

Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

CBRM Database

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| Date: | 12/06/2011 | Entry Number: | 1131 |
| Case Study Name: | Tropical Rhythms and Collective Action Community-based Fisheries Management in the Face of Amazonian Unpredictability | | |
| Author: | Richard Chase Smith, Danny Pinedo, Percy M. Summers, Angelica Almeyda | | |
| Document Type: | Paper in scientific journal | | |
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| Region: | South America | | |
| Country: | Peru | | |
| Ecosystem Type: | Aquatic | | |
| Social Characteristics: | Rural communities | | |
| Scale of Study: | Regional | | |
| Resource Type: | Fisheries | | |
| Type of Initiative: | Research driven project | | |

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| Community Based Work: | Resource management |
| Keywords: | Community fisheries management, Amazon river, Hydrologic regime |
| Summary: | <p>This article looks at community fisheries management in the Peruvian <i>varzea</i>, the resource-rich floodplain of the Amazon river. This dynamic and heterogeneous world gives rise to a wide range of uncertainties and ambiguities that challenge the long-term viability of community management efforts. The authors focus on the unpredictable nature of the hydrologic regime, which not only governs the annual cycle of fisheries production and availability but also determines the timing and intensity of productive activities such as agriculture, extraction of forest products and hunting. To survive, both the community members and their fisheries management systems have to adapt to the dynamics of the aquatic world in which they live. Flexible institutions are key to the viability of management systems which must bend with the chaotic rhythms of both social life and the surrounding natural world.</p> |