

Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) Initiative



MBNMS' complex management framework & unique opportunities

- 25** different management zones and regulations
- 7** different regulatory agencies
- 24** locally-based research institutions
- 8** million stakeholders with different interests

Globally, the ocean is facing increasing demands and impacts on marine life.

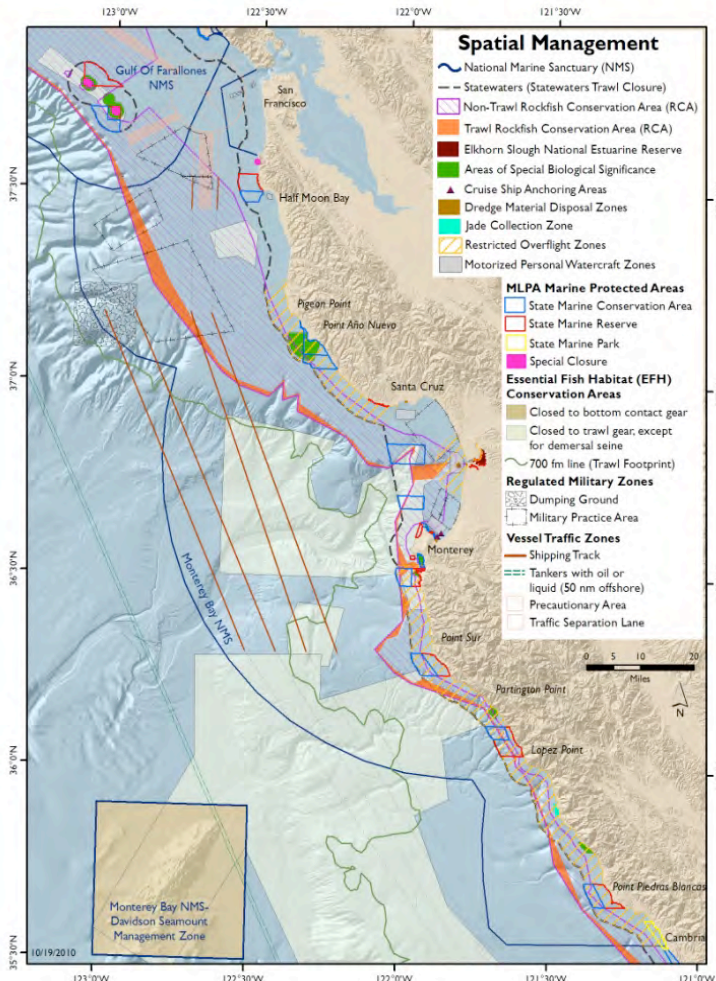
Locally, MBNMS can benefit from a collaborative multi-sector management approach, to address existing and potential threats.

Why use EBM?

Integrate existing approaches and priorities for protection and sustainable use of marine ecosystems across multiple jurisdictions and stakeholder interests.

Proactive measures to prevent harmful impacts and address threats to marine ecosystems within Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

Multiple uses will inform a collaborative planning process to minimize user conflicts, while maximizing synergy and collaboration among different regulatory agencies.

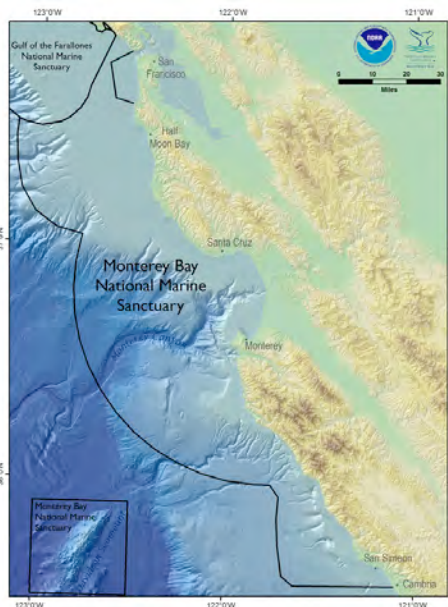


What is EBM?

Ecosystem-based management is an integrated approach to management that considers the entire ecosystem, including humans. The goal of ecosystem-based management is to maintain an ecosystem in a healthy, productive and resilient condition so that it can provide the services humans want and need. Ecosystem-based management differs from current approaches that usually focus on a single species, sector, activity or concern by considering the cumulative impacts of different sectors.

Our Objectives

- Maintain and restore marine ecosystem health and function in MBNMS.
- Ensure protection of unique and rare features within MBNMS.
- Facilitate research to differentiate between natural variation and human impacts in MBNMS.
- Facilitate ecologically and economically sustainable uses, including fisheries, within MBNMS.



How does it work?

The MBNMS EBM Initiative is following a rigorous, participatory and transparent process of information gathering, aligned with National Ocean Policy, to help MBNMS staff understand the status of marine resources within sanctuary boundaries, and collect data needed to achieve the EBM Initiative's four objectives. Management strategies will be proposed based on information gathered, identified needs and threats, and evaluation of the effectiveness of current management. Management decisions will be made in collaboration with partner agencies and stakeholders, and consideration across multiple objectives.



Information
gathering and analysis through scientific assessments and stakeholder workshops



Planning & implementing
strategies, policies, and actions with partners

From this process, MBNMS will:

Propose actions to enhance ecosystem health and protection



Monitoring & evaluating
management actions with partners and stakeholders

MBNMS will:

Provide well-informed input to coastal & marine management agencies and partners