



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

**Northwest
Fisheries
Science Center**

Wireless Data Collection in a Harsh Environment

Wireless Electronic Data Gathering System

Code Name: Buzzard

Victor Simon
February 8, 2016

Some things about West Coast Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey....

- What we do
(program Overview)
- How We Do It
(Innovation and Efficiencies)
- Why the “How” Matters



What We Do



What We Do: Overview

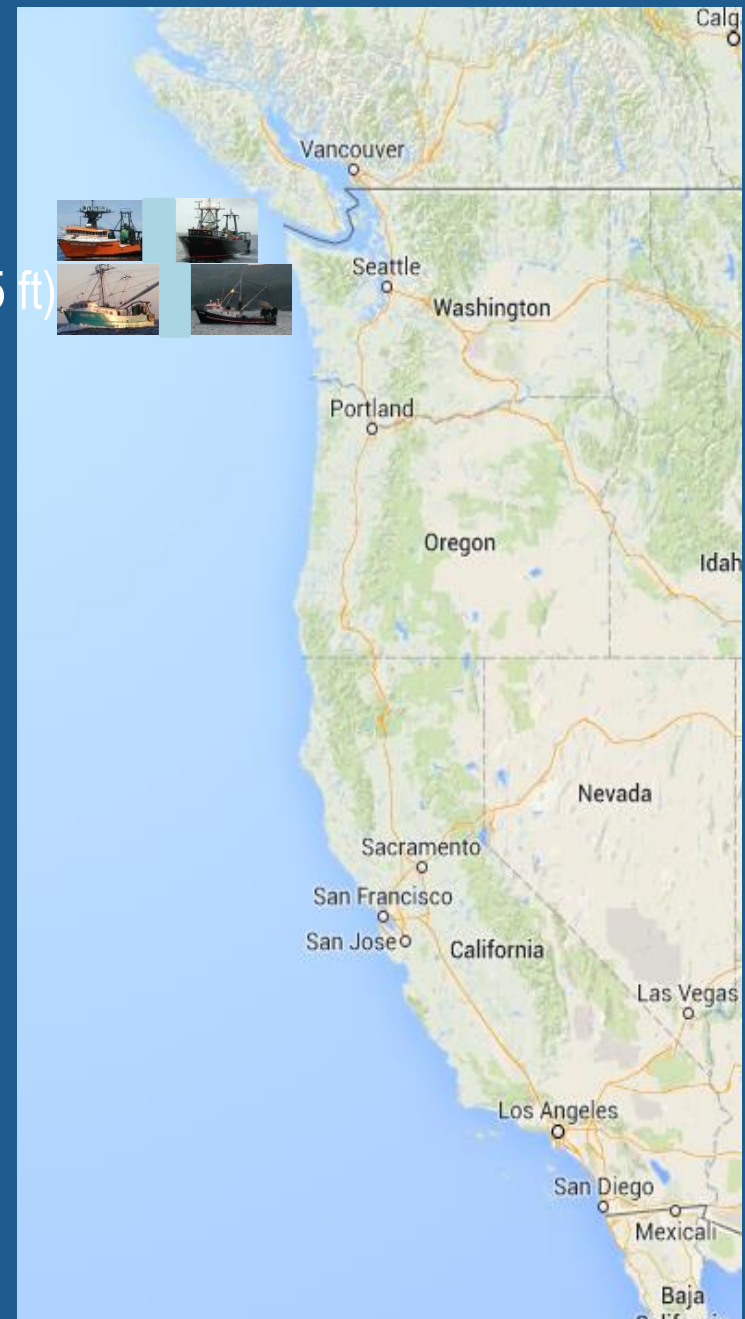
West Coast Trawl Survey from Canada to Mexico

- 4 chartered small West Coast fishing vessels (65 -95 ft)
- 2 passes (N to S) down coast (May – Jul; Aug –Oct.)
- Sample depths 55 – 1280 meters
- Target 750 stations per year
- Started in its current form in 2003

Objectives:

- Provide and maintain spatial time series biomass estimates for 90+ Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) species
- Primary source of fisheries independent data
- Sample biological and oceanographic data
- Determine sea bottom type and untrawlable habitat

Since 2003, the survey team has sampled more than 2.6 million kilograms of fish and invertebrates



Typical Survey Year

(Estimates based on historical collections)

Sampling days	192
Number of stations allocated	752
Distinct species encountered	635
Number of stomachs	800
Number of Ovary samples	850
Number of otoliths	23,000
Individual weights	26,000
Individual sex/length	106,000
Other Samples: fin clips, tissues, etc.	1,500
Total Weight of Catch	220,000 kg



West Coast Groundfish Bottom Trawl Survey

What We Do

Conduct Annual Trawl Survey From Canada to Mexico to:

- Prepare and maintain spatial groundfish time series biomass indices from CPUE
- collect associated biological and oceanographic data
- determine sea bottom type and untrawlable habitat



How We Do It

- Annual 6 month (May-October) survey
- 3 Scientists per boat
- Convert commercial fishing boats into research vessels
- Utilize technological innovations to maximize efficiencies



Why the “How” Matters

- Safety
- Data Quality
- Data Volume
- Data Utilization
- Speed
- Efficiency



Small Vessels – Three Scientists



Ms. Julie – 72 Feet



Noah's Ark – 76 Feet



Excaltibur – 65 Feet



Last Straw – 78 feet



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How We Do It: Innovation & Efficiencies



