Aboriginal Involvement Program Referral Process Overview



Presented by Debbie Mucha, October 14, 2009

Aboriginal Involvement Program

Referral process: is a process in which the main goal is to prevent disturbance to Aboriginal historical sites.

- Requires sound information
- Critical to keep the information secure



Aboriginal Involvement Program How:

1) Relationships:

Leveraging Community – Industry – Government partnerships

2) Information:

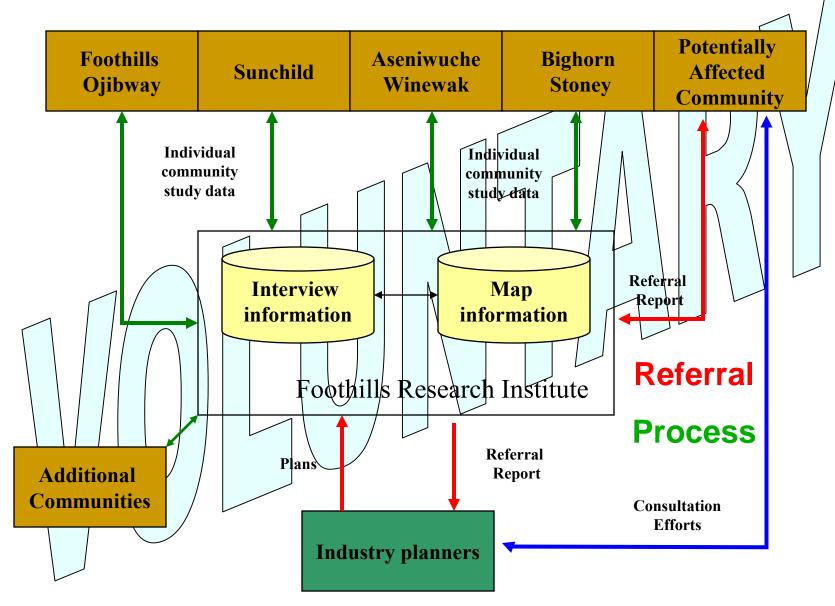
Relying on data and technology rather than strictly politics and policy

3) Respect:

