

River Chief System : Model And Effect Of The Water Environment Administration System In China

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Outline

- 01 What' s the River Chief System
- 02 How does the River Chief System work
- 03 Institutional Logic of River Chief System
- 04 Conclusions

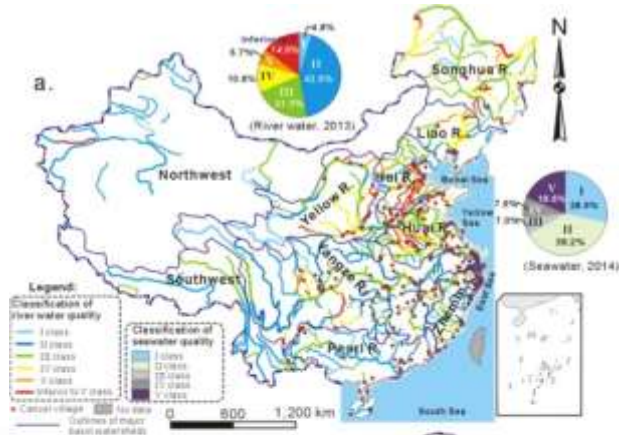
An aerial photograph of a river system. A large dam is visible in the upper left, with water flowing through it. A bridge crosses the river in the lower right. The river is surrounded by green vegetation and some urban development. The number '01' is overlaid in white on the river.

01

What's the River Chief System

Two overlapping blue triangles, one lighter and one darker, positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide.

Condition of China's Water Bodies



- ❑ The condition of China's water bodies has worsened over the past four decades.
- ❑ The quality of water in one-third of China's rivers is below the third level of the national water quality standard in.
- ❑ Local governments used to sacrifice the environment for economic growth.
- ❑ Water management suffered from a lack of coordination.

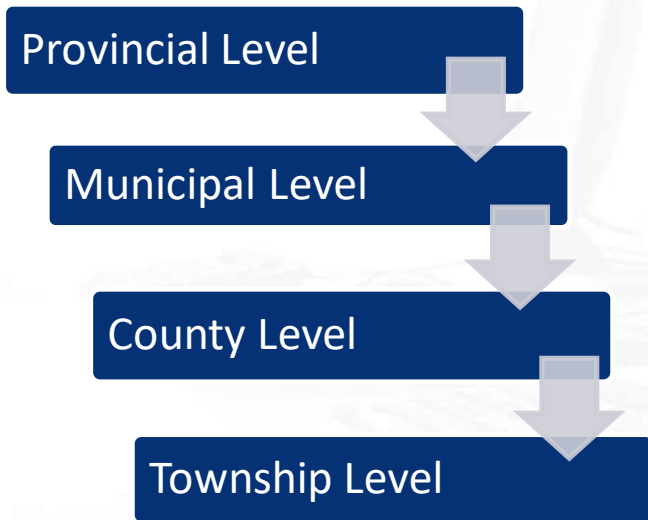
Fig. a and fig. b is quoted from the paper *Deep challenges for China's war on water pollution* by Han D., Currell M. J., Cao G., Environmental Pollution, 2016, 218:1222-1233

The party and government leaders at all levels shall be the **River Chief Officers**, who is the first responsible person for river management and protection, and is responsible for the management of the local river ecological environment

- ❑ **A measure of water pollution control**
- ❑ **Aimed at promoting better coordination among government departments to protect the country's water bodies**
- ❑ **Missions : Strengthening Water Resources Protection, Strengthening River and Lake Shoreline Management and Protection, Strengthening Water Pollution Prevention , Strengthening Water Environment Management, Strengthening Water Ecological Restoration, Strengthening Law Enforcement and Supervision**
- ❑ **Pioneered by Jiangsu Wuxi , established in all rivers and lakes throughout the country**

