



LENFEST FISHERY ECOSYSTEM TASK FORCE

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NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center



The Task Force

Task Force members:

- Tim Essington (Chair) [University of Washington](#)
- Phillip Levin (Co-Chair) [NMFS](#)
- Alida Bundy [Dept. Fisheries and Oceans Canada](#)
- Felicia Coleman [Florida State University](#)
- Lee Anderson [University of Delaware](#)
- Leah Gerber [Arizona State University](#)
- Olaf Jensen [Rutgers University](#)
- Jim Sanchirico [University of California, Davis](#)
- Ed Houde [University of Maryland](#)
- Christian Möllman [University of Hamburg](#)
- Courtney Carothers [University of Alaska, Fairbanks](#)
- Tony Smith [CSIRO Australia](#)
- Jon Grabowski [Northeastern University](#)
- Kenny Rose [Louisiana State University](#)

Advisory Panel members:

- Phillip Levin (Chair), [NMFS](#)
- Michelle Culver [Pacific Council](#)
- Mark Dickey-Collas [ICES](#)
- Michelle Duvall [Southeast Council](#)
- Peter Kendall [New England Council](#)
- Julie Morris [Gulf of Mexico Council \(former\)](#)
- Bill Tweit [North Pacific Council](#)
- Mike Fogarty [Northeast Fisheries Sci. Ctr.](#)
- Galen Tromble [NMFS Science & Technology](#)
- Jason Link [NMFS Liaison](#)
- Doug Lipton [NMFS Liaison](#)
- Richard Methot [NMFS Liaison](#)

Task Force Charge

- What are the key principles of EBFM that should be included in a fisheries ecosystem plan?
- What is the current status of fisheries management that incorporates these principles?
- What are the gaps between ecosystem knowledge and fishery ecosystem planning?
- What approaches can be used to fill these gaps?

Outline

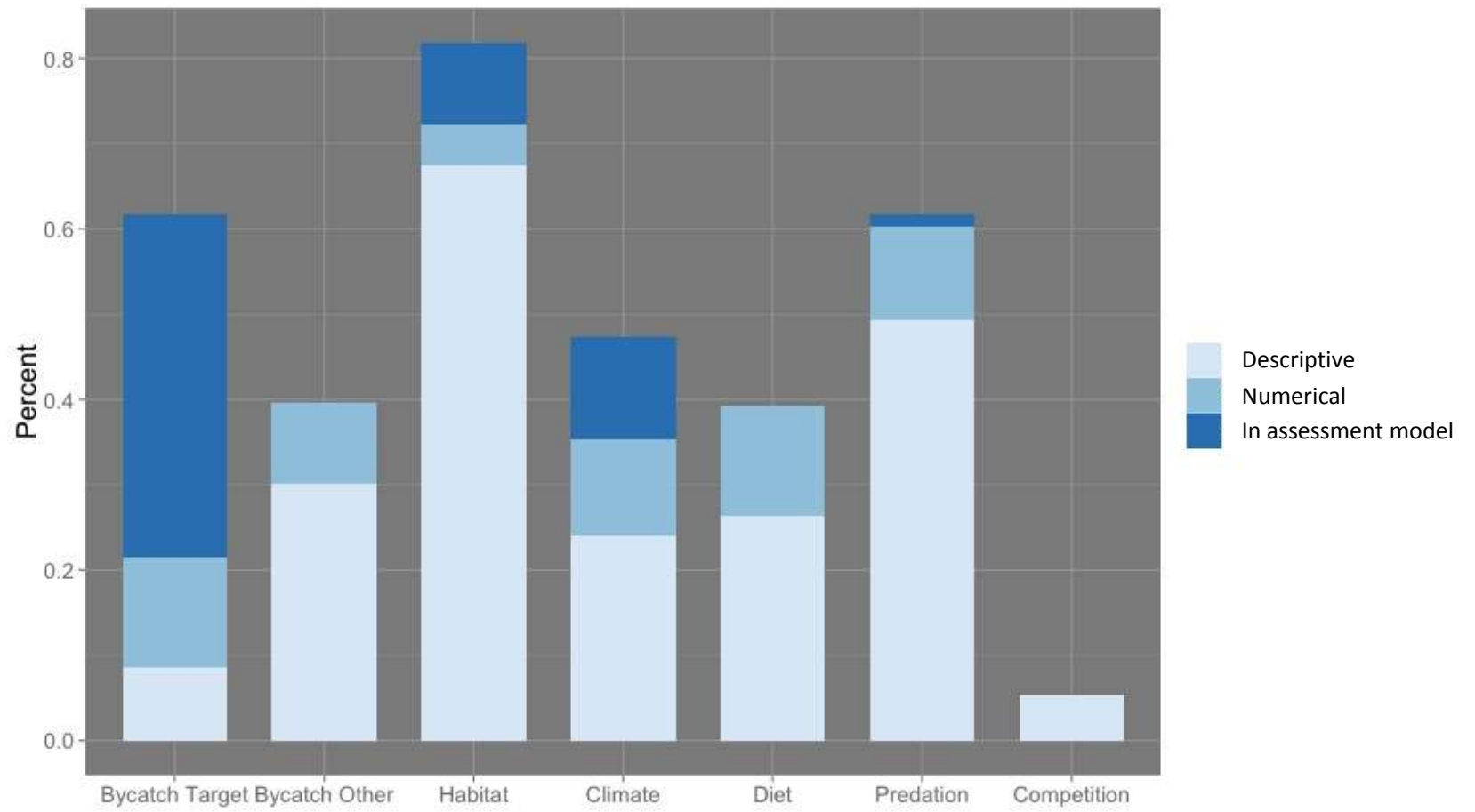
- Why bother with Fishery Ecosystem Plans?
- The Scope and Structure of FEPs—Lessons learned
- Implementation of FEPs—tools and management instruments

