

Regional Readiness in Watersheds: A Grounded Theory Reconsideration of Environmental and Cultural Flows Within Impact Assessment in Canada



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1. Background information

a) Definitions

b) Canadian Context

2. Research Questions

a) Past, Potential, and Practice

3. Methodology

4. Findings

a) Challenges

b) Scoping Review

c) Grounded Theory

5. Discussion

a) Significance

b) Application

BACKGROUND

Environmental and Cultural Flows Internationally and in Canada



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Definitions - Environmental and Cultural Flows



Anderson et al. 2019

PG. 4



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Definitions – Brisbane Declaration and Global Action Agenda, 2007 and 2017

“Integrate environmental flow management into every aspect of land and water management.”

“Environmental flow assessment and management should be a basic requirement of Integrated Water Resource Management; environmental impact assessment; strategic environmental assessment; infrastructure and industrial development and certification; and land-use, water-use, and energy-production strategies.”

<https://riversymposium.com/about/brisbane-declaration/>





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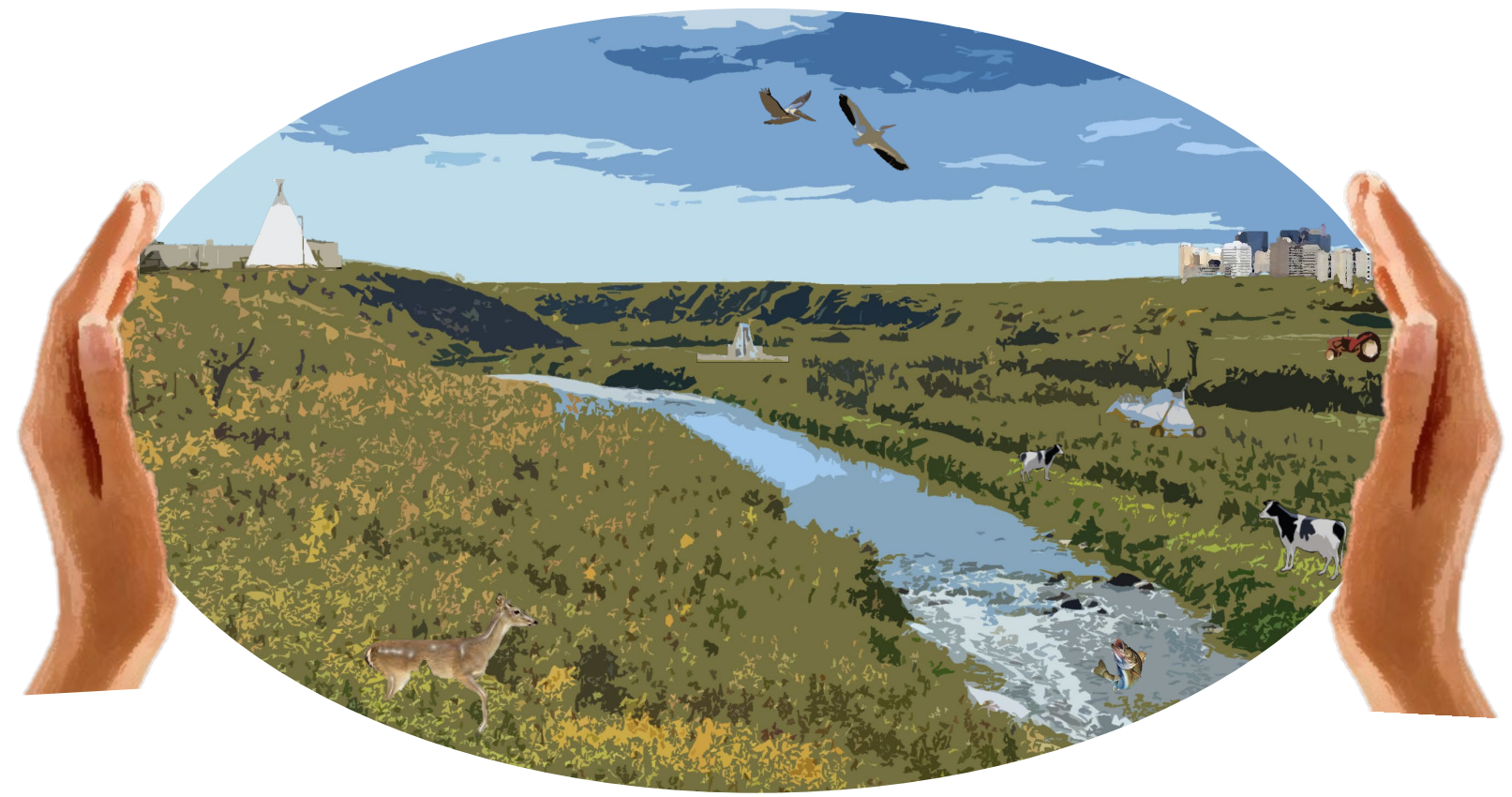
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Canadian Context – Flows, basin planning, and collaborative consent





