February 26, 2026

Attendees (n=21)

Add your name and affiliation/community to the table. Add more lines as needed.

Your name	Your affiliation / community	Are there any ecological forecasts, data streams, or models you are working with that would be useful for forecasting
Elva Escobar	UNAM	Not currently, I am SC member for the Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative and currently collectively working on the Assessment of the Cumulative Impacts on Deep-Sea Communities (fishing, mining, mCDR, climate change)
Jody Peters	EFI Community Manager	None. I'm here to support the group!
Martin C. Arostegui	WHOI	Working on Pacific billfish bycatch, leveraging CMEMS GOEPR, GOBH, DUACS, and GlobColour
Benjamin Branch	QSBG/computate.org	Rainy season and dry season for Africa and climate resilience intelligence, fisheries impact, like all of Elva topics, fishery recovery, AI,data feeds, cyberinfrastructure, forecasting challenge
Jennifer Paige	UC Davis	Trying to build familiarity with NOAA stock assessments; Worked a lot with DOE E3SM, not sure if this is a useful scale/scope model though and most familiarity with ~3.25 km resolution atmospheric branch
Christian John	UCSB -> MTU; Moorea Coral Reef LTER	Working with lots of spatially distributed coral bleaching data and (custom) land use products
Matt Robertson	Marine Institute of Memorial University	Working with state-space stock assessment models with environmental covariates
Jessica Bolin	UC Davis	Working with SDMs and mechanistic models to project refugia for benthic inverts; using UCSC-ROMS (not forecasts); but interested in seasonal/decadal forecasts (MOM6)

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Nick Record	Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences	Various
Andrew Allyn	Gulf of Maine Research Institute	We are doing some work with marine fish species in northwest Atlantic, mostly focusing on projections, but wanting to scale back to near-term time scales
Alex Barth	Texas State Gov. (TWDB)	Working on ecological models for informing estuary response to freshwater inflows; Our team maintains a 3D hydrodynamic model for Texas bays/coast/gulf and current are developing ecological applications based on this model
Daniel Warner	Delaware Geological Survey/U. Delaware	Beach erosion forecasting, offshore habitat mapping
Christopher Tate	Red Hat, computate.org	Rain forecasts, ocean forecasts, fish population forecasts, aquaculture forecasting, digital twins
Drew Villeneuve	University of New Hampshire	Ecophysiological models - some case study forecasts for inverts, but working on regional, physiologically informed thermal stress forecasts
Allison Patterson	Environment and Climate Change Canada	I develop species distribution models for seabirds. I am interested in incorporating ocean prediction models at multiple scales into these models. From ECCC ocean modelling group there are 3 scales of models: GIOPS-global (¼), RIOPS-regional (1/12), and CIOPS-coastal (1/36) scales
Kaila Frazer	University of New Hampshire	Blue crab model work just starting up! Ultimate goal is to forecast.
Becca Lewison	SDSU	
Marie Colton	Hydros, LLC	
Megan Feddern	NOAA NWFC	Stock assessment work, using MOM6 regional ocean model

Your name	Your affiliation / community	Are there any ecological forecasts, data streams, or models you are working with that would be useful for forecasting
Abby Lewis	Smithsonian Environmental Research Center	Working on developing forecasts of methane emission from coastal wetlands
Nerea Lezama-Ochoa	UCSC	Working with retrospective forecast with swordfish and interesting to use forecast for highly mobile species (protected species: blue whales, humpback whales)
Jinwoo Gim	Marine Institute of Memorial University	State-space modeling frameworks implemented in Template Model Builder. These models serve as a platform for integrating non-stationary environmental signals into tactical management projections, ensuring that ecological forecasts are statistically compatible with existing decision-making structures.

February 26 Agenda:

1. Welcome & meeting overview
    a. For those who are attending the Ocean Science Meeting in Glasgow this week and who can't make the call, we'll send a recap of the call. And we look forward to checking in during the March call to see what people who attended OSM learned or were able to connect on related to ecological forecasting
    b. Goals for today's meeting
2. Where we are
    a. Recap of Jan meeting
        i. Potential CMEF efforts discussed last meeting
3. Breakout group activity
    a. Small open group discussions to gauge interests in the proposed avenues, scope and direction, output or formats, leadership, etc.
        i. Breakout 1, Breakout 2, Breakout 3, Breakout 4
    b. Report back to the larger group discussion for reflection
        i. Breakout1: Strong terrestrial feel in EFI which is why this working group was set up. Think there isn't much that hasn't be transferred to the coastal/marine forecasting. Think coastal/marine group have things to share with EFI. Continue to consider sharing coastal/marine perspectives with the terrestrial/aquatic systems through the 4 projects
        ii. Breakout 2: The projects are appealing. Project 1 is appealing - statistical and application project. Have a central database on downscaled ocean products to improve forecasting is of interest.
        iii. Non-stationarity - double jeopardy.

iv. All projects connected - invasive species connects with scaling and the non-stationarity
v. Initial paper of the 4-5 papers and what is the context in marine forecasting. Cross cut - regional models require downscaling, they would be useful to address forecasts dealing with non-stationarity and the application would be to use an AI system in advance of not having fully articulated model and parameterizing things that can't be done in an analytical model
vi. Breakout 3: General consensus that projects 1 and 2 were of interest. Concern of fitting non-stationarity models.
vii. Maybe instead of refining scope of the 4 projects, consider what the goals of are for the group. What are the benchmark of successful groups - examples: spectrum from publish paper to being a brainstorming group. Want to identify what success looks like.
viii. Nima will share the Terms of Reference
ix. Breakout 4: non-stationarity and migrating species is of interest as well as the downscaling in that ecological models have uncertainty and when we downscale what does that mean for the output . Main discussion was on AI project - what is the definition of AI. Narrow the broad question about what AI is and how it can fit into the forecasting space
    1. Open AI
    2. Have a statement of where AI is in ocean forecasting and where the bounds are

4. Next steps