

# Nutsumat kws yaay'us tthqa'

“We come together as a whole to work together to be stronger as partners for the watershed”

Dr. Shannon Tania Waters, MD, MHSc, FRCPC

National Collaborating Centre for Indigenous Health Webinar

March 10, 2022

# Shxunutun's Tu Suleluxwtst

Figure 3: Landscape Areas Representing Intensive Traditional Use



Hul'qumi'num Home Territory

# Medical Health Officer

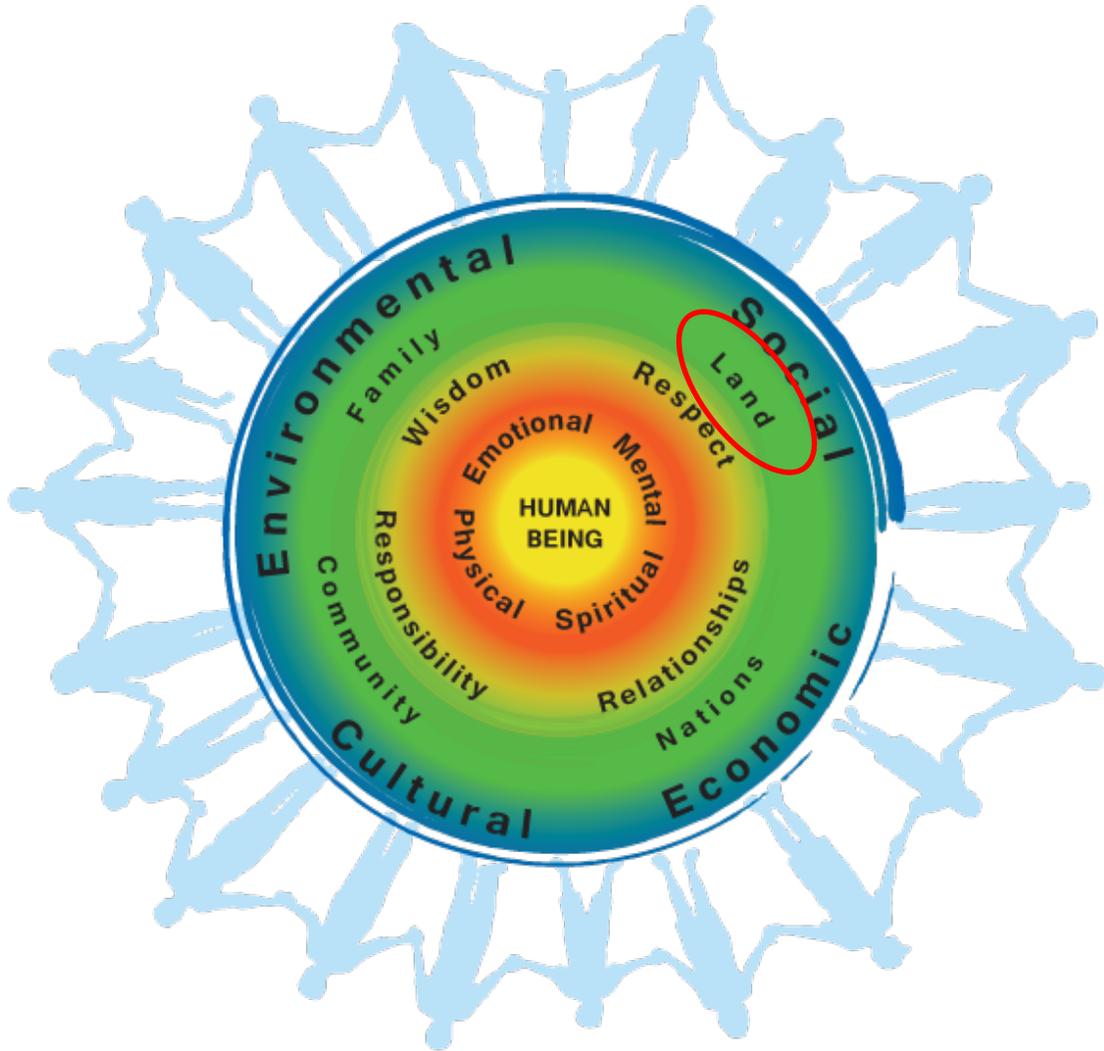
- Health Protection
  - Environmental Health
  - Healthy Built Environment
- Disease/Injury Prevention & Control
- Disaster & Emergency Management
- Health Promotion
- Population Health Assessment
- Health & Disease Surveillance

