

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Announcing the 2027 Marine Resource Education Program (MREP) Workshop for the North Pacific Fishery Management Council Region

We are pleased to announce the 2027 Marine Resources Education Program (MREP) workshop: a 5-day educational workshop for fishery users to learn the ins and outs 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 accepted applicants. Your travel to/from the workshop, meals and accommodations are paid for through our grant funding.



MREP North Pacific Fisheries Science & Management Workshop April 26-30, 2027 in Kodiak, AK

**Participants are expected to commit to attending all days of the workshop in-person 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 November 1**. Learn more at mrep.gmri.org.

Designed by fishermen, for fishermen, 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 policy and regulations within the current federal fishery management council system. Participants can expect to learn about:

Fisheries science

- Data collection (dependent & independent)
- How local and traditional knowledge is considered in the NPFMC
- Fishermen's science & collaborative research
- Scientific uncertainty and how it is handled
- Survey methodology
- Oceanography and climate drivers
- Stock assessment overview and other scientific understandings of ecosystem/population health
- Lab tour for hands-on learning

Fisheries management

- Magnuson-Stevens Act and other laws that pertain to Council decision-making
- Council process overview
- Sovereign tribal relationship with federal fisheries mgmt
- 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 an objective and casual yet professional setting.

Seats are limited due to funding. The program managers at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute (GMRI) will facilitate a collaborative applicant review call with the MREP North Pacific Steering Committee (QR code below to see list) to determine which applicants will be accepted into the 2027 workshop.

Applicants will be notified by November 20 whether you have a seat or are waitlisted. If waitlisted, a seat may be offered to you at a later date if an accepted individual cancels. Our goal is to bring together a group representing a variety of perspectives across the North Pacific region. If you are not selected this year, you can be considered in following years.

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 Senior Program Manager, lobrien@gmri.org.

