

Appendix A

The Watershed Survey

The following survey was used by the Natural Resources Law Center to gather the information featured in the case studies. Over the course of the project, the survey was slightly modified on a few occasions to correct mistakes and to address areas of confusion. This survey can also be viewed online at www.colorado.edu/Law/NRLC/ under the "Watershed Survey" link.

Survey Questions for the Watershed Source Book Revision (Long Form)

Instructions: Most questions are multiple choice and can be answered by checking the appropriate box (or boxes, if necessary). For other questions, please write your answers on the lines provided. Additional comments, or other materials, can be provided on an additional sheet of paper. Please return the survey in the envelope provided. Feel free to include any additional information about the group that we may need to gain an accurate picture of the watershed effort.

Name of Watershed Initiative/Group: _____

Contact Person:

1. a) Your name: _____
b) Title and affiliation: _____
c) Mailing address: _____
d) Phone number: () _____
e) Fax number: () _____
f) Email address: _____
g) Homepage: _____

2. Your role in the watershed group: (check all that apply)

Coordinator

Facilitator

Participant

Federal agency representative

Which agency? _____

State government representative

Which agency? _____

- Local government representative
Which agency? _____
- Tribal Representative
Which tribe? _____
- Representative of an environmental organization
Which one? _____
- Representative of another non-governmental organization
Which one? _____
- Other (please explain): _____

3. Is participation in the watershed group part of your job (as opposed to being a volunteer activity)?

- Yes No

4. What economic sector are you most affiliated with?

- Forestry
- Environment
- Tourism and/or recreation
- Agriculture and/or ranching
- Mineral and/or energy production
- Other: _____

General Characteristics of the Region of Concern

5. What part of the watershed is the group concerned with? (Check all that apply)

- Upper watershed Mid-watershed Lower watershed
- Entire watershed Other: _____

6. Approximate size of that “focus area”: _____ acres

7. Please provide a brief physical description of that focus area: _____

8. Number of counties with jurisdiction over the focus area: 1 2 3 4 or more

9. Approximate population: less than 1,000 1,000 to 5,000 5,000 to 25,000

25,000 to 100,000 100,000 to 250,000 250,000 to 1 million

greater than 1 million

10. Population distribution: Mostly in towns/cities Mostly rural Equal mix

11. Largest town within the focus area: _____

Approximate population of that town: _____

12. a) Economy: Is a significant percentage of the region's population employed in natural resource jobs? Yes No
 If yes, the major natural resource economies are: (check all that apply)
 Forestry
 Tourism and/or recreation
 Agriculture and/or ranching
 Mineral and/or energy production
 Other: _____
- b) The local economy is: Highly diversified Moderately diversified
 Not diversified
- c) The local economy is: Strong Moderate in strength Weak
13. Other important characteristics of the focus area: _____

Background and Scope of the Watershed Group

14. What year did your group form? _____
15. Who or what groups were most responsible for forming your group? (If more than one box is checked, please circle which had the biggest role in the group's formation.)
 Federal agency: _____
 State agency: _____
 State legislature: _____
 Local government: _____
 Tribe: _____
 Non-profit organization: _____
 Citizen / activist: _____
 Other: _____
16. What was the primary stimulus or event that led to the group's formation? _____

17. What physical / environmental problems are your group highly concerned about? (Please check and explain all that apply; if more than one is checked, please circle the most important)
 a) Water supply / flow regimes: _____

- b) Water quality: _____

c) Fish and wildlife maintenance / endangered species: _____

d) Land use and/or management: _____

e) General environmental degradation: _____

f) Other: _____

18. What institutional problems is your group concerned with? (check all that apply; if more than one is checked, please circle the most important)

a) Inadequate interagency or interjurisdictional coordination: _____

b) Transboundary impacts (from activities outside the group's geographic area): _____

c) Inadequate attention/funding being given to a natural resource problem: _____

d) Lack of local involvement in resource management: _____

e) Ineffective management programs or laws: _____

Other: (please explain): _____

19. What other problem-solving strategies to deal with these problems had been attempted prior to the formation of your group? _____

20. What are the group's short-term goals?

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

21. Does your group have a mission/vision statement? Yes No
 (If yes, please write in the space below or attach.) _____

22. What are your group's long-term goals (if not clear from your mission statement)?

Participation & Organizational Structure of the Group

23. The group includes participants from:
- One or more federal agencies (if so, please indicate the agencies that participate):
 - Forest Service
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Bureau of Reclamation
 - Fish and Wildlife Service
 - Corps of Engineers
 - National Park Service
 - Natural Resource Conservation Service
 - Environmental Protection Agency
 - US Geological Survey
 - Other: _____
 - One or more Indian tribes: _____
 - One or more state natural resource agencies: _____
 - One or more local governments (including conservation districts): _____
 - One or more water districts/organizations: _____
 - One or more environmental organizations: _____
 - One or more non-governmental organizations (other than environmental organizations): _____
 - One or more academics or citizens (not representing any of the categories above): _____
 - Other participants: _____
24. Can anyone join the group? Yes No
 If participation is at all limited, please explain: _____
25. Organization of the watershed group:
- a) Does the group have a coordinator? Yes No
 If yes, is this a paid position? Yes (funded by: _____) No