FRAM Survey Sampling Infrastructure Timeline

To 1997

**Paper
Based
Data
Logging**

1998 - 2002

**Electronic
logging in
the
Scantrol
FM Board
and
Display**

2003 - 2014

**Implement
Wireless
backdeck and
C coded
software
packages**

2015 - 2016

**Implement
Python
coded Data-
based
program
suite and
rugged label
printer box**

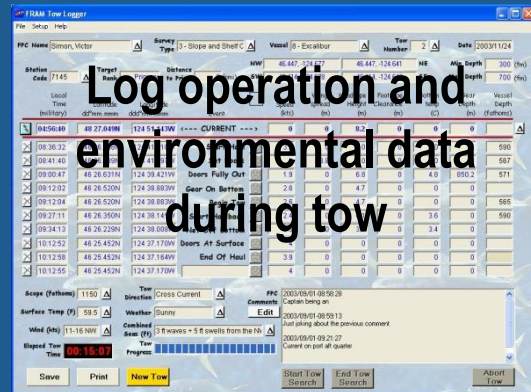
Future



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Customized Software



To 1997

Paper Based Data Logging

1998 - 2002

Electronic logging in the Scantrol FM Board

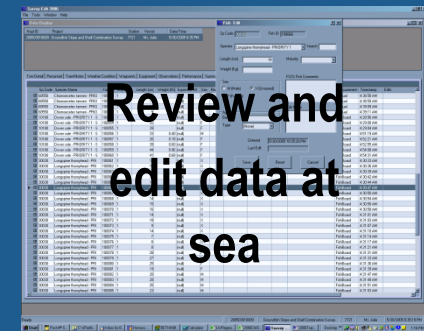
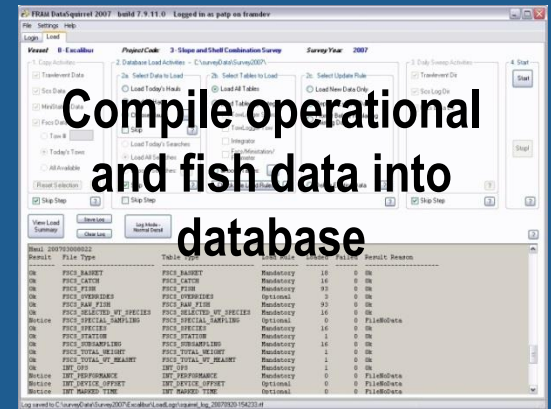
2003 - 2014

Implement Wireless backdeck and C coded software

2015 - 2016

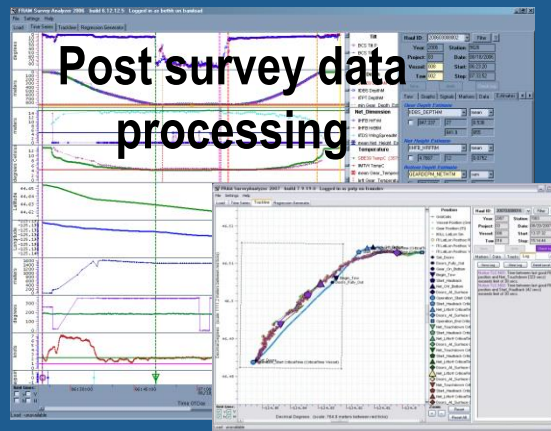
Implement Python Data-based program suite and rugged label printer box

Future



Visualize sensor data and assess tow quality

Input catch data



Hardware And Network Infrastructure



Data checking
Post tow validations
CTD download and analysis

Galley

192.254.253.3



192.254.253.70

Printer Box

Deck Computing

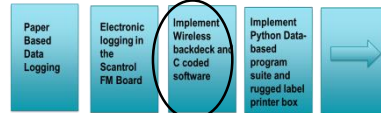
192.254.253.2



Rugged IP67 Panasonic
Toughbook Deck Computer

Wireless Sensor Data in (12 possible virtual com ports) from .253 and .70
Electronic Fish Measuring Board
Large Scale
Small Scale
Barcode Wand
Barcode Gun
Precision Digital Calipers

Data is pushed at specified intervals to the Wheelhouse DB



Comm Box:

This Access Point is the heart and sole of the vessel intranet. It provides virtual com ports and vessel network

IP: 192.254.253.254
Mask: 255.255.255.0
Gateway: 192.254.253.1

Serial to RJ45 plugged into AP to provide virtual serial com ports



192.254.253.253

External Antenna

Wheelhouse

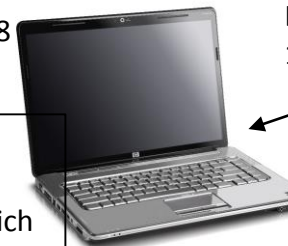
LAN 1: connections is essentially a wired wireless:
192.254.253.5



Ethernet Switch

AP Client:
192.254.253.98

Header file is created in the Wheelhouse which links the catch to a particular tow



