

How can *research* help us get where we want to go?

Alison M. Meadow
Staff Scientist

Center for Climate Adaptation Science and Solutions

meadow@email.arizona.edu



Anthropology

Goals

- The search for generalizations about behavior, human adaptive processes, and cultural products.
- The application of knowledge to solve human problems.

Tools

- Interviews
- Participant Observation
- Collection of life histories
- Questionnaires

Meadow, A, C. Meek, and S. McNeeley. 2009. Towards Integrative Planning for Climate Change Impacts on Rural-Urban Migration in Interior Alaska: A Role for Anthropological and Interdisciplinary Perspectives. *Alaska Journal of Anthropology* 7 (1).

Brugger, J, A. Meadow, and A. Horangic. 2015. Lessons from First Generation Climate Science Integrators. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*.

Action Research

Goals

- *Collaboration* with traditionally underserved community to bring about social change
- Full *participation* of community members
- “*Reflection* and *action* upon the world in order to transform it.” (Friere)

Meadow, A, D. Ferguson, Z. Guido, A. Horangic, G. Owen, and T. Wall. 2015. Moving toward the Deliberate Coproduction of Climate Science Knowledge. *Weather, Climate, and Society* 7 (2):179-191.



<http://archive.fieldmuseum.org/par/images/par-model-learn.png>

Tools

- Interviews
- Participant Observation
- Facilitation
- Teaching research methods
- LISTENING

Organizational Anthropology and Information Science

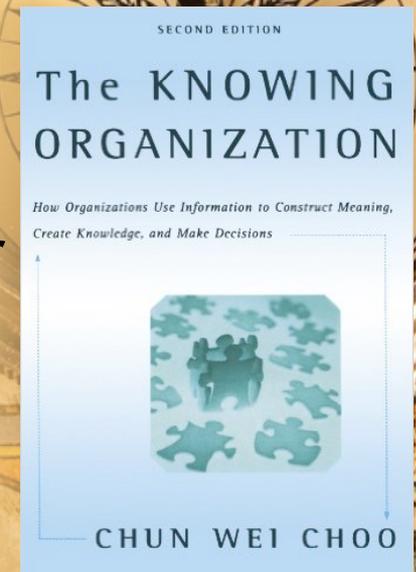
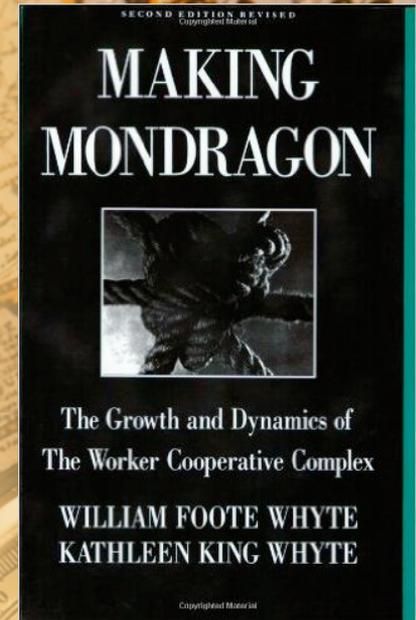
Tools

- Participant Observation
- Interviews
- Document analysis
- Information Use Environment framework

Ferguson, D, A. Masayeva, A. Meadow, and M. Crimmins. in review. Rain gauges to range conditions: Developing a local drought information system using locally relevant observations.

Goals

- Understand how organizations function. How do they seek out and use new information to inform their decisions?
- How can we better integrate new information into their existing structures?



Evaluation

- A *tool* to reflect upon and learn from our practice as researchers and agents of change.
- *How* do we do our work? *Why* did we choose that approach? *What* were the outcomes? *What* are the impacts?



Meadow, A, M. Crimmins, and D. Ferguson. 2013. Field of Dreams or Dream Team? Assessing Two Models for Drought Impact Reporting in the Semiarid Southwest. *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* October:1507 - 1517.

Meadow, A, Z. Guido, M. Crimmins, and Jonathan Mcleod. 2016. From Principles to Action: Applying the National Research Council's Principles for Effective Decision Support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Watch Office. *Climate Services* 1:12-23.