

Community engagement, advocacy, and the application of science in the Boise River Basin

Treasure Valley Project: Boise River Basin Water Management

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How is science used in water management decision-making and advocacy in the Boise River Basin?



Methodologies

Literature Review
Stakeholder Database
Informal Meetings
Research Forums
Needs Assessment
Elite Interviews
Water Management Survey



Outcomes/Findings

- Increased engagement between Boise State and community
- Inform researchers about community's needs
- Social science and biophysical science play important roles
- Universities are an underutilized resource
- Scientific data is used strategically to influence decision makers
- Lack of capacity of organizations makes data dissemination difficult
- Competition among nonprofits tends to force organizations to carve out niches and makes it working cohesively challenging
- Graduate assistants formed valuable external relationships

Synergies & Future

- Opportunities to increase research capacity through new relationships
- Convene people and craft research agendas that are respondent to current issues – science is informed by the stakeholders it impacts
- Further characterize the relationships between the actors in the Boise River urban ecosystem

