

Evaluation of Environmental Conflict Resolution

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Outline

1. Introduction and brief context
2. Evaluation Uses and Audiences
3. Introduction to SEEER
4. Findings to date for DOI
5. Introduction to MAES
6. Findings to date
7. Summary

Evaluation Uses & Audiences



Compliance & Accountability Reporting (OMB and CEQ)

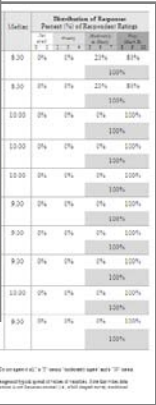
Case Briefs

[Mt. Hood National Forest Recreation Management Plan: Collaborative Intervention](#)

The Mt. Hood National Forest covers 1.1 million acres in Northwestern Oregon. The forest receives more than six million national and international visitors annually. It also serves as an urban national forest for residents of Portland and Vancouver who live within a two ...read more

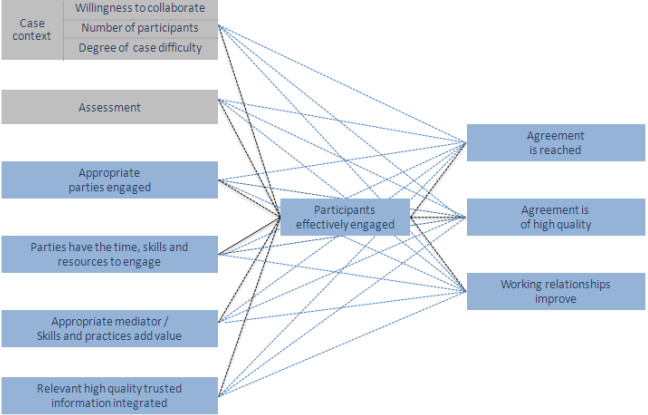


ECR Outreach Materials (General Audiences)



Case Feedback Report (Project Managers, Practitioners, Parties)

ECR Studies (ECR Community)



Training/Capacity Building Materials (ECR Community)

What is an “Environmental Conflict Resolution (ECR)” Case?

Focus on an **environmental**, natural resource or public lands issue, including those involving energy, transportation and land use issues

