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CONNECTING HUMAN DIMENSIONS RESEARCH
TO PLACE-BASED COLLABORATION THROUGH
SCIENCE DELIVERY

OUTLINE

- Project Description
 - ⊙ A Paradox
 - ⊙ Literature
 - ⊙ Science Delivery
 - ⊙ Results
 - ⊙ Summary





HUMAN DIMENSIONS PARADOX

- ⊙ Agencies unfamiliar/untrained in the methods, uses and integration of social science data.
- ⊙ Yet mandated in legislation such as NEPA.
- ⊙ Additional legislation such as HFRA (2004) and CFLRA (2009) make social science imperative tool for collaboration.
- ⊙ Agencies, local stakeholders and social science discipline still grappling with this.



THIS FELLOWSHIP

- ◎ Find ways to integrate social science data collected in 2007 and 2008 for the Bridger Teton National Forest, Wyoming.
- ◎ Literature: More to discover but HDNR field is gradually becoming engaged?

Factors:

- ◎ Data: Survey, spatial and Q-study data.
- ◎ Context: BTNF, Forest Planning, Oil and Gas
- ◎ Stakeholders, internal and external.

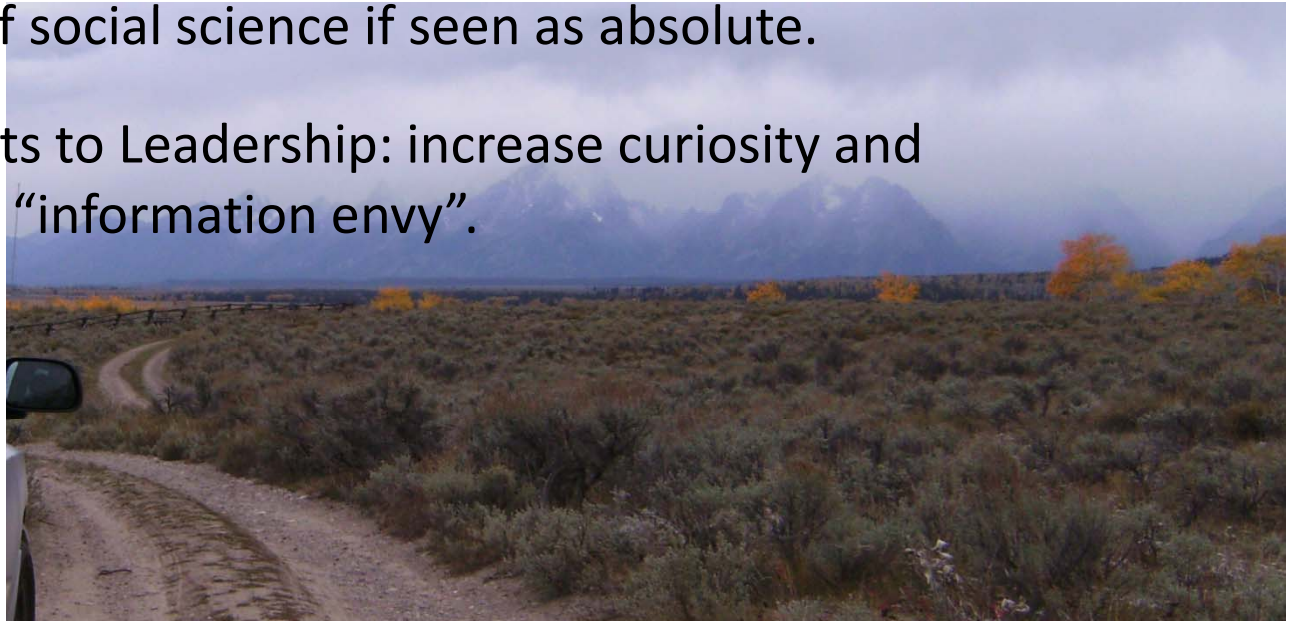


KEEP IT SIMPLE

- ③ Hand-outs and maps with place-specific survey data and spatial analyses – instruments also for later use.
- ③ Visits with District Ranger, staff and external constituents.
- ③ Issue-based exploration of data: oil and gas (PXP and 447).

DISCOVERIES

- ⊙ No idea of methods.
- ⊙ No idea of uses for projects.
- ⊙ No idea how to integrate into documents or decision-making.
- ⊙ Fear of social science if seen as absolute.
- ⊙ Districts to Leadership: increase curiosity and create “information envy”.





LESSONS LEARNED

- ⊙ Need for internal gate keeper.
- ⊙ Little time and questionable Relevance to an audience with ADD: very short attention span.
- ⊙ Application of Andragogy and Adult Learning Theories critical.
- ⊙ Step away from the projector.
- ⊙ Need for flexibility and time for social scientist.



OUTCOMES OF SCIENCE DELIVERY

- ◎ Application to projects: Ham's Fork Vegetation Management – discovery of zone of agreement (used in Washington roadless decision-making).
- ◎ Social science to initiate collaboration: Grey's River District and the county commissioners.
- ◎ Value of social science data to internal structure and improvement of morale.
- ◎ Value of social science for specific, high conflict decision-making: 447 and possible future study.
- ◎ Social Science as institutional orientation tool: what is low hanging fruit re. needs, public approval?



CONCLUSION

- ① Effectiveness will vary across agencies depending on personalities, funding, priorities.
- ① Paradox: for social science to be truly relevant, accessible and usable need more on-the-ground application: “pracademics” or social science extension.
- ① Landscape and collaboration: social science valuable as initiation and decision-making tool.
- ① Landscapes, collaboration and legislation: social science provides context: missing link between landscapes (inc. resources, wildlife species, ecology, watersheds etc.) people and decision makers.

THANKS

- ◎ A most rewarding experience as a social scientist –
- ◎ Thank You Center for Collaborative Conservation.
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QUESTIONS



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