

Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance

Sq'epetset Syoyes Sth'o'th'eqwi

“Fishers Working
Together”



Overview of the Organization

Who, Why, Where, What, When, How?

- Funding proposal and concepts started in Oct/Nov 2009 courtesy of Dave Moore, Ken Malloway, Ernie Crey, and Jordan Point (DFO).
- Funded in January 2010 to establish an Interim Coordinating Committee, contract an Interim Coordinator, engage with Leadership and prepare an AAROM proposal for 2010/11.



Why work together?

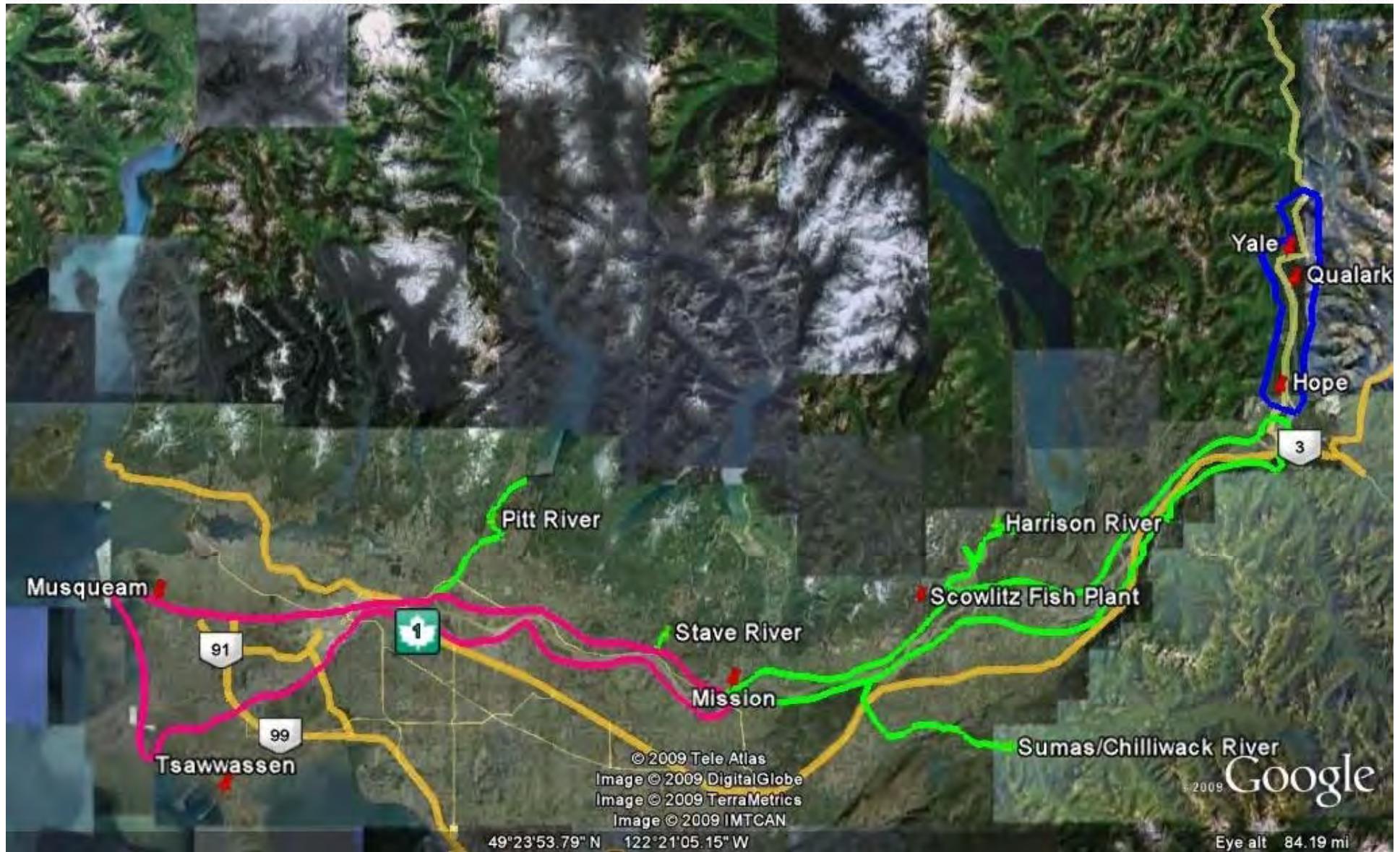
- Not satisfied with DFOs management practices. First Nations wanted change and to be part of the solution.
- Ability to engage more effectively with each other, other FNs, DFO, and Tier 3 (Sport, Commercial, Federal/Provincial governments)
- Strength in unity to address issues collectively



Where?