Main tow and environmental data acquisition and main Storage DB

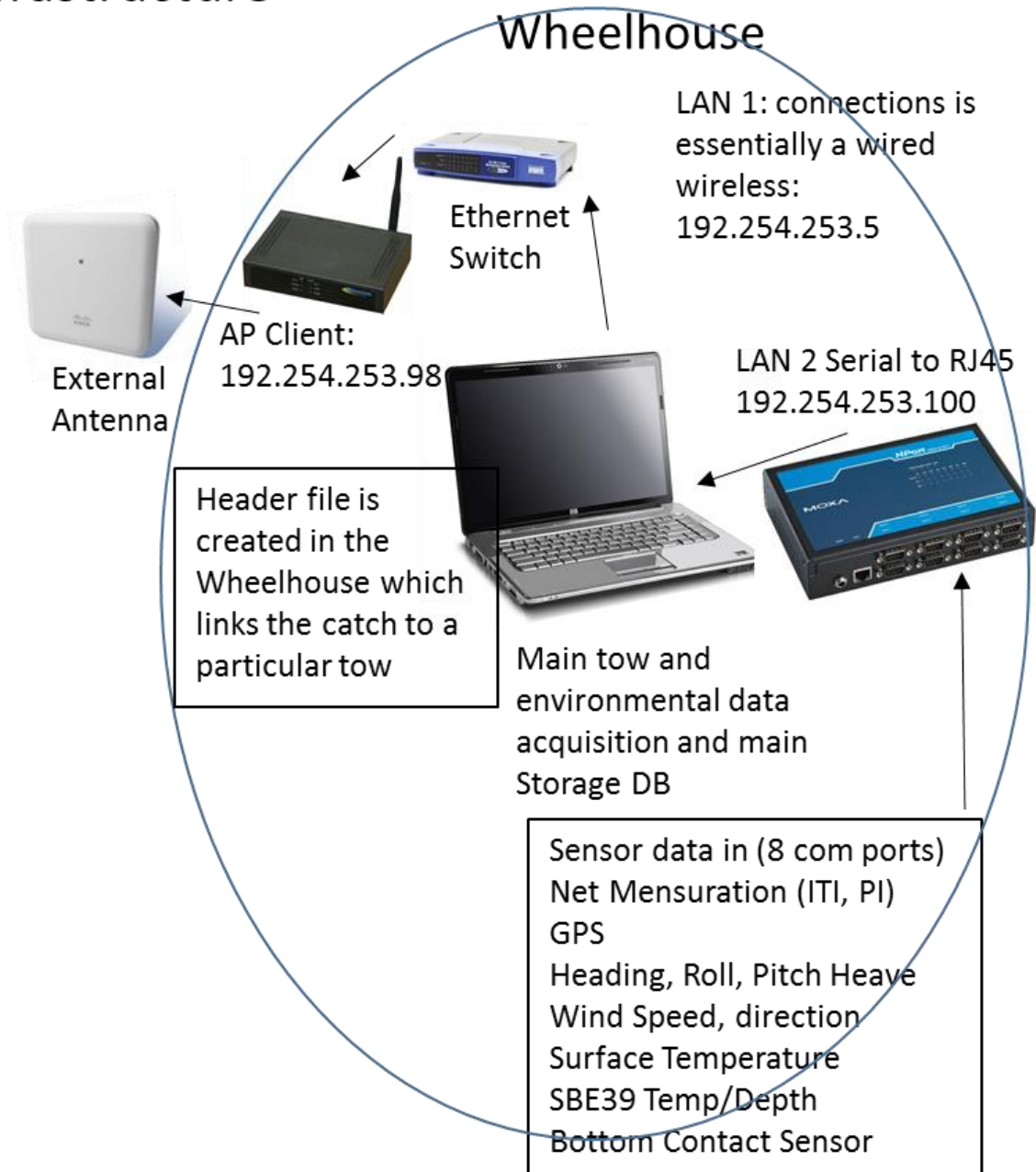
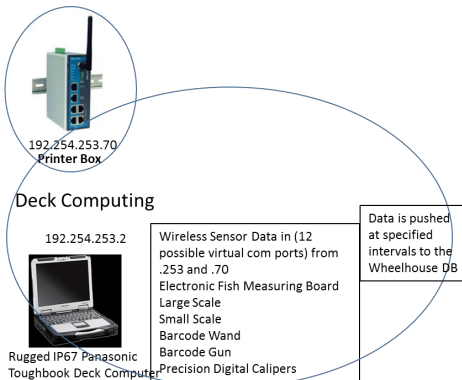
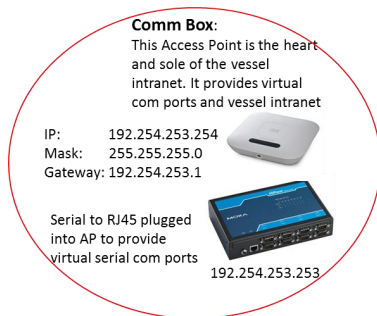
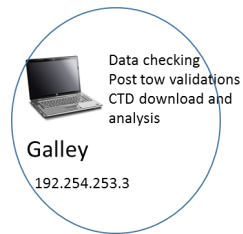
LAN 2 Serial to RJ45
192.254.253.100



Sensor data in (8 com ports)
Net Mensuration (ITI, PI)
GPS
Heading, Roll, Pitch Heave
Wind Speed, direction
Surface Temperature
SBE39 Temp/Depth
Bottom Contact Sensor

Two - 12 VDC, 35 Ahr batteries supply power to the Comm and Printer boxes. Here it is converted to usable power for all back deck devices (5, 9, 12 and 20 VDC)

Hardware And Network Infrastructure



Hardware And Network Infrastructure



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Galley

192.254.253.3

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IP: 192.254.253.254

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Serial to RJ45 plugged into AP to provide virtual serial com ports



