

INTRODUCTION TO CABIN

Emily McIvor, ECCC FRI - Introduction to CABIN Workshop Feb. 24th 2021



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RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

- Provinces: primary responsibility for water management and protection
- Federal: conservation and protection of oceans and their resources, fisheries, navigation, transboundary waters, federal lands and territories
- Canada Water Act: joint consultation between federal and provincial governments for monitoring of water resources
- Canada-BC WQ agreement: established in 1985, operate a WQ monitoring network to report on status and trends in WQ and ecosystem health (i.e. CABIN)

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WATER QUALITY MONITORING



Assumption: if all WQGs are met = ecosystem is protected



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HOWEVER, AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS MAY BE AFFECTED BY FACTORS NOT MEASURED BY WQGS....



How do we know the ecosystem is protected?



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BIOMONITORING

- Provides a direct measure of ecological condition
- Verify findings OR identify undetected problems
- Many types of biological indicators



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BENTHIC INVERTEBRATES





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WHAT IS CABIN? Canadian Aquatic Blomonitoring Network

- Assessment of ecosystem health
- Freshwater invertebrates
- Standardized protocols
- Network of networks
- Online tools
- Training program
- Managed by ECCC
- Constantly growing and evolving
- Subgroups by issue/topic
- External science advisory group

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WHY STANDARDIZED **PROTOCOLS?**

- Standardized protocols = comparable data
- New: Wetlands Protocol, Large River Approach





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WHY NETWORK?

- Enables collaboration & data sharing
- Working together has many benefits





WHY SHARED DATABASE?

Database vs warehouse/portal

- Participants do not need resources for
 - a data management system
- Time and money savings for most
- people
- Advantage of built in analytical and reporting tools in CABIN
- Easier to extract and compile data from varied sources





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		· / 5/		Lake Colville Lake
Major Drainage Basin/Bassin Majeur de Drainage	10		Fort Good Hope	Lac des Bois
Waterbody Type/Type de Plan d'eau	River			
Authority	Provincial/Territorial	~]~	Mackenzie & Company Wells	
Study Name/Nom de létude	CIMP Northwest Territories		See Toita	
Study Description/Description de 'étude	CABIN samples collected in the Mackenzie Delta and the Bosworth Creek watersheds.;	r	0 000	Déline
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WHY TRAINING?

- Access to CABIN database and tools
- Enable all CABIN participants to collect scientifically credible data and contribute to same rigorous assessment
- Online modules + 2 day field
- Hands-on deepens understanding
- Step towards ensuring comparable and consistent data
- Constantly improving delivery





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Small Streams Site length = 6x bankfull width

Habitat Variables – field collected

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FOREST DEVISIONETERS

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RCA STUDY DESIGN

- Avoid problems with BACI (i.e. pseudoreplication, appropriate before/control sites)
- Numerous reference sites define natural variability to define empirical relationship between biota and habitat
- Initial high cost but useable over time by everyone making it very efficient and cost effective







ASSESSMENT HOW?

- Reference condition predictive models
- Observed vs expected taxa



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ASSESSMENT HOW?

- Descriptive Community Metrics
- Similarity measures



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*as of Jan 2016





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Who uses CABIN?





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*as of Jan 2016

RESULTS WHERE?

- Metadata: CABIN website activities map
- Data: available data.gc.ca
- Results: depends why the assessment is done
 - Government reports moving towards web-based
 - Communities/NGO local news, websites, presentations

RITISE

- Industry usually private
- Academic varied
- Some published
- Some private









S W A M P





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EXTERNAL INVOLVEMENT?

More than data collection:

- Science Team scientific advancement
- Territorial/Provincial-Federal WQ agreements integrated ecosystem health assessment and reporting
- Canadian River Institute/ University of New Brunswick - training
- Other Government Departments (e.g. DFO, Parks) – model development

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RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Wetland protocol
- Large River Protocol
- GIS standardized guidelines
- New modeling and assessment approaches
- DNA barcoding







Can I

call you back?

I'm watching a live

stream.

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https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climatechange/services/canadian-aquatic-biomonitoring-network.html