

Structured Decision Making Process Update

Forest Practices Board

May 7th, 2024

Today



- Who we are
- Brief introduction to our approach to Structured Decision Making (SDM)
- Update on our task
- Questions and Discussion

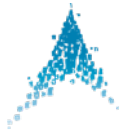
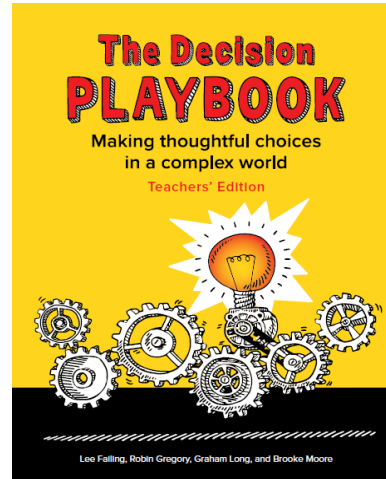
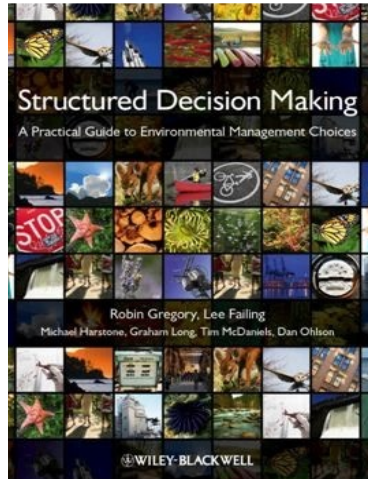


Who we are

Compass Resource Management

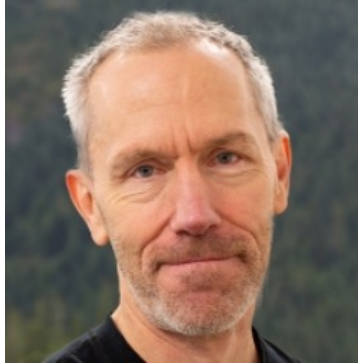
With a mission to raise the bar for the quality of decision making in civil society

- Consulting
- Research and writing
- Training and education



Our team for this project

DAN OHLSON;
BSc Engineering,
MSc Env. Planning



Project Lead

Dan is a Principal at Compass with extensive experience working on environmental management problems that involve multiple resource use conflicts, scientific uncertainty, and environmental and economic tradeoffs.

PHILIP HALTEMAN;
PhD Natural Resources,
MSc Botany



Project Lead

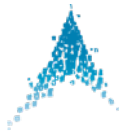
Philip is a Principal at Compass who brings a background in landscape ecology, decision science, and adaptive management to bear on difficult natural resource problems characterized by conflict and uncertainty.

RAE FAILING;
BA Political Science



Project Support

With a degree in political science and a background in public policy, Rae brings a sharp analytical lens, a range of experiences in creative workshop design and facilitation, and a passion for working collaboratively to achieve collective solutions.

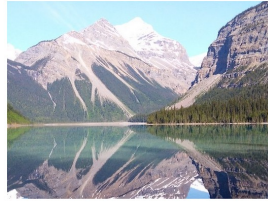


We apply an SDM approach to all kinds of messy problems...

Natural resources, infrastructure, community services, governance design...



