



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Headquarters

Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management Road Map

Heather Sagar
Senior Policy Advisor

Council Coordination Committee: May 25, 2016

Why are we doing this?

- Clarify the agency's commitment to integrating its management programs for living marine resources
- Recognize and plan to address challenges under changing climate, ecological, and ocean conditions
- Build on, collate and better coordinate NOAA and Councils past progress and successes
- Address the many tradeoffs that are increasingly arising
- Reap the many benefits from a more systematic approach

Take Aways

- NOAA Fisheries is committed to doing EBFM
- NOAA Fisheries aim is to provide a menu of analytical options to address ecosystem considerations
- Making EBFM operational remains a key challenge, but is one we are up for in partnership with you!

Policy Update

- The Final Policy was released
- It incorporates the issues we heard in public comment
- Many comments we received on the Policy were addressed through the Road Map



Policy Components

- Policy Statement
- Background
- Purpose of and Need for Policy
- Definition of EBFM
- Context of EBFM
- Benefits
- Guiding Principles
- Legal Authorities and Mandates
- NOAA Fisheries Responsibilities



Thank you for your EBFM Policy Comments

- Clarify EBFM & OY, in context of NS 1, et seq.
- Myths, data and funding needed– continued outreach
- Societal benefits
- Forage fish and EFH
- FEP clarification
- CC Clarification



Road Map

- Intended to guide the implementation of the EBFM Policy over the next 5-years
- Describes recommended Actions to address each of the Policy's six Guiding Principles for near-term work
- Intended to build on current efforts
- We will review our progress and revise road map after 5 yrs

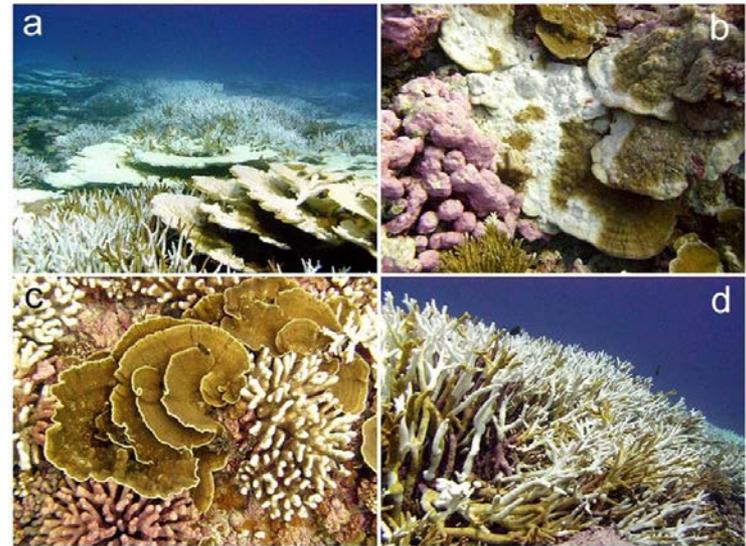


6 Guiding Principles, with Core Components are:

1. **Implement ecosystem-level planning**
 - Engagement Strategy
 - Fishery Ecosystem Plans
2. **Advance our understanding of ecosystem processes**
 - Conduct Science to Understand Ecosystems
 - Ecosystem Status Reports
3. **Prioritize vulnerabilities and risks of ecosystems and their components**
 - Ecosystem-level Risk Assessment
 - Managed Species, Habitats & Communities Risk assessment
4. **Explore and address trade-offs within an ecosystem**
 - Modeling Capacity
 - Management Strategy Evaluations
5. **Incorporate ecosystem considerations into management advice**
 - Ecosystem-level Reference Points
 - Incorporate Ecosystem Considerations for Living Marine Resources
 - Systematic Advice for Other Management Considerations
6. **Maintain resilient ecosystems**
 - Evaluate Resilience

Next Steps for Road Map

- Open for informal Council comment Period for 45 days.
- Send comments no later than July 10, 2016 to heather.sagar@noaa.gov and Jason.link@noaa.gov.
- Following that it will go out for public review for 45-days
- Hope to finalize in Fall of 2016



Questions?

<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/ecosystems/ebfm/index>

