

# Department of Environmental Science and Policy Seminar Series

## Science Without Evidence: Maximum Sustainable Yield and the Failures of Marine Fisheries

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DATE: Friday, 2/2/2024    TIME: 10:30 am    ROOM: SLAB 103 / RSMAES

Zoom: <https://miami.zoom.us/j/92964807674>



**Abstract:** Why are 90% of marine fisheries at capacity or overfished? What do these numbers even mean, and where do they come from? Can a fishery (or other managed techno-natural system) be considered sustainable without accounting for environmental variation? And should theory-driven science be incorporated into policy without being empirically validated? This seminar tells the definitive origin story for one of the most controversial concepts in conservation - maximum sustainable yield - and explores what might explain its zombie-like persistence.

**Bio:** Aaron van Neste is an environmental historian and scholar of sustainability and greenwashing at Harvard University.

