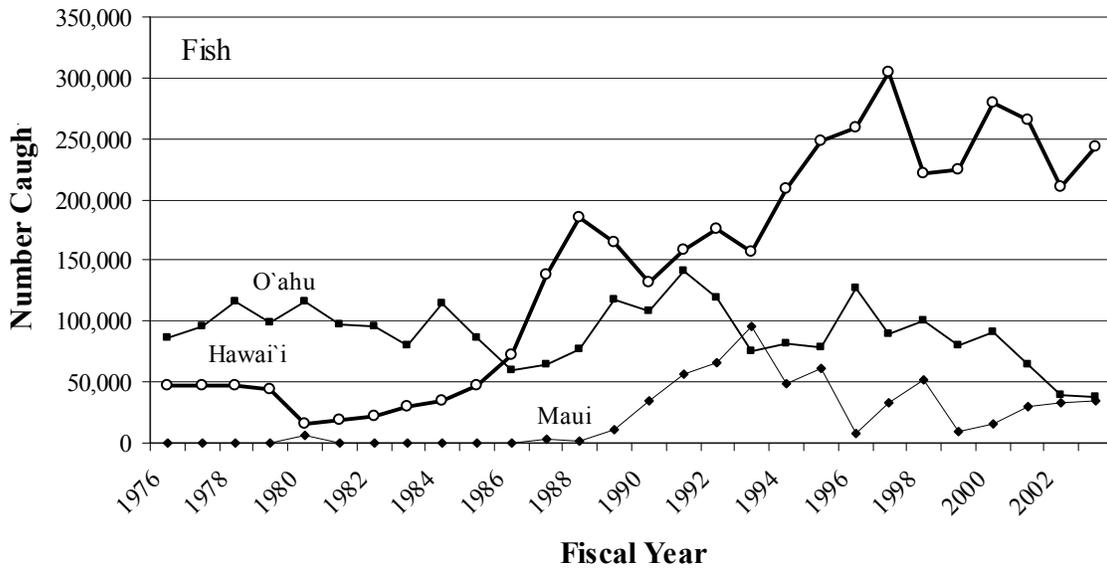


Figure 5. Number of aquarium fish caught on each island per fiscal year. Kaua'i's catch has been omitted due to low numbers.

considerable between-year variability in the O‘ahu catch, there has been an overall decline in catch over time. This decline is in marked contrast to the catch of the island of Hawai‘i, which has increased dramatically since the 1980s.

At the present time, the O‘ahu catch represents only 12% of total aquarium fish catch in contrast to Hawai‘i’s 75%. The sharp decline in catch on Maui in FY 1996 may have been due to the temporary close of business by the primary exporter on the island (Miyasaka 2000).

While the overall economic value of the aquarium fishery in the state has been relatively stable over the last decade (Figure 2), as with total catch, there have also been substantial changes in value on each of the islands (Figure 6). The value (adjusted for inflation) of the O‘ahu aquarium fish catch in FY 2003 has declined by 76% while that of Hawai‘i island has increased 282%.

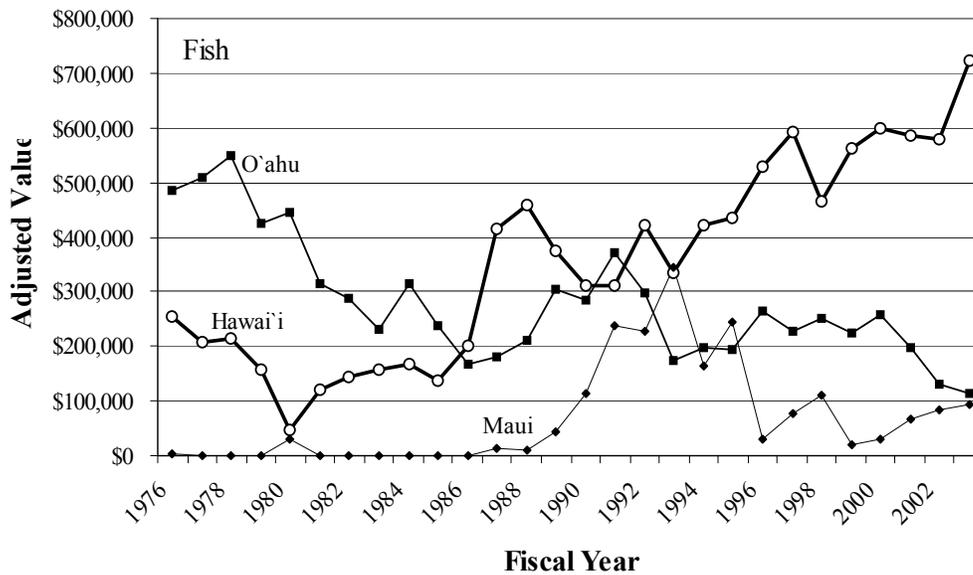


Figure 6. Dollar value (adjusted for inflation) of aquarium fish catch on each island per fiscal year. Kaua‘i omitted.

The catch of invertebrates is largely confined to O‘ahu. As the number of fish caught has dropped, the number of invertebrates has increased (Figure 7). Over the last 10 years 99% of all such animals were caught on O‘ahu. In 1997 and 1998, 5000-6000 invertebrates of 22 species were caught on Hawai‘i island but numbers dropped rapidly to just dozens in recent years. The majority of these animals were shrimps, especially the red striped shrimp *Saron marmoratus* (45% of catch). Similarly Maui had short-lived peaks of invertebrate catches around 1993, primarily echinoderms, hermit crabs, and pencil urchins, and then again in 2003 (hermit crabs collected on Moloka‘i).

The O‘ahu invertebrate catch has been dominated in recent years by a relatively few species. Over the past 10 years the top 10 species have accounted for 95% of the catch. Two groups in particular are the main target of collectors: feather duster worms (*Sabellastarte sanctijosephi*) and hermit crabs (species not specified) (Figure 8). The

collection of hermit crabs has increased dramatically on O‘ahu and to a lesser extent on Maui. On O‘ahu alone over 291,000 hermits were caught last year. The unit value per crab over the last five years has been \$.11 while feather dusters bring in \$1.15. Feather dusters appear to be collected mostly from in and around Kāne‘ohe Bay. It is unclear where on O‘ahu hermits are being collected because catch reports do not specify localities, but there is some indication that the Kāne‘ohe Bay region is key.

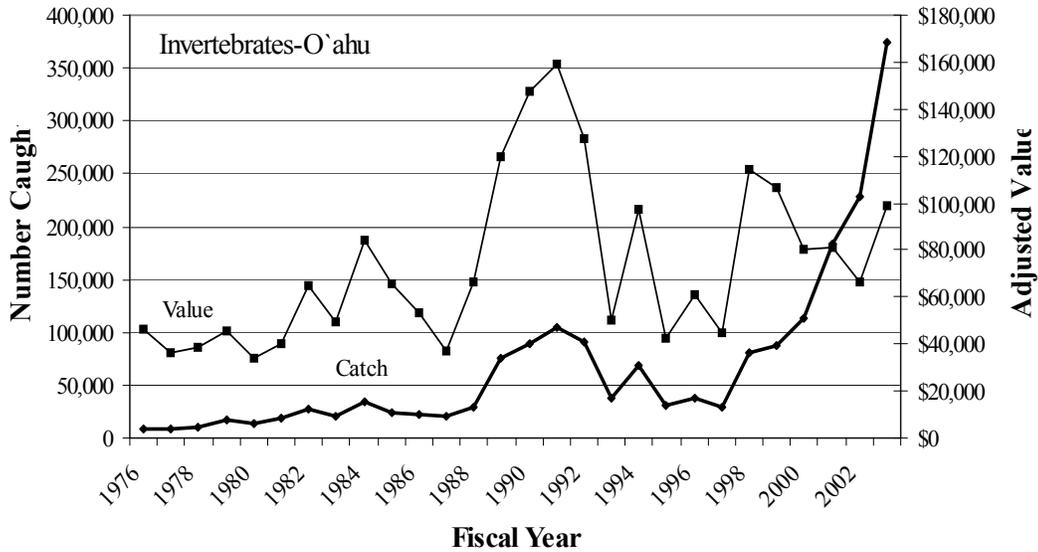


Figure 7. Number of invertebrates caught on O‘ahu per fiscal year and dollar value (adjusted for inflation).

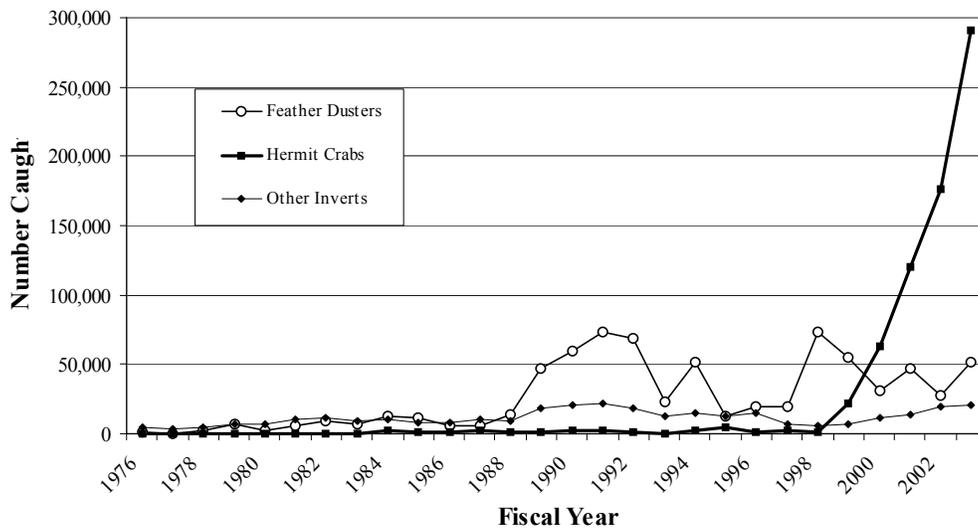


Figure 8. Number of invertebrates caught on O‘ahu per fiscal year. “Other Inverts” refers to 3-10th most abundant species caught.