192.254.253.253



192.254.253.70
Printer Box

Deck Computing

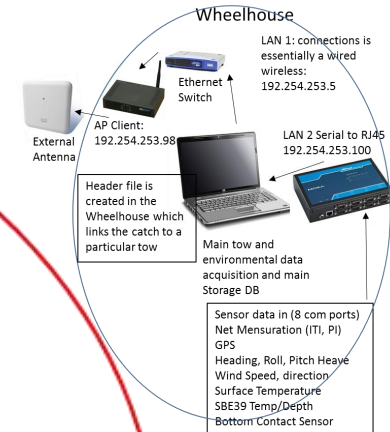
192.254.253.2



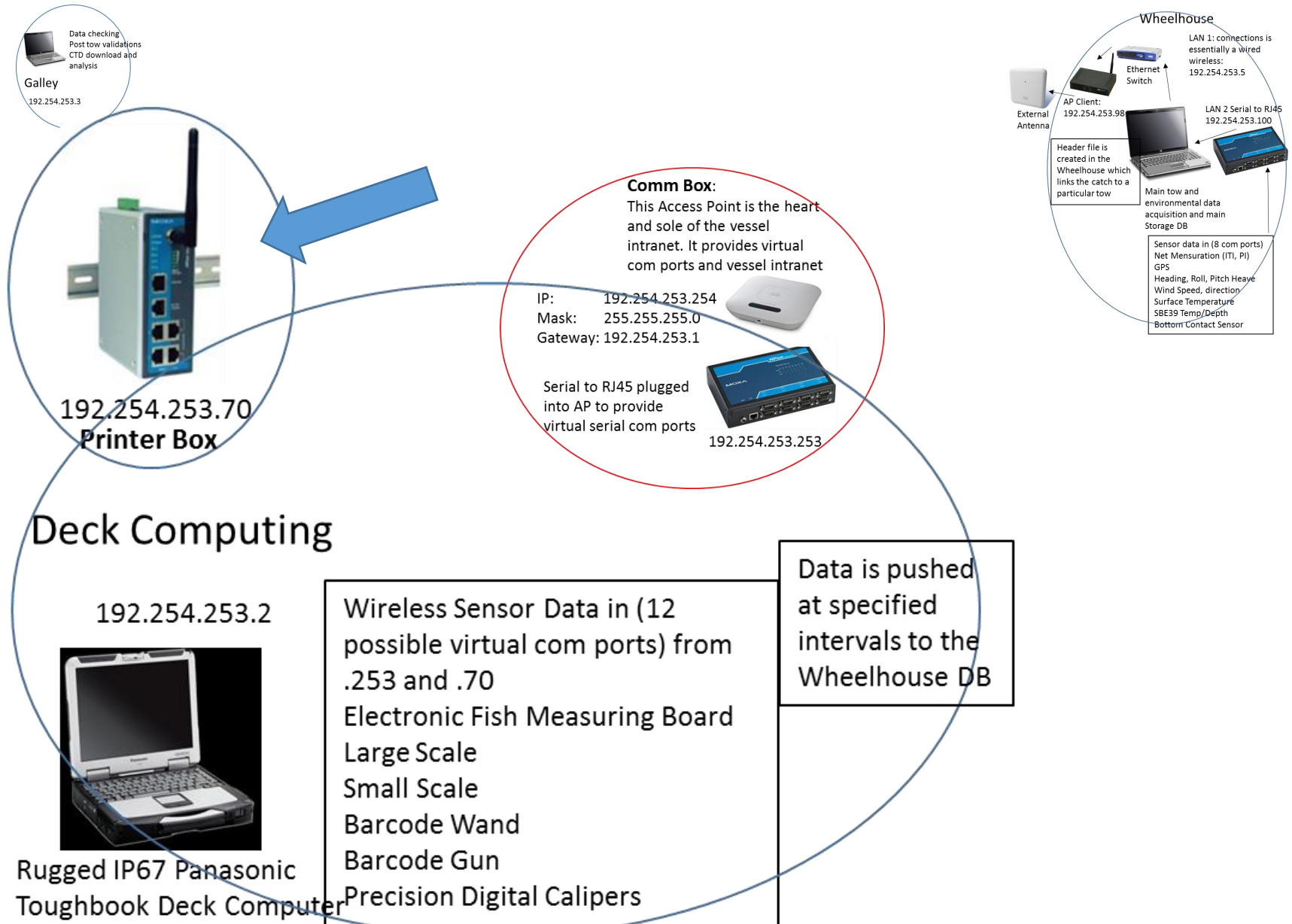
Rugged IP67 Panasonic
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Wireless Sensor Data in (12 possible virtual com ports) from .253 and .70