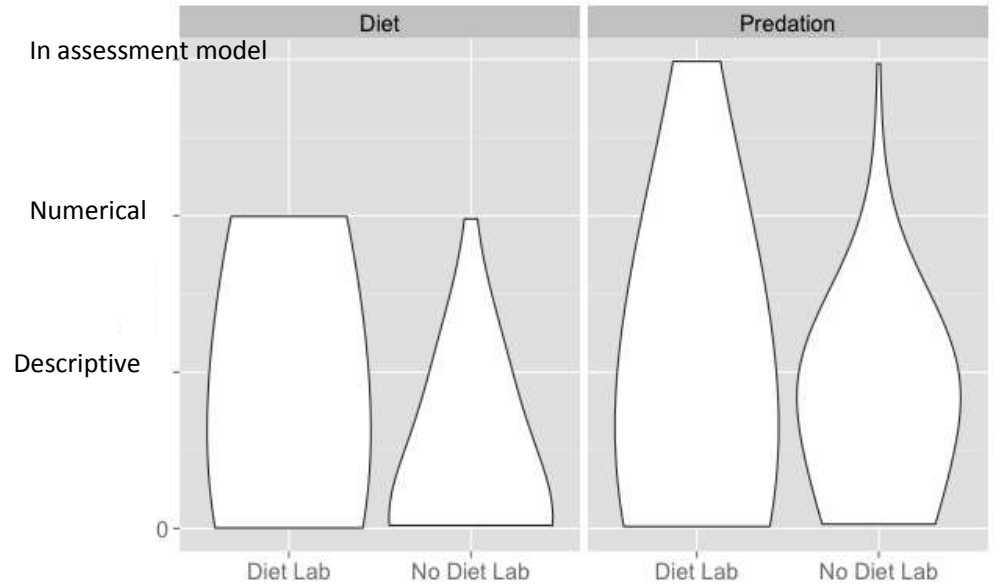
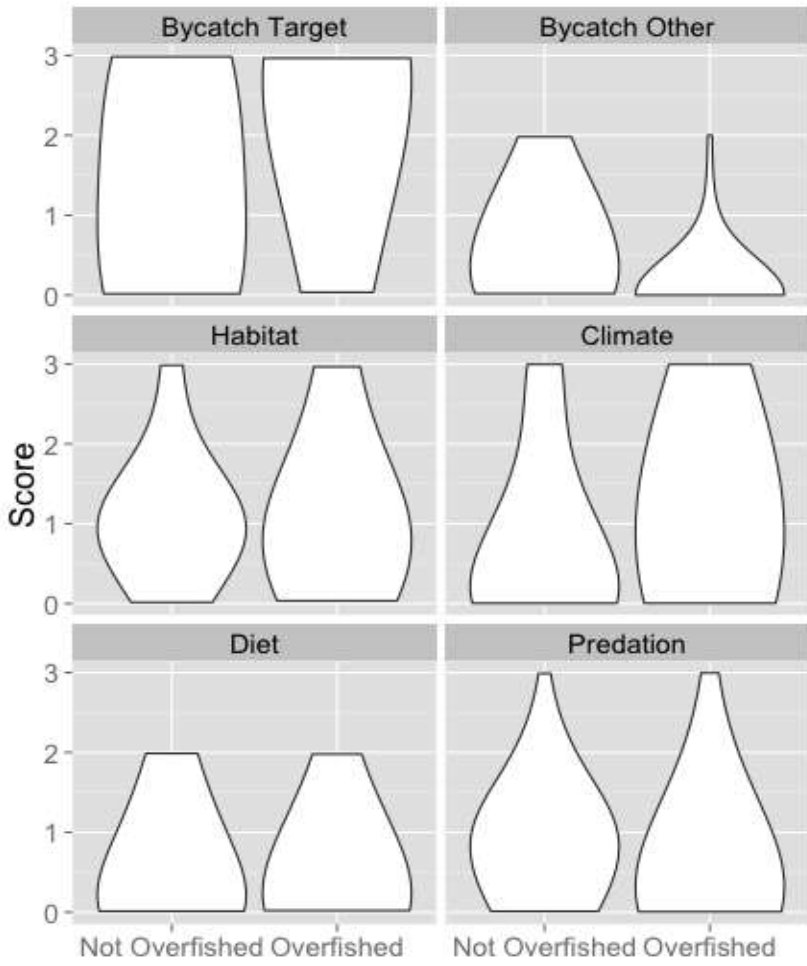
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Why bother – don't we already o EBFM?