Hurricane Effects

Three major storms struck the Hawaiian Islands during the past twenty-five years. The earliest one was a large three-day “Kona” storm, which occurred during January, 1980. This storm was one of the most severe of its type in at least 20 years (Hawai‘i County Civil Defense). The effects of this storm on the coral reefs of Hawai‘i island were substantial (Dollar 1982, Dollar and Tribble 1993) but patchy. Effects on the fish community were ameliorated by the presence of deeper-water refuges and remaining undamaged areas (Walsh 1983). The effect of this storm on other islands remains unclear, although at least one area of leeward O‘ahu (Kahe Pt.) suffered extensive coral damage. Thirty of 32 coral-monitoring stations at Kahe showed reductions in coral coverage up to 100% at some stations (Mean = $52 \pm 6.4\%$ SE) (Coles and Brown, in prep.).

Subsequent to this storm, two major hurricanes struck the islands with substantial impacts on O‘ahu and Kaua‘i. On November 23, 1982 Hurricane ‘Iwa passed to the southwest of O‘ahu, striking Kaua‘i. The hurricane generated maximum waves of 9-14.8m (Dengler et al. 1984, Coles and Brown in prep). On September 11, 1992, Hurricane ‘Iniki passed to the west of O‘ahu, again striking Kaua‘i. ‘Iniki was the most powerful hurricane to strike the Hawaiian Islands in recent history. The areas most affected on O‘ahu were the leeward coast, with lesser damage along the south shore (Rosendale web site).

Coral and habitat damage as a result of ‘Iwa were substantial on Kaua‘i and parts of O‘ahu (W. Aila, pers. comm.). According to an undated, anonymous DAR report, ‘Iwa damaged “extensive inshore reef areas, especially the prime aquarium fishing grounds along O‘ahu’s western coast.” Pfeffer and Tribble (1985) similarly noted that ‘Iwa resulted in extensive subtidal damage along the west and south shores of O‘ahu. The majority of coral 30’ to 150’ deep were severely damaged and most small coral patch reefs were destroyed. ‘Iniki also impacted coral reef communities on O‘ahu (Brock 1996, Coles and Brown, in prep.) but limited evidence suggests the effects may have been less than with ‘Iwa (Miyasaka 1994).

With one notable exception, the overall effects of either of these two hurricanes on the O‘ahu aquarium fishery have not been well documented. The exception is the study done by two collectors (Pfeffer and Tribble 1985) on the effects of ‘Iwa on their collection efforts. The data in the study was based upon billing invoices compiled from collecting trips over several years before and after the hurricane. The area collected on the south shore of O‘ahu (‘Ewa) is termed Zone 401 on the monthly catch report forms.

Pfeffer and Tribble reported that their catch (and gross earnings) declined markedly after the storm. This was most apparent for yellow tangs (*Zebrasoma flavescens*), which was one of their primary targets. In the weeks following the storm, numerous dead and injured fish were observed and many appeared stunned and disoriented. Shortly after the storm, some fish could even be caught by just allowing them to swim into an open collection container. Observations also revealed that many fish had migrated to areas that escaped major damage. Catches at some of these sites increased and remained high after

the hurricane. Subsequently, however, catches declined. The authors attribute this decline to increased fishing pressure in these areas. With the loss of collecting habitat, collectors concentrated their efforts in those sites still economically utilizable. In some cases the numbers of collectors working a particular area also increased. The net result was that storm effects combined with overfishing resulted in the collapse of the aquarium fishery along this portion of the O'ahu coastline.

Catch report data was used to examine possible hurricane effects on the O'ahu aquarium fishery. The first approach specifically examined those areas deemed to be most impacted by the storms (Figure 9). For presentation purposes, the west coast zones were combined into two sections.

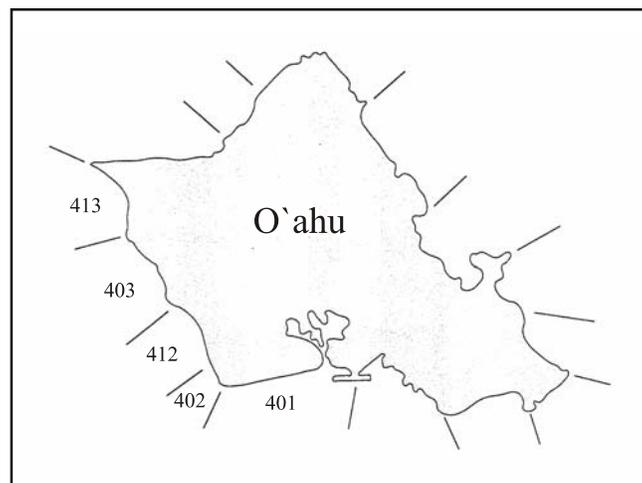


Figure 9. C-6 Aquarium Fish Catch Report zones for southwest O'ahu.

The number of commercial permittees reporting catch in these areas is shown in Figure 10. These zones constituted the heart of the early O'ahu fishery and to a large part determined the overall statewide patterns (e.g. Figure 1). It is clear that the number of collectors working all these areas had declined substantially prior to 'Iwa. As noted before, this contraction may have been due to an economic recession. Subsequent to this period, the number of collectors working these areas was relatively stable. This is not to say that the same individual collectors were present during this time, however. Apparently, subsequent to 'Iwa, several O'ahu collectors relocated to Maui or Hawai'i.

The number of fish caught in these zones varied widely over this time period (Figure 11). Zone 401, the area reported on by Pfeffer and Tribble, showed an overall increase in the year following the storm and then a pattern of valleys and peaks afterwards. Average fish catch in the years after 'Iwa was quite comparable to the years prior to the storm. The maintenance of catch numbers may have been due to a compensatory shift of target species (e.g., *Thalassoma duperrey*, *Ctenochaetus strigosus*) after more desirable ones

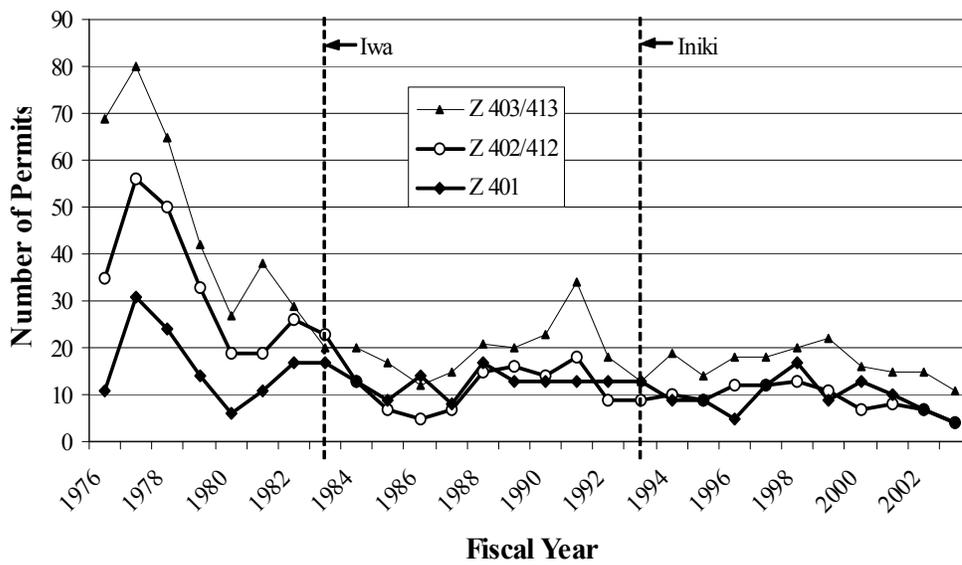


Figure 10. Number of aquarium permittees reporting catch from southwest O'ahu reporting zones.

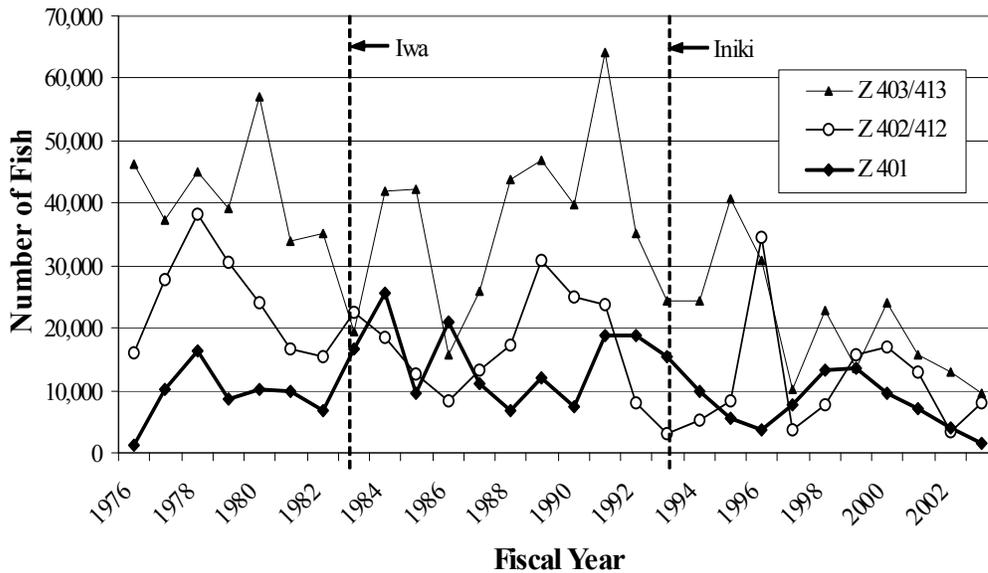


Figure 11. Number of fish caught of all species in southwest O'ahu reporting zones.

such as yellow tangs became less abundant (Figure 12). A declining trend was apparent after 'Iniki and again in recent years. Invertebrates now make up the majority of collected animals in this zone.

