

Collaboration in MCDA/GIS-based Decision Support systems

When: Tuesday May 22 8:30AM – 10AM

What this session is about

The goal of the session is to learn more about collaboration opportunities and challenges offered by Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) tools coupled with Geographical Information Systems (GIS), and explore solutions.

Our objectives are two fold: 1) illustrate the benefits of including MCDA/GIS in a conflict resolution process; and 2) collaboratively explore the opportunities and challenges of incorporating decision support into current practices. The session is designed to be a learning process for both participants and presenters.

If you are not familiar with MCDA, Carie Fox & co. will provide a great introduction in their training workshop - **Collaborative Design and Multi-criteria Decision Support (PSTW1)** on Tuesday morning.

What we want everyone to get from this session

Corporate Entities/Resource Users - We will demonstrate to the staff of Corporate Entities and to Resource Users how MCDA tools can provide another way to communicate their interests to the public and resource managers using a framework that promotes understanding. In return, we are looking you to provide us with ideas of how to collaboratively engage in the development, provisioning and publication of decision frameworks.

Government staff - We demonstrate how MCDA/GIS tools can help communicate the tradeoffs that staff face in managing environmental resources. In turn, you provide us with ideas on how to collaborate with federal, local, and tribal government to deploy and use these tools.

Non-Government Organizations – The session will spotlight many key places in the adaptive management cycle where there will be opportunities for input, data, knowledge and engagement with the resource management process. We're looking to learn from you of potential collaboration partners and paths to work with them.

Most importantly, the session is structured so that all of the above flows of knowledge and insights are available to all participants.

The How

- Short presentation on how MCDA/GIS opens up new possibilities in conflict resolution, using an example of a waste water treatment plant siting conflict
- Short presentation on the challenges of integrating MCDA/GIS approaches in resource management. We will use two recent resource planning projects to ground the discussion.
- An interactive exercise for all participants, broken out into groups, to explore challenges in adaptive management for MCDA/GIS-based collaboration, and brainstorm possible solutions
- Report out from Groups

The findings from the session will also be summarized and distributed to participants after the conference.

The Who

Philip Murphy, Ph.D. (Moderator), InfoHarvest, Inc., Seattle, WA;
Jordan Henk, The Redlands Institute, Redlands, CA;
Naicong Li, University of Redlands, Bainbridge Island, WA;
Catherine R. Darst, Ph.D., U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ventura, CA;
Austin McInerny, MRP, AICP, Center for Collaborative Policy, Berkeley, CA