# The IATTC Tuna Tagging Database; Current platform and planned improvements

**Daniel Fuller and Kurt Schaefer**

**Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission**

IATTC RTTP Workshop, La Jolla, California USA, 28-31 January 2019

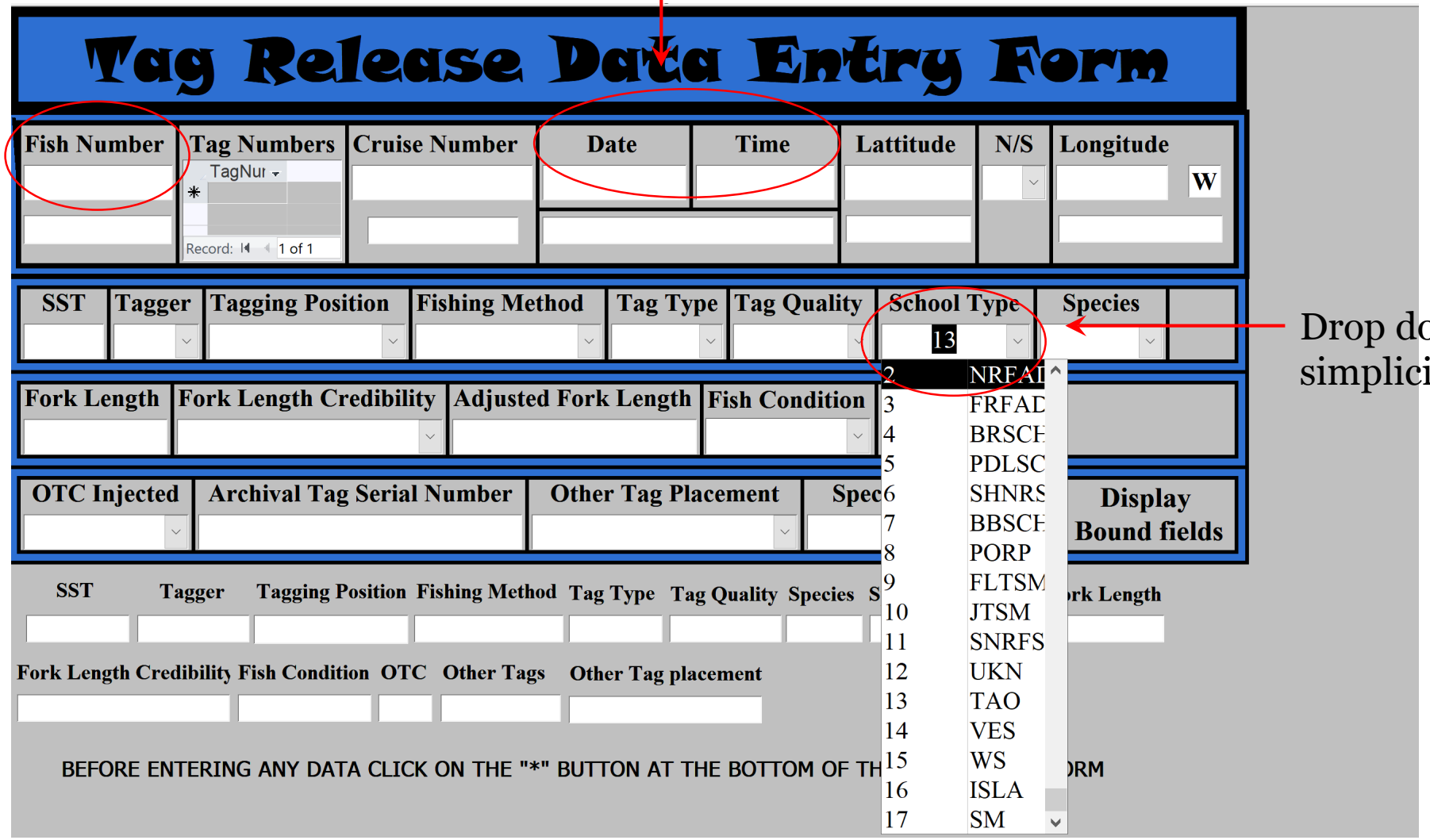
# INTRODUCTION

- The IATTC tuna tagging database was developed in 2000 for warehousing data collected during the newly implemented bigeye tuna tagging program. However, it was developed to be flexible for handling all tagging which might take place at IATTC
- The database was designed in MS Access, which at the time provided flexibility for improvement and the seamless compatibility with other IATTC databases
- Forms were designed for easy data entry for both tag releases and recoveries. These forms have built in error checking for species type, location, dates, and vessels to help keep entry errors to a minimum
- Tagged fish can have any number of plastic dart or electronic tags associated with each individual. A unique fish ID is automatically assigned at the time of data entry and tags were then associated with that fish. This was necessary for double tagging experiments, where one or both tags might be returned
- The IATTC tuna tagging database has been used for every tagging project since its development with few changes