Electronic Fish Measuring Board
Large Scale
Small Scale
Barcode Wand
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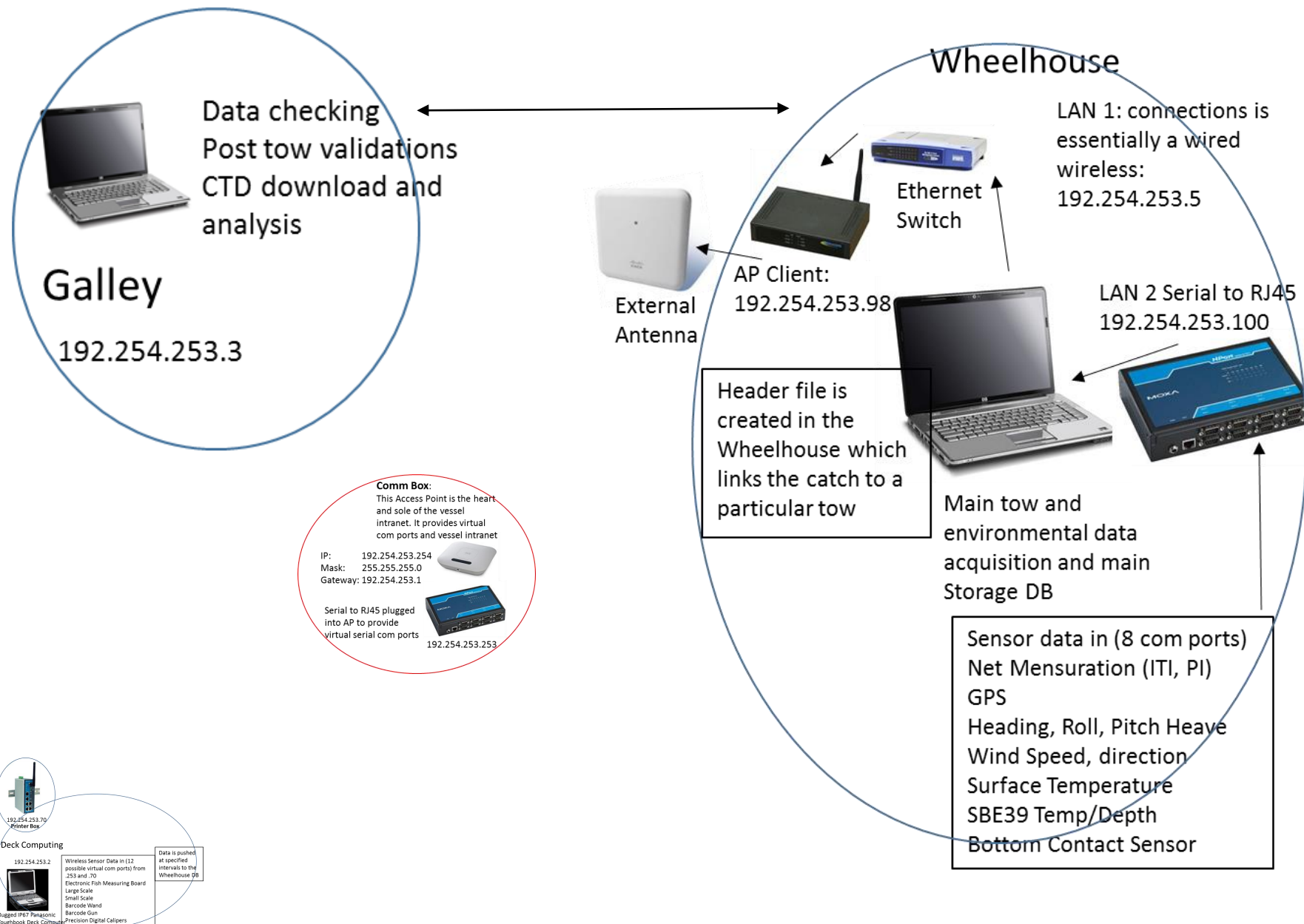
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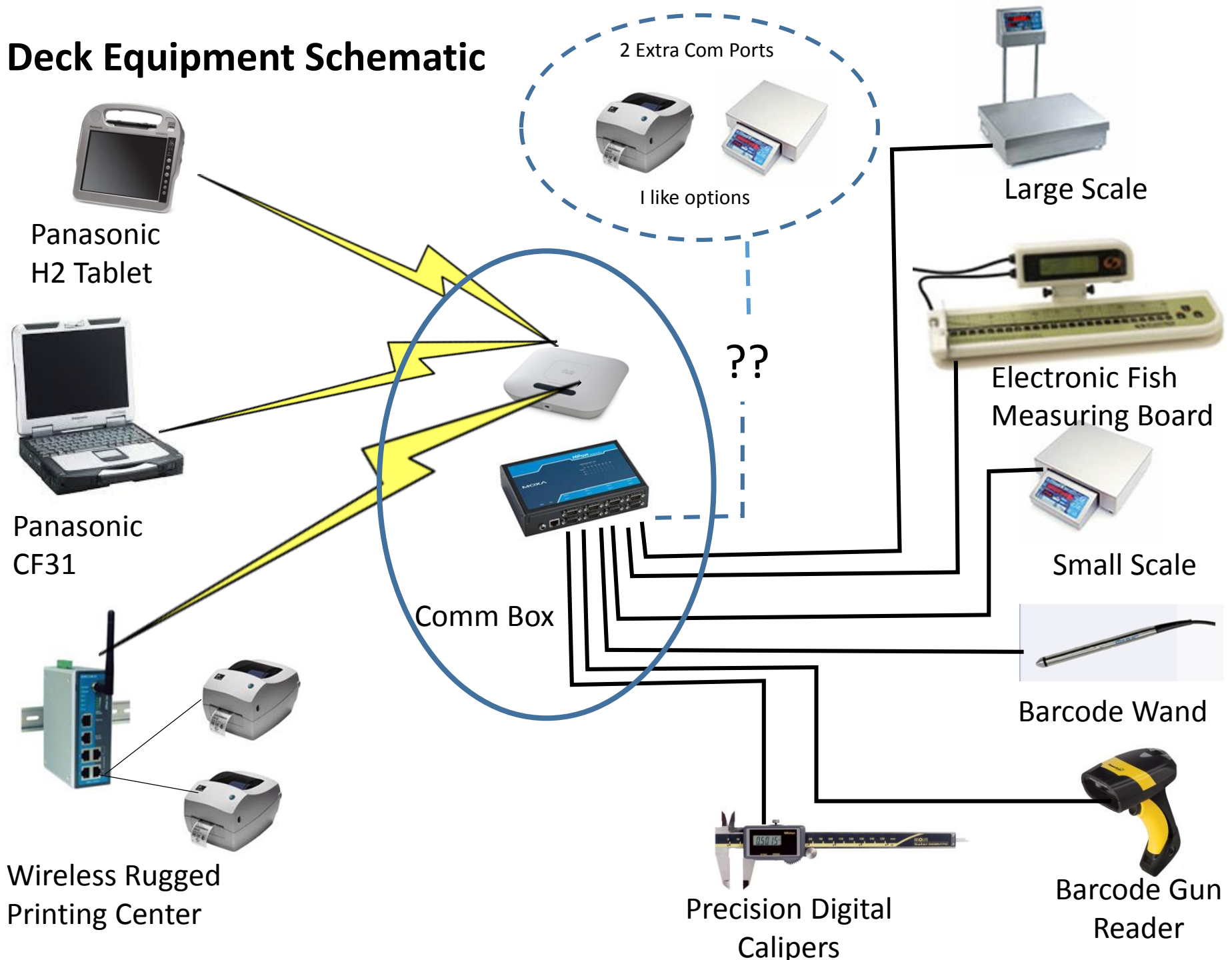
Hardware And Network Infrastructure



