Comments on: Construction of a Pragmatic Scientist Community Contributing to the Stakeholderdriven Management of the Local Environment

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CORE ISSUE Challenges with Interaction Between Managers, Scientists, & the Public Poor and/or tenuous linkages between managers, scientists & stakeholder communities. Scarcity of truly management-oriented

science to address local community issues.

Political goals & poorly informed public pressure driving priorities of science

support & resource management policy.

CORE QUESTION Why are scientifically valid ideas and tools for management of local environment not adopted by local communities?

 Lack of scientific literacy among local community stakeholders?

Lack of science community producing user inendly knowledge applicable to local value systems and decision making process?

ROLE OF SCIENCE/RESEARCHERS

(Classic Scientific Method)

Scientist formulates null hypothesis (Ho)

Scientist conducts study to test Ho

Scientist interprets results as disproving or not disproving Ho

Modification of Ho and/or experimental design, and run again

et cetera

Theorem established

Management-Oriented Research

Focus on ecological & human dimension (socio-economic, cultural, historic use) factors in determining sustainability of resource management strategies

Enhance partnerships between Managers/Scientists/Special Interests/Public for developing and implementing sustainable

use strategies. A stategies

Provide information, analyses &

recommendations for dealing with current &

emerging issues on resource sustainability

Improved Translation & Transfer of Information Among & Between Scientists, Managers & the Public

• Agencies & other funding institutions must commit long-term support for translation & transfer of S&T information in formats that are understood by different user groups.

 New generation of professionals must be trained & employed as "translators" to bridge gap in cultural "personalities" of different communities (i.e., scientists, managers, public).

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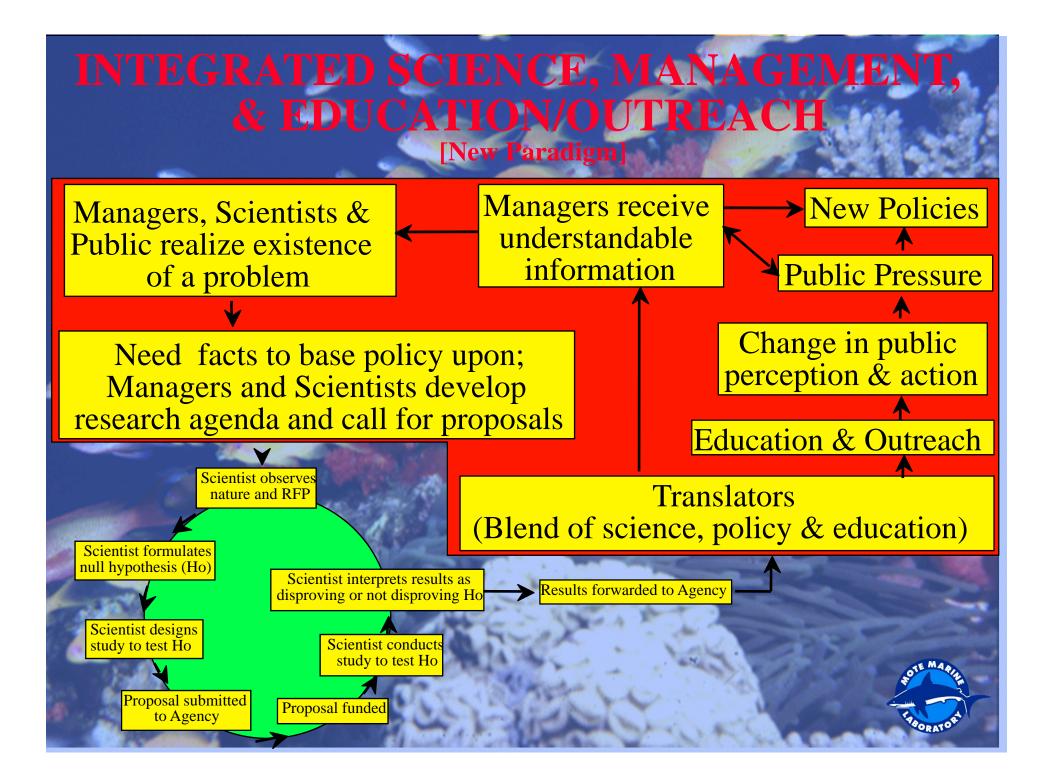
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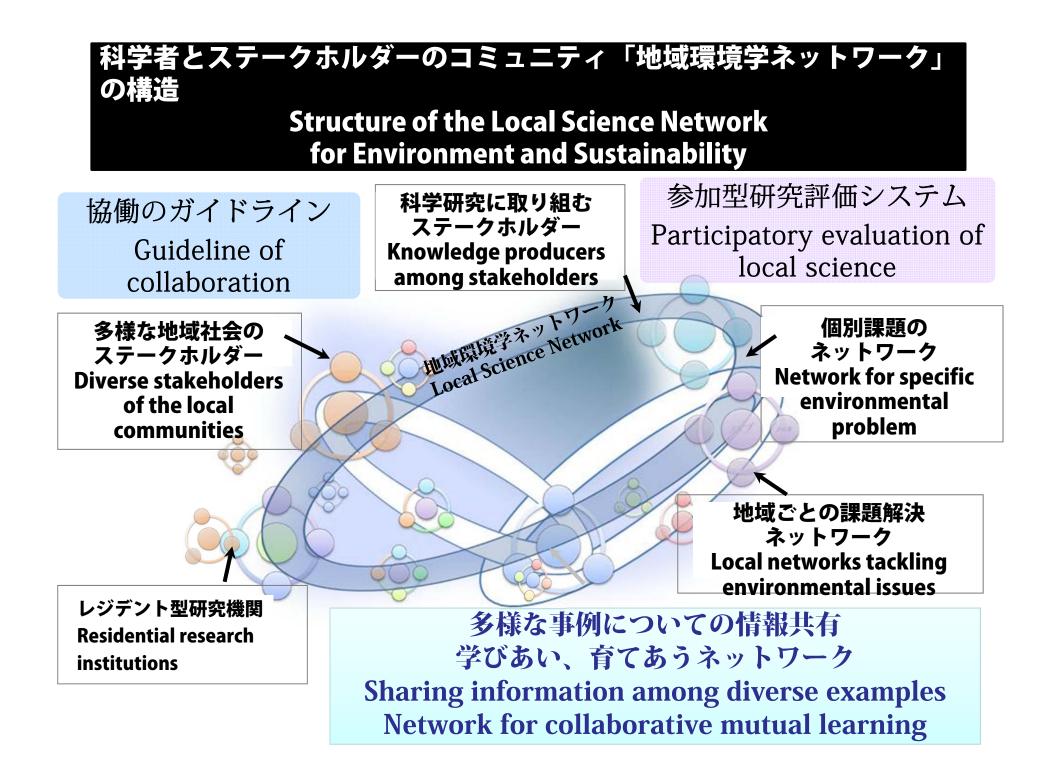
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Key to New Paradigm: Integration of Science, Resource Management & the Local Community Local Science for Environment and Sustainabilit Research Institutions in Collaboration with Local Community Visiting Researchers as link to Academia Value and Incorporate Traditional Knowledge Long-term Stistainable support provided by partnership of local and national government NGOs, and business and volunteers.

Vision for the Future of Local Science **Network for Environment and Sustainability** Paradigm for relationships between scientists, resource managers, & local communities shifts from fragmentation to collaboration Identification and understanding of economic & social driving forces behind sustainable & non-sustainable use of natural resources Shared evaluation & feed-back within network User friendly information & validated analytical models Establish an International Network of Local Science Networks

