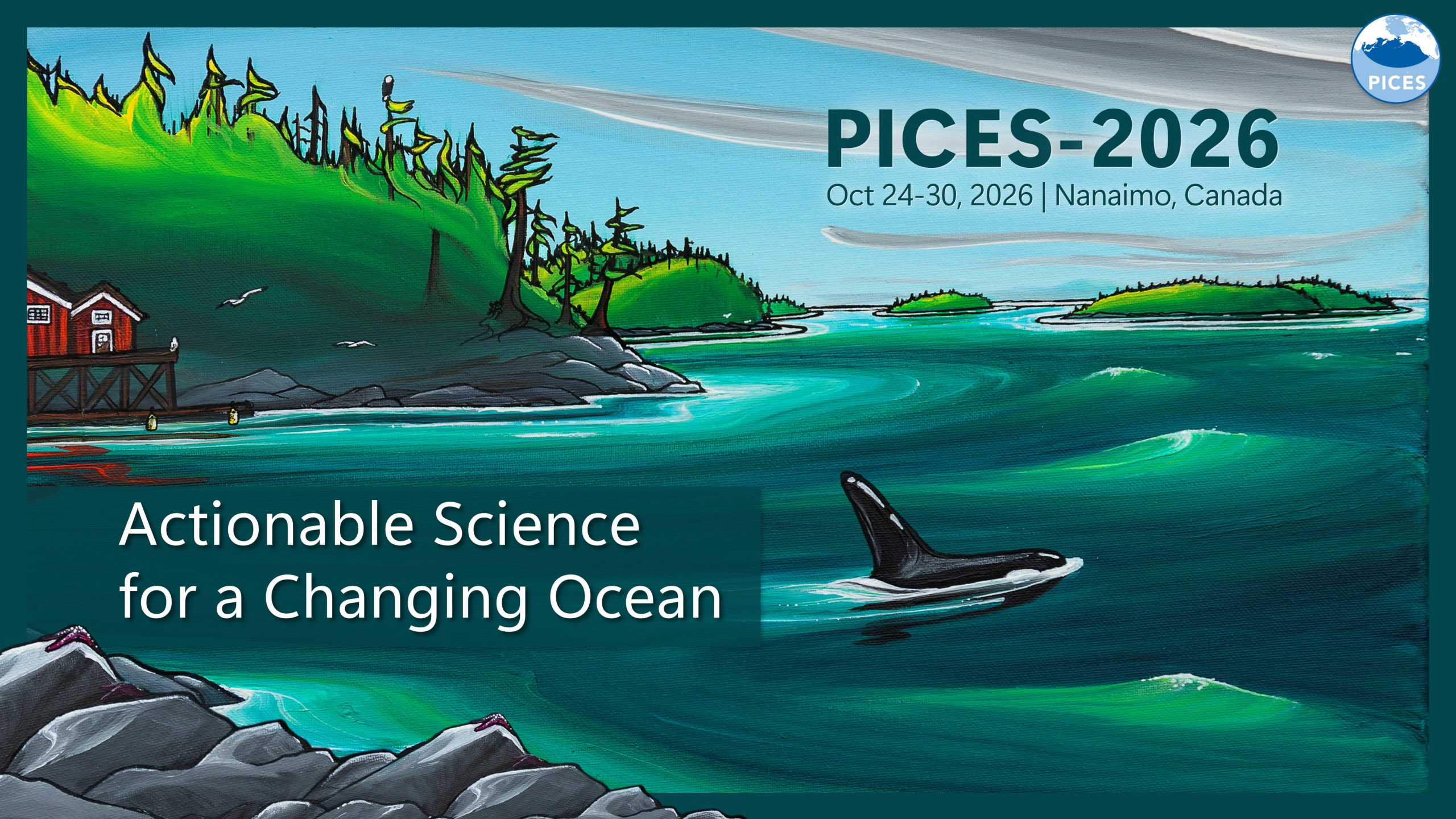

PICES
PICES-2026
Oct 24-30, 2026 | Nanaimo, Canada
Actionable Science
for a Changing Ocean

