

Putting humans into the ecosystem: Building capacity to implement Ecosystem-based Management

Great Lakes
Regional Program Managers' Meeting
September 24, 2008

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www.nyoglecc.org



My goals:

- Review Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) in New York State
- Make the EBM case for broad and collaborative stakeholder involvement
- Introduce schemes for building capacity for informed decision making

New York Ocean and Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Act



“to conserve, maintain and restore coastal ecosystems so that they are healthy, productive, resilient and able to deliver the resources people want and need”

Ecosystem-Based Management in New York

An integrated approach to management
that considers the entire ecosystem,
including humans

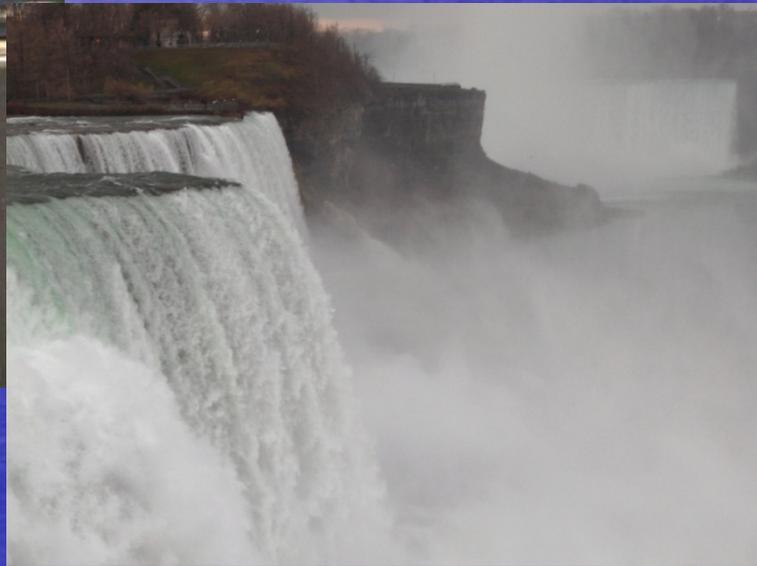
Wicked Problems

SOCIETY & CULTURE



People are ultimately the
agents for political,
community, and personal
change.

EBM is about human decisions and activities that impact ecosystem integrity



EBM is about managing human appetites.



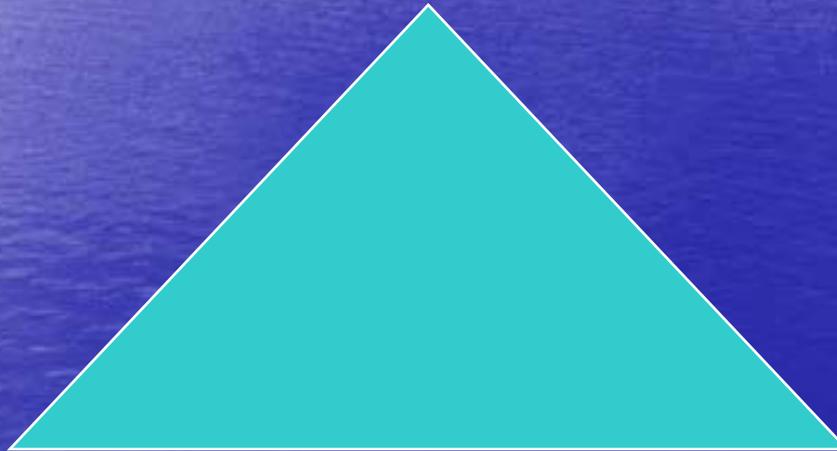
Ecosystem-Based Management: Components

1. Place-based focus
2. Best available science
3. Adaptive management
4. Measurable objectives
5. Interconnectedness
6. Public involvement



The Progress Triangle of Collaborative Approaches

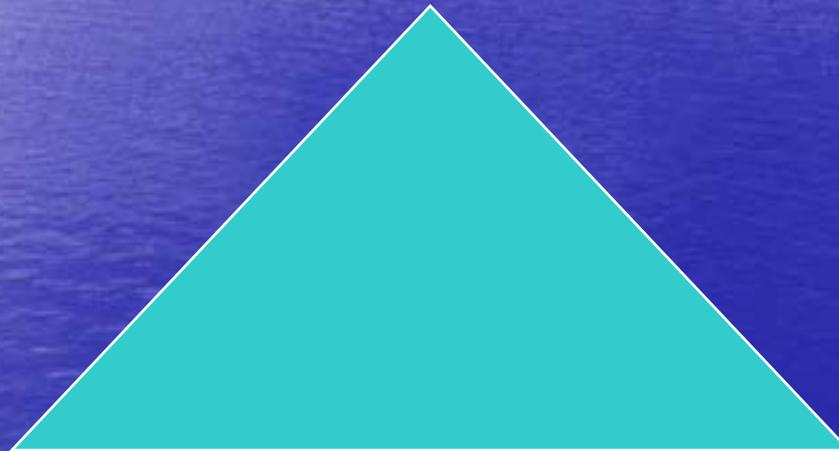
Process



Issue Content

The Progress Triangle of Collaborative Approaches

Process



Issue Content

Relationship

It's *not only* about
science and technology

It's *not only* the public
who needs to learn

EBM integrates ecological, social, economic, and institutional perspectives, recognizing their strong interdependencies and mutual influences.

