Welcome to the 5th International Billfish Symposium

Billfishes are important resources of the tropical and temperate waters of the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans for commercial, recreational and artisanal fishing, but remain enigmatic due to their highly migratory nature. These apex predators, comprising swordfish, sailfish, spearfish and marlins, are key components of oceanic ecosystems. However, in the world’s marine fisheries, they are considered bycatch species and generally fail to attract the scientific interest and research funding available for the more commercially important tuna species. Nevertheless, their growing importance in many fisheries makes the billfishes a group worthy of considerable attention in their own right.

Four previous International Billfish Symposia have been held – in 1972, 1988, 2001 and 2005. Each of these proved to be a landmark in assessing current knowledge of billfish at the time.

The 5th International Billfish Symposium will be held during 4-8 November, 2013 at National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan. This symposium will provide a forum for presenting and discussing recent advances in various research topics, including population structure, biological studies, tagging experiment, ecosystem modeling, stock assessments, and fisheries management.

We encourage you to actively participate in this important international event to share the findings of your recent research related to any aspect of billfishes. Your valuable participation will contribute to advancements in billfish stock assessment and fisheries management. We look forward to seeing you in Taipei in early November.

Call for Papers

The 5th International Billfish Symposium calls for submissions of papers for oral and poster presentations. We plan to publish selected papers (oral and poster) from the symposium after peer-review in a Special Issue of the Fisheries Research. Abstracts of contributed papers should be submitted in English by August 1, 2013. The main themes of the symposium cover a range of topics including:

- Population structure
- Biological studies
• Tagging experiment
• Ecosystem modelling
• Stock assessments
• Fisheries management

Abstracts should be prepared and submitted electronically following the guidelines below. The web-site for submitting abstracts is still under construction. A second announcement will be made once the web site is available.

Format: Oral/Poster
Title: An example abstract for the 5th International Billfish Symposium
Authors: Andre Punt. School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA; Email: aepunt@uw.edu
Presenter: Andre Punt

Abstract: An informative abstract should include a statement of the problem and its significance, study objectives, principal findings, and application. The abstract must follow the prescribed format. It should be less than 200 words in length. Tables, charts, photographs and any other information are not acceptable as part of the abstract.

Keywords: List no more than 5 keywords.

Important Dates:

Abstract Submission Deadline: August 1, 2013
Abstract Acceptance Notification: August 15, 2013
Manuscript Submission Deadline: January 31, 2014

Contact us:

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