

RACE Seminar Series

February 4, 2014, 10–11 a.m.

Traynor Seminar Room

Bldg 4, Rm 2076



NOAA
FISHERIES



Libby Logerwell

SHELFZ

**(Shelf Habitat and Ecology of Fish
and Zoolplankton)
of the Chukchi Sea 2013**

A group of scientists from AFSC, University of Washington, University of Alaska Fairbanks and the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife surveyed the fish and invertebrate community from the beach to the shelf during August-September 2013. The goal of this project, SHELFZ, is to collect baseline information needed to detect and predict impacts of changing environment and increased human activities on arctic ecosystems. The project is funded by the State of Alaska Coastal Impact Assistance Program, and lead by the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management in Barrow, Alaska. The focus is on areas and resources integral to subsistence communities of the North Slope of Alaska. The work was conducted on two chartered vessels. The *F/V Alaska Knight* surveyed the offshore area, deeper than 20 m depth, while the *Ukpik* surveyed the nearshore area, shallower than 20 m. Both vessels sampled with bottom trawls, midwater trawls, fishery acoustics, zooplankton nets and oceanographic instruments. Scientists on the nearshore boat, *Ukpik*, also deployed beach seines. This talk will explore species composition of fish and invertebrate communities in the benthic and pelagic habitats. Similarities and differences between the offshore and nearshore will be examined. Spatial distribution will also be investigated, with particular attention to the role of Barrow Canyon in determining distribution and species diversity.