- FN Communities from the mouth of the Fraser to the Canyon

Lower Fraser Area





Who?

- Participation with LFFA is optional and at the discretion of the Leadership and Community
- An open invitation to FN Communities who access salmon that migrate through the Lower Fraser area



Who?

31 FN Communities 'invited'

Aitchelitz, Chawathil, Cheam, Chehalis, Katzie,
Kwakwa'apilt, Kwantlen, Kwikwetlem,
Leq'a:mel, Matsqui, Musqueam, Peters,
Popkum, Scowlitz, Seabird, Semiahmoo,
Shxwha:y, Shxw'ow'hamel, Skawahlook,
Skowkale, Skwah, Soowahlie, Squiala, Sumas,
Tsawwassen, Tsleil-Waututh, Tzeachten, Union
Bar, Yakweakwioose, Yale, Lilwat Nation



Who today (30 FNS)?

- **Sto:lo Nation (9)** – Aitchelitz, Leqamel, Popkum, Shxwhay, Skwahalook, Skowkale, Squiala, Tzeachten, Yakweakwioose
- **Sto:lo Tribal Council (8)** – Chawathil, Cheam, Kwakwapilt, Kwantlen, Scowlitz, Seabird, Shxwowohamel, Soowahlie
- **Independent Bands (12)** – Chehalis, Katzie, Matsqui, Peters, Sumas, Union Bar, Yale, Kwikwitllem, Skwah, Musqueam, Semiahmoo, Tsawwassen, Tsleil-Waututh



How?

- 2009/10 – Approximately 30k AAROM
- 2010/11 – Approximately 100k AAROM, 95k PICFI, 10k CWT



What is LFFA?

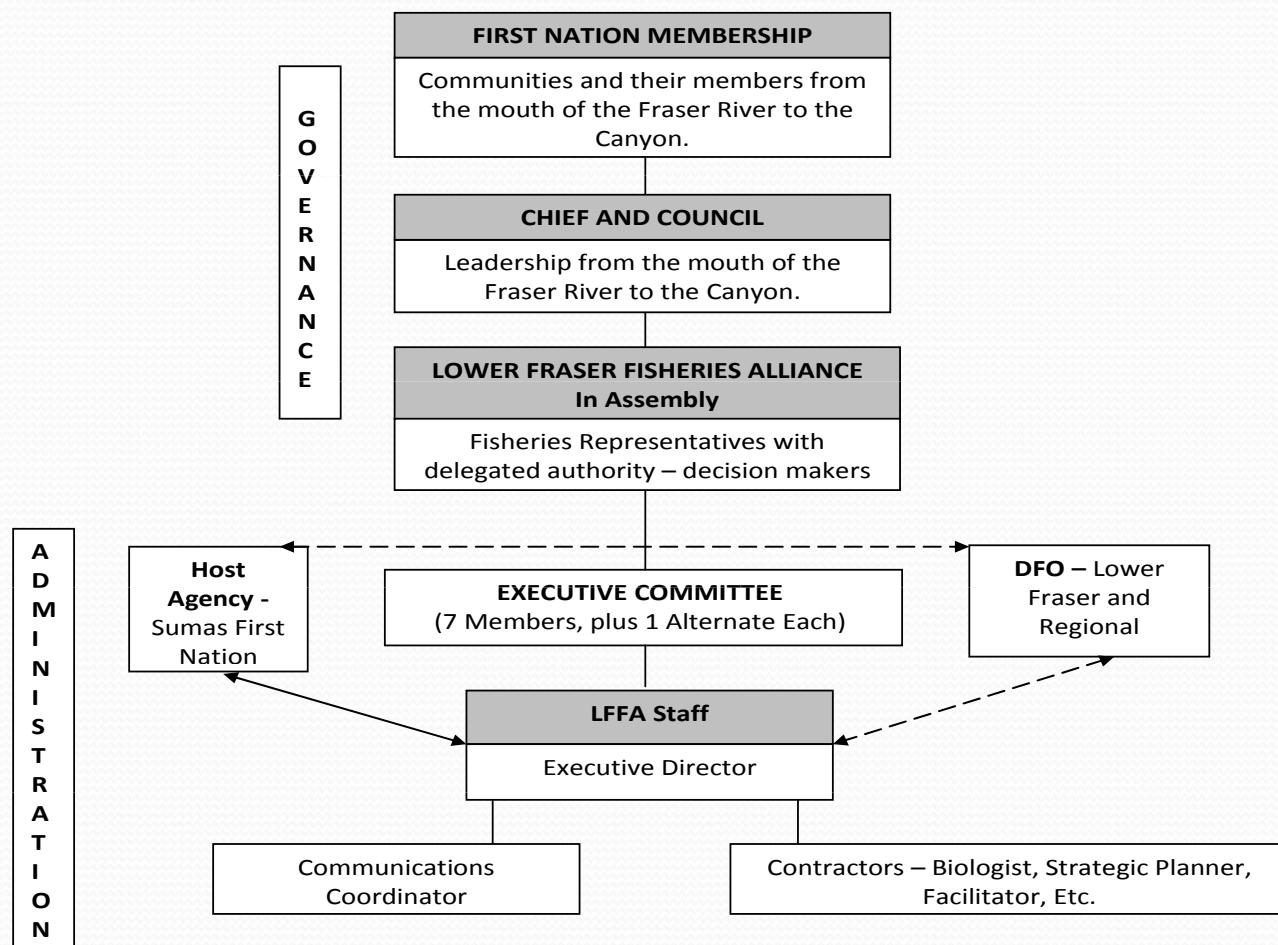
The organization is comprised of:

- 30 FN Communities = 1 Primary and 1 Alternate representative from each
- 7 Primary and Alternate Executive Committee members
- 1 Executive Director, 1 Communications Coordinator
- Contracts have included: Fisheries Biologist, Strategic Planner, Website Developer

Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance (Sq`eptset Syoyes Sth`o'th`eqwi)

Organizational Chart

The LFFA involves the following organizations, each with specific roles and responsibilities. These include the: Sumas First Nation (Host agency); Executive Committee; Executive Director; Communications Coordinator, Contractors and Department of Fisheries and Oceans. See Chart below.





LFFA Executive Committee (EC)

- **Composition** - 2 from Sto:lo Tribal Council, 2 from Sto:lo Nation, 1 Lower Fraser Independent (Mouth to Port Mann), 1 Mid River Independent (Port Mann to Hope), 1 Canyon Independent (Hope to Sawmill Creek)
- **EC members** - Appointed by their respective Tribal organizations or geographical area

Executive Committee members

- **Lower Fraser** – Wayne Sparrow, Alternate: Mike Baird
- **Mid Fraser** – Kim Charlie, Alternate: Kevin Garner
- **Canyon** – Dominic Hope, Alternate: Robert Hope
- **STC** – Ken Malloway, Ernie Crey
 - Alternates: Les Antone, Ernie Victor
- **SN** – Al Jimmie, James Archie
 - Alternates: Bill Rabang, Darrel McKamey



EC Chair / Co-chair

- The EC Chair and Co-chair are appointed by the Executive Committee.
- Ken Malloway (Chair) and Ernie Victor (Co-chair) are tasked with facilitating EC meetings and when necessary LFFA Forum sessions.
- Both have been authorized to represent and speak on behalf of LFFA as directed by the LFFA delegates and Executive Committee.



Executive Committee Tasks

- Coordinate meetings of Lower Fraser communities for info sharing and decision making
- Oversee and direct the Executive Director
- Develop and implement strategic and annual work plans
- Ensure organization is managed effectively and financially accountable
- Report to LFFA delegates and communities



Executive Director

- Reports to the Executive Committee
- Oversees staff and day to day operations of the organization
- Provides technical support to the EC and LFFA
- Liaises with LFFA Leadership and Communities
- Networks with external agencies and First Nations at a technical level
- Coordinates and implements strategic and annual work plan activities



LFFA work plan for 2010/11

- Establish working relationship of the Signatories
- Develop a Tier 1 process (FN to FN)
- Develop governance and administrative structures
- Develop Tier 2, FN to DFO Engagement
- Prepare AAROM funding proposal for 2011/12



2010/11 Achievements

- **Completed and ratified a Statement of Solidarity (MOU)** – This Tier 1 document outlined broad principles of how the FNs work together at a governance level and at the same time respect bilateral (FN to DFO) agreements that FNs have.
- **Completed and ratified Terms of Reference** – Outlined operational details on how the organization and its members function internally.



