

**Theme Session on Marine Integrated Data  
Proposed for the 2010 ICES ASC-Nante France**

**Title:** Data for the Masses: Recent advances in the application of Marine Data and Information Management

**Theme Session Chairs:** Bernard Megrey (PICES TCODE, USA), Neil Holdsworth (ICES DC, Denmark), Edward Vanden Berghe (OBIS, USA)

Management of data and information within the marine science community has become a very important component in the quest to provide more comprehensive and time sensitive advice to ecosystem and fisheries managers. There are significant difficulties in integrating diverse fishery, oceanographic, and other marine environmental data. In addition, the tools to enable fishery and environmental assessments needed to respond to the requirements for ecosystem-based management initiatives are still in a remedial state of development. There are a growing number of databases and data sources requiring new approaches to enable efficient access to the data.

As these challenges are not unique to the ICES world, a co-sponsored theme session with PICES is proposed as a follow up to the data management session at the 2008 ICES ASC and the 2008 session at the PICES annual meeting. Both sessions attracted a large number of contributions.

This theme session will provide the opportunity to update the community on new approaches and endeavors by inviting database specialists, distributed data specialists, visualization specialists, end-users and others to present and/or demonstrate:

- tools for re-use of data (including a live demo session), and recycling of tools (specifically open source software)
- data publication – linking reports to data
- *de facto* standards and how to establish them as widely accepted standards
- data availability versus data visibility