Extension Program Work Area

Agriculture: Public Policy

PWA1: Community Decision Making

Rationale

As society becomes more diverse and complex we see a proliferation of interest groups around very diverse values. In many situations there is a lack of information, or the available information has not been compiled, evaluated or presented in ways that can best contribute to effective and informed decision making. Decision makers (public and private), interest groups, and the general citizenry require balanced information based on science to be better informed and more engaged in the issues.

Stake Holder Input

Stakeholder input comes from county, departmental, Agricultural Experiment Station(s), and the College of Agricultural Sciences advisory committees, industry organizations combined with numerous informal contacts between producers and county officials with faculty. (For example, this type of input was used to develop work related to the economics of land use regulation in response to strong interest and questions following the passage of Measure 37) Specific requests for assistance sometimes come through the legislature or government-related working groups. (For example, an analysis of economic aspects of conflicts between aggregate mining and farmland was undertaken following a request from a state-sponsored working group.)

How Stake Holder Input was used to create this PWA

Extension Agriculture faculty use stakeholder input to plan and implement programming based on the needs expressed by local stakeholders. At the same time, Extension Agriculture faculty inform stakeholders about pressing needs within agriculture that may not be a priority for the local community. This interaction between stakeholders and Agriculture professionals ensures that programming is relevant to the local community while reflecting the needs and concerns of producers throughout the state.

Long Term Outcome

Improved community decision making that promotes community stability and economic vitality. For example, a reduction in the frequency, magnitude and cost of conflicts over natural resources such as water and land.

Indicators of Successful Achievement of this Outcome

- Case studies of communities where OSU provided assistance.
- Survey of affected or interested citizens.
- Surveys of key representatives or decision makers

PWA2: Public Discourse and Policy

Rationale

As society becomes more diverse and complex we see a proliferation of interest groups around very diverse values. In many situations there is a lack of information, or the

available information has not been compiled, evaluated or presented in ways that can best contribute to effective and informed decision making. Decision makers (public and private), interest groups, and the general citizenry require balanced information based on science to be better informed and more engaged in the issues.

Stake Holder Input
Stakeholder input comes from county, departmental, Agricultural Experiment Station(s), and the College of Agricultural Sciences advisory committees, industry organizations combined with numerous informal contacts between producers and county officials with faculty. (For example, this type of input was used to develop work related to the economics of land use regulation in response to strong interest and questions following the passage of Measure 37) Specific requests for assistance sometimes come through the legislature or government-related working groups. (For example, an analysis of economic aspects of conflicts between aggregate mining and farmland was undertaken following a request from a state-sponsored working group.)

How Stake Holder Input was used to create this PWA
Extension Agriculture faculty use stakeholder input to plan and implement programming based on the needs expressed by local stakeholders. At the same time, Extension Agriculture faculty inform stakeholders about pressing needs within agriculture that may not be a priority for the local community. This interaction between stakeholders and Agriculture professionals ensures that programming is relevant to the local community while reflecting the needs and concerns of producers throughout the state.

Long Term Outcome
Improved quality of public discourse and policy decisions (example topics include: agriculture, poverty and hunger, land and property rights, taxation and government, trade and globalization, water). A more knowledgeable public will be in a better position to make decisions and support government actions that are based on good science and analysis.

Indicators of Successful Achievement of this Outcome
- Case studies of communities where OSU provided assistance.
- Survey of affected or interested citizens.
- Survey of users of biotechnology education.
- Surveys of key representatives or decision makers

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