The University of Washington in collaboration with the Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) seeks a postdoctoral scholar in fisheries science. The postdoctoral scholar will collaborate with researchers from the AFSC’s Groundfish Assessment Program (GAP), Marine Ecology and Assessment Program (MESA), Economic and Social Science Research Program (ESSR) and Status of Stocks and Multispecies Assessment Program (SSMA) to devise survey scenarios that will be used to determine the impacts of alternative survey design, sampling frequency and density on the performance of stock assessment models and fisheries under a range of climate variability scenarios. This evaluation will enable researchers to explore the cumulative effects of prolonged periods of reduced sampling density or reduced survey frequency in a changing climate. In addition, researchers will be able to comprehensively estimate the value of survey information, quantify temporal variability of management advice and the resulting fishing opportunities (e.g., coefficient of variation for ABC, TAC, catch, revenue) and the probability of stocks falling below target and limit reference points (e.g., overfishing).

The main responsibility of the postdoctoral scholar will be to develop an operating model that will simulate age-structured population dynamics for various Alaska groundfish species under a range of climate variability scenarios. The operating model will be used as part of a management strategy evaluation (MSE) to quantify the value of survey information when anticipating changing climate and changing sampling strategies. The postdoctoral scholar will also be responsible for writing one or two scientific papers documenting the operating model and, if time and funds permit, conducting the full MSE to evaluate the implications of altering survey frequency and design.

The earliest possible start date is October 1, 2020 , but this is negotiable. Initial appointments are for 1 year, with reappointment up to a total of two years pending performance review and funding availability. The position will remain open until filled. We encourage interested individuals to apply as soon as possible.

The post-doc will be supervised by Dr. André Punt (University of Washington) and will primarily collaborate with Drs. Meaghan Bryan, Lewis Barnett, and Stephen Kasperski (Alaska Fisheries Science Center).

QUALIFICATIONS: Earned Ph.D. in Fisheries Science, Quantitative Ecology, Applied Statistics or a related field; experience or training in fish population dynamics, modelling structured populations, and simulation experiments; proficiency in programming languages such as R, and/or related applications such as AD Model Builder, Template Model Builder and Stock Synthesis; ability to work in a collaborative environment.

LOCATION: Seattle, WA (telework initially)

TO APPLY: Please contact André Punt (aepunt@uw.edu), Meaghan Bryan (meaghan.bryan@noaa.gov), Lewis Barnett (lewis.barnett@noaa.gov), and Stephen Kasperski (stephen.kasperski@noaa.gov) with 1) a letter of interest describing how your experiences meet the qualifications, 2) a curriculum vitae, 3) at least one peer-reviewed publication, and 4) the names and contact information of three references.