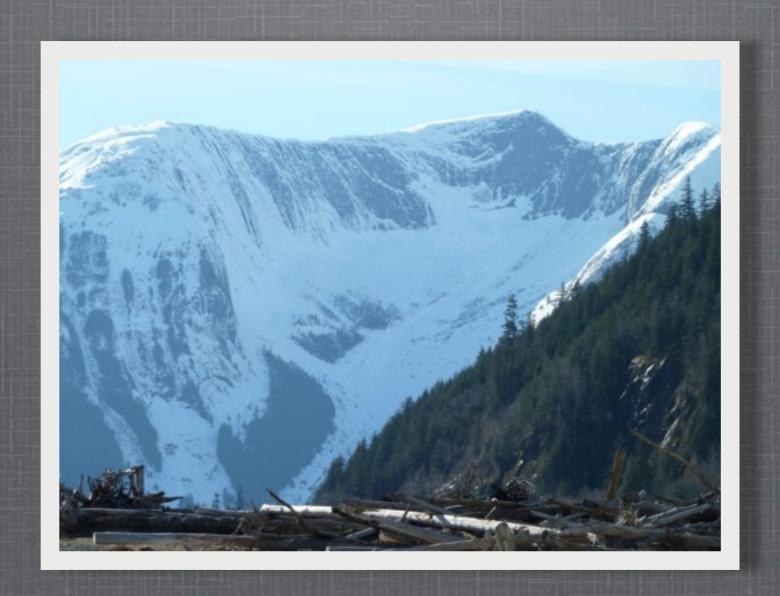
## Climate Change Adaptation Planning for Northwest Skeena Communities



Presented to Terrace City Council April 26, 2011

#### Funded by:

~ The Future Forest Ecosystem Scientific Council

#### Project Leaders:

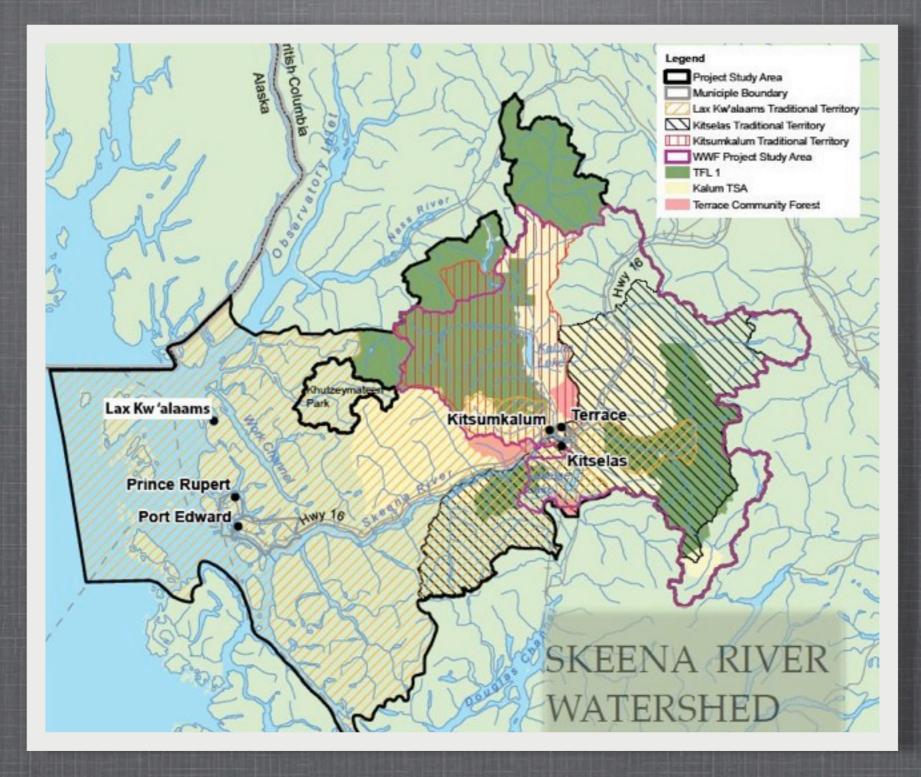
- ~ Coast Tsimshian Resources, LP
- ~ Brinkman Forest Ltd