PICES-2026 by the Numbers

550 in person participants

19 countries/regions

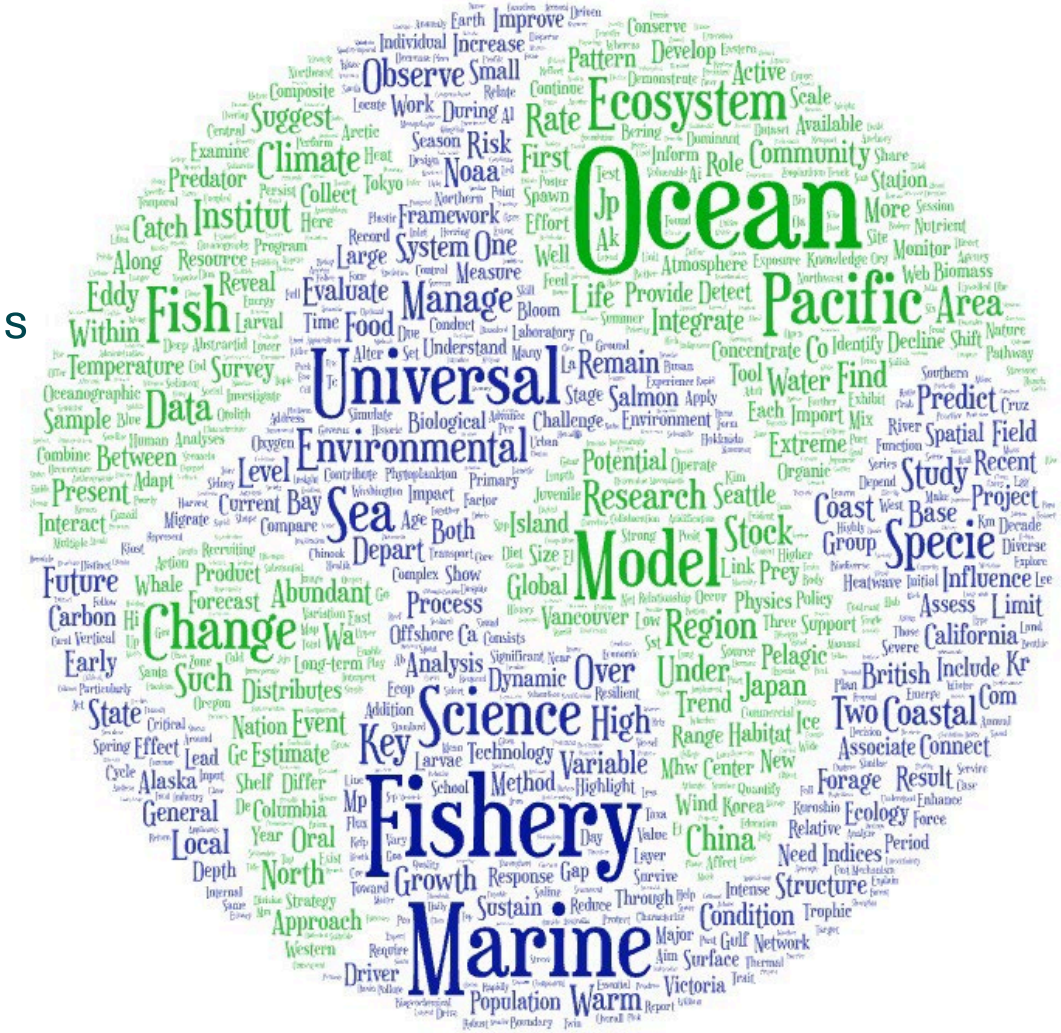
17 observers representing **13** observing organizations

33 business meetings

19 Sessions (including **13** topic sessions,
a poster session, and **5** paper sessions)

10 Workshops

298 oral presentations, **88** poster presentations



PICES-2026 by the Numbers: ECOPs!

233 total | 47 % of all attendees!



