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Ecosystem-based management: from principles to implementation

The EU context

- The Thematic Strategy for the Protection and Conservation of the Marine Environment
- The Green Paper on a future Maritime Policy

The ecosystem-based approach: principles and problems

- System complexity
- Shifting baselines
- Diversity of ecosystems
- Multiple human influences
- Fragmented decision-making
- Implementation and monitoring of rules

The way forward

- From piecemeal instruments to integrated arrangements
- Societal agreement on goals
- Integrating best scientific knowledge
- Identifying the ecoregions: science and politics
- Ownership through participation
- Monitoring and enforcement, nationally and internationally

The EU strategy

- Ecosystems as the starting point
- Integrated analysis
- Effective spatial planning
- From words to effective action
- The tools for success