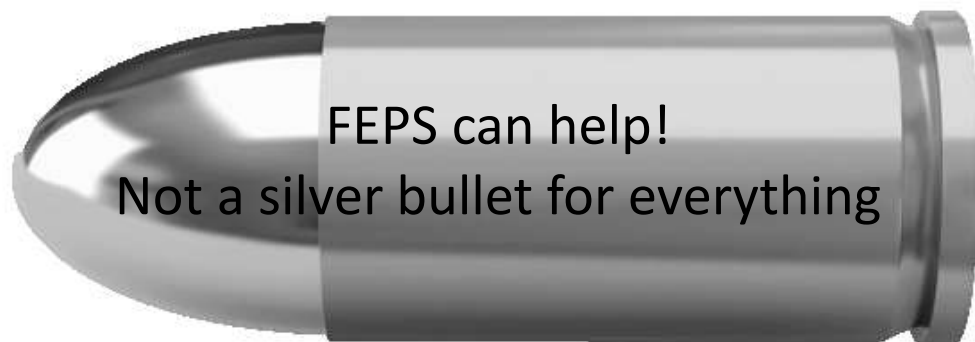
- 1) To what degree are ecosystem interactions accounted for within single species assessments?
- 2) What factors lead to the inclusion of ecological information in some stock assessments but not others?