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Research questions

Past – Incorporation within Canadian Acts, policies, programs, and impact assessment

Potential – Collaborative water flows as an asset to impact assessment through pre-planning

Practice – Implementation of collaborative water flows in different levels of impact assessment





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METHODOLOGY

A Social Sciences Approach



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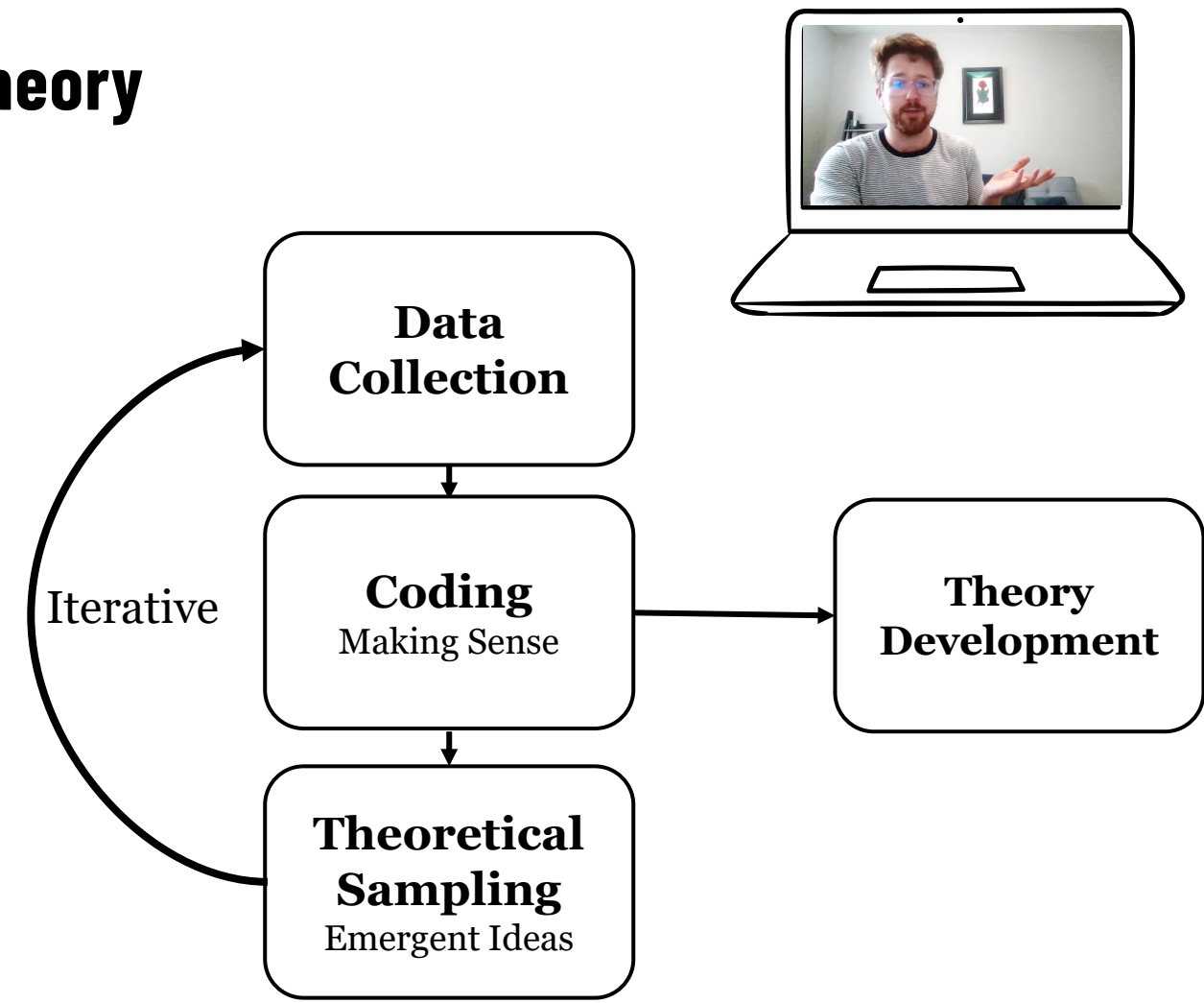
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Methodology - Grounded theory

