Problem Definition
(Situation Analysis)

A Primer
Ecological Considerations

Economic Considerations

Social Considerations

All in Context of:
- Institutions
- Public Values
- Politics
Problem Definition
(Situation Analysis)

Biophysical / Ecological Considerations

Socio-Economic Considerations

Policy & Institutional Considerations

Not a mere list, rather a focused assessment of the key drivers, constraints and issues that surround the management problem.
Biophysical / Ecological Considerations

1. Define the planning and management area

2. Identify key indicators & describe their current status & future trends

3. Identify issues – differentiate between short term vs. long term

4. Identify risks & uncertainties
Socio-Economic Considerations

1. Define the key linkages with local economic activity and social values

2. Identify key indicators & describe their current status & future trends

3. Identify issues – differentiate between short term vs. long term

4. Identify risks & uncertainties
Policy & Institutional Considerations

1. Define the existing policy/regulatory framework (policies, regulations, standards)

2. Identify the institutions / jurisdictions involved:
   a. authority & mandate
   b. roles & responsibilities
   c. specific programs and initiatives (including stated goals)
   d. decision making mechanisms (including public consultation requirements)

3. Describe availability of resources (staff, budget, information, models, etc.)