



Mountain Pine Beetle & the current governance conundrum

A Perspective from the Upper Fraser Fisheries Conservation
Council

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Acknowledgments

- Dr. Dave Levy, UFFCA
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- The 25 Communities of the UFFCA

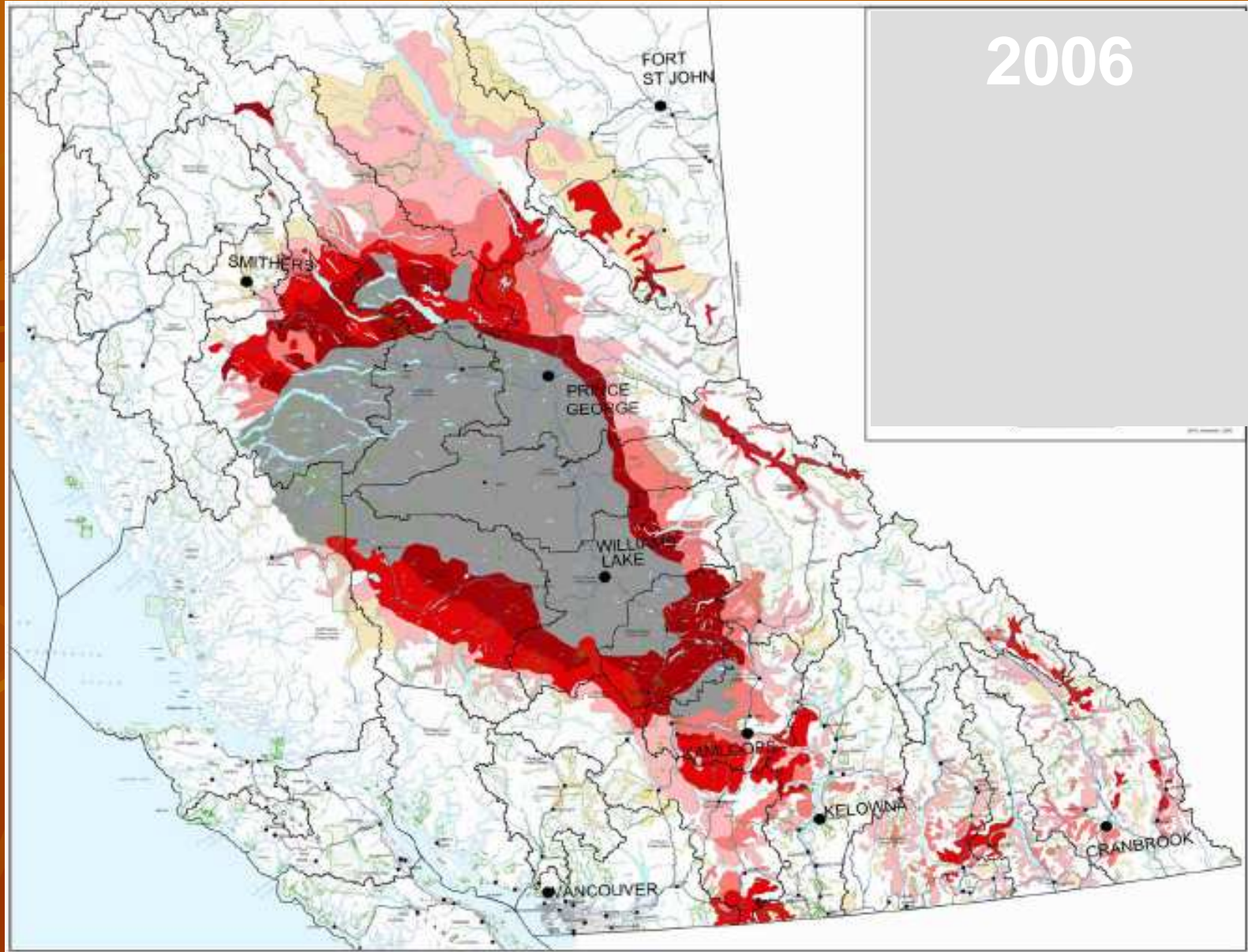
The Problem

- Our Never ending search for efficiency, speed, and productivity causes over specialization and fragmentation of knowledge, reduces the availability of general expertise, thus ingenuity supply within our management elites – Thomas Homer Dixon
- The Pathology of Intensity – the single minded over extension of a good thing – Edward Tenner

