



NOAA FISHERIES

Professional Development Series

Sponsored by

The Office of Science and Technology

Is offering a new **Training Workshop:**

Data-Limited Stock Assessments: Principles and Applications

DATES: February 6-8, 2018

LOCATION: AFSC Seattle, WA

INSTRUCTORS: Jason Cope and Chantel Wetzel

PARTICIPATION: **ONSITE-** Limited to 25 people, with preference given to NOAA affiliated participants. To indicate your interest in onsite participation, please register through the google link by January 9th. **REMOTE-** Please email Abigail.furnish@noaa.gov if interested in remote participation.

ABSTRACT: There is an overwhelming need to provide methods to assess fish stocks that have not been assessable in the past, a fact that holds for many stocks within regional Fishery Management Plans. Many of these stocks lack, with little hope of gaining, the high-level of data needed for traditional stock assessments. In response to this glaring need there has been a rapid introduction and evolution of new methodologies to assess what are now termed “data-limited” stocks. There is now a great need to increase agency capacity to understand and apply these methods. This training course is designed to be highly practical and hands-on; attendees will learn the theory and the practice of working with data-limited stock assessments working with both test and real data sets. Real data sets are highly encouraged as the user will be able to take away a practical example of pros and cons of applying data-limited methods to a stock of interest.

BIOGRAPHIES: **Jason Cope** is a Research Fishery Biologist for the Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle, WA, and has conducted stock assessments on groundfishes since 2003. He has spent the past several years developing tools and teaching courses on data/resource-limited approaches to fisheries management, with an emphasis on outreach capacity to further the use of these tools both domestically and internationally.

Chantel Wetzel is a stock assessment scientist at the Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle, WA focusing on West Coast groundfish stocks. Her primary research focuses on informing fishery management by evaluating management actions and the resulting outcomes through the use of simulation modeling and management strategy evaluation tools.

For more information on the course, please contact: Meaghan Bryan at Meaghan.bryan@noaa.gov. For more info on the Professional Development program, contact Abigail Furnish at Abigail.furnish@noaa.gov