

Evolving Co-Management Practice: Community-Based Environmental Monitoring with Tl'azt'en Nation on the John Prince Research Forest



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Community-Based Environmental Monitoring

- Community-based environmental monitoring (CBEM) is an approach to achieving effective co-management that uses bottom-up, community centered methods to translate local values and beliefs into formal monitoring frameworks that contribute to improved management practices
- Through CBEM, First Nation communities can realize local visions of environmental health and contribute to the sustainable management of resources through culturally relevant means
- CBEM builds communities into the co-management framework as an essential component of the feedback loop that informs current and future management decisions
- CBEM can utilize indigenous and scientific knowledge in a complimentary manner; co-production of knowledge can generate a more holistic understanding of the environment with benefits to co-management (Berkes 1999)

Tl'azt'en Environmental Monitoring



Tl'azt'en environmental measures of co-management success are being developed for 5 focal plant and animal species representative of traditional use activities. These traditional use activities and representative species are:



Research Objectives

Our principal objective is to develop and apply community-based methods that will allow us to identify and evaluate Tl'azt'en measures of environmental health and sustainability. Through a case study with Tl'azt'en Nation and the John Prince Research Forest (JPRF), we will:

- develop and evaluate a community-based process for identifying Tl'azt'en environmental measures of co-management success;
- identify Tl'azt'en environmental measures for 5 plant and animal species that will contribute to the development of a Tl'azt'en CBEM system;
- work with Team members to pilot and evaluate a proposed CBEM framework for select Tl'azt'en measures of environmental health and sustainability; and,
- assess the challenges and opportunities involved in community-based environmental monitoring and recommend improvements for future projects.

Research Design

Participatory Research Framework & Tl'azt'en Environmental Measures Development Process

This collaborative research project with Tl'azt'en Nation uses participatory research methods and seeks to develop an integrative, adaptable framework for applying indigenous and scientific knowledge in community-based environmental monitoring.

Participatory Research Framework

