Institutional Barriers to AM in the Missouri River Recovery Program

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Missouri River Recovery Program

Background
Restructuring
Internal and External Communication
Stakeholders and Collaboration
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- Began with Biological Opinion
- MRRP created in 2006
- 2 Districts, Matrixed
The Mission

Implement actions to accomplish Missouri River ecosystem recovery goals in coordination and collaboration with agency partners and stakeholders.

“There are not many rivers, one for each of us, but only this one river, and if we all want to stay here, in some kind of relation to the river, then we have to learn, somehow, to live together.”

Daniel Kemmis
Community and the Politics of Place, 1990.
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- Appropriate structuring
  - Organization structure; getting AM scoped right and connected to management at the correct level
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- Internal Communication
  - Institutional culture - how we work inside
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- Management and nurturing of Champions
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- Governance – partners and structure
  - Working together is hard
    - Difficult to derive appropriate process
    - Engagement
    - Funding
    - Structure

- Our level of cooperation different at each decision level
  - Timeliness of information to the decision process at multiple levels.
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- Human Dimensions - stakeholders and collaboration
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- Uncertainty - how we address things we do not know
  - Embracing uncertainty
    - Safe to fail difficult to embrace
    - Hard to engage in more than one direction on a particular problem at the same time.
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- Decision-making: competing objectives
  - Annual process not friendly to assessment schedule
  - Synthesis of complex ecosystem trade-offs
  - Trade-offs difficult in consultation process

- Decision-makers at many levels: all need best information available.
- Time needed to meet the needs of large collaborative process not easy to meet.
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It is not the critic who counts…. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without err and shortcoming.

-- Theodore Roosevelt
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