

2022 ICES Workshop WKUSER2

Unavoidable survey effort reduction #2



The ICES Working Group on Improving use of Survey Data for Assessment and Advice (WGISDAA) invites survey and stock assessment scientists to participate in the second workshop on unavoidable survey effort reduction (WKUSER2). The workshop will investigate challenges to maintaining consistent time series of survey data products for stock assessment models in the face of unavoidable changes to survey effort caused by budget variations, weather, vessel downtime and shifts in species distributions. There is a need to develop methods that provide a better understanding of the risks of different options to deal with changes in survey effort, to investigate methods that can minimize information loss and to investigate which methods are most appropriate under which conditions. These tools are needed to assist survey scientists to make better decisions when unexpected events force changes, but also to facilitate better contingency planning and the ability to convey the likely consequences to assessment scientists and policy makers.

Participants are encouraged to contribute to the following topics:

- **Survey design for flexibility.** Review and summarize desired attributes of survey design that allow for flexibility when dealing with changes in survey effort and need to expand survey into new areas of species expansion due to changes in the ecosystem.
- **Combining surveys, dealing with data gaps.** Collate advice on methods to combine data from different sources, how to deal with data gaps and how to perform survey calibrations.
- **Modelling and simulations.** Further develop model performance evaluation through simulations, use of auxiliary information to improve survey data products, including appropriate propagation of uncertainty.
- **Tools and technology development.** Describe technological and analytical tools (e.g. R packages, AI, video analysis, etc.) that can provide quantitative assessment of the effect of effort changes on the quality of survey deliverables and advisory products.



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