What is ecosystem-based management (EBM)?

EBM means different things to people so we have identified some working principles for EBM in New Zealand – these are a starting point for discussion, to be adapted as we co-develop EBM with Māori and stakeholders



Human activities

Humans, along with their multiple uses and values for the marine environment, are part of the ecosystem.



Collaborative decision-making

Collaborative, co-designed and participatory decisionmaking processes involving all interested parties.



Knowledge-based

Based on science and mātauranga Māori, and informed by community values and priorities.



A holistic and inclusive way to manage marine environments and the competing uses for, demands on, and ways New Zealanders value them.



Sustainability

Marine environments, and their values and uses, are safeguarded for future generations.



Adapts

Flexible, adaptive management, promoting appropriate monitoring, and acknowledging uncertainty.



Tailored

Place and time specific, recognising all ecological complexities and connectedness, and addressing cumulative and multiple stressors.



Co-governance

Governance structures that provide for Treaty of Waitangi partnership, tikanga and mātauranga Māori.