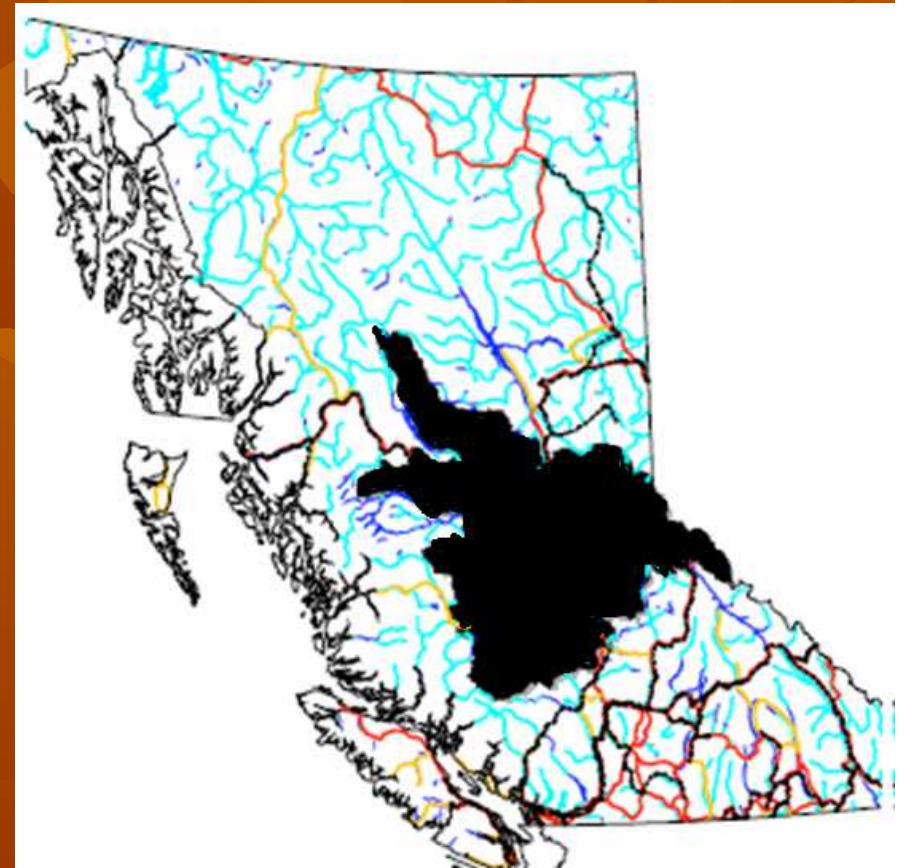
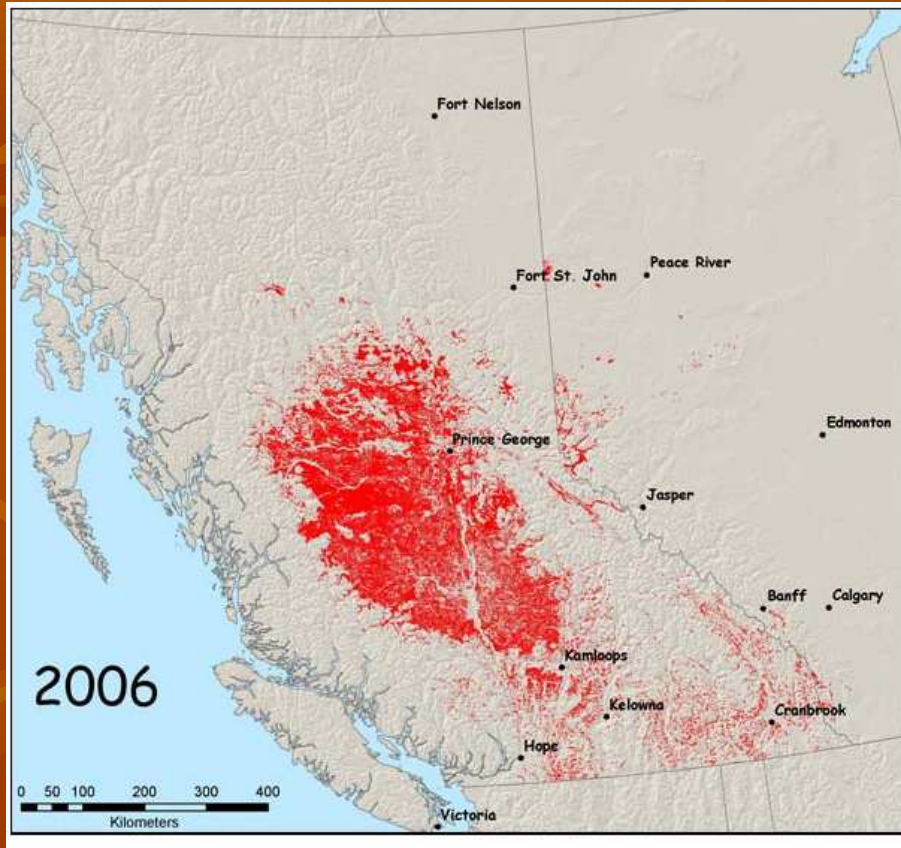
The Problem

- Therein lies the irony of ecological resilience; on the one hand it provides a buffer for incomplete knowledge, therefore allowing experiment and recovery, but on the other hand it also exacts few penalties fast enough on the greedy or stupid – Buzz Holling

2006



UFFCA – MPB Overlap



The Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic

- The epidemic has increased since 1999 and is the largest outbreak recorded history.
- By 2013 the MPB is predicted to have killed 80% of BC 12 million hectares of the pine forest
- There appears to be no climactic or physical barriers to the beetles spread into Alberta
- Is linked to climate change