#### Research Partners & Advisors:

- ~ World Wildlife Fund, Canada
- ~ UBC Dept of Sociology
- ~ UBC Dept of Forestry
- ~ ESSA Technologies Ltd
- ~ Cortex Consultants
- ~ Environment Canada
- ~ BC Ministry of Environment
- ~ BC Ministry of Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations



#### PROJECT STUDY AREA



The larger FFESC study area encompasses the SRWCP study area (TFL #1 Watershed)

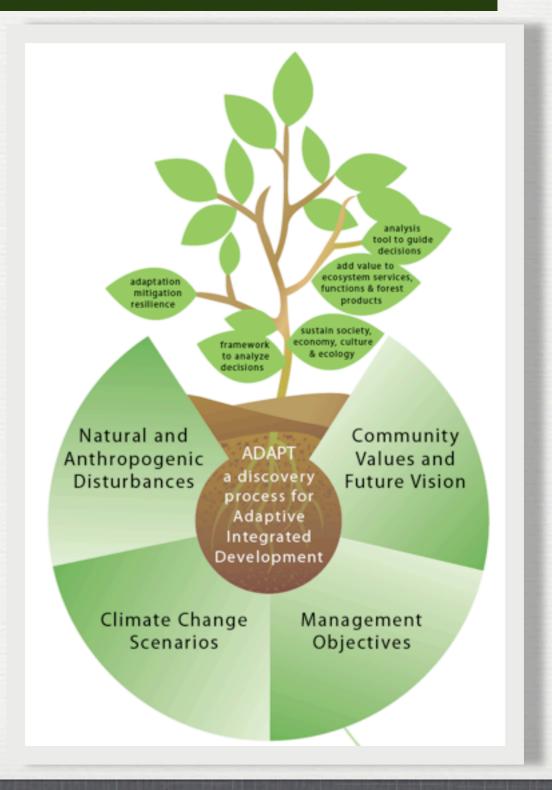


#### Research Questions

- What are the potential impacts of different climate and land-use scenarios on the water, fisheries, forest and non-timber forest values and resources of the NW Skeena region?
- How could climate change impact the cultural, social, and economic values of communities and stakeholders?
- What is the capacity for communities and stakeholders to mitigate and adapt to potential climate change scenarios?
- How could natural resource and land management be restructured to promote ecosystem resilience while optimizing opportunities for cultural sustainability and socio-economic development in light of potential climate change impacts?

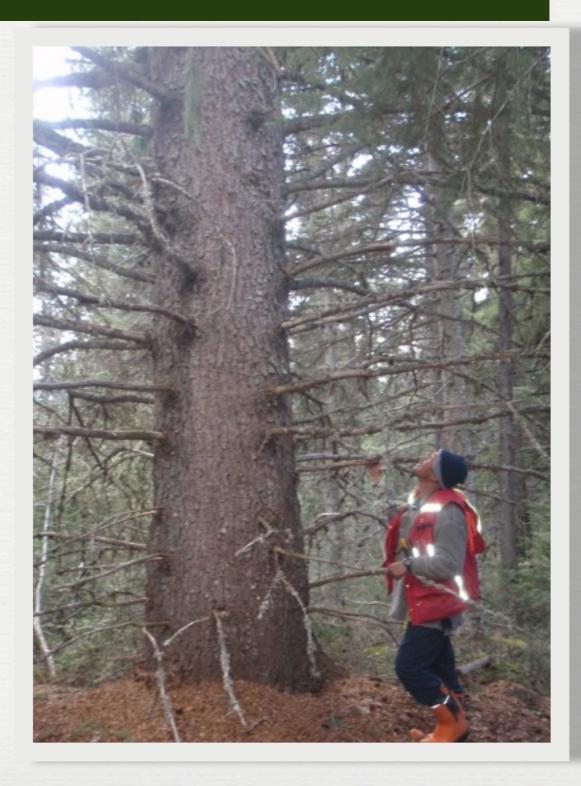
### PROJECT COMPONENTS

- Sociological Research
- Vegetation Modelling
- Fisheries SensitiveWatershed MonitoringFramework
- Community Engagement
- Cumulative Effects
   Analysis (through coordination with SRWCP)



#### Sociological Research

- 40 + interviews with leaders, residents, business owners, and decision makers across 4 communities
- Identify community values and assess institutional capacity to adapt to climate change
- Inform direction of biophysical modelling based on community values
- Compare traditional ecological knowledge with model results

