

JOIN US FOR A NEW PROJECT WEBINAR



EXAMINING THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN NORTHERN FUR SEALS, POLLOCK, AND CLIMATE CHANGE IN ALASKA

Since the 1990s, the population of northern fur seals in the eastern Bering Sea has declined by more than half, with no scientific consensus as to the cause. One important knowledge gap is the role of food availability, in particular walleye pollock. Furthermore, climate change projections indicate a significant reduction in recruitment of pollock – with unknown implications for the fur seal population. Thus, Dr. Jeremy Sterling of the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) is leading a team of researchers from AFSC and the University of Washington Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean (JISAO) to develop a spatially explicit bioenergetics model to estimate the dietary needs of northern fur seals and link this model to AFSC/JISAO's bioenergetic model of the Bering Sea (FEAST) and AFSC's multi-species stock assessment model (CEATTLE) to estimate past, current, and future diets given different climate and fishing scenarios.

Webinar agenda

Dr. Sterling and colleagues will provide an overview of the impetus for the project, the methodology, and how the research team will proceed in the coming years. The project was launched in early 2018, and will span the next three years.

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

Emily Knight, Lenfest Ocean Program

2. Project introduction and background: Using bioenergetics and space to quantify how northern fur seals interact with prey, fisheries, and climate (15 minutes)

Dr. Jeremy Sterling, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries

3. Developing a spatially explicit bioenergetics model to estimate dietary needs of northern fur seals (10 minutes)

Dr. Elizabeth McHuron, JISAO, University of Washington

4. Linking the bioenergetics model to the food web model of the Bering Sea (FEAST) and multi-species stock assessment model (CEATTLE) (10 minutes)

Dr. Ivonne Ortiz, JISAO, University of Washington, Dr. Kirstin Holsman, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NOAA Fisheries

5. Question and answer (15 minutes)

DATE:
WEDNESDAY,
JULY 25, 2018

TIME:
2:00 PM EASTERN
11:00 AM PACIFIC
10:00 AM ALASKA

REGISTER: [HERE](#)

Webinar instructions

Date: Wednesday, July 25, 2018

Time: 2:00 PM Eastern time/11:00 AM Pacific time/10:00 AM Alaska time

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Research team

- Dr. Jeremy Sterling, AFSC, NOAA Fisheries
- Dr. Kirstin Holsman, AFSC, NOAA Fisheries
- Dr. Kerim Aydin, AFSC, NOAA Fisheries
- Dr. Ivonne Ortiz, JISAO, University of Washington
- Dr. Elizabeth McHuron, JISAO, University of Washington
- Dr. Nicholas Bond, JISAO, University of Washington

Contact

To learn more, visit the [project webpage](#).

For more information, contact Emily Knight at eknight@lenfestocean.org. Follow us on Twitter @lenfestocean or sign up for our newsletter at lenfestocean.org.



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Lenfest Ocean Program was established in 2004 by the Lenfest Foundation and is managed by The Pew Charitable Trusts

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