#### Managing Fish and Aquatics Data Using the ArcHydro Data Model

Pocahontas

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## Outline

Foothills Model Forest (FtMF) Overview
 Project Background
 Approach
 Methodology
 Results

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## Foothills Model Forest (FtMF) Overview

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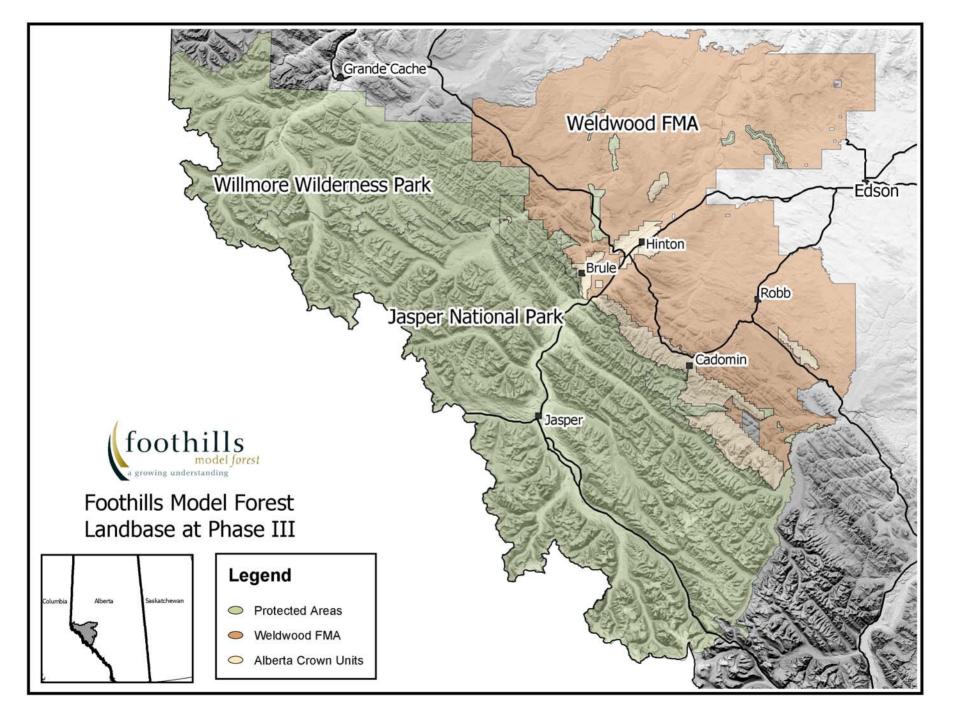
The FtMF is a not for profit corporation conducting research on the ecological, economic and social values of the forest.

One of eleven Model Forests across Canada.

 2.75 million hectares (6.75 million acres) in the Rocky Mountains and foothills







# Foothills Model Forest (FtMF) Overview...

#### N Program sponsors



Natural Resources Canada

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Canadian Heritage Parks Canada Patrimoine canadien Parcs Canada







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## Foothills Model Forest (FtMF) Overview...

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- Grizzly bear
- Natural disturbance (predominantly fire)
- Aboriginal involvement
- Fish and watershed











## **Project Background**

#### The problem

- Fish and watershed program spending enormous amounts of time dealing with data issues
- Spent 2 man months in a single year fixing data problems

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- Typical problems with aging and expanding database(s)
  - Non-spatial data stored across several Access databases and Excel workbooks
  - Little or no constraints on data integrity
  - Inability to perform complex queries due to poor database design





