# Results of Pre-Workshop Information Gathering

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# Information Collected

- Background
  - Geographic Setting
  - Focus of Research and Management

- Experience with Applied Coastal Research
  - Phase 1: Setting Research Priorities
  - Phase 2: Research Oversight and Guidance
  - Phase 3: Transition to Management Application

# Who We Are

- Scientist or Science Manager (18)
- Resource Manager (4)
- Policy Analyst (2)
- Other (2)
  - Program Manager
  - Academic

# Shared Interests

**Most Shared**

- Climate Change (22)
- Fisheries (21)
- Harmful Algal Blooms (20)
- Coastal Services (19)
- Invasive Species (18)

**Least Shared**

- Coral Reefs (7)
- Hypoxia (12)
- Human Health (12)
- Water Quality (14)
- Contaminant Levels (15)

# What factors are relevant to identifying needed research?

- Importance of related management issue (2.9)
- Relevance to funding agency (2.7)
- Needed to fill info gap for decision-making (2.7)
- Ability of management to act on the information (2.4)
- Other considerations:
  - Research able to provide information when needed.
  - Needs of users/stakeholders
  - Objectives of other regional programs

**Comments:**

- “Consult widely with knowledgeable sources.”

# What factors are important in assigning priority to research?

- Prescribed by resource management, regulation or law (2.7)
- Input from academic community (2.2)
- Results from human dimensions research (2.0)
- Other considerations:
  - Politics
  - Equal input from those who study, manage and rely on resources
  - Congressional directives

**Comments:**

- “Fill blank spaces on the map.”

# How is regional ecosystem research organized?

- Funding provided for multiple years to assure continuity (2.5)
- Fund leader who oversees multi-discipline team (2.4)
- Fund many separate projects (2.2)
- Fund for short periods, allowing frequent review (1.8)
- Other considerations:
  - Long-term, collaborative, responsive to stakeholders, cooperative with users, and includes interpretation
  - An entity with program oversight, coordination and synthesis is needed

**Comments:**

- “Mix it up.”

# How to assure that research achieves intended application?

- Engage end-users during the course of the research (2.8)
- Allow flexibility to respond to opportunities and needs (2.6)
- Enlist guidance from experts outside of the project (2.3)
- Other considerations:
  - Periodically engage users in the research program to provide feedback so that research is meaningful and useful
  - Long-term projects have advisory groups, 2-6 years of funding

**Comments:**

- “Start with the end in sight.”

# In what form are research results delivered to managers?

- Establish goals and/or endpoints for management (2.4)
- Consensus building and communications (2.4)
- Conceptual (narrative) models (2.3)
- Predictive numerical models (2.2)
- Performance measures and report cards (2.0)
- Other considerations:
  - Assessments of managed and protected resources (stock assessments)
  - Continual exposure of managers to the research. People need to be invested in outcomes
  - (Funding) program translates result

**Comments:**

- "Move beyond (basic) science."

# In what form are results of research applied in management?

- Resource management plans (2.7)
- Communication to the public and decision-makers (2.5)
- Management operations (2.4)
- Regulatory criteria (2.3)
- Legislation (2.1)
- Design of project or facility (2.0)
- Other considerations:
  - Funding program serves as “neutral broker” to communicate scientific results.

**Comments:**

- “Move beyond (cookbook) management.”