The Mountain Pine Beetle Epidemic

- Cutting allowance extended from 21.5 cubic meters to 33.2 cubic meters
- Fall down projection 13 – 16 cubic meters
- Pine salvage decline after 2011
- Loss of habitat not just for fish but all animals
- Impact on lakes, streams, rivers, and watersheds
- Loss of fish stocks
- Impact on natural air filter

The Payers

- Environment Canada, Parks Canada, western Economic Diversification, INAC, DFO, Ministry of the Environment, MOF, other various provincial agencies, universities, industry, etc..
- Pacific Salmon Foundation, Fraser Salmon and Watersheds Program, AAROM, PICFI, regional Aboriginal fisheries programs and agencies etc...

The Key Players

- The role and mandate of the MOE is as the primary responsibility for ecological restoration and mitigation of impacts in Parks, inventory and research
- DFO sees the MPB issue as having clear connections to the salmon stocks, fisheries management, and Aboriginal fisheries linked to the WSP, SARA, and the ocean environment

The Silo Affect

- Clearly all groups with an interest in this issue can not act in isolation.
- Simply hearing all concerns from all of the sectors, i.e. government, First Nations, Industry, NGO's, and citizens is not enough
- This issue is complex and involves science, governments emotions, multiple jurisdictions and tradeoffs
- The work will need to be coordinated across jurisdictions in order to make the best use of resources
- Currently decisions are too centralized with information flowing upward not horizontally

Mountain Pine Beetle and the need for a planning framework

- Salmon provide an opportunity to horizontally integrate because so many different groups and people have an interest in this resource
- Currently no integrated strategic planning framework
- Scarce resources: monetary (investment in innovation), human, ingenuity, information, government innovation, research and education etc...

Mountain Pine Beetle and the need for a planning framework

- The UFFCA encompasses over 25 First nations communities
- Most have spawning habitat for sockeye and chinook stocks
- The UFFCA is divided into 5 sub-regions which have pink salmon, coho, chinook, and sockeye
- Many if not all of these stocks are in a serious state of decline
- UFFCA First Nations have an inextricable link to the fish for their health and survival

Mountain Pine Beetle and the need for a planning framework

- Clearly FN want to be a part of the solution and with capacity and knowledge need to be involved
- The need for integrated management to meet multiple objectives
- There is a need for, coordinating, consolidation, storage, sharing and communicating information, research, and data

Mountain Pine Beetle and the need for a planning framework

- With leaner governments, organizations and groups will need to coordinate activities, seek partnerships and draw linkages to all disciplines
- Currently there are competing solutions, constraints, politics and climate change.
- How to coordinate, control, communicate and manage the inter-relations to achieve desired multiple objectives

Mountain Pine Beetle and the need for a planning framework

- Science should not be the lead in this coordination process; it should not decide on things like cultural values, or industry involvement, or the role of socio economic analysis and the role of FN
- How will this region decide on who will lead?
- First Nations organizations like the UFFCA are well situated to take on this role...why?

Mountain Pine Beetle and the need for a planning framework

- Has developed strategic plan
- Accountable
- Holistic approach
- Not so interest based or narrowly focused as government agencies
- Less hierarchal
- Regionally based
- Well connected particularly with First Nations communities and Tribal organizations within the UFFCA area

Observations and Conclusions

- The public, by in large, does not feel their interests are being addressed
- The current milieu seems to be about engaging multiple interests in multi-sector processes to appear to better meet the public interest which is, in many ways does not mesh with that of the lead agencies
- Monetary resources being funneled away from the lead government agencies, i.e. MOE and DFO to 3rd party organizations

Observations and Conclusions

- While the lead agencies are supporting 3rd party groups to bring the players together, and to some degree, the latitude to make decisions they (lead agencies) are still trying to exert their own primary goals and objectives
- Its about allocating resources while devolving the role of government
- Clearly taking a regionally based approach is key to success, but what and how do we saw up the province, on what basis?

Observations and Conclusions

- Distribution of people vs. fish and fish habitat
- Distribution of resources based on fish values
- Distribution by representative input reflecting the different views from the different regions, i.e. AAROM as a starting point

Observations and Conclusions

- The new relationship is about encouraging long-term sustainability, FN economic self-sufficiency, developing strong partnerships by:
 1. Creation of new institutions/bodies
 2. Sustainable land and resource development
 3. Shared decisions making
 4. Shared benefits
 5. Hope for all British Columbians

Observations and Conclusions

- Increased opportunities to work within the AAROM regions:
 1. Capacity increased over past 15 years
 2. Labour market mobility in the regions
 3. PICFI, WSP, and AFS
 4. New models for governing being developed
 5. Creation of new structures based on logic models, accountability, and transparency

Observations and Conclusions

- Establish working committee
- Mandates, mandates, mandates
- Public awareness
- Outcome based