

# The Citizen in River Basin Management

Tom Collins  
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# What Doesn't Change-First Principles

*The things we have to learn before we do them  
we learn by doing them*

*(Aristotle)*

# The issues for the PWF

- Affordability
- Sustainability , Conservation and Innovation
- Water and Public Health
- Ownership
- Public education and information

# The Driving Assumptions Systems Thinking-The NWF

- Clean air, water, soil
- Achieve ecological sustainability
- Social Equity
- Economic Prosperity
- Meet human needs

# The Agentic Citizen

- Occupies the moment between past and future(Docherty)
- Processes the message--Re-Forms and Transforms
- Achieves self reflexivity in a collaborative endeavour
- Proceeds towards an ethical awareness and explicit vision as guiding framework for decision making

# Civic Science

- Democratisation of Science
- Social Learning-Collective self reflection through intentional dialogue among diverse participants
- Management action becomes a structured/quasi structured experiment
- River becomes an action research laboratory
- Resilience-Capacity to absorb disturbance without changing fundamental structure

# The Role of Dialogue

- The means and the end of democracy-truth is neither claimed or proclaimed-just approached
- Assumes parity between the participants-different but equal
- Values real world, lived experience
- Advances the case for voice
- The purely technical is also political

# Reflectiveness

**Level One:        Everyday reflection-  
fleeting-reflecting in action**

**Level Two:        Deliberate reflection -  
committed-reflecting on action**

**Level Three: Deliberate and  
systematic reflection  
programmatic-altering action**

<http://lsn.curtin.edu.au/tlf/tlf1997/hall1.html>



# Collaborative Monitoring.

Multiple individuals or organisations of opposing stakeholders

Shared understanding of the eco-sysytem

Shared ownership and stewardship

Builds information, trust and credibility

Increases the likelihood of action

From participation in data gathering to full partnership

# Systems Theory- Five Disciplines-Senge

- Systems Thinking
- Personal Mastery
- Mental Models
- Building Shared Vision
- Team Learning

# From Accountability to Improvement

- Compliance-developmental
- Reaction-Reflection
- Inspection-Introspection
- Externally driven-Internalised
- Backward looking-Forward looking
- Correct mistakes-learn from mistakes
- Process Driven-Vision Driven