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NREM 585

Reading Activity #1

January 15, 2020

1. Three highlights from the reading:
   1. I thought it was interesting that the whole concept of sustainable development relies on the trade-offs between present and future consumption, and costs associated with that consumption.
   2. I appreciated the section on conflicting social objectives, which helped define the ways some stakeholders perceive a “win” or “loss”, even if the “win” is just to make the other side lose.
   3. Policy as a process model, and the discussion on incremental change to policy, seemed to stop just short of calling the process adaptive. I believe they described adaptive management in the context of policy. In any event the authors went into great depth about policy.
2. How the reading applies to professional goals
   1. This reading helped clarify the complexities of policy, including how different conflicts arise, how problems may be solved when resources must be limited and allocated, how policies reflect political choices by humans. I believe this knowledge will facilitate cooperation between stakeholders when – hopefully – I am working in some capacity that manages fish and fish habitat.
3. Question prompt:
   1. It is very useful that the book is written specifically for the United States, however, what are the similarities and differences between policy formation and implementation for management of international natural resources? The Great Lakes International Joint Commission is a strong example of long-lasting international policy cooperation.