Challenges Facing Watershed Management in Iran Zahra Athari1, Gholamreza Pezeshki Rad2*, Enayat Abbasi3, Amirhossein Alibaygi4

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Degradation and over exploitation of natural resources is the most important constraints to sustainable development in many developing countries. Indeed, the over exploitations of these resources represent a wide gap between the objectives of sustainability and current watershed management practices. Looking at the destruction Facts and figures of range lands, forests, soil erosion and water loss in our country represents numerous challenge sin this field. Therefore, this study was conducted to determine the current challenges of watershed management in the country. The population for this study consisted of natural resources management experts in the throughout country that had sufficient knowledge and experience. Delphi results, which were conducted in three rounds, showed that the most important challenges of watershed management for the country Included: management, policy-making, research and informing, participation and social justice and economic challenges.

Keywords: watershed management, natural resource management, challenge, Delphi technique