Linear Disturbance and Access Management



Mount Robson Pest and Wildfire Risk Management



Platte River Recovery Implementation Program



Expert Judgment for Greater Sage Grouse Releases



BC Water Use Planning Program



Saulteau First Nations Watershed Management



Missouri River Recovery Planning



Metlakatla Cumulative Effects Management



Elk Valley Water Quality Plan



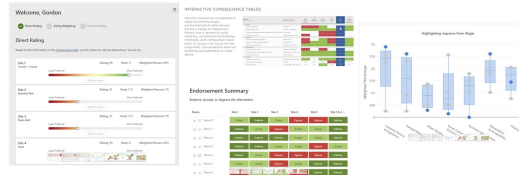
Climate Action Planning for BC



Land Use Planning and Adaptive Management



Bathurst Caribou Range Plan



Decision Tools



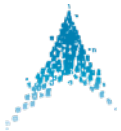
Bathurst Caribou Range Plan



Xwulqw'selu Watershed Planning Agreement



Nicola G2G Forum Facilitation



Structured Decision Making

in a nutshell



What we've learned

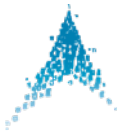
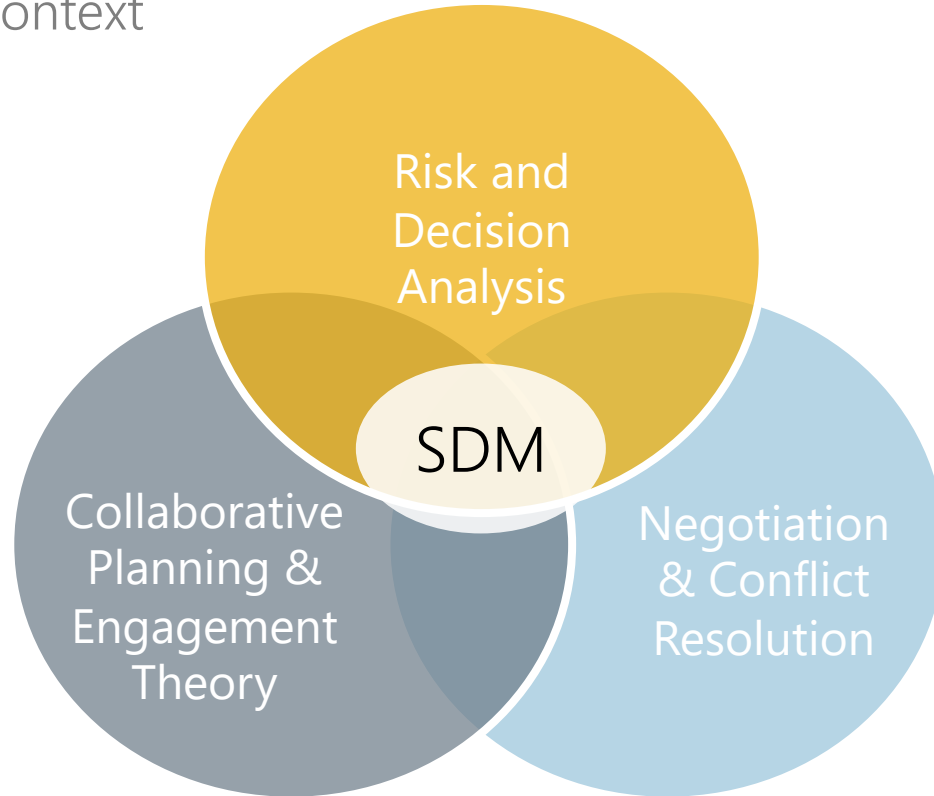
A structured decision process helps people solve problems! It....

- Provides a pathway and tools for navigating complexity and polarization
- Ensures decisions are informed by sound science and meaningful analysis
- Promotes informed deliberations about difficult trade-offs among competing values
- Builds capacity to work together for the long term (build social capital)



