



NPFC-2025-SC10-OP06

PICES-NPFC Cooperation

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North Pacific Marine Science Organization





PICES-NPFC Cooperation – PICES overview

- The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES) is an Intergovernmental science organization.
- There are 6 Contracting Parties and the Secretariat is head-quartered in Canada.
- PICES has a science based, rather than a management-based mission.
- We work with other RFMOs/Intergovernmental organizations in a variety of ways:
 - Reciprocal meeting participation
 - Co-sponsorship of PICES activities
 - Ex officio membership in PICES groups
 - Joint activities (working groups, projects, workshops)

Partnerships

PICES has partnerships with many organizations to achieve its goals

Intergovernmental Organizations and RFMOs | National Marine Science Sgencies | Academic Organizations and Foundations | International Programs



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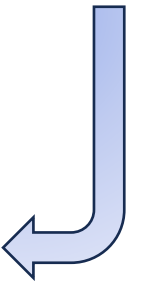
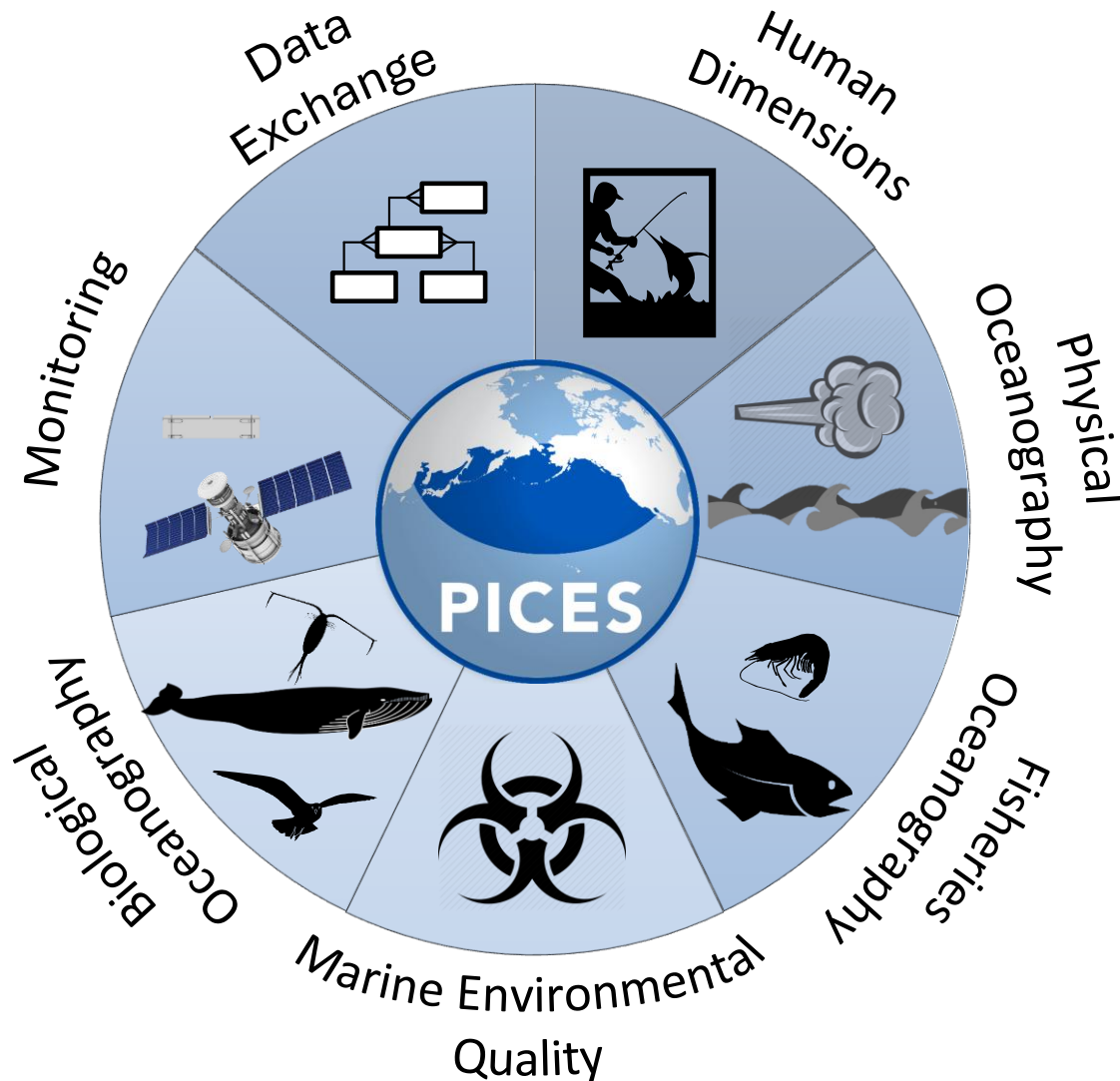
PICES-NPFC Cooperation – PICES structure

Multi-Disciplinary

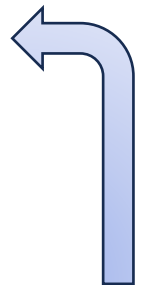
PICES Science is planned, directed, and overseen by its 7-discipline based Scientific Committees.