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**WATERSHED PROTECTION**

# The First Nations Perspective on Health & Wellness



- Overarching values that supports & uphold wellness
- Wisdom
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Relationships



WE ARE NOT OF THE LAND



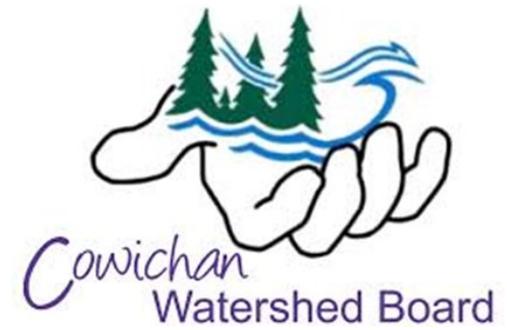
WE ARE THE LAND

*muhw stem 'o' s'aa'lh*

*Our law making authority will  
empower us to be the architects of  
a sustainable future for our lands.*

**Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group  
2005**

# Cowichan Watershed Board

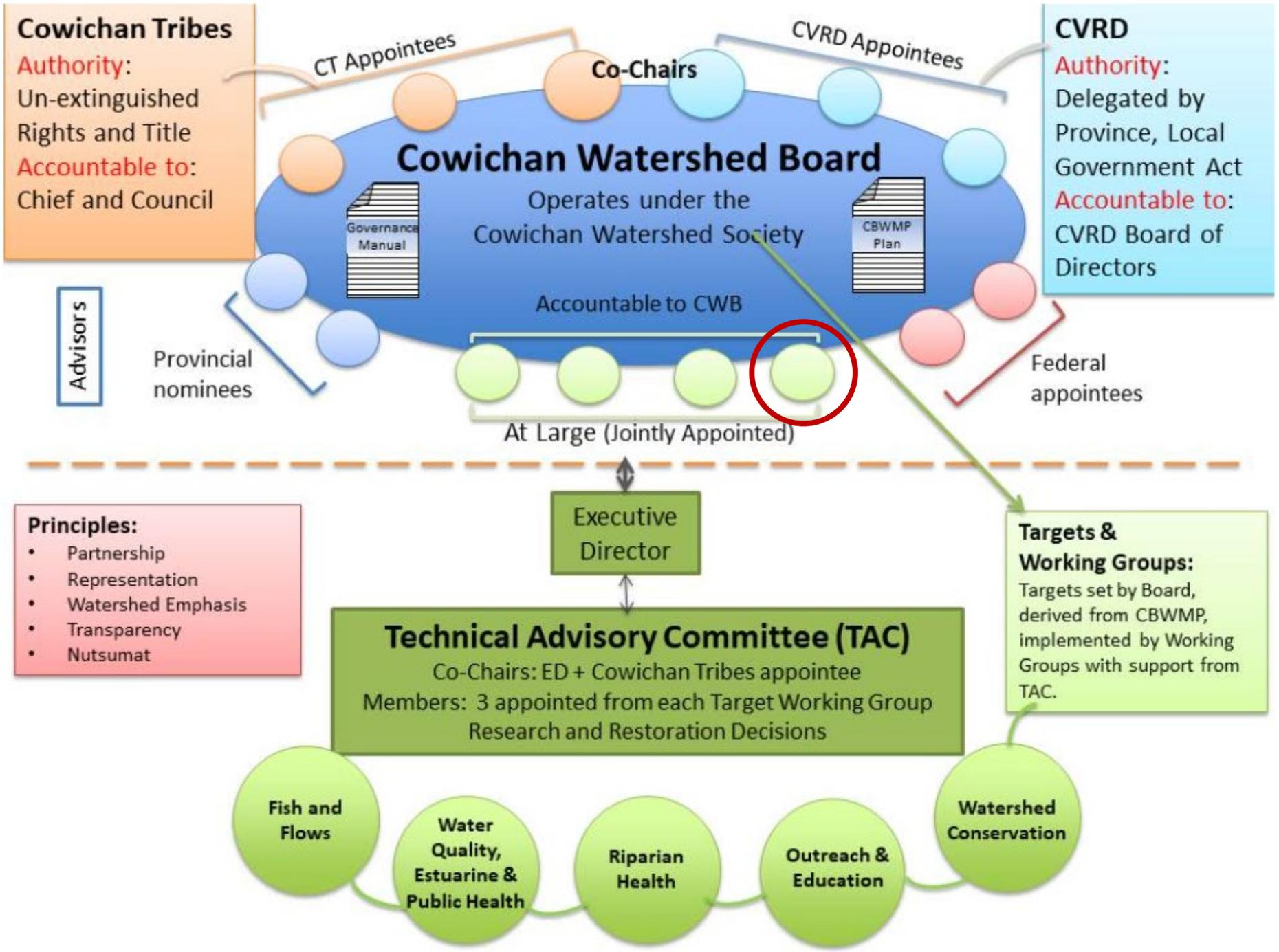


- Co-chaired by Cowichan Tribes & Cowichan Valley Regional District

## 2021 DROUGHT LEVELS AT A GLANCE

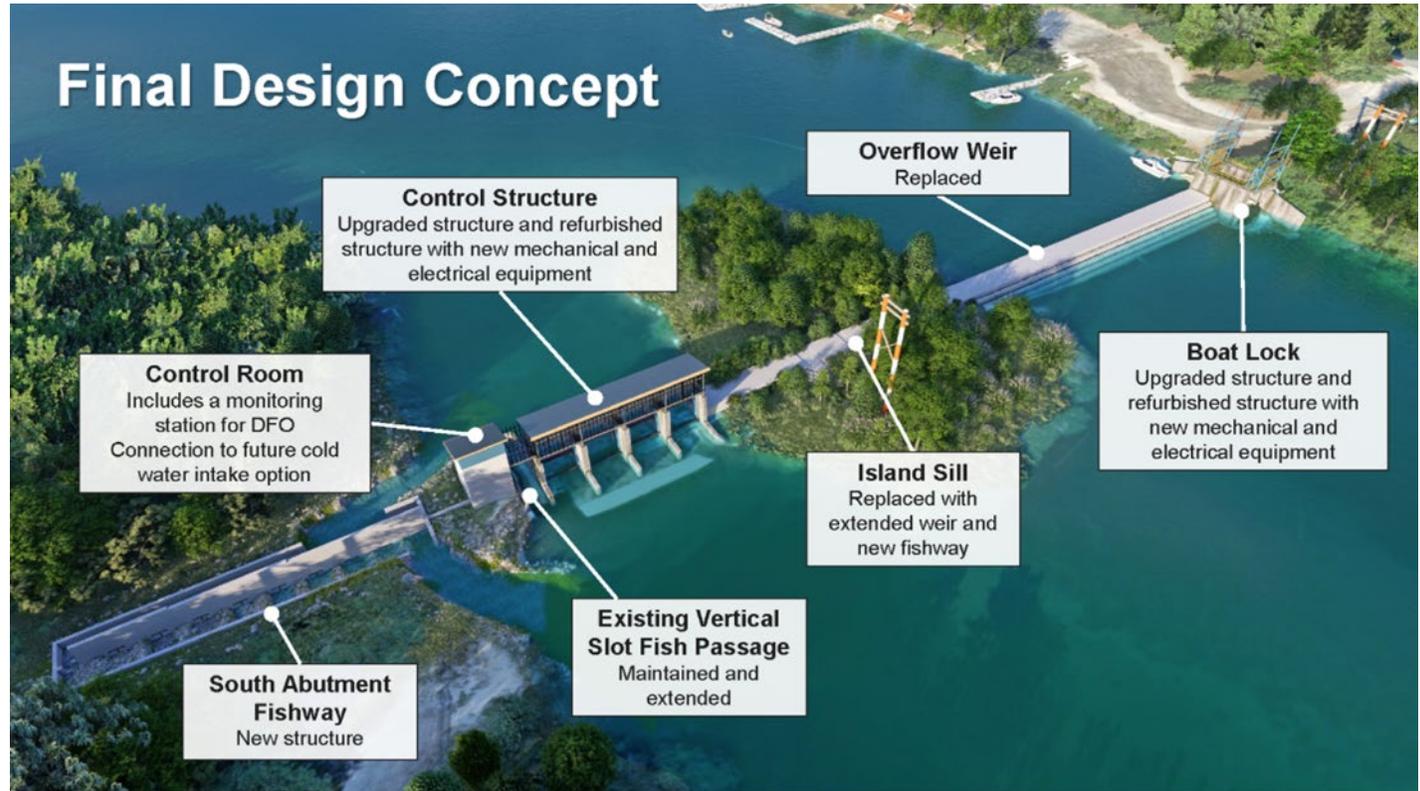
Drought Levels:	0	1	2	3	4	5																
BASINS	26-May	09-Jun	23-Jun	07-Jul	14-Jul	21-Jul	28-Jul	04-Aug	11-Aug	18-Aug	20-Aug	25-Aug	01-Sep	08-Sep	15-Sep	17-Sep	22-Sep	29-Sep	06-Oct	20-Oct	28-Oct	01-Nov
Fort Nelson	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
East Peace	0	0	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
North Peace	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
South Peace	0	0	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Northwest	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stikine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Skeena-Nass	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bulkley-Lakes	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Finlay	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parsnip	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Upper Fraser West	0	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	0
Upper Fraser East	0	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Upper Columbia	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lower Columbia	1	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	2	1	1
West Kootenay	1	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	2	1	1
East Kootenay	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Kettle	1	2	2	3	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	3	2	2
Middle Fraser	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	0	0	0	0
North Thompson	0	0	0	1	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	0	0	0
South Thompson	1	1	1	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	1	1	1
-Salmon River	1	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	3	3
Nicola	1	1	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	1	1	2
-Coldwater River	1	1	1	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	1	1	1
Okanagan	1	1	1	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	2	2
Similkameen	0	0	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1
Skagit	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Lower Fraser	1	1	1	1	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
South Coast	1	1	1	1	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	2	1	0	0	0	0
Central Coast	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
West Vancouver Island	1	1	1	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
East Vancouver Island	2	2	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	2	1	0	0	0	0
Haida Gwaii	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Prepared By: Water Management Branch - Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

