Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

CBRM Database

Date:	12/05/2015	Entry Number:	1351
Case Study Name:	The Threat of the Yrmo: The Political Ontology of a Sustainable Hunting Program		
Authors:	Mario Blaser		
Document Type:	Journal article		
Year:	2009		
Language:	English		
Document Location:	United States of America		
Full Citation:	Mario Blaser, 2009. "The Threat of the Yrmo: The Political Ontology of a Sustainable Hunting Program," <i>American Anthropologist</i> 111, no. 1, 10–20, doi:10.1111/j.1548-1433.2009.01073.x.		
Region:	Latin America		
Country:	Paraguay		
Ecosystem Type:	Tropical rain forest		
Social Characteristics:	Indigenous community		
Scale of Study:	Regional		
Resource Type:	Wildlife, protected area		
Type of Initiative:	Research-driven project		

Community-Based Work:	Resource management	
Keywords:	Political ontology, multinaturalism, multiculturalism, Paraguay, Indigenous peoples	
Summary:	Various misunderstandings and conflicts associated with attempts to integrate Indigenous Knowledges (IK) into development and conservation agendas have been analyzed from both political economy and political ecology frameworks. With their own particular inflections, and in addition to their focus on issues of power, both frameworks tend to see what occurs in these settings as involving different epistemologies, meaning that misunderstandings and conflicts occur between different and complexly interested perspectives on, or ways of knowing, the world. Analyzing the conflicts surrounding the creation of a hunting program that enrolled the participation of the Yshiro people of Paraguay, in this article I develop a different kind of analysis, one inspired by an emerging framework that I tentatively call "political ontology." I argue that, from this perspective, these kinds of conflicts emerge as being about the continuous enactment, stabilization, and protection of different and asymmetrically connected ontologies.	