No consistent storm-related decreases are apparent in the other two zones. Both areas had markedly declining catches *prior* to the hurricanes and, in three out of the four cases, catch increased over the subsequent year or two. As with zone 401, recent fish catch in

these areas is on a decidedly downward trend, and in zone 403/413 (Wai'anae), invertebrates now make up the majority of collected animals.

The temporal pattern of the yellow tang catch in the pre-‘Iwa period (Figure 12) closely tracks that of the total catch, highlighting the importance of this species in the fishery at that time. The highly variable but general decline in catch from the late 1970s and early 1980s may be due to the reduction in the number of commercial collectors. Although Pfeffer and Tribble reported that their catch of yellow tangs decreased markedly after ‘Iwa, in fact, the overall catch in the area increased both during the year of the storm (FY 1983) and the year after. This apparent contradiction may be due to an increase in the number of collectors working the zone in response to loss of their collecting areas elsewhere. This increase was relatively short-lived, however, as the number of collected tangs subsequently plummeted with only a single exception, FY 1992, the year before ‘Iniki.

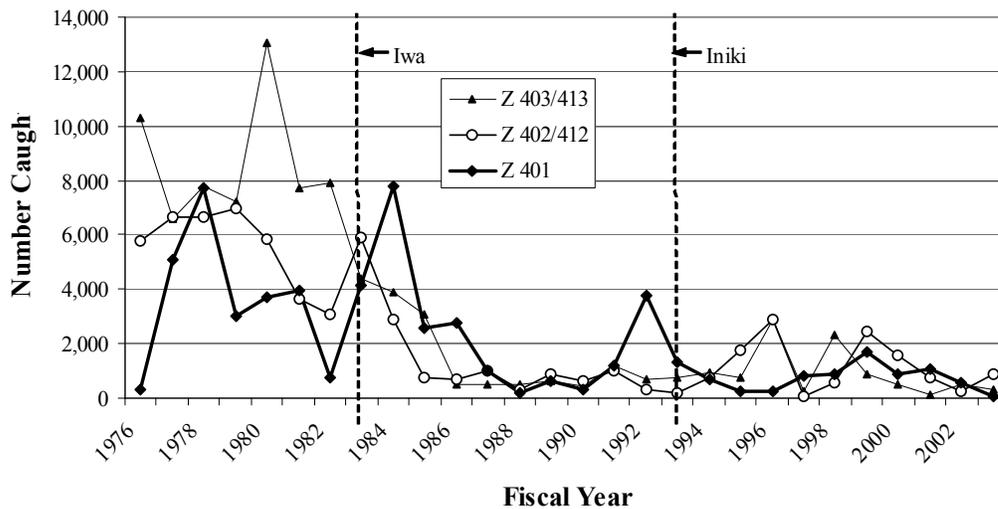


Figure 12. Number of yellow tangs caught in southwest O'ahu reporting zones.

The two other areas along the west coast of the island also showed clear and persistent declines in yellow tang catch after ‘Iwa. Given the desirability of the species within the aquarium trade, these declines undoubtedly reflect low numbers of yellow tangs on the reefs, at least a decline in the number of small individuals. The aquarium fishery primarily targets young of the year and small, sexually-immature individuals. These size classes are strongly associated with a finger coral (*Porites compressa*) habitat (Walsh 1984) and may recruit preferentially to this habitat. This habitat is very vulnerable to destruction by unusually large storms such as ‘Iwa and ‘Iniki. It is not unreasonable that substantial reduction of suitable finger coral habitat will result in reduced recruitment and/or increased recruit mortality. Given that even very small (5 cm.) recently-recruited yellow tangs are marketable (D. Dart, pers. comm.), it is likely that the overall poor catch in recent years is due to low recruitment levels. The small peaks in the years after ‘Iwa

likely reflect recruitment pulses of yellow tangs. It is interesting to note the yearly asynchrony of some of the peaks in these three geographically proximate locales.

Examination of changes in the effort involved in catching aquarium specimens over time would seem to be an appropriate method to assess the impacts of these hurricanes. Unfortunately Catch per Unit Effort (CPUE) data derived from the aquarium catch reports is fraught with uncertainties. Collectors use varying techniques, they often work in teams which change over time, and some target primarily invertebrates while others target fish and some target both. Varying interpretations of what constitutes actual (i.e., reported) collecting time further confounds the situation. Nevertheless, an attempt was made to pull together CPUE information for the three areas under consideration. In an effort to increase the reliability of the data, two separate CPUEs were calculated, one for fish and one for invertebrates. Only permittees reporting just fish or just invertebrates were included in the CPUE calculations. As the invertebrate fishery is largely a recent development, only fish CPUE data are presented.

Even with these adjustments, CPUE values often vary wildly from one year to the next (Figure 13), and clear and consistent hurricane effects are difficult to discern. In zone 401 and to a lesser extent in zone 403/413, an increase in CPUE the year of 'Iwa then subsequently decreased. The CPUE was of a similar magnitude, however, as that which had occurred several years earlier in FY 1980, the year of the previously-mentioned "Kona" storm. It is possible that both these increases were directly related to storm effects on species catchability. In contrast to these two areas, 403/414 showed a slight decrease in CPUE the year of 'Iwa and then an increase afterwards.

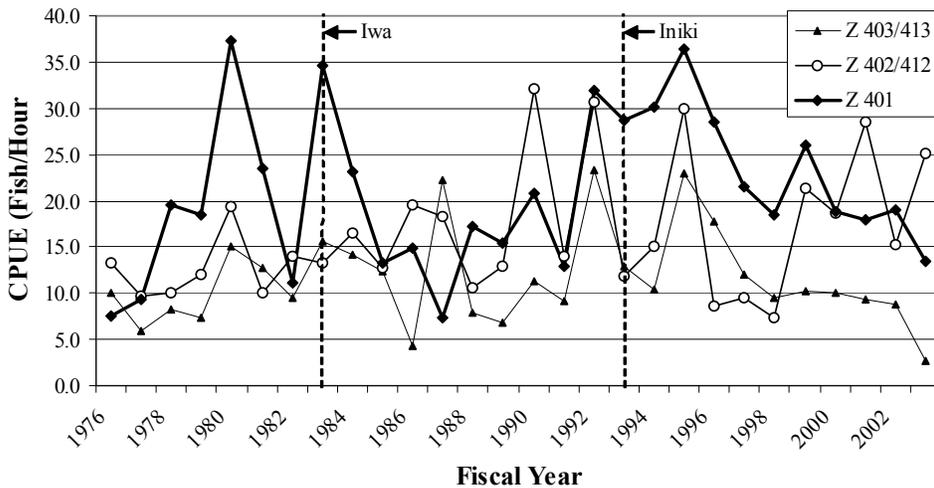


Figure 13. Catch per Unit Effort (CPUE) data for fish in southwest O‘ahu reporting zones. CPUE was calculated per permit per area per month, and fiscal year CPUE is the average of all these values.

The pattern during ‘Iniki is in marked contrast to the pattern during ‘Iwa in that all areas had a decline in CPUE followed by a peak two years later (FY 1995). Dramatic declines subsequently followed, and in two of the areas have continued to the present time. This pattern suggests that in recent years it is getting increasingly more difficult to collect aquarium fishes in these areas.

Although caution is called for in interpreting the CPUE findings, these, along with other indications, seem to clearly indicate the southwest O‘ahu aquarium fishery is not what it once was. Indeed the O‘ahu fishery as a whole is not static, but rather is a dynamic entity which has changed in response to physical, fishery, market, and economic factors. On a geographic basis there has been a major shift in the fishery from the west side to the east over the past 27 years (Figure 14). The proportion of fish and invertebrates caught along the west coast is significantly less in the present period (1994-2003) than it was in the years 1976-1982 (1 way ANOVA with Tukey’s test $P < 0.001$, $P < 0.012$). Conversely, the east side has significantly increased its proportion of both fish and invertebrate catch during these periods ($P = 0.004$, $P < 0.001$). The north shore has also become a more important collection area for fish ($P < 0.001$). The south shore has not changed significantly.