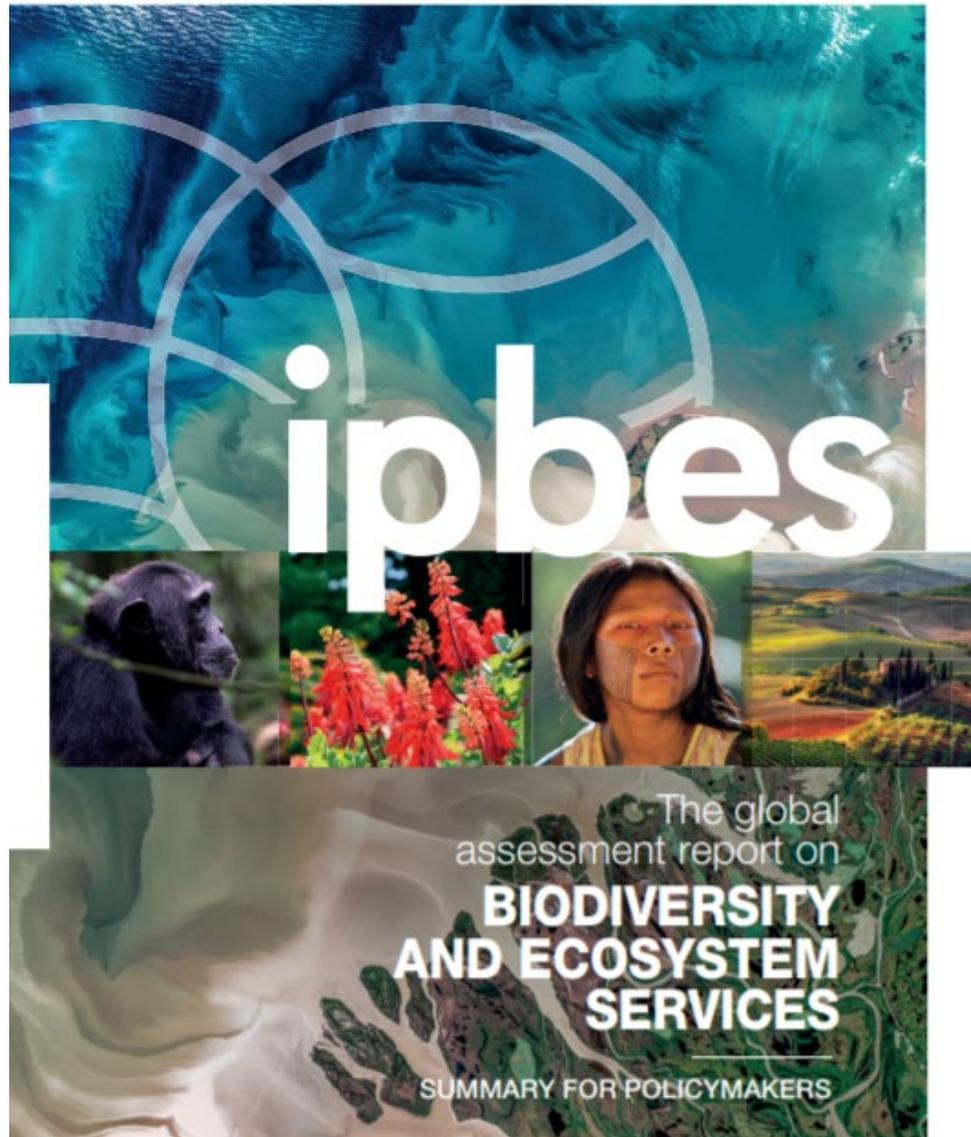


# What does this work look like?

- Connection: water quality monitoring, E-flow development, habitat restoration, salmon stock assessment
- Storage: Cowichan Weir (~\$20-23 M)
- Planning: Koksilah Water Sustainability Plan (2020)