Utilize the data we have via relationships



Multi-community Traditional Cultural Study





1. Train community members in the use of GPS units and field sheets

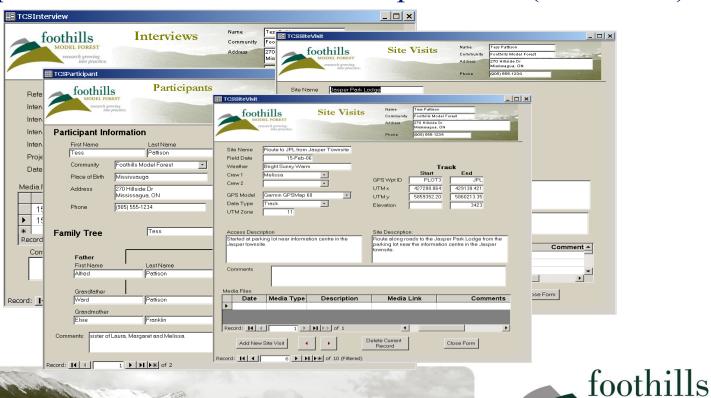






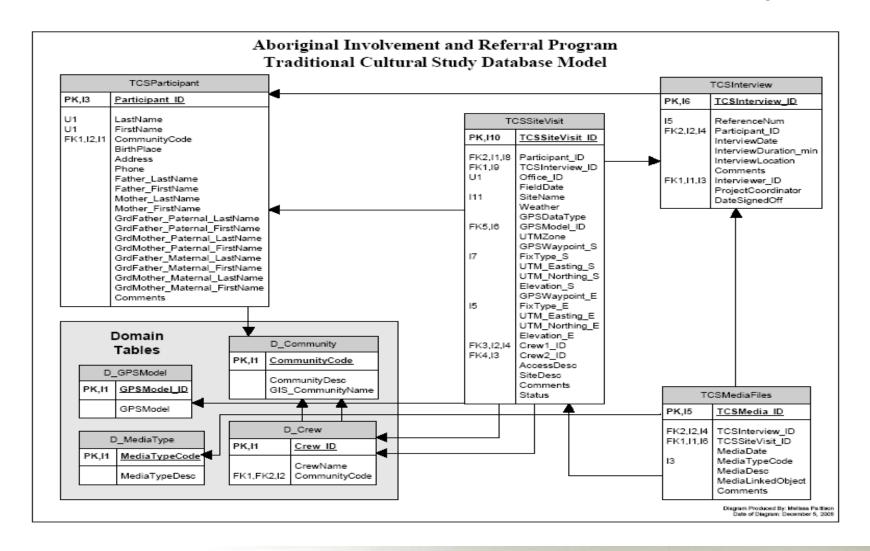


2. Enter traditional cultural sites - import GPS data into a spatial PGDB, input field sheet data into a non-spatial DB (MSAccess)



RESEARCH INSTITUTE research growing into practice.