EBM ensures that planning and management is *collaborative*.

Active public participation involving all stakeholders is central to effective EBM.

The processes are often as unique as the situation, but the common theme is the ongoing, active participation of partners.

**The care and feeding of unlikely
partnerships, networks,
& coalitions.**





**Strategies & tactics for
effectively overcoming barriers.** 16



**Taking advantage of opportunities,
and creating opportunities.**



**Effectively coping with
uncertainty and surprises.**



**Building capacity
and confidence**

EBM in New York

- Expand Geography
- Ownership
- Accountability
- Viability
- ***ACT NOW!***



To integrate EBM principles into
decision-making processes for
sustainability,

cultivate

broad leadership and

collaborative partner networks

to build knowledge and skills

To date & continuing:

- ❖ Nine Agency Council
- ❖ Council Steering Committee
- ❖ Ocean Working Group
- ❖ Great Lakes Working Group
- ❖ Five Statewide Dialogues
- ❖ Sandy Creeks Demonstration Area
- ❖ Great South Bay Demonstration Area
 - ❖ Technical Advisory Group
 - ❖ Research Advisory Group
- ❖ Stakeholder Advisory Team to come

Building Capacity involves:

Programs, initiatives, and activities aimed at

- **enhancing the effectiveness** of individuals, organizations and governance systems
- **to achieve or define outcomes**
- **by strengthening** the knowledge-base, competence, resources, networks, infrastructure and other forms of support.

Building Capacity involves:

- Expanding possibilities of doing things together, finding ways to engage with situations and problems that go beyond goals.

Building Capacity involves:

- More broadly, the processes by which these abilities are mutually developed in an ongoing and sustainable fashion.

***In essence, the very process
by which people make
decisions becomes an
important indicator of
sustainability.***

PROMOTION EDUCATION/ INFORMATION NETWORKING, e.g.,

- Convene alternating biennial Great Lakes and Ocean **Summits**
- General & targeted Great Lakes **literacy campaigns**
- A **consistent media presence** that showcases individual agency leadership and other stakeholder activities, achievements, and opportunities
- **Information & guidance mechanisms**, e.g., handbooks, brochures, newsletters, kiosks

LEARNING NETWORKS / COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

The New York Ocean and Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Council as *CONVENER & CATALYST of Stakeholder Involvement,*

- **EBM into agency operations** and programmatic guidelines
- **agency regional staff capacity**
- Encouraging **integration of EBM** into professional education and consultant practice
- **Brokering resources** for building capacity at local levels

LEARNING NETWORKS / COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

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he New York Ocean and Great Lakes
Ecosystem Conservation Council as
CONVENER & CATALYST of Stakeholder Involvement,

- **Partnering** with existing initiatives to enhance/expand best practices
- Seeking and building **proactive partnerships**
- **Recognizing/awarding** achievements

LEARNING NETWORKS / COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

REGIONAL/LOCAL EMPOWERMENT PARTNERS FOR

- *Leadership/co-sponsorship* of activities/events
- *Showcasing* local/regional initiatives as role models
- *Hands-on projects* with local partners
- *Cooperative agreements*

LEARNING NETWORKS / COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

REGIONAL/LOCAL EMPOWERMENT PARTNERS FOR

- Recognizing and *celebrating*
 - *Trainer designation* for workshops/courses
 - Holding the Council *accountable*
 - *Funding* geared to innovative partnerships

ON-SITE WORKSHOPS/TRAINING, e.g.,

• Graduated & stand-alone training, e.g.,

- Using complex scientific information
- Joint fact finding
- Building enduring partnerships
- Nuts & bolts of collaborative processes
- Navigating the Atlas; using geospatial tools,
- Integrating local/indigenous knowledge
- Building indicators for local projects
- Citizen science, e.g., monitoring
- Dispute resolution/working in tough situations
- Achieving objectives via zoning and other local devices

ON-SITE WORKSHOPS/TRAINING, e.g.,

- **Train the Trainers for local leadership and workshop delivery**
- **Listening sessions and community conversations**

