

INFORMATIONAL REPORT ON THE  
MARINE RESOURCES EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Council is entering its second year of working with the Marine Resource Education Program (MREP), which provides training in fisheries science and management for fishermen and others who want to learn more about the Council process.

MREP was founded 12 years ago by a group of New England fishermen and is now managed by the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. The program aims to provide a neutral, workshop-based overview of fisheries science and management to fishermen. To date, more than 800 fishermen in five Council regions have graduated from the program.

Last year, an MREP science workshop was held in Santa Cruz and a management workshop was held in Portland. This year, the science workshop was held on August 29-31 and the management workshop will be held on October 17-19 in the same cities.

These workshops build upon each other: a three-day Fishery Science workshop followed by a three-day Fishery Management workshop. Presenters are drawn from National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Offices and Science Centers, the Fishery Management Councils, research institutions, and the fishing community. Workshops are designed and held as a collaborative effort, and they always provide for an industry moderator to help interject questions and keep the discussion relevant to the fishing community. Participants leave the workshops prepared to engage confidently in fishery management and to critically evaluate the science affecting their fishery.

A summary of the science workshop agenda is provided below. There were 29 participants, and speakers included Bob Dooley, Dan Wolford, Frank Lockhart, Kevin Werner, Kristen Koch, Sherry Flumerfelt, Steve Freese, Chantal Weltzel, Susan Sogard, John DeVore, John Field, Michael O'Farrell, John Gruver, John Holloway, Lyall Bellquist, David Crabbe, Joe Petersen, Jim Anderson, Tom Maricich, Jan Newton, Cameron Spier, Steve Lindley, and others.

**DAY ONE**

Program & Agenda Overview  
Fishery Science & Management Very High  
Level Overview  
Fishery Dependent Data Collection  
Fishery Independent Data Collection  
Lab Tour (fish tracking, boatyard, genetics,  
stock identification, population structure,  
fish aging, otoliths, etc).

**DAY TWO**

Stock Assessment & Modeling Overview  
"STAR" Overview  
Fishermen's Science and Introduction to  
Collaborative Research  
Gear demos

**DAY THREE**

Oceanography & Climate Drivers

The agenda for the October management workshop in Portland has not been finalized, but the main topics will likely be similar to last year's:

- Magnuson-Stevens Act Overview
- Overview of Federal Fisheries Management
- Fishery Management Council Process Overview
- Tribes and Management
- Monitoring & Accountability
- West Coast Regional Office: The Bridge from Science to Management
- West Coast Region Enforcement Overview & Considerations
- Essential Fish Habitat
- Introduction to Robert's Rules of Order
- Role Play Scenarios
- How to Get Involved
- Sustainable Fisheries, Visioning and Current Issues

For more information or to apply to attend the management workshop, see <http://gmri.org/fisheries-convening/mrep-west> or contact Jennifer Gilden, Council staff.

PFMC  
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