

Update on the EBM Initiative



- 1. Maintain/restore ecosystem health***
- 2. Protect Unique/Rare Features***
- 3. Facilitate Research***
- 4. Promote Sustainable Uses***



1. Maintain/restore ecosystem health

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Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA)?

- An IEA is a PROCESS AND A PRODUCT for organizing science to inform management decisions.
- IEAs SCIENTIFICALLY ASSESS the status of a whole ecosystem and measure it against established benchmarks.
- An IEA synthesizes the best-available science relative to specified management goals and provides STRATEGIC ADVICE to managers on anticipated responses and tradeoffs of management options.

Scoping
Identify goals of EBM and threats to achieving goals

Develop ecosystem indicators and targets

Risk Analysis

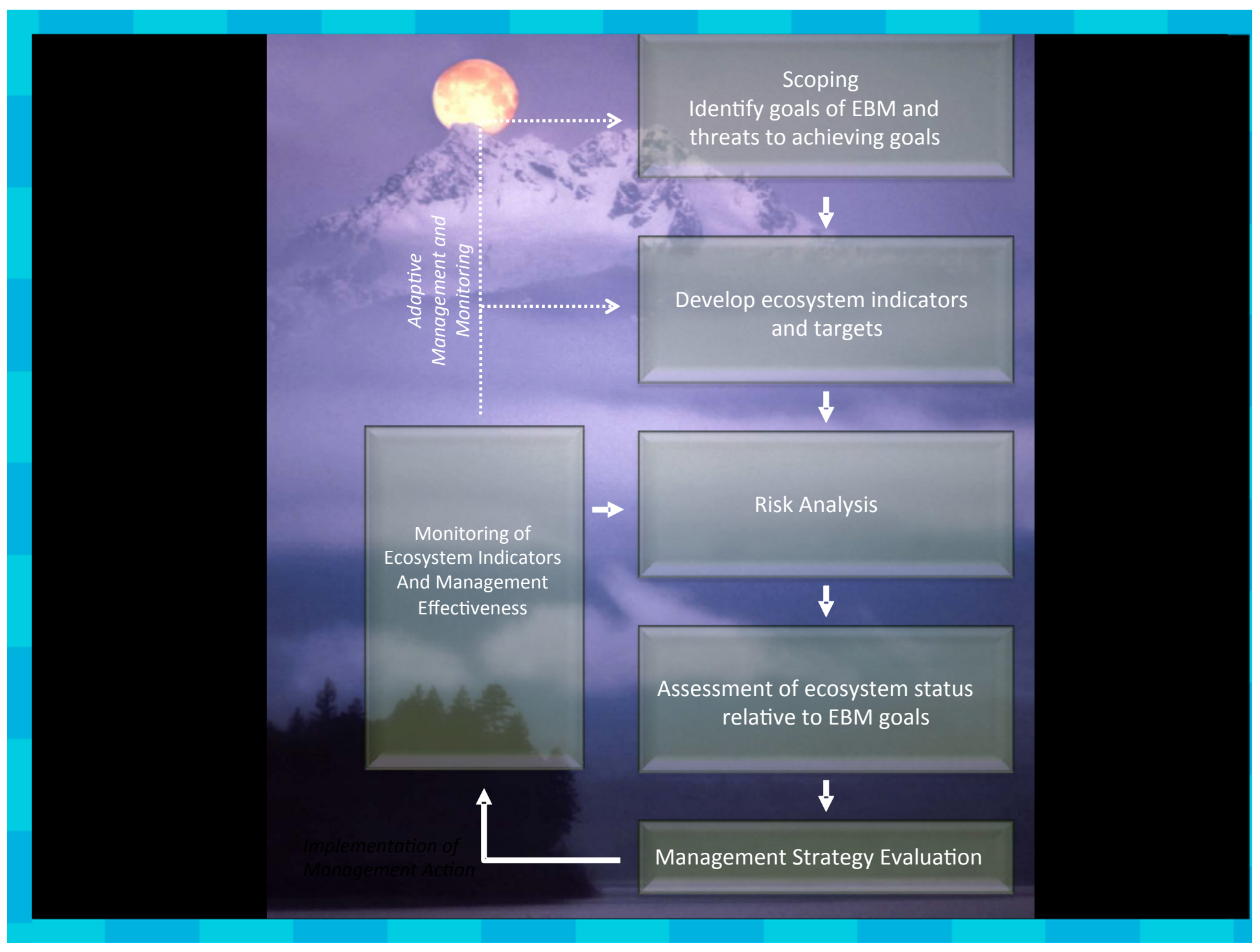
Assessment of ecosystem status relative to EBM goals

