

February 9, 2026

Attendees: Bilgecan Sen, Pamela Rueda Cediel, Jon Borrelli, Billur Bektas, Cole Brookson, Andrew Allyn, Sandro Bertolino, Abby Lewis, John Foster, Eli Horner, Caleb Robbins, Mike Dietze, Lenny Smith, Jody Peters
Regrets: Freya Olsson

Agenda:

1. [EFI2026 Conference](#) in Toronto on August 4-7 working group proposal update (Cole)
 - a. How to put together best practices to be able to compare across studies
 - b. A user-friendly way for apples to oranges comparisons
 - c. Connects to developing educational materials that the group has discussed previously
 - d. “Good enough competing practices paper” in PLOS Bio inspired the working group proposal

2. Predictability of Nature synthesis (Bilgecan)
 - a. Paper outline
 - b. People signed up for writing sections. Bilgecan will follow up with everyone to get further input on timeline and more concrete ideas. Will start with emails but may have separate Zoom calls if needed
 - c. Goal is to have draft by May (soft deadline) to then discuss further

3. Forecast evaluation (Lenny)
 - a. Idea of leapfrogging forecasts - what would we aim to produce, who do we need to bring in, how broad to scope, would that be something to do in this group
 - i. avoid mistakes made in other forecasting disciplines by learning from their past experiences. Examples from weather forecasting and ecological modeling
 - ii. Example of reindeer hunting/permit. Determining what the question is or the decision that is wanting to be made and what statistical method to use to evaluate the question
 - b. Potentially a review paper with ecoforecasters and other forecasters, just the weather forecast community or in a more multidisciplinary forecasting community
 - c. Could be a fun workshop topic - learn what forecasters have learned and what hasn't worked
 - d. Potential disciplines to connect with - meteorology (AMS), statistics (ASA)
 - e. Is this of interest to the Theory working group? Could also be of interest for the Methods working group?
 - f. Is it technical or community building? Is it more implementation or getting people in the room to talk?
 - i. Mike has been thinking of end products, but would like to think about making connections
 - ii. Options to consider: have a series of calls, in person workshop, virtual workshop, invite people to annual meetings
 - g. Ecoforecasting is young enough to learn what not to do and not re-invent
 - h. Sounds like there is a lot that could be built in to a “good enough” concept. Would be nice to know when AMS has done things that are “good enough” to help as ecoforecasting is developing
 - i. If this is of interest to people in the group, need a champion