Soil Water and Communities Group
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Consent Form
Empowering Resource Based Communities: Water issues, stakeholder needs and effective learning

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Purpose:
This project is aimed at establishing priority issues and knowledge gaps in water resource management to develop an on-line course for people living in resource dependent communities or individuals interested in the issues faced by resource dependent communities. Communities within the Columbia basin have been selected for case study as they are representative of a range of water issues faced by small communities. You are being invited to take part in this research study because you live within the Columbia basin and are interested in water and education needs.

Study Procedures:
If you decide to participate you will be asked to fill out a 3 page questionnaire which will require between ½ hour and 1 hour of your time. All surveys will be anonymous.
Results from the survey will be summarized for the basin as a whole and by major categories (e.g. location). The summary results will be available in a public document, which will be posted on the project website. No individual survey results will be publically available.

Potential Risks:
Potential risks are low: the demographic information collected (age, sex, location) will be used to assess the representativeness of the sampling (i.e. to ensure that a particular age, sex of geographical location is not under represented), and to group data by major categories.

Potential Benefits:
Through participation in the project, by answering the questionnaire, participants will increase their awareness of the complexity of water issues. The results of the survey will be used in the design of an online course that will be offered to small communities including the people who participated in the project, and who will have access to a needs tailored program on water issues.

Confidentiality:
All documents will be identified only by a code number. The questionnaires do not contain information which can be used to identify a particular individual (no name, address, telephone or email information is collected). No individual survey results will be made available publically; only summary information for the basin as a whole or by major groups will be presented in reports of the completed study. Paper format questionnaires will be kept in a locked filing cabinet; data records kept on a computer hard disk will be password protected in a faculty office.

Remuneration/Compensation:
No remuneration or compensation for participation in the project is being offered.

Contact for information about the study:
If you have any questions or wish further information with respect to this study, you may contact Sandra Brown or Cecilia Roa by telephone at 604.822.5965 or by email WaterLearning@gmail.com

Contact for concerns about the rights of research subjects:
If you have any concerns about your treatment or rights as a research subject, you may contact the Research Subject Information Line in the UBC Office of Research Services at 604-822-8598 or if long distance e-mail to RSIL@ors.ubc.ca.

Consent:
Your participation in this study is entirely voluntary and you may refuse to participate or withdraw from the study at any time without jeopardy to your involvement in current or future activities with our group.

Your signature indicates that you consent to participate in this study.

_____
Subject Signature Date

_____
Printed Name

Empowering resource based communities:
Water issues, stakeholders needs and effective learning

Goal of the survey

To prioritize the issues that practitioners, community groups and decision makers (stakeholders) are most concerned about, to identify the knowledge gaps and to determine the most effective ways for stakeholders to learn about these issues. The results of this survey will be used to develop course materials.

Part I. Biographical information

This section will be used to ensure that different stakeholder groups in the study are well represented and to group responses by major categories.

1. Your age group (mark with an X)

19-29	
30-45	
46-60	
61+	

2. Are you (mark with an X)

Male	
Female	

3. Where do you live? (municipality / regional district) _____

4. What is your affiliation? (mark with an X all that apply)

Student	
Municipal employee	
NGO representative	
Researcher / teacher	
Consultant	
Community group	
Water council / company	
Other (specify)	

Part II. Priority issues and knowledge gaps

1. Rank the ten (10) top issues from 1 to 10 (1 = highest priority; 10 = lowest) on column "Priority".
2. For the top 10 priority issues, mark from 1 to 10 (1 = issue you know least about; 10 = most) on column "Gaps".
3. Mark with an M the issues that are of moderate importance and with an L the issues of lowest importance on column "Priority".

Category	Issues	Priority	Gaps
Water culture	Water practices, customs, traditions (e.g. lawn water, length of showers)		
	Multi-use water systems (one system for more than one use)		
	History: historic events that altered water use, quality, or management		
Water governance	Scales in decision making (civil society, municipalities, provinces, national)		
	Institutional arrangements for water treatment and distribution (public, private, community)		
	Water rights / ownership		
	Measuring water availability and water use		
	Sustainable water use (stock and rates of consumption)		
	Water use conservation (incentives, programs)		
	Inequality in access to water		
	Metering and pricing		
Water quantity	Water scarcity		
	Water extremes (floods, droughts)		
	Drinking water supply		
	Water security		
	Climate change		
	Groundwater withdrawals		
Water in the economy	Agricultural water use		
	Industrial water use		
	Water for tourism / recreation		
	Hydropower generation		
	Water use conflicts (urban vs. industrial vs. agricultural)		
Water conservation	Water source protection		
	Efficiency water use		
	Water re-use		
	Efficiency in distribution		
Water quality	Water treatment		
	Land use impact on water quality		
	Industrial wastewater treatment		
	Drinking water quality		
	Reliability in domestic water quality		
Water and ecosystem health	Aquatic water quality		
	In-stream flows (ecological flows)		
	Vector born-diseases (e.g. malaria, dengue, Nile virus)		
	Gastrointestinal diseases (diarrhea)		
Other	(specify)		

Part III. Course development

1. What format of content coverage would you prefer? (mark with proportion as 10%, 50%, etc.)

Theoretical	
Case studies	
Based on problem questions	
Group discussion	
Other (specify)	

2. Do you think water issues are:
(mark with an X all that apply)

Local	
Regional	
National	
International	

3. If the course material would include case studies from different parts of the world, would you prefer
(mark with the proportion as 0% 10%, 50%, etc)

Local	
Regional	
National	
International	

4. If you were taking an on-line course on water issues, would you be interested in forming a virtual working group for discussions and assignments?

Yes	
No	

If your answer is No, go to question 7.

5. What percentage of course work would you be interested in doing as a group?
(mark with an X)

10%	
25%	
50%	
100%	

6. How should the groups be structured?

By topic	
By region	

7. If an on-line course addressing these issues was available, would you be interested in taking it?
(mark with an X)

Yes	
No	

8. What is the quality of the internet connection that you would access to take the course? (mark all that apply)

	Yes	No
High speed connection		
Broad band		
You are able to download files of more than 1 MB		
You are able to view videos at a reasonable speed		

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OUR SURVEY
For further information contact Sandra Brown, project lead at WaterLearning@gmail.com