
11. Traditional Knowledge and Resource Development

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DRAFT outline (July 2012)

Introduction

- The concept of traditional knowledge
- The history of traditional knowledge research
- The application of traditional knowledge to resource management
- The application of traditional knowledge to resource development

Existing Research

Canada

- Laws, regulations, policies?
- Examples in practice?
 - Inuvialuit Settlement Region
 - Nunavut
 - Others?

Alaska

- Laws, regulations, policies?
- Examples in practice?
 - Oil and gas: North Slope, Cook Inlet
 - North Pacific Fisheries Management Council
 - Mining?

Greenland

- Laws, regulations, policies?
- Examples in practice?

Benefits to Northern Communities

- Engagement in resource development decisions, planning, action
 - Are communities REALLY engaged, or simply co-opted?

- Better decisions, plans, actions?
 - Are these REALLY improved? Can we give examples?

- Income from TK studies

 - Do payments amount to much? (I do not propose to consider whether the payments are adequate, but simply whether they add up to much in the grand scheme of things ...)

- Status, pride, respect

 - Does attention to TK have intangible payoffs of this kind? Anecdotal, or are there studies showing it?

Research Needs and Prospects

(Will emerge from analysis in previous sections; here are some preliminary thoughts)

Token or substance? Passing fad or here to stay? Looking into the ways TK has been included in resource development

Engagement of TK vs. engagement of TK holders: assessing the pluses and minuses of different ways of involving TK in resource development

Does TK change anything? Looking for patterns in resource development that attempts to engage TK in a substantive way

Towards a more comprehensive approach to TK: data management, community networks, etc.

Politics and science: how TK is pulled in both directions and what that means for its use, reliability, etc.

The nature of TK: reconciling (or not) the views of TK with those of “science”, and what it means when they are not reconcilable (e.g., spiritual causation, ethics, etc.)

Bibliography