

February 11, 2020 Social Science Working Group Call

Attendees: Kira Wiley-Sullivan, Guray Hatipoglu, Kathy Gerst, Rich Fulford, Jaime Ashander

Summary: After the last call, Kira and Jaime led the effort to provide [this introductory EFI News post about Social Science in Ecological Forecasting](#). The group will provide additional News posts over the next three months (Kathy - February, Jaime - March, Mike - April) that will highlight specific case examples of social science used in forecasting. Kira is planning to lead a post in May (topic TBD) and Guray and Ritvik have had kernels of ideas that may develop into posts moving forward. Jaime/Kira will reach out to blog authors to work with them to finalize text for the News posts. The plan for the Scope of Work is to send out to the group and provide a one week commenting period for any final comments/suggestions. Note that the Purpose will also be used to update the Social Science section on the EFI website. An email will be sent prior to the Mar 10 call asking for approval (simple majority) from the group for the Scope of Work. Everyone is encouraged to apply for the EFI-RCN meeting in Boulder in May. During the next three calls, the group will develop a collective set of suggestions for how best to include social sciences into the EFI-RCN forecasting challenge. Jody will reach out to Quinn to see if he can attend the call, or provide some direction to the group on what will be most useful in terms of input from the group.

Agenda/Notes:

1. Updates:
 - EFI-RCN Boulder May 12-14 Meeting
 - Keep in future calls to discuss what this WG might be able to contribute
 - See if Quinn has ideas/ suggestions, or wants to join the next call
 - Kira to coordinate with the group before applying and then make sure to get the groups perspective collected to represent the group at the meeting. Will chat in the Slack group
 - STC Proposal
2. Blog Post Schedule - what timeline will work for people?
 - The [first post is up here](#) and will be highlighted in the next Newsletter (hopefully this will come out this week). Took out the case studies as these will go into following blogs
 - 500-700 words. Use the case studies already written and link to the initial blog.
 - Kathy Gerst - text about forecast visualization tool at NPN. Original visualization and how it changed and why it was changed. Iterative process design. Try to get out in February

- Mike Gerst - Mike provided text about expert opinion gets incorporated into forecasts. Expert bias. Try to get out in April
 - Jaime Ashander - how forecasts may or may not predict human behavior. Try to get out in March
 - Kira - TBD. Try to get out May
 - Other ideas are welcome. People should feel free to introduce a subfield that would be of interest to a wider EFI audience. This doesn't need to be done right away.
 - Jaime/Kira - will work with Kathy and Mike to get the posts out
 - Guray - hard to quantify parameters. He is looking into this deeper and then might be able to write a post. Kira/Jaime will keep him in the loop
 - Ritvik (not on the call) at U of MD - may be interested in writing a post later this spring. Jaime will reach out to him
3. Scope of Work (who we are, why we're doing this)
- Any final comments that need to be resolved?
 - Otherwise, send out electronic approval request before the call
 - Is the Purpose section ready for the website?
 - Kira has cleaned it up.
 - After this call - send out link to everyone to followup. Give 1 week to close comments and before next call do final approval/ratification with a simple majority
 - Scope of work covers the Scope of work and the Purpose will be used to update the Decision Science/Social Science EFI website text
4. Agenda for next time
- RCN meeting - this is an opportunity to bring in Decision Science/Social Science at the beginning of RCN and as the forecasting challenge gets set up