Aquatic Resources Bibliography of Papua New Guinea

compiled by
Patricia Kailola

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Introduction

Although expeditioners to Papua New Guinea (PNG) from the late 19th Century reported on things taxonomic and anthropological, fisheries surveys per se began in PNG with the voyaging of the Australian Government sponsored vessel M.V. Fairwind along PNG coastlines between 1948 and 1950 and the travels of W.H. Schuster in inland PNG (1950-51). In 1954 Dr A.M. Rapson was seconded from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (Australia) and enthusiastically pronounced on and recorded all manner of PNG fisheries resources until the early 1970s. By then the ‘fisheries’ branch of PNG’s Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries had begun to expand, and so began a 15-20 year period of fisheries surveys and studies which supported the activities of commercial and artisanal fishers during and since that period, and upon which much of the management work and decision making of the current National Fisheries Authority is based. Fortunately also, PNG’s national and expatriate fisheries scientists were given to recording their endeavours such that up to the late 1980s Papua New Guinea’s fisheries studies and management were highly regarded throughout the Western Pacific region.

The extensive writings on PNG fisheries were captured originally by John Lock and David Waites (Lock, J.M and Waites, D.C. 1985. Papua New Guinea fisheries bibliography. PNG Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Technical Report 85-03. 102 p. P474). The present version is an expansion and enhancement of that bibliography. By incorporating earlier reports not recorded by Lock and Waites and carrying the record into 2001, the present bibliography comprises over two thousand citations of which perhaps 75% are of ‘grey’ literature.

Content location of items

Generally the bibliography is about PNG fish resources (marine to freshwater, finfish and aquatic invertebrates). Papers on dugong, mangroves, coastal systems, turtles and crocodiles may be listed; as may papers on customary fishing and access rights. Papers on ‘western Pacific’ fisheries often have not been included (although they may contain information on PNG fisheries resources). The bibliography lacks systematic papers except for those recorded by Lock and Waite, and a few subsequent freshwater summaries.

John Lock and David Waites assigned ‘P’ numbers to papers and their system is retained. The ‘P’ series is reserved for papers specifically on PNG fisheries resources, and presently it comprises more than 1200 papers or reports. However, many appropriate papers in the bibliography have not been given a ‘P’ number - either because they were not found (as at August 2001) or are in refereed journals or books. Some of the unfound ‘grey’ literature may yet be located in archived files and unsorted areas of National Fisheries Authority offices. Examples of papers cited in the bibliography which are confidential to the government of PNG, or to private industry, are reports on or for Ok Tedi Mining Limited, the Forum Fisheries Agency, and the FAO/UNDP Sepik River Stock Enhancement Project.

The ‘P’ series is stored in the National Fisheries Authority offices in Port Moresby. Most entries are based on a single copy, and as of August 2001 about ten of these were missing. ‘P’ series reports up to about P350 were microfilmed by the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau (Australian National University) in 1998.

The location (by acronym) of other cited reports is identified on page viii. Generally a single location is given but the report may be held in other libraries also.
ADB  Asian Development Bank, Manila, Philippines
AIMS  Australian Institute of Marine Science, Townsville, Australia
AMCBP  Australian Maritime College, Beauty Point, Tasmania, Australia
AMS  Australian Museum, Sydney, Australia
ANU  Australian National University, Canberra
DAL  Department of Agriculture and Livestock, PNG
DME  Department of Minerals and Energy, PNG
CSIRO Hobart  Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation’s marine laboratories, Hobart, Australia
CSIRO Cleveland  CSIRO laboratories, Cleveland, Queensland
CSIRO Forestry  CSIRO Forestry, Sandy Bay, Tasmania
CSIRO Marmion  CSIRO laboratories, Marmion, Western Australia
EWC  East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawai’i
FAO  Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome
FFA  Forum Fisheries Agency, Honiara, Solomon Islands
HAQDEC  Highlands Aquaculture Development Centre, Aiyura, PNG
IASER  Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research, Waigani, PNG
JCU  James Cook University of North Queensland, Townsville, Australia
Kanudi  Files from original PNG fisheries station, now at NFA
NFA  National Fisheries Authority, PNG
NLA  National Library of Australia, Canberra
NRI  National Research Institute, Boroko, PNG
OEC  Office of Environment and Conservation, PNG
OTML  Ok Tedi Mining Limited, Tabubil, Western Province, PNG
P.(number)  PNG fisheries document collection, NFA, Port Moresby
PNGNA  Papua New Guinea National Archives
SPC  South Pacific Commission (Secretariat of the Pacific Community), Noumea, New Caledonia
UPNG  University of Papua New Guinea, Waigani, PNG
UTAS  University of Tasmania, Hobart, Australia

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