

First Nations (Alberta) Technical Services Advisory Group (TSAG)



Aboriginal Inland Habitat Program

First Nation Programs

- Aboriginal Fisheries Strategy (AFS)
- Aboriginal Aquatic Resources and Oceans Management Program.
 - Both these program are current available for communities where DFO manages the fisheries – Coastal Provinces
- Aboriginal Inland Habitat Program
 - Available to communities where DFO manages Fish Habitat – Inland Provinces

Fish Habitat Management

- ➔ Within inland provinces, provincial agencies manages the fisheries, DFO manages fish habitat



Regulatory - Fisheries Act

Section 35(1)

- prohibits the Harmful Alteration, Disruption or Destruction of fish habitat (HADD)

Section 35(2)

- permits the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada to authorize a HADD



Fisheries Act

Defines Fish Habitat as:

“spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply, migration and any other areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes”



Fisheries Act

Defines Fish as:

“parts of fish, shellfish, crustaceans, marine animals and any parts of fish, shellfish, crustaceans or marine animals, and the eggs, sperm, spawn, larvae, spat and juvenile stages of fish, shellfish, crustaceans and marine animals”



How do we Manage Fish Habitat

- Regulatory Activities:
 - Review development projects
 - Enforcement
- Stewardship Activities
- Integrated Planning Activities
- Research and Monitoring Activities
- Programs Management Activities:
 - Training
 - Partnering

AIHP

- DFO has committed \$1.8 M each year for the next three years
- The program has been identified as a long term commitment, therefore is intended to go beyond existing term

AIHP Objectives

- DFO partnering with Aboriginal communities
- Establishing long-term capacity of Aboriginal communities for fish habitat management
(*i.e. provide \$ for staff*)
- Encourage partnering with province, municipalities and industry

AIHP Program Information

Eligibility

- **Aboriginal organizations that:**
 - Are located in inland provinces, where the province manages the freshwater fisheries but where fish habitat management is a federal responsibility;
 - Represent an ‘aggregate’ of Aboriginal groups;
 - Have a resource management administration that is independent of day-to-day political influence;
 - Have a track record of sound business practices and resource management plan.

Awareness and Stewardship

- Responsibilities include:
 - Facilitate consultations
 - Coordinate habitat projects (restoration/enhancement)
 - Provide advice on habitat (habitat management plans)
 - Ensure integration of habitat management in community planning
 - Education/Outreach

Regulatory

- Responsibilities include:
 - Review and advise on projects
 - Identify fish habitat management research priorities
 - Monitor project compliance and effectiveness

