



2016 BCCFA Conference

COWICHAN ...AND THE KHOWUTZUN COMMUNITY FOREST

Welcome to the Cowichan valley





Cowichan...

- Cowichan is derived from the Coast Salish Hul'qumi'num' word 'Khowutzun' which means "land warmed by the sun".



Cowichan Tribes

...is used as a collective name that combines seven different traditional villages in the Cowichan territories:

- * Koksilah Indian Reserve
- * Somena Indian Reserve
- * Quamichan Indian Reserve
- * Khenipsen Indian Reserve
- * Comiaken Indian Reserve
- * Clemclemaluts Indian Reserve
- * Kilpahlas Indian Reserve



...rooted in the Cowichan Valley region of
Vancouver Island. . .



Traditional Territory

The traditional territory of the Cowichan people covered the entire Cowichan valley, the surrounding region around Cowichan Lake, Shawnigan Lake, and extended into the Gulf Islands, and the Fraser River.



Traditional Territory

The lower reaches of the Cowichan Valley, particularly the area from the present location of Duncan down to Cowichan Bay (and including the lower Koksilah River), were heavily settled by the various Cowichan tribes.



Traditional Territory

Lulu Island, which is now the site of the Vancouver International Airport, and Steveston in Richmond, once formed a very important traditional Cowichan Tribes fishing village.



History

Archaeological evidence dates the existence of Cowichan Tribes as long ago as 4,500 years.



Recent History

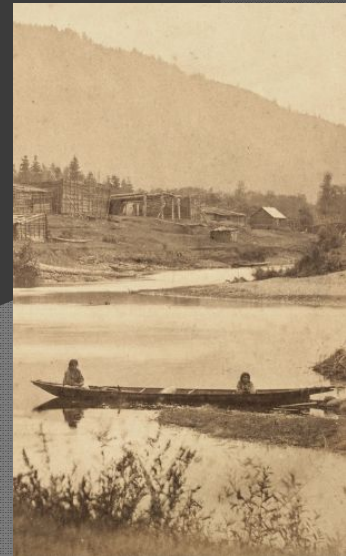
The first European colonists arrived in the Cowichan valley circa 1859.

Around that time period the combined population of the Cowichan tribes was estimated at approximately 15,000.



Colonialism

- ◉ With the European settlers came new diseases such as smallpox, measles, tuberculosis, and venereal diseases.
- ◉ All of these diseases, including flu viruses, and the common cold were previously unknown to North American aboriginal peoples; these diseases had devastating results on native populations.
- ◉ At one point in Coast Salish history, only about 1000 Cowichan Tribes members (out of a population of 15,000) survived the deadly diseases.



Today

Today, the Cowichan tribes membership consists of 4,600 tribal band members.



Cowichan Tribes

Largest single band in BC

- > 4,600+ members.
- ~ half the members live on Reserve.
- relatively young population: large % of the population is <35 yrs.



Traditions

The cultural practices and traditions of the Cowichan tribes have been carried on for generations, and are still woven into the culture today.



Cowichan Tribes Administration

- Cowichan Tribes operates and maintains an extensive number of buildings and facilities, including public works infrastructure and operations.



Governance

A single elected Chief and 12 Councillors presently govern the Cowichan Tribes. The Chief and Council election process began in 1972. The election of Chief and Council is held every two years. The most recent election was in 2015.



Socioeconomic status

With a 70% Cowichan Tribes unemployment rate, the Cowichan Tribes communities are faced with numerous social and economic disadvantages, such as poverty, low high school graduation rates, and the reliance on social assistance.

Approximately half of all the Cowichan Tribes children live in poverty.



Khowutzun Forest Services (KFS)

1999. Khowutzun Forest Services (KFS) is a partnership with Cowichan Tribes. The focus of this partnership is to provide opportunity to Cowichan Tribe members to participate in the forestry industry.



Khowutzun Forest Services (KFS)

- ◉ KFS supports capacity building, the generation of meaningful employment, management expertise, and economic benefits to the Cowichan Tribes Community.



KFS

Khowutzun Forest Services provides forest management, planning, silviculture, harvesting, and fire-fighting services to the forest sector.

The KFS mission includes development of activities that are in keeping with the cultural and environmental values of the Cowichan membership.



Firefighting

- ◉ KFS has over 15 years experience fighting fires on the island and the mainland BC.
- ◉ Throughout the fire season, KFS maintains standby crews and equipment for various clients, including a 2,000 gallon pumper truck.
- ◉ KFS fire crew members are fully trained and certified including (S-100, S-185, S-212, S-232, S-235, S-230, ICS -100, Transport of Dangerous goods and WHMIS).

