

From: Norm Merz
Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2009 2:52 PM
To: Palensky, Lynn
Cc: Scott Soultz
Subject: Comments on Regional Coordination

Dear Lynn,

In the Kootenai River Floodplain Ecosystem Operational Loss Assessment, Protection, Mitigation, and Rehabilitation Project (200201100), we used the work element “Regional Coordination” to describe taking our project level work to the Region for discussion, peer review, acceptance, training, etc. The objectives and work elements that specifically mention “coordination” are directed towards project level actions and activities to meet project goals and objectives. These are project level issues and discussions that may or may not need to occur at varying levels of governmental and management institutions.

Currently, we are concerned that there is not a clear understanding of definitions or how coordination and/or regional coordination are utilized/interpreted by different entities, where coordination may occur at many different scales within a particular project (i.e., watershed, subbasin, basin, province). Moreover, there can be numerous external influences to a project within the greater Program context.

Lastly, we want to emphasize that we did not include any regional coordination activities or budgeting in this project to supplant or augment regional coordination as funded under the monetary cap and should not be subject to any budgeting reductions associated with assumed duplication of coordination efforts.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment,

Take Care,

Norm

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