

Traditional Knowledge, Cultural Values and Governance in the Lower Lower Fraser River (Canada)

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Source: side scan sonar surveys presentation (2015)

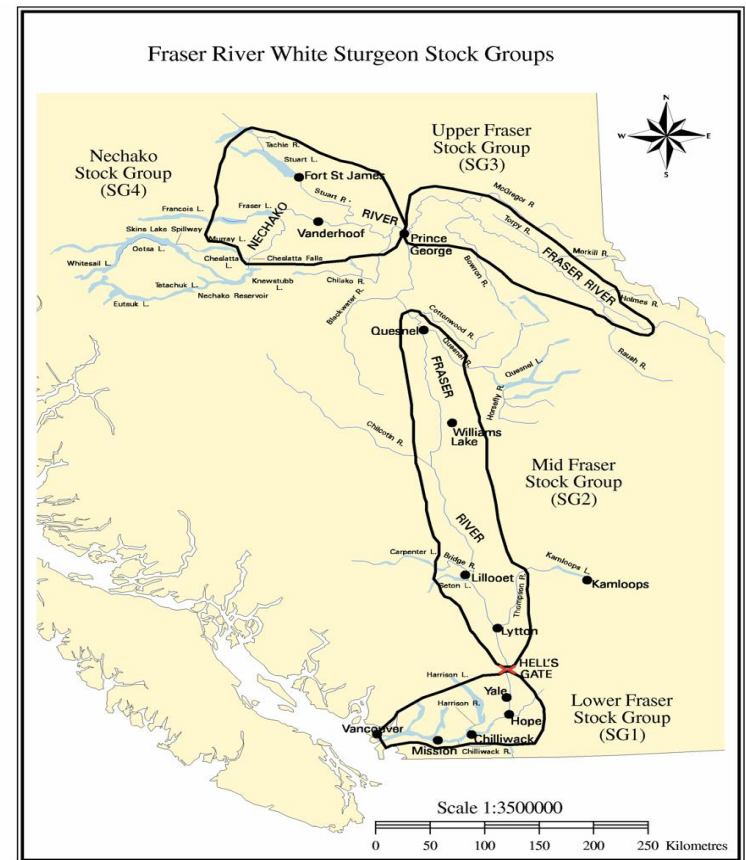
Purpose

Exploring the role of traditional knowledge and cultural values in decision-making about the sustainability of “threatened”, culturally significant fish in the Lower Fraser River (Canada).

...The case of the White Sturgeon.