Management Strategy Evaluation

Monitoring of Ecosystem Indicators And Management Effectiveness

Adaptive Management and Monitoring

Implementation of Management Action



Policy Question

IEA Step

What does a healthy ecosystem look like?

Objectives, indicators / targets

What is the health of the ecosystem?

Current status, risk assessment

What action should be considered?

Generate alternative management options

Where should we start

Management strategy evaluation

Policy Question

Management

What does a healthy ecosystem look like?

Stated target-

We want to see an increase in eelgrass by 20%... Show the tradeoffs

What is the health of the ecosystem?

What is the status now?

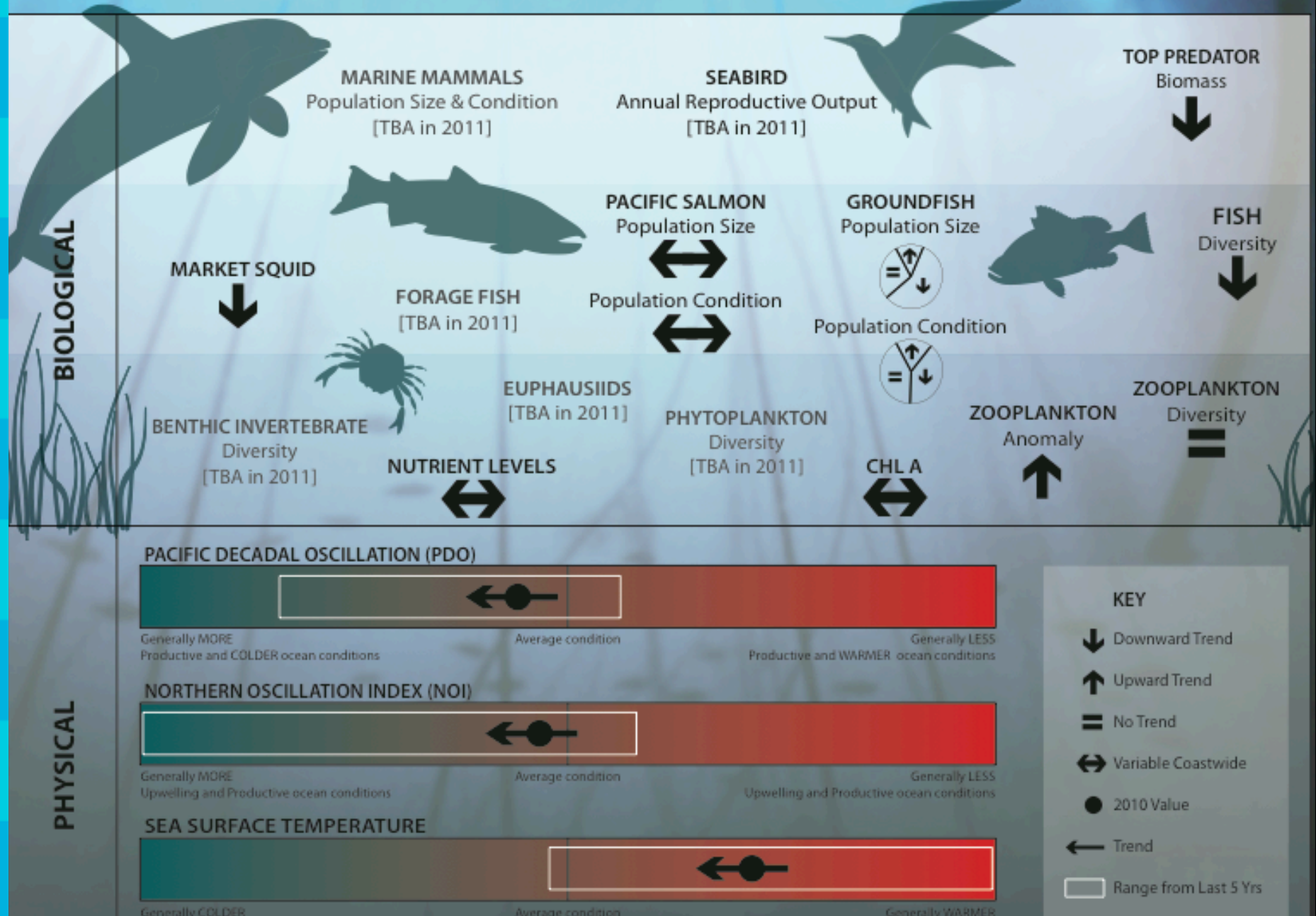
What action should be considered?

