

Historically, in the policy management space, indigenous people, knowledge, and experiences have been neglected. There have been attempts made to bring indigenous voices to the table. This case study analysis aims to determine whether organizations that seek to bring indigenous perspectives to the forefront of environmental protection processes are successful at this objective. We analyzed minutes from watershed management committees in New Zealand, which include indigenous voices. Two coders independently coded the meeting minutes to identify indigenous voices across groups and over a 12-year period. Results show that indigenous knowledge was scarcely used in the decision-making process in favor of experiential and scientific knowledge. While experiential and scientific knowledge provide value in policy construction, scholarship emphasizes the importance of policy designers in incorporating the historic, place-based knowledge that indigenous cultures uniquely possess.