

October 16, 2025 Translation Working Group Call

Attendees: Alexis O'Callahan, Hannah O'Grady, Abby Keller, Jody Peters, Alison Gerken, Collin VanBuren, Janet Nackoney, Yishen Li, Kira Sullivan-Wiley

Agenda

1. Announcement: [EFI2026 Conference](#) in Toronto on August 4-7. Working groups and workshops will take place on August 4. More details to come.
2. Janet suggested keeping running notes.
 - a. Great idea! We'll do that moving forward. But start a new doc at the beginning of each year. Put most recent agenda at the top. And make each month title as a header so it is easy to find as headings in the Document tabs
3. [Social Science and Ecoforecasting Planning Award](#) Seed funding update (Jody)
 - a. \$5,000 for round two was approved by the EFI Steering Committee
 - b. Timeline:
 - i. Accept applications from October to Dec 15.
 - ii. Finalize the reviews and follow up with the applicants with the reviews by Jan 15
 1. Who would like to help review applications?
 - a. Janet, Kira, Abby, Alexis, Jody. Collin as back up
 - c. Logistics
 - i. [RFP webpage](#) has updated draft that needs to be saved after the section on who will be reviewing applications is updated;
 - ii. Application form is updated.
 1. Qualtrics link:
https://nd.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_do4VB5YHWDUs4YK;
 2. Bit.ly link: <https://bit.ly/efi-socsci-25>
 3. Just need to update the conflict of interest section and then this survey will be ready to go.
 - iii. The YouTube overview should be updated since the last one describes it as a pilot project and gives the dates.
 1. Here are draft slides to be updated once the RFP webpage is updated Social Science RFP Recording Slides
 2. Here is the script to use with the recording Social Science RFP Recording Script
 - d. Advertising
 - i. Add to the EFI homepage. Send to EFI bluesky. Post an announcement in the EFI Newsletter: Oct 27, Dec 8 and have this group send out advertising to their contacts

1. RFP Advertising Text
 2. Alexis - linked the flyers but need to update it when the youtube link drops - it is not updated in the RFP Advertising Text document
 3. RFP promotion - advertising
4. Tutorials status; <https://ecoforecast.org/engaged-research-tutorials/>
- a. Complete videos:
 - i. Intro: <https://youtu.be/-WQEwt7U7sE>
 - ii. Why: <https://youtu.be/Pek5HtAqE9A>
 - iii. When: <https://youtu.be/o3DnY4IJfEM>
 - iv. What: <https://youtu.be/xLRZmZ-Adc8>
 - v. Who: <https://youtu.be/eDUc8Sf9v5I>
 - b. Videos in progress
 - i. How - Review the slide deck How-Alexis and script Script and Interview Ideas;
 1. Does anyone want to join Alexis on the narration part?
 - a. Keep it at Alexis
 2. For those who can review - deadline: October 27 to review slides and script. Video will be done by next November call!
 - a. Areas requiring attention:
 - Does the video structure flow? Some are more clip-heavy than others. Do any interview clips need to be trimmed, cut, or rearranged?
 - Are we missing any big areas of *how to do co-production*?
 - Review language/phrasing
 - What would a good conclusion be?
 - Do we want to verbally call out other resources and recommend them in the youtube description box, or are we okay to just upload them to EFI's bibliography that is already linked?
 3. Pre-work of co-production component was reduced for this and could be developed into a blog post
 - a. Continue to think about where this could go
 - b. <https://medium.com/> suggested by Colin (Alexis has an account here already: <https://medium.com/@alocal>; but do we want to publish under a new account under EFI?)
 - c. Yishen shared DOI BLM resources on co-production: A Toolkit for Coproducing Actionable Science to Support Public Land Management
 - d. <https://www.ntc.blm.gov/krc/legacy/course/1189>
 - ii. Barriers - from a previous call, Charlotte shared she is happy to write the script, but prefers to not be recorded.

1. The material is really good and we want to encourage Charlotte to continue to work on the script!
2. Kira willing to narrate if no one else volunteers. But happy to have others volunteer.

5. Measuring impact of forecasts (Abby)

- a. Notes from this call
- b. What do we want from this project
 - i. Peer-reviewed literature with lower methods hurdle
 1. Focus on the products
 2. New skills to learn with the project - LLM (lite) for analysis or data exploration
 3. Elicitation could be an option
 - ii. Follow up on Bordner et al - decision support is primary goal of the end goal of forecasts but how do we define/conceptualize decision support?
 - iii. NASA Earth Action funded projects database could be a resource
 1. Different ways to support decisions
 - a. Real-time delivery of information
 - b. Evaluate tradoffs
 - c. Transitioning a general model to a specific setting or jurisdiction where decisions are being made
 - iv. Goal of paper - if you are a forecaster interested in having your model support decisions, what typology might it follow
 - v. Next steps - Abby will continue to review NASA database; Collectively consider making a team for the project that meets more frequently for folks interested to move project forward? Abby will share her pptx overview to the EFI drive.
- c. Notes from previous calls
- d. Abby to share a vision for a lit review, interviews, etc
- e. Often “decision support” is listed as the primary end use of a forecast, but decision science is frequently not used in the development of the forecast. What is the cost of this disconnect?
 - i. Use Vignettes compiled by the group to think about how consideration (or lack of consideration or unforeseen consequences) of governance structure and/or social context affects the decision relevance of forecasts (thinking about [point 7 in this paper](#)). Perhaps this could be something like semi-structured interviews of the researchers listed in this document
 - ii. We have talked about measuring impact in other activities - understanding how we measure success quantitatively vs qualitatively
 - iii. Connection to education is an underappreciated lens of co-production - connecting
- f. Decision relevant model vs socio-ecological model. Decision-relevant model seems more tractable
- g. How often are ecological forecasts built to be decision-relevant

- h. Steps discussed on August call
 - i. Create definition about what it means to be decision-relevant
 - ii. Evaluate if the forecasts have parameters that could be used to make management decisions
 - 1. And are forecasts being used for adaptive management? e.g. how many times has the forecast been run forward in time and what is the typical forecast horizon? And has it been used to plan management which is then assessed the following year?
 - 2. There is the building of the forecast vs the operationalizing of the forecast to make it usable for decisions
 - iii. Interview forecast creators that are used
 - iv. Start with decision makers to help characterize what successful forecast might look like
 - v. Might find that the models most commonly used in decision making didn't come out of academia, but were built fit for purpose
 - vi. Look at how different institutions contribute to decision making. How decision making persists. Gov't vs non-profits (local, international) compared to academia. Spatial scale, system scale, policy scale
 - 1. Do we want to limit the spatial scale?
 - 2. Important to go across spatial scale. Would be interesting to see what spatial scale forecasts are being created for management and decision making
 - vii. Example from NASA Ecological Conservation funding - Pls had to have decision maker collaborators and partnership to make the forecasts operational long term
 - 1. The researchers with this funding would be a great group to connect with to learn more about individual group experiences and barriers they ran into
 - 2. Janet can share info about this
 - 3. Charlotte has an example of a proposal for this
 - viii. There are existing standards from, e.g. NOAA on "forecast readiness" levels, which are about operationalization and what it takes to be 'done'-- which could be a cool input.
 - 1. those levels could also form the basis (or entirety) of the analysis framework for something like this.
 - 2. even if it turns out those readiness levels don't actually apply as well in non-govt contexts.