

2025 Intersessional Science Board Meeting (2)

Report

(With Governing Council Decisions)

Held online on December 15 (North America) and 16 (Asia), 2025

Prepared by Science Board Chair, Dr. Sukyung Kang, and Secretariat

Date and Time

Beijing, China	Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 9:00 am CST
Tokyo, Japan	Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 10:00 am JST
Seoul, South Korea	Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 10:00 am KST
Vladivostok, Russia	Tue, Dec 16, 2025 at 11:00 am VLAT
Vancouver/Seattle	Mon, Dec 15, 2025 at 5:00 pm PST
Washington DC	Mon, Dec 15, 2025 at 8:00 pm EST

List of Participants

Science Board	
Jennifer Boldt	Science Board Chair
Hanna Na	Science Board Vice-Chair, FUTURE SSC Co-Chair
Steven Bograd	AP-UNDOS Co-Chair
Toru Kobari	BIO Chair
Jackie King	FIS Chair
Karen Hunter	HD Chair
Thomas Therriault	MEQ Chair
Lei Zhou	POC Chair
Kym Jacobson	MONITOR Chair
Fangfang Wan	TCODE Chair
Yury Zuenko	Russian representative
PICES Secretariat	
Sanae Chiba	Deputy Executive Secretary

Agenda

1. Basic schedule of PICES-2026
2. Selection of PICES-2026 Session & Workshop proposals

Agenda Item 1. Basic schedule of PICES-2026

At PICES-2025, the Science Board (SB) discussed the most appropriate format for the 8-day Annual Meeting. SB preferred to hold four parallel sessions on the afternoon of the opening day instead of the Science Board Symposium (S1), while retaining the alternative option of holding S1, and reported both options to GC2025. Although GC generally supported SB's preference to proceed without S1, they felt that a final decision could not be made until the session proposals had been received and reviewed, and until the program space required to accommodate all selected sessions was known.

Given the number of qualified proposals, SB reconfirmed its decision to hold four parallel topic sessions instead of S1 and recommends that GC approve the basic schedule for PICES-2026 as shown below. => GC approved.

PICES-2026		
Date	Session/WS (In-person only)	Business Meeting (Hybrid)
Oct 24 (Sat)	Parallel Workshops x 4	Day: EG meetings Evening: CMT meetings
Oct 25 (Sun)	Parallel Workshops x 4	Day: EG meetings Evening: CMT meetings
Oct 26 (Mon)	AM: Opening Session, Keynote, ECOP Awardees presentations and 1-2 plenary talk(s) or Town hall PM: Parallel Sessions x 4	PM: SB Day 1
Oct 27 (Tue)	Parallel Sessions x 4	EG meeting, F&A meetings?
Oct 28 (Wed)	Parallel Sessions x 4 Evening: Poster session	EG meetings, F&A meetings?
Oct 29 (Thur)	Parallel Session x 4 1730- (TBC) Closing Session	AM: EG meetings
Oct 30 (Fri)		SB Day 2, GC Day 1
Oct 31(Sat)		AM/PM GC Day2

Agenda Item 2. Selection of PICES-2026 Session and Workshop Proposals

A total of 15 Session and 18 Workshop proposals were submitted for PICES-2026. Committees reviewed and scored each proposal against various criteria, including the quality of the proposal, timeliness of the topic, and relevance to PICES science and the PICES-2026 theme and scope, in advance of the ISB meeting. SB ranked and selected the proposals based on the committees' evaluations, taking into account the balance of topics and disciplines (including representation of Expert Groups), balance of convenors, and available time slots.

=> GC discussed the unsuccessful, but still highly-ranked, full-day workshop "Practical Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Ocean Science in the North Pacific". GC felt that this was a time-sensitive and important topic. Canada confirmed that the required resources would be found for an additional room, if this workshop can go ahead.

Selected Topic Sessions

- The total available time slots are 12 x 1-day, and the final duration of each Session will be allocated by summer 2026, depending on the number of abstracts submitted to each and the SB ranking.
- SB will advise the Sessions, as needed, to ensure a better balance of conveners in terms of geography, gender and career stages.

