PacMARS-SOAR Open Workshop Social science notes (partial), 20 January 2013

Presentation of results
- Change focus from products and outcomes to processes and relationships.
- Create an interactive computer graphic knowledge map for the web. A suggestion was made to create a model of boxes and arrows (looks like a flow chart) where you can click on different elements of interconnected project components to see what information and resources are available.   This seems like a big project that may not be within the timeframe possible with PacMARS.
- It is very important to return to villages and communicate results and outcomes. In person is best.

Are hub meetings happening too quickly? If the goal is to get feedback, should we wait until there are some products to get feedback on, then ask for community input?

Need to think about timing of meetings and minimizing meeting fatigue. Hub meeting in Barrow is at the same time as many other meetings. Pro – more people will be in town and available to attend; con – meeting fatigue may reduce attendance.

A good approach is to think of PacMARS as a first step in a long-term relationship with these communities. We need Program Managers to step up and maintain these relationships across projects. Perhaps NPRB can provide funds to continue in-person village follow-up visits.

Many research groups are going out to villages and asking the same questions. Local people are thinking 'wait, didn't we just answer these same questions 3 months ago, a year ago, etc., why are you asking them again". Agencies and programs that are visiting communities for LTK components are not talking to each other.

Take-home points:
- Talk little, listen a lot
- Communicate project results to communities – in person
- Make this the first step toward a long-term relationship with local communities