**South West Marine Ecosystems 2014**

**April 4th PML Plymouth**

**Programme**

The 2014 South West Marine Ecosystems Meeting (SWME) meeting will take place in the new lecture theatre at the Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML <http://www.pml.ac.uk/Contact-us> ) on April 4th. The format and content will be similar to previous years with a mix of long and short presentations and good time for discussion and networking. Thanks to the generosity of PML the price will remain the same at £15 to help attract the widest range of people and in particular volunteers, students interested this area of work. The full programme is set out below but the objectives of the meeting include:

1. **Networking** To provide a networking opportunity for a wide cross section of people  to meet and exchange views on south-west marine ecosystems; this would include volunteer observations and schemes, marine science and research interests, managers and a range of sea users including nature conservation, fishing, tourism etc.
2. **To assess the annual events – ecological and oceanographic - of the previous year** that have affected the south west marine ecosystems – making the linkages between environmental and biological phenomena e.g. SST on plankton or mackerel and cetaceans. We will be asking delegates to contribute their observations on 2013.
3. **Ecology of mainly ‘mobile’ species** To explore research studies that throw particular light on aspects of ecology of marine species, and in particular ‘mobile’ species (fish, birds, mammals, turtles) and the ecosystem that supports them and to understand **the status of populations of marine species** in the south west and how they are responding to environmental and anthropogenic pressures
4. **Management and southwest marine ecosystems** To understand the linkages between science to managing human activities the marine environment with a view to supporting the health of southwest marine ecosystems

**Programme**

EV 4th February 2014 **Bold** = confirmed

8.45 Registration and refreshments

**Session 1 Weather, Events & Observations in 2013, Oceanography**

9.30 **Welcome and Introduction to the day** - Chair: **Abigail McQuatters-Gollop** SAHFOS

9.35 **Events & observations in 2013: Delegates will be invited to bring along and comment**

 **on the events and their observations of 2013 using structured approach**

facilitated by **Bob Earll** CMS

10.00 **View from the Western Channel Observatory – 2013: a year on the edges of the**

 **envelope**  **Tim Smyth** Western Channel Observatory, PML

10.20 **Satellite observations of SW oceanography in 2013, and developments in using fronts to describe ecological interactions** **Peter Miller** PML

10.35 **Results of a** **multi-trophic level study in 2013** **Lavina Suberg** NOC

10.50 **“Marine top predators and oceanographic fronts: are fronts used as foraging habitats?”** **Kylie Scales** PML/Plymouth University

11.05 – 11.20 Discussion with the previous three speakers

11.20 Significant shorts – short presentations and updates 4 x 5 mins

11.20 **Fine-scale physical controls of top predator foraging? Samantha Cox** Plymouth University

11.25 ***Calanus helgolandicus* trends in the English Channel over 25 years** **Jacqueline Maud** PML

11.30 **Storm events and the impacts on sea populations** **Dan Jarvis** Cornwall Sea Group

11.35 **Marine wildlife natural history from north Devon – Dave Jenkins** – presented by Bob Earll

11.40 - 12.20 First break: Sandwiches and refreshments

12.20 Session 2 **Fish and mobile species** Chair: **Wesley Smyth**

Team Leader, Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Regional Seas Team, Natural England

12.20 **Fish productivity in the south west – assessing small pelagic fish populations**

**Jeroen can der Kooji** Cefas

12.40 **Seal site variability revealed by sustainable citizen science – a perspective of seal sites in the south-west** **Sue Sayer** Cornwall Seal Group

13.00 **Gannets: at-sea distribution and origins of birds in the south-west**  **Steve Votier**

 Environment and Sustainability Institute, University of Exeter, Cornwall Campus

13.20 Presentation to be announced

13.40 Significant shorts – short presentations and updates 4 x 5 mins

13.40 **Polyisobutene and the south west bird wreck** **Niki Clear** Cornwall Wildlife Trust

13.45 **CWT Seaquest work which has included the basking shark surveys this past year**

 **Abby Crosby** Cornwall Wildlife Trust

13.50 **Great Eggcase Hunt; using citizen science to enhance our understanding of species**

 **diversity and distribution** **Cat Gordon** Shark Trust

13.55 **Angler Recording Project; do records from recreational anglers accurately reflect known diversity?** **John Richardson** Shark Trust

14.00 – 14.40 Second break: Cakes and refreshments

14.40 Session 3 Using science to inform marine management Chair: **Samantha Davis**

**Principal Scientific Officer, Cornwall Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority**

14.40 -14.55 **The Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Celtic Seas Partnership**

 **Natasha Barker Bradshaw** Celtic Seas Partnership - WWF-UK

 14.55 -15.10 **'The future is bright, the future is yellow. Result of the Banana Pinger Trial'**

 **Ruth Williams**, Marine Conservation Manager for Cornwall Wildlife Trust

**15.10 – 15.25 Bottlenose dolphin conservation – a critical assessment**

**Simon Ingram** Plymouth University

15.25 – 15.40 Discussion panel with the previous 3 speakers

15.40 – 16.10 **What criteria should we use to assess the importance of areas for mobile marine wildlife in coastal and open sea situations** **Tom Brereton** Marine Life

Discussion panel

16.10 **Observations on porpoise ecology and images from the work of Marine Discovery**

**Hannah Jones and Duncan Jones Marine Discovery**

16.30 Close and refreshments

**SEE BOOKING FORM BELOW**

**SWME Booking Form**

**Please email confirmation that you will be attending in good time before the conference**

**Your name, organisation and email will be used in the delegate listing sent to delegates**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Organisation\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

[BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE – these details go in the delegate list and on your badge]

Address\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**It is essential for pre and post-conference (outputs) communication to have delegates email address**

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Needs: Do you have any special dietary needs\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

All delegates including speakers will pay the conference fee of £15.00

I wish to pay by Cheque \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Cash on the day \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (tick as appropriate)

Receipts will be provided.

Booking should be sent to Bob Earll, Candle Cottage, Kempley, Glos GL18 2BUor by email bob.earll@coastms.co.uk

**Cheques should be made payable to ‘R.Earll ’**  Tel/fax 01531 890415