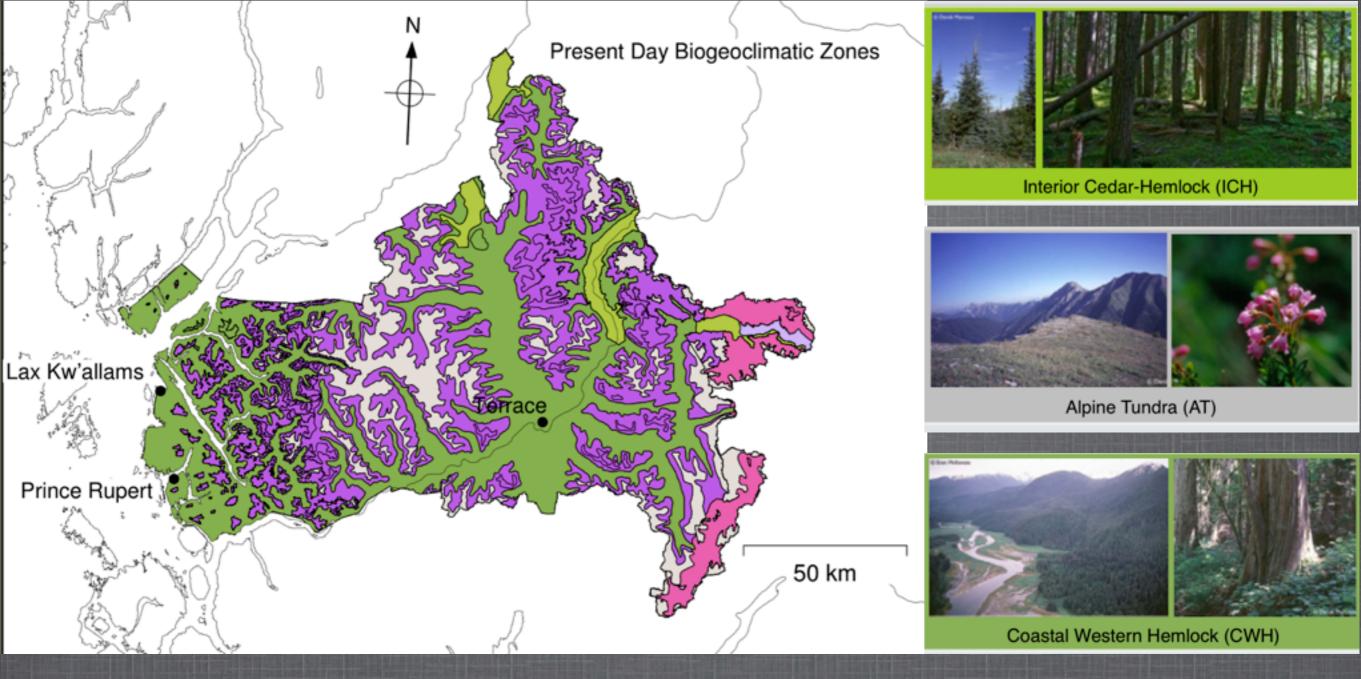


#### Vegetation and Climate Modelling



Predicting forest fire severity and frequency under alternative climate change scenarios is one potential application of the LPJ-Guess Model.

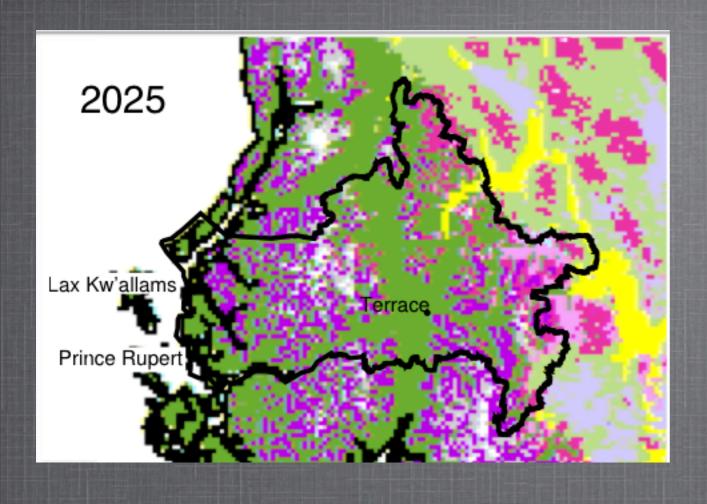
- Use climate scenarios and biogeoclimatic zone mapping in combination with LPJ-Guess model to predict future vegetation growth
- Defines limiting conditions of 19 tree species for the Skeena region
- Where possible, modelling of specific values, resources and regions based on sociological research findings
- Possible outputs include: future forest species and composition, carbon accounting, harvested wood and standing volume, natural disturbance levels, runoff, projections for non-timber forest products