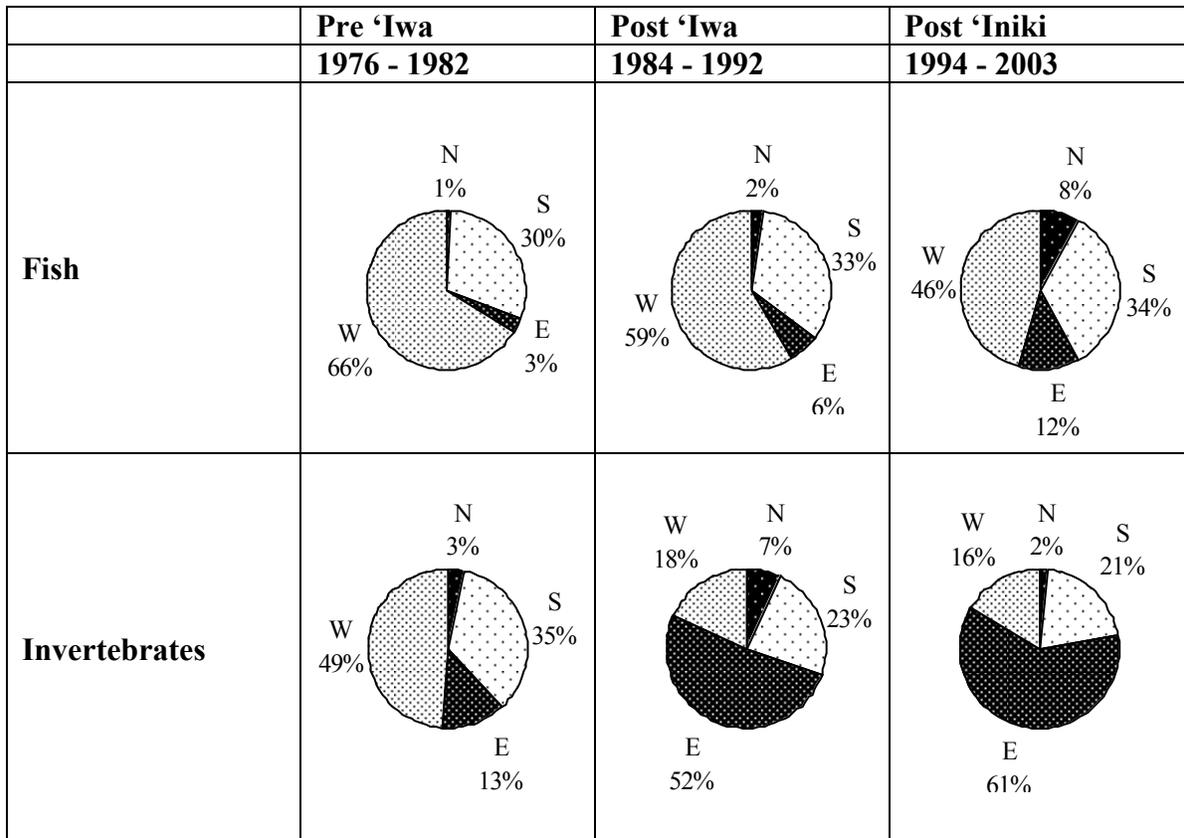


Figure 14. Average proportion of fish and invertebrate catch from four geographic sectors of O‘ahu over three hurricane-related time periods. Data from the fiscal years of hurricane ‘Iwa and ‘Iniki are omitted.

The West Hawai'i Fishery

In contrast to O'ahu, the aquarium fishery in West Hawai'i has undergone dramatic expansion over the past twenty years (Table 3, Figs. 5 and 6). The majority of animals caught in the state and their resulting value now come from the Big Island, and almost all of that (98.6%) from West Hawai'i. Invertebrates constitute a minor component of the West Hawai'i catch (.02% of catch and value).

Table 3. Changes in West Hawai'i aquarium fishery over last twenty years. Dollar Value is adjusted for inflation.

| | FY 1983 | FY 2003 | Δ |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| No. Permits | 5 | 33 | 660% ↑ |
| Total Catch | 30,000 | 243,908 | 813% ↑ |
| Total Value | \$159,756 | \$722,255 | 452% ↑ |
| % of State Fish Catch | 27% | 75% | 47% ↑ |
| % of State Total Catch | 23% | 55% | 32% ↑ |
| % of State Value | 36% | 68% | 32% ↑ |

This growth has not come without controversy and conflict, however (Walsh 1978; Randall 1978; Taylor 1978; Walsh 1999). In response to growing public concern over the impacts of collecting on nearshore coral reef communities, a number of initiatives were developed to address the issue. An informal 'Gentlepersons' Agreement" was worked out among user groups in 1987 whereby collectors would refrain from collecting in certain areas. In 1991 these areas were incorporated into four no-collecting zones (Kona Coast Fishery Management Area) totaling approximately 4 miles of coastline. The next year, a Marine Life Conservation District (MLCD) of 1.3 mi. was established at the Old Kona Airport, where collecting was also precluded.

Public concern continued to escalate as the aquarium fishery further expanded. Despite widespread anecdotal reports of impacts, clear scientific evidence of overfishing was lacking. An early 1974 attempt to investigate the impact of aquarium collecting (Nolan 1978) reported that collecting had no significant effects. This study was fraught with methodological problems and the results are suspect (Tissot and Hallacher, in press). It was also conducted during a period of substantially less collection. (Figure 5). In the mid-1990s, DAR contracted with the University of Hawai'i Hilo to conduct research to assess impacts of aquarium collecting along the Kona Coast of Hawai'i. This paired control-impact study (Tissot and Hallacher 1999, in press) found that the numbers of 7 of 10 aquarium species surveyed were significantly reduced by collecting. The magnitude of the percent reduction in abundance at collection sites ranged from 38% (*Chaetodon multinctus*) to 75% (*Chaetodon quadrimaculatus*). In contrast, only two non-aquarium species (*Stegastes fasciolatus* and *Paracirrhites arcatus*) exhibited a significant difference in numbers.

In response to a perceived lack of success in adequately dealing with aquarium collecting, a grassroots organization of citizens successfully lobbied for legislation to control collecting. In 1998, the state legislature passed Act 306, which established a West Hawai'i Regional Fisheries Management Area to provide for effective management of marine resources. Among a number of provisions was the requirement to establish Fish Replenishment Areas (FRAs) where aquarium collecting would be banned. The West Hawai'i Fisheries Council, composed of stakeholders and government representatives, developed a network of nine FRAs encompassing 35.2% (including existing protected areas) of the coastline (Walsh 1999; Capitini, in prep.).

Research is presently underway (WHAP-West Hawai'i Aquarium Project) to evaluate the effectiveness of these reserves and to better understand the ecological dynamics of the nearshore reef environment. Preliminary analysis (Tissot et al., in press) indicates that three years after closure of the FRAs there have been significant increases in the overall abundance of fishes targeted by collectors. Two species, the yellow tang and Potter's angelfish (*Centropyge potteri*), showed significant (74-80%) increases in FRAs relative to previously protected reference areas. Furthermore, no aquarium fishes declined in abundance in open areas as might be expected if the intensity of harvesting increased outside of the FRAs. In fact, two species displayed significant increases in abundance in the open areas. Thus early results of this study demonstrate that MPAs can be a highly effective strategy for managing these resources (Friedlander, 2001).

After two years of declining yellow tang catch subsequent to the implementation of the FRAs, the numbers caught have increased in FY 2003 (Figure 15). This is due primarily to successful recruitment of this as well as several other species in the summer of 2002. Good recruitment was also apparent this past summer (2003). Of special note is the fact that the dollar value of each yellow tang has increased in the past two years. Indeed, the overall value of the West Hawai'i aquarium fishery in FY 2003 is the highest it has ever been (Figure 6).

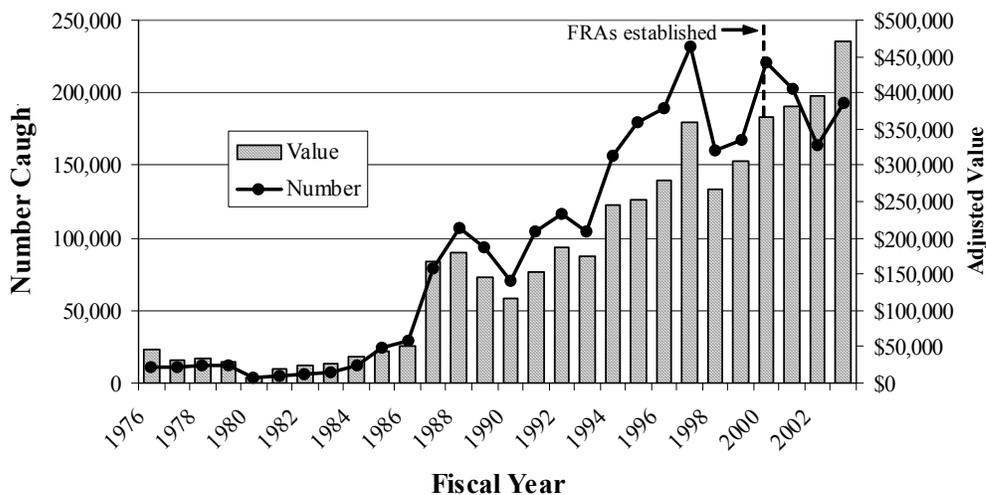


Figure 15. Number and value (adjusted for inflation) of yellow tangs caught in West Hawai'i per fiscal year.

The trends for the four next most heavily collected species are shown below (Figure 16). Kole (*Ctenochaetus strigosus*) catch has been consistently increasing since the late 1980s and now ranks second in collected fishes both in West Hawai‘i and statewide. Catch in FY 2003 is the highest it has even been. In contrast, catch of the clown tang (*Acanthurus achilles*) has been in decline since FY 1990.

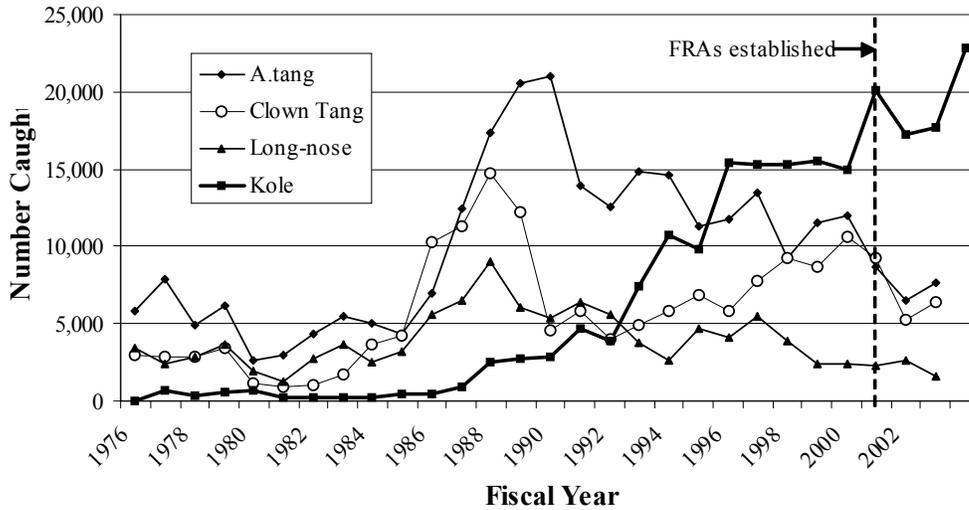


Figure 16. Number caught of top 2nd-5th West Hawai‘i species per fiscal year.