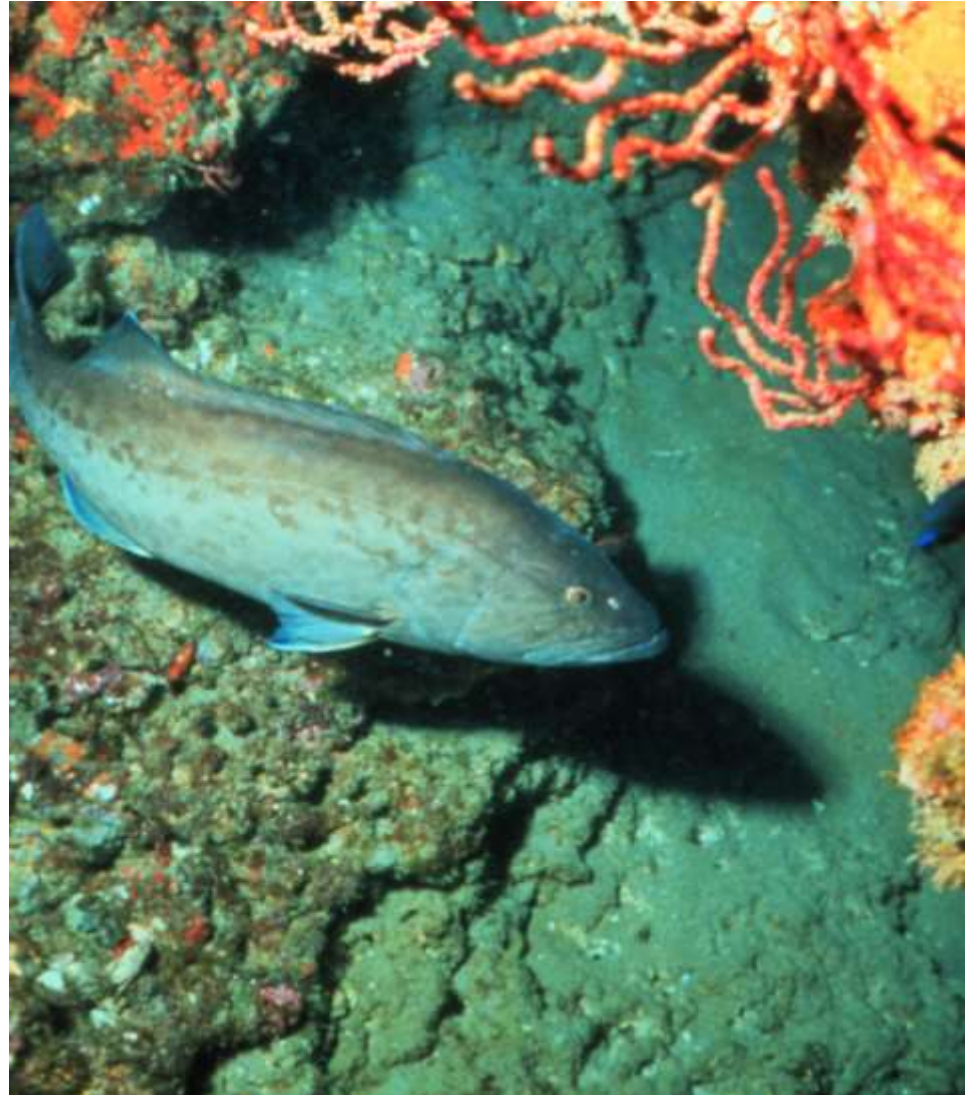


Barriers to EBFM

- Setting objectives
- Data
- Complexity
- Costs/Resources
- Boundaries
- Institutions
- Communication
- Stakeholder engagement
- Distrust
- Demonstrating effectiveness