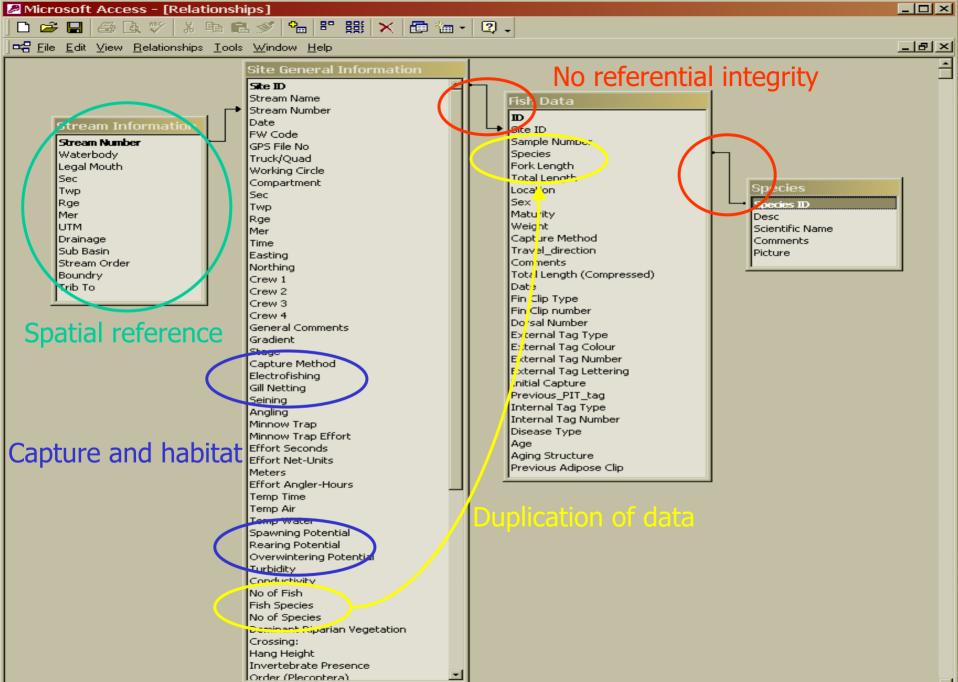
## Project Background...

#### Additional problems with non-spatial database

- No integrity of spatial reference columns
  - UTM point coordinates not falling on hydrographic features
- Considerable effort to describe spatial features without GIS
- Inability or difficulty in creating maps of in-stream point or linear survey locations
- Inability or difficulty in building maps representing explicit locations of fish presence or absence
- Added complexity dealing with network features







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## Approach



# Develop database to serve FtMF and two partner organizations Key requirements

- Consolidate databases
- Better interface for data entry; both spatial and non-spatial

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 Improve model for better storage efficiency, query capability, and expansion potential



• Ensure correct placement of in-stream surveys



## Approach...



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- Enable better map representation of surveys
- Enable fish presence/absence mapping
- Provide access to users without ArcGIS 8.x
- House 100-110k spatial features





## Approach...

#### ∧ Software

- Microsoft Access 2000
  - Cost of full SDE
  - User familiarity, and internal application development skills

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- Personal Geodatabase
  - Number of features (100k)
  - Multi-user and versioning not required
  - Proof of concept approach
- ArcHydro Data Model
  - Test concept of standard modeling approach in natural resource management
  - Potential for better data exchange
  - Potential for expansion of features to be managed



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## Methodology

## Non-spatial

- Traditional ER data modeling approach
- Needs analysis, database design, database creation, forms development, testing, historical data loading
- Design non-required links to geodatabase

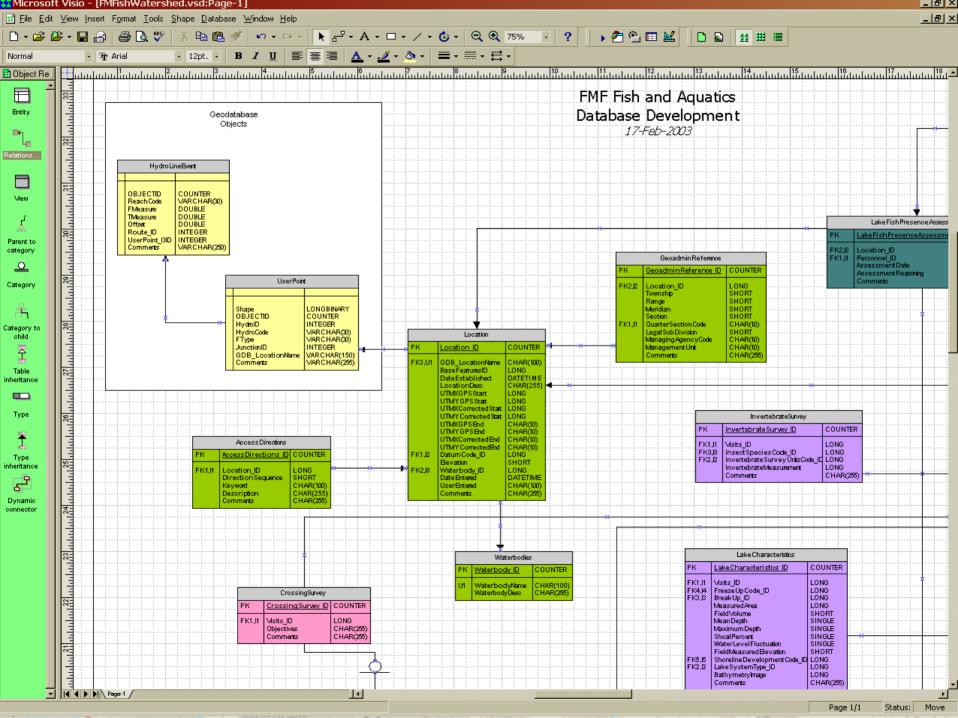


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- Fish Survey	
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## Methodology...

