

New to Our Staff...

Lauren joined the crew at Microwave Telemetry in February of this year. She is the friendly voice at the other end of the phone line and the one who answers your e-mails. Her duties include customer service, scheduling, shipping, correspondence—pretty much everything except building the transmitters!

Lauren is a recent graduate of Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida where she earned a degree in Anthropology.

Off hours, you might find Lauren playing ultimate frisbee for the Fillet Minnyaks in a league down on the National Mall in Washington, DC. She also loves to cook and is something of a wine connoisseur.

Lauren shares an office with Napoleon, a Siamese fighting beta fish (no need to track him because he doesn't go anywhere). He has become the office mascot and swims around to greet whomever comes into Lauren's office.



Lauren and Napoleon hard at work

Pop-up Tag Reveals Surprising Results from Recycled Marlin

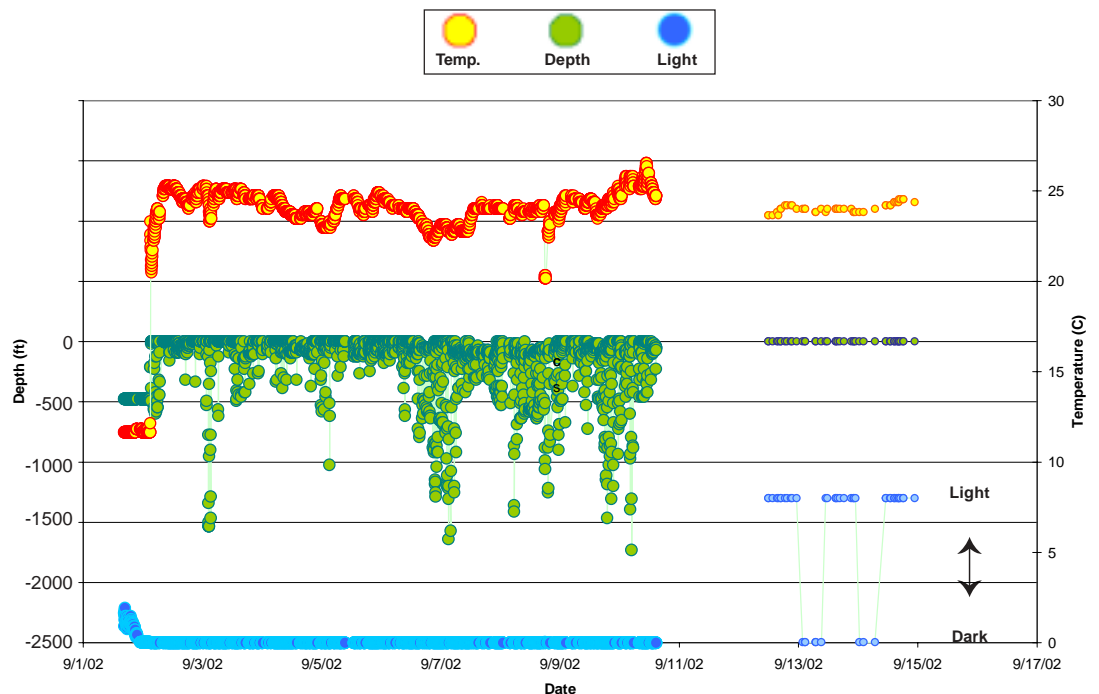
John Graves
Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Dave Kerstetter, a graduate student at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, is using Archival Pop-up tags to study survival and habitat utilization of white marlin released from commercial pelagic longline gear. On August 31, Dave was fishing on the F/V *Carol Ann* and deployed a pop-up tag programmed to release in ten days on a 50 pound white marlin caught off the southwest corner of Georges Bank. From the light level data collected by the tag, the animal appeared to have died and was on the bottom (i.e., no recorded light) for almost the entire time, but the temperature and depth (pressure) data suggest otherwise. After ten hours at 12° C water at 400 feet, the tag began to record both warmer temperatures and depths ranging from the surface to over 1800 feet, even though there was no light recorded.

What happened? Apparently, the white marlin died and sank to the bottom soon after tagging. After about ten hours, the white marlin (with the tag still attached) was eaten by a large shark and the tag continued to collect data from within the shark's gut.

The tag appears to have released from the remainder of the marlin on schedule, but it took another day and a half for the shark to regurgitate the tag, providing an opportunity for it to float to the surface and transmit its most unusual data.

Temperature, Depth and Light Readings from
"Recycled, Regurgitated" White Marlin



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