

"Establishing Human and Ecological Goals for EBM: Applied Case Studies along the West Coast"

Keywords: ecosystem based management, human dimensions, stakeholders, goal setting

Ecosystem-based management is a holistic approach to better understanding the linkages between human activities in coastal communities and the interactions with the marine ecosystem.

The challenge for EBM practitioners is how to know everything about this dynamic environment while integrating complex management decisions emerging from the human dimension. So practically speaking, where do you start?

A network of EBM projects from Washington, Oregon and California have been developing goals that prioritize research, education, outreach, regulation and restoration for marine and coastal ecosystems to provide a framework for decision-making and to guide adaptive management.

Panelists will discuss the process of developing ecological and human goals for EBM. The role of stakeholder involvement in setting ecosystem goals, how tradeoffs were determined for ecosystem outcomes, and the degree to which human uses of these ecosystems played an explicit role in setting EBM goals.

Panelists include:

Port Orford EBM: Pete Stauffer (Port Orford Stewardship Area), Leesa Cobb (POORT), and Jennifer Bloeser (PMCC)

Humboldt Bay EBM: Mark Wheatley (CA Department of Fish & Game) Susan Schlosser (UC Sea Grant Extension) and Adam Wagschal (Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation & Conservation District)

Elkhorn Slough EBM: Bryan Largay (Elkhorn Slough National Estuary Reserve) and Erin McCarthy (Elkhorn Slough National Estuary Reserve)

Morro Bay EBM (San Luis Obispo Science and Ecosystem Alliance): Dean Wendt (Cal Poly State University), Don Maruska (SLOSEA) and Dan Berman (Morro Bay National Estuary Program)

San Juan Islands Initiative EBM: Amy Windrope (San Juan Initiative), Jody Kennedy (Surfrider Foundation)

Panel Chair: Linwood Pendleton, The Ocean Foundation

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