

## **Testing Advances in Sea-Ice Forecasting**

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The National Weather Service Alaska Sea Ice Program (ASIP) located in Anchorage, AK plays a pivotal role in providing current sea ice extent as well as providing forecasts on expected changes in sea ice coverage. In order to support the forecasting process in Alaska, Dr. Intieri and Dr. Solomon at ESRL have been providing output data from the RASM-ESRL (Regional Arctic System Model). It is a fully coupled ice-ocean atmosphere model that provides a forecast of ice conditions out to 10 days and uses the GFS model for atmospheric inputs. During the winter of 2017-2018, the Arctic Testbed and Proving Ground has been facilitating an ongoing assessment which has relied heavily on weekly observations and insights from forecasters and researchers. This process has already proven successful in identifying model biases and strengths, while introducing forecasters to a powerful new forecast tool with which to better protect life and property.