*Well-established
principles already
exist for EBFM*



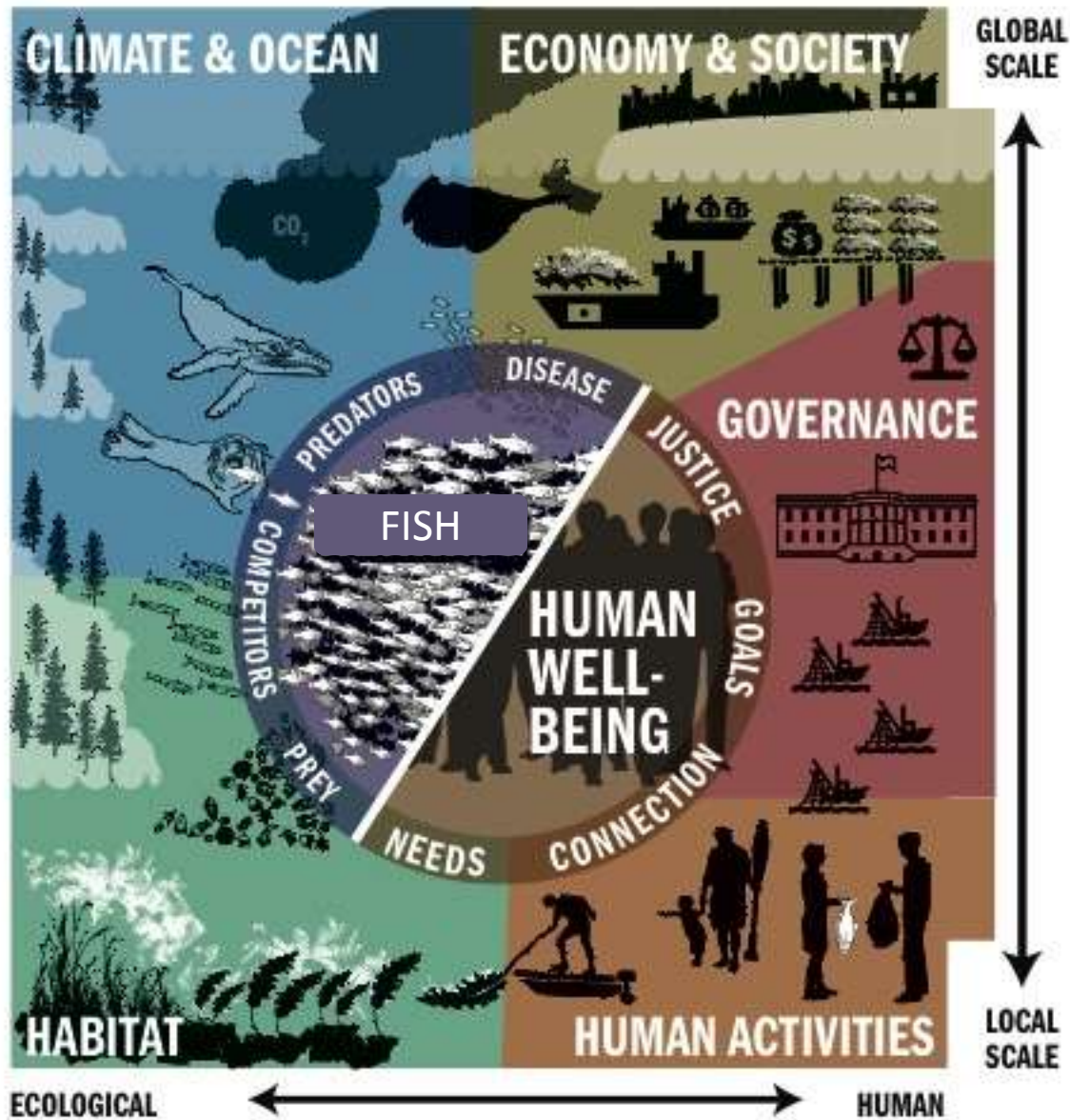
EBFM hurdles are surmountable via FEPs and...

Ideally

- FEPs could support streamlined management
- FEPs could informative deliberative, multi-objective decisions
- FEPs could increase stability and long-term planning