PICES 2026 Actionable Science for a Changing Ocean

Main messages

Understanding

Climate change is altering ecosystems: marine heatwaves, acidification, species distribution, biodiversity, ecological processes

Sustained, long-term monitoring is essential: subsurface marine heatwaves, effectiveness of CO_2 removal and Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement, plastic pollution, species distribution and connectivity changes

Integration of data and knowledge systems, coordinated monitoring, and interoperability are needed: to detect ecosystem changes through analyses, modeling, digital twins, …



PICES 2026 Actionable Science for a Changing Ocean

Main messages

Predicting

AI, machine learning, modeling, other quantitative tools are becoming increasingly important: with expert oversight, standard diagnostics, transparent reporting

Responding

Transdisciplinary and cross-regional collaboration, co-design, trust-building is needed: coordinate and share analyses, methods, data

Improving the relevance of science for management: communication (among knowledge holders, types, and users; across regions; within and beyond PICES; science-stakeholder-management-policy interfaces, …)

PICES 2026 Actionable Science for a Changing Ocean

Outputs that could lead to actionable science

1. Supporting climate-ready ecosystem and fisheries management

- Marine heatwave monitoring and prediction systems
- Climate-informed projections of fish biomass, catch, and ecosystem responses
- Species distribution and biodiversity indicators for Arctic ecosystems
- Connectivity analyses to inform management units and stock boundaries
- Long-term ecological datasets and predictive models to support fisheries management, habitat protection, and ecosystem-based management
- Dynamic ocean management products that respond to changing ocean conditions
- Improved understanding of climate-ecosystem interactions and ecosystem forecasts

Management applications: fisheries management, ecosystem-based management, stock assessment, climate adaptation planning, conservation planning, and transboundary resource management



PICES 2026 Actionable Science for a Changing Ocean

Outputs that could lead to actionable science

2. Strengthening environmental assessment, monitoring, and risk evaluation

- Standardized monitoring frameworks and indicators for marine plastic pollution
- Long-term monitoring of subsurface marine heatwaves and ecosystem impacts
- Integrated observing systems (combining physical, chemical, and biological)
- Standardized surveys and genetic reference libraries for micronekton monitoring
- Coordinated monitoring of marine CO_2 removal activities and biological impacts
- Improved data sharing, integrated databases, and data discovery systems

Management applications: environmental assessments, ecosystem status reporting, risk assessment, pollution management, biodiversity monitoring, and evaluation of management effectiveness

PICES 2026 Actionable Science for a Changing Ocean

Outputs that could lead to actionable science

3. Improving science-policy interface

- Climate-informed fisheries management case studies co-developed
- Frameworks for regular exchange between marine CO_2 removal researchers and the broader ocean science community
- Decision-support products and pathways to operationalize forecasts and models
- Digital Twin Ocean frameworks to integrate across regions, sectors, jurisdictions
- Communication tools such as risk maps and other products that translate scientific information into management advice

Management applications: climate mitigation policy, marine carbon removal governance, adaptation planning, international coordination, evidence-based policy development, and operational decision support

FUTURE Science Program PICES

Recommendations for the Next PICES Science Program

The next PICES Science Program should combine **scientific excellence**, **meaningful cross-disciplinary integration**, and **actionable outcomes**, supported by a **realistic implementation plan** and **effective communication**.

Proposed Research Priorities

- Climate extremes and ecosystem resilience
- Integrated observations and forecasting
- Emerging technologies (AI, mCDR)
- Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
- Coastal and marginal-sea biogeochemistry



PICES-2026

Awards



PICES-2025
Wooster Award Winner
Dr. Jacquelynne (Jackie) King





PICES-2025
Chair Award Winner
Dr. Stewart (Skip) McKinnell



PICES-2025 Zhu-Peterson Award Winner

Dr. Hana Matsubara



PICES-2025
POMA Winner

PICES Ocean Monitoring Service Award

North Pacific Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR) Survey Program



PICES-2025
PODA Winner

PICES Open Data Excellence Award

National Marine Data and Information Service China (NMDIS)



