Research Needs

Short-term Needs (next meeting)

- Evaluate whether false killer whales drag hooks & catch to surface if hooked at deepest part of set?
- Evaluate which vessel characters serve as proxy for noise profile and evaluate vessel noise versus depredation rates?
- Determine which vessels are using various light types and configurations
- Obtain fisherman input into depredation avoidance techniques

Medium-term Needs (<6 mos.)

- Begin photo-ID of pelagic-zone animals, including scars & disfigurement
- Continue satellite tagging (April)
- Evaluate acoustic differences between insular and pelagic animals
- Develop predictive model of potential measures (take rate, depredation rate, target catch, fleet movements)
- Evaluate feasibility of moored listening stations (FADs, NOAA weather buoys)
- Begin data collection of shortline and kakaline fisheries (where & how fishing)
- Develop methods for fleet to use acoustic recorders to determine false killer whale presence prior to setting
- Begin weak hook experiments

Long-term Needs - I (6 mo – 2+ yrs)

- Conduct false killer whale targeted research using *R/V Sette* in September 2010
- Begin longline acoustic monitoring
- Continue photo-ID & movement studies
- Understand foraging and acoustic behavior using acoustic tags
- Develop methods for pro-rating “blackfish” bycatch
- Record the acoustic profile of individual longline vessels
- Conduct HICEAS II- Hawaii EEZ survey 2011 (?)
- Develop predictive habitat model for false killer whale assessment
- Understand the mechanism of hooking
- Study adaptive learning, especially by young animals

Long-term Needs - II (6 mo – 2+ yrs)

- Evaluate alternative methods for estimating abundance
- Pursue industry support for photo-ID from fishing vessels
- Consider ways for Team members to generate funding/support for future abundance surveys
- Determine range at which a hook in a fish can be detected by a false killer whale
- Can hooks be modified (foam coating, etc.) to increase detection range?
- Carry out underwater observations of foraging behavior
- Test visual acuity using different types of lights
- Evaluate capability to see different colors of monofilament line

Whats Next

- Additional ideas
- Prioritization/categorization
- Flesh out specific ideas