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 Applied tools provided with "ArcHydro – GIS for Water Resources"

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- UML schema and schema wizard to generate database
- Populate downstream distances
- Loaded spatial layers into new feature classes
  - HydroEdges (flowlines), HydroJunctions, HydroNetwork
  - Waterbodies (lakes, wetlands etc.)
  - User points (survey locations)
  - HydroLineEvents (linear surveys)





Methodology...

# Spatial...

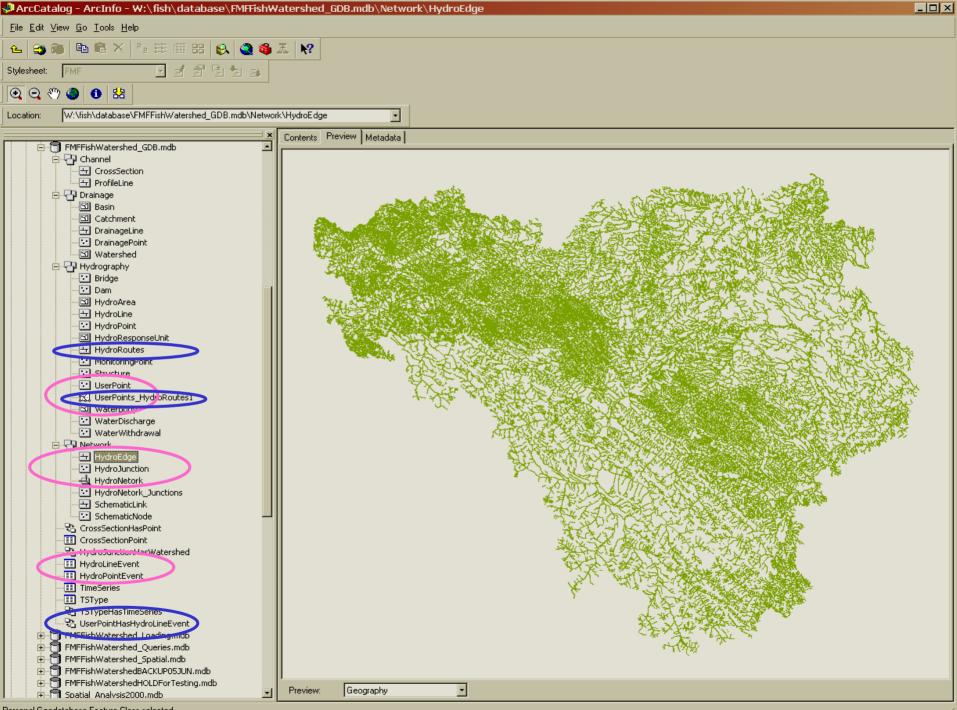
 Created feature class HydroRoutes representing path from headwaters to outflow where surveys have occurred

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- Created topology to force all surveys to occur on HydroRoutes
- Added columns where necessary
- Retained all ArcHydro columns
  - Hopefully retain data portability







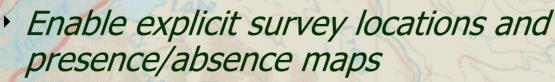
Personal Geodatabase Feature Class selected

### Results to date



85,000 features loaded
 Geometric network representing stream

- flow lines
- 1,300 surveys and 30,000 fish measurement records loaded
   Route systems built for about 25% of surveyed streams







### Results to date ...

Much simpler tools to manage linear referencing
 Ability to perform trace analysis on geometric network
 Non-spatial component can be used independently of the geodatabase (ArcMap) for data entry

