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ICES Working Group on the Northwest Atlantic Regional Sea (WGNARS)

Open Science Symposium

Ecosystem Based Management and Integrated Ecosystem Assessments

Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Ford Auditorium, 30 April 2019, 9 am – 5 pm

The objective of the Open Science Symposium is to present ICES WGNARS outcomes to date to the Science community working in the Northwest Atlantic and to invite presentations that are relevant and complimentary to the work of WGNARS and participation by all who are interested. We are particularly interested in indicators of ocean health, productivity, and the benefits and services derived from our marine system, and more broadly anyone engaged or interested in developing science in support of ecosystem-based management and Integrated Ecosystem Assessments. We welcome new ideas, approaches and interest in our work.

The ICES WGNARS has been working since 2009 towards developing Integrated Ecosystem Assessment capacity in the Northwest Atlantic region to support ecosystem approaches to science and management. The core membership of WGNARS is drawn from Fisheries and Oceans Canada and NOAA Fisheries Science and Ecosystem Management staff, with a large contingent of collaborators from other federal departments, academia, NGOs, and fisheries management body staff. Over the years, WGNARS has shared information across disciplines and developed an inventory of potential indicators for system assessment, identified objectives for the IEA by drawing from existing regulations and guidance documents in the US and Canada, used the objectives and indicators as essential guides to develop collaborative and holistic interdisciplinary models of the system, and this work has begun to feed directly into the management process in the US.

The current TORs of WGNARS include:

- **Assess system productivity under shifting oceanographic processes and improve integration into IEA products.**
- **Evaluate approaches to integrating multi-spatial scale models into integrated management advice.**
- **Evaluate ecosystem trade-offs using a range of management strategy evaluation (MSE) methods.**

If you plan to submit an abstract for oral presentation and/or poster, please do so by 18 January 2019 to Jamie Tam: Jamie.Tam@dfo-mpo.gc.ca. Abstracts should include the title, authors' names, affiliation and email of main author, paper and/or poster and should not exceed 300 words.

For more information about ICES WGNARS see: <http://www.ices.dk/community/groups/Pages/WGNARS.aspx>
<https://www.researchgate.net/project/ICES-Working-Group-for-the-North-Atlantic-Regional-Sea-WGNARS>