# Indigenous Sovereignty

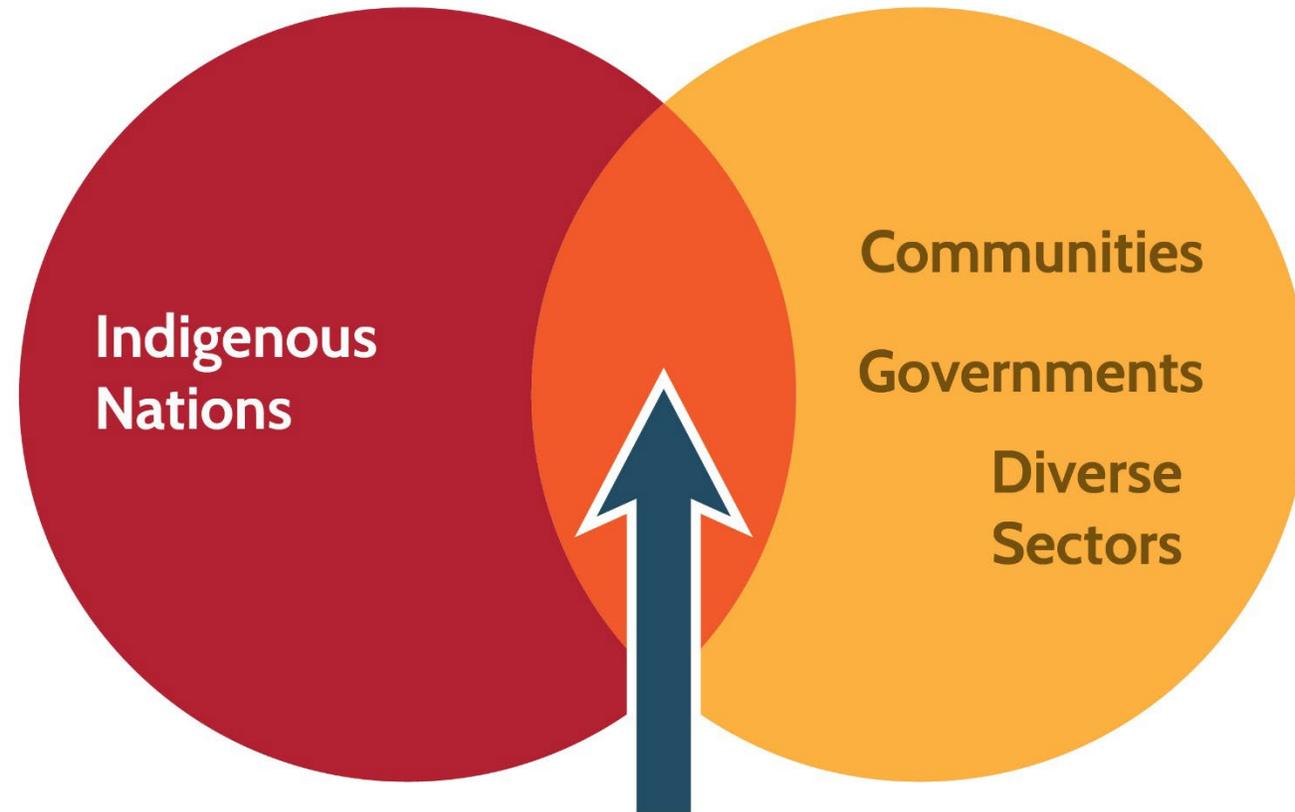


**B6** Nature managed by indigenous peoples and local communities is under increasing pressure. Nature is generally declining less rapidly in indigenous peoples' land than in other lands, but is nevertheless declining, as is the knowledge of how

**D5** Recognizing the knowledge, innovations, practices, institutions and values of indigenous peoples and local communities, and ensuring their inclusion and participation in environmental governance, often enhances their quality of life