

DRAFT WORKSHOP AGENDA

*This agenda will be adjusted to accommodate in person and online participation

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

Expanded Users, Products, and Value: Assess how BGC Argo data and derived products (e.g., 4D fields, satellite synergies, data-assimilative marine ecosystem forecasting, near-real-time applications) could broaden the user base, increase scientific, operational, and commercial value, and support expanded applications.

Government Pathways to Sustainability: Identify viable pathways for sustaining BGC Argo as a long-term facility by examining opportunities, obstacles, and alignment with the missions and priorities of government agencies across near-term needs and a 10-year horizon.

Private Sector & Commercial Engagement: Explore potential commercial applications, partnerships, and funding models for BGC Argo, including the associated trade-offs for governance, data access, system reliability, and cost effectiveness.

Balancing Continuity with Innovation: Identify the critical technical and human capabilities that must be preserved during any transition in funding or governance, while evaluating opportunities for innovation such as new sensors and float longevity, AI-enabled analysis, and event-driven observing strategies.

DAY 1, 8:30am – 5pm PDT

8:00 Breakfast and networking

8:30 Welcome & Why we are here

Speaker: Mark Abbott

- Why this moment matters (funding, governance, tech inflection, demand signals)
- What this workshop is *not* (not a retrospective celebration)
- What success looks like at 4pm tomorrow (clear pathways)

8:45 Fast Framing Exercise

Moderator: Committee Member

9:00 Overview of BGC Argo (1 hour)

Accomplishments & Capabilities: Review BGC Argo's scientific and societal accomplishments to date, explicitly linking outcomes to the underlying observing system capabilities (e.g., sensors, depth, sampling frequency, float and sensor density, and data quality) and identifying which target capabilities are mature versus still emerging.

Moderator: Committee Member

Speakers: Ken Johnson, MBARI (confirmed)
Herve Claustre, LOV (confirmed)

Discussion: 20 minutes

10:00 BREAK

10:30 Objective 1 - Expanded Users, Products, and Value:

Assess how BGC Argo data and derived products (e.g., 4D fields, satellite synergies, data-assimilative marine ecosystem forecasting, near-real-time applications) could broaden the user base, increase scientific, operational, and commercial value, and support expanded applications.

**30 minute presentation followed by breakout activity*

Moderator: Committee Member

Speakers: Pierre-Yves Le Traon (confirmed)
Andrea Fassbender (confirmed)

11:00 Objective 1 Breakout Activity: 60 minutes including report back

12:00 LUNCH

1:00 Objective 2 - Government Pathways to Sustainability:

Identify viable pathways for sustaining BGC Argo as a long-term facility by examining opportunities, obstacles, and alignment with the missions and priorities of government agencies (primarily US but potentially international) across near-term needs and a 10-year horizon.

**30 minute presentation followed by breakout discussions*

Moderator: Committee Member

Speaker: Lisa Clough (confirmed)

1:30 Objective 2 Breakout Discussion: 60 minutes

2:30 Break

2:45 Objective 3 - Private Sector & Commercial Engagement:

Explore potential commercial applications, partnerships, and funding models for BGC Argo, including the associated trade-offs for governance, data access, system reliability, and cost effectiveness.

**30 minute discussion followed by breakout groups*

Moderator and Speaker: Justin Manley, MTS (confirmed)

3:15 Objective 3 Breakout Activity: 60 minutes

4:15 Day 1 Wrap up (can push this back if we need more time for breakouts)

Moderator: Committee Member

5:00 Adjourn

Day 2: 8:30 – 3:30pm

8:00 Breakfast and networking

8:30 Objective 4 - Balancing Continuity with Innovation

Identify the critical technical and human capabilities that must be preserved during any transition in funding or governance, while evaluating opportunities for innovation such as new sensors and float longevity, AI-enabled analysis, and event-driven observing strategies.

**30 minute discussion followed by breakout exercise*

Moderator: Committee Member

Speakers: Herve Claustre, LOV (confirmed)

Yui Takeshita, MBARI (confirmed)

9:30 Objective 4 Breakout

10:30 BREAK

10:45 Integrate across objectives - Mapping Exercise across 2 Horizons

Build on the workshop discussions and map out 2 scenarios across a 3-year timeline and a 10-year timeline.

12:00 – 1:00 Lunch

1pm Continue pathways mapping exercise

3pm Final Convergence Discussion

Moderator: Mark Abbott

- What must not be lost during transition?
- Where is innovation most urgent?
- What does success look like in 2036?
- What does failure look like

4pm Adjourn