

Tracking Marine Ecosystem Response through Seabird Mortality Events

Convenors: Julia Parrish (University of Washington, jparrish@u.washington.edu)
Hannahrose Nevins (Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, hnevins@mlml.calstate.edu)

Abstract:

There is a need for regional (and global) detection and science-based assessment of significant seabird mortality events. Recent increases in the frequency and intensity of both natural (prey reductions) and human-related (HABs) mortality events has driven a need for the development for long-term, cross-study regional data centers with ability to synthesize data in timely manner and disseminate information via coordinated press releases among agencies, NGOs, institutions and on the web. We will review significant mortality events in last 10-20 years along the west coast of North America (as a case example) and comparison of relative importance based on science-based assessment vs. media-based information. Outcome will be the formation of a group of interested organizations and individuals who would like to participate in a global web-based reporting system of seabird mortality events.