



Revised Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Report

A Presentation to the
NOAA Science Advisory Board

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Purpose

- To present changes made in the revised Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management report to respond to SAB comments at the April 2014 SAB meeting.
- If the SAB approves the revised report, request that it be sent to NOAA.



Highlights of SAB comments



- Review the report Executive Summary to ensure it reflects key recommendations in the report
- Consider whether to recommend the needs assessment be completed before other recommendations
- Consider including the Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization(CAMEO) in the report
- Consider Adding Specific Examples of Use of EBFM



Highlights of EBFM Report changes in response to SAB comments



Review the report Executive Summary to ensure it reflects key recommendations in the report

ESMWG Revised Recommendations better to clarify intent:

- A. Changed title to “Primary Recommendations” to reflect support for on-going successful practices. Added recommendation regarding US engagement in international fisheries arrangements re: EBFM
- B. Edited Principal recommendation to emphasize what we want to see done and to be less prescriptive on how it is to be done, i.e., assess needs and prioritize them regionally and nationally

Consider whether to recommend the needs assessment be completed before other recommendations

- A. Clarified in text that the Primary Recommendations are a continuation of existing successful practices.
- B. Clarified in text that the needs assessment is to be performed as part of implementing the Principal Recommendation

Consider including the Comparative Analysis of Marine Ecosystem Organization (CAMEO) in the report

- A. Cited CAMEO as the type of synthetic ecosystem research needed for understanding and comparing fished ecosystems
- B. Assessed the likelihood of restoring CAMEO [NMFS/NSF] program and all agreed likelihood was extremely low. Subject still emphasized in Challenges section of recommendations.



Highlights of EBFM Report changes in response to SAB questions in SAB Minutes



Can you cite some examples that show the benefit to the ecosystem from implementation of EBFM?

ESMWG found it difficult to unambiguously attribute ecosystem condition to measures taken by regional councils to implement EBFM. The most clear component is the positive trend in status of stocks by regions, however, management measures are likely only one factor of many, e.g., change in ocean productivity, better than average recruitment. This represents one of the challenges noted in the Recommendations.

Are there sufficient resources to support EBFM?

ESMWG did not examine this question. We did note that effort was oriented to the mandated fishery management tasks as would be expected but that left less ability to explore ecosystem interactions more broadly.

Recommendation for social-economic sciences for EBFM is weak relative to the discussion in the text.

We have reworked the text of the recommendation and moved it forward in the list of Primary recommendations.



Desired Outcome

- Approve the revised EBFM report
- Suggest additional ESMWG work on EBFM



Questions



- Questions?



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