- Interviews
- Contributor positionality
- Supported by scoping review





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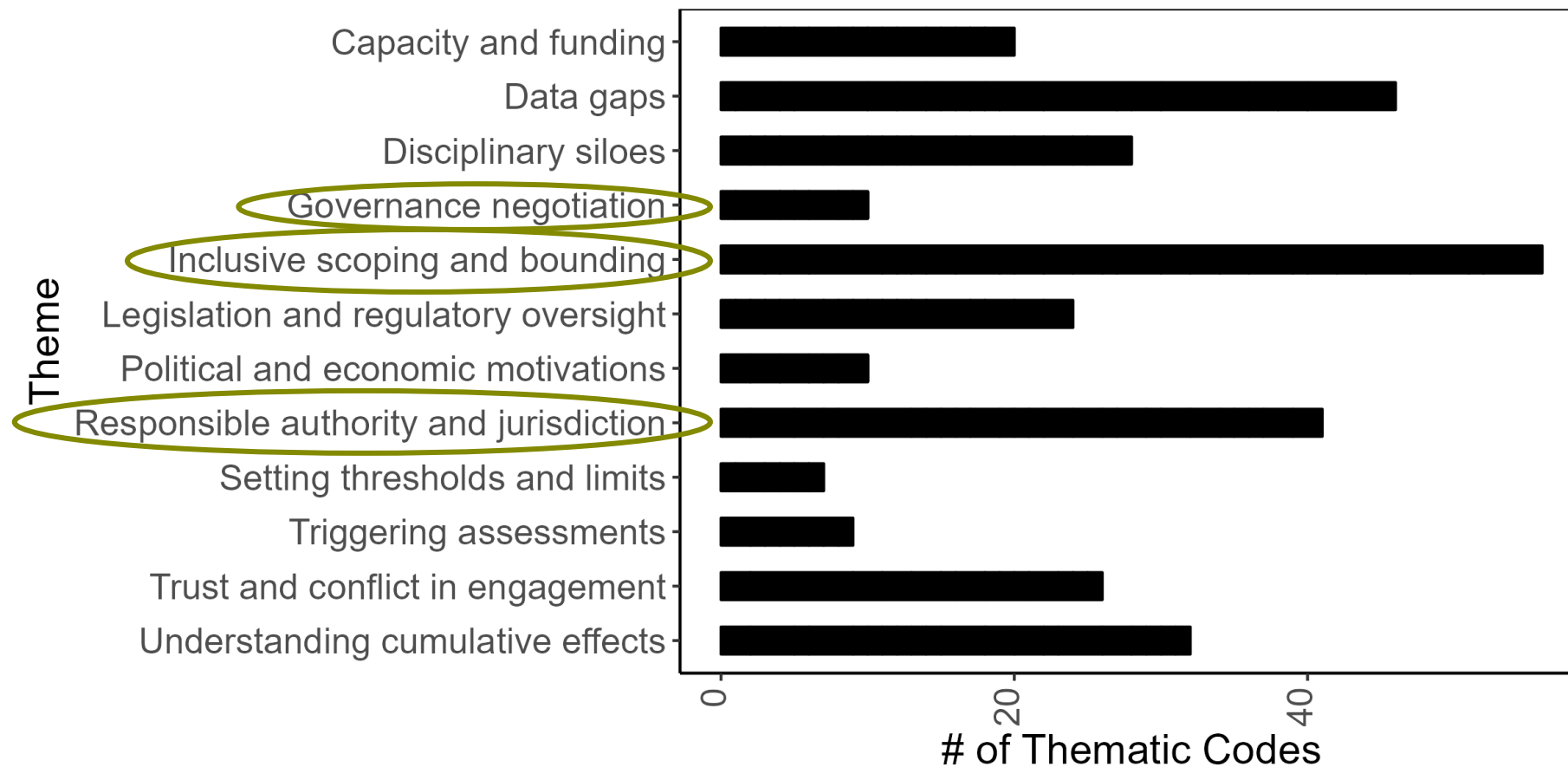
FINDINGS

