

## Thomas Van Pelt

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**To:** best\_bsierp@list.arcus.org  
**Subject:** FW: Meeting notes: Bering Sea Project PI call for Tuesday November 10

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**From:** Thomas Van Pelt  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 10, 2009 17:18  
**To:** 'best\_bsierp@list.arcus.org'  
**Cc:** 'Mike Sigler'; Thomas Van Pelt  
**Subject:** Meeting notes: Bering Sea Project PI call for Tuesday November 10

all-- below are notes from this morning's PI call. Remember, all PIs are welcome to join the monthly calls. Next call is 0900 Alaska Time, 16 December. Mike Sigler will send a reminder and agenda around a few days prior to the next call.  
regards, --Tom

### **BEST- BSIERP Principal Investigator monthly call**

#### **Agenda, Tuesday November 10, 1000-1130 am Alaska time**

1. Describe recent or upcoming news from your project.
2. Change time of remaining meetings to 900-1030 am Alaska time (Wed 12/16, Wed 1/13, Wed 2/17)

#### **Meeting notes:**

In attendance: Mike Sigler, Kathy Kuletz, Tom Van Pelt, Francis Wiese, Andrew Trites, Ebett Siddon, Phil Mundy, Phyllis Stabeno, Nick Bond, Tracy Smart, Liz Moffitt, Kerim Aydin, Al Hermann, Jennifer Sepez, Sarah Kruse, Will Satterthwaite

**Kathy Kuletz:** has been working on broad-scale survey data, cleaning up data. Will start data processing and analysis soon with collaborator Martin Renner (UW). Patch Dynamics at-sea survey data also being cleaned up and will be processed in parallel with the broad-scale data. Collected birds: stomachs will be delivered soon to Kathy Turco (UAF) to be analyzed. Nathan Jones (grad student at Moss Landing Marine Labs) is taking tissue samples from collected birds for stable isotope analysis. Brian Hoover is a new grad student (also at Moss Landing Marine Labs) with the project and is starting to work with Patch colleagues at OSU to look at at-sea bird distribution in relation to prey availability. In re. the broad-scale survey data, Kathy has been talking with Patrick Ressler about overlaying MACE data on juvenile pollock and euphausiids with kittiwake and murre distribution data. Also, the bird component of PDS, and the broadscale-seabird project, are setting up a USFWS-OSU collaborative effort with Dr. Rob Suryan. Dr Suryan will compile satellite and other remotely sensed data layers, and assist in integrating seabird distribution and diet data with environmental data, to address BSIERP hypotheses.

**Andrew Trites:** beginning to look at fur seal data in relation to the oceanographic data from Scott Heppel and Kelly Benoit-Bird. Looking forward to and working towards a Patch side meeting at AMSS- very productive last year. Asks that all BEST-BSIERP posters at AMSS be located together, to facilitate discussion among PIs. *[group concurred that this is a good idea. Tom is following up on this. More information about BEST-BSIERP at AMSS will be forthcoming.]*

**Mike Sigler:** SAB activities; involved with new effort on the modeling projects, following up from interactions at the PI meeting in Girdwood: (1) SAB / modeler monthly meetings to support the modeling work and facilitate communication between modelers and observationalists, (2) effort facilitated by Francis Wiese to facilitate coordination among modeling projects and focus on decision points etc.

**Ebett Siddon:** working on building a GAM model on data from FOCI; continuing to sort zooplankton and ichthyoplankton samples collected on the Knorr summer 2009 cruise. MS student is looking at pollock and cod diets; Alexei Pinchuk currently in Juneau helping the MS student, who may spend time in Seward this winter to continue the collaboration.

**Tracy Smart:** to ease Ebett's load has found some extra space at the ichthyoplankton sorting center in Poland- shipping samples out now. Setting up models in collaboration with Lorenzo Ciannelli, pollock and cod interactions with temperature.

**Kerim Aydin:** (also representing Georgina): benefitting a lot from model / field interaction discussions started in Girdwood; e.g. Ivonne is assimilating data on pollock growth and distribution. Will help resolve some uncertainties. Just now starting to incorporate the new information- will be very active on this in the next month or two.

**Al Hermann:** working on model versus observed temps at M2 versus M4. Bad news is that M4 still has model producing temps a couple degrees too warm. Not shortwave radiation... Too much inflow from Unimak? Has been running sensitivity experiment- reduce Bering Strait outflow by half; doesn't change Unimak Pass inflow [note that Phyllis would have won the bet...]. May try narrowing Unimak next to explore influence.

**Nick Bond:** ready to go when ROMS/NPZ is ready

**Phyllis Stabeno:** finished field season- came in 12 October. Were out after the transition- fairly stormy, lots of mixing. All moorings came in ok—good data return. Now doing some post-calibrations; should have data by December.

**Jennifer Sepez:** has been working with Kerim on trophic level analysis (Hypothesis: trophic level of subsistence harvest increases to the north). Hypothesis not supported by the data, likely due to narrow trophic scope of resources harvested. E.g. not much plants eaten in any of the villages. Also halibut (eaten in south) is at relatively high trophic level. Finding stable trophic levels year-to-year. Now looking to apply optimal foraging theory- working with a collaborating anthropologist.

**Nancy Friday:** Zerbini is contracted but not full time at the moment (other commitments). In December he'll be contacting oceanographers etc. for data to work into his model.

**Sarah Kruse:** good interactions at PI meeting. Will do harvest survey at Savoonga this winter, and will do LTK interviews at Akutan, Togiak, Emmonak, and St. Paul.

**Will Satterthwaite:** working with Kathy and others building from PI meeting. Will get pollock size and depth data from Patrick Ressler; wants to get similar data from Scott and Kelly. Andrew said he'd help facilitate this, and also invites Will to UBC to work on fur seal portion of his model.

**Mike Sigler:** Reminds everyone that **next meeting is at 9:00 AM Alaska time on 16 December.**

**Al Hermann:** new supercomputer at UW-- he's trying to get foot in the door to get some time on it for BEST-BSIERP... : )

Close meeting at 11:00 AM.

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**From:** best\_bsierp@list.arcus.org [mailto:best\_bsierp@list.arcus.org] **On Behalf Of** Mike Sigler

**Sent:** Thursday, November 05, 2009 13:32

**To:** Bering BEST BSIERP PI list

**Subject:** REMINDER AND AGENDA: Bering Sea Project PI calls for Tuesday November 10

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