and the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of nature, which is relevant to broader society. Governance, including customary institutions and management systems and co-management regimes that involve indigenous peoples and local communities, can be an effective way to safeguard nature and its contributions to people by

Nov. 25, 2019

# Indigenous Co-Governance



relationships with watersheds/land/environment  
at the centre of our decision making

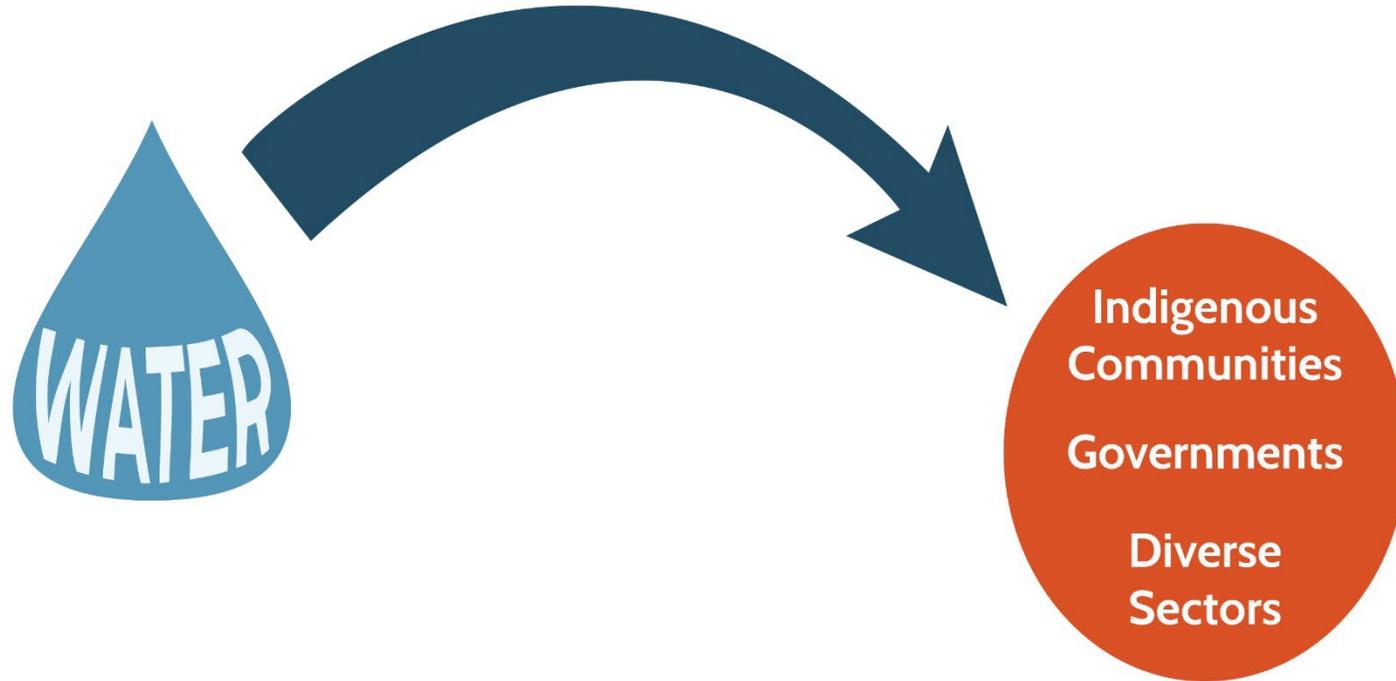
## Drinking Water Protection Act (2003)

