

RACE Seminar Series

March 18, 2014, 10–11 a.m.

Traynor Seminar Room

Bldg 4, Rm 2076



NOAA
FISHERIES

Troy Buckley

**Summer diet
composition of
walleye pollock
in the eastern
Bering Sea,
1987-2011,
and predator-prey
relationships with
copepods and
euphausiids**

A close-up photograph of a walleye pollock's head, showing its mouth wide open. The fish is being held by a person wearing orange rubber gloves. The fish's mouth is filled with a large quantity of small, light-colored prey items, likely copepods and euphausiids. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a fishing vessel deck.

The diet of EBS pollock was determined from 25 years of sampling during summer surveys. Differences were found among the sizes, geographic strata and years. Euphausiids and copepods are perennially but variably important prey. The summer feeding success of 20-59 cm FL pollock appears to be closely related to the consumption of copepods rather than euphausiids. Interannual trends in the biomass of copepods and euphausiids in the EBS are reflected in the diets of specific sizes of pollock.