PICES-2026
FUTURE SEES Award Winner

Dr. Meaghan Efford



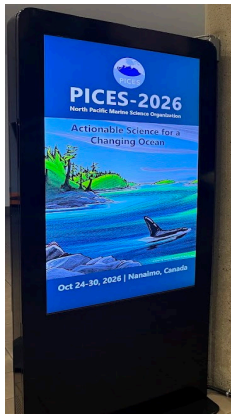
A Week in Review

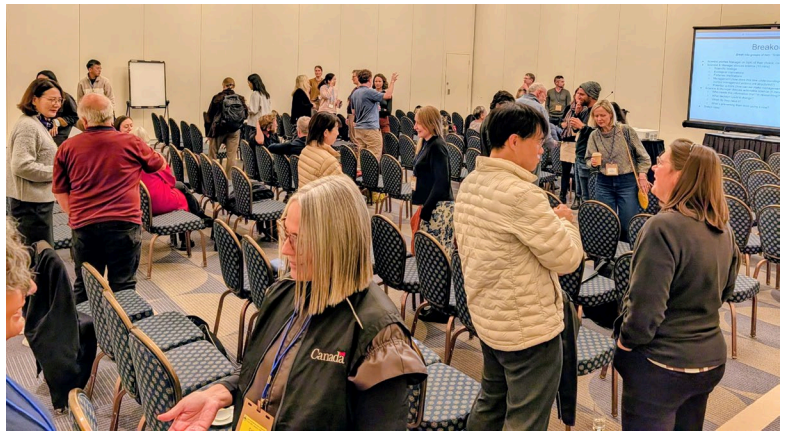




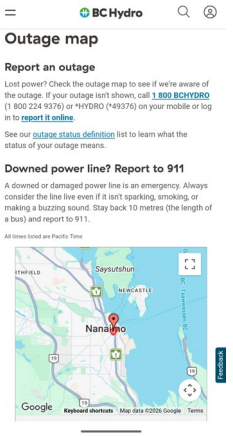






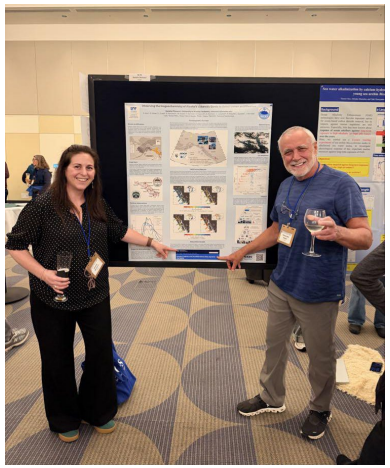
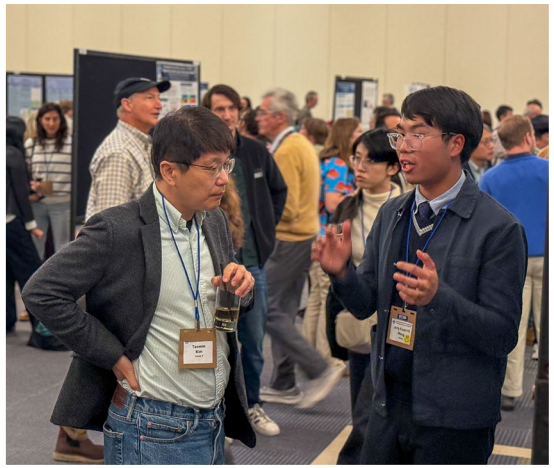
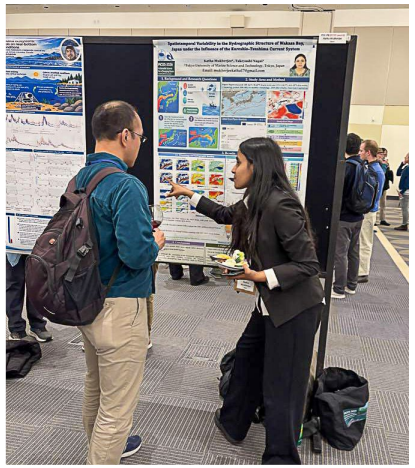