2010/11 Achievements

- **Developed and completed the LFFA Organizational structure** – Identified clear lines of authority for governance and administration.
- **Engaged with DFO (Tier 2)** – Fisheries and resource management planning for 2010 season.
- **Finalized Funding (AAROM & PICFI) proposal** – Pursued more funds for 2011 LFFA operations.



Did we meet our expectations?

- The AAROM work plan deliverables were achieved.
- Lower Fraser FNs remain committed to working together.
- Discussions with DFO on joint management and other agreements have been initiated.
- Tier 1 to Tier 1 engagements are developing.

2010/11 Expectations Exceeded?

- Pursued and obtained Pacific Integrated Commercial Fisheries Initiative (PICFI) Funding – 95k
 - Employed a term Communications Coordinator to support ED, EC & LFFA
 - Contracted a Fisheries Biologist to assist with scientific technical support.
 - Contracted a consultant to facilitate a 5 year strategic plan.
 - Contracted a web developer to launch an LFFA website.
 - Capital purchases: Office furniture, technology equip.



2010/11 Expectations Exceeded?

- Pursued and obtained Chinook Coded Wire Tag Funding - obtained 10k
- Contracted a Fisheries Biologist, Project Coordinator and EC Liaison to initiate project.
- Includes education and awareness engagement sessions with Lower Fraser fishers, leadership and monitoring programs.



Opportunities

- **DFO demonstrates commitment to joint management with LFFA and other FNS in the Province.**
- **More efficient and cost effective for our Leaders and Communities to address common fishery issues.**
- **Take 'advantage' of FN leadership with corporate memory/experience. Take advantage of 'new' enthusiastic leadership.**



Opportunities

- Share funding and resources rather than compete for them
- Build capacity in the communities and our people
- Work toward co-management of the fishery and resource
- Pursue certainty for fisheries and future generations

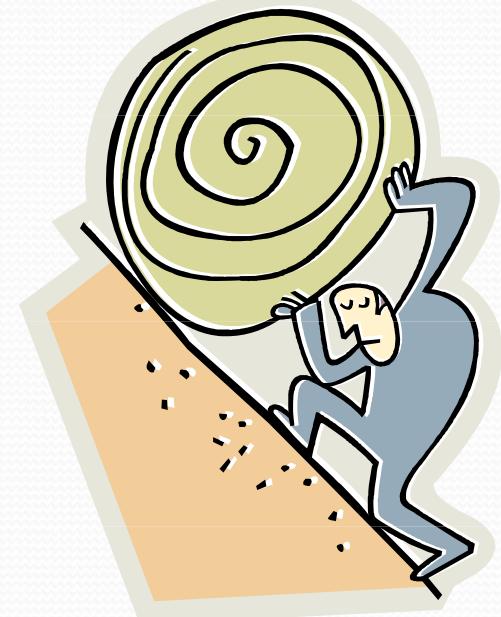


Challenges

- **Maintaining unity and continuity (FN Leadership and DFO staff changes).**
- **Sustainability of LFFA. Funding uncertainty with DFO (AAROM-PICFI) and government resources?**
- **DFO capacity (personnel and resources) to support LFFA and implement initiatives.**

Challenges

- Change in DFO or Government priorities
- Large geographical area to manage and coordinate
- Sharing declining salmon stocks





Work in Progress – 2011/12

- Implement a communications strategy. Ie. Website, e mail distribution, newsletter
- Establish our identity (logo etc) and office location (Sumas FN - host agency)
- Develop an effective engagement process with community members and fishers.
- Establish a legal entity/society



Work in Progress – 2011/12

- Tier 1 Lower Fraser Watershed Agreement - MOU
- Tier 2 – Develop engagement framework to implement agreements with DFO
- Tier 1 to Tier 1 – Develop/formalize agreements with other FN fishery organizations.
- Business Plan development to compliment 5 year strategic plan



Thank You

Comments/questions ?



LOWER FRASER **FISHERIES** **ALLIANCE**