Firefighting



Firefighting



Firefighting



Firefighting



Firefighting



Firefighting



Silviculture

KFS Silviculture crews carry out a variety of work including:

- ◉ Foliar and Basal treatments for Brushing & Weeding
- ◉ Chemical acquisition and storage
- ◉ Manual B&W
- ◉ Clearing of ROWs
- ◉ Stand Tending
- ◉ Spacing
- ◉ Tree planting
- ◉ Fuel reduction
- ◉ Land Clearing

Pile Burning



Pile Burning



Pile Burning



Tree planting



Tree Planting







Stand tending





Training



Training



KFS Community Forest

2001. As part of an Interim Management Agreement (IMA) Cowichan Tribes signed with the provincial and federal government, Cowichan Tribes was invited to submit application for a Community Forest Pilot Agreement (CFPA), with KFS Ltd. Partnership serving as the licensee on behalf of the Band members for the Tribes.



KFS Community Forest

2004. BC government changes
nomenclature:

✕ Community Forest Pilot Agreement

→ Probationary Community Forest
Agreement (PCFA).

KFS Community Forest - Location

- Located in the Cowichan valley, on the south side of the Cowichan River, midway between Duncan and Lake Cowichan.
- 1284 ha
- 10,000m³



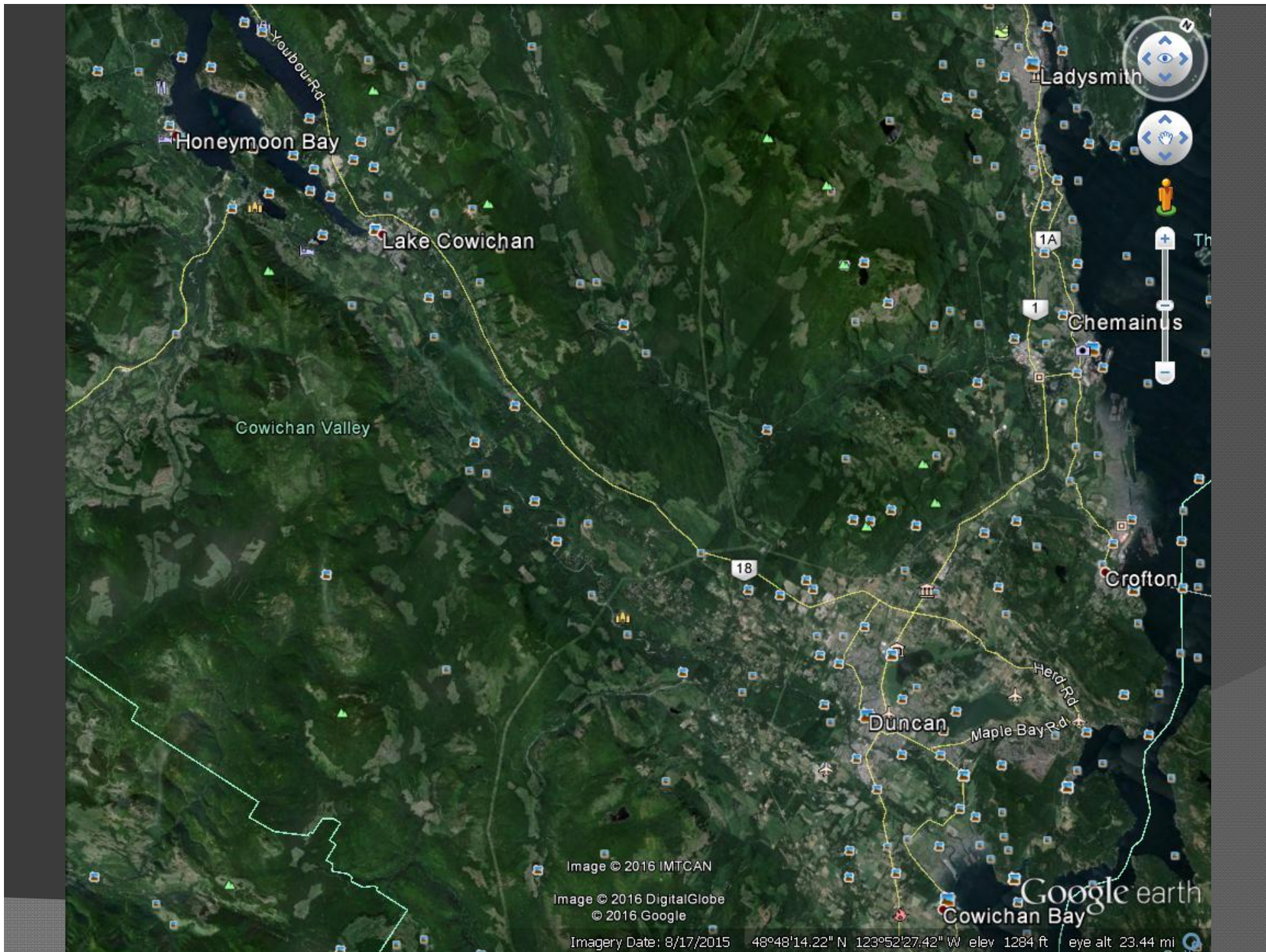


Image © 2016 IMTCAN

Image © 2016 DigitalGlobe
© 2016 Google

Imagery Date: 8/17/2015 48°48'14.22" N 123°52'27.42" W elev 1284 ft eye alt 23.44 mi

