



Ministry of
Forests, Lands and
Natural Resource Operations



Overview of B.C.'s Cumulative Effects Framework

Cumulative Impacts Research Consortium Workshop
University of Northern BC
October 2-3, 2015

Resource Stewardship Division, FLNR

Defining Cumulative Effects



What are Cumulative Effects?

Changes to environmental, social and economic values caused by the combined effect of past, present and proposed activities and events.

What is the Problem?

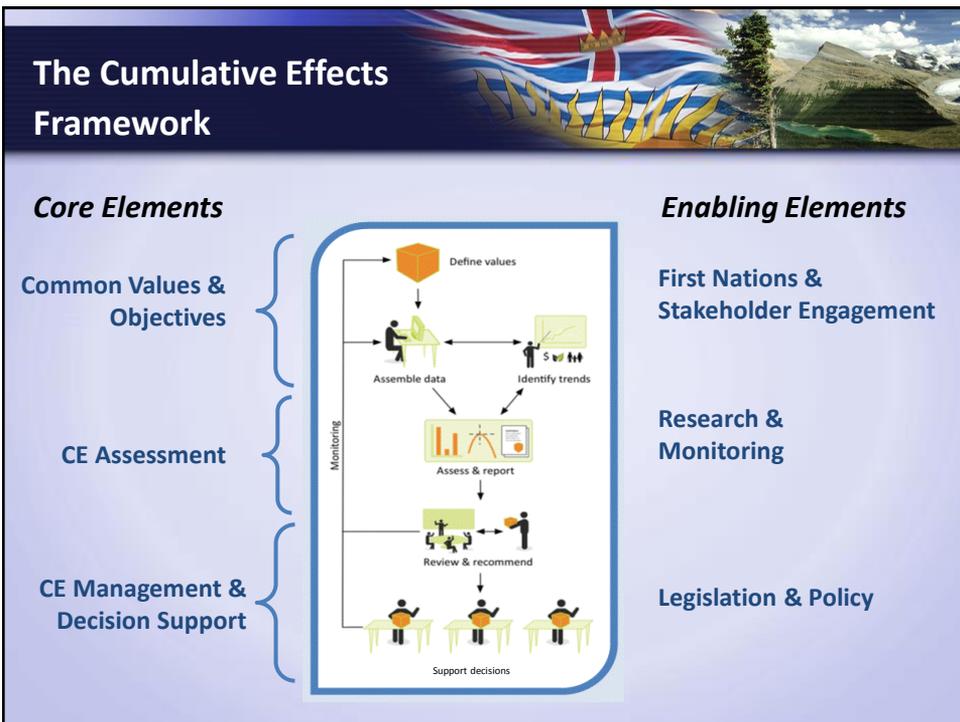
Considering only project or sector specific effects allows **unintended** impacts to accumulate over time.

Cumulative Effects Framework Objectives

- Improve ability to manage for desired outcomes for values
- Support assessment of impacts to First Nations rights and interests
- Support efficient, streamlined decision-making
- Support durable, transparent decisions