Hardware And Network Infrastructure



Deck Equipment Schematic



Trawl Survey Network Attributes

- Wireless LAN
- 802.11 protocols
- Static IP addresses
- Defined Station and Device IP address
- 2 systems (Orange and Blue) different subnets in the third triplet
 - Simultaneous vessel set up side by side
- Different work groups (SSID)
- IPV4
- Security
 - IP address limit and Mac address limits



Why the “How” Matters





To Look Like This

As Quickly And Efficiently As Possible With The Least Amount of Errors

Microsoft Excel - Excel Spreadsheet with data.xlsx [Read-Only]

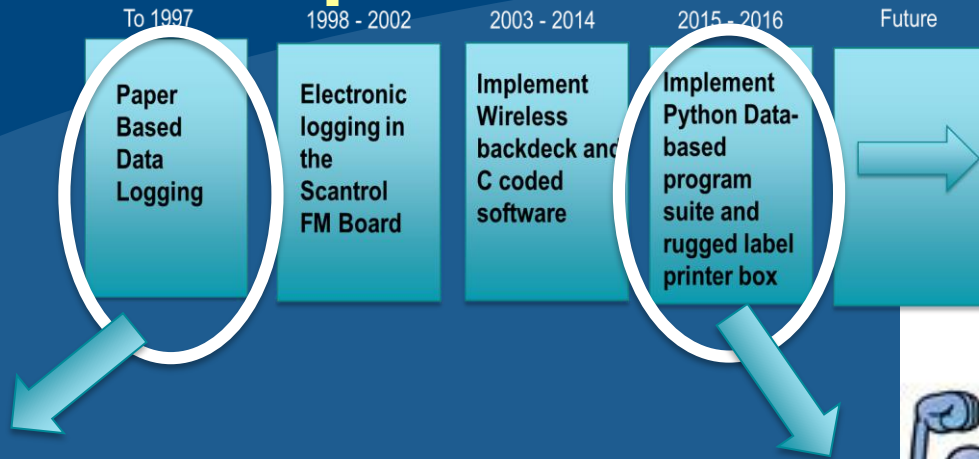
File Edit View Insert Format Tools Data Window Help Acrobat

MS Sans Serif 10 B I U

A1	SAMPLEID																		
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O				
1	SAMPLEID	STARTTIME	VESSTAR	VESSTAR	VESENDL	VESENDL	BOTDEPN	DURATION	DISTSAM	NETWIDT	PERFCOL	STATIONI	TRANSECT	DEPTHM	DEPTHM				
2	2E+11	8/20/1998	48.14833	-125.687	48.14	-125.688	268.9472	0.346667	1165.143	14.22511	0	1A	48.16667	182.88	256.032				
3	2E+11	8/20/1998	48.15217	-125.705	48.145	-125.712	444.262	0.295	959.3817	14.40561	0	1D	48.16667	402.336	475.488				
4	2E+11	8/21/1998	47.84933	-125.133	47.84483	-125.124	193.4006	0.321667	1064.515	14	0	5A	47.5	182.88	256.032				
5	2E+11	8/21/1998	47.82717	-125.121	47.82117	-125.113	306.7198	0.393333		14.75	0	5B	47.5	256.032	329.184				
6	2E+11	8/21/1998			47.823	-125.45		0.616667			5	5H	47.5	841.248	987.552				
7	2E+11	8/21/1998	47.80133	-125.649	47.7925	-125.651	1044.711	0.395	1649.773	15.04351	0	5I	47.5	987.552	1133.856				
8	2E+11	8/21/1998			47.79133	-125.673	1139.099	0.495		15.14314	0	5J	47.5	1133.856	1280.16				
9	2E+11	8/22/1998	46.81617	-124.929	46.808	-124.926	466.1504	0.29	1089.077	14.5	0	9D	46.83333	402.336	475.488				
10	2E+11	8/22/1998	46.81833	-124.947	46.81	-124.945	539.7696	0.388333		14.4	0	9E	46.83333	475.488	548.64				
11	2E+11	8/22/1998	46.818	-125.15	46.80983	-125.152	753.8173	0.358333	1451.027	14.06667	5.1	9G	46.83333	694.944	841.248				
12	2E+11	8/22/1998	46.8015	-125.193	46.79183	-125.192	1046.347	0.476667	1876.726	14.8	5.1	9I	46.83333	987.552	1133.856				
13	2E+11	8/22/1998			46.77067	-125.24	1139.099	0.648333		15.14314	1.11	9J	46.83333	1133.856	1280.16				
14	2E+11	8/23/1998	46.162	-124.669	46.15583	-124.677	269.9544	0.3		10.75	-5.1	13B	46.16667	256.032	329.184				
15	2E+11	8/23/1998	46.12333	-124.682	46.11483	-124.684	424.4625	0.326667		14.71429	5.1	13D	46.16667	402.336	475.488				
16	2E+11	8/24/1998	45.51883	-124.89	45.52667	-124.883	1231.056	0.418333	1514.35	14.25	0	17H	45.5	841.248	987.552				
17	2E+11	8/24/1998	45.494	-124.812	45.502	-124.809	824.9903	0.35		13.42857	-4.2	17G	45.5	694.944	841.248				
18	2E+11	8/24/1998	45.485	-124.744	45.47767	-124.743	522.54	0.268333	817.2985	13.2	1.11	17E	45.5	475.488	548.64				
19	2E+11	8/24/1998	45.46583	-124.486	45.45717	-124.482	397.418	0.341667	1276.253	14.16667	0	17D	45.5	402.336	475.488				
20	2E+11	8/24/1998	45.49067	-124.464	45.48183	-124.463	292.5558	0.328333	1169.568	14.4	0	17C	45.5	329.184	402.336				
21	2E+11	8/27/1998	44.83033	-124.572	44.82183	-124.576	298.3538	0.313333	1174.098	15	0	21B	44.83333	256.032	329.184				
22	2E+11	8/27/1998	44.84217	-124.672	44.83283	-124.675	400.5458	0.315	1188.695	15	0	21C	44.83333	329.184	402.336				
23	2E+11	8/27/1998	44.79583	-124.782	44.78833	-124.788	449.3869	0.315		15	0	21D	44.83333	402.336	475.488				
24	2E+11	8/27/1998	44.83767	-124.988	44.84517	-124.996	966.0236	0.478333	1826.148	15	0	21H	44.83333	841.248	987.552				
25	2E+11	8/27/1998	44.86	-125.011	44.86183	-125.026	1069.572	0.463333	1893.268	15	0	21I	44.83333	987.552	1133.856				
26	2E+11				44.12533	-125.056					-5.1	25J	44.16667	1133.856	1280.16				
27	2E+11	8/28/1998	44.14267	-125.056	44.15133	-125.055	1275.699	0.29		14	0	25J	44.16667	1133.856	1280.16				
28	2E+11	8/28/1998	44.12983	-125.039	44.13667	-125.027	999.6871	0.413333	1824.335	14.44444	1.11	25H	44.16667	841.248	987.552				
29	2E+11	8/28/1998	44.149	-124.993	44.13817	-124.993	469.0675	0.3	1205.883	14	-5.1	25E	44.16667	475.488	548.64				
30	2E+11	8/28/1998	44.164	-124.985	44.13967	-124.984	385.9856	0.275	1357.922	14	0	25C	44.16667	329.184	402.336				
31	2E+11	8/28/1998	44.14833	-124.97	44.15783	-124.972	301.0533	0.303333	1268.18	14.28571	0	25B	44.16667	256.032	329.184				
32	2E+11	8/29/1998	43.45517	-124.681	43.46383	-124.677	378.7834	0.291667	1174.736	14.85714	0	29C	43.5	329.184	402.336				
33	2E+11	8/29/1998	43.49067	-124.697	43.48167	-124.699	456.1829	0.283333	1130.236	14.14286	0	29D	43.5	402.336	475.488				
34	2E+11	8/29/1998	43.47883	-124.911	43.46967	-124.912	776.9786	0.321667	1255.14	15	0	29G	43.5	694.944	841.248				
35	2E+11	8/28/1998	43.47817	-124.955	43.4685	-124.955	965.039	0.343333	1405.24	14.88889	0	29H	43.5	841.248	987.552				
36	2E+11	8/29/1998					1057.933	0.653333		13.6	-6.1	29I	43.5	987.552	1133.856				
37	2E+11	8/30/1998	42.81067	-124.94	42.81833	-124.946	630.7496	0.326667	1300.306	15.28571	0	33F	42.83333	548.64	694.944				
38	2E+11	8/30/1998	42.79667	-124.901	42.80383	-124.908	436.2395	0.291667		14.33333	0	33D	42.83333	402.336	475.488				
39	2E+11	8/30/1998	42.81467	-124.796	42.82333	-124.799	300.8279	0.313333	1186.194	13.875	0	33B	42.83333	256.032	329.184				
40	2E+11	8/30/1998	42.81833	-124.771	42.82683	-124.774	224.388	0.333333	1275.715	13.5	0	33A	42.83333	182.88	256.032				

