

# Coastal Guardian Watchmen Network

## Summary of "Successes, Challenges and Opportunities" Session

Prince Rupert  
May 21, 2008

### Successes



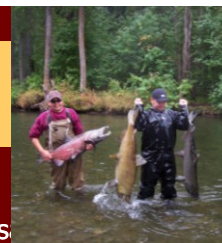
- Shared **interest** and **support** for GW work
- Willingness to **collaborate and network** between FN
- Having **presence** on the territory
  
- **Job satisfaction** and feeling connected with your work
- **Being out on the land**
  
- Increasingly **capacity exists within community** (less dependence on outsiders)
- **Training under development**, strengthening educational opportunities

## Successes



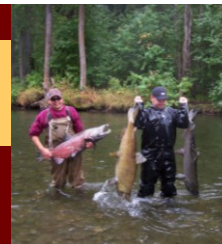
- Data collected through monitoring used to **influence activities** in territory
- Combining **traditional knowledge** and western science to make better decisions
- Finding ways to **work jointly** with government agencies and other operators
- Joint patrols with agencies
- Increased presence of RCMP, Park Rangers, DFO and Coast Guard
- **Protocol agreements** with sport-fishing companies
- Successful individual projects (e.g. enhancement efforts)
- **Community participation** in monitoring (e.g. whale monitoring)
- Joint work between community members and fisheries department

## Challenges



- Lack of **funding**
- Funding tied to agencies and have to do what they say
- Not enough people out on the land, not enough GW
- Seasonal jobs not year round
- Lack of **authority to enforce**
- Outside agencies with "authority" are not responsive to reports made by GW
- Legislation that limits roles of GW
- Lack of **capacity** within community
- **Retaining** people to get trained and stay in community and work
- Sometimes opportunities exist but not people to take them
- Resource management work in community is overwhelming (so much to do, e.g. referrals)

## Challenges



- **Politics** getting in the way of technical collaboration
- Monitoring in overlap areas
- Changing leadership and lack of consistent support within community
- Lack of respect from some community members
  
- Work is **compartmentalized** because it's agency driven
- Lack of understanding re. broader resource management planning and arrangements
- **Lack of standard** data collection format
  
- **Impacts** of commercial and recreational users on resources
- Impacts of logging on watersheds and salmon streams

## Opportunities



- **Network** between First Nations throughout coast
- Develop **regional "brand"** for GW for visual recognition (e.g. uniforms)
- Incorporate **traditional values** and teaching into GW work
- Strengthen **presence** in territory (e.g. more GW, build cabins,)
  
- Integrate **multiple resources** into monitoring plan
- Ensure data collected feeds into marine/land use plans and **influences decisions**
- **Unified approach** to resource management and monitoring supported by leadership
- Develop **well defined vision** and program statement for GW
  
- Collaborate with **resource agencies** (shared respect)
- **Share information** between groups/agencies working in each territory (e.g. data, projects being conducted) and between FN
- Opportunity for **BC Park Rangers** to work within their own community

## Opportunities



- Get funding through **Coast Opportunity Funds**
- Find new and **innovative approaches** to funding (e.g. charitable status, regional trust)
- Coordinate **training with employment** opportunities
- **Retain employees** through paid training
- Provide **mentoring** opportunities for students
- Utilize **existing people** with relevant experience and skills
- Create **unified voice** in political sphere
- Work with **Council and Hereditary Chiefs** to increase awareness re. GW work
- Raise awareness about increased level of **enforcement authority** required by GW