Values

Criteria for Selection

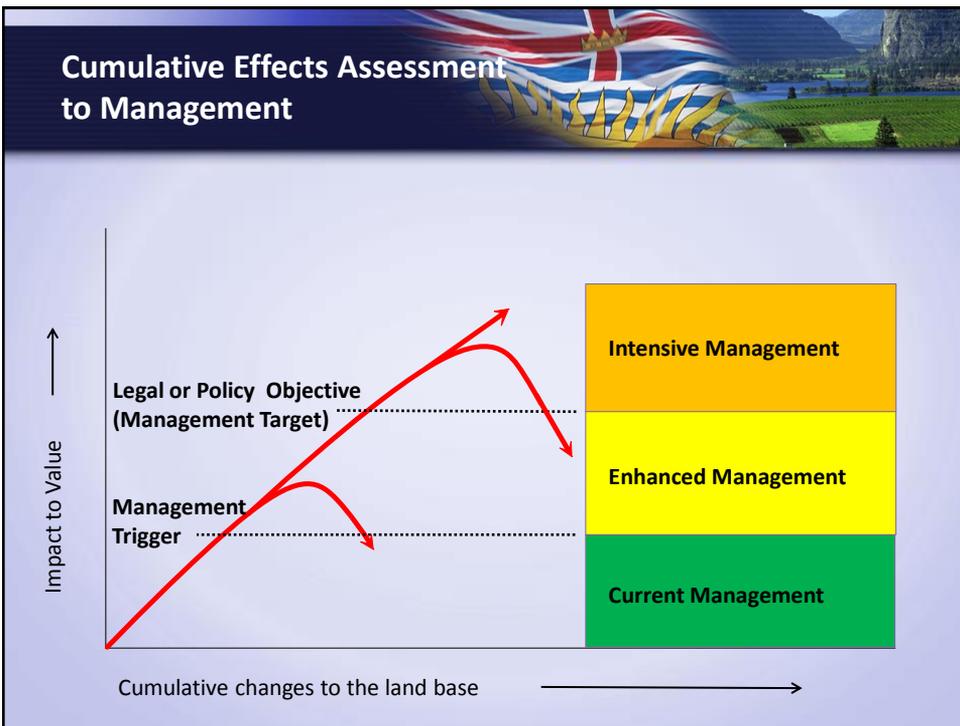
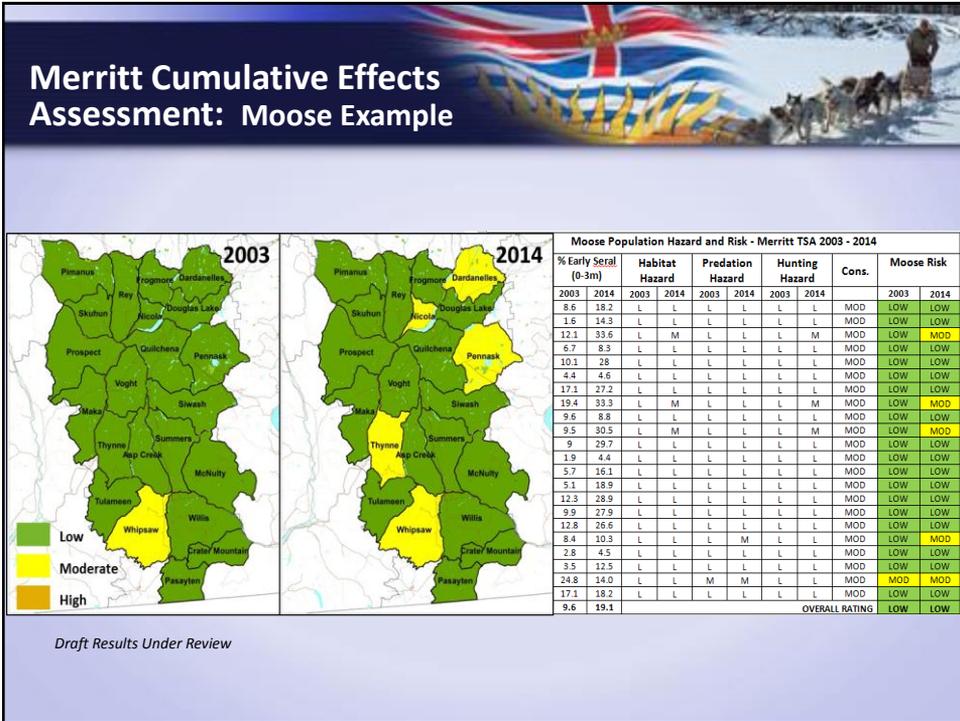
- Existing Objectives (Legal & Policy)
- Support for Aboriginal/Treaty Right
- Coarse filter/represents nested values
- Spatially mappable
- Available data

