Improving ecosystem information and synthesis for fishery managers

UCT-SANCOR Seminar

By

Dr. Scott Large

United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) - National Marine Fisheries Service

Date

Monday, 10 June 2024 | 13h00 SAST

In-person

UCT Oceanography Department, RW James Building (map)

Online

RSVP here to receive the link.

About the Speaker

Scott Large works for the United States National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA-Fisheries) and leads a team of scientists to provide guidance and tools to facilitate Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management for the Northeastern United States. Before moving to NOAA, he was a Professional Officer at the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) in Copenhagen, Denmark. At ICES, he worked as a project manager for the Advisory Department and sought to make consistent, transparent, and automated products to support ecosystem advice and advice for fishing opportunities.

Scott is broadly interested in understanding the dynamics between human activities and ecosystem structure and function. One of his favorite areas of research is delineating ecosystem thresholds and he has explored empirical methods to identify the level of fishing (or other human activities) and the environment that results in threshold responses in ecosystem state. These tipping-points are important for ecosystem-based management because they can be used to inform reference points or decision criteria for management action.

Abstract

The United States Northeast Atlantic Shelf is among the more rapidly warming marine systems worldwide. It is also home to culturally and economically important fisheries that are experiencing declines in productivity and shifts in distribution. NOAA-Fisheries is developing tools to ensure fisheries are resilient in response to changing human uses and climate change. During this seminar, I will discuss these tools and some of the different pathways that the Northeastern region is using to incorporate ecosystem and socioeconomic considerations into advice to fishery managers. I will also discuss how NOAA-Fisheries is leveraging regional ocean models to provide forecasts and projections with the aim for climate-ready fisheries.