Coping with Water Scarcity in River Basins Worldwide: Lessons Learned from Shared Experiences (Martz Summer Conference, June 9-10)

6-9-2016

SLIDES: The Columbia River Basin
Barbara Cosens

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THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

Barbara Cosens
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Climate Change: Predicted Water Deficit and 50% Flow Timing

Source: Dr. John Abatzoglou

Columbia River Power System

IMPACTS OF DAMS [CRITFC]
Columbia River Treaty Review: a window of opportunity
US Regional Review

• Process
  Sovereign Review Team
  Sovereign Technical Team
  Basin-wide listening sessions
  December, 2013: Recommendation to Department of State


• Flood Control
  – Storage use?
  – 450,000 cfs risk

• Ecosystem Function
  – 3d Purpose
  – Augment spring and summer flows

• Hydropower:
  – Reduce CE

• Implementation
  – Revisit composition of the U.S. Entity
CAPACITY

• Adaptive
  – Adaptive Management
  – Authority to review and adjust
  – Markets/clearly defined rights
  – Adaptive Planning
  – Transboundary governance mechanisms

• Participatory
  – Right to participation
  – Resources to participate
  – Governance capacity
Adaptive Capacity:
Climate Change Preview:
Drought

Australia
* 1997-2011

California
* 2011 – 2016?
Adaptive Water Allocation

- Regulation
- Planning
- Self-Organization
- Property -- Markets
STRUCTURE

• Panarchy
  – Cross-scale networks
  – Appropriate redundancy
  – Nesting
  – Subsidiarity

• Integration
  – Across resource sectors

• Persistence
  – Authority
  – Cross-scale interaction

By Nigel Bankes and Barbara Cosens

For the Program on Water Issues,
Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto

October 2014
Ecosystem Function: the problem of scale

Great Lakes Compact and Agreement of 2005

• Sub-National Agreement
• Binding interstate compact
• Regional body
  – Governors and Premiers
  – Consultation with Tribes/First Nations on water withdrawals
• Compact Council
  – Governors
• Advisory Committee
  – Tribes and First Nations
  – Local government

2014 Study by N. Bankes and B. Cosens for the Munk School of Global Affairs
PROCESS

• Legitimacy
  – Process mechanisms to allow management flexibility: transparency, deliberation, participation

• Ability to learn
  – Feedback mechanism

• Dispute resolution
  – Forum
  – Clear lines of final authority
Legitimacy