



Ecosystem-based fisheries management in Iceland

Some practical considerations

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CONTENT OF PRESENTATION

- Perspectives from a fishing nation
 - modern fishing industry
 - economy highly dependent on well managed marine resources and marine environment
- The overall aims of EBFM- Confusion about the concept ?
- Some examples from Iceland
- Pragmatic steps to move forward



THE EBFM IN ESSENCE

- To manage human activities in such a way
 - that we determine the course and have in advance predicted the consequences for the resource in question, related resources and environment
- To weigh values of different resources one against another and to determine on such basis management actions

THE EBFM CONCEPT

- Efforts to scientifically define holistic approaches, ICES and other fora
 - Good progress, but complicated to determine objectives, criterias and indicators
 - Still at design stage

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THE EBFM: A PRAGMATIC VIEW

- Single species approach - try to further improve with present tools
- Main management measures
 - TAC's
 - Selective mesh size and gear
 - Season length and timing
 - Multispecies interactions
 - Closed areas
- All essential elements and in the spirit of EBFM

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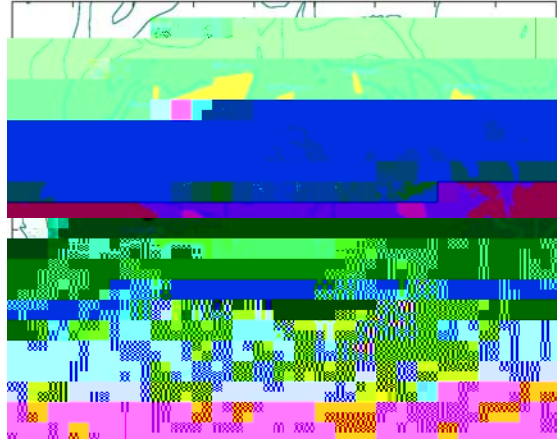
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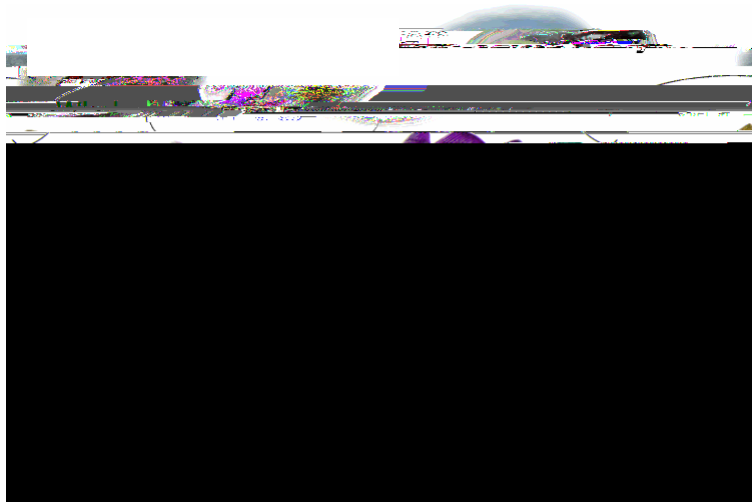
CLOSED AREAS: LONG-LINING



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MULTISPECIES STOCK SYSTEM AND MANAGEMENT





SINGLE SPECIES EBFM INVENTORY

2. Effects of fishery on

D. Ecosystem components by species/stock complexes/communities

- Benthos
- Zooplankton
- Birds
- Marine mammals
- Fish

- Presence/absence of specific studies-information available?

SINGLE SPECIES EBFM INVENTORY

3. Multispecies considerations

- Food web data available ?
- Models developed ?
- Predictions made ?

4. Effects of environmental changes on target stock

- If changes occur, does it require special attention with respect to spp in question ?

5. Special management considerations

- Operational
- Ecological

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CONCLUSION

Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management

- Secures growth and sustainability of the fish stocks and their environment – at least in the long-term
- Secures biodiversity
- Requires knowledge/understanding, much more commitment and research than at present–

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CONCLUSION

- Until such time
- Single-species EBFM Inventory (and single-species management) provides
 - Pragmatic approach to move forward
 - Integrates the concept into the institutional culture
 - Supports incremental development