

Howdy!

Management Breakout

**Sea Grant: Contributing Regionally to
Ecosystem Approaches to Management**

Broad Issue statement: Protection, restoration and management of ocean and coastal resources based on the health and needs of the Ecosystem (including human communities) rather than species by species or issue by issue.

Sea Grant specific Issue statement:

To facilitate movement toward an ecosystem approach to management through Sea Grant's unique capabilities.

Step 1: Identify regional (sub-regional) research and information needs/priorities (or use existing priorities) through Sea Grant facilitation (key is to bring all interested parties to the table to identify priorities and get buy-in on possible action plans for both current and new programs).

Step II: Establish baselines for identified research and information needs and tailor research and outreach plans accordingly.

Step III: Fund and conduct research needed to address identified priorities. Clearly articulate roles/responsibilities for stated research (e.g. who does what? - Some will be Sea Grant, university community, state agencies, industry, EPA, DOI, etc.).

Step IV: Provide information in appropriate forms to decision makers and users to help facilitate the development of management options by regulatory agencies and other authorities.

Step V: Provide initial evaluation and analysis of the effectiveness of the management practices (as developed in Step IV) to lead to established protocols.

Step VI: Repeat Step I (with additionally refined priorities, new technologies, and to address other regions and emerging issues).

NOTE: Regional priorities will be developed in accordance with National policy framework (OAP) due December 2006

Time frame: Proof of concept to be developed with support from two year funding from NSGO supplemented by Involved agencies.

Participants: All elements of Sea Grant (research, extension, communications, education) will have roles.

Potential Partners: NMFS, EPA, DOI, Regional councils/commissions, etc.

Next steps: Individuals have been identified who will develop a proposal.

GET INVOLVED:

If you would like to review the proposal prior to submission to NSGO send your e-mail address and expression of interest to Bob Stickney:

stickney@tamu.edu

That would be Texas A&M University