

Determining Environmental Flows

– Why is this so darn difficult?

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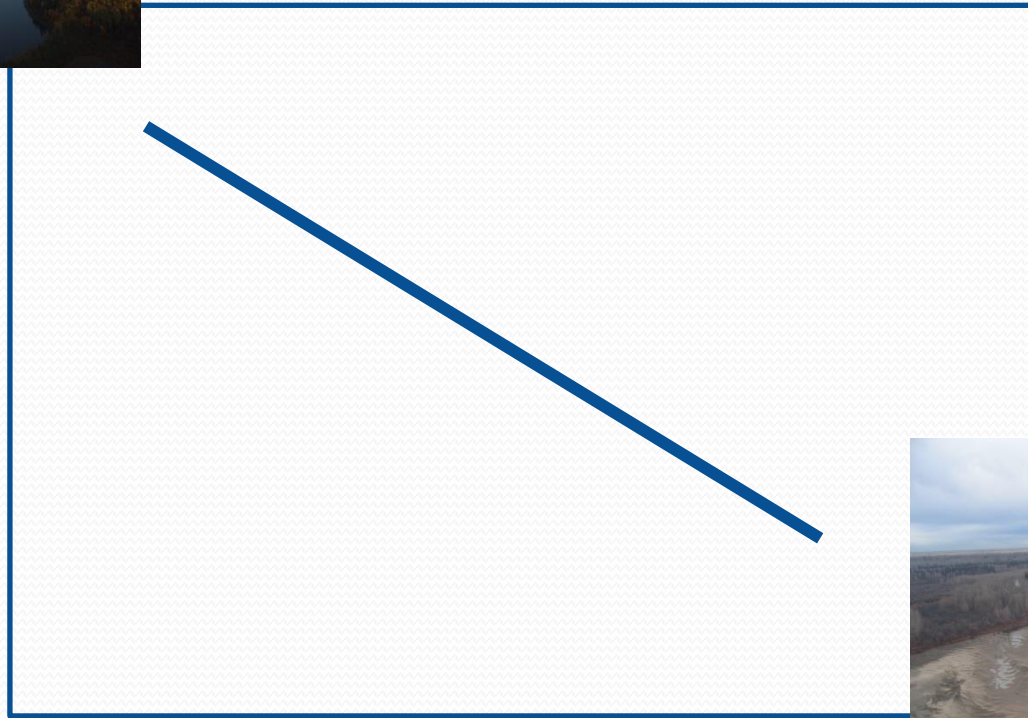
Outline

1. Determining Environmental Flows
 - Scientific Uncertainty
 - Data Availability
 - Values and Trade-Offs
2. Considerations for Environmental Flows Regulations

Fundamental Trade-Off



riverine health



out-of-stream water use



Considerations for Environmental Flows Regulations

1. EFN-related science is uncertain, especially predicting biological response
2. Data limitations exist in many instances
3. EFN decisions are fraught: trade-offs between instream and out-of-stream values. Different objectives may lead to different decision end points.
4. Science provides the information base, but doesn't "solve" the trade-offs.
5. Final decision requires careful consideration of different objectives. Clear objectives will help.
6. Collect information to evaluate the outcome.