Cowichan River Provincial Park







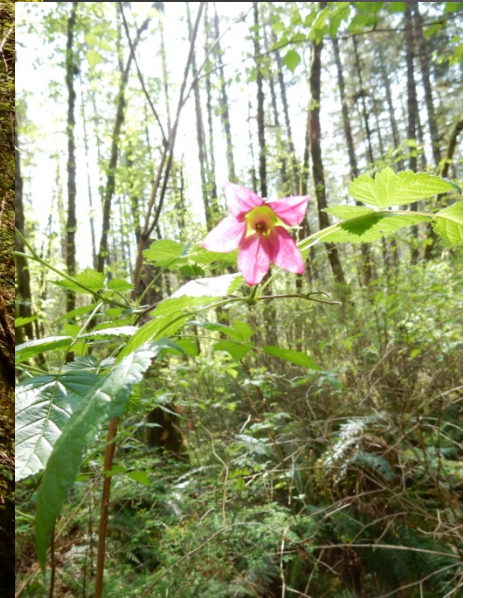
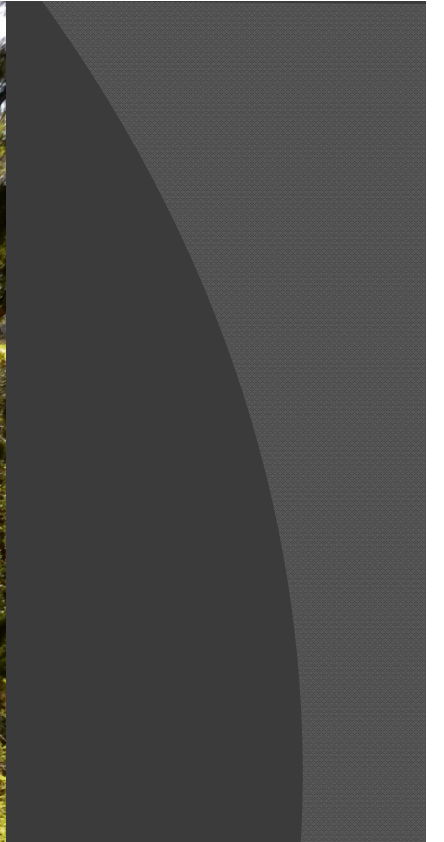
