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Ongoing Development
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THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Update on ecosystem-based efforts



A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a silver and black fishing reel. The reel is the central focus, with its handle and spool clearly visible. The background is a soft-focus landscape of a body of water and a distant shoreline under a hazy sky.

Overarching issues

- Basic fisheries information is still lacking in the South Atlantic region.
- Still need guidance on what EBFM entails and how to implement through the management process.

EBFM efforts

- Habitat-based
 - Essential Fish Habitat
 - Habitat-based FMPs and amendments (e.g., Deepwater coral CHAPCs)
 - FEP I and II
- FEP I & II
- Food-web modeling (Ecopath with Ecosim)
- Research plan collaboration



EBFM efforts



- Participation in East Coast Climate Change Scenario Planning Initiative
- Collaboration with SEFSC on dolphin and wahoo participatory workshops and dolphin MSE
- Inclusion of ecosystem considerations in ToRs for stock assessments
- Fishery Performance Reports
- Snapper Grouper fishery MSE



Lessons learned

- Partnerships are crucial. Need more direct collaboration.
- Lots of funding and resources still needed
 - Ecosystem Status Report just completed
 - Climate Vulnerability Assessment still under development
 - Need models/tools that can integrate ecosystem consideration in stock assessments
 - Lack of information (on fisheries-specific level) on human component (socio ecological system)
 - Timeliness of data continues to be an issue