Ready

Manual Transcription vs Barcode System?



Species	Angler	Drop No.	Hook No.	Weight (kg)	Length (cm)	Sex	Otolith No.*	Fin Clip No.*	Special Project(s)	le
✓ Verm	A	63	3	2.96	57	F	V446			
✓ Verm	A	63	3	2.96	56	F	V447			
✓ Verm	A	63	3	2.96	62	F	V448			
✓ Verm	B	63	5	2.52	52	M	V449			
✓ Verm	A	63	5	2.52	52	M	V450			
✓ Verm	C	63	1	1.36	42	F	V451		QA	
✓ Verm	C	63	2	1.92	46	F	V452		QA	
✓ Verm	B	63	3	2.74	57	M	V453			
✓ Verm	C	63	3	2.36	57	M	V454			
✓ Verm	A	63	7	3.77	59	F	V455			
✓ Verm	A	63	2	2.22	49	M	V456			
✓ Verm	B	63	3	2.84	53	M	V457			
✓ Verm	C	63	5	2.34	49	M	V458			
✓ Bocca	B	44	4	1.7	54	M	B252			
✓ Bocca	A	54	4	2.26	58	M	B253			

Vessel: Excalibur
Haul ID: 425
Station Number: 1524
Species: Aurora rockfish
Barcode: 1235098082
Length: 24 cm
Investigator: Dag N' Tag
Date: 08/16/2015



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Barcoding Improves Speed & Efficiency

Barcode System Reduces Data Entry Time Up To 83% Over Transcription

Transcription Method	Barcode Method
Specimen data retrieved and manually entered on paper in 30 to 60 seconds	Specimen data retrieved and printed within 10 seconds.
Risk of data entered not being legible, accurate, or containing pertinent trawl information.	Data printed accurately, legibly, with all pertinent catch and trawl information from the application



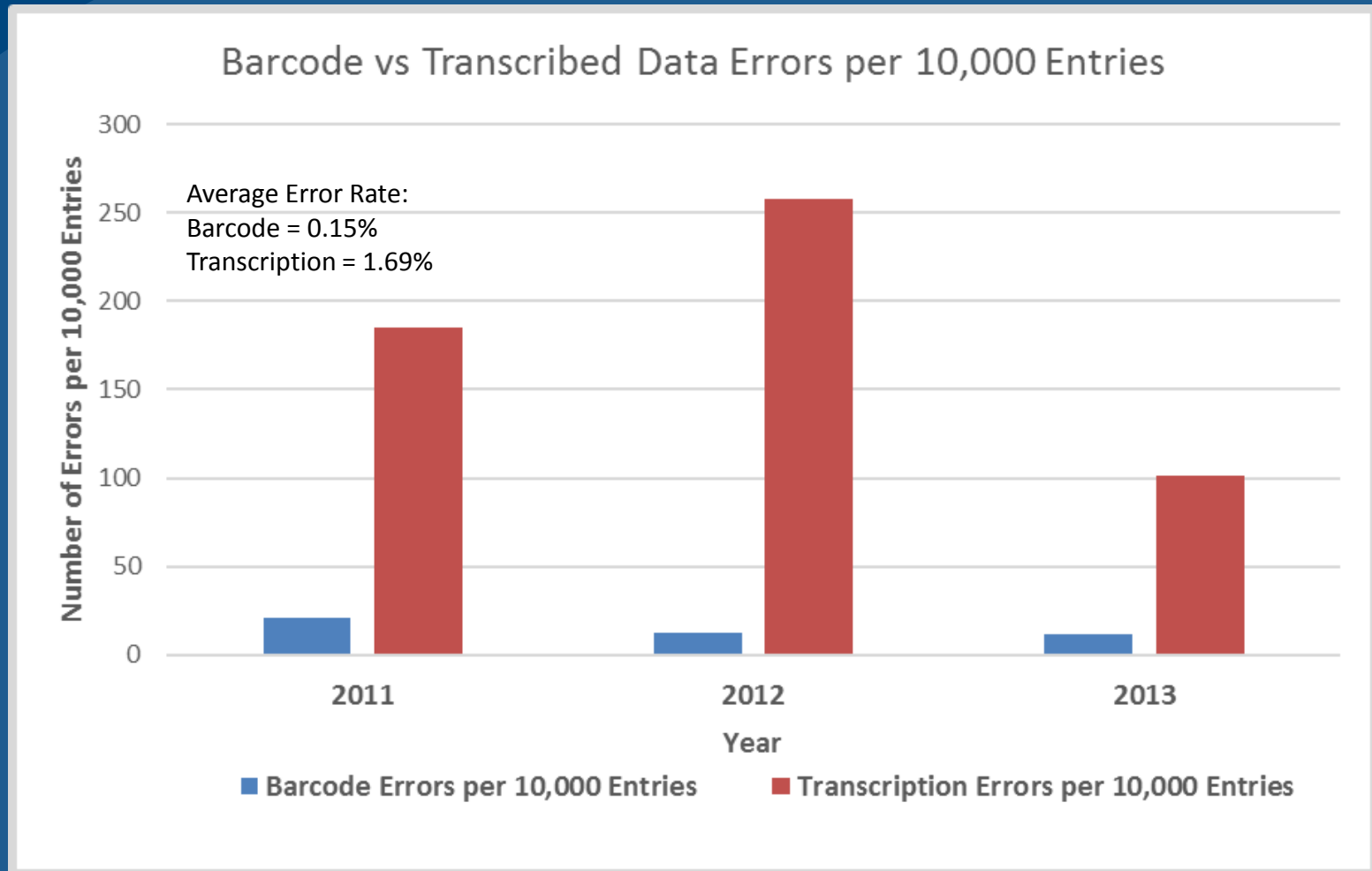
Benefits of Increased Speed & Efficiency