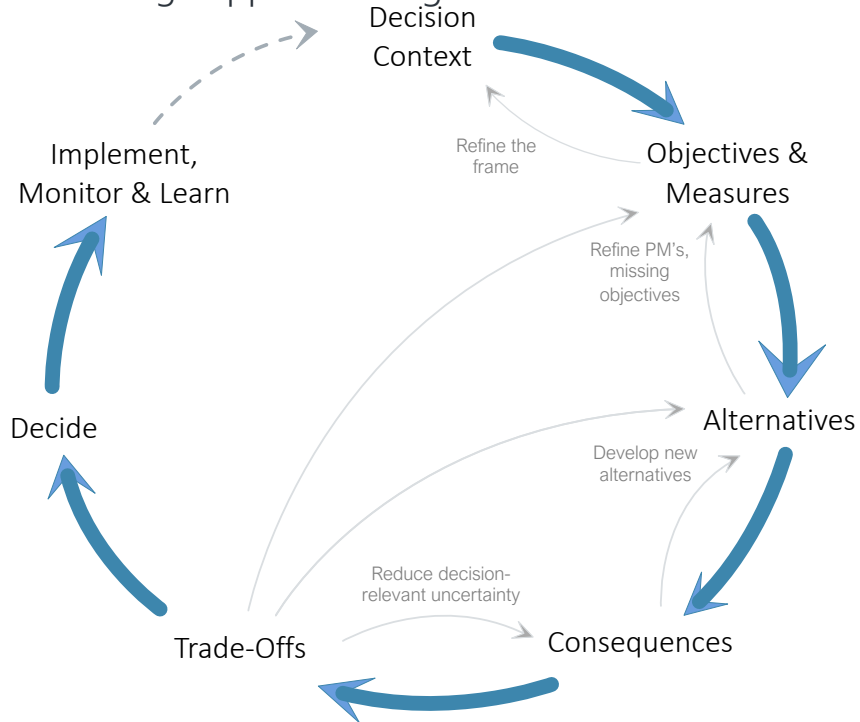
Some frameworks for reaching agreement about natural resources

Putting SDM in context



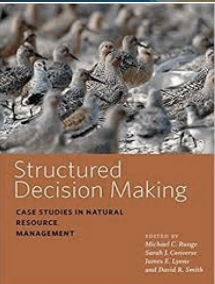
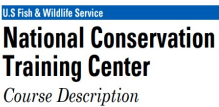
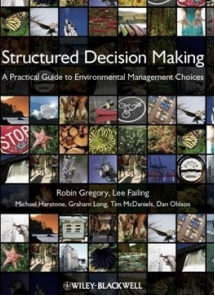
Structured Decision Making

