



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

Deanna Yim, Erin Sherry, and Chris Johnson



**Who is the UNBC graduate student leading this research project?**



Hi, my name is Deanna Yim and I am really looking forward to working with the community on this project this summer.

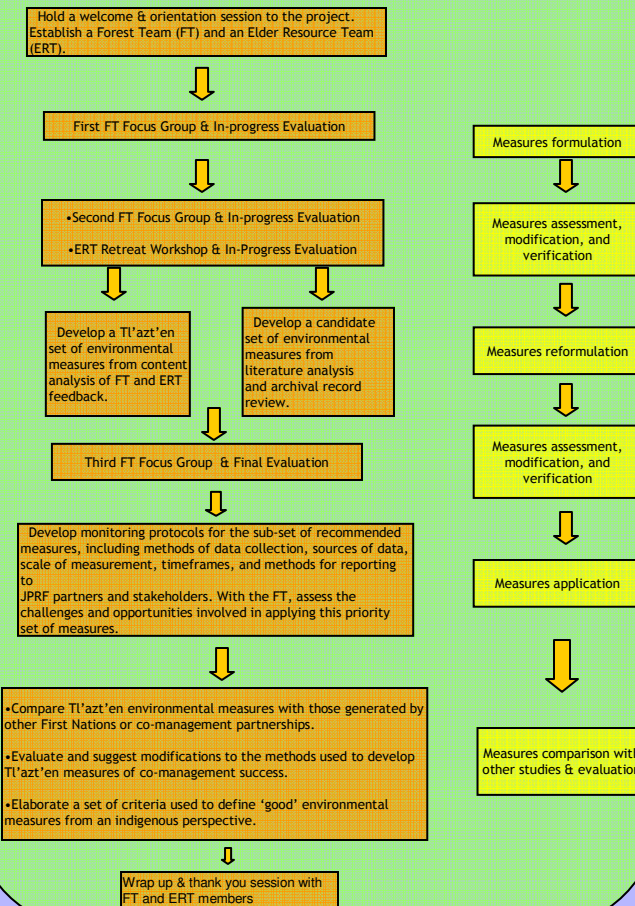
## Study Overview

This research will develop community-based environmental monitoring methods and Tl'azt'en measures of environmental sustainability for a specific plant or animal in each of the following traditional land use activities: hunting, trapping, fishing, medicinal plant gathering, and berry harvesting. I will partner with members of Tl'azt'en Nation and the John Prince Research Forest (JPRF) and use these measures to develop a community-based environmental system.



## Research Framework & Measure Development Process

This collaborative research partnership with Tl'azt'en Nation uses participatory research methods and an integrative, adaptable framework to apply indigenous and scientific knowledge to community-based environmental monitoring.



## Study Objectives

This case study supports meaningful local involvement and gives voice, respect, and legitimacy to the traditional knowledge and values of Tl'azt'en Nation, to address the following objectives:

- ▶ **Measures formulation:** develop a community-based process for identifying Tl'azt'en environmental measures; as well as, Tl'azt'en environmental values and expectations for their co-managed JPRF;
- ▶ **Measures assessment:** define a framework to assess and screen measures of co-management success from an indigenous perspective;
- ▶ **Measures application:** collaboratively apply a priority set of Tl'azt'en measures and assess the challenges and opportunities involved;
- ▶ **Comparison with other studies:** compare Tl'azt'en measures with other community-based environmental monitoring programs, including First Nations and non-First Nations initiatives; and,
- ▶ **Methodological evaluation:** evaluate and assess the challenges and opportunities involved in community-based environmental monitoring efforts and recommend improvements for future projects.

**Acknowledgements:** The authors thank Bev Leon, Amelia Stark, Sue Grainger, Dexter Hodder, and the Tl'azt'en Nation for their valuable contributions and support. Research is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada through their Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) program, and the BC Real Estate Foundation Partnering Fund Grant. Photos were provided by Sue Grainger, Dexter Hodder, Sarah Quinn, Stevie Anatole, and the Tl'azt'en Nation Production Research Assistants.