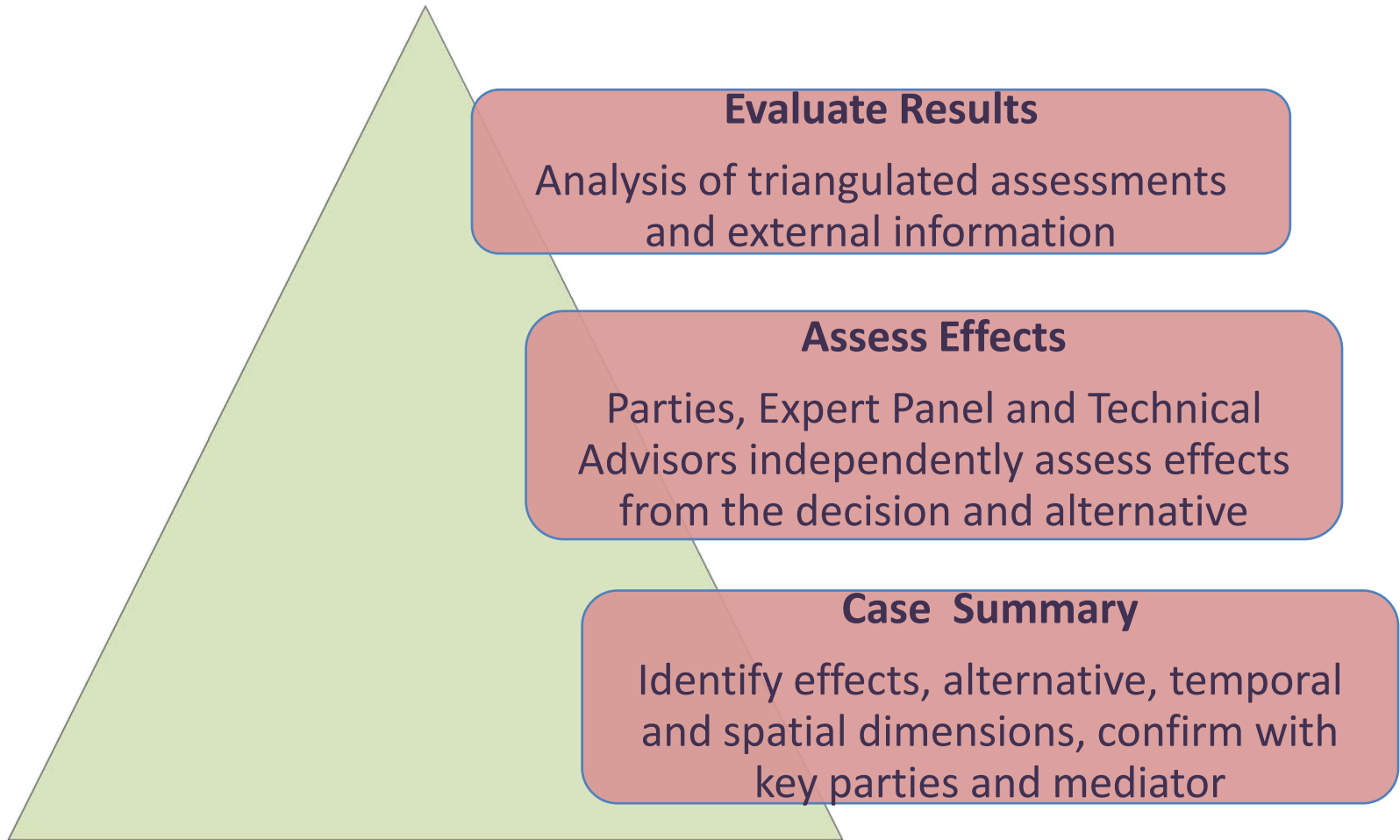
Be **agreement-seeking** – where agreements include written or unwritten plans, proposals/recommendations, procedures, and settlements (on policy development or a planning process, rulemaking, administrative decision making, enforcement, or litigation).

Involve an independent, **third-party facilitator or mediator**

Evaluating ECR

- Two evaluation targets for ECR
 - Practice of ECR – how well do we adhere to best practice
 - MAES 1 and MAES 2
 - Results of ECR – what outcomes does ECR provide compared to an alternative
 - SEEER
- Two levels of evaluation
 - Individual ECR cases
 - ECR/Client programs
- Most efforts to evaluate ECR have focused on practice and primarily on individual cases