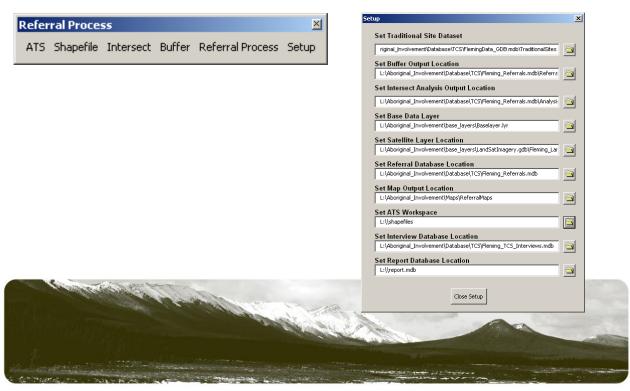
World Class Traditional Use Study





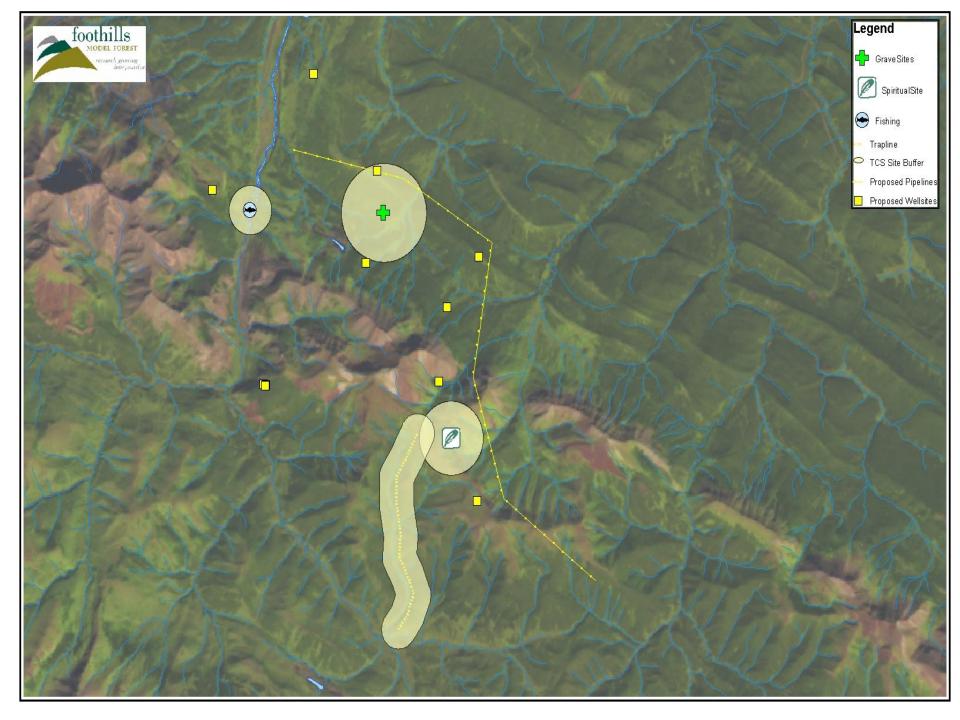


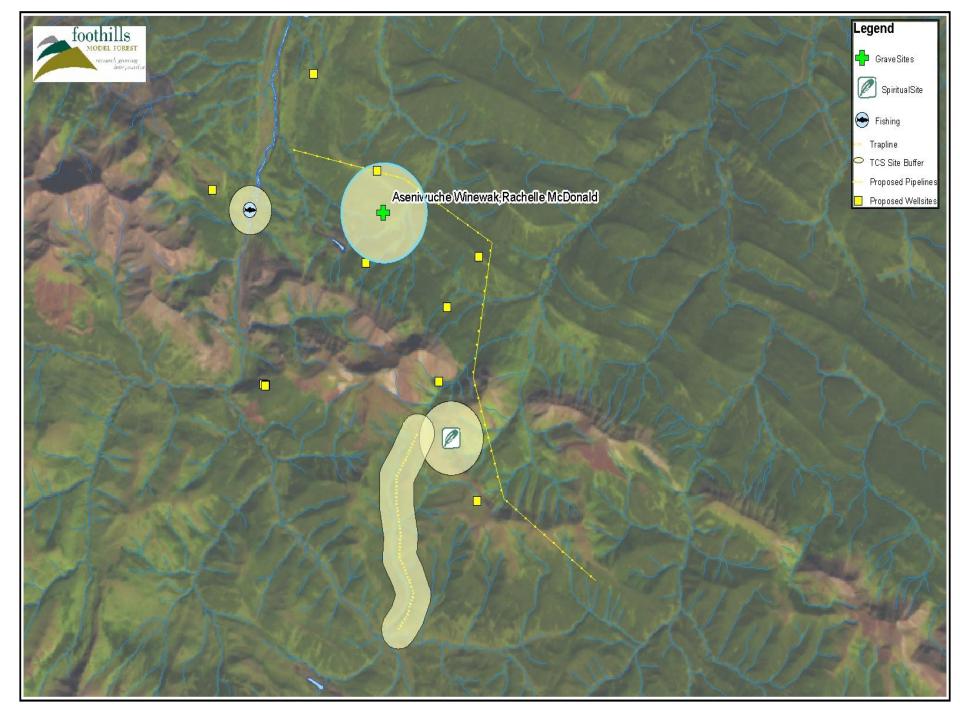
- 3. Add proposed development locations from industry into the GIS
- 4. Automated GIS steps & processes determine which Aboriginal communities need to be contacted for potential consultation.









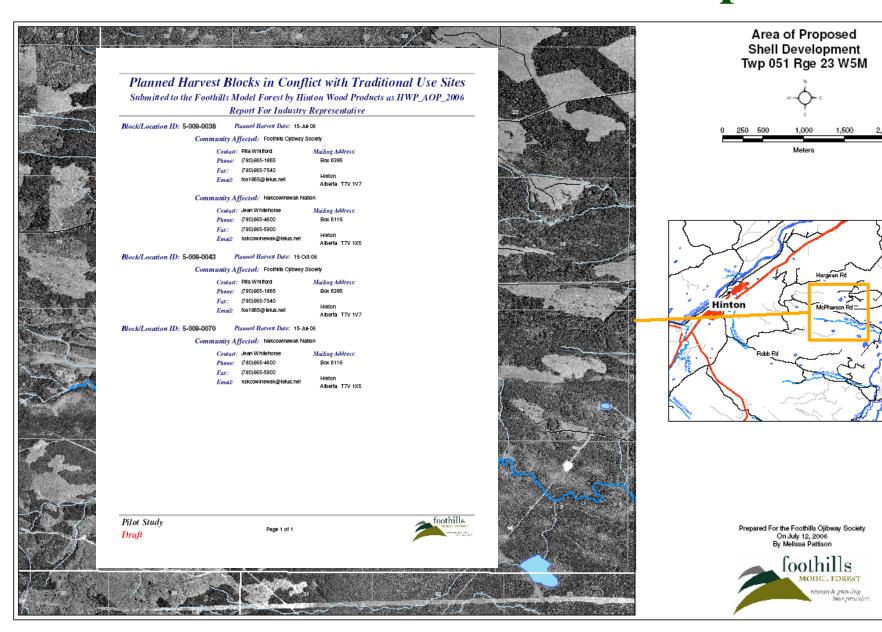


- 5. Distribute results to industry and community representatives via Referral Reports (.pdf format).
- 2 types of reports: Community and Industry
- Includes automated map layout (also saves time)





