



FIM Workshop

Ministry of Forests and Range
Aboriginal Affairs Branch
Darrell Robb
May 8, 2007





Agenda

- ◆ The Aboriginal Affairs Program in MoFR
- ◆ Our work and the New Relationship
- ◆ Overview of First Nation participation in the forest sector
- ◆ Initiatives for success
- ◆ Key concerns
- ◆ Work currently underway





Aboriginal Affairs Branch

- ◆ Interact with other ministries, agencies, and industry
- ◆ Provide leadership, coordination of policy development and initiatives to support first nations participation in forest sector
- ◆ Ensure that existing Aboriginal and treaty rights are acknowledged and respected in forest management



The New Relationship

- ◆ 2005: negotiations with the First Nation Summit, Union of BC Indian Chiefs and the Assembly of First Nations
- ◆ Outcome of discussion was the New Relationship
- ◆ A Vision document



Impact of the Haida Decision

- ◆ Our legal responsibility to consult and accommodate
 - Consulting on administrative decisions
 - A share of the Forest Revitalization Plan
 - takeback of timber
 - The New Relationship
- ◆ Implementation occurring through the First Nations Forest Strategy



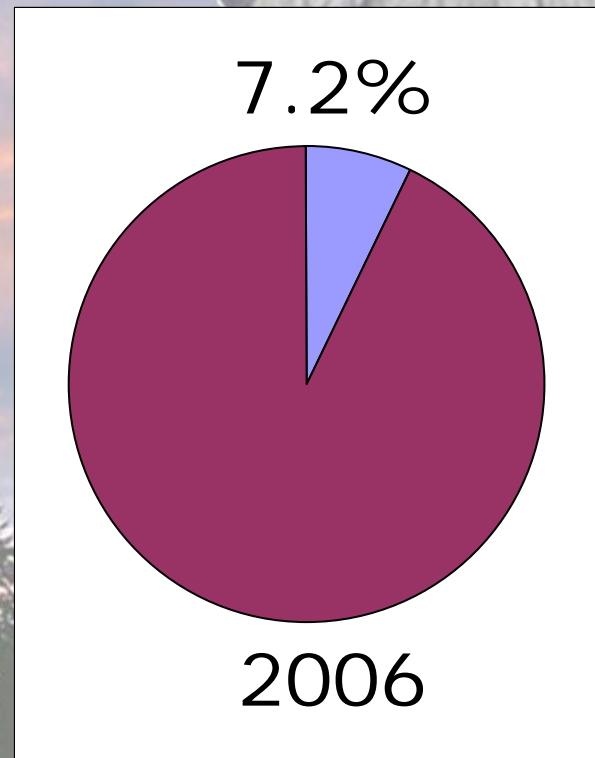
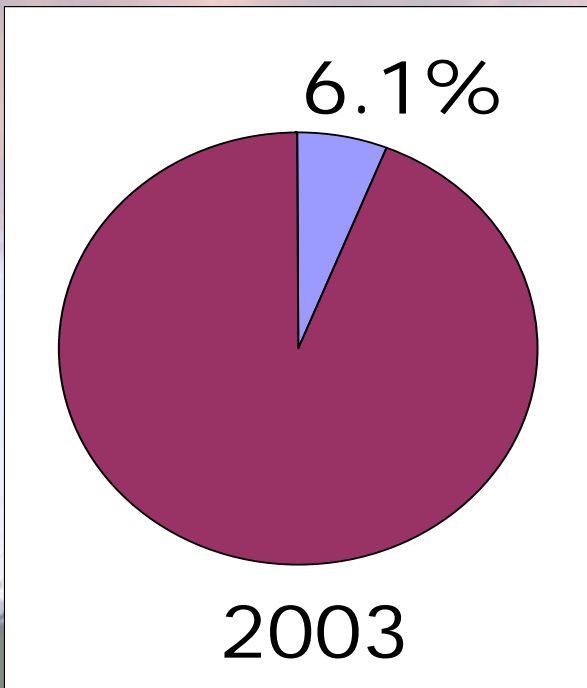
First Nation participation in the forest sector

- ◆ 2003: Forest and Range Agreements
- ◆ 2006: Forest and Range Opportunities
- ◆ To date, the MoFR has entered into agreements with over 70% of BC's First nations, sharing:
 - Just under 25 million cubic metres of volume
 - \$170 million in revenue sharing payments



First Nation participation in the forest sector

- First Nation tenures as a proportion of the total Annual Allowable Volume Allocated
- 2003 – 3.7 million m³
- 2006 – 5.9 million m³