# RELEASE FORM DESIGN

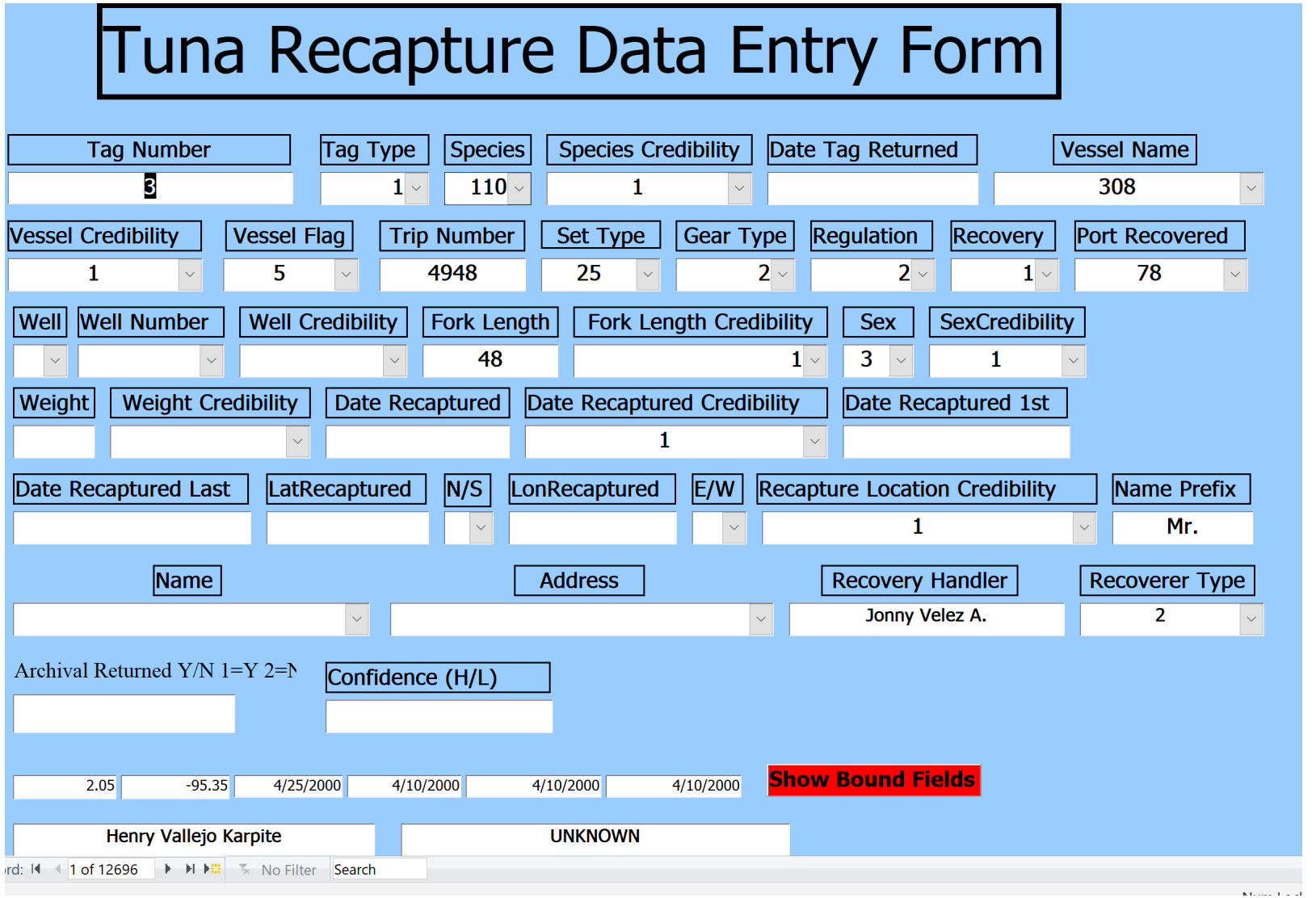
Date and Time entered independently, but stored combined, default time is 1200

Auto numbered




Drop down menus for simplicity

# RECAPTURE FORM DESIGN



# DATABASE SHORTCOMINGS

- Is a “personal database”, so not simultaneously available for those working with or extracting data
- Requires knowledge of MS ACCESS to design queries and extract data
- No single click reports
- All data extractions have been completed by Dan Fuller and distributed to collaborators
- Without intimate knowledge of table structure and relationships, it’s easy to get duplicate values, this needs to be addressed in future versions
- While these shortcomings are relatively minor, improvements could provide a considerable increase in efficiency for all users

# FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

- Improve access and functionality for data users
- Migrate all tables to Sql
- Create simple one click data reports
- Create user profiles so multiple users can extract data simultaneously
- Evaluate efficacy of migrating database to .NET framework for web based interface (similar to SPC).
- Integrate archival tag data, specifically movements paths (MPT's) and movement parameters for seamless extraction


# Questions