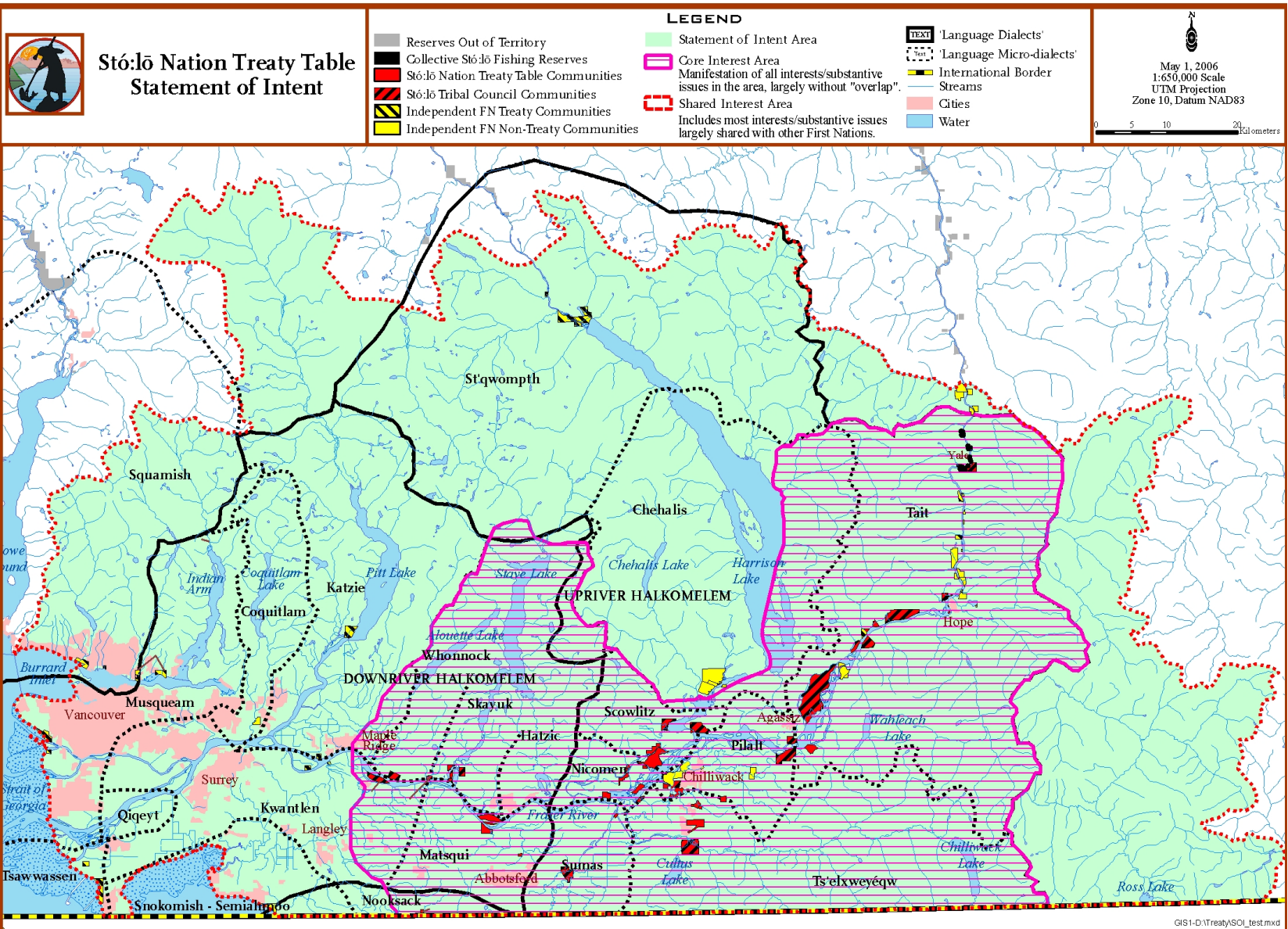


Lower Fraser River area



Source: Fraser River White Sturgeon Conservation Plan (2005)

S'ólh Téméxw and Stó:lō communities



Conclusion

- Stó:lo people sustainably harvested Sturgeon for generations & have been lobbying for greater involvement in decision making for over 100 years
- TEK and Cultural Values are at the periphery, currently not driving decisions
- Information generated through scientific monitoring and economics are driving decision-making related to conservation of White Sturgeon

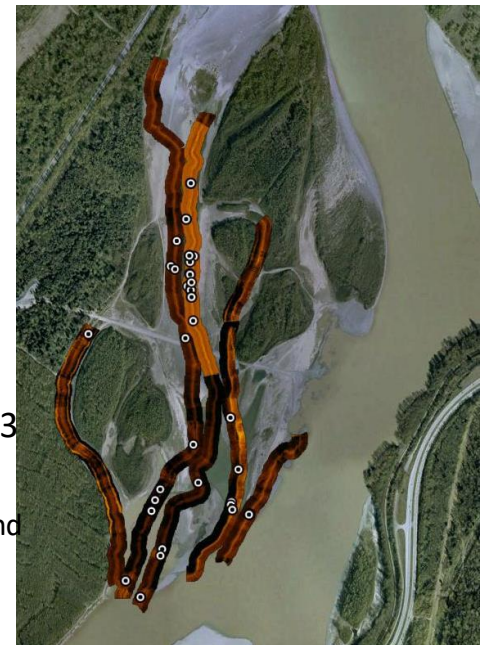


Catch and release sport fishery



Alfred Cline, Joe and Ed Louie posing with six Fraser Sturgeon

Source: Chilliwack museum archives PP500683



40 large sturgeon mostly upstream of gravel access road, similar to detections in 2013 and 2014

Source: Seabird Island side scan sonar surveys (2015)

KNOWLEDGE CO-PRODUCTION AND POWER SHARING

Increase the role of Stó:lō people in processes that generate knowledge that informs decision making (Assessment, monitoring) and enables local enforcement

INSTITUTION BUILDING TO ACHIEVE SOCIAL LEARNING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

Stó:lō participation in future RAP and Recovery Teams can increase the influence TEK and Cultural values have in shaping conservation ethics, management objectives and approaches for White Sturgeon

Co-management offers an approach to achieve mutually linked goals of biological and cultural conservation

AN ONGOING PROCESS AND CONTINUOUS PROBLEM SOLVING

SARA frameworks provide opportunities for long term involvement and joint decision – making instead of “consultation”

BRIDGING ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIGENOUS LEADERSHIP

Elevate the role of Aboriginal organizations to provide leadership among interest groups