

Announcing a 2024 Marine Resource Education Program (MREP) Workshop for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council Region

We are pleased to announce there will be a 2024 Marine Resources Education Program (MREP): a free (to accepted applicants) 5-day educational workshop for fishery users to learn the in's and out's of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council process. Applications to participate can be found at: <https://mrep.gmri.org/apply>

The workshop is free to participants. In addition, through grant funding, we pay for your travel to/from the workshop, and your meals and accommodation during travel as well as at the workshop.



MREP North Pacific Fisheries Science & Management Workshop February 26-March 1, 2024* Kodiak, AK

**Participants are expected to commit to attending all days of the workshop and will be awarded a certificate of completion of the workshop.*

The goal of the program is to empower fishery users new to the Council process on how to engage effectively and get their voice heard in the current federal fishery management council system. **If you're interested in shaping the fisheries you're involved in, apply for the workshop today! Preference will be given to applications received by Nov. 1.** Learn more at mrep.gmri.org. Applicants will be updated with their status by November 10th.

Designed by and for those involved in and impacted by fisheries, MREP provides fishermen involved in and impacted by federal fisheries an opportunity to gain insight into how fisheries health and potential are assessed, and how that information leads to regulations within the current federal Fishery Management Council system. Participants can expect to learn about:

Fisheries science

- Data collection (dependent + independent)
- Local and traditional knowledge task force
- Fishermen's science + collaborative research
- Scientific uncertainty and how it is handled
- Survey methodology
- Oceanography
- Stock assessment overview (groundfish)
- Scientific specs for other species
- Lab tour for hands-on learning

Fisheries management

- Magnuson-Stevens Act and other laws that pertain to Council decision-making
- Council process overview
- Federal fisheries management (bodies, how they integrate)
- Robert's Rules (the "language" used at the Council)
- A mock council exercise
- How to get involved - *bringing it all together!*

Each year, MREP brings together a diversity of fishery users including commercial, charter, recreational and subsistence fishermen with scientists, managers, and other marine resource professionals in the North Pacific fisheries region to learn and network in a neutral and casual yet professional setting.

Seats are limited, as our funding to pay for all participants' travel, meals, and accommodation is limited. The program managers at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) will facilitate a collaborative applicant review call with a subset of the [MREP North Pacific Exploratory Committee \(see below\)](#) to determine which applicants will be accepted into the 2024 workshop.

Applicants will be notified by Nov. 10 whether you have a seat. If not accepted, we will ask if the applicant wishes to be considered for MREP the following year (dates not yet set). Our goal is to bring together a group representing a variety of perspectives across the region. If we do not have a seat for you this year, we will carry your application forward for next year's applicant review.

Our MREP North Pacific
Steering Committee
members:



Regional industry and community leaders involved in shaping this workshop are available to respond to inquiries about the workshop:

<https://mrep.gmri.org/mrep-industryleaders/north-pacific>

MREP is managed by a neutral facilitator at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI). General questions about the program should be directed to Lauren O'Brien, MREP Director, (207) 228-1684 or lobrien@gmri.org.