Collaborative Water Flows in Impact Assessment in Canada



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Inclusive scoping is the greatest challenge to assessing downstream and regional impacts





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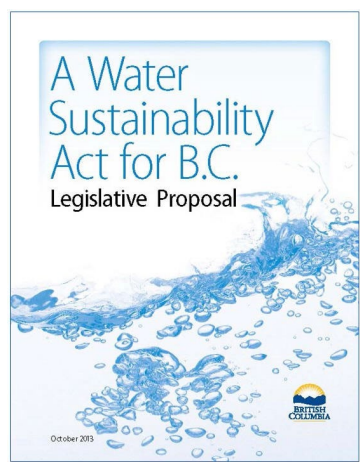
5. Discussion

- a) Significance
- b) Application

Flow concepts in impact assessment focus on minimums and fish at project scales



Haves:



<https://waterbucket.ca/wcp/2014/03/16/historic-new-water-legislation-introduced-british-columbia/>



<https://www.saltwire.com/atlantic-canada/business/canada-disappointed-by-greenland-refusal-to-cut-atlantic-salmon-harvest-100599072/>



Canadian Dam Association

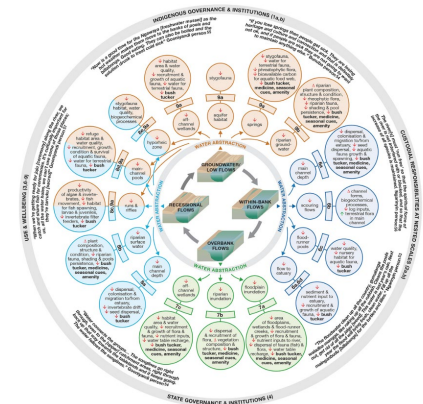


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Limited uptake of frameworks, social-ecological relationships beyond project boundaries, and broader planning objectives



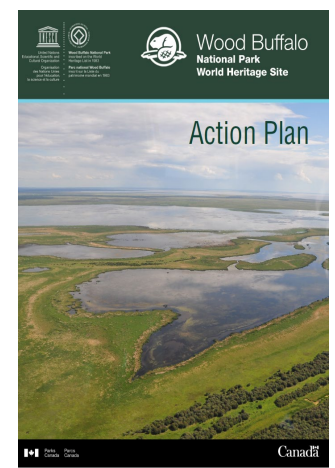
Have-nots:



Douglas et al. 2019



<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/6f04c13c501f4a71917f6966479176dc>