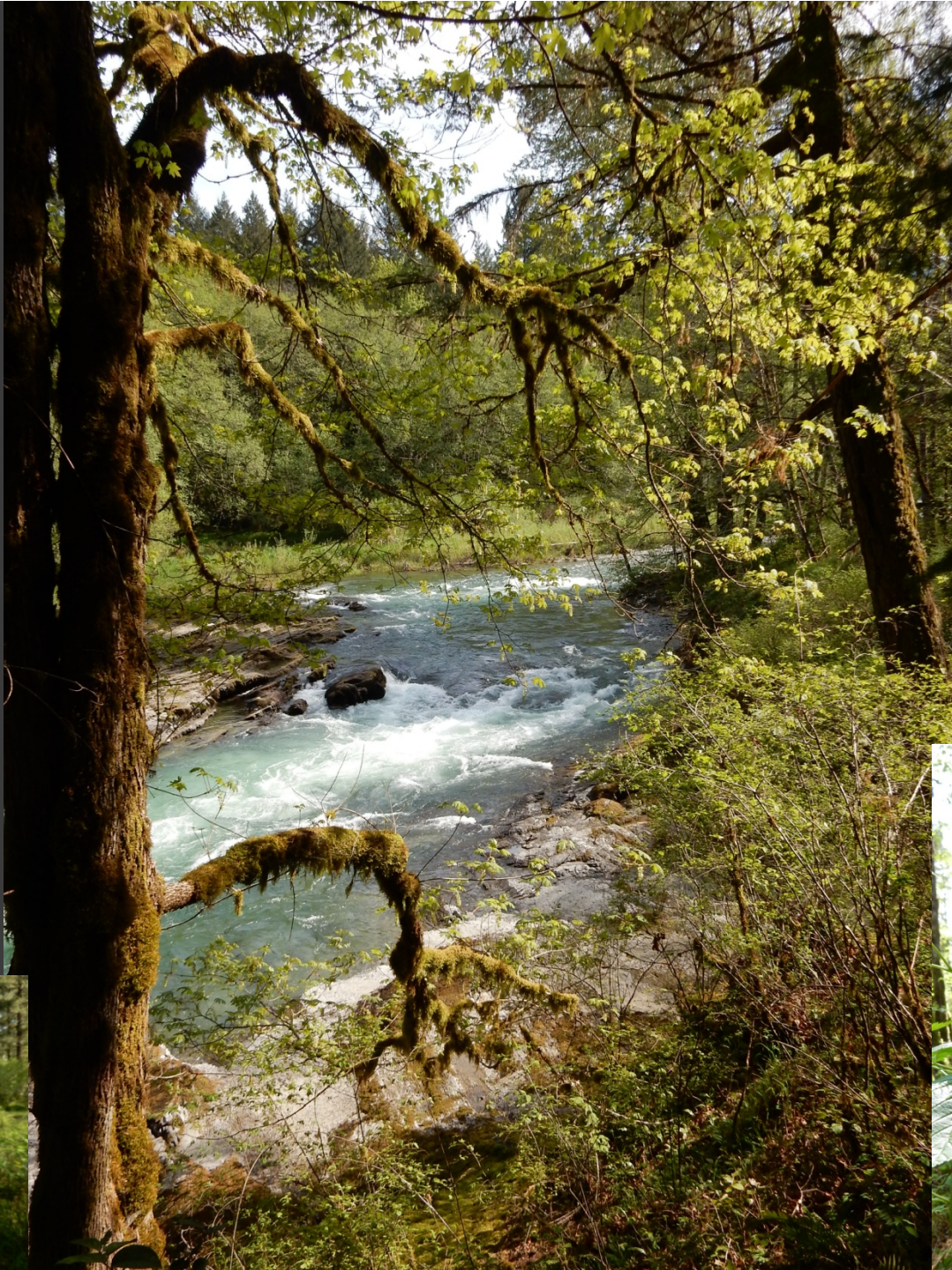
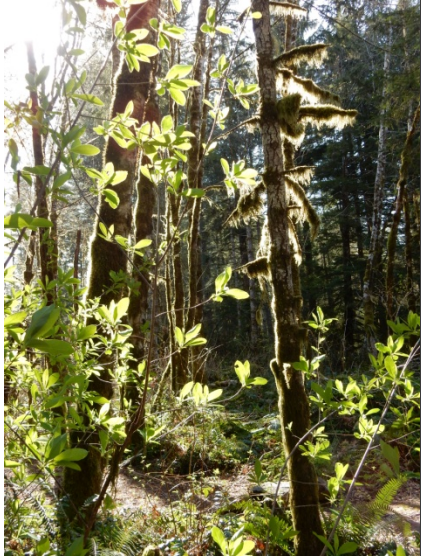






