



Case Study: UFFCA and the IFMP

UPPER FRASER FISHERIES CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

WWW.UFFCA.CA

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Outline

- uffca background
 - ifmp : early years
 - ifmp : 2008 -2009
 - ifmp : 2010
 - next steps
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Intro: UFFCA background

- Founded in 2005
- Core funding: AAROM
- FN BoD, non-profit society
- Serves the broad fisheries/aquatic issues (common)
- Approximately 23 First Nation communities in geographic area
- Canoe Creek to Fraser Headwaters

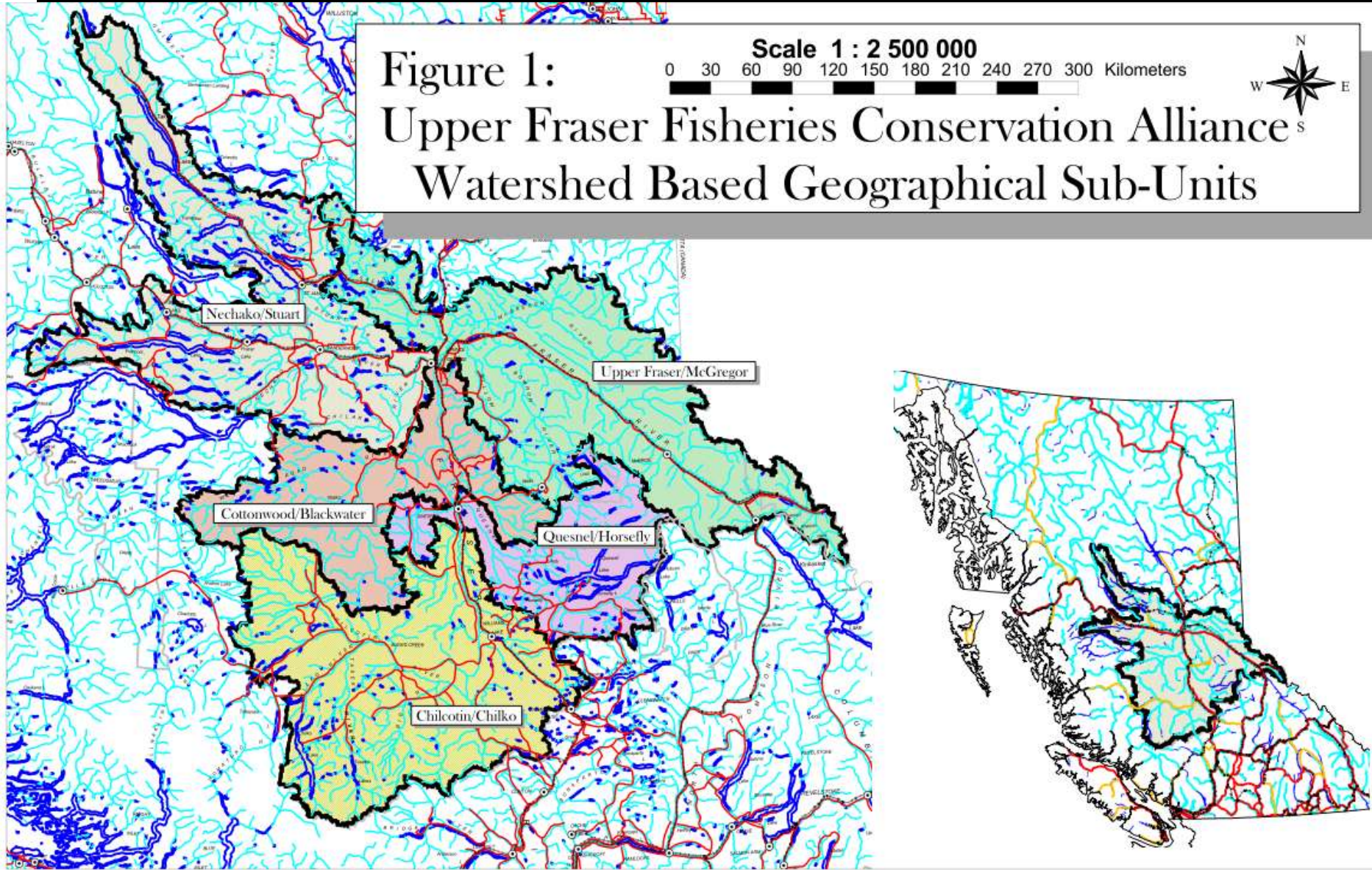
Figure 1:

Scale 1 : 2 500 000

0 30 60 90 120 150 180 210 240 270 300 Kilometers



Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation Alliance Watershed Based Geographical Sub-Units



uffca background

- common conservation and management issues – id'd by FN and DFO
- Started exchanging and discussing technical and management issues “informally”
- Framed cohesive conservation request – Bowron/Nadina window closure



uffca background

- window closure was catalyst for attempting to discuss and review “regional” issues
- regular meetings associated with review of tech info, management info, planning
- Started bringing in dfo tech staff for presentations
- FN fisheries programs started presenting

ifmp era: the early years

- uffca: compile and analyze data at uffca area scale
 - By species
 - By issue (catch, escapement, management)
 - id data gaps
- dfo: provide technical and management info
 - ifmp presentations done at larger forums
 - little opportunity to examine “details”

ifmp era: the early years

- uffca and FN participants
 - Identified issues to raise with DFO
 - Conservation concerns
 - FSC harvest
 - Management “systems” (FRSSI, Fraser chinook)
 - uffca participation on IHPC
- DFO
 - consultation presentations
 - By species
- Talking “at” each other

ifmp era: 2008-2009

- uffca:
 - review ifmp for targeted issues
 - provide info requested by FN for bi-lateral meetings
 - presentations and description of issues to FN and DFO related to ifmp
 - respond to sockeye management plan
 - Early-timed chinook discussion document (ONA & UFFCA): tabled at IHPC
- DFO:
 - provide stock and management info
 - ifmp consultation deck
 - Early-timed chinook discussions

ifmp: 2008 - 2009

- uffca & DFO (and other FN):
 - recognition of ifmp time-period issue
 - chinook management “out of sync” with ifmp time period
 - inclusion of “wiggle-room clause” for potential changes to DFO management plan
- uffca
 - review and question sockeye escapement strategy
 - Chinook discussions
- DFO
 - engage in broad discussions related to sockeye escapement strategy and chinook management

ifmp: 2010

- uffca:
 - review ifmp and work with participants on drafting responses
 - Request specific info from DFO
 - submit letter to dfo
 - request specific stock protection
- DFO:
 - consultation presentations and information
 - respond to letters
 - Early-Stuart window extension for Early Summer concerns

uffca ifmp experience

- in general:
 - big document: not many people read
 - relatively short time-period to review
 - some aspects highly technical and difficult to describe
 - “devil in the details”
 - hard to tell how “input” is incorporated
 - progress: but slow
 - some issues remain unresolved



uffca: next steps

- work closer with FN & DFO on technical and management processes informing ifmp (eg: FRSSI)
 - “joint/co-manage/manage the data”
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uffca: next steps

- tackle unresolved issues
 - conservation and FSC based management strategies
 - plug the data gaps
 - what happens in case of disagreement?
- develop options for working with DFO on “draft” ifmp
- much more discussion...



thank you

- Questions?
- What can we do in the short term?
- How can we improve current practices around existing processes?
- What can we do in the longer term?