Initial Values

- **Forest Ecosystem Biodiversity**
- *seral distribution, old growth*
- **Aquatic Ecosystems**
- *watersheds, riparian*
- **Water Quantity and Quality**
- **Priority Fish and Wildlife Species**
- *Caribou, moose, grizzly, deer*
- Air Quality
- Cultural Heritage
- **Visual Quality**
- Resource Capability (e.g. timber)
- Economic & Social Wellbeing

Cumulative Effects Assessment: Reporting Units

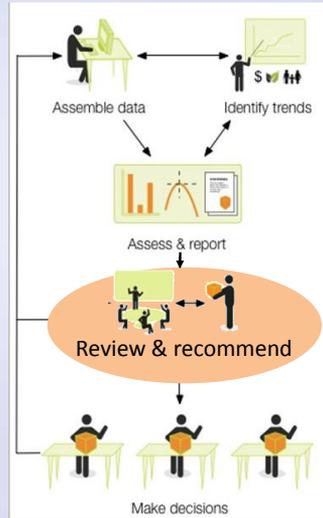
Regional Scale



Cumulative Effects Management

Regional Interagency Committee

- Review CEA Reports
- Engage with First Nations and stakeholders on CEA results & options
- Recommend management actions to mitigate risks
 - Internal facing recommendations
 - External facing recommendations



Communicating Information and Supporting Decision Making

Value	Component	Current Condition 2012		Future Condition 2022	
		Risk	Trend	Risk	Trend
Male Deer	Habitat	High	↓	Moderate	↑
Visual Quality	Visual Quality	Moderate	↑	High	↑
Grizzly Bear	Mortality	High	↑	High	↑
Timber Capability	THLB	Moderate	↑	Moderate	↑



Strategic Decisions

- Informing resource plans, refining objectives
- Resource allocation (e.g. timber, wildlife)
- Priorities for monitoring, research & inventory



Operational Decisions

- Major Projects
- Authorizations / permits

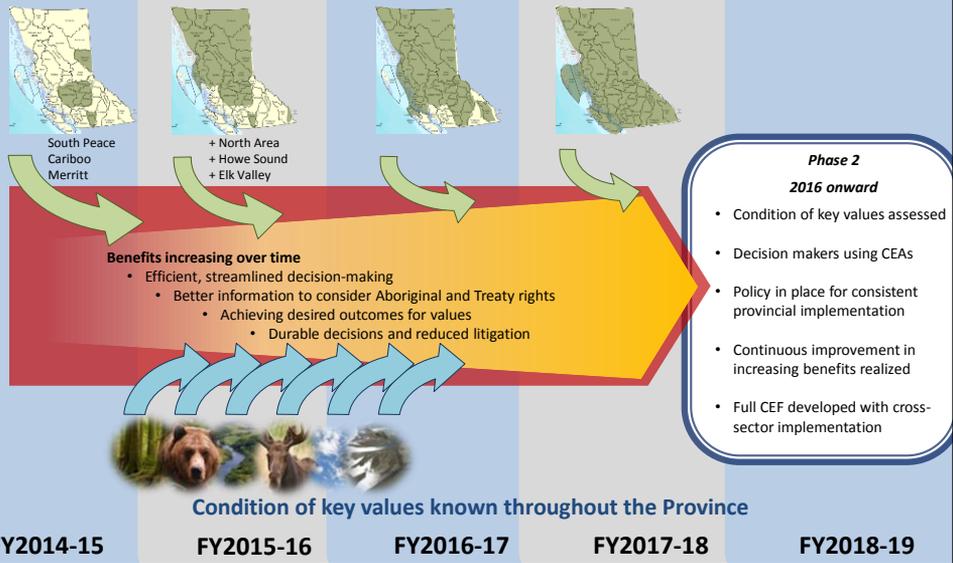


First Nation Rights & Interests

- Hunting, Fishing
- Cultural Use

Realizing Benefits from CEF Implementation

Regional Cumulative Effects Assessments (CEA) implemented in Decision-Making



For More Information

www2.gov.bc.ca > [Business](#) > [Natural Resource Industries](#) > [Doing Business](#)

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