

# Oceanography Seminar

## Camryn D. Allen

JIMAR Supervisory Marine Biological Researcher  
Protected Species Division

Marine Turtle Biology and Assessment Program

Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center

NOAA Fisheries

“Feminization of green sea turtle foraging aggregations in the Pacific: establishing foraging ground sex ratios for climate change research”

Using long-term datasets to compare the present results to previous studies of sex ratios of immature green turtles at foraging grounds in the Pacific we found nearly no bias in the early 1980s in Hawai'i (1.0F:0.96M), however, a female-bias was already prevalent in the northern Great Barrier Reef (nGBR), Australia from 1987 – 1997 (3.2F:1.0M). Current data suggest much greater female biases in both Hawai'i and the nGBR (3.4F:1M). Sex ratio data for sea turtle foraging locations provide important information for investigating the potential effects of climate change and consequential feminization of sea turtle populations due to their sex being determined by the environmental conditions during incubation (warmer temperatures produce more female hatchlings).

**Thursday April 26, 2018 3:00p.m. MSB 100**