



The Center for the Advancement of Population Assessment Methodology will host a workshop on
Natural Mortality: Theory, estimation and application in fishery stock assessment models

Seattle, WA, USA, March 23-27, 2020.

[venue: Fisheries Sciences Building Room 102, 1122 NE Boat St, Seattle, WA 98105, USA.](#)

The Natural Mortality Workshop is the eighth in a series organized by CAPAM as part of its *Good Practices in Stock Assessment Modeling* Program for improving fishery stock assessments. The workshop is sponsored by NOAA and the University of Washington. The primary goal of the workshop is to provide advice and guidance on practices for modeling natural mortality in fishery assessments. The focus is on model specification, parameter estimation, and management consequences. The 5-day forum will include an interactive modeling session, keynote and research presentations, and focused discussions. Invited keynote speakers include John Pope, Kai Lorenzen, Holly Kindsvaster, Éva Plagányi, André Punt, Richard Hillary, Jason Cope, and Ian Taylor. The meeting will be chaired by Owen Hamel, NWFSC, NOAA. Major topics include:

- Life History Theory
- Approaches to modelling natural mortality (*size/age-based natural mortality, gender-specific, time-varying, spatial variation, confounding with other parameters, diagnostics*)
- Multispecies approaches to estimating single-species natural mortality rates
- Consequences of error in natural mortality rate modelling
- Modelling natural mortality in Rockfish (*Sebastes*) stock assessments
- Modelling natural mortality using the Stock Synthesis modelling framework

Scientists are encouraged to present work from both ongoing research efforts, as well as completed studies. Attendees who plan to present research need to submit a presentation title and abstract (one-page maximum) by January 15, 2020 (earlier submission is encouraged). A special issue in the journal *Fisheries Research* will be open for submissions on the 1st of January 2020 for papers presented to the workshop and other works on the general topic of natural mortality. Presentations will have a 20-minute maximum and 10-minute question period. For general information concerning the overall workshop, please contact the meeting coordinator (claudio.jordan@noaa.gov) or the Chair (owen.hamel@noaa.gov), and/or visit the CAPAM website (www.CAPAMresearch.org) for updated information.

We have secured room blocks at two hotels near to the venue.

[The Watertown](#) (4242 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105) - \$129 a night (*code: "CAPAMWT24WA"*)

[The University Inn](#) (4140 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105) - \$119 a night (*code: "CAPAMUI24WA"*)

Deadline for hotel reservations is the January 22, 2020.

<http://capamresearch.org/>