- More stations and more samples
- Increased return on investment for charter budget
- Faster access to data for analysis
- Reduction in time spent vetting collected data
- More time for scientists to rest
 - Improved safety
 - Better decision making



Barcoding Reduces Error Rates

Barcode System: 11.3 times less errors than Transcription



Benefits of Reduced Error Rates

Time and Data Quality

- Micro and Macro level impacts
 - Time editing data on the vessel
 - Data post processing time decreased
- Data may be directly accessible
- Year end reports generated on time
- Permit applications on time
- Data available for assessments on time
 - We can react to changing environments quicker



Application Driven Sampling Workflow

Value Added Sampling and Efficiency



Manual Sampling Workflow	Application Driven Sampling Workflow
Scientists manually determine best sampling area by reading paper-based clipboard data of geographic area/ size bins	Program automatically tells you when, what, and where to take
Risk of under sampling resulting in incomplete data set for analysis or oversampling data impacting time and budget	Optimal data collected for each species maximizing use of time and budget
Personal knowledge and memory driven specimen collection for rare species and out of range	Application informs the user when a specimen is out of range or needs to be collected and tells you to take it.



WeightsRequired
WeightsBeforeSampling
MixWeightFirstBeforeChildren
SaveSubsampleBasket
SampleSubsampleWeightsExist
SubSampleWeights
SpecimensTotalToSubsampleWeight
SpecimenHistoralAverageWeight
SalmonCountOnly
CountsOrProtocolCheck
SpeciesLatitudeDepthRanges
SalmonCoralsSampling
MaxScaleBasketWeight
ProtocolNoCount
AllOneSex
SpeciesHistoricalLengthRanges
ProtocolCountCheck
UniqueFishLengths
SpecimenWeightsEqualSubsample
FishSamplingUniqueBarcodes
Age Requires Barcode
ProperBarcodeFormat
SpeciesWeightLengthCheck
SpecialActionsUniqueBarcodes

SpeciesSalmonProtocol
SpeciesStandardProtocol
SpeciesCountsType
SpeciesSubsampleWtFishWt
SpeciesSubsampleWtManCt
SpeciesSubsampleWtFishCt
FishAgeFormat
FishAgeDuplicate
FishLengthNonZero
FishLengthLimits
FishLengthAve
FishMaturityNonZero
FishSexExists
FishSexAllSame
FishWeightPredicted
FishBasketOrphan
BasketCountsNonZero
BasketWeightNonZero
BasketSubsampleMarks
BasketSpeciesOrphan
Individual Length Range Check
Individual Weight Range Check
Protocol Check
Mix Integrity Check

Barcode duplication check
Barcode range check
Protocol Check
Protocol Check
Rogue Fscs validation Check

Real-time Validations

Highlights:

- Duplicated Sample Numbers
- Fish weight to length ratio
- Expected weights
- Fish size
- Geographic Distribution
- Depth Distribution
- Sequential sample numbers



The computer says this fish has no business being here and I should bag and tag it!



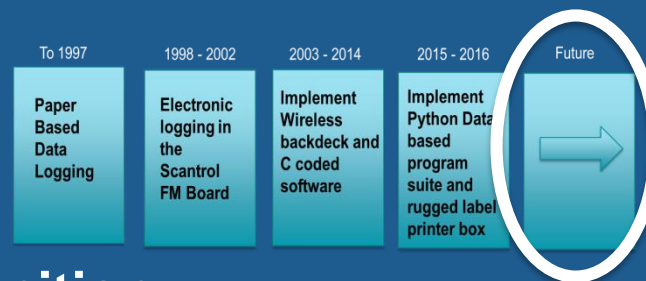
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RFID Printers and Scanners



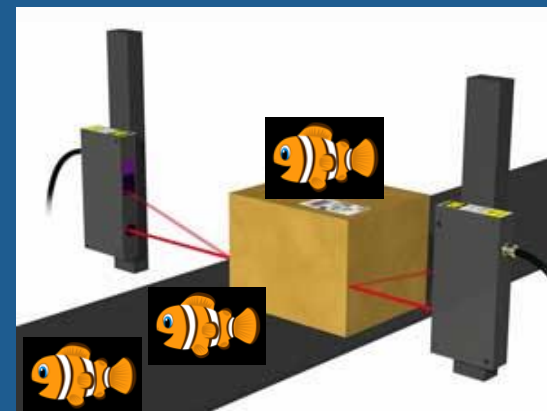
Future Options



Voice Recognition Devices



Automated Laser Measurement





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