Organizational Form of River Chief System

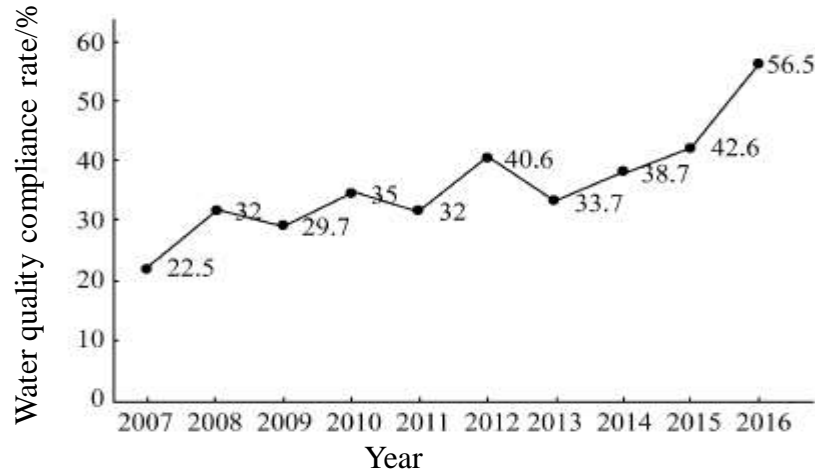
Four-level of River Chief System



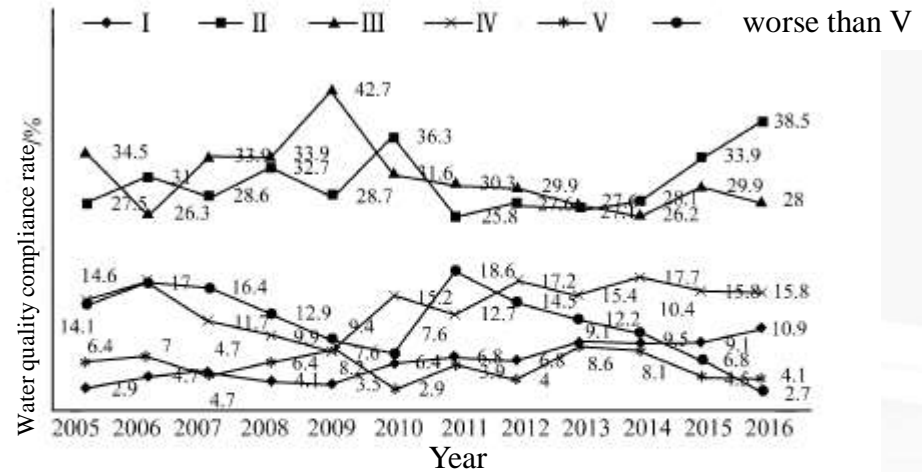
Effectiveness of River Chief System



- Overall water quality in China was improved
- Taking Zhejiang Province as an example:



c. The rate of standard-attainment of emphasis water function zones for Taihu between 2007 to 2016



d. Situation of change of water quality for surface water in Zhejiang between 2005 to 2016



How does the River Chief System work



Conception and Operation Process of Pressure Type System Theory

- ❑ The pressure system theory was first proposed to explain the operation mode of local government in China.
- ❑ The core features of the pressure system are task allocation and assessment.
- ❑ The operation of the pressure system is divided into the following four stages:



The Operation Process of River Thief System



Establishing Objectives

- All the related institutional documents about river system have obvious result oriented characteristics.
- The objective and tasks of the river system must be practical and accessible.

Allocation

- The tasks of provinces and cities, counties and towns are determined according to the nature of rivers.
- The responsibilities and tasks of each river chief are defined accordingly.

Assessment

- Adopts the method of combining daily assessment with annual assessment.
- Economic and political rewards and punishments are mainly carried out in different regions.

Institutional Logic of River Chief System

03





- **Three major factors : administrative level contract system, territorial management, performance appraisal**

- **Administrative level contract system**

Identify the responsible bodies at all levels of government, progressively allocate administrative matters

- **Territorial Management**

The river chief system will implement the responsibility of pollution control, ecological protection and economic development in the same main body, which will help coordinate and coordinate various resources and overcome the drawbacks of economic development

- **River Chief System and Performance Evaluation**

Unify the political aspirations of local government officials and water pollution control targets, so as to effectively promote the local government environmental protection performance

CONCLUSION



04

01

The River Chief System is a management system for rivers and lakes and is linked to the accountability system of environment protection and performance evaluations of top officials, which aimed at promoting better coordination among government departments to protect the country's water bodies. And the move proved a big success.

02

Introducing Pressure Type System Theory to explain the operation process of the River Chief System. And there are three institutional elements of the pressure system which decide if it works.

03

The three institutional elements of the pressure system carry out their duties in the operation of the river chief system, Performance evaluation provides the source of responsibility for the river system. But the three are not isolated from each other, but influence each other and support each other.

04

The river system also inherited the inherent defects of the pressure system.



Thank you!