Smaller subsidiary groups (Working Groups, Advisory Panels, Study Groups) are formed to focus on specific topics.

Expert groups have a representative from each member country, and can be composed of scientists from many sectors (e.g. government, academia, NGO).



Government & Academic Scientists



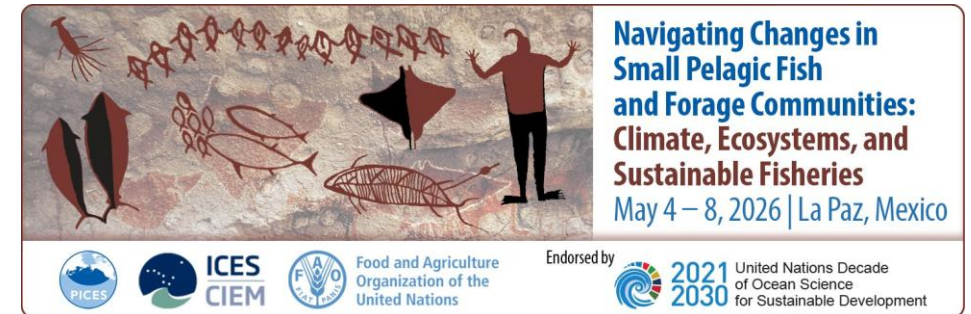
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PICES-NPFC Cooperation – PICES overview

- The PICES annual meeting has a science conference component (workshops, sessions) plus business of the organization.
- PICES also organizes international Symposia with partner organizations on specific topics.
 - Small Pelagic Fish Symposium SPF-2026
 - Will be held in La Paz, Mexico, May 4-8, 2026
 - NPFC is a co-sponsor
 - FIMEC is under development for 2027.



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PICES-NPFC Cooperation – Collaborative Framework 2025-2029

In addition to retaining the three priority areas from the 2019-2024 Framework

- (i) support for stock assessment for priority species;
- (ii) vulnerable marine ecosystems;
- (iii) ecosystem approach to fisheries.



Climate change impacts will be considered across all priority areas and incorporated where relevant :

Distributional changes of fish stocks

Impact of ocean acidification

Factors affecting species life history parameters and productivity

Data sharing, and data management, is also a high priority for both organizations. Joint work not required but sharing of scientific results will be encouraged.

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PICES-NPFC Cooperation – Recent activities

- NPFC had representation in the PICES-ICES joint Working Group on Small Pelagic Fish, (WG43) running from 2019-2023, and its successor- WG on Sustainable Pelagic Forage Communities (WG53) with two ex officio members from NPFC (Kazuhiro Oshima and Toshihide Kitakado)
- NPFC supported the SPF-2022 Symposium and next years' SPF-2026
- NPFC scientists were involved in WG47 on the Ecology of Seamounts, including the Chair of the NPFC Scientific Committee (Dr Curtis) who co-chaired WG 47. The WG has submitted their report (in editing).
 - Note, PICES has just convened a follow-on WG on *Deep-sea connectivity with focus on seamount ecosystems* (WG56, WG-DSC)
- NPFC endorsed the Basin Events to Coastal Impacts (BECI) project (Kathryn Berry presentation)
- NPFC and PICES representatives participated in each others' annual meetings in 2024/25, online and in-person, and through written reports.



PICES-NPFC Cooperation – Upcoming opportunities

PICES underwent an External Review in 2023/24 and is now evaluating and prioritizing recommendations to evolve the organization (operationally and strategically).

A new Mission Statement:

PICES conducts and coordinates marine research and the exchange of knowledge across the North Pacific Ocean to provide member states with actionable information on the current and future conditions of the ocean environment and its resources, including the interactions among the atmosphere, ocean, marine ecosystems and human dimensions. PICES brings together academic researchers, government scientists and managers, and organizations responsible for the protection and sustainability of the North Pacific Ocean to inform decisions and actions.

We will be engaging with RFMOs to deliver this Mission.

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