

Biology Session

Additional layers:

- Beach zones (FL Panhandle)
- GRP layer
- Roads
- Water towers
- Hotels/resorts
- Place names/gazetteer

Most frustrating:

- Lack of tools to get to species level
- ESI Desktop tool (Jill) – getting close
- Flexible enough to deal with different ESI data types

Usefulness of bio data:

- Standardized format
- Much more than response tool – planning, ecological monitoring
- Useful for broad overview to jog memory

Offshore & Inland extent:

- State waterways or U.S. EEZ
- Focus on shoreline and near coast/estuarine/wetlands
- “EEZ” ESI is important because of deep water drilling, MSP, fisheries
- Include freshwater areas – important to migratory species
- EEZ – why not?
- Offshore for feds – EEZ, for states – their extent
- Inland – navigable? CG/EPA line? Watershed?

Attributes:

- All good
- Capture key info
- Like sub-elements
- Concentration is useful – possible to standardize? Blank conc = not present?
- Something to prioritize polys
- Currently ok, more creates issues
- Hot spot/prioritization/scale
- Habitat associated with biology polys
- Observed, digital
- Date of publication

Hot spots vs. everything:

- Want all data possible (Oceana)

- Digital – keep it all (but make useable); generate hot spots
- Need to see everything to plan
- T/E layer – way to pull out species
- Hot spots belong in Area Plan, not in ESI
- Regionally dependent/situational
- Hot spot mapping is important
- Prioritize T/E species

Problems/challenges:

- Absence of data – no data, not mapped/surveyed
- How to standardize/calibrate what is important over region/state
- Balancing complexity/presentation
- Ability to query digital data
- Make it more user friendly outside of GIS (but in response, would have a GIS person)
- Too much if in a hurry; lump by group unless T/E
- Want more current data, not more data
- Standardization and universality
- Dynamic updates

Display:

- Cluttered bio – solve with GeoPDF?
- Hatching covers other info; layers allow easier visualization
- Biology shouldn't hide the geomorphology/shoreline habitat
- Gradient for size, importance
- Show most important (hot spot) area; be careful with too much area or overuse
- Desire hierarchical display
- Prioritization – want a way to view data differently
- Hard copy maps simplified; back end Web maps more detailed info

National Response guides: consider update – difference in sensitivity – all elements – aid in best management practice development

Two levels/purposes of ESIs – Planning and Operations

Want ability to update map/layer for specific incident

Texas uses PPAs more than ESI bio

- Strength of multi-species info in one layer
- Sensible
- Can it be extended to national ESI