Cowichan River Provincial Park





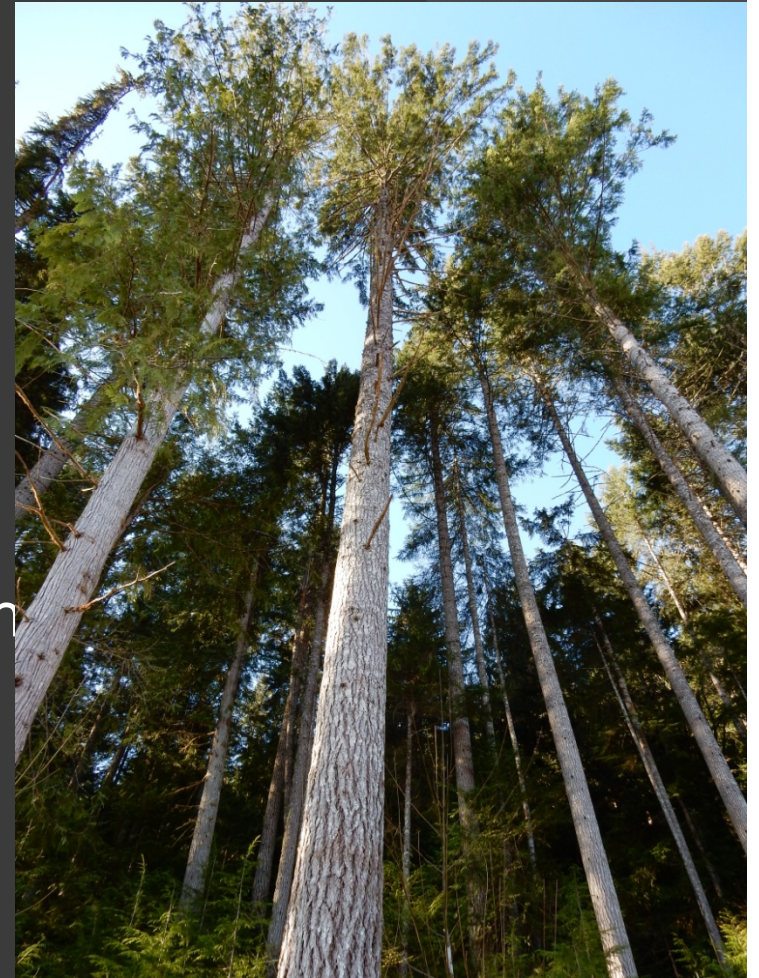
KFS Community Forest

- BGC: CWHxm1/2 (to CHWmm upslope)
- 120-900 m in elevation
- drainage to Cowichan River
- gentle to moderate (to steep slopes)
- aspect is generally northwest



Forest Stands

- Forests are dominated by Fd, with lesser components of Cw, Hw, Bg, Pw, Dr, Qt.
- Majority of stands are older immature to mature second-growth stands which originated from logging between the 1920's and 1940's.



SI 30-40



Harvest Spring 2016





Research



Research



Research



Research



Research



UBC Summer Students







Issues



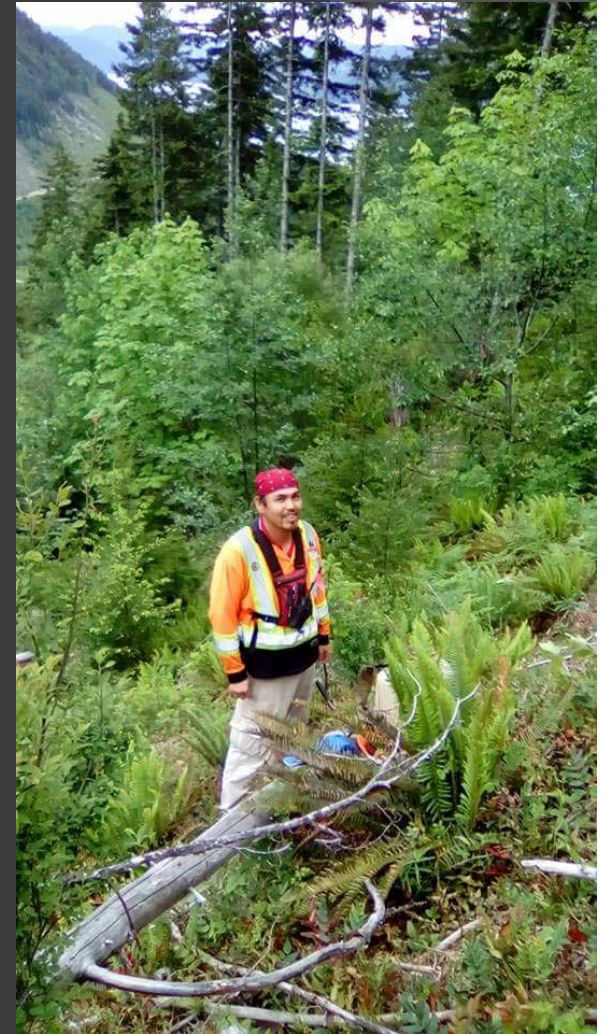
**COMMUNITY
FOREST**
Licence K1K
**Unauthorized
Wood Cutting
is Prohibited**

250-746-4555



KFS MISSION:

- ◉ To ensure that the ecosystem function of the forest is maintained
- ◉ To ensure that cultural, spiritual and heritage resources are respected and enhanced
- ◉ To participate in the forest industry on sound economic principles













Huy ch q'a (Thank you)

