

Paper Discussion Assignment

Each student should pick one peer-reviewed publication that interests them and includes some forecasting component. Papers do not need to be strictly ecological, but don't pick an overly technical paper from another field that would be difficult for the average ecologist to understand. I also encourage you to seek out papers from authors of diverse backgrounds.

This paper will be read by the entire class and each student will lead a ~20-30 min discussion related to the paper they chose. This exercise is useful for learning about how forecasting is done and applications across many examples, as well as reading and understanding scientific literature.

Steps to complete this assignment:

1) Each student will identify a paper and email it to Bob no less than 1 week before their discussion period.

2) Begin the paper discussion with a short overview of the paper, its main takeaways, and why you chose it.

3) Ask everyone to discuss two questions related to the paper in small groups (~10 min).

One of the questions should be based on comprehension of the paper. For example, asking everyone to explain a complex figure or an interesting methodology used in the paper.

The second should be a synthesis question. For example, what was learned from the paper that might be applicable to other situations.

4) Lead a short group discussion about the questions based on the small group discussion.

Please come with the questions on a PowerPoint on a thumb drive.