<https://parks.canada.ca/pn-np/nt/woodbuffalo/info/action>



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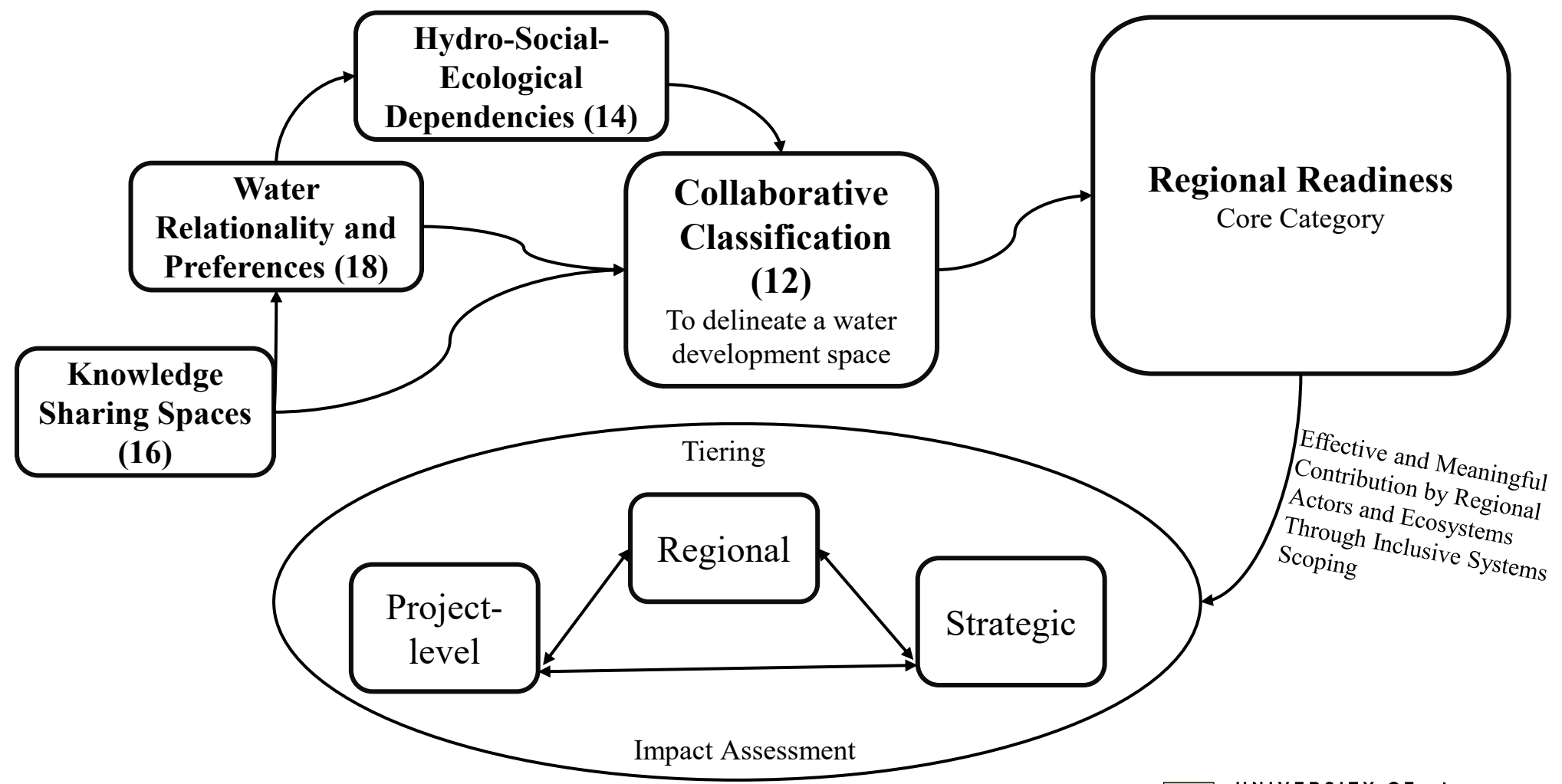
THE GROUNDED THEORY