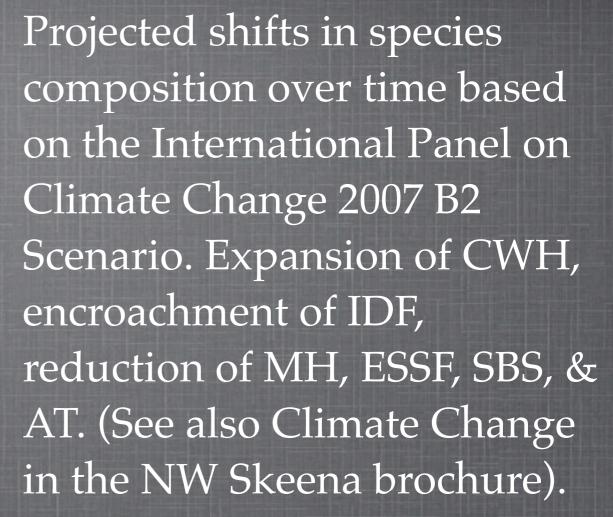


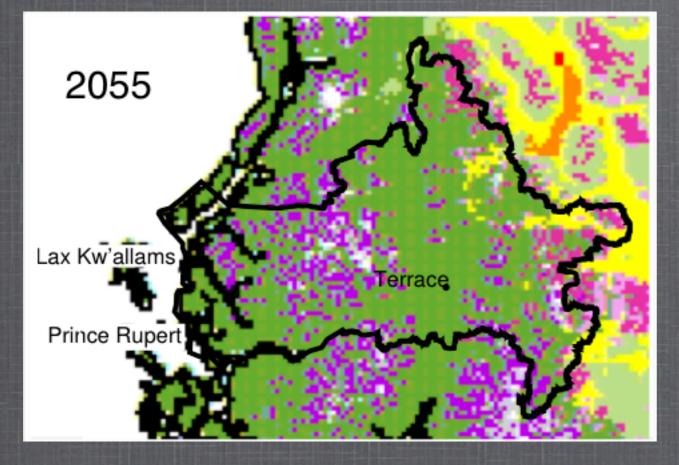


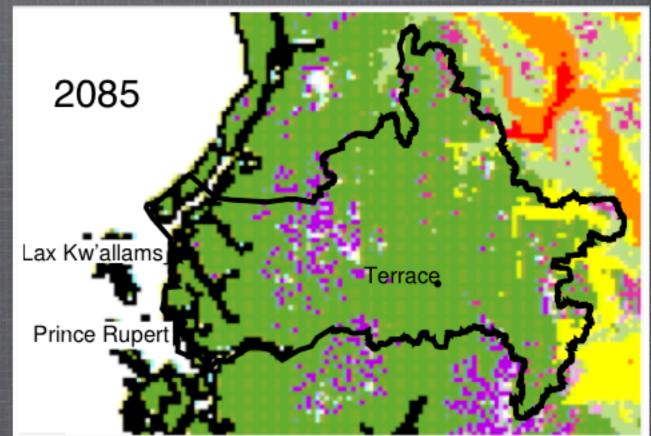












# Fisheries Sensitive Watershed Monitoring Framework

FFESC funding enables the addition of climate change factors into monitoring framework being developed to test effectiveness of FSW designation and regulated management strategies in cooperation with MOE & NR Canada

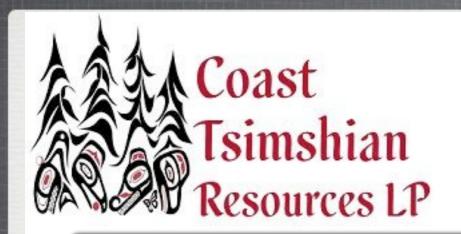
Compile baseline data in Lakelse Watershed

