KACHEMAK BAY SCIENCE CONFERENCE 2018

"Science Without Borders: working across disciplines, boundaries and barriers"

Homer, Alaska

March 7-10, 2018

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

The Kachemak Bay Science Conference is pleased to announce the Call for Presentations and Posters for its 8th conference. The event will be held March 7-10, 2018 at the Alaska Islands and Oceans Visitor Center in Homer, Alaska.

Conference focus: The Kachemak Bay Science Conference is a forum for presenting scientific and traditional ecological knowledge relevant to Kachemak Bay and its surrounding coasts and waters in order to foster an informed and engaged community of environmental researchers, educators, and decision-makers. The goal of this conference is to provide new information and syntheses to the broad community interested in and working on related issues.

The conference program will feature oral and poster presentations that provide scientific information and ideas relevant to the topic sessions. The conference focus this year is "Science without Borders."

Oral Presentations

The oral presentations are expected to advance the state of knowledge by focusing on new findings, models, and the synthesis of past and ongoing studies that are relevant to the understanding of science, management, and cultural uses of the greater Kachemak Bay area (refer to 'Geographic and Environmental' scope). Oral presentations about project or program descriptions and/or summaries of planned future studies are discouraged. Submissions for oral presentations will be considered by the Steering Committed based on technical merits of the abstract, including relevance of the topics, presentation of the results, and importance of the findings.

Poster Presentations

The poster session is an important part of the Kachemak Bay Science Conference. Posters should be themed according to topic sessions or project summaries relevant to the greater Kachemak Bay area (refer to 'Geographic and Environmental' scope). Posters may also provide summaries of planned work or work that is in progress.

Geographic and Environmental Scope
While the title of this conference refers to Kachemak Bay, it is understood that physical and biological processes within Kachemak Bay are integrally tied to the surrounding marine and coastal ecosystems, including Cook Inlet, the entire Kenai Peninsula, and the western Gulf of Alaska. Therefore, presentations and participation from these areas focused on marine, coastal, and nearshore systems are encouraged. Further, it is acknowledged that the scientific and management communities among Kachemak Bay include individuals or agencies that are rooted here, but undertake work in different areas of Alaska. Presentations and participation by scientists and/or managers residing in and contributing to the broad Kachemak Bay community are also welcomed.

Topic sessions
We are inviting proposal for oral, and poster, presentations addressing the topic of science without borders through the following themes for Kachemak Bay marine and coastal ecosystems

i. Crossing Boundaries: Geographical Jurisdictions
ii. Crossing Barriers: Political & Societal
iii. Crossing Disciplines: Social, Physical and Biological Sciences
iv. Species Shifts: Locals, Visitors and Invasives

Proposal ideas that extend beyond these thematic areas will also be considered, but preference will be given based on topic relevance.

Submission & abstract requirements
All presenters (oral and poster) must create a user account to log-in and submit an abstract online at **www.kbayscience.org**. There is a 300 word limit for abstract text. Please fill in all blanks on the form, including selection of the appropriate topic session theme, any special projection equipment needs, and your preference for an oral or poster presentation. Depending on the number of submissions received, the conference organizers may move some of the oral presentation into the poster session and vice versa. Presentations and posters must be based on original work that may or may not have been published prior to the meeting.

All submissions must be submitted no later than January 19, 2018.

Abstract
A complete abstract (for oral and poster presentations) limited to 300 words or less should include the following components:

- **Title**
- **Principal investigators or project leads and their affiliations**
- **Problem statement and approach**: what problem did this project aim to solve, and how did the project go about solving and/or making progress?
- **Results**: What were the main findings?

- **Conclusion and relevance**: What are the implications of your findings, and what insights do your findings provide towards strengthening understanding of ecological systems in the Kachemak Bay and its surrounding coasts and waters

Your abstract must be submitted in the following format:
• No more than 300 words
• Use Times New Roman, 12 point font, single space
• First line: Title in bold font, First letter of title words capitalized only (e.g. no ALL CAPS)
• Second line: List primary author (last name, first name) and then other authors (last name, first name)
• Third Line: Affiliation below author line
• Leave a space between the title, authors, affiliation, and abstract body
• Single space abstract body
• Spell check and proofread carefully

Abstract example:

A Hydrographic Model for Cook Inlet

Gibson, Georgina[1]; Johnson, Mark[1]; Coyle, Kenneth[1]; Lyon Lanerolle[2]

1. University of Alaska Fairbanks, 2. National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration

A high resolution hydrographic model has been developed for Cook Inlet by NOAAs National Ocean Service. The model was initially developed to be an operational forecast system. The model is three-dimensional, high resolution with the capacity to resolve the strong tides and the wetting/drying of the coastline observed in the Inlet. In this presentation we will provide an introduction to the hydrographic model, and to the validation efforts that we are undertaking to assess the model skill in reproducing observed conditions within the inlet. We will demonstrate the utility of hydrographic models in addressing questions of ecosystem relevance through research examples that have used coupled hydrographic-biological models in Alaskan waters. Our aim is to provide grounding in the utility of models as research tools, and to generate discussion about how model products can support harmful algal bloom research and monitoring programs in Kachemak Bay.

Presentation formats
Oral: Depending on the contributed presentations, oral presentations will be 15 minutes plus 5 minutes for questions. The allotted time for presentations will be confirmed by the conference organizers upon acceptance of the presentation. Presentations shall be submitted prior to the conference no later than Friday February 23 and in a format transferrable to a USB jumpdrive (e.g. pdf or ppt file).

Poster: Poster will be mounted on cork board or easels for display. Maximum size of wall-mounted posters is 48”(portrait orientation), with 24” X 36” preferred. 24” X 36” is the maximum size for posters to be placed on easels. You are encouraged to provide printed handouts of your poster or other related information at the poster session. Cutaway folders to hold handouts will be provided.

**** Conference details are available @ www.kbayscience.org ****

Conference Coordinators: Kachemak Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, Center for Alaskan Coastal Studies, NOAA Kasitsna Bay Laboratory, Seldovia Village Tribe and the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Alaska Sea Grant.