

Outreach and Education Advisory Panel
Hybrid Meeting
July 19 2023

Fishery Ecosystem Plan Update

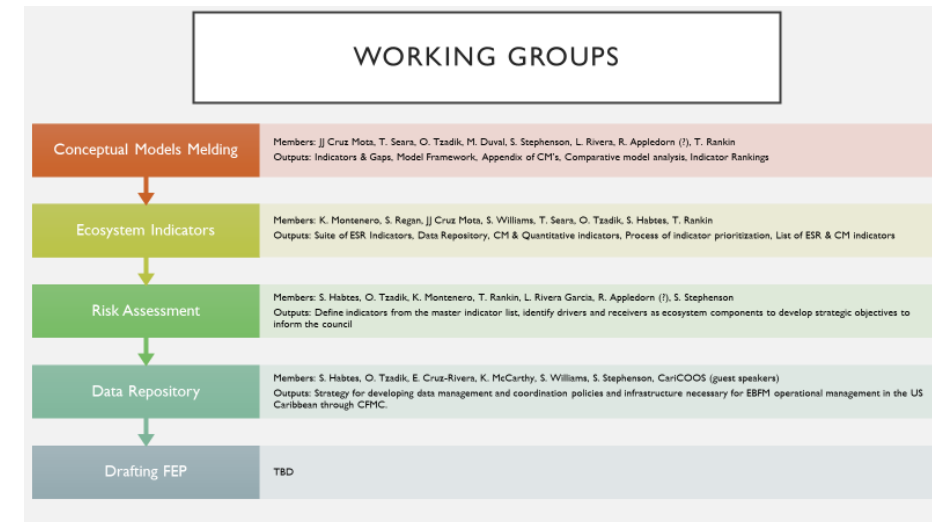
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CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



Previous report

Topic	OEAP (Mar 3 2023)
Conceptual Models	-Done; continue to provide commonalities across DAPs and SSC components and its connections
TAP Working Groups	-Conceptual Modeling Melding: to be finalized next month -Ecosystem Indicators: Update to be provided at joint meeting -Risk Assessment: In discussion -Data Repository: In discussion -Draft FEP: 1 st -4 th section.
Caribbean FEP outline	-New, re-arranged version
Timeline	-Extended with pending finalization this year.



Updates

May 1-2: SSC and EBFM TAP Joint meeting

- Research priorities for SSC

May 3-5: EBFM TAP meeting

1-Overview FEP development

- Strategic and operational objectives organized into 5 main categories
- Adopted new framework outline for the FEP (should be a 20 pager document)

2-Working Groups (WG) coordination and scheduling

Drafting FEP: technical writing

Sections written:

1. Intro/ Background
2. Interface between Fishery and Ecosystem Management
3. Environmental Setting
4. Conceptual Models/FEP Management Framework

2023 Outline = New Vision, Same Components

- 2020 Outline Headings:

- I. Introduction/Background
- II. Defining the Interface between Fishery and Ecosystem Management
- III. Environmental Setting
- IV. Conceptual Models
- V. Present Status
- VI. Future Prospects
- VII. Assessing Fishery and Ecosystem Conditions
- VIII. Coordination of Ecosystem Approaches to Fisheries Management in the US Caribbean
- IX. Research Needs
- X. Performance Evaluation

- 2023 Outline Headings:

- I. Introduction
- II. Ecosystem and Ecosystem Services
- III. Ecosystem Indicators
- IV. Use of Indicators in Management
- V. Plan Moving Forward

Source: EBFM TAP May 2023 Meeting

Complete FEP outline

2023 Outline

1) Introduction

- Purpose, need, and limits of the FEP
- Goals and objectives
- Approach of EBFM
 - Within EBFM context:
 - US Caribbean jurisdictions
 - MSA
 - Other federal laws, federal agencies, and obligations
 - Local regulations

2) Ecosystems and ecosystem services

- Local interface between fisheries, fishery communities, and ecosystem management
- Basic description, compare/contrast, and describe connectivity among the three island platforms with regards to
 - Society and Culture
 - Economics
 - Ecology
 - Fisheries

3) Ecosystem indicators

- ESR
- Conceptual Models
- Other available products for reference

4) Use of Indicators in Management

- Tools for Council Use:
 - Risk Assessment
 - Quantitative Models
 - Restoration/Mitigation
- Other ecosystem approaches
 - MSA Revision
 - FMP amendments
 - CFMC policy statements
 - Integrated Ecosystem Assessment

5) Plan Moving Forward

- Research needs
- Strategic objectives
- Operational objectives
- Performance measures
- Management strategy Evaluation
- Review and revision schedule

Source: EBFM TAP May 2023 Meeting

Working groups: coordination and scheduling

WGs to meet monthly

Topic	Current status
TAP Working Groups –now meeting monthly	-Conceptual Modeling Melding: June 27 2023 -Ecosystem Indicators: May 2023 -Risk Assessment: June 20 2023 -Data Repository: In discussion -Draft FEP: 1st -4th section. Same status

Timeline

Activity	Expected Date of Completion
Revise and draft EBFM TAP goals and objectives	December 2020
Draft FEP goals and objectives	April 2021
Continue to collect and analyze existing data sets from Lenfest, SeaMap, ESR, etc... Expected products = a centralized repository of data (e.g., MBON, Caricoos, etc.); summary analyses of pertinent datasets; potentially peer-reviewed publications	April - December 2021 (ongoing)
Complete all conceptual models	June 2022 v
Meld conceptual models to create island-specific conceptual models	December 2022 now Spring 2023 (ongoing)
Use the conceptual models & additional products to create island-specific risk assessments for consideration by the SSC, that will be used to inform approaches that will be presented in the FEP.	December 2022 (now 2023)
Use the conceptual models and other products produced by the ESR, EBFM TAP, and by the Lenfest FEP project to identify ecosystem indicators that should be monitored. In addition to inclusion in the FEP, these indicators will be presented to the SSC and the CFMC for consideration to include in EBFM management practices.	December 2022 (1st presentation to SSC November 2022) (continue into 2023)

Timeline

Activity	Expected Date of Completion
Develop strategic objectives, prioritize the objectives, and outline a vision for the use of the FEP for consideration in the CFMC processes.	Mar 2023 v
Develop operational objectives with concrete action items to be presented in the FEP, for consideration by the CFMC.	May 2023
Develop performance measures and draft a management strategy that can be used situationally during CFMC decision making, to be presented in the FEP, for consideration by the CFMC.	July 2023
Develop a feedback mechanism for adaptive management to be presented in the FEP, for consideration by the CFMC.	July 2023
Develop a draft FEP document	August 2023
Submit FEP for council approval	December 2023

¡Gracias!

Thank you!

Suggestions for OEAP: common concerns we need to understand together

RESEARCH PRIORITY AMONG EBFM TAP THAT ALIGNS WITH FISHER'S CONCERNS AND THE NEED FOR THE CFMC TO ADDRESS THE TOPIC OF SARGASSUM WITH FISHERS

6. Quantify positive and negative effects of Sargassum as critical habitat and effects of inundations on local fisheries. **3**
 - Indices of floating algae already exist, how much ends up on the coastline, and how that affects fisheries, not well established.
 - Coastal effects/predictions of sargassum landings (negative impacts).
 - How it acts as essential fish habitat for pelagic species (benefits)