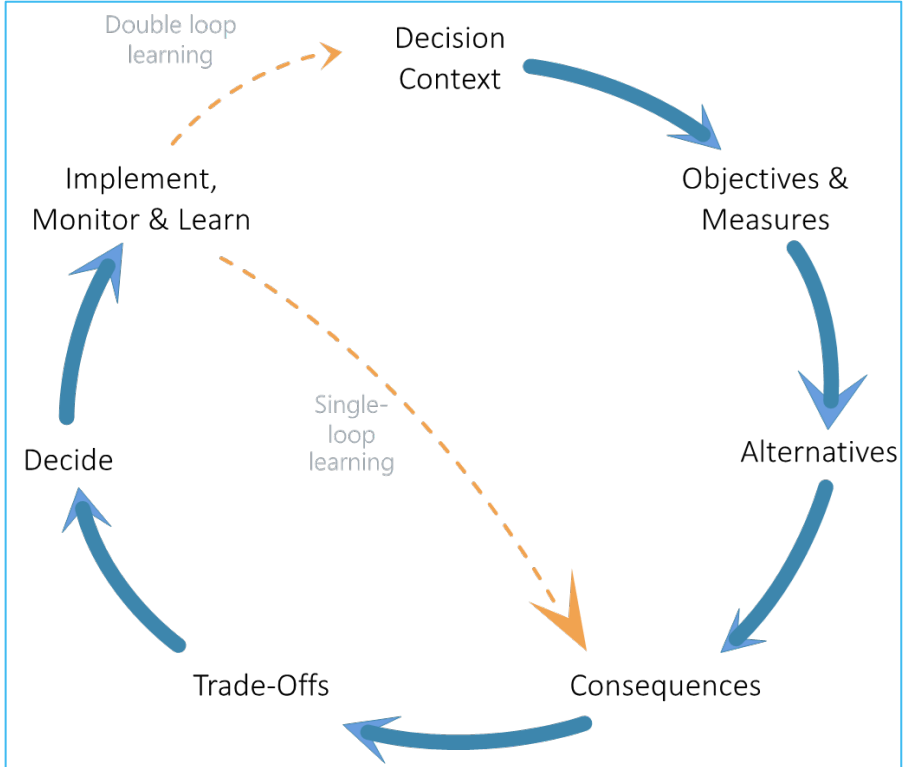
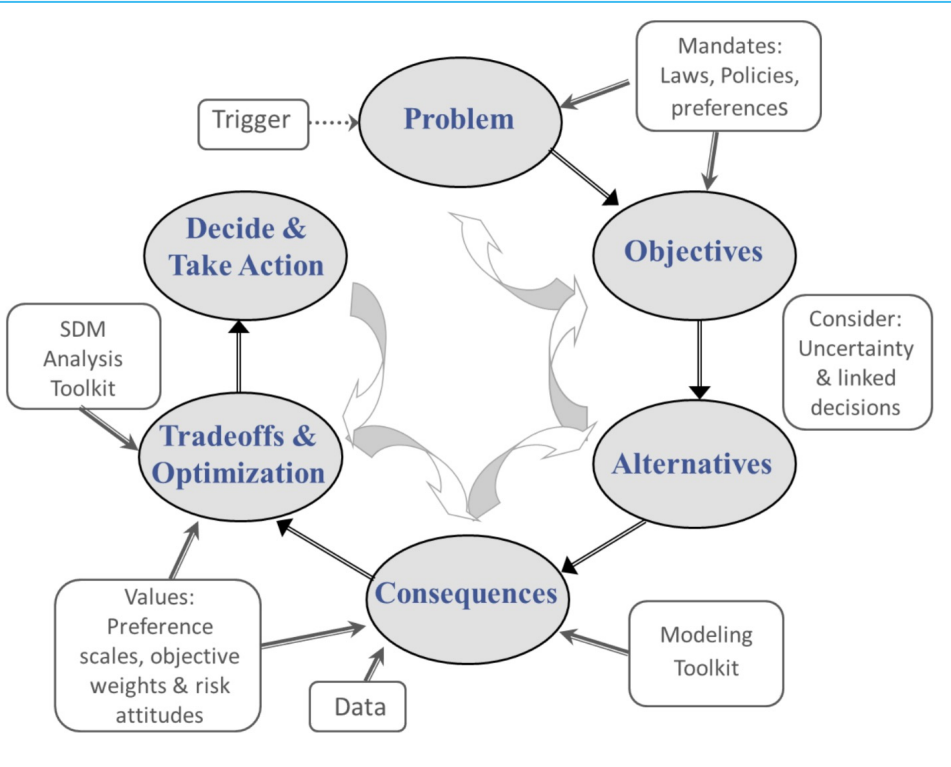
An organized approach for helping people work together to make informed and transparent value-based choices. It includes a set of steps and a set of structuring tools. It's a little messier than it looks....iteration and learning happens throughout.



It's iterative and scalable...

Do as much or as little as you need to make an informed choice





SDM Training Discussion:

What concepts or principles resonated most with you?

What other reflections do you think are relevant for the group to hear?



Update on our work with TFW Policy

Our Task with Policy

- Help advance progress on State Auditor recommendations:
 - #5 – Implement a "Net Gains" approach...
 - #6 – Adopt decision criteria *a priori*...



- Apply an SDM Framework to a well-defined decision facing Policy



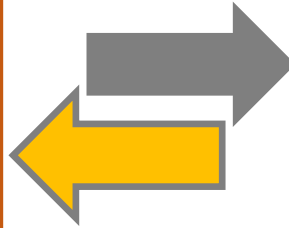
Chapter 222-30 WAC

TIMBER HARVESTING

RULES

WACs in this chapter were in effect by 2001, but some have been amended since 7/2001. The effective dates of the amended WACs are shown after the WAC headings.

