



BC's Northern Interior Forests: Planning for Sustainability in a Dynamic Landscape

April 25th, 2006

Prince George, British Columbia

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Planning and the New Relationship

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Skeena Region

- First Nations represent a high proportion of the population;
- Wet'sewet'en, Gixtsan, Haisla, Nisga'a, Tsimpsian, Tahltan, Kaska, Taku River Tlinget;
- Cassiar Iskut Stikine, Kalum, North Coast, Morice LRMPs;
- Tsimshian Stewardship Committee;
- Kowesas, Dease Liard, and Nass SRMPs, Cranberry LUP;
- “Evolving Relationship”

Tsimshian Stewardship Committee

- G2G forum
- Coalition of FN's communities
- Came out of Kalum LRMP
- Terms of Reference developed jointly
- Evolved to support North Coast LRMP
- Consensus seeking
- Capacity funding provided
- Ongoing G2G relationship

Kowesas SRMP

- Haisla wanted protection and the province wanted continued access to resources, and better relationship between Province, Haisla and West Fraser;
- Recommendation from Kalum LRMP *“Harvesting will be deferred to allow for the joint preparation of a comprehensive resource management plan for Kowesas. Each stage of the planning process will be developed &/ or agreed to through the consensus of all parties involved.”*;
- Haisla partnered in development of ToR and process design;
- Relationship between Province, West Fraser and Haisla is vastly improved.
- Kalum LRMP Selection Committee

Dease Liard SRMP

- Kaska partnership with province to develop one plan
- Capacity provided
- Forest license
- Social choice
- Kaska support for SRMP model
- Commitment to long term relationship around planning
- Meeting on their terms and in their territory
- Geographic scope of project jointly determined
- Outcomes jointly developed
- Consensus reached on all elements of the plan
- Kaska publicly refer to Dease Liard as “their” plan

Gitanyow/Nass SRMP

- Gitanyow very interested in planning
- Partnership established
- Early involvement in process design
- MoF and ILMB working together
- Capacity provided
- Supports SRMP model
- Builds on Cranberry planning process
- Provide Gitanyow substantial say in how resources across their territory are managed
- Ability to make social choices

Proposed Tahltan LUP

- Engaged early
- Full partnership
- Interagency team (ILMB, MARR, MEMPR, MECDEV, MoF)
- Sought out their perspectives (Reports, Web)
- Direct about provincial interests (i.e. increased mineral development)
- Adjusted process to meet Tahltan needs
- Open to “updating” CIS LRMP
- Capacity
- Joint development of project charter
- Proposing to hire Tahltan as auxiliary

New Relationship and Planning

- Key conditions for a **trusting** relationship:
 - Listen like you mean it
 - Collaboration on problem solving
 - Collective decision making
 - FN incentive
 - Respect
 - FN is willing and motivated
 - Direct
 - FN decision making system is functional
 - Transparency

New Relationship and Planning

- Key elements of a planning process:
 - Recognize FN as a government
 - Social choice
 - Partnership
 - Capacity funding
 - Early involvement
 - Joint process design
 - Joint project planning
 - Joint decisions on process lead to easier content negotiations
 - Commitment to long term relationship around planning
 - Hire FNs rep onto project team
 - ILMB conduit to other natural resource agencies

Emerging issues / Challenges

- Expectations have increased dramatically
- Shared decision making
- Revenue sharing
- Requires greater interagency coordination
- MARR/ILMB coordinate
- Capacity funding
- Staff resources – enough? the right skill set?
- Existing land use plans with no FNs participation