

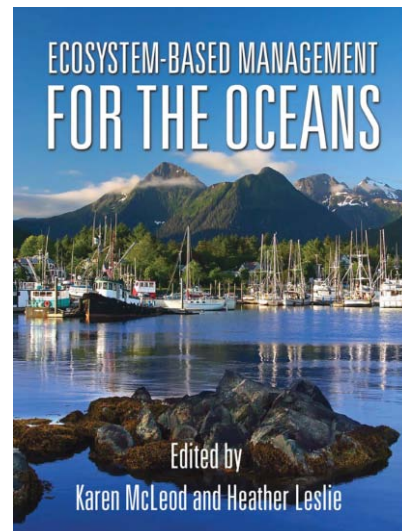
## Exploring Ecosystem-Based Management in Context

Despite growing interest in ecosystem-based management, little is known about happens ‘in the water’ when marine ecosystem-based management (EBM) meets the messy histories, ecologies, politics, and pre-existing management structures of particular places. *How does political, institutional, social, and ecological context affect the progress of ecosystem-based management? How and why do people come together to engage in EBM and other management efforts? What are the specific goals of EBM, and how are they playing out in particular locales? How do stakeholders define and evaluate success?*

This year, our team of natural and social scientists will be traveling around the world to investigate these and related questions. We are focusing on three regions where EBM activities have been underway for a number of years: the Gulf of California, the Western Pacific and the central California coast. Supported by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, *Exploring Ecosystem-Based Management in Context* is a 24-month interdisciplinary research project developed collaboratively at Brown and Duke Universities.

This project will produce a diverse set of outcomes of relevance to scientists and practitioners around the world, including publications and other media for a range of audiences, exploration of how best to communicate the opportunities, challenges and successes of marine EBM, and training of young scientists and practitioners in interdisciplinary science and policy.

**What is ecosystem-based management?** Ecosystem-Based Management is an integrated approach that considers the entire ecosystem, including humans. Institutions from local to international levels have recently called for a shift toward this form of management. It differs from current approaches that often focus on a single species, sector, or activity; considering the cumulative impacts of different sectors. For more on the science and practice of ecosystem-based management of the oceans, see *Ecosystem-Based Management for the Oceans* at [www.islandpress.org/ebm](http://www.islandpress.org/ebm)



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