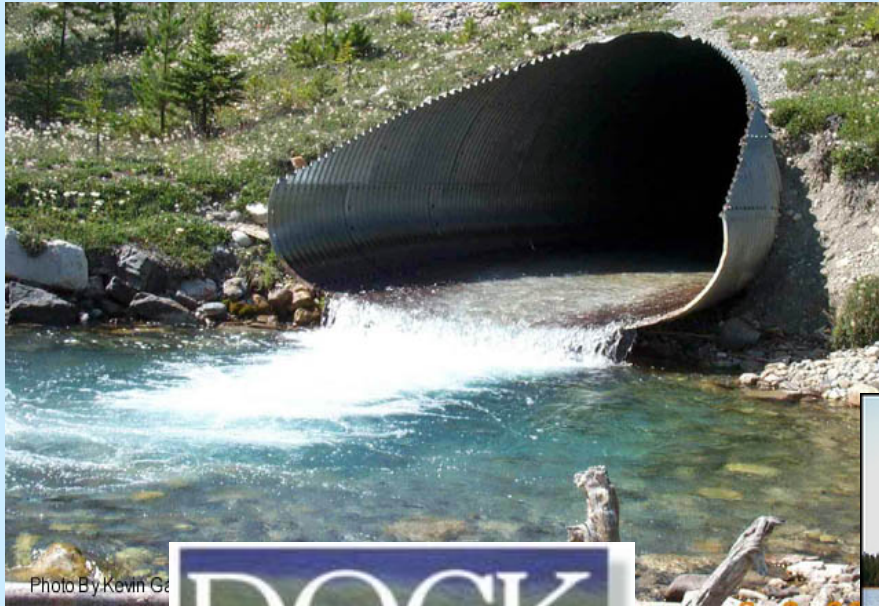
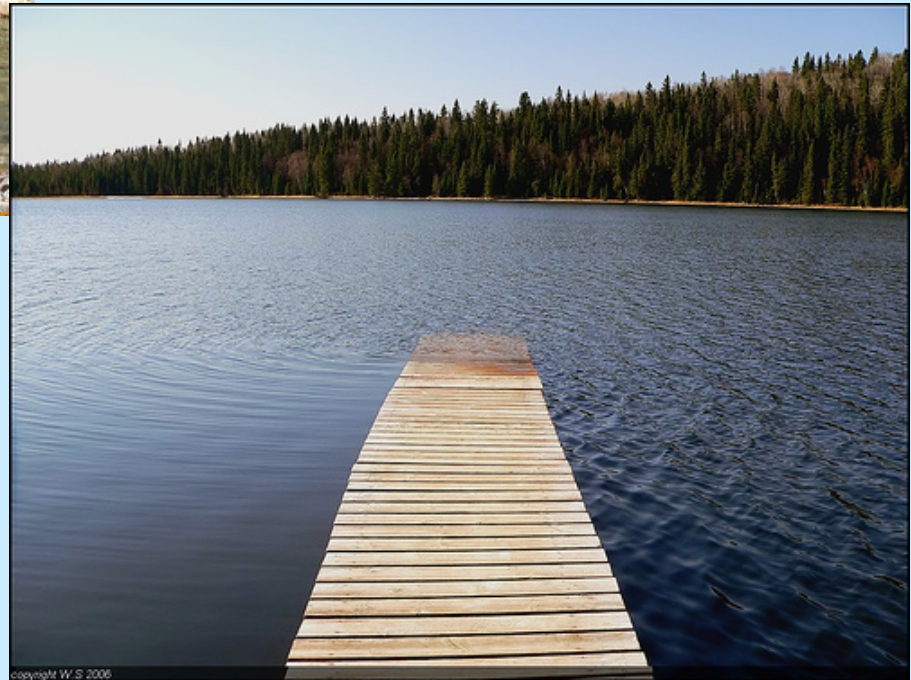
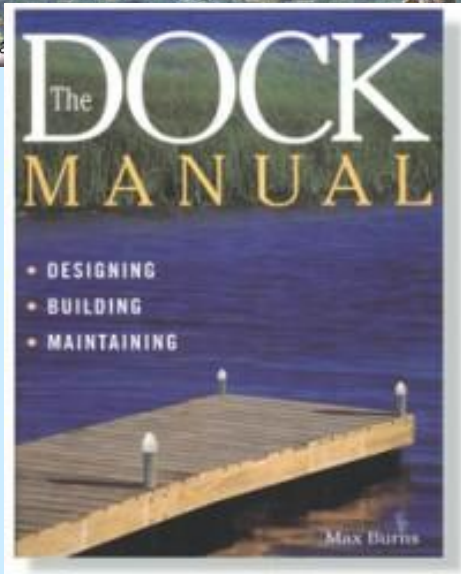
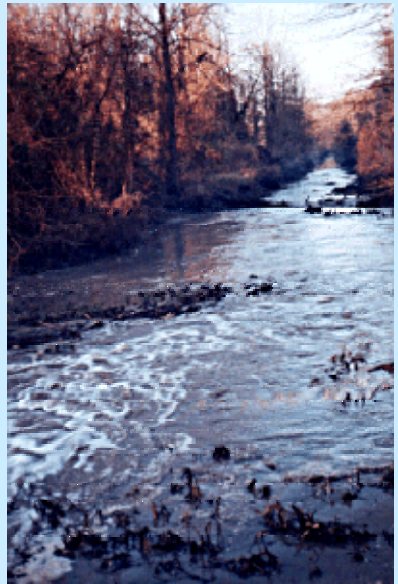


Photo By Kevin Ge







Thank you

Questions and Answers

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