

Syilx-led reintroduction of sockeye salmon into the Okanagan River



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Background

- Syilx world view and importance of salmon
- Colonial Impacts to Syilx and salmon
- Colonial Impacts to health
- Okanagan Sockeye Restoration Initiatives

Photo: N. Willows; Okanagan Nation Alliance

