

Documenting Public Values for River Ecosystem Services

The value to society of environmental changes is difficult to assess, and thus challenging to include in environmental management decisions. This presentation will first provide an overview of how framing these values in an ecosystem services perspective can facilitate the process of both measuring and evaluating societal values of environmental change. These topics will then be illustrated using a case study focused on ecosystem services related to aquatic resources in the Southwestern U.S. The advantages of using both qualitative and quantitative research methods to identify and measure policy relevant ecosystem services will be illustrated with real world data.