

ANNOUNCEMENT OF WORKSHOP

EVALUATING BALLAST WATER TREATMENT SYSTEMS ONBOARD SHIPS: TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC APPROACHES

*Organized by the Aquatic Bioinvasion Research and Policy Institute,
and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission*

*and sponsored by Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Prince William Sound Regional
Citizen's Advisory Council, Smithsonian-Portland State Aquatic Bioinvasion Research &
Policy Institute and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission*

Biological invasions in coastal ecosystems have resulted in significant ecological, economic, and public health impacts. Recently, the observed rate of new invasions has increased exponentially in coastal habitats worldwide.

In North America, most marine invasions have resulted from transfer of species associated with ships. Increases in the volume and speed of shipping have accelerated shipping related introductions, and the transfer of species by ships may be driving the increase in the rate of new invasions. Concern about ship-mediated introductions has resulted in numerous state, federal, and international efforts to develop and evaluate treatment systems that reduce the number of organisms discharged in ballast water.

Evaluation of the performance of ballast treatment practices/technologies onboard ships, at full scale and under realistic operational regimes, is a common requirement of all ballast management efforts. Such scientific evaluation of treatment systems is challenging and expensive.

The **objective of this WORKSHOP** is to develop consensus recommendations for technical methods, experimental design, and key measures for full-scale, onboard evaluation of ballast water treatment technology. The recommendations are intended to serve as guidelines and assist in establishing standardized criteria in three main areas:

1. Basic research on the performance (effects) of ballast practices and technologies;
2. Tests to approve the use of specific practices and technologies;
3. Tests to determine compliance with regulatory requirements.

This **WORKSHOP** will examine strategies for full-scale evaluation of ballast water treatments aboard operational vessels, and develop specific technical recommendations and approaches for such evaluation. Development of a common approach and explicit criteria for treatment system evaluation is intended to facilitate cross-study comparisons by using a common currency (including methodology and measures).

The **WORKSHOP** will be structured to be product-oriented. The **WORKSHOP FORMAT** will be:

- Presentations by invited speakers to address specific key issues, setting a stage for focused discussions and resolutions.
- Attendees/participants will be technical experts in particular aspects of ballast water research, experimental and statistical design, ship design and operations, and organism-specific biology.
- Break-out workgroups will focus on and develop recommendations on key issues of design, methods, and goals.

This WORKSHOP is NOT intended to be a venue to learn about specific technologies, and this line of discussion will be discouraged and limited.

Based upon invited presentations and ensuing discussion, the WORKSHOP workgroups will develop consensus recommendations for ballast water treatment evaluations aboard ships. The recommendations are intended to explicitly weigh the merits and strengths of inference of specific designs with the real-world constraints of working aboard a vessel under various operational conditions.

Evaluating Ballast Water Treatment Systems Onboard Ships: Technical and Scientific Approaches Workshop will be held:

June 14 and 15, 2005
Embassy Suites Hotel - Downtown
319 SW Pine Street, Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: 503-279-9000 Fax: 503-497-9051
www.embassysuites.com

The Agenda is being developed and will be distributed, with the technical and background information, in late March. Questions regarding the Agenda, please contact Mark Systma, PSU, 503-725-3833, and sytsmam@pdx.edu

If you are **attending** the **WORKSHOP**, please fill out the **Registration Form**.

- If you are **attending** the **WORKSHOP** and need a reservation for **Lodging** at the Embassy Suites Hotel, please fill out the **Registration and Request for Hotel Reservation Form**.
- If you are **attending** the **WORKSHOP** and need to make **TRAVEL and HOTEL** Reservations, please fill out the **Registration, Travel and Hotel Request Form**.

The appropriate form for you should be **mailed** to:

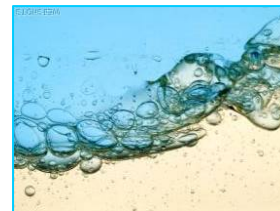
Ballast Water Workshop Registration
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
205 SE Spokane, Suite 100
Portland, Oregon 97202

or **Email** to:

mtg_ballastwater@psmfc.org

or **Fax** to:

Ballast Water Registration
503-595-3232



HOTEL Reservations must be completed by May 1, 2005. The room block will be held until that date. After May 1, 2005 - reservations will be made as the rooms are available.

The **BALLAST WATER WORKSHOP** will commence on **June 14, 2005 - Tuesday, at 8:30 a.m.** in the Colonel Lindburg Conference Room of the Embassy Suites Hotel, 319 SW Pine Street, Portland, Oregon. The workshop is scheduled to run through June 15th, ending at 5:00 p.m.

If you have questions, or need assistance, please call 503-595-3100 - Susan Anderson, Sharon Perkins or Teresa Fairchild.