- Defines drinking water as “**used** or **intended to be used for** domestic purposes” – that is human consumption, food preparation or sanitation, or other household purposes

## Watershed Security Strategy & Fund (2022)

- Defines watershed security as the **availability** of good quality water **for** healthy ecosystems & communities

# Watershed Security



# Watershed Security



# Legislation: Wisdom, Respect, Responsibility, Relationships



***Declaration on the Rights of  
Indigenous Peoples Act***

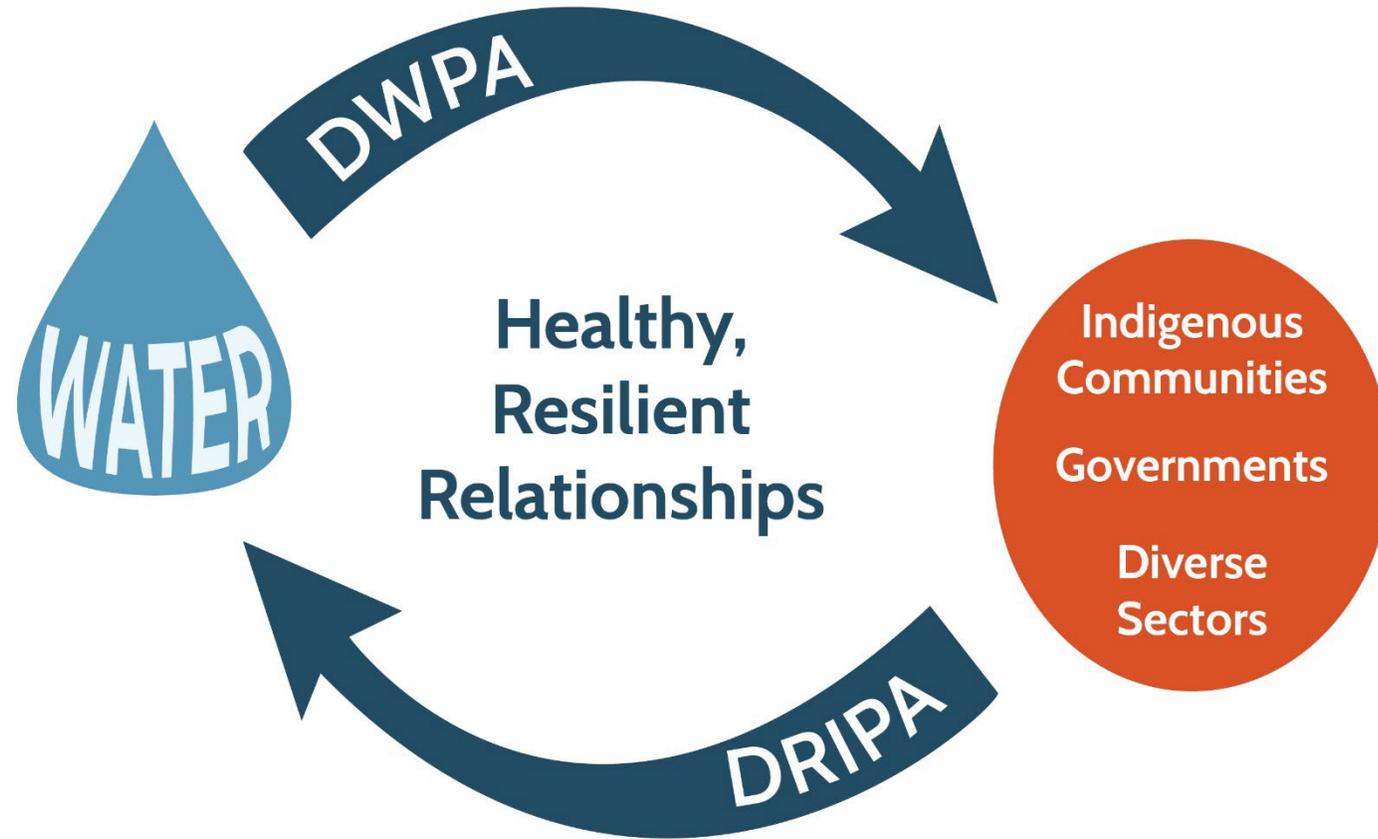
**2019/2020 Annual Report**



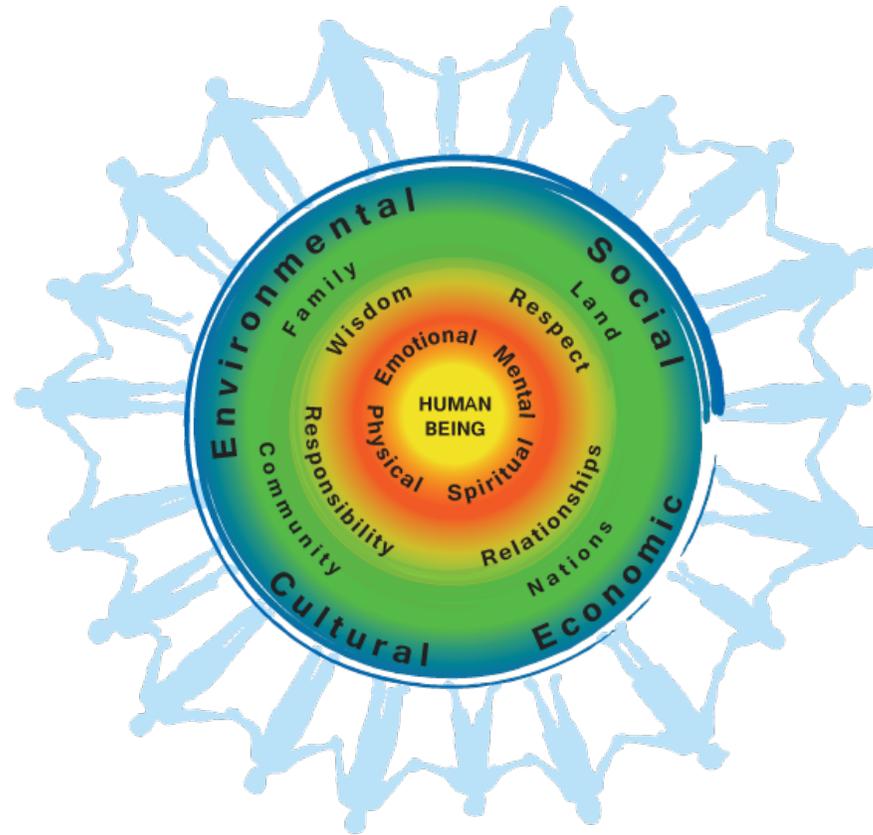
## *Article 25*

Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and strengthen their distinctive spiritual relationship with their traditionally owned or otherwise occupied and used lands, territories, waters and coastal seas and other resources and to uphold their responsibilities to future generations in this regard.

# DRIPA is a Tool



# Huy tsap q'a



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250-737-2020