Requirements for Success

Capacity building in these areas:

- ❖ Network BC Infrastructure for internet access
 - www.network.gov.bc.ca
- ❖ Access to GIS technology
- ❖ Access to government's information bases
- ❖ Understanding the regulatory framework in BC

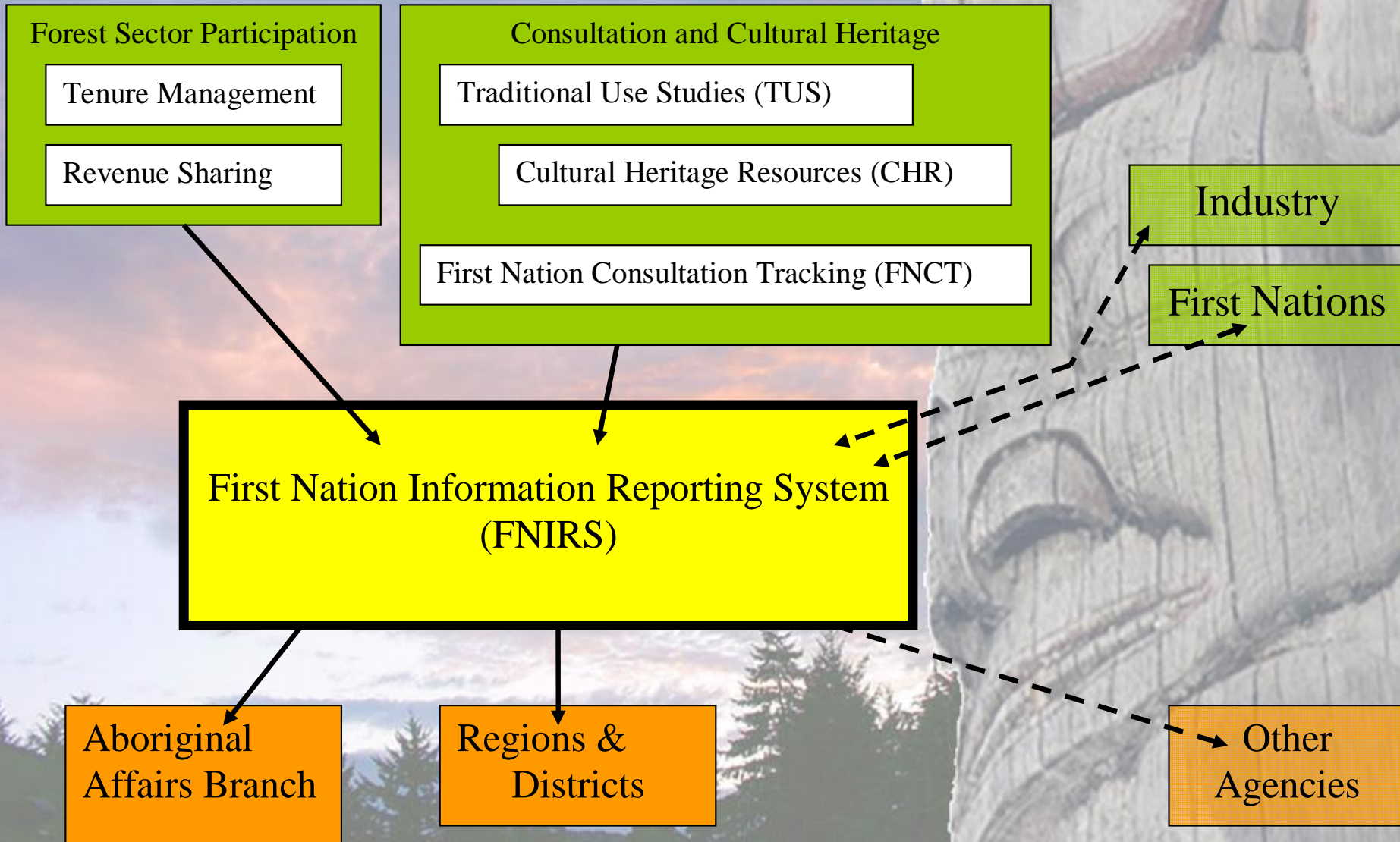


Upholding our legal obligations: Some key concerns

- ◆ Consultation needs to provide information on the land base
- ◆ Cultural Heritage Resources and FRPA
- ◆ Data ownership and confidentiality
- ◆ Traditional Use Studies



MoFR Information Systems





Conclusion

"We are all here to stay."

Chief Justice Larmer