CPUE has historically been the highest in West Hawai‘i (Figure 17) due in large part to the abundance of and relative collecting ease of commonly targeted surgeonfishes. There appears to be a substantial decrease in CPUE in West Hawai‘i coincident with FRA establishment. This could possibly reflect an increase in travel and dive time as collectors work unfamiliar areas distant from their previous ones. The average CPUE for West Hawai‘i over the last ten years (37.7 ± 16.8 SD fish/hour) is considerably higher than that reported for other areas such as Australia (20-45 fish/day), Cook Islands (24-36 fish/day), and Sri Lanka (30-50 fish/day) (Wood, 2001). As noted previously CPUE data is by far the weakest part of the aquarium catch report data, and these findings must be viewed cautiously.

One of the caveats implicit with catch report analyses is that catch report data accurately reflect what is being caught. At present there is no provision or means to verify this information. DAR is working to change this. In an effort to gain insight into the limitations of the catch report data, an analysis was done on the West Hawai‘i reports. For each month over two time periods, the required catch report was sorted as to whether it indicated catch, no catch, or had not been filed (i.e., no report) (Figure 18). The two time periods were demarcated by the date of a letter sent to all West Hawai‘i collectors from DAR reminding them of the requirement to file monthly catch reports. It is clear that a substantial number of collectors are not complying with the reporting requirement. Many of these delinquencies were from short-term and/or part-time collectors, but several of the more active collectors were delinquent as well. Of all 97 collectors who were active over these two periods, only 14% filed every required monthly catch report. It is likely that report compliance is as poor or worse on the other islands, where less

attention is paid to the fishery. The mailing to the collectors did have a positive effect and significantly improved reporting compliance ($X^2=30.18$, $P<0.001$). With additional effort and appropriate enforcement this situation will improve.

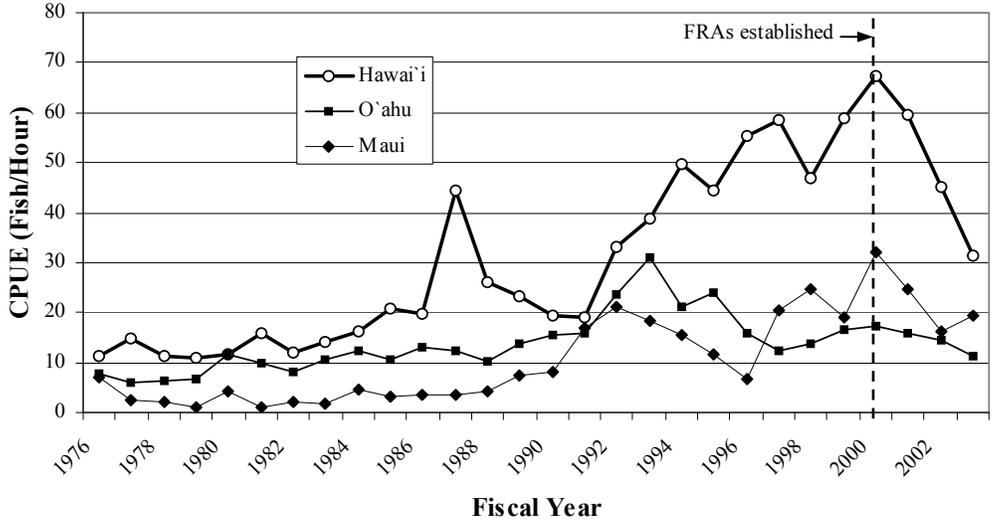


Figure 17. Catch per unit effort for Hawai'i collecting areas. Maui includes the islands of Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i.

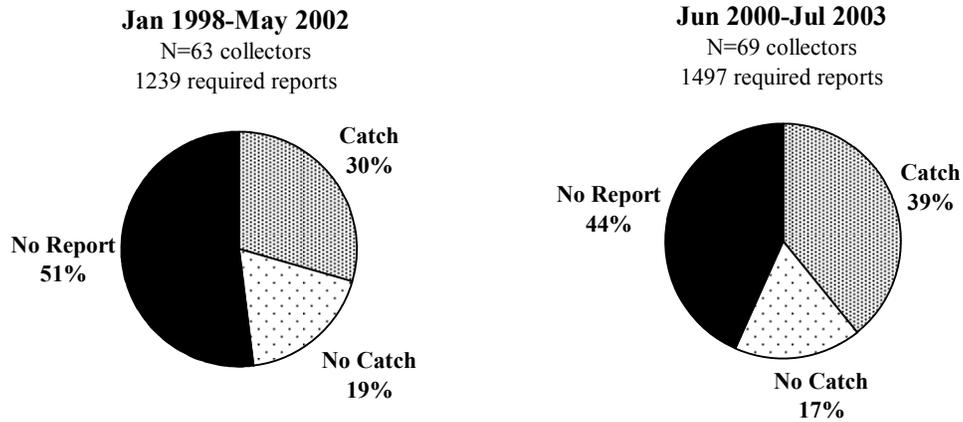


Figure 18. Aquarium catch report compliance for West Hawai'i collectors over two time periods.

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Appendix A. List of all taxa collected statewide for period FY 1967-2003 ranked by number caught. Total value is not adjusted for inflation.

| Taxa | Common Name | Type | # Caught | Total Value |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Zebrasoma flavescens</i> | Yellow Tang | Fish | 3,386,860 | \$ 5,567,252.60 |
| <i>Sabellastarte sanctijosephi</i> | Feather Duster Worm | Invert | 741,949 | \$ 860,362.09 |
| Hermits Miscellaneous | Hermits Miscellaneous | Invert | 707,654 | \$ 95,341.03 |
| <i>Ctenochaetus strigosus</i> | Goldring Surgeonfish | Fish | 346,944 | \$ 519,922.12 |
| <i>Acanthurus achilles</i> | Achilles Tang | Fish | 337,781 | \$ 1,197,423.19 |
| <i>Naso lituratus</i> | Orangespine Unicornfish | Fish | 298,884 | \$ 888,861.14 |
| <i>Centropyge potteri</i> | Potter's Angelfish | Fish | 287,668 | \$ 845,679.09 |
| <i>Forcipiger flavissimus</i> | Forcepsfish | Fish | 251,523 | \$ 537,155.00 |
| <i>Zanclus cornutus</i> | Moorish idol | Fish | 187,662 | \$ 445,958.61 |
| <i>Halichoeres ornatus</i> | Ornate Wrasse | Fish | 121,766 | \$ 190,280.77 |
| <i>Chaetodon multicinctus</i> | Multiband Butterflyfish | Fish | 111,454 | \$ 115,515.53 |
| <i>Chaetodon quadrimaculatus</i> | Fourspot Butterflyfish | Fish | 109,021 | \$ 226,275.92 |
| <i>Chaetodon miliaris</i> | Milletseed Butterflyfish | Fish | 105,411 | \$ 104,052.83 |
| <i>Lysmata amboinensis</i> | Cleaner Shrimp | Invert | 86,862 | \$ 178,283.07 |
| <i>Canthigaster jactator</i> | Hawaiian Whitespotted Toby | Fish | 69,869 | \$ 66,760.97 |
| <i>Chaetodon unimaculatus</i> | Teardrop Butterflyfish | Fish | 69,033 | \$ 142,611.23 |
| <i>Ostracion meleagrus</i> | Spotted Boxfish | Fish | 63,482 | \$ 149,856.61 |
| <i>Anampses chrysocephalus</i> | Psychedelic Wrasse | Fish | 62,481 | \$ 179,068.71 |
| <i>Thalassoma duperrey</i> | Saddle Wrasse | Fish | 53,220 | \$ 61,164.90 |
| <i>Labroides phthirophagus</i> | Hawaiian Cleaner Wrasse | Fish | 51,650 | \$ 158,839.06 |
| <i>Coris gaimard</i> | Yellowtail Coris | Fish | 51,052 | \$ 153,698.17 |
| <i>Chaetodon fremblii</i> | Bluestripe Butterflyfish | Fish | 50,280 | \$ 87,290.92 |
| <i>Dascyllus albisella</i> | Hawaiian Dascyllus | Fish | 49,930 | \$ 47,928.05 |
| Crabs Miscellaneous | Crabs Miscellaneous | Invert | 49,338 | \$ 53,798.20 |
| <i>Chaetodon kleinii</i> | Blacklip Butterflyfish | Fish | 47,397 | \$ 45,890.15 |
| <i>Stenopus hispidus</i> | Coral-banded Shrimp | Invert | 41,460 | \$ 45,529.24 |
| <i>Heniochus diphreutes</i> | Pennantfish | Fish | 41,320 | \$ 79,796.57 |
| <i>Forcipiger longirostris</i> | Longnose Butterflyfish | Fish | 40,630 | \$ 82,474.29 |
| Anemones | Anemones | Invert | 37,978 | \$ 57,830.55 |
| <i>Chaetodon lunula</i> | Raccoon Butterflyfish | Fish | 37,470 | \$ 104,793.79 |
| Hippolytidae | Green Shrimp | Invert | 34,740 | \$ 31,708.58 |
| <i>Cirrhitops fasciatus</i> | Redbar Hawkfish | Fish | 33,449 | \$ 47,173.50 |
| <i>Macropharyngodon geoffroy</i> | Shortnose Wrasse | Fish | 33,172 | \$ 44,841.15 |
| <i>Pseudocheilinus octotaenia</i> | Eightline Wrasse | Fish | 32,169 | \$ 56,630.63 |
| <i>Saron marmoratus</i> | Marbled Shrimp | Invert | 30,759 | \$ 37,481.20 |
| <i>Canthigaster coronata</i> | Crown Toby | Fish | 30,146 | \$ 33,046.50 |
| Sea-Stars Miscellaneous | Sea-Stars Miscellaneous | Invert | 29,020 | \$ 29,493.37 |
| <i>Sargocentron xantherythrum</i> | Hawaiian squirrelfish | Fish | 27,917 | \$ 25,988.55 |
| <i>Centropyge fisheri</i> | Fisher's angel | Fish | 26,947 | \$ 72,694.03 |
| <i>Chaetodon auriga</i> | Threadfin Butterflyfish | Fish | 25,640 | \$ 64,284.09 |
| Sea Cucumbers | Sea Cucumbers | Invert | 25,030 | \$ 21,673.05 |
| <i>Pervagor spilosoma</i> | Fantail Filefish | Fish | 25,007 | \$ 27,279.53 |
| <i>Gomphosus varius</i> | Bird Wrasse | Fish | 24,799 | \$ 86,095.56 |
| <i>Ctenochaetus Hawai'i ensis</i> | Black Surgeonfish | Fish | 24,600 | \$ 265,244.60 |
| <i>Acanthurus olivaceus</i> | Orangeband Surgeonfish | Fish | 22,107 | \$ 40,349.63 |
| Shrimp Miscellaneous | Shrimp Miscellaneous | Invert | 20,585 | \$ 27,297.45 |
| Echinoderms | Echinoderms | Invert | 18,845 | \$ 17,659.35 |
| <i>Pseudojuloides cerasinus</i> | Smalltail Wrasse | Fish | 18,807 | \$ 28,300.50 |