SEER Process Overview

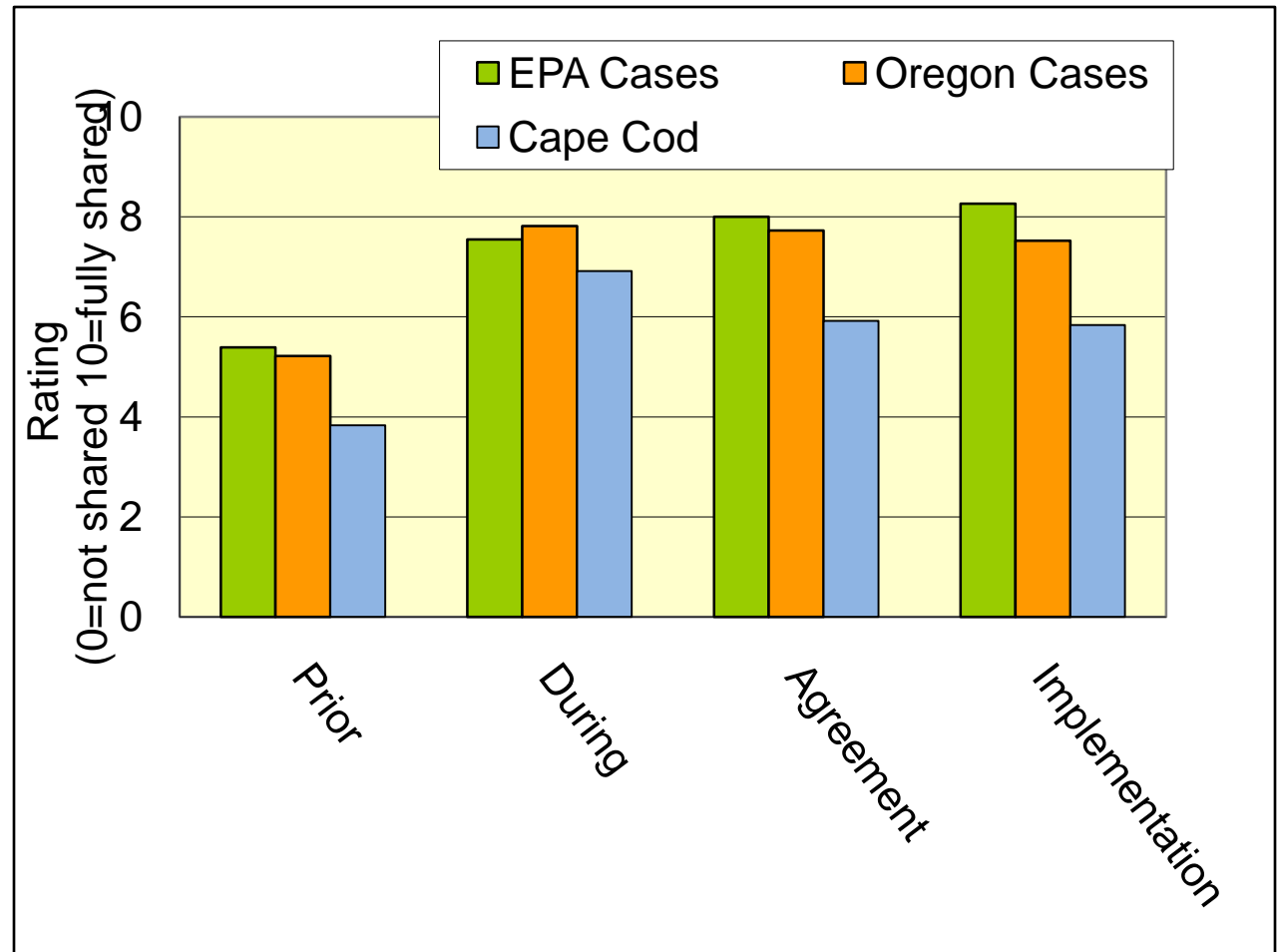


Oregon and EPA Cases

- Six Oregon cases evaluated in 2003-04
 - Marmot and Pelton Hydro Relicensing
 - Umatilla Water Exchange
 - Fish Passage Task Force (policy)
 - Mid Columbia HCP
 - Indian Ford Creek
- Four EPA water cases evaluated in 2006
 - GE Pittsfield
 - Washington Navy Yard
 - Philadelphia Prisons
 - Washington Aqueduct