b) Does the group have a facilitator? Yes No
If yes, is this a paid position? Yes (funded by: _____) No
If both a & b are marked no, how is the group administered? _____

c) Does the group have sub-committees? Yes No
If yes, please list: _____

d) Does the group have an office? Yes No
If yes, where is it located? _____

Processes of the Group

26. How often do you hold meetings?
 Weekly Twice monthly Monthly Quarterly Twice yearly
 Annual Other: _____

27. Are meetings well-attended and efficiently run? Yes No
If no, please explain: _____

28. How are issues identified and brought to the group? _____

29. The process of discussion and decision-making utilized by the group:
 has been pre-determined by the group during its initial formation
 is at the discretion of the coordinator/facilitator
 is largely ad hoc and unspecified
 Other: _____

30. In order to make decisions, the group requires:
 Unanimous agreement (i.e. all parties expressing agreement)
 Consensus (i.e. no dissenting parties; all parties agree to support the decision)
 Super-majority rule of _____%
 Majority rule
 Other: _____

31. Do all participants believe they have the opportunity to equally and adequately participate in decision-making? Yes No

32. Is the current size, composition, organizational structure, and meeting frequency appropriate for what the group wants to accomplish? Yes No
If no, please explain: _____

33. Does your group interact with other watershed groups? Yes No
If yes, please explain: _____

Budget/Finance Questions

34. What is the current annual budget of the watershed group (including the estimated value of any in-kind services donated to the group, such as administrative support or equipment)?

No budget Less than \$20,000 \$20,000 to \$75,000 More than \$75,000

35. Is this a substantial change from the last few years? No Yes
If yes, please explain: _____

36. Which sources provide funding or other valuable in-kind services?

Federal (excluding NRCS conservation districts):

Agency/Program: Amount / For use in:

State Funding:

Agency/Program: Amount / For use in:

Local (including NRCS conservation districts):

Agency/Program: Amount / For use in:

Other parties/sources:

Agency/Program: Amount / For use in:

37. Is funding adequate to achieve your short-term goals? Yes No

Projects, Activities, and Accomplishments

38. Which of the following activities has your group undertaken or planned to undertake?

a) Development of management plans
 Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

b) Shared decision-making / negotiated problem solving

Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

c) Resource monitoring

Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

d) Scientific research

Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

e) Legal or policy research

Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

f) On-the-ground remediation or restoration activities (e.g. planting trees)

Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

g) Publication of newsletters and/or brochures

Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

h) Conferences / workshops

Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

i) Other educational activities

Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

j) Other activities:

Completed In progress Planned

Please describe: _____

39. Which accomplishment is the group most proud of? _____

Analysis of Performance

40. a) How successful do you believe the watershed group is being in addressing the natural resource problems listed in question #17?
- Very successful
 - Moderately successful
 - Relatively unsuccessful
 - Total failure
- b) If successful, what evidence is available to support this view? (check all that apply)
- Monitoring data showing on-the-ground improvements
 - Most participants believe the problem is being solved
 - The level / rate of success is believed to be greater than that possible through other problem-solving approaches. Please explain: _____
-
41. How successful do you believe the watershed group is being in addressing the institutional problems listed in question #18?
- Very successful
 - Moderately successful
 - Relatively unsuccessful
 - Total failure
42. Which of the following actions are likely to be an essential component for your continued problem-solving effort? (If more than one box is checked, please circle the most essential action.)
- Changes in federal or state law?
 - A substantial modification of land-use practices?
 - A substantial modification in water allocation?
 - A fundamental reallocation of agency resources and priorities?
 - Modified operation of existing facilities?
 - Voluntary behavioral and/or ideological changes by local resource users and groups?
 - On-the-ground modification of the physical landscape (e.g., tree planting, erosion control, etc)?
 - Generation of additional technical data or knowledge about the resource?
 - Generation of increased public awareness of the resource or resource problem(s)?
 - Other(s). Please explain: _____
43. Overall, are federal agencies helpful to your group?
- Very helpful
 - Moderately helpful
 - Slightly helpful
 - Not helpful
44. Overall, are state agencies helpful to your group?
- Very helpful
 - Moderately helpful
 - Slightly helpful
 - Not helpful

45. Overall, are city and county governments helpful to your group?
 Very helpful Moderately helpful Slightly helpful Not helpful

46. Please list what you think are the top three “Keys to Success”:

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

Please provide any additional comments about your watershed group and/or feedback on how to improve this survey.