| Taxa | Common Name | Type | # Caught | Total Value |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Chaetodon ornatissimus</i> | Ornate Butterflyfish | Fish | 17,554 | \$ 31,931.97 |
| <i>Paracirrhites arcatus</i> | Arc-eye Hawkfish | Fish | 17,300 | \$ 21,502.04 |
| <i>Naso unicornis</i> | Bluespine Unicornfish | Fish | 17,193 | \$ 32,968.05 |
| <i>Pseudanthias bicolor</i> | Bicolor Anthias | Fish | 16,957 | \$ 49,190.25 |
| <i>Desmoholacanthus arcuatus</i> | Bandit Angelfish | Fish | 16,828 | \$ 171,041.24 |
| <i>Pseudanthias thompsoni</i> | Thompson's Anthias | Fish | 16,716 | \$ 46,005.55 |
| Holocentridae | Squirrelfish/Soldierfish | Fish | 16,109 | \$ 18,685.90 |
| <i>Taenianotus triacanthus</i> | Leaf Scorpionfish | Fish | 15,216 | \$ 31,089.84 |
| <i>Xanthichthys mento</i> | Crosshatch triggerfish | Fish | 15,193 | \$ 59,861.35 |
| <i>Cirrhilabrus jordani</i> | Flame Wrasse | Fish | 13,919 | \$ 133,166.40 |
| Limu | Limu | Algae | 13,483 | \$ 10,477.50 |
| <i>Heterocentrotus mammillatus</i> | Red Pencil Urchin | Invert | 13,310 | \$ 19,754.03 |
| Labridae sp. | Wrasse | Fish | 13,306 | \$ 22,144.00 |
| <i>Sufflamen bursa</i> | Lei Triggerfish | Fish | 12,920 | \$ 19,620.67 |
| <i>Bodianus bilunulatus</i> | Hawaiian Hogfish | Fish | 12,917 | \$ 22,659.00 |
| <i>Dardanus gemmatus</i> | Jeweled Anemone Crab | Invert | 12,878 | \$ 16,008.10 |
| <i>Hemitaurichthys polylepis</i> | Pyramid Butterflyfish | Fish | 11,685 | \$ 35,316.98 |
| <i>Priacanthus</i> sp. | Bigeye | Fish | 11,597 | \$ 15,829.25 |
| <i>Rhinecanthus rectangulus</i> | Reef Triggerfish | Fish | 11,369 | \$ 32,059.01 |
| <i>Acanthurus triostegus</i> | Convict Tang | Fish | 11,294 | \$ 11,255.65 |
| <i>Stethojulis balteata</i> | Belted Wrasse | Fish | 11,290 | \$ 20,316.37 |
| <i>Aulostomus chinensis</i> | Trumpetfish | Fish | 10,827 | \$ 22,032.55 |
| Urchins Miscellaneous | Urchins Miscellaneous | Invert | 10,631 | \$ 10,017.22 |
| <i>Cantherhines dumerilii</i> | Barred Filefish | Fish | 10,452 | \$ 9,705.10 |
| <i>Acanthurus nigricans</i> | Goldrim Surgeonfish | Fish | 9,747 | \$ 40,236.85 |
| <i>Melichthys niger</i> | Black Durgon | Fish | 9,605 | \$ 25,174.84 |
| Cowries Misc. | Cowries Misc. | Invert | 9,198 | \$ 6,874.40 |
| <i>Pseudocheilinus tetrataenia</i> | Fourline Wrasse | Fish | 8,978 | \$ 35,330.75 |
| <i>Naso</i> sp. | Unicorn sp. | Fish | 8,845 | \$ 31,386.70 |
| Worm | Worm | Invert | 8,710 | \$ 6,754.50 |
| <i>Acanthurus thompsoni</i> | Thompson's Surgeonfish | Fish | 8,642 | \$ 19,236.10 |
| Nudibranchs Miscellaneous | Nudibranchs Miscellaneous | Invert | 8,244 | \$ 8,713.00 |
| <i>Pseudocheilinus evanidus</i> | Disappearing Wrasse | Fish | 8,159 | \$ 10,784.15 |
| <i>Gymnothorax eurostus</i> | Stout Moray | Fish | 8,098 | \$ 23,630.05 |
| <i>Zebrasoma veliferum</i> | Sailfin tang | Fish | 7,863 | \$ 31,468.35 |
| <i>Novaculichthys taeniourus</i> | Rockmover Wrasse | Fish | 7,799 | \$ 27,968.10 |
| Balistidae | Triggerfish Misc. | Fish | 7,532 | \$ 17,089.30 |
| <i>Anampses cuvier</i> | Pearl Wrasse | Fish | 7,049 | \$ 20,579.55 |
| <i>Thalassoma trilobatum</i> | Christmas Wrasse | Fish | 6,716 | \$ 14,921.65 |
| <i>Melichthys vidua</i> | Pinktail Durgon | Fish | 6,635 | \$ 21,074.99 |
| Worms Miscellaneous | Worms Miscellaneous | Invert | 6,483 | \$ 4,654.40 |
| <i>Chromis ovalis</i> | Oval Damselfish | Fish | 6,385 | \$ 4,791.50 |
| <i>Gymnomuraena zebra</i> | Zebra Moray | Fish | 6,320 | \$ 35,248.65 |
| <i>Acanthurus nigrofuscus</i> | Brown Surgeonfish | Fish | 6,269 | \$ 10,468.22 |
| <i>Chaetodon tinkeri</i> | Tinker's Butterflyfish | Fish | 6,186 | \$ 353,240.45 |
| <i>Lactoria fornasini</i> | Thornback Cowfish | Fish | 6,165 | \$ 9,455.05 |
| Molluscs Miscellaneous | Molluscs Miscellaneous | Invert | 5,917 | \$ 1,802.55 |
| <i>Enoplometopus occidentalis</i> | Red Reef Lobster | Invert | 5,878 | \$ 21,028.95 |
| <i>Lutjanus kasmira</i> | Bluestripe Snapper | Fish | 5,615 | \$ 6,967.05 |
| <i>Exallias brevis</i> | Shortbodied Blenny | Fish | 5,090 | \$ 15,472.15 |
| <i>Paracirrhites forsteri</i> | Blackside Hawkfish | Fish | 4,999 | \$ 10,639.10 |
| <i>Acanthurus dussumieri</i> | Eye-stripe Surgeonfish | Fish | 4,981 | \$ 9,597.75 |
| <i>Hymenocera picta</i> | Harlequin Shrimp | Invert | 4,731 | \$ 31,350.80 |
| <i>Centropyge loricula</i> | Flame angelfish | Fish | 4,707 | \$ 44,968.70 |

