

An Overview of the YOPP-SH 2022 Winter Special Observing Period  
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The Year of Polar Prediction in the Southern Hemisphere (YOPP-SH) aims to enhance environmental prediction for the Southern Ocean and Antarctica on time scales up to a season. Following a very successful summer campaign, the project is undertaking an experiment aimed at improving the forecasting skill during the non-summer months, specifically during April 15-August 31, 2022. In view of the limited resources and personnel at this time of year, the emphasis is on limited duration events rather than continuous observing for the three months. These so-called Targeted Observing Periods (TOPs) focused on the prediction of major oceanic cyclones and associated phenomena like atmospheric rivers and featured enhanced collection of radiosonde ascents from 24 stations. Based on the summer results, a major effort was made to increase soundings from middle latitudes to better capture the oceanic cyclone characteristics. The 6 TOPs are scheduled to last 5 days or so each with 3 days prior to landfall to build up the impact of the additional soundings in the weather forecast models followed by 1 day for the coastal impact of the phenomenon and 1 day following. In contrast to the summer campaign, the region is divided into two sectors to make the investigations more tractable, namely East Antarctica-Ross Sea and the greater Antarctic Peninsula. Pan Antarctic TOPs have occurred as well. A forecasting team was established for each sector to decide when the TOPs should be initiated. The presentation will summarize what was actually achieved, and the subsequent investigations assessing the value of the additional soundings in forecasting the TOP events.