# Salinity Processes in the Upper Ocean Regional Study
## NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory
## Video Transcripts

**Video: Model Forecasts and Nowcasts**
**URL:** https://vimeo.com/59366895 [01:44]

### Description

Dr. Fred Bingham discusses how SPURS data are used in models to produce forecasts and nowcasts.

### Transcript

We'll also have of course daily maps of the models. They are going to have model nowcasts which is a model prediction of what the ocean looks like right now. Then they'll be model forecasts, 24 and 48-hour forecasts. We'll know how the ocean is evolving over time. It's kind of like a weather forecast. We'll essentially have weather forecasts for the ocean. We'll sort of know what's going to be where coming up over time.

For some of the special control volume sampling that we'll be doing our plan is to have sort of a nightly conference with everybody that's on the ship and all the supporting people that are on land. Everybody will be involved. We'll all sit down and look at the maps, the model forecasts, the satellite data we've gotten in, the in situ data that we'll have. We'll use all of that information to decide where we're going to go the next day. For example, there might be an eddy feature that we really want to sample very intensively. We'll know through our model forecasts exactly where that eddy is going to be the next day so we can go there.

Imagine if you were on land and you wanted to know where the thunderstorms were going to happen so you can go sample all of those thunderstorms. You can do that if you had a good weather forecast, right? In this case we'll have a good ocean forecast so we'll know where the eddies are to go pick out the stuff that we are interested in.