Collaborative Water Flows in Impact Assessment



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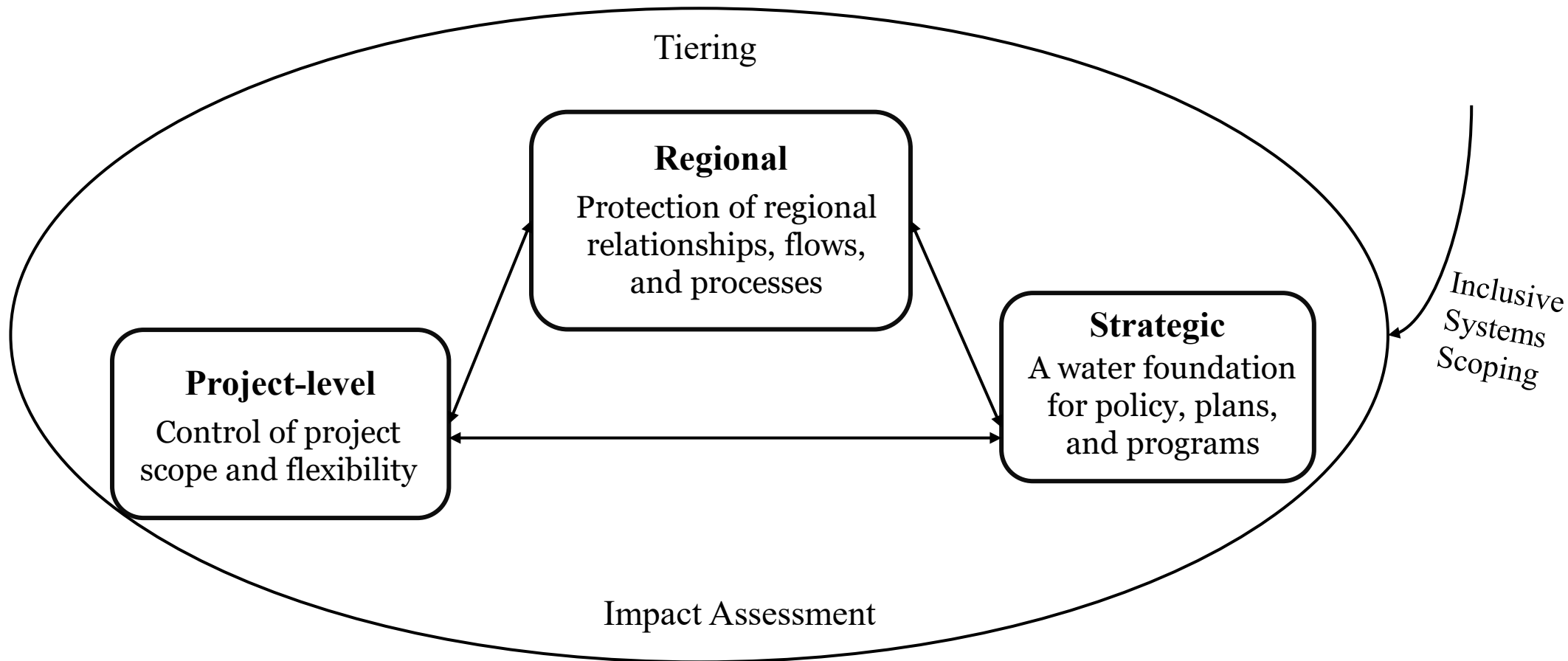
Collaborative water flows can be employed to establish regional readiness for assessment





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- 5. Discussion
 - a) Significance
 - b) Limitations

Collaborative water flows in different levels of impact assessment





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Discussion

- Inclusive systems scoping
- Between assessment and development spaces
- Project fit
- On the ground testing
- Whose responsibility?



<https://www.producer.com/farmliving/sask-s-quappelle-valley-makes-for-the-ultimate-road-trip/>





Let's continue the conversation!

Post questions and comments in the IAIA23 app.

Acknowledgments

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