

ESSAS to meet in Hakodate, Japan 4-8 June 2007 for workshops and planning of future activities

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Prof. Yasunori Sakurai of the Faculty of Fisheries, Hokkaido University, a member the GLOBEC SSC, has invited the GLOBEC Regional Program, Ecosystem Studies of Sub-Arctic Seas (ESSAS) to hold its 2007 annual meeting in Hakodate, Japan. In addition to the meeting of the ESSAS Science Steering Committee (SSC) on 8 June, ESSAS will hold a two-day workshop on 4-5 June on "The role of seasonal sea ice cover in marine ecosystems", and a one day workshop on 6 June on "Evaluation of Future ESSAS Climate Scenarios". These workshops will be followed on 7 June by a discussion of approaches to the use of models to compare the effects of climate change on the sub-arctic seas.

The co-convenors for the workshop on the role of sea ice are Professor Egil Sakshaug, Professor Sei-ichi Saitoh and Dr John Bengtson. The workshop on the role of sea ice will focus on what will happen to the amount, timing and fate of primary production as the temporal and spatial extent of ice cover, as well as its thickness, decreases in response to warming. The workshop will examine the mechanisms whereby sea ice influences these and other aspects of the marine environments of the sub-arctic seas. These topics address questions that will be the focus of new regional programmes in both the Atlantic and Pacific regions of interest to ESSAS. Although the focus of this workshop will

be sub-arctic marine ecosystems, there will be presentations on Antarctic systems where there has been extensive work on understanding the determinants of production and its fate in the Southern Ocean marginal ice zones.

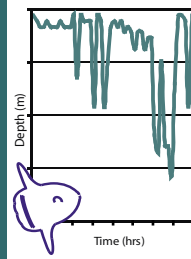
Convened by Dr Jim Overland, the objective of the workshop on predicting future climate scenarios for the sub-arctic seas is to develop realistic scenarios of the effects of global warming on the climates of the sub-arctic seas. The eventual goal will be to create down-scaled climate and physical oceanographic scenarios for each of the various sub-arctic regions. These are important steps in providing the ESSAS Working Groups on Modelling Ecosystem Response and Biophysical Coupling with realistic inputs for modelling and for the development of an understanding of future impacts of climate change on the sustainability of fisheries in these regions.

The discussion on modelling approaches will be led by the newly-formed ESSAS Working Group on Modelling Ecosystem Response. This group, led by Bern Megrey, Shin-ichi Ito and Kenny Rose will have close ties with other groups of modellers working in the sub-arctic seas.

Although space is limited, those wishing to participate in these workshops should contact George Hunt (glhunt@uci.edu).



second international symposium on the
Tagging And Tracking Of Marine Fish With Electronic Devices
<http://unh.edu/taggingsymposium/>
October 8 - 11, 2007, San Sebastian, Spain


The Second International Symposium on Tagging and Tracking Marine Fish with Electronic Devices, will be held on 8-11 October 2007 at the Palacio de Miramar, in Donostia, San Sebastian, Spain. The meeting will focus on the use of electronic devices to track movements and behaviours of marine fishes - present and future challenges and perspectives.

This symposium will provide an opportunity for scientists working in the marine environment to review the state of the art of electronic tagging and tracking, to examine the type and quality of information currently obtained and to identify future research challenges and tag developments. The symposium will make an important contribution in solving scientific questions motivating CLITOP Working Group 2 on Physiology, Behaviour and Distribution.

This symposium will appeal to:

- Biologists currently using or considering the use of electronic tagging and tracking devices.
- Assessment scientists and fishery managers interested in improving stock assessment estimates through the inclusion of behaviour.
- Fishery managers interested in creating more effective regulations.
- Engineers interested in developing and marketing new devices.
- Physical oceanographers interested in the possibility of using large marine animals as autonomous environmental samplers.

Organising Committee

- Haritz Arrizabalaga, Spain
- Nuno Fragoso, USA
- Molly Lutcavage, USA
- John Sibert, USA

Scientific Committee

- Alistair Hobday, Australia
- Bruce Mate, USA
- Jennifer Nielson, USA
- Ron O'dor, USA