Arctic Council Ecosystem Approach to Management and the Development of Arctic Marine Protected Areas

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Ecosystem-Based Management in the Arctic



Report submitted to Senior Arctic Officials by the Expert Group on Ecosystem-Based Management May 2013

'The comprehensive integrated management of human activities based on the best available scientific knowledge about the ecosystem and its dynamics, in order to identify and take action on influences which are critical to the health of marine ecosystems, thereby achieving sustainable use of ecosystem goods and services and maintenance of ecosystem integrity.' (Arctic Council, 2013)

EA (or EBM) is a system of knowledge concerning the ecosystem and its components. EA embodies what is known about how to shape human behavior in ways that minimize interference with continuing <u>operations of the ecosystem</u>. What kinds of knowledge?

Six elements of the Ecosystem Approach (PAME EA-EG)

- 1. Identify the ecosystem
- 2. Describe the ecosystem
- 3. Set ecological objectives
- 4. Assess the ecosystem
- 5. Value the ecosystem
- 6. Manage human activities

The system of knowledge

Arctic Council develops

The regulatory process

Status of Implementing Arctic EA

Identify the ecosystemGeographic boundaries for Arcticecosystems have been accepted by Arctic states

Describe the ecosystem Biological contents and physical properties are reasonably well known (except High Seas)

Set ecological objectives Work in progress. Definitions vary EU, USA, ...

Assess the ecosystem IEA ICES,NOAA IEA Workshop Jan '18

Value the ecosystemNot clear how to proceed

Manage human activities Arctic states responsibility

International Conference on Status of Implementing EA in the Arctic (2016)

Arctic Council work in 2018 on Integrated Ecosystem Assessment and Ecological Objectives <u>Next Steps</u>

- 1) 6th EA workshop developing guidelines Integrated Ecosystem Assessment. January 2018 Seattle
- 2) PAME/ICES Working Group on Integrated Ecosystem Assessment in the Central Arctic Ocean (WGICA)
- 3) 2nd International EA Conferencse 2018 on Status Implementing EA in the Arctic,

NEXT STEPS: 6th EA workshop developing methods and guidelines Integrated Ecosystem Assessment PAME/ICES/NOAA Workshop Prospectus

Venue and time: Seattle, WA, USA; 9-11 January 2018

Workshop objectives:

1. Scope and start work on development of guidelines for Ecosystem Approach to management (EA) in the Arctic.

2. Review status of work on developing and doing Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (IEA) to develop best practices for Arctic IEA. ICES/PICES/PAME Working Group on Integrated Ecosystem Assessment for the Central Arctic Ocean

Spring 2018 Canada

Co-chairs

John Bengtson, NMFS, NOAA, Seattle, USA Hein Rune Skjoldal, IMR, Bergen, Norway Sei-ichi Saitoh, Hokkaido University, Japan

NEXT STEPS: Second International Conference Status of Implementation EA in the Arctic

Venues and times (tbd):

• Sept 2018 (TBD)

Purpose

"Institute periodic Arctic Council reviews of EBM in the Arctic to exchange information on integrated ecosystem assessment and management experiences, including highlighting examples from Arctic States." (Kiruna Ministerial 2013)

MPA Networks as Part of an Ecosystem Approach to Management



Pan-Arctic MPA Framework

- Common vision, goals, objectives, principles
- Summary of Country approaches
- Country listings of MPAs and "other measures"



Framework for a **Pan-Arctic Network of Marine Protected Areas** April 2015





Pan-Arctic MPA Network Vision

An ecologically connected, representative and well-managed network of protected and specially managed areas that protects and promotes the resilience of the biological diversity, ecological processes and cultural heritage of the Arctic marine environment, and the social and economic benefits they provide to present and future generations.



MPA Network Goals

- To strengthen ecological resilience to direct human pressures and to climate change impacts, to promote the long-term protection of marine biodiversity, ecosystem function and special natural and cultural features in the Arctic.
- To support the integrated stewardship, conservation and management of living Arctic marine resources and their habitats, and the cultural and socio-economic values and ecosystem services they provide.
- To enhance public awareness and appreciation of the Arctic marine environment and rich maritime history and culture.
- To foster coordination and collaboration among Arctic states to achieve more effective MPA planning and management in the Arctic.



What Counts as an MPA?

- Conforms to the IUCN definition of a marine protected area
- Contributes to achieving at least one of the pan-Arctic MPA network goals and one or more objectives
- Has a management plan, or protection regime being implemented.



Arctic Protected Areas: Indicator Report



- 11.4% Total protected
- 4.7% Marine areas
- 20.2% Terrestrial areas

Colors indicate seven different types of MPA in the marine and terrestrial environments

Arctic Protected Areas: Indicator Report







The End

For more information

www.pame.is

PAME Marine Protected Area Framework & MPA Network Toolbox

Lauren Wenzel, National Marine Protected Areas Center Martin Sommerkorn, WWF



