

Interview Questions

WWA Outreach Assessment Project

1) Data Synthesis/Incorporation

We would like to determine how the data are being used by the organizations we interview. This includes the “level(s) of use” (model provided by Andrea) of how tree ring data are being incorporated into technical or conceptual procedures/planning. Levels of use are 1) data are *consulted* and individuals made aware of the information, 2) data are *considered* and individuals try to determine how to use it, 3) information is *incorporated* into operations, and 4) data are used in the *communication* of risk and in decision-making. Most of the organizations I will interview in January will fall under category 3, but we would like to know more specifically how data has been incorporated into their operations, and if and how this information may have been used in decision-making.

1. What initially prompted your interest in tree-ring data?
2. How have you or are you using the tree ring data you were provided? (from the very technical to more conceptual aspects of data use)
3. How have tree ring data been incorporated into your planning, long-term or otherwise?
4. Have tree ring data influenced decision-making in your organization, and if so, how?
5. Has the use of tree ring data changed any aspects of the work that you do? If so, how? If not, why?
6. What have been the results/outcomes of incorporating tree ring data into your operations? (new procedures, mission of organization, relationships, etc)
7. Does anyone else use tree ring data in your organization? If so, what do they do with the information/data? If not, why?
8. Have you shared information related to tree ring data and water resource management with any other individuals in your organization? If so, how and why? If not, why?
9. Have you shared information about tree rings and water management with any individuals outside of your own organization? If so, who and why?

2) Institutional Context of Using Tree Ring Data

With these questions, we would like to determine how the structure and procedures of the organization affect the use of tree ring data, including any challenges related to the use of tree ring data.

1. What opportunities has the use of tree ring data presented for you and your organization?

2. What challenges have you encountered in using tree ring data?
3. How easy has it been to incorporate these ideas and the data into the operations of your organization?
4. How have other individuals in your organization received the idea of using tree ring data in water resources planning?

3) Data Appropriateness/Satisfaction

With these questions, we would like to determine how satisfied the organizations are with their interactions with Connie/Jeff/Robin (aka tree-ring researchers) and the data they were provided. We would also like to know if the organization could use any other information from these researchers or if they feel they have all the information they need at this time. In addition, we'd like to know if you are aware of the other data and resources available from the Western Water Assessment (WWA) which has supported the tree-ring research since 2003.

1. How satisfied are you with the tree ring data you were provided?
2. How useful is the information you were provided?
3. Do you require additional tree-ring data, information, or products address your concerns?
4. How have you and your organization benefited from your interaction with the tree-ring researchers?
5. Would you like to see any of the information regarding tree rings and water resource management presented in a different way/alternative form?
6. How do you view the tree-ring researchers and the information/data they deliver? (salient, credible, legitimate?)
7. What other organizations or agencies do you think would benefit from tree ring information?
8. What other advice would you give to the tree-ring researchers regarding their outreach activities and sharing of tree ring data?
9. Are you familiar with additional data and information that are available through the WWA?
10. If so, what other information/data would be useful to you and your organization that could be provided by the WWA?