

# IMPACT ANALYSIS OF A RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCE PLAN WITH REFERENCE TO KASHMIR

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After reviewing the objectives for a renewable resource plan, eight steps may be involved in the planning process (Muthoo, 1970). Impact analysis is the penultimate of these eight components (c. f., Appendix I). Whether a plan is worth-while or not is related to the magnitude of contribution that it is expected to make to the objectives. However, the desirability of a renewable resource plan cannot be gauged merely from the absolute magnitude. The plan involves adjustments: renewable resources, such as soil and forests, of an area have an existing use pattern. The desirability of adjustments will depend upon the differences in the achievement of objectives between the present and the planned uses. Such comparison will indicate the impact of a plan. The investigation required for this may be called an impact analysis.

The impact analysis may be conceived as more than the identification of marginal changes in the direct contribution of renewable resources to objectives. These resources are not the only sources contributing to society's objectives. The analysis should indicate the effect on the realization of objectives in totality, i.e., the effects of renewable resource use adjustments on other sources of economic welfare too need to be evaluated.

The word 'impact' or 'effects' is often loosely implied. Much is excluded and anything else thought attributable to a project is included among the so-called effects. Three examples will suffice. One is the study of the 'impact of industrialisation in a subsistence economy' by Junghans (1968 a, b). The 'impact' of Rourkela steel plant

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