

Thomas Van Pelt

From: best_bsierp@list.arcus.org on behalf of Mike Sigler [Mike.Sigler@noaa.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2009 9:54
To: Bering BEST BSIERP PI list
Subject: Re: Bering Sea Project PI calls for December 2009 to February 2010 - MEETING NOTES FOR DECEMBER 16, 2009
Attachments: Mike_Sigler.vcf

Meeting notes, December 16, 2009

In attendance: Mike Sigler, Lorenzo Ciannelli, Sandi Neidetcher, Doug Reece, Ken Coyle, Will Satterthwaite, Tom van Pelt, Andrew Trites, Elizabeth Siddon, Patrick Ressler, Phyllis Stabeno, Nancy Friday, Franz Mueter

Ken Coyle: Testing security system on database; working on database tools; have received a couple of data sets recently; Bill Wiseman has recommended funding for loading all plankton data into the database. Rob Cermak and Mark Johnson

Tom van Pelt: PI meeting at Alaska Marine Science Symposium, 130-330 pm, Tuesday January 19; send Mike or Rodger Harvey if you have a topic that you want addressed at the meeting; strongly recommend that PIs use the BSIERP template for posters to identify studies that are a part of our integrated study.

Kathy Kuletz (by email): On the Seabird Broadscale (B64) part: the final edits and compilation of 2009 raw data was completed and the data set is now being processed to calculate densities, produce distribution maps, and getting formatted for the North Pacific Pelagic Seabird Database. In preparing for a poster at AMSS, I've been working with Patrick Ressler, Anne Hollowed, and Mike Sigler to overlay the kittiwake and murre data with the acoustic prey data from the MACE survey. As this effort develops, I would also like to submit this work for a talk at the World Seabird Conference next September 2010, to be held in Victoria, B.C (abstracts due Jan 30). Also from B64 we will be giving an oral presentation on albatrosses as indicators of change in the Bering Sea at the Feb. Ocean Sciences meeting.

Mike Sigler: Reanalyzed seabird and prey data. Found error in preliminary analysis. The revised conclusion is that Black-legged kittiwakes and thick-billed murres were more abundant in 2008 in blocks where euphausiids in 2008 were above average abundance, but not where pollock in 2008 were above average or where euphausiids or pollock were consistently above average (i.e., persistent). As in the original analysis, about 10% of blocks had above average pollock abundance all 4 years. About 1% of blocks had above average euphausiid abundance all 4 years. Thus, although prey are consistently found in some blocks, BLKI and TBMU are more abundant in locations where prey abundance is higher in the same year.

Elizabeth Siddon: Ichthyoplankton group is plugging along with sample processing, data analyses.

Andrew Trites: 1-1/2 day half workshop for Patch Dynamics group meeting planned for AMSS

(first full day on southern Bering Sea, half day on northern Bering Sea). Expect 10 posters to be presented. Exploring use of EON Fusion software for presenting multiple layers of data. Phyllis says the software is worth using though there's a bit of learning curve.

Patrick Ressler - On behalf of the fish group. Most are working on analyses. No plan for participation at the Alaska Marine Science Symposium, but expect strong attendance at the Ocean Sciences meeting. Patrick is working on a manuscript to describe methods used for estimating euphausiid abundance. Anne continues to work on biogeographic data for Bering Sea. Finally will bring on a post-doc to examine non-pollock backscatter. Beginning preparation for the 2010 acoustic survey. Two additional surface trawl surveys will be conducted in 2010 (May and July) with possible addition of acoustic capability. Acoustic and bottom trawl surveys are slated for June and July. Bottom trawl expansion to northern Bering Sea likely for 2010. Surface trawl survey (BASIS) is scheduled for late August-end of September. Ivonne Ortiz is scheduling a meeting for FEAST modelers to meet with fish group to discuss FEAST equations and parameters.

Phyllis Stabeno - Preparing for AMSS and Ocean Sciences. Likely will submit a couple of posters to the Arctic meeting planned for Florida in March. Busy with cruise plans for next year. Some concern about early date for mooring deployment cruise (start April 23) this year. Exploring other options if 2010 is a late ice year. Wacoma mooring recovery cruise sails August 23. Several berths are available. Will bring seabird observers. Phyllis is beginning a paper with Jeff Napp and others describing biogeographic domains on the Bering Sea shelf.

Lorenzo Ciannelli - Working on the winter distributions of pollock, cod and arrowtooth flounder and their spawning aggregations. Two publications so far. Now focused on catch data (back to the 1960s) and cod maturity data.

Doug Reece - Working on the catch data. Testing the hypotheses that spawning distributions are less affected by environmental variability than feeding distributions. Looking for advice on how to characterize water conditions. Phyllis pointed out there are differences between surface and bottom and in addition, these differences affect water column stability.

Sandi Neidetcher - Submitted final NPRB report for the visual maturity key for cod, data collected from 2004-2009. Still struggling with some data quality issues; working to improve. Submitted were presence/absence maps of spawning and pre-spawning cod. Plan to add maps of post-spawning stages. Will work with Doug on environmental indices such as temperature and ice cover.

Will Satterthwaite - Working to characterize the prey field (from Patrick Ressler). Working on travel arrangements to travel to BC in early February on fur seal prey and foraging dynamics.

Nancy Friday - Gearing up for the 2010 work (e.g., placing observers on the acoustic survey). Alex Zerbin is beginning work on analysis of the 2008 data. Patrick Ressler will remind acoustic survey folks of the need for 3 berths for the whale observers.

Franz Mueter - For the retrospective analysis, have so far been focusing on fish (e.g., ocean conditions and pollock). Will begin seabird analysis early next year.

Mike Sigler wrote:

WEDNESDAY DEC 16 FROM **900-1030 AM** ALASKA TIME (NOTE THE TIME CHANGE FROM THE ORIGINAL ANNOUNCEMENT)

Hello all,

Here is the calendar for Bering PI calls for December - February.

All meetings will be held from 900-1030 am Alaska time :

Wed 12/16

Wed 1/13

Wed 2/17

As usual, the meeting purpose is for PIs to briefly describe recent or upcoming news from each project.

"See you" then.

Mike

PARTICIPANT - JOIN AN ON DEMAND PLUS CALL:

1 - Dial the toll-free On-Demand Plus Number: 888-387-8686

2 - Enter the Room number: 5273568 and press #

3 - You will be placed directly into the meeting if the moderator has already joined.

If the moderator hasn't joined, you will be placed on hold for up to 10 minutes.

(For international users, dial 001-303-928-3281)