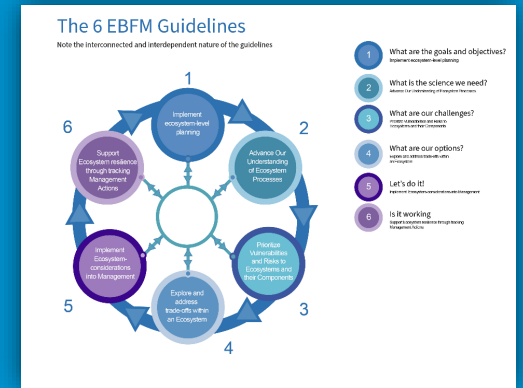




**NOAA
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Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management Road map Implementation Plan

Caribbean Region Update

Maria López-Mercer
Caribbean Branch, NMFS SERO
EBFM TAP Meeting
August 1-2, 2024

EBFM Road map Implementation Plan

- EBFM Road map introduced in 2016 - subject to periodic review
- EBFM Management Policy and Road Map* describes the strategy NMFS will employ to implement EBFM based on six guiding principles.
- The EBFM Road map called for the development of implementation plans to guide NOAA Fisheries' efforts in implementing EBFM over the next 5 years.
- Draft EBFM Road Map Update (current)
 - Clarifies the link between EBFM and other initiatives including climate ready fisheries
 - Improves connections between science and management
 - Better integrates habitat, protected resources, and social-economic sciences

1. Implement ecosystem-level planning;
2. Advance our understanding of ecosystem processes;
3. Prioritize vulnerabilities and risks of ecosystems;
4. Explore and address trade-offs within an ecosystem;
5. Incorporate ecosystem considerations into management advice;
6. Maintain resilient ecosystems.

Caribbean Region EBFM Road map Implementation Plan

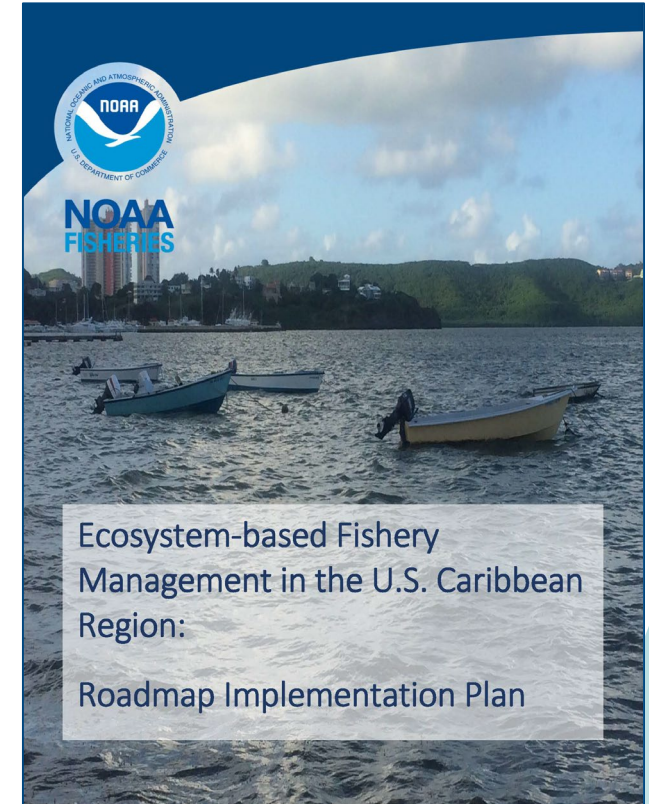
- Final [document](#) published on March 22, 2019
- The purpose of the *Caribbean Region Implementation Plan* is to identify and coordinate priority EBFM milestones among the Southeast Regional Office (SERO), the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) and our Caribbean Fishery Management Council (Council) partners in the Caribbean region.

Background

Shift to Island-based FMPs established the baseline for conducting ecosystem-based management in the region.

- Highlights fishing activity dependence on coral reef community and associated ecosystems; natural and anthropogenic factors affecting habitats and their associated species differences.
- Highlights harvest preferences, anthropogenic impacts, natural events, and complex biological linkages

The Caribbean Implementation Plan started with stakeholder engagement



From the NOAA Fisheries Roadmap Implementation Plan Update (2024):

- The development of documents similar to the Road Map implementation plans from each region arising from many recent strategic planning documents makes that approach duplicative and therefore not recommended as part of the updated Road Map.
- To make EBFM activities an integral part of the NMFS annual budget planning process going forward, NOAA Fisheries will prioritize EBFM milestones in regular NMFS annual strategic planning processes at each region, HQ, etc.
- Within 18 months of the release of this Road Map, each NOAA Fisheries FSC, RO, and headquarters office **will bring action items and other elements of this Road Map into milestones in their own strategic planning priorities, documents, and actions.**
- NOAA Fisheries will seek efficiencies by working with appropriate regional management partners and stakeholders to align or coordinate these milestones with other ecosystem activities, climate priorities, and required statutory obligations.

Priorities will be included in planning documents' milestones and completed work that:

1. Represent progress on a single action or guideline;
2. Represent coordinated progress on multiple, connected actions or guidelines directed at a particular issue or need;
3. Together connect actions spanning Guidelines 1 through 6.

Successful implementation of the Road Map's action items will be based on priority, need, scope, and resourcing.

Next Steps

- Discussion on the Caribbean Implementation Road map based on the Revised EBFM Road map
- Review Caribbean Road map to inform milestones based on CFMC and NMFS SE Region Ecosystem Efforts (ongoing, completed, etc.):
- What actions have been conducted to support progress toward the goals of the road map?
- What actions are still ongoing? What resources are available and which are needed to complete actions items
- Are there new activities to add? What resources need to be allocated to accomplish these actions?
 - Include EEJ efforts related to EBFM
 - Include Climate efforts
- Evaluate progress at a national level vs at Caribbean regional level (for example, as an exercise)
- How will the region proceed with the Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) to materialize it?



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