# Water Quality and Indigenous Knowledge

## Essay Assignment

Utilizing the outcomes of the above group discussions, work with your group to come up with a short (~300 words) statement answering the following questions:

* What role could Indigenous Knowledge play in the management decisions relevant to the above community?
* How might scientists better benefit the communities they work with given the reading (David-Chavez and Gavin 2018) and case study?
* Why is direct collaboration with communities important for ecology, monitoring, and forecasting?
* Finally, think about the environmental issues facing your community. How could increased community input surrounding ecological decision-making benefit your community?

Rubric for evaluation of writing assignment

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|  | **0: No evidence** | **1: Below proficient** | **2: Emerging proficient** | **3: Proficient** | **4: Advanced** |
| **The impact of Indigenous Knowledge** | No mention of Indigenous Knowledge or its relationship to management | Understanding of Indigenous Knowledge has substantial errors or does not describe its effect on management | Discusses the role of Indigenous Knowledge with some grasp but misses details or lacks specificity | Discusses the role of Indigenous Knowledge with a thorough grasp and minimal error | Discusses the role of Indigenous Knowledge thoroughly and with a strong understanding of its impact |
| **Scientist community engagement** | Does not discuss how scientists can better engage with communities | Does not understand the potential problems with lack of community participation | Demonstrates a vague understanding of community participation, does not reference specific qualities | Discusses multiple levels or qualities of community participation, but may lack detail or contain some error | Shows a thorough understanding of the reading and case study, referencing specific parts of both and drawing new connections |
| **Community participation and forecasting** | No mention of community participation or forecasting | Only discusses one component of participation and forecasting, or contains significant misunderstandings | Relates community participation to forecasting and discusses either the scientific impacts or ethical impacts but contains error | Relates participation and forecasting both in terms of scientific and ethical impacts but lacks detail | Thoroughly relates participation and forecasting ethically and scientifically with reference to the reading and case study |
| **Community response** | Does not talk about their community or its environment | Makes little effort to discuss potential environmental issues and solutions | Mentions an environmental problem and a brief solution with no depth or relation to the reading or case study | Clearly explains an issue in their community and how increased participation could be beneficial | Fully explains an issue and its link to participation, with specific positive impacts identified for the community |