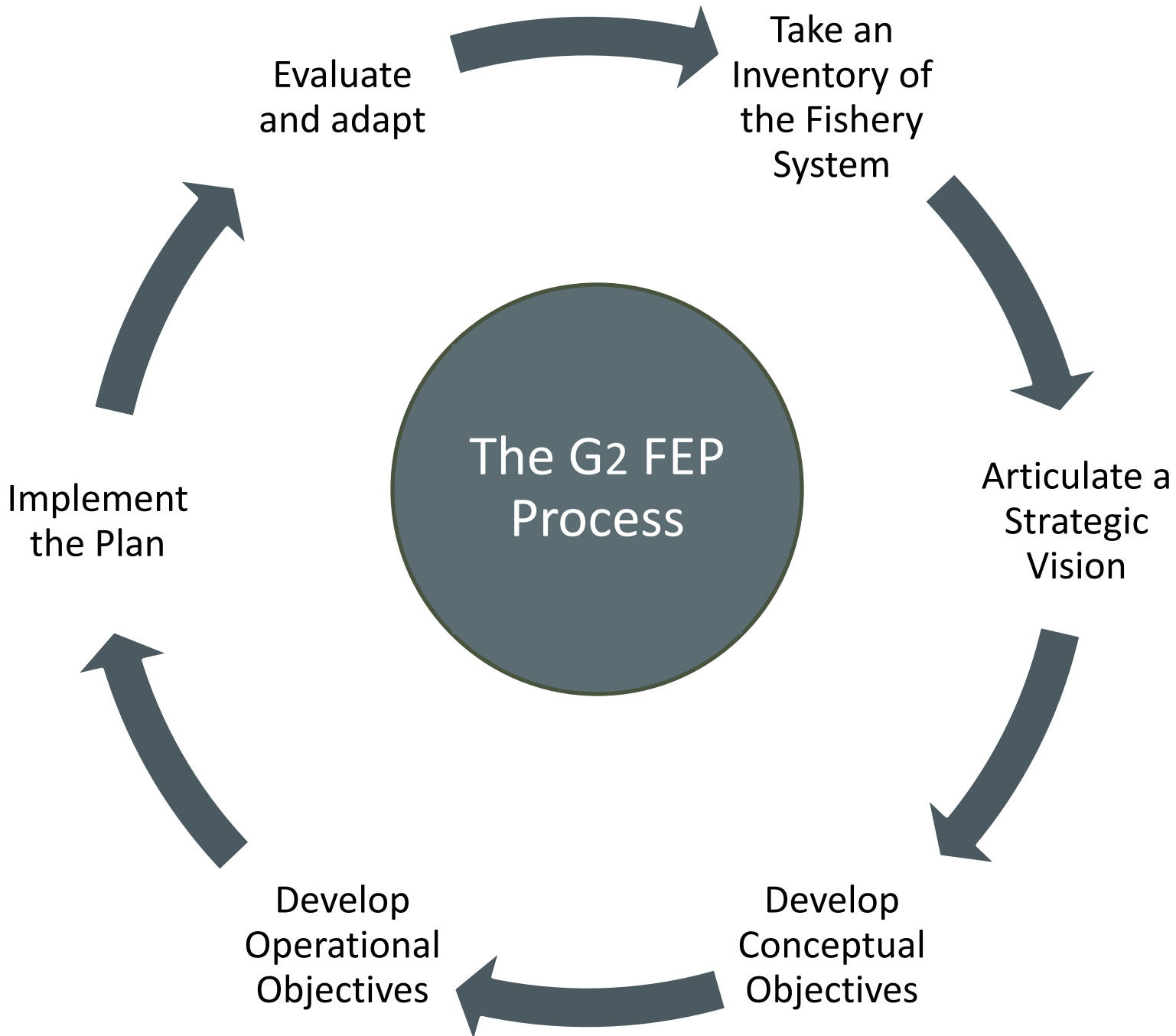
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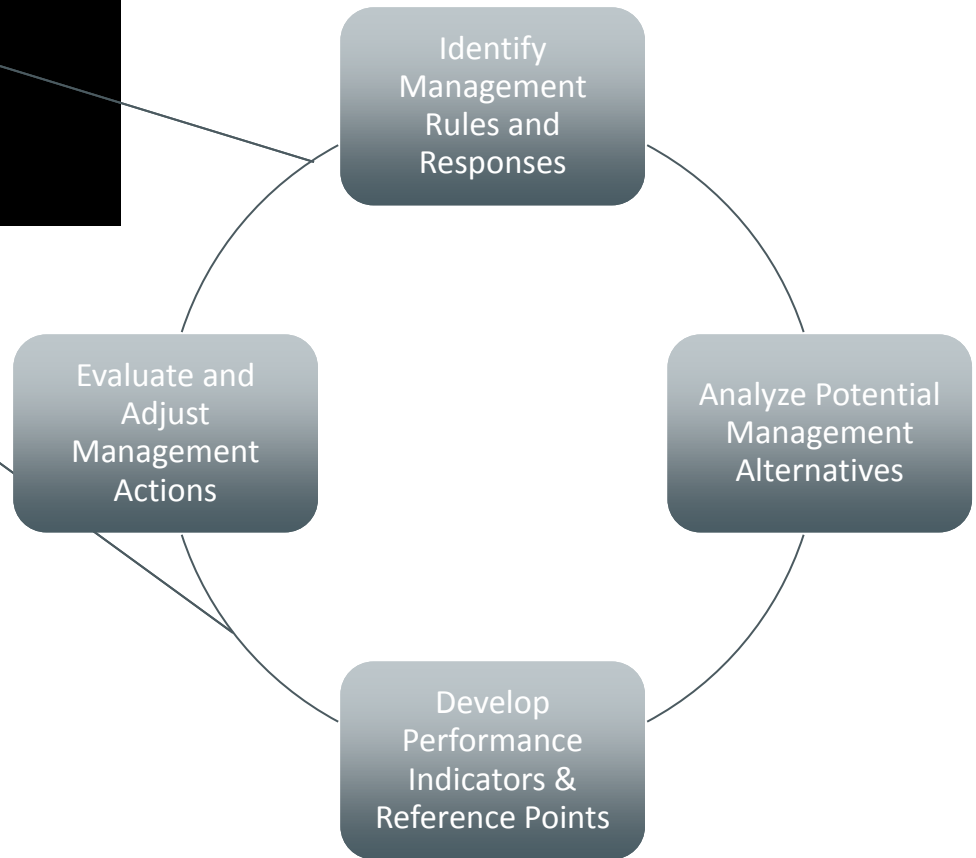
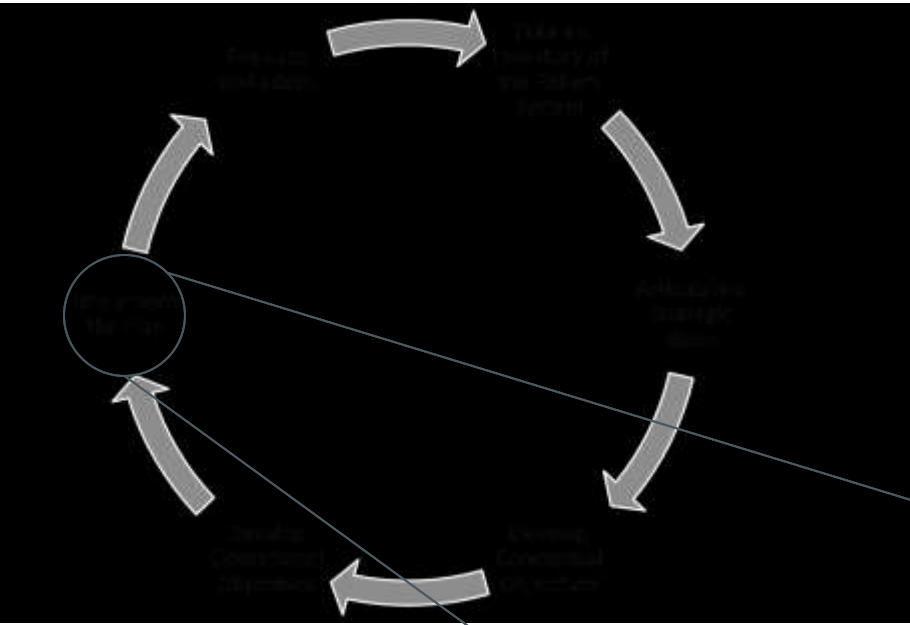
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FEPs – G2