Referral Process Pilot Reports



Referral Process Pilot Reports

Planned Projects in Conflict with Traditional Use Sites

Submitted to the Foothills Research Institute by Forestry Company 1 as Forestry_1.shp

Report for Industry Representative

Jul 31 2008

Sub Section: Maligne_12 Planned Disturbance Date: 1/1/2007

Community Name: Smallgirls

PrimaryContact: Melissa Pattison Address: Box 6330

Phone: (780)865-8393

Fax: (780)865-8331 Hinton

E-mail: melissa.pattison@gov.ab.ca Alberta

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6. Aboriginal communities, industry, and government collaboratively identify Aboriginal landbase cultural values and determine how to protect them whenever there are development plans for a mutual area of interest.





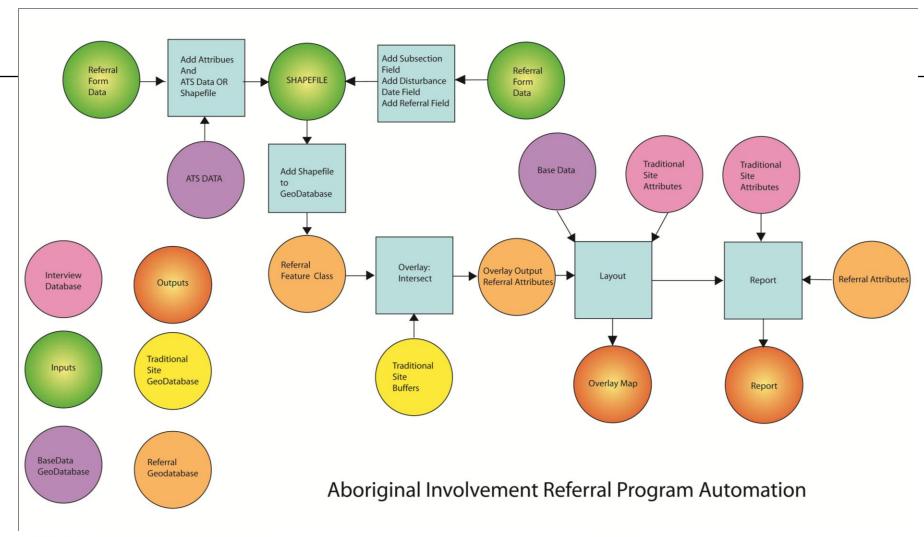
KEY POINTS:

The referral process does not identify precise locations of culturally significant sites; that information is owned solely by the Aboriginal communities with ties to those sites.

• FRI does not participate in conflict resolution, but is a neutral repository for the data and technological process.











Data Management & The Process

- Originally used a "point & click" method with past versions of ArcGIS 9.x that required an ArcInfo license and a third party ArcMap extension
- Cons: Have to perform many processes and repetitive steps!
- Room for error and time intensive.
- Difficult for non-GISers to run!

Goal:

- Reduce the time to run the process and reduce the margin of error.
- Would like the ease of running TRP to be technically run by just about anyone (including Tom...)

Data Management & The Process

• No longer require an ArcInfo license and third party extension to run the process, ArcView 9.2 license is sufficient





Challenges

- The "automation" of the process (students, saves \$\$\$, but results can be unpredictable)...
- The running of the referral process. Usually limited to 1 technician so knowledge transfer is key!
- System metadata is critical
- Keeping up with new versions of Arcmap & programming updates. Needs someone who has some programming savy (VBA/ArcObjects).





Aboriginal Involvement Program Referral Process

What We've Accomplished: Multi-community Traditional Cultural Study

- 1)Documented and stored over 2300 TLU sites from 5 communities
- 2) Trained over 25 community technicians







Aboriginal Involvement Program Referral Process

What We've Accomplished:

Multi-community Traditional Cultural

Study

- 3)Interviews with 52 community elders
- 4) Youth participants 89







Future Opportunities

- •Web potential for submissions?
- Future customization
- Internet

Thank you for your time!