WAC	To protect fish, WQ, etc.	
WAC 222-30-010	Policy--Timber harvesting.....	1
WAC 222-30-020	*Harvest unit planning and design.....	2
WAC 222-30-021	*Western Washington riparian management zones.....	7
WAC 222-30-022	*Eastern Washington riparian management zones.....	17
WAC 222-30-023	Riparian management zones for exempt 20-acre.....	
WAC 222-30-025	Even-aged harvest--Size and timing.....	
WAC 222-30-030	*Stream bank integrity.....	
WAC 222-30-040	Shade requirements to maintain water temperat.....	
WAC 222-30-045	Salvage logging within riparian management zo.....	
WAC 222-30-050	Felling and bucking.....	
WAC 222-30-060	Cable yarding.....	
WAC 222-30-062	*Large woody removal or repositioning.....	



SCHEDULE L-1

KEY QUESTIONS, RESOURCE OBJECTIVES, AND PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT

[This schedule provides the key questions, resource objectives, and performance targets for the provisions of the agreement as the provisions of the agreement are implemented through rule, statutes and programs.]

Objectives & Performance Targets

Overall Performance Goals: Forest practices, either singly or cumulatively, will not significantly impair the capacity of aquatic habitat to:

- Support harvestable levels of fish and wildlife populations;
- Support the long-term health of riparian ecosystems; or
- Meet or exceed water quality standards (protective designated uses, narrative and numeric criteria, and antidegradation).

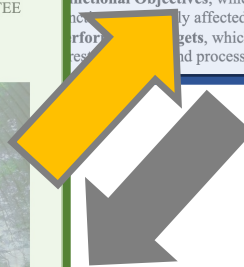
Resource Objectives: Forest practices, either singly or cumulatively, will not affect practices. These resource objectives are intended to meet the overall performance goals. Resource objectives consist of:

Functional Objectives, which are broad statements of objectives for the major watershed not directly affected by forest practices; and
Performance Targets, which are the measurable criteria defining specific, attainable target results.

2023-2025 BIENNIUM CMER WORK PLAN

Effectiveness & Validation Studies

To verify that rules achieve performance targets, and that these are protective enough

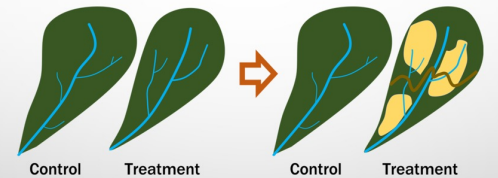


What we know about ENREP

- “Are the Eastside riparian rules effective?”
- Three Critical Questions:
 1. What is the magnitude of change in water temperature, canopy closure, and stream cover of Type Np channels in the first two years after harvest?
 2. What is the magnitude of change in stream flow and suspended sediment export from the Type Np basin in the first two years after harvest?
 3. What is the relationship between observed changes in resource condition and forest management activity?



