**TESA Simulation Workshop. Breakout groups.**

**Working title**

*Make a World: Simulating observations to support exploratory analyses*

**What specific problem will be addressed?**

*I plan on having 2 segments in the breakout group. The first will be an introduction to simulations using the estimation of the number of apples in an orchard. The second will be an analysis of fish growth using otoliths.*

**Is there existing code and if so is it easy to share? Please provide a brief description.**

*I will make a git repository containing all necessary R code available to participants.*

**If not, will you be able to prepare some code ahead of the meeting?**

**Is the code applicable to other regions?**

*The code that will be shared will be general in nature and not tied to a particular region.*

**How do you envision the group working together?** E.g., everyone working together on screen, small groups working on small chunks of code, applying existing software to a new problem, …?

*I am envisioning starting with a short presentation, going through the shared code and having each participant go through a few exercises. Then participants could compare their answers with others and discuss as a group what could be done differently, what could be improved, etc.*

**How many 3-4 hour sessions do you think you will need?**

*One session should be enough.*

**Is there a particular external expert who you would like to join your group?**

*I am hoping to learn as much as other participants, so the participation of an external expert would be great.*

**Academically, what do you think will be the final product?** E.g., A problem more clearly defined? A clearer path to solving a problem? A problem solved? A new collaboration?

*I am hoping to provide participants with the basic tools necessary to perform their own simulations. I am also aware that many participants have loads of analytical experience and will improve the draft analyses that will be presented, so I am hoping to foster collaboration with other participants.*

**Practically, what will be the final product?** E.g., A repository? A short report?

*I am hoping that the final product would be a refined set of analyses that I could hopefully turn into a draft manuscript.*

**What support do you need from the workshop chairs?** Before the meeting? During the meeting? For example, we have discussed having a facilitator assigned to each group to allow the group leads to focus on the work rather than keeping notes, solving meeting logistics, etc.

*I just want to make sure that the expectations of the workshop chairs are not too lofty. I am hoping for the break-out group to be an opportunity to dust-off some back-burner projects.*