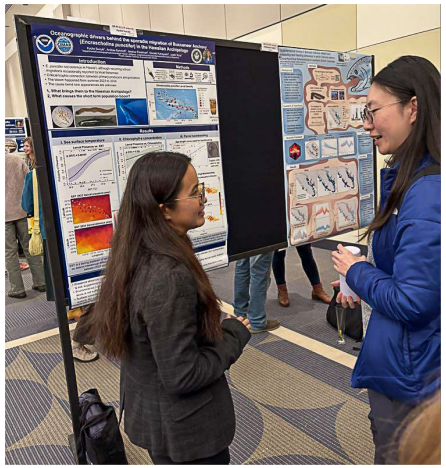
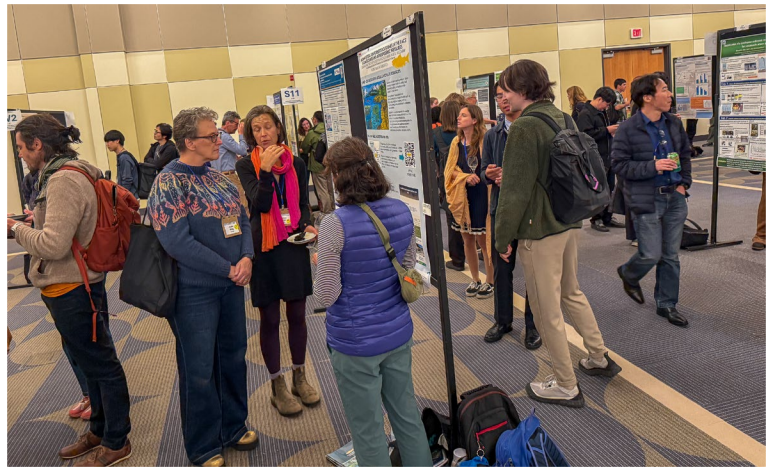
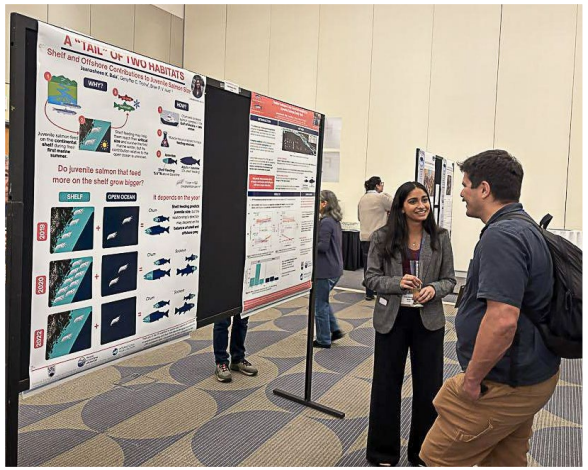