| Taxa | Common Name | Type | # Caught | Total Value |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Dendrochirus barberi</i> | Hawaiian Lionfish | Fish | 4,643 | \$ 9,511.20 |
| <i>Sargocentron diadema</i> | Crown Squirrelfish | Fish | 4,624 | \$ 5,201.25 |
| <i>Hemitaurichthys thompsoni</i> | Thompson's Butterfly | Fish | 4,511 | \$ 7,237.25 |
| Blenniidae | Blenny | Fish | 4,107 | \$ 7,604.70 |
| <i>Coris venusta</i> | Elegant Coris | Fish | 4,009 | \$ 8,743.65 |
| <i>Echidna nebulosa</i> | Snowflake Moray | Fish | 3,982 | \$ 22,246.50 |
| <i>Coris ballieui</i> | Lined Coris | Fish | 3,919 | \$ 7,916.10 |
| <i>Arothron meleagris</i> | Spotted Pufferfish | Fish | 3,813 | \$ 8,069.70 |
| <i>Pterois sphex</i> | Hawaiian Turkeyfish | Fish | 3,680 | \$ 13,459.45 |
| Medusa worms | Medusa Worms | Invert | 3,586 | \$ 5,006.75 |
| <i>Panulirus marginatus</i> | Spiny Lobster | Invert | 3,484 | \$ 9,377.30 |
| <i>Parapercis schauinslandi</i> | Sand Perch | Fish | 3,416 | \$ 5,522.45 |
| <i>Coris flavovittata</i> | Yellowstripe Coris | Fish | 3,337 | \$ 8,529.20 |
| <i>Diodon holocanthus</i> | Spiny Pufferfish | Fish | 3,331 | \$ 9,868.25 |
| <i>Canthigaster amboinensis</i> | Ambon Toby | Fish | 3,271 | \$ 3,339.65 |
| Cirrhitidae | Hawkfish | Fish | 3,151 | \$ 5,134.50 |
| Sea-Slugs Miscellaneous | Sea-Slugs Miscellaneous | Invert | 3,094 | \$ 4,298.50 |
| Damselfish | Damselfish | Fish | 3,093 | \$ 2,523.20 |
| <i>Arothron hispidus</i> | Stripebelly Pufferfish | Fish | 3,048 | \$ 5,686.20 |
| <i>Antennarius</i> sp. | Frogfish | Fish | 3,043 | \$ 26,567.50 |
| Pleuronectidae | Right-eye Flounders | Fish | 2,878 | \$ 4,118.70 |
| <i>Acanthuridae</i> sp. | Surgeonfish | Fish | 2,710 | \$ 5,078.63 |
| <i>Myripristis berndti</i> | Bigscale Soldierfish | Fish | 2,485 | \$ 5,750.83 |
| <i>Bothus</i> sp. | Lefteye Flounder | Fish | 2,457 | \$ 3,737.30 |
| <i>Chromis vanderbilti</i> | Blackfin Chromis | Fish | 2,450 | \$ 1,828.00 |
| <i>Myripristis amaena</i> | Brick Soldierfish | Fish | 2,432 | \$ 2,842.25 |
| <i>Ostracion whitleyi</i> | Whitley's Boxfish | Fish | 2,408 | \$ 10,329.40 |
| <i>Cirrhitus pinnulatus</i> | Stocky Hawkfish | Fish | 2,358 | \$ 3,814.53 |
| <i>Aniculus maximus</i> | Hairy Yellow Hermit Crab | Invert | 2,273 | \$ 5,015.50 |
| <i>Mulloidichthys vanicolensis</i> | Yellowfin Goatfish | Fish | 2,236 | \$ 2,547.75 |
| <i>Parupeneus multifasciatus</i> | Manybar Goatfish | Fish | 2,204 | \$ 2,760.31 |
| <i>Chaetodon trifasciatus</i> | Oval Butterflyfish | Fish | 2,202 | \$ 4,425.30 |
| <i>Rhinecanthus aculeatus</i> | Lagoon Triggerfish | Fish | 2,190 | \$ 5,845.10 |
| Chaetodontidae | Butterflyfish | Fish | 2,149 | \$ 3,701.59 |
| <i>Diodon hystrix</i> | Porcupinefish | Fish | 2,050 | \$ 5,794.00 |
| Canthigasteridae | Sharpnose Puffer | Fish | 2,039 | \$ 2,537.00 |
| <i>Gymnothorax</i> sp. | Moray eel | Fish | 1,915 | \$ 8,742.75 |
| Poecilidae | Mollies/Guppies | Fish | 1,908 | \$ - |
| <i>Thalassoma ballieui</i> | Blacktail Wrasse | Fish | 1,889 | \$ 3,097.85 |
| <i>Echidna polyzona</i> | Barred Moray | Fish | 1,864 | \$ 6,476.75 |
| <i>Scarus</i> sp. | Parrotfish | Fish | 1,747 | \$ 10,262.55 |
| <i>Chromis verater</i> | Threespot Chromis | Fish | 1,703 | \$ 1,529.87 |
| Mullidae | Goatfishes | Fish | 1,656 | \$ 2,136.30 |
| <i>Enchelycore pardalis</i> | Dragon Moray | Fish | 1,644 | \$ 73,544.00 |
| <i>Gymnothorax meleagris</i> | Whitemouth Moray | Fish | 1,636 | \$ 7,039.35 |
| <i>Abudefduf abdominalis</i> | Sergeant Major | Fish | 1,588 | \$ 1,420.25 |
| <i>Chaetodon reticulatus</i> | Reticulated Butterflyfish | Fish | 1,530 | \$ 3,945.72 |
| Soft Coral Miscellaneous | Soft Coral Miscellaneous | Invert | 1,500 | \$ - |
| Cones Misc. | Cones Misc. | Invert | 1,492 | \$ 987.50 |
| <i>Hexabranchus sanguineus</i> | Spanish Dancer | Invert | 1,393 | \$ 3,005.50 |
| <i>Iniistius pavo</i> | Peacock Razorfish | Fish | 1,317 | \$ 3,743.10 |
| <i>Lactoria diaphana</i> | Spiny Cowfish | Fish | 1,257 | \$ 2,457.50 |
| <i>Oxycirrhites typus</i> | Longnose Hawkfish | Fish | 1,241 | \$ 13,515.00 |
| <i>Parupeneus porphyreus</i> | Whitesaddle Goatfish | Fish | 1,164 | \$ 2,070.75 |

| Taxa | Common Name | Type | # Caught | Total Value |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Canthigaster epilampra</i> | Lantern Toby | Fish | 1,142 | \$ 2,860.50 |
| <i>Canthigaster rivulata</i> | Maze Toby | Fish | 1,109 | \$ 1,196.95 |
| <i>Scorpaenopsis</i> sp./ <i>Scorpaena</i> sp. | Scorpionfish | Fish | 1,107 | \$ 1,608.26 |
| <i>Pseudanthias Hawai'i ensis</i> | Hawaiian Longfin Anthias | Fish | 1,080 | \$ 11,979.50 |
| Snappers | Snappers | Fish | 1,057 | \$ 2,136.25 |
| <i>Cheilio inermis</i> | Cigar Wrasse | Fish | 1,021 | \$ 1,693.50 |
| <i>Gymnothorax flavimarginatus</i> | Yellowmargin Moray | Fish | 991 | \$ 3,566.50 |
| <i>Uropterygius macrocephalus</i> | Largehead Snake Moray | Fish | 968 | \$ 3,885.40 |
| <i>Microcanthus strigatus</i> | Stripey | Fish | 930 | \$ 1,245.25 |
| <i>Scorpaenopsis diabolus</i> | Devil Scorpionfish | Fish | 928 | \$ 1,302.30 |
| <i>Xanthichthys auromarginatus</i> | Gilded Triggerfish | Fish | 902 | \$ 20,604.00 |
| <i>Kuhlia sandvicensis</i> | Hawaiian Flagtail | Fish | 876 | \$ 159.50 |
| <i>Cirripectes vanderbilti</i> | Scarface Blenny | Fish | 852 | \$ 2,379.25 |
| <i>Aluterus scriptus</i> | Scrawled Filefish | Fish | 832 | \$ 1,383.05 |
| <i>Chaetodon ephippium</i> | Saddleback Butterflyfish | Fish | 810 | \$ 2,919.65 |
| <i>Thalassoma lunare</i> | Lyretail Wrasse | Fish | 806 | \$ 1,188.85 |
| <i>Oxycheilinus bimaculatus</i> | Twospot Wrasse | Fish | 755 | \$ 989.20 |
| <i>Dactyloptena orientalis</i> | Helmet Gurnard | Fish | 752 | \$ 2,446.50 |
| <i>Acanthaster planci</i> | Crown-of-thorns Seastar | Invert | 746 | \$ 1,507.55 |
| <i>Scyllarides</i> sp. | Slipper Lobster | Invert | 734 | \$ 1,782.25 |
| Sponges Miscellaneous | Sponges Miscellaneous | Invert | 730 | \$ 1,920.90 |
| <i>Cephalopholis argus</i> | Peacock Grouper | Fish | 675 | \$ 3,874.50 |
| <i>Chaetodon lineolatus</i> | Lined Butterflyfish | Fish | 652 | \$ 3,590.75 |
| <i>Acanthurus blochii</i> | Ringtail Surgeonfish | Fish | 632 | \$ 2,012.55 |
| <i>Plectroglyphidodon imparipennis</i> | Brighteye Damselfish | Fish | 617 | \$ 560.50 |
| <i>Entomacrodus marmoratus</i> | Marbled Blenny | Fish | 611 | \$ 1,037.00 |
| <i>Istiblennius zebra</i> | Zebra Blenny | Fish | 607 | \$ 818.25 |
| <i>Cirripectes obscurus</i> | Gargantuan Blenny | Fish | 600 | \$ 1,392.05 |
| <i>Amblycirrhitus bimacula</i> | Twospot Hawkfish | Fish | 599 | \$ 962.00 |
| <i>Iniistius umbrilatus</i> | Blackside Razorfish | Fish | 526 | \$ 1,932.15 |
| <i>Cantherhines sandwichiensis</i> | Squaretail Filefish | Fish | 517 | \$ 569.75 |
| <i>Cosmocampus balli</i> | Pipefish | Fish | 494 | \$ 2,327.00 |
| <i>Chaetodon citrinellus</i> | Speckled Butterflyfish | Fish | 474 | \$ 693.25 |
| <i>Fistularia commersonii</i> | Cornetfish | Fish | 469 | \$ 61.41 |
| <i>Pervagor aspricaudus</i> | Yellowtail Filefish | Fish | 466 | \$ 882.25 |
| <i>Gymnothorax undulatus</i> | Undulated Moray | Fish | 449 | \$ 1,796.75 |
| <i>Parupeneus pleurostigma</i> | Sidespot Goatfish | Fish | 448 | \$ 537.70 |
| <i>Synodus</i> sp. | Lizardfish | Fish | 442 | \$ 544.00 |
| Carangidae | Jack | Fish | 430 | \$ 1,880.20 |
| <i>Myripristis kuntee</i> | Epaulette Soldierfish | Fish | 401 | \$ 711.50 |
| <i>Scutaria tigrinus</i> | Tiger Moray | Fish | 397 | \$ 1,804.75 |
| <i>Sebastapistes coniorta</i> | Speckled Scorpionfish | Fish | 394 | \$ 581.75 |
| <i>Stenopus pyrrsonotus</i> | Flameback Coral Shrimp | Invert | 386 | \$ 1,584.50 |
| Gobiidae sp. | Goby | Fish | 382 | \$ 814.75 |
| <i>Chaetodon trifascialis</i> | Chevron Butterfly | Fish | 374 | \$ 1,054.40 |
| <i>Foa brachygramma</i> | Bay Cardinalfish | Fish | 370 | \$ 486.75 |
| <i>Abudefduf sordidus</i> | Blackspot Sergeant | Fish | 355 | \$ 101.50 |
| <i>Acanthurus thompsoni</i> | Thompson's Surgeonfish | Fish | 354 | \$ 367.50 |
| Crayfish | Crayfish | Invert | 346 | \$ 0.01 |
| <i>Plectroglyphidodon johnstonianus</i> | Blue-eye Damselfish | Fish | 335 | \$ 327.25 |
| <i>Cheilodactylus vittatus</i> | Hawaiian Morwong | Fish | 329 | \$ 605.55 |
| <i>Apogon</i> sp. | Cardinal fishes | Fish | 293 | \$ 281.25 |
| Jellyfish | Jellyfish | Invert | 283 | \$ 273.25 |
| Bubble Shells | Bubble Shells | Invert | 240 | \$ 259.25 |