Generate actions to be tested from community and management

Where should we start

IEA is in tool development phase

Status of the California Current Ecosystem at a Glance



PACIFIC SALMON

MARINE MAMMALS

GROUNDFISH

SEABIRDS

• Year 1

- Ecosystem health
- Fisheries
 - Groundfish
 - Salmon
- Protected Species
 - Salmon
 - Green sturgeon

• Year 2

- Ecosystem health
- Fisheries
 - Groundfish
 - Salmon
 - **Coastal Pelagic Species**
- Protected Species
 - Salmon
 - Green sturgeon
 - **Marine mammals, birds**
- **Coastal Communities**

• Year 3

- **Ecosystem health**
- Fisheries
 - Groundfish
 - Salmon
 - Coastal Pelagic Species
- Protected Species
 - Salmon
 - Green sturgeon
 - Marine mammals, birds
- Coastal Communities
- **Habitat**
 - Biogenic
 - Physical
 - Water quality

What that means for MBNMS

- Continued role with IEA development
- Providing some management strategies to run
- Continued role on communications
- Pilot for risk assessment



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Unique Rare Features Identification





UNDERWAY

- 1. Creating a list of unique/rare features in the MBNMS*
- 2. Identifying threats to these features*
- 3. Identifying patterns of human activities*
- 4. Identifying potential locations where multiple features
co-occur*

Partnership opportunity

Essential Fish Habitat Review underway

Sustainable Fisheries Act (1996) requires NMFS to:

describe and identify essential fish habitat

Minimize to extent practicable adverse effects on EFH

EFH defined as “waters and substrate necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity

5 year Review underway

EFH Review Timeline

Timing/Due Date	Action
Phase I: April 2011-April 2012	Council approves the process, and solicits for information and data (deadline: July 1, 2011) NMFS Science Center (or contractor) compiles and synthesizes data and information, initiates review. EFHRC starts reviewing interim products EFHRC drafts report summarizing new data and information; including how it compares with existing information, maps, etc.
Phase II: April 2012	Council adopts interim report and issues RFP for any changes to existing GF EFH, HAPCs, etc.
Sept 2012	EFHRC drafts final report, including recommendations for potential changes to EFH
November 2012	Final Action by Council (END PHASE II)
Phase III: Post November 2012	If Council final action warrants additional activity, that would initiate Phase 3. Additional work could be in the form of an FMP amendment or other non-FMP product such as a chapter in the SAFE document. At that point, the EFHRC would be adjourned, because the review will have been completed. Any further work would require delegation to or establishment of an appropriate workgroup (e.g., GMT, amendment committee, etc.)

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Objectives

1. Identify opportunities to promote long-term cooperative research sites (e.g., sentinel sites)

2. Identify opportunities to address priority science questions which can not be addressed given current spatial management

Partnership opportunity

- *Presented to Pacific Fishery Management Council*
- *Accepted invitation to work together to identify priority EBM questions for NMFS and MBNMS*
- *Reaching out to broader management agencies to identify priority research questions*

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Partnership opportunities

- *Fishing working group for SAC*
- *Local Catch Monterey*
- *Informal discussions with fishers in MBNMS*
- *Identifying priority concerns and potential projects for collaboration*
- *Recreational boater outreach*



What are we working toward?

Improved ecosystem health

