

# **Stakeholder Engagement in Water Resources Research**

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# Why?

- Advances institute mission
- Targets research
- Leverages institute capacity
- Builds stakeholder support
- Builds funding support
- Builds political capital

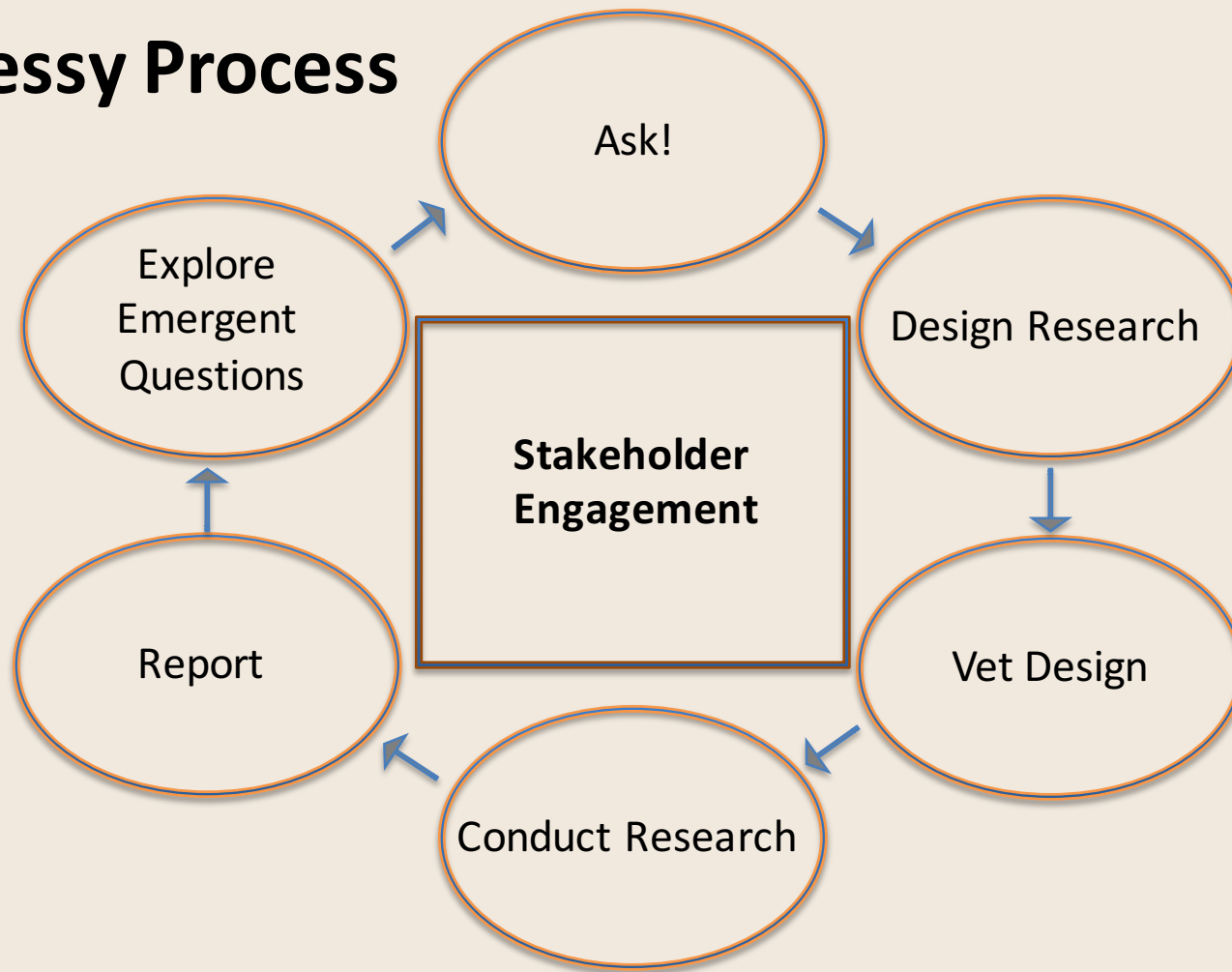


# Why Not

- Herding cats
- Messy process
- Time consuming
- Outside the comfort zone
- Results not always appreciated



# A Messy Process



# Payoff: Idaho Drought Planning

- Stakeholder listening sessions
  - Drought response emerges as primary research need
- IWRRI asked to explore development
  - Scientists, not regulators or resource managers
  - Neutral party
  - Trusted



# Comprehensive Drought Planning



# Application: Idaho Drought Planning

- ☒ Ask
- ☒ Design Process
- ☐ Vet Design
- ☐ Conduct Research
- ☐ Report
- ☐ Emergent Questions
- ☐ Ask Again

## Stakeholder Partners (to date)

- Idaho Department of Water Resources
  - Bureau of Reclamation
  - USGS Idaho Water Science Center
  - US Forest Service
  - Natural Resources Conservation Service
  - Idaho Power Company
  - Idaho Conservation League
  - Coeur d'Alene Tribe
  - Idaho Department of Agriculture
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- Three year process
  - Estimated cost @ \$1M