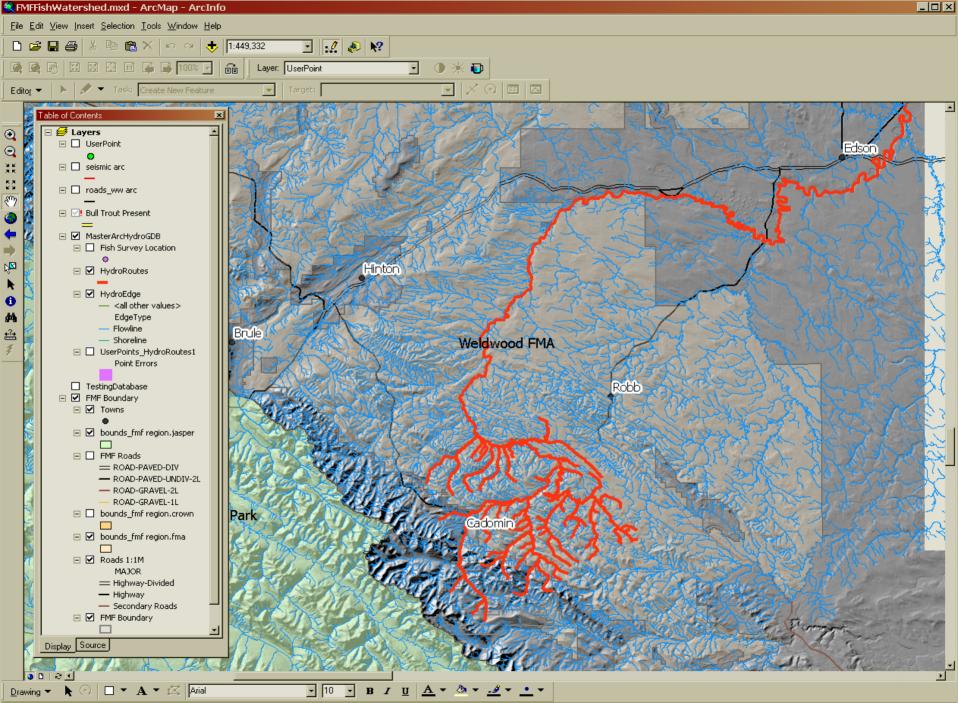
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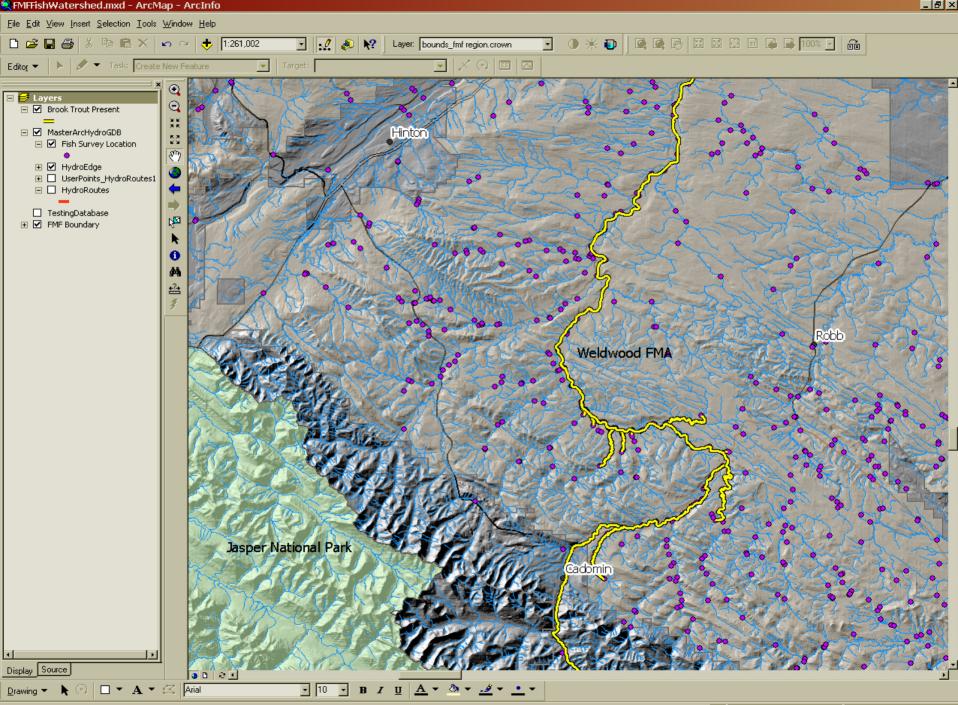


