

Fishery Ecosystem Plan (VERY) DRAFT Table of Contents



Figure 1: The Lenfest FEP loop (Essington et al., 2016)

1. Introduction/Background
 - a. Purpose and need
 - b. Goals and Objectives
 - c. Explain the approach of EBFM
 - d. Describing the organization (council panel group management boundaries)
2. Defining the Interface Between Fishery and Ecosystem Management
 - a. Jurisdictions
 - b. Magnuson-Stevens Act
 - c. Other federal law and guidance
 - i. NOAA obligations
 - ii. Other federal agencies (e.g. Dept of Agr., USFWS, EPA, Coast Guard, USCE)
 - d. Local regulations
 - e. FEP development process and reassessment
 - f. Local interface between fisheries, fishery communities and ecosystem management

- 3. Environmental setting
 - a. Society and culture
 - i. St. Croix
 - ii. St. Thomas/St. John
 - iii. Puerto Rico
 - iv. Connectivity *NOTE-this establishes the framework for a hierarchical spatial approach*
 - b. Economics
 - i. St. Croix
 - ii. St. Thomas/St. John
 - iii. Puerto Rico
 - iv. Connectivity
 - c. Ecology
 - i. St. Croix
 - ii. St. Thomas/St. John
 - iii. Puerto Rico
 - iv. Connectivity
 - v. Habitat
 - d. Fisheries
 - i. St. Croix
 - 1. Fisheries regulations
 - ii. St. Thomas/St. John
 - 1. Fisheries regulations
 - iii. Puerto Rico
 - 1. Fisheries regulations
 - iv. Connectivity
- 4. Conceptual Models
 - a. SSC, DAPs and other Council body conceptual models
 - b. Any other conceptual models developed by independent researchers
 - c. Stack Conceptual Models under council's guidance or by independent researchers
 - d. Applications
- 5. Present Status
 - a. Review of Ecosystem work in the U.S. Caribbean
 - b. Ecosystem Status Report prepared by SEFSC
 - c. Risk Analysis
 - d. Other reports and documents (e.g. EPA bio criteria analysis, NCRMP status reports)
 - e. Applications
- 6. Future prospects
 - a. Quantitative Models

- b. Restoration/Mitigation
- 7. Assessing Fishery and Ecosystem Conditions
 - a. Data availability, needs, strategies
 - b. Assessment within an Ecosystem Context
 - c. Developing group (e.g., biomass based) Assessment Approaches
 - d. Assessing EFH
 - e. Understanding the uncertainties/ variability of environmental changes and human activities on ecosystems and fisheries resources
- 8. Coordination of ecosystem approaches to fisheries management in the US Caribbean
 - a. Considerations for Management
 - i. MSA Revisions
 - ii. FMP Amendments
 - iii. CFMC policy statements
 - b. Process for bringing the EBFM to the Council (*Convey the notion that the TAP is still in discussion on this. EBFM might inform management decision made by the Council*)
 - c. Identify potential management strategies
 - d. Integrated Ecosystem Assessment *NOTE-we may not have one for a while, but this outline includes not just what we have but what we need*
- 9. Research needs
- 10. Performance evaluation
 - a. Performance measure
 - b. Management strategy evaluation
 - c. Review and revision schedule

References:

Essington, T.E., Levin, P.S., Anderson, L.G., Bundy, A., Carothers, C., Coleman, F.C., Gerber, L.R., Grabowski, J.H., Houde, E.D., Jensen, O.P., Möllmann, C., Rose, K., Sanchirico, J.N., Smith, A.D.M., 2016. Building effective Fishery Ecosystem Plans: A report from the Lenfest Fishery Ecosystem Task Force. Washington, DC: Lenfest Ocean Program.

DRAFT