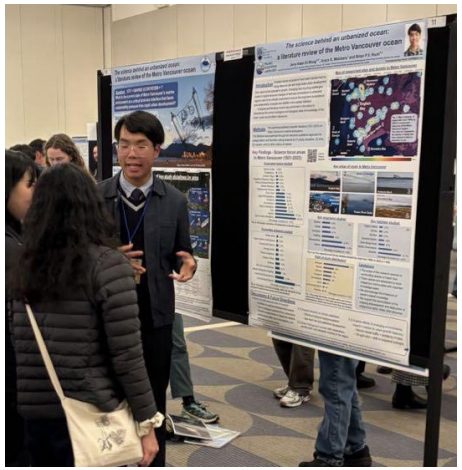




Poster Session

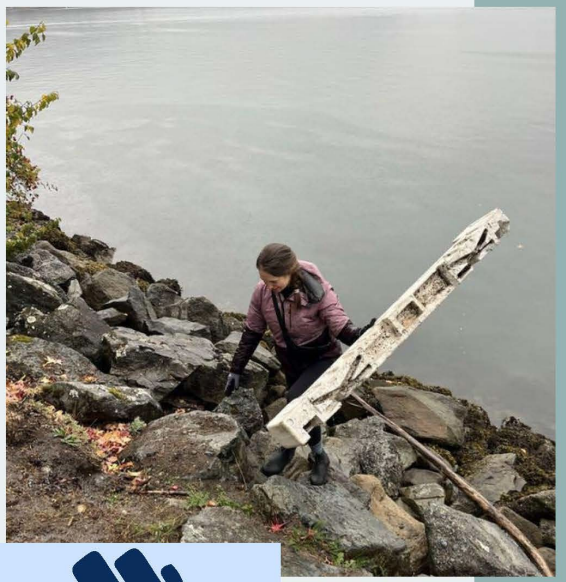




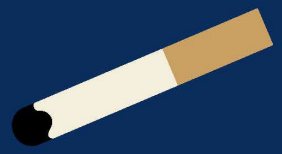


2026 CLEANUP RESULTS









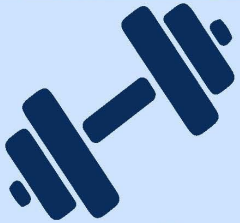
171 cigarette butts



41 plastic pieces



34 food wrappers



5.32 kg!

International COASTAL Cleanup

OCEAN WISE

AP-ECOP & S-MPP

Sporting Event: Axe throwing!



ISLAND TIME
AXE THROWING









Sporting Event: Axe throwing!

WINNERS!





PICEANS!













PICES-2026

ECOP Presentation Awards



ECOP Presentation Awards

Science Board and each Committee selects one oral and one poster presentation

Selection Criteria



Research is primarily the presenter's



Content is scientifically excellent



Content is presented clearly



Presenter responds thoughtfully to questions if asked



PICES 2026
ECOP Presentation Awards

Forecasting and **U**nderstanding **T**rends, **U**ncertainty and **R**esponses of North Pacific Marine **E**cosystems (FUTURE)



PICES-2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Forecasting and **U**nderstanding **T**rends, **U**ncertainty and **R**esponses of North Pacific Marine **E**cosystems (FUTURE)

Best Oral Presentation

Kristofer K. Bauer

on

"Physiological responses of juvenile Dungeness crab (*Metacarcinus magister*) to present-day and projected ocean acidification, hypoxia, and warming"



PICES 2026
ECOP Presentation Awards

Biological Oceanography (BIO) Committee



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Biological Oceanography (BIO) Committee

Best Poster presentation

Seojeong Park

on

"Behavioural and ecological responses of an intertidal gastropod (*Tegula funebralis*) vary with the number and severity of subaerial exposures to low temperature"



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Biological Oceanography (BIO) Committee

Best Oral presentation

Juan Gerardo Gutierrez Bravo

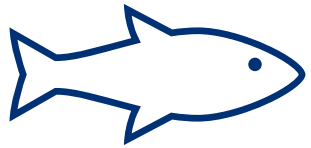
on

“Larval decapod assemblages of the Northern California Current are modulated by upwelling-driven frontal dynamics”



PICES 2026
ECOP Presentation Awards

Fishery Science Committee (FIS)



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

FIS Committee

Best Poster Presentation

Nicholas Strait

on

"Pacific cod (*Gadus macrocephalus*) larval sources and contribution of nursery habitats to recruitment in the western Gulf of Alaska"



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

FIS Committee

Best Oral Presentation

Emma Atkinson

on

"Minimizing male harvest stabilizes fishery dynamics for a protandrous sequential marine hermaphrodite"



PICES 2026
ECOP Presentation Awards

Human Dimensions (HD)



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Human Dimensions (HD) Committee

Best Oral Presentation

Mengyao Zhu

on

Blue Policy Washing: An early diagnostic framework for marine policy design



PICES 2026
ECOP Presentation Awards

Marine Environmental Quality (MEQ) Committee



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Marine Environmental Quality (MEQ) Committee



Best Poster Presentation

Jerry Kwan Ki Wong

on

"The science behind an urbanized ocean:
An ecological review of the Metro Vancouver ocean"



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Marine Environmental Quality (MEQ) Committee