| Taxa | Common Name | Type | # Caught | Total Value |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Myrichthys magnificus</i> | Magnificent Snake Eel | Fish | 223 | \$ 848.25 |
| <i>Conger cinereus</i> | Mustache Conger | Fish | 222 | \$ 711.50 |
| <i>Naso hexacanthus</i> | Sleek Unicornfish | Fish | 202 | \$ 311.50 |
| Grammistidae | Soapfish | Fish | 195 | \$ 473.00 |
| <i>Octopus cyanea</i> | Day Octopus | Invert | 187 | \$ 1,150.00 |
| <i>Thalassoma purpureum</i> | Surge Wrasse | Fish | 186 | \$ 540.00 |
| <i>Naso brevirostris</i> | Paletail Unicornfish | Fish | 173 | \$ 331.00 |
| <i>Chanos chanos</i> | Milkfish | Fish | 169 | \$ 1,171.00 |
| Syngnathidae | Pipefish | Fish | 167 | \$ 147.50 |
| <i>Malacanthus brevirostris</i> | Flagtail Tilefish | Fish | 160 | \$ 636.60 |
| <i>Sebastapistes coniota</i> | Speckled Scorpion | Fish | 156 | \$ 236.15 |
| <i>Chromis leucura</i> | Whitetail Chromis | Fish | 151 | \$ 144.95 |
| <i>Plagiotremus ewaensis</i> | Ewa Fangblenny | Fish | 141 | \$ 261.00 |
| <i>Gymnothorax steindachneri</i> | Steindachner's Moray | Fish | 124 | \$ 372.50 |
| <i>Gymnothorax rueppelliae</i> | Banded Moray | Fish | 123 | \$ 400.00 |
| <i>Monotaxis grandoculis</i> | Bigeye Emperor | Fish | 123 | \$ 330.25 |
| <i>Acanthurus leucopareius</i> | Whitebar Surgeonfish | Fish | 118 | \$ 172.90 |
| <i>Thalassoma lutescens</i> | Sunset Wrasse | Fish | 117 | \$ 344.95 |
| <i>Chromis hanui</i> | Chocolate-Dip Chromis | Fish | 109 | \$ 85.00 |
| <i>Stegastes fasciolatus</i> | Pacific Gregory | Fish | 100 | \$ 57.50 |
| Ophichthidae | Snake Eel | Fish | 97 | \$ 417.50 |
| <i>Iniistius</i> sp. | Razor fish | Fish | 97 | \$ 268.05 |
| <i>Acanthurus nigroris</i> | Bluelined Surgeonfish | Fish | 94 | \$ 392.00 |
| <i>Gymnothorax melatremus</i> | Dwarf moray | Fish | 93 | \$ 3,229.50 |
| Brotulidae | Salt-water Cat | Fish | 92 | \$ 197.25 |
| <i>Acanthurus xanthopterus</i> | Yellowfin Surgeonfish | Fish | 89 | \$ 200.00 |
| <i>Mulloidichthys flavolineatus</i> | Yellowstripe Goatfish | Fish | 86 | \$ 135.00 |
| <i>Blenniella gibbifrons</i> | Bullethead Rockskipper | Fish | 86 | \$ 114.50 |
| <i>Caracanthus typicus</i> | Hawaiian Orbicular Velvetfish | Fish | 80 | \$ 95.75 |
| <i>Plagiotremus goslinei</i> | Gosline's Fangblenny | Fish | 75 | \$ 149.50 |
| <i>Cymolutes lecluse</i> | Hawaiian Knifefish | Fish | 70 | \$ 211.50 |
| <i>Upeneus arge</i> | Bandtail Goatfish | Fish | 65 | \$ 86.20 |
| <i>Apogon kallopterus</i> | Iridescent Cardinalfish | Fish | 63 | \$ 42.50 |
| <i>Doryrhamphus excisus</i> | Blue-stripe Pipefish | Fish | 61 | \$ 129.25 |
| <i>Apogon maculiferus</i> | Spotted Cardinalfish | Fish | 61 | \$ 23.50 |
| <i>Acanthurus guttatus</i> | Whitespotted Surgeonfish | Fish | 60 | \$ 829.50 |
| <i>Parupeneus cyclostomus</i> | Blue Goatfish | Fish | 49 | \$ 74.25 |
| <i>Uropterygius</i> sp. | Snake Moray | Fish | 47 | \$ 195.00 |
| <i>Istiblennius</i> sp. | Blenny | Fish | 44 | \$ 65.50 |
| <i>Spratelloides delicatulus</i> | Delicate Roundherring | Fish | 41 | \$ 109.00 |
| <i>Genicanthus personatus</i> | Masked Angelfish | Fish | 39 | \$ 2,829.50 |
| <i>Elagatis bipinnulata</i> | Rainbow Runner | Fish | 31 | \$ 26.00 |
| <i>Sargocentron punctatissimum</i> | Peppered Squirrelfish | Fish | 27 | \$ 15.25 |
| <i>Oxycheilinus unifasciatus</i> | Ringtail Wrasse | Fish | 26 | \$ 43.50 |
| <i>Apogon erythrinus</i> | Hawaiian Ruby Cardinalfish | Fish | 26 | \$ 32.50 |
| <i>Apogon menesemus</i> | Bandfin Cardinalfish | Fish | 26 | \$ 4.00 |
| <i>Cantherhines verecundus</i> | Shy Filefish | Fish | 25 | \$ 53.75 |
| <i>Epinephelus quernus</i> | Hawaiian Grouper | Fish | 16 | \$49.00 |
| <i>Kyphosus</i> sp. | Sea Chub | Fish | 12 | \$ 36.00 |
| <i>Parupeneus bifasciatus</i> | Doublebar Goatfish | Fish | 12 | \$ 16.00 |
| <i>Decapterus macarellus</i> | Mackerel Scad | Fish | 12 | \$ 12.00 |
| <i>Scarus rubroviolaceus</i> | Redlip Parrotfish | Fish | 10 | \$ 51.00 |
| <i>Neomyxus leuciscus</i> | Sharpnose Mullet | Fish | 5 | \$ - |
| <i>Mugil cephalus</i> | Striped Mullet | Fish | 4 | \$ 4.50 |

| Taxa | Common Name | Type | # Caught | Total Value |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Hemiramphus</i> sp. | Halfbeaks | Fish | 2 | \$ 80.00 |
| <i>Lutjanus fulvus</i> | Golden Perch | Fish | 2 | \$ - |
| <i>Plectroglyphidodon sindonis</i> | Rock damselfish | Fish | 2 | \$ - |
| <i>Polydactylus sexfilis</i> | Six-fingered Threadfin | Fish | 2 | \$ - |
| Tetraodontidae | Pufferfish | Fish | 1 | \$ 8.95 |
| <i>Elops hawaiiensis</i> | Hawaiian Tenpounder | Fish | 1 | \$ 2.00 |
| <i>Pseudocaranx dentex</i> | Thicklipped Jack | Fish | 1 | \$ 2.00 |
| <i>Ranina ranina</i> | Kona Crab | Invert | 1 | \$ 2.00 |
| Baitfish | Baitfish | Fish | 1 | \$ - |
| Unknown Fish spp. | Unknown Fish spp. | Fish | 7,655 | \$ 17,557.30 |
| Unknown spp. | Unknown spp. | ??? | 5,318 | \$ 5,739.65 |
| Unknown Invert spp. | Unknown Invert spp. | Invert | 876 | \$ 953.00 |
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