

An NGO Perspective on Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach in the Arctic:  
Progress and Possibilities

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**Abstract**

The Ecosystem Approach (EA) to management in the Arctic has been a focus within the Arctic Council for over a decade. Successful execution of the ecosystem approach relies on national, bilateral and international action and cooperation to develop and implement management arrangements and policies. This paper reviews progress in the implementation of an ecosystem approach from an NGO perspective. We focus on the U.S. Arctic to review progress on a national scale, examining approaches related to fisheries, as well as broader Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) approaches. We also examine progress on an international scale, looking at progress on a coordinated approach to EBM in the Arctic. Finally, we look forward to future possibilities: what opportunities exist and what changes can help in both the short and long-term to make implementation of the EA in the Arctic more effective both nationally and internationally.

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