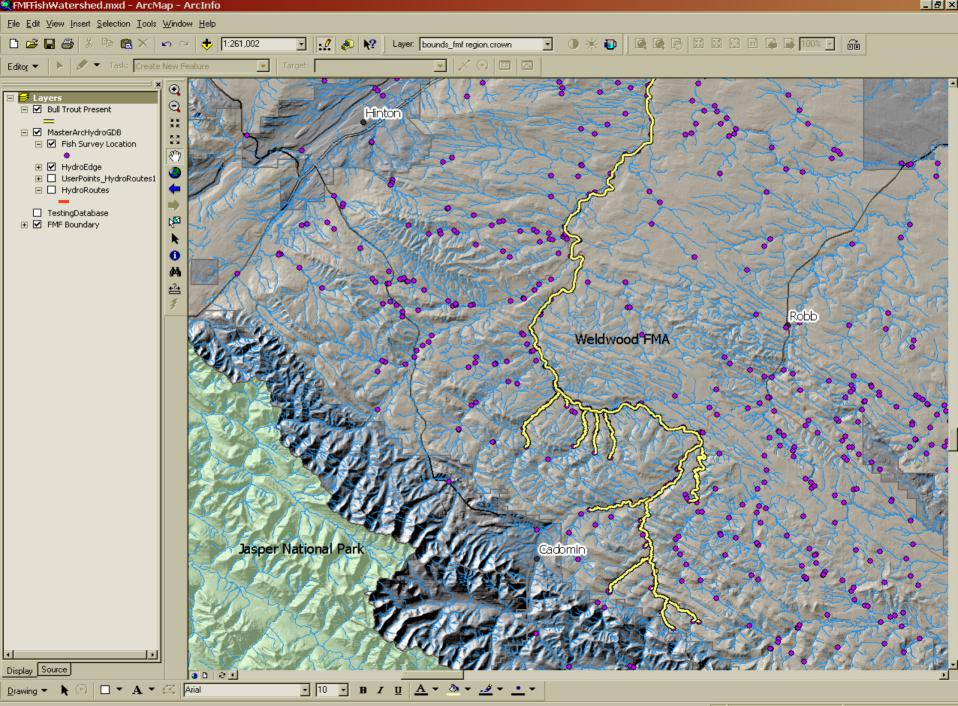


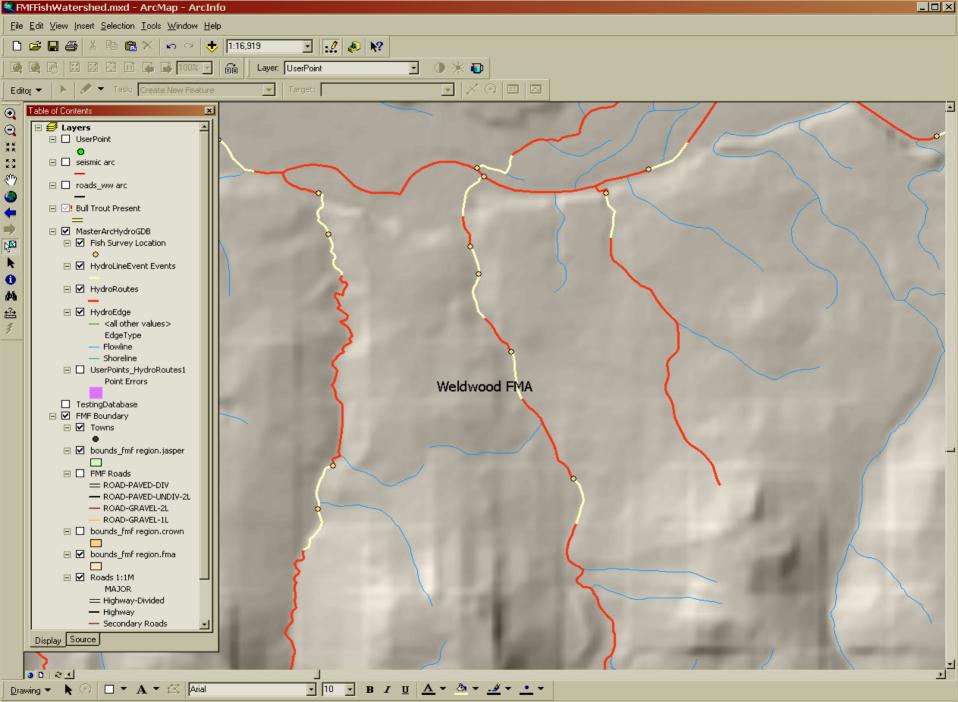


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### Results to date ...

# Challenges

- Inability to add features with a unique index
- Inability to relate Access views (queries) as objects require a primary key field
- Require patches prior to operational spatial rollout

## The road ahead

- Load reach and watershed datasets once complete
  - Support probability of occurrence models (RSF)



 Customize interface to simplify building of survey routes and events











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