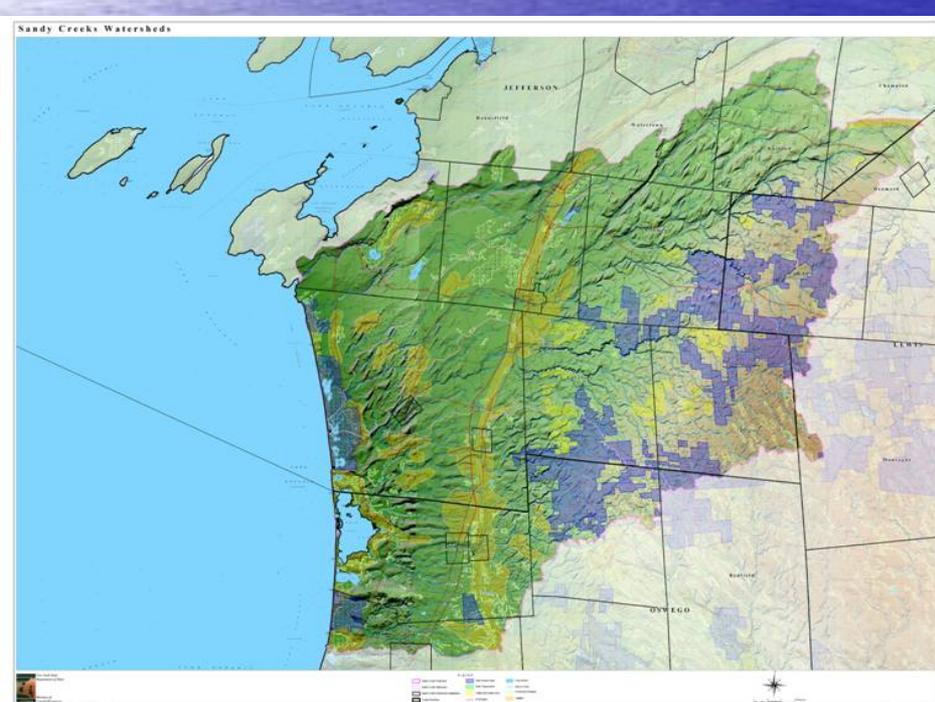
WEB-BASED RESOURCES, e.g.,

- **Links** to Council activities, archives
- **Primers** on EBM, Smart Growth, and sustainability
- **Links** to EBM-related sites
- **Links** to partner web sites
- Communities of **practice action**
- **Announcements**, updates, events
- **Clearinghouse** of projects/cases for best practices
- **Webinars, webcasts**
- Moderated **discussion board**
- **Online training** courses
- **Archives** of past training/information activities

Demonstration Area Projects

Sandy Creeks

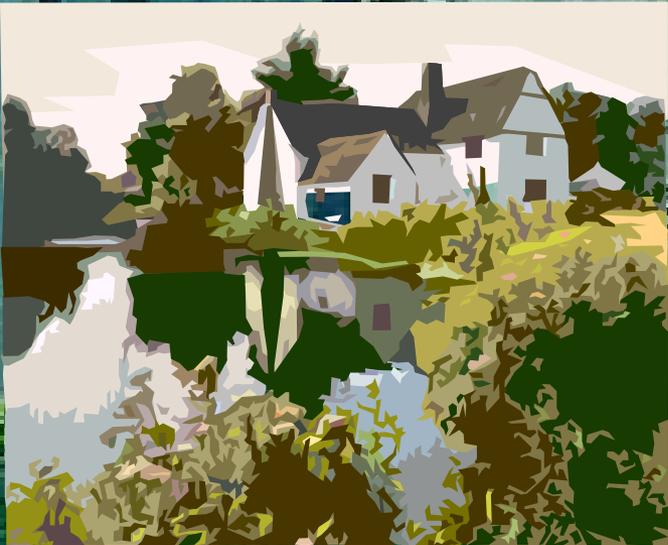
- Invasive species control
- Forestry BMPs, stream buffers
- Draft EBM Strategy



Achieving sustainability in economies, communities, and the natural environment requires

rethinking traditional, fragmented approaches

to managing complex and interrelated challenges.



Ecosystem-based Management
is about building our capacity
to make informed, smart decisions
for sustainability.



New York Ocean and Great Lakes
Ecosystem Conservation Council



Supporting Documents

- ▶ [New York Ocean and Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Act \(ECL Article 14\)](#)
- ▶ [Transitioning the Ocean and Great Lakes to a Sustainable Future](#)
- ▶ [Summary of Fall 2006 Dialogues](#)

Great South Bay Demonstration Project

- ▶ [GSB December 2007 Newsletter](#)

Sandy Creeks Demonstration Project

- ▶ [SC December 2007 Newsletter](#)
- ▶ [Fall 2007 Stakeholder Summary](#)

Ocean & Great Lakes Atlas

- ▶ [OGLA Data Catalog](#)
- ▶ [Data Priority Survey: Results and Analysis](#)

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New York Ocean and Great Lakes Ecosystem Conservation Council

Meeting Announcement

April 1, 2008
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Meeting Room #7
Empire State Plaza Convention Center
Albany, NY

Meeting Webcast

This meeting will be Web-cast Live and available for one month after the meeting. The web links for Live Web-cast below will be activated the morning of the meeting.

Windows Media:

http://interface.audiovideoweb.com/lnk/va91win1520/DOS_04012008a.wmv/play.aspx

Real Media:

http://interface.audiovideoweb.com/lnk/nj20real2704/DOS_04012008.rm/play

Meeting Materials

[Agenda](#)
[Council Progress Report](#)
[Directions to Empire State Plaza](#)
[Parking Map](#)
[Facilities Map](#)

Archived Meeting Materials

<http://www.nyoglecc.org>