



# The Australian Forum for Operational Oceanography

## Operational Oceanography

Operational Oceanography functions much like weather monitoring and forecasting, but for the ocean. It delivers estimates of key ocean variables, such as sea level, temperature, and currents, not only for the present and future but also for past conditions.

This field enhances maritime safety, supports economic activities, and contributes to the security and preservation of marine ecosystems. Its outputs can be transformed into data products, applications, and services, which are distributed by national authorities and, in some cases, by organisations like metocean service providers and environmental consultants.

## Applications



Warnings about coastal floods, storm impacts, harmful algal blooms and contaminants.



Electronic charts, sea state conditions, optimum routes for ships.



Prediction of primary productivity, ocean currents, ocean climate variability.



Modelling of and response to oil spills and dredging.

**Improving the safety and efficiency of Australia's marine industries through better decision making**

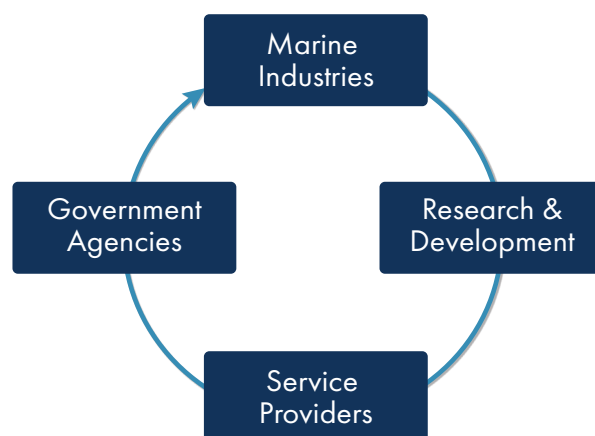
[foo.org.au](http://foo.org.au)

## About the forum

The Forum for Operational Oceanography aims to enhance the safety and efficiency of marine industries through improved decision-making. Achieving this goal relies on optimising industry processes, ensuring staff are informed, and delivering better operational oceanographic services from both government and industry.

This progress must be underpinned by a strong foundation of world-class research and development, forming the value chain for operational oceanography in Australia.

### The Four Pillars of Operational Oceanography



### Operational Oceanography Value Chain



## FOO Biennial Meetings

The FOO community meets every two years to review progress of its objectives, to assess present capabilities, engagement and needs, to explore uses and users of operational oceanography, and to focus on key topics of interest.

## FOO Working Groups

The FOO community prioritises issues most critical to the development of operational oceanography in Australia.

Please contact FOO if you would like further information.

## Get involved

The FOO community is always seeking new members from each of the 'four pillars' to contribute to Working Groups or attend the Biennial Meeting.

For more information please visit the website or email Richard Saunders (Integrated Marine Observing System) at [richard.saunders@utas.edu.au](mailto:richard.saunders@utas.edu.au).

**foo.org.au**



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians and Elders of the land and sea on which we work and observe, and recognise them as Australia's first marine scientists and carers of Sea Country. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples past and present.