

From: Tony Marshak - NOAA Affiliate
Subject: Call for Abstracts - Habitat Science Symposium at American Fisheries Society Meeting in Atlantic City (August 2018)

The NOAA Fisheries Office of Science and Technology will be hosting a symposium at the upcoming American Fisheries Society Meeting (August 19-23, 2018) in Atlantic City, NJ. entitled,

"Advances in Habitat Science to support an Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Framework"

Symposium Description: Ecosystem-based fishery management (EBFM) has evolved to become a cornerstone to managing the nation's marine fisheries and habitats sustainably. Ecosystem-based fishery management complements and builds off-of traditional single species fishery management. Our ability to effectively implement EBFM and make sound decisions depends on access to reliable, accurate, and actionable ecological, social, and economic information, tools, approaches, and models. NOAA Fisheries is in the process of implementing ecosystem approaches to management based on Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management (EBFM) Policy [1] and Roadmap[2] adopted in 2016. The agency is on track to complete regional EBFM implementation plans in 2018. Moving towards a holistic management approach requires sound scientific information with an emphasis on improving our understanding of environmental processes and stressors. The identification of habitats that are essential for sustaining living marine resources is an essential component. This symposium session will focus on research efforts, available information, and new methodology and tools that will enable decision-makers to gain a greater understanding of species-habitat relationships, habitat vulnerability, habitat conditions, and management considerations.

[1] NMFS. 2016. Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Policy of the National Marine Fisheries Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Available: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/op/pds/documents/01/01-120.pdf>.

[2] NMFS. 2016. NMFS Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Roadmap. Available: https://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/Assets/ecosystems/ebfm/EBFM_Road_Map_final.pdf

We invite presentations from all interested in participating. The submission deadline is March 16th, and abstracts may be uploaded using the following link:

<https://afs.confex.com/afs/2018/cfp.cgi>

Please contact Tony Marshak (tony.marshak@noaa.gov) if you have any questions.

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In support of

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