Improved Information Inputs to Decision

- Information is a key decision input
- Sharing improved on all groups of cases



Interior Cases

CADR Evaluating ORV Use Agreements



and the



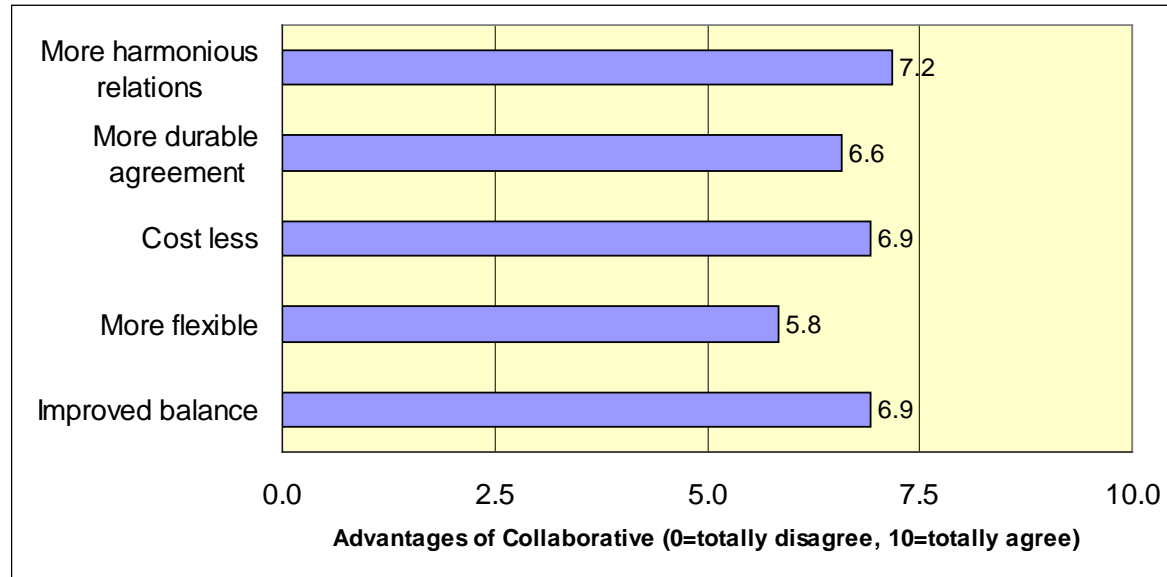
At Fire Island and Cape Cod National Seashores



Changes Attributable to Use of ADR for Cape Cod ORV Decision

- Parties who reached the agreement for ORV rules and that was implemented, judge the decision to provide, in comparison to NPS writing the rule:
 - Moderately better habitat for Plover and other birds
 - Marginal or no improvement in wrack line, shoreline erosion and beachfront habitat
 - Improved ORV management process including ORV sub-committee
 - Enhanced use without impairing key environmental responsibilities
 - Feeling by parties that they “were heard”
 - Moderately more harmonious ongoing dealings on ORV, modest gains in harmony on other issues
 - More efficient rule making (DOI saved 2.9 person years making rule)
 - Ongoing savings administering the rule (1.0 person years annually)
 - Moderate gains in social capital for some

Advantages of Collaborative (Cape Cod)



- Collaborative process was beneficial compared to the alternative
 - More harmonious relations among parties, improved balance between protection and use and lower costs were most favorably rated

Multi-Agency Evaluation Study (led by the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution)

Desired Process Conditions

Expected Process Dynamics

End of Process Outcomes

Impacts

Mediator/facilitator skills & practices add value

Appropriate participants engaged in process



Appropriate mediator/facilitator engaged to guide process



ECR is determined to be appropriate

Participants are effectively engaged



(i.e., participants communicate and collaborate, participants understand each other's views and perspectives, and participants' understanding of issues improves)

Agreement is reached



Agreement is of high quality

Agreement is durable

Participants' collective capacity to manage and resolve this issue or conflict is improved (i.e., trust is built and working relationships improve)

Impacts

Participants have the time, skills and resources to participate

Relevant, high quality and trusted information is effectively incorporated into the process

The MAES II data set includes....

52 ECR cases

523 respondents
(52% response rate)

2 to 76 participants per case
(median of 24)

58 mediators/facilitators
provided feedback

Equal distribution of complex and
less complex cases

Issues Addressed:

Transportation Facilities

Off Road Travel

Resource Supply or Use
(e.g., energy, water,
timber)

Habitat or Species
Protection
or Ecosystem
Restoration

Multiple Use of
Resources

Pollution or
Contamination

Fire Protection

Other

Performance Results

- a. Agreement Reached
- b. Agreement Quality
- c. Working Relationships