Best Oral Presentation

Soeon Ahn

on

“Spatial modeling reveals coastal habitat use and anthropogenic overlap of Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins around Jeju Island, Korea”



PICES 2026
ECOP Presentation Awards

Physical Oceanography & Climate (POC) Committee



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Physical Oceanography & Climate (POC) Committee

Best Poster Presentation

Woo Jin Lee

on

"Influence of mesoscale eddies on double-diffusive heat fluxes in the East Sea/Sea of Japan"



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Physical Oceanography & Climate (POC) Committee

Best Oral Presentation

Huaxin Wang

on

"Mitigating excessive TC-induced cooling and its negative feedback in an air-sea coupled model with submesoscale parameterization"



PICES 2026
ECOP Presentation Awards

Technical Committee on Monitoring (MONITOR)



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Technical Committee on Monitoring (MONITOR)

Best Poster Presentation

Yixin Wang

on

"Fine-scale vertical habitat organization of *Neocalanus plumchrus* and its light-modulated response in the western subarctic Pacific revealed by Video Plankton Recorder"

PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Technical Committee on Monitoring (MONITOR)

Best Poster Oral

Talen Rimmer

on

"A comparison of computer vision-assisted predictions to contemporary dive, ROV, and RUV biodiversity surveys"



PICES 2026
ECOP Presentation Awards

Technical Committee on Data Exchange (TCODE)



PICES 2026 ECOP Presentation Awards

Technical Committee on Data Exchange (TCODE)

Best Oral Presentation

Loïck Kléparski

on

"Using Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR) data to understand past, present and future changes in Northeast Pacific phytoplankton"





PICES-2026

Chair Appreciation

Fishery Science Committee (FIS)



FIS Chair (PICES 2023-2026)

Dr. Jackie King

Pacific Biological Station
Fisheries and Ocean Canada



North Pacific Marine Science Organization
presents

Certificate of Recognition

to

Dr. Jackie R. King

in appreciation of your service to PICES as
Chair of Fishery Science Committee

PICES

藤井徹生
Dr. Tetsuo Fujii,
PICES Chair

Dr. Sonia Batten,
PICES Executive Secretary

North Pacific Marine Science Organization
PICES-2026
Nanaimo, CANADA, October 29, 2026

Thank You Everyone!

Local Organizing Committee
Volunteers
Partner organizations
All Presenters and Participants!

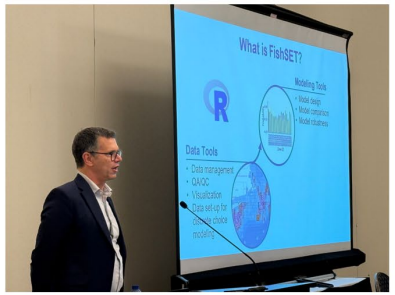




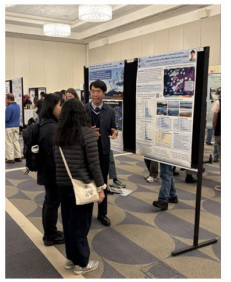






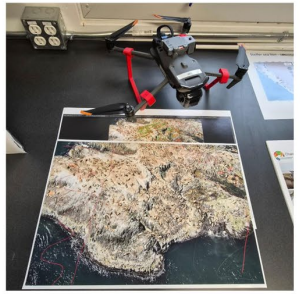



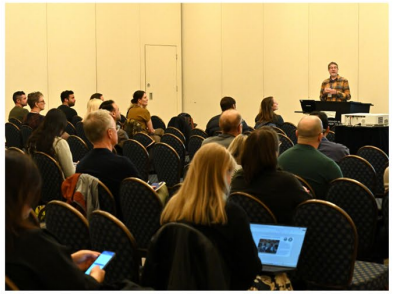







Oct 24-30, 2026 **PICES-2026** Nanaimo, Canada

Introducing...PICES-2027!

See you at PICES-2027

Qingdao, PR China

Mid September (TBC)



From Science to Co-Produced Solutions:

Securing a Resilient and Sustainable North Pacific Under Accelerating Environmental Changes


Thank you, and
safe travels!
PICES