

# Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

## CBRM Database

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Dec 2009</b>	<b>Entry Number:</b>	<b>1126</b>
<b>Case Study Name:</b>	Adaptive Capacity and Community-Based Natural Resource Management		
<b>Author:</b>	Derek Armitage		
<b>Document Type:</b>	Journal paper		
<b>Year:</b>	2005		
<b>Language:</b>	English		
<b>Document Location:</b>	Environmental Management Vol. 35, No. 6. Pp. 703-715		
<b>Full Citation:</b>	Armitage, D. 2005. Adaptive Capacity and Community-Based Natural Resource Management: <i>Environmental Management</i> 35:703-715		
<b>Region:</b>	North America, Southeast Asia		
<b>Country:</b>	Canada		
<b>Ecosystem Type:</b>	Temperate grassland, temperate deciduous forest, northern coniferous forest, chaparral and sclerophyllous woodland		
<b>Social Characteristics:</b>	Proactive communities		
<b>Scale of Study:</b>	global		
<b>Resource Type:</b>	Grazing lands, rangeland, forestry, wildlife		
<b>Type of Initiative:</b>	Environment planning, conflict management		
<b>Community Based Work:</b>	Resource management, development planning, development initiative		

<b>Keywords:</b>	Adaptation, capacity, community-based management, collaboration, participatory management, resilience, sustainability
<b>Summary:</b>	<b>Why do some community-based natural resource management strategies perform better than others? Commons theorists have approached this question by developing institutional design principles to address collective choice situations, while other analysts have critiqued the underlying assumptions of community-based resource management. However, efforts to enhance community-based natural resource management performance also require an analysis of exogenous and endogenous variable that influence how social actors not only act collectively but do so in ways that respond to changing circumstances, foster learning, and build capacity for management adaptation. Drawing on examples from northern Canada and southeast Asia, this article examines the relationship among adaptive capacity, community-based resource management performance, and the socio-institutional determinants of collective action, such as technical financial, and legal constraints, and complex issues of politics, scale knowledge community and culture. An emphasis on adaptive capacity response to conceptual weakness in community based natural resource management and highlights an emerging research and policy discourse that builds upon static design principles and the contested concepts in current management practice.</b>