ID	Title	Sponsor Committees	Corresponding Convener	Co-conveners	Length (Day)	Potential Co-sponsors
S1	Advancements in Digital Twins applications for evaluating climate change solutions	BIO/POC/ AP-UNDOS	Kirstin Holsman (USA)	Werner (USA), Sohn (Korea), Hollowed (USA)	1	ICES
S2	Climate Extremes and Coastal Impacts in the Pacific	MEQ/POC/ FUTURE/ AP-UNDOS	Antonietta Capotondi (USA)	Minobe (Japan), Kumar (Korea), Hannah (Canada),	1	CLIVAR, WCRP-EPESC
S3	Ocean and ecosystem predictions to support decision making	FIS/POC/ FUTURE	Michael Jacox (USA)	Jang (Korea), Qiao (China), Cheng (USA), Amaya (USA), Mogen (USA)	1	
S4	Pathways and process towards sustainable urban ocean where humans and nature co-exist	HD/MEQ	Brian Hunt (Canada)	Sobocinski (USA), Yoshida (Japan), Kang (Korea)	1	
S5	Using ecosystem-scale information and machine-learning modeling approaches to understand climate change impacts on transboundary species in the North Pacific	MONITOR	Peng Sun (China)	Sohn (Korea), Berry (Canada) Akselrud, (USA), Suca (USA)	1	
S6	From Ocean Acidification to Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement: Their relationship and differences	BIO/POC	Tsuneo Ono (Japan)	Kozyr (USA), Takeshita, (USA)	0.5	ICES
S7	Spearheading ocean observations using advanced techniques and sensors on the ocean environment and ecosystem	MONITOR	Sung Yong Kim (Korea)	Tanaka (Japan), Sastri (Canada), Barth (USA)	0.5	
S8	Oceanographic change and predator–prey dynamics: Emerging drivers of human–wildlife conflict	BIO/HD	Patrick O'Hara (Canada)	Hazen (USA), Trites (Canada), Sasaki (Japan), Kanaji (Japan), O'Hara (Canada), Liu (China)	1	
S9	Integrating ecosystem and climate into actionable science for small pelagic forage communities	BIO/FIS	Chris Rooper (Canada)	Takahashi (Japan), Acsh (USA), Garrido (Portugal)	1	ICES
S10	Using long-term ocean observations to understand ocean change and support resilient ecosystems and communities in the North Pacific	MONITOR/ TCODE/ FUTURE/ AP-UNDOS	Erin Satterthwaite (USA)	Lobanov (Russia), Tadokoro (Japan), Wan (China), Boldt (Canada), et al.	0.5	CalCOFI, CeNCOOS, NEAR-GOOS
S11	Approaches to Understanding Population Connectivity and Its Impacts	FIS/MEQ/ AP-UNDOS	Mackenzie Mazur (Canada)(ECOP)	Mendonca (Canada), Xu Zeng, (China), Hansen (Canada), Sakamoto (Japan)	1	
S12	Transboundary Science for a Changing North Pacific Ocean	HD/MONITOR	Sean Anderson (Canada)	Ferriss (USA), WNP convenors: TBC	1	
S13	Long-term monitoring of the changing Northeast Pacific Ocean: 70 years of ocean observation at Ocean Station Papa and along Line P	MONITOR/ TCODE	Tetjana Ross (Canada)	Chai (China), Nishioka (Japan), Cronin (USA)	1	

Selected Workshops

- The total available time slots are 8 x 1-day.
- SB will advise the Workshops, as needed, to ensure a better balance of convenors in terms of geography, gender and career stage.
- *W9 does not require a workshop room.
- **W12 is added following the recommendation of GC.

ID	Title	Sponsor Committees	Corresponding Convener	Co-conveners	Length (Day)	Potential Co-sponsors
W1	Bridging Global and Regional Marine Ecosystem Modelling: Connecting the Fish-MIP and PICES Communities under Fish-MIP 2.0	TCODE	Vivitskaia Tulloch (Canada)	Blanchard (Australia), Tulloch (Canada), Cisneros (South Africa), Novaglio (Germany), Woodworth-Jefcoats (USA)	0.5	FishMIP
W2	Beyond boundaries: Understanding epi- and mesopelagic forage communities of the open ocean	BIO	Chris Rooper (Canada)	Rykaczewski (USA), Radchenko (Russia), Takahashi (Japan), Sassa (Japan)	0.5	ICES
W3	Developing a framework for cross-community conversation between natural carbon cycle and marine carbon dioxide removal communities	BIO/POC	Tsuneo Ono (Japan)	Kozyr (USA), Christian, (Canada), Lee (Korea)	1	ICES
W4	Connections between the Arctic Gateways and the Central Arctic Ocean – Key research questions for the next 10 years	HD	Sei-Ichi Saitoh (Japan)	Steiner (Canada), Shin (Korea), Lindal (Norway)	0.5	ICES, PAME
W5	Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges: Communication Strategies to Advance Climate-Informed Fisheries Management	FIS/POC/FUTURE/AP-UNDOS	Steven Bograd (USA)	Berry (Canada), Chiba (PICES), Hunter (Canada), Kang (Korea), Makino (Japan), Na (Korea), Reid (ICES), Satterthwaite (USA)	1	ICES
W6	Toward Harmonized Plastic Pollution Indicators for the North Pacific: Data, Methods, and Action	MEQ/FUTURE	Matthew Savoca (USA)	Sun (China)	1	
W7	Censusing Extreme Climate Events in the North Pacific	HD/POC/FUTURE	Helen Killeen (USA)	Killeen (USA), Hunter (Canada), Wakamatsu (Japan)	1	CLIVAR, BECI
W8	Weaving knowledge systems to co-design transdisciplinary and actionable solutions	MEQ/TCODE/AP-UNDOS	Naya Sena (Japan)	Roman (Canada), Bograd, (USA), others: TBC	1	APN, Ocean Networks Canada, OPRI, ICES
W9	How to develop engaging posters	SB	Patrick O'Hara (Canada)	Trites (Canada), Norgard (Canada), others: TBC.	0*	
W10	From Indicators to Integration: Building a Standardized Multinational North Pacific Ecosystem Status Reporting Framework	FIS/HD/MEQ/MONITOR/TCODE/AP-UNDOS	Kathryn Berry (Canada)	Satterthwaite (USA), Gann (USA), Diggs (USA), Wan, (China), Yoon (Korea), Watson (Canada)	1	CIOOS, BECI, PSFMC
W11	Understanding Shelf Marine Heatwaves Through Long-Term Mooring Observations Across the North Pacific	MONITOR	Jae-Hyoung Park (Korea)	Hannah (Canada), Barth, (USA), Homma (Japan)	0.5	
W12 **	Practical Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Ocean Science in the North Pacific	FIS	Jessica Miller (USA)	TBC	1.0	

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