

Ecosystem Governance Options

March 5, 1999

modified

1. Existing governance structures--DFG/ USFWS/USBR/Others

Characteristics

Rely on least two existing agencies (one state and one federal) and possibly more to carry out ERP implementation.

Federal funding would continue to be allocated to a federal agency distribution and state funding to a state entity. However, new authorities could be provided through legislation to consolidate funding sources to some extent.

revised

Advantages

- Timing. Easier and less complicated to implement than other options; can be in place before the ROD if desired
- Existing knowledge and relationships in place between and among agencies.
- Familiar structure.

added

Disadvantages

- Accountability. More difficult because responsibility would be shared among agencies.
- ERP focus. Would require existing agencies to incorporate a very large complex program; could reduce the attention and focus needed to effectively implement the program; no single agency with ERP as primary mission; could create conflicts with existing duties and programs.
- Coordination and consolidation. Less ability to coordinate and consolidate ecosystem restoration programs, funding, and priority setting; potential for conflict with existing agency duties, budget priorities, programs, etc.
- Responsibilities/authorities. Depending on which agency assumes some or all of the ERP implementation--certain authorities may be missing and require legislation.
- Stakeholder and Agency involvement. Stakeholders would have less ability to participate in the decision making process as a board member and would continue in their advisory role.

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