- *Single highest priority is to move FEPs from description to action*
- G2 FEPs should be:
 - Aspirational
 - Actionable
 - Parsimonious
 - A Plan





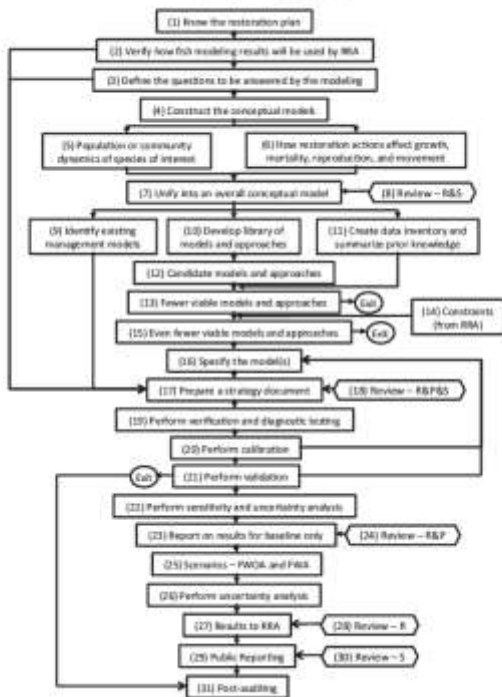
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Science tools for implementing FEPs

Many science tools already exist that can achieve FEP objectives

- Rich toolbox for...
 - Identifying threats and vulnerabilities
 - Selecting indicators and reference points
 - Evaluating management alternatives
- Best practices for tool selection



- There are many tools
- They have different strengths and weaknesses
- One size does not fit all

Selecting the right tool for the FEP job is crucial

Policy instruments for implementing FEPs

Existing policy instruments can achieve many EBFM goals (not just MPAs!)

- For example:
 - Mixed stock exemption
 - Move-on rules
 - Quota baskets

We are crafting our recommendations

- *They will focus on action*
- *They will be evolutionary (not revolutionary)*
- *They will be aspirational and ambitious*