Discussions underway to engage students from NWCC in training and monitoring as summer employment

## Community Engagement

- Scenario planning with advisors and interested parties, identified through sociological research
- Tools for adaptation planning developed in collaboration with community representatives
  - Community Workshops to share and review results
  - Opportunities for future partnerships





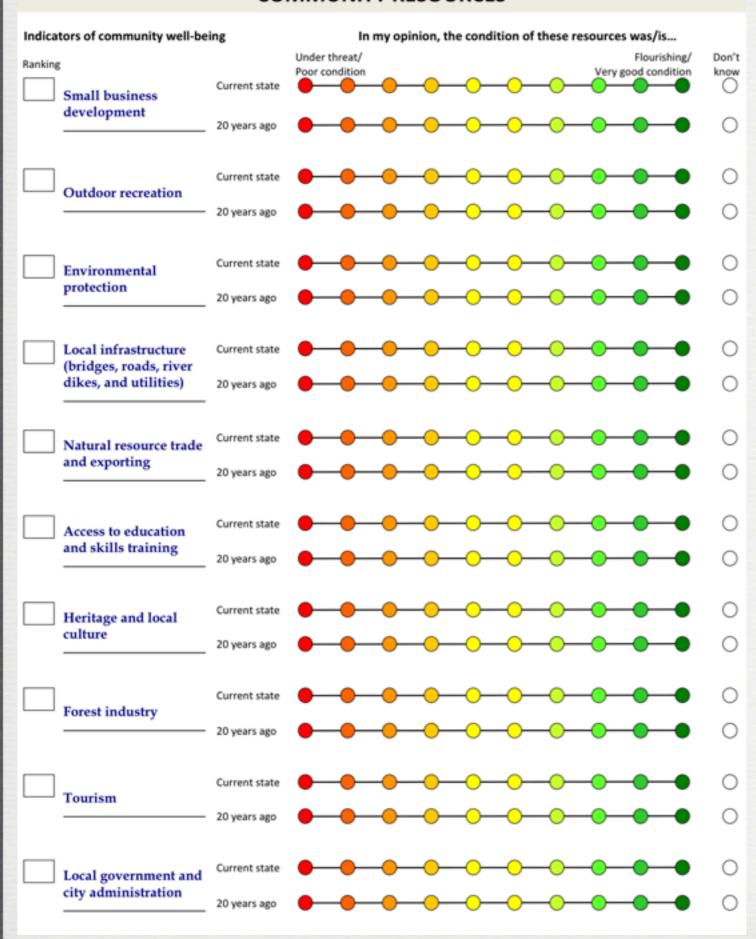
## How will CTR use this information?

- Policy-relevant information to encourage restructuring of land management policies in support of adaptive, integrated management that is economically and environmentally viable
- Baseline information to assess effectiveness of operational decisions with respect to longterm sustainability
- Planning for investment and development of non-timber forest products, including carbon sequestration and bio-energy
- Scenarios used to explore integrated management of multiple resources
- A forum for community discussion around natural resources including but not limited to timber.

#### How will community and stakeholders benefit?

- Results of sociological, FSW, and vegetation modelling prepared and presented to all participants in various formats (maps, illustrations, reports, digital media, interactive workshops)
- Access to range of data useful for future planning and identification of impacts and opportunities related to climate change
- · Project website and database of information for public use
- Sustainability matrices illustrating priorities and perceived conditions of community and environmental resources (see next slides)
- Knowledge and gap analysis to guide future regional work that will benefit the community

#### **COMMUNITY RESOURCES**



Understanding how different individuals and organizations perceive and rank community resources is a central part of the research project. This information can also be used to identify focus areas for future planning based on community values.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES** Resources important for well-being of the region In my opinion, the condition of these resources was/is... Under threat/ Ranking Very good condition Poor condition Mushrooms Salmon Forest health and diversity Rivers and waterways Oolichan Berries Timber Supply Drinking water Animals and wild game

Identifying environmental resources considered important to local communities will help to direct scientific modelling and the production of policy relevant research for integrated and adaptive management. The findings from the 'matrix' will be brought back to the community and discussed, along with possible action plans, during an interactive workshop.