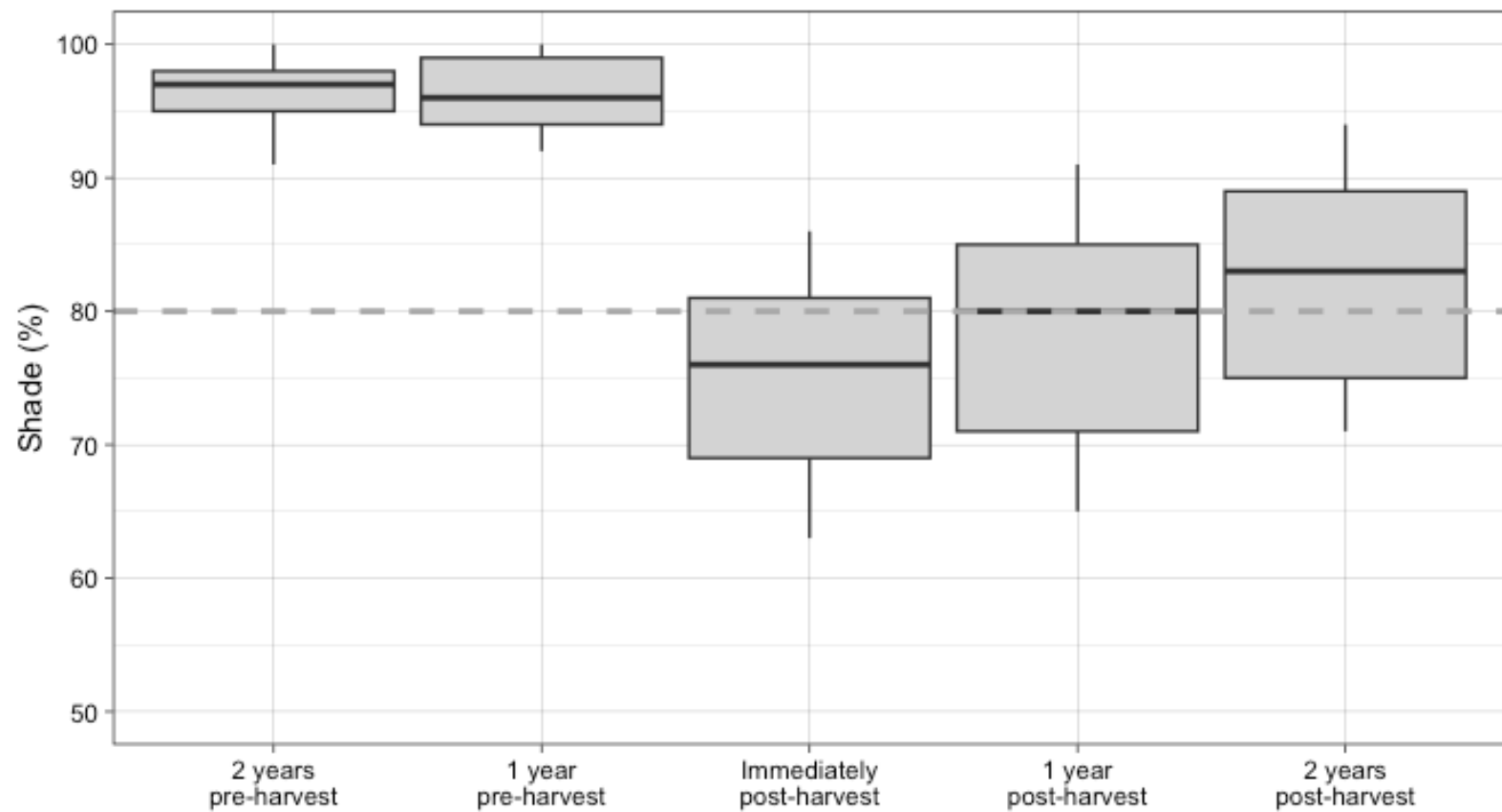
APPROACH:
BEFORE-AFTER, CONTROL-IMPACT (BACI)
ACROSS A GRADIENT...



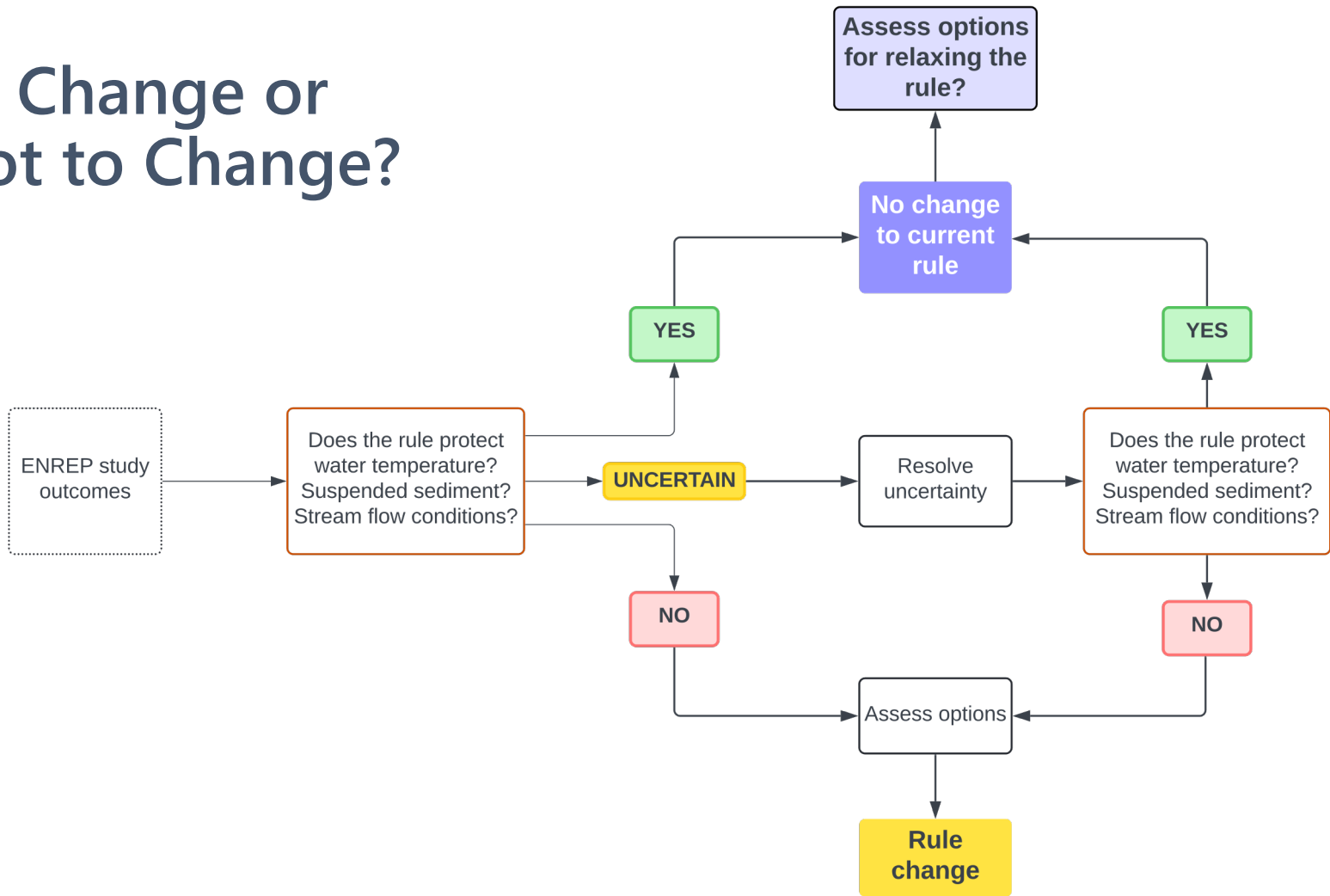
2+ Years Pre-Harvest

2+ Years Post-Harvest





To Change or Not to Change?



Decision Space

Decision Objectives

Management Actions

(e.g., buffer width, buffer continuity, basal area requirements, debris management, etc.)



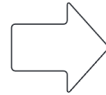
Upstream Impacts

Riparian Ecosystem Health

Relative/Incremental Forestry Revenue

Treaty Resources
land access, preservation of important cultural sites, gathering resources,

Stewardship Sensibility

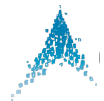
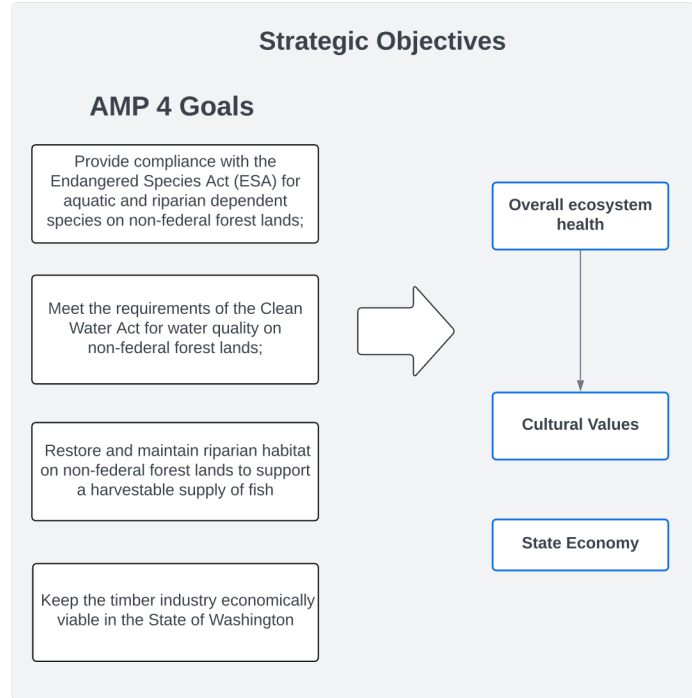
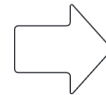


Downstream Impacts

Riparian Ecosystem Health

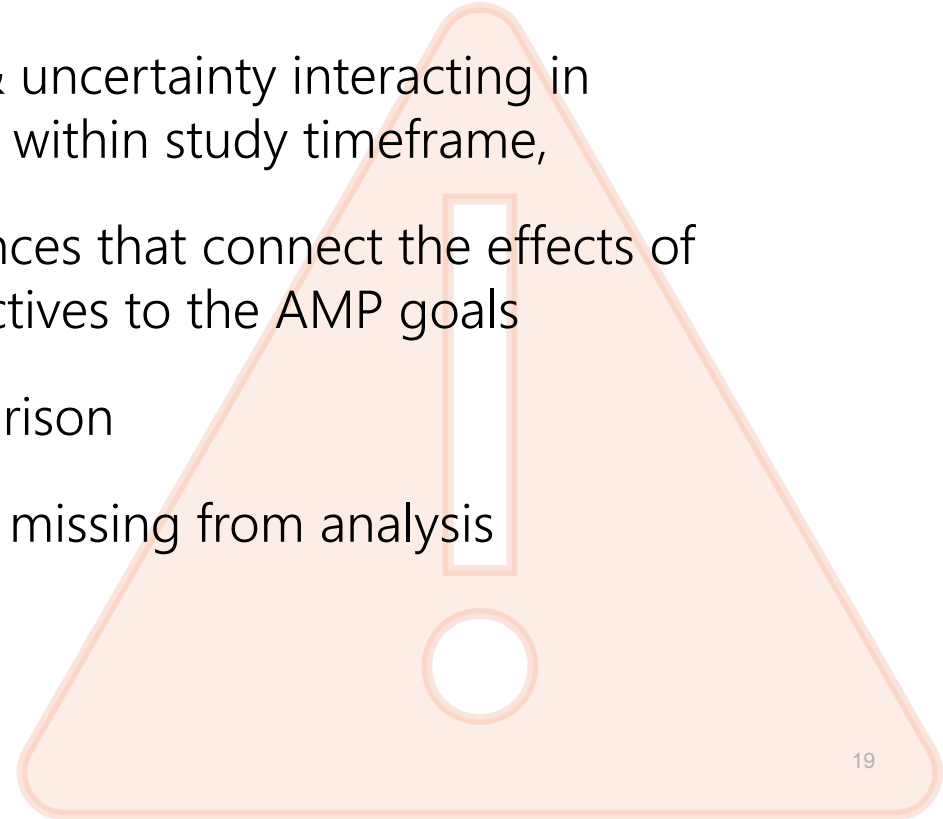
Treaty Resources
land access, preservation of important cultural sites, gathering resources,

Stewardship Sensibility



Based on our (developing) understanding, ENREP provides some challenges:

1. High likelihood of variability & uncertainty interacting in outcomes, lack of clear trends within study timeframe,
2. Limited ability to make inferences that connect the effects of the rules to the decision objectives to the AMP goals
3. Lack of alternatives for comparison
4. Some fundamental objectives missing from analysis



Potential Workstreams

1. Clarify connections between rules and decision objectives
2. Design additional alternatives to compare
3. Develop approaches for estimating consequences of all alternatives, including economics
4. Explore approaches for making predictions for all alternatives (optional)



Next Steps

- Develop a workplan (focusing on work with Policy and CMER) to advance an SDM approach to improve decision making for the ENREP study.
- Periodic updates to the Board



Thanks!

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