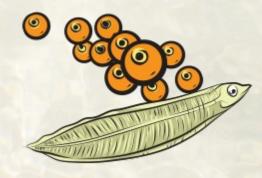
How To Implement Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management In Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction?



ICCAT

 Importance of the Sargasso Sea recognised by ICCAT

•

 The Sargasso Sea has been adopted as a case study to help Operationalise

Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management

Ecosystem-Based Management

 A strategy to manage human activities that have an impact on ecosystems

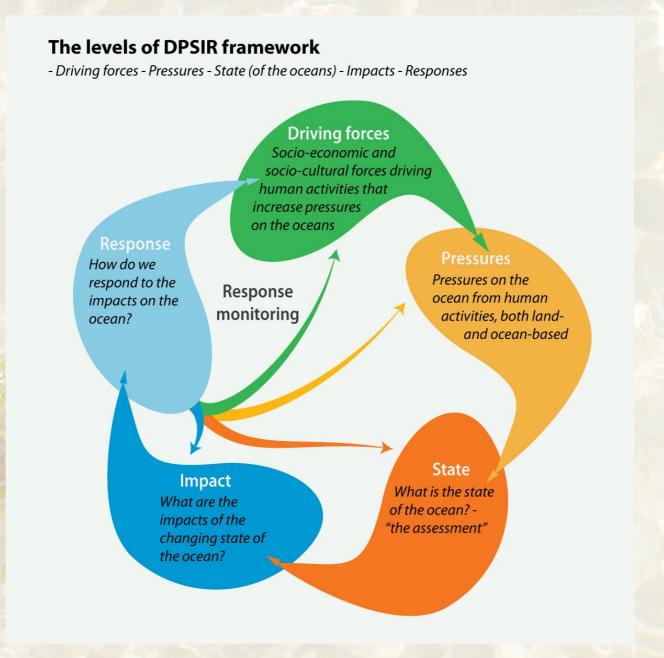
ICCAT Ecosystem Report Card

- Main tool for evaluation of ecosystems by ICCAT is the
 Ecosystem Report Card which reports on
 - Retained and Assessed species
 - Retained and Not Assessed Species
 - By-catch Species: Sharks, Turtles, Seabirds, Mammals
 - → Fishing Pressure
 - ~ Environmental Pressure
 - ~ Habitat
 - Ecology Community & Diversity
 - Trophic Structure
 - Social & Economic factors

How to Operationalise EBFM?

- First steps
 - Indicators to assess state, set management and monitor response
 - Management objectives
 - **Reference points** to define targets, limits, cautionary zones and/or thresholds
 - Proxies for ecosystem attributes or pressures
 - Indicators should not be few, complementary and non-redundant
 - Validation of indicators is essential
 - Need to be screened using appropriate selection criteria

• *Ecosystem Report Card* was developed following a exercise based on a Driver-Pressure-State-Ecosystem Services-Response framework



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- Therefore a **DPSIR** analysis was conducted for the Sargasso Sea to ensure consistency with ICCAT
- For ICCAT we concentrated on *Fishing* and *Climate Change*

Threats

- Fishing and its adverse impacts
- Garbage and plastics
- Pollution, discharges, spills
- Climate change and ocean acidification
- Underwater noise
- Sargassum harvesting
- Exotic species introduction from ballast waters?
- Deep sea Mining?
- Underwater cables?
- Tourism?







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- Therefore a **DPSIR** analysis was conducted for the Sargasso Sea to ensure consistency with ICCAT
- For ICCAT we concentrated on *Fishing* and *Climate Change*
- Showed how the approach could be extended to include more **Drivers** and **Stakeholder**, e.g.
 - Biodiversity, Shipping, Mining, Undersea Cables,...

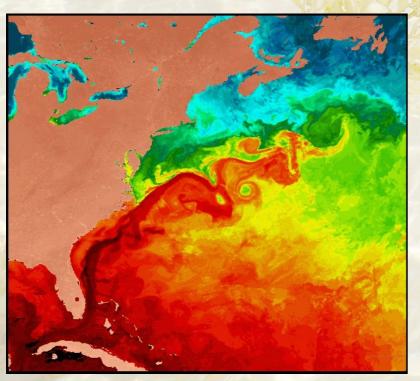
Nursery/feeding area; eggs/juveniles of > 80 spp of fish occur in *Sargassum*

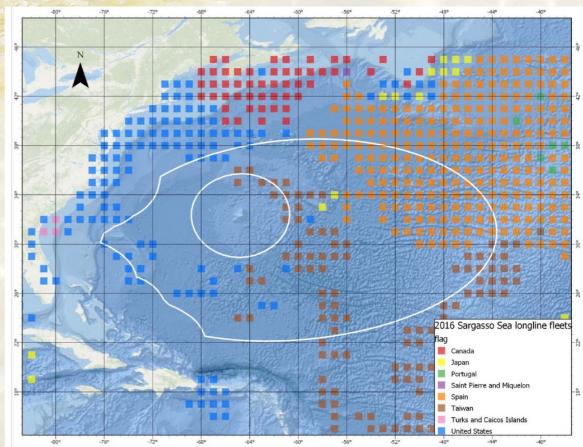


Fishing Pressure & Oceanography

Sea Surface Temperature – Gulf Stream and eddies

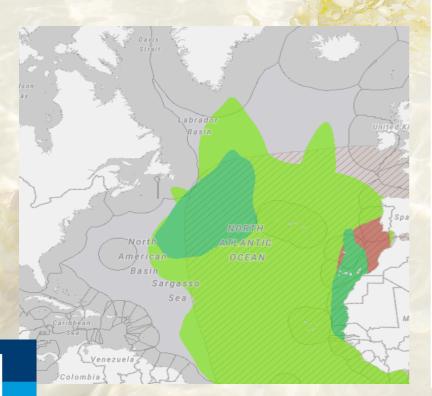
Forecast Longline Fishing Effort based on AIS and *Environmental Predictors*



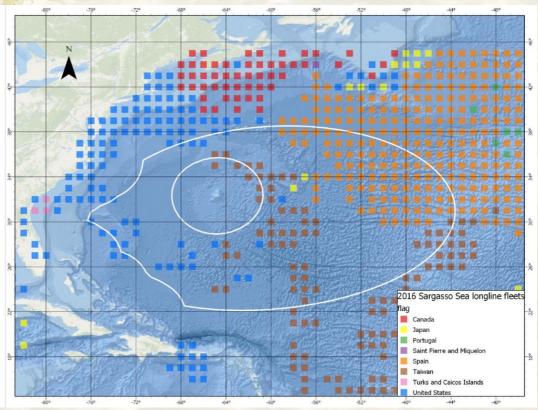


Fishing Pressure & Habitat Sea bird vulnerability as longline by-catch

Cory's Shearwater - Range



Forecast Effort based on AIS and Environmental Predictors



DPSIR – Feedback from initial Elicitation exercise

- "No framework leads to a single answer, rather all frameworks provide the information and knowledge to facilitate exploring the space for decision making and policy development"
- "DPSIR focused on Pressures and Impacts rather than goods and services, so ended up saying what is bad and not what is good."
- "Importance of co-production of knowledge, ways of working together across disciplines to create user-led, people-centred systems"
- "ICCAT currently focused on by-catch and has limited capacity to look at ecosystem, so SSC an example for others to follow."
- "Implementing EBFM is a marathon, not a sprint, need to manage expectations, NAFO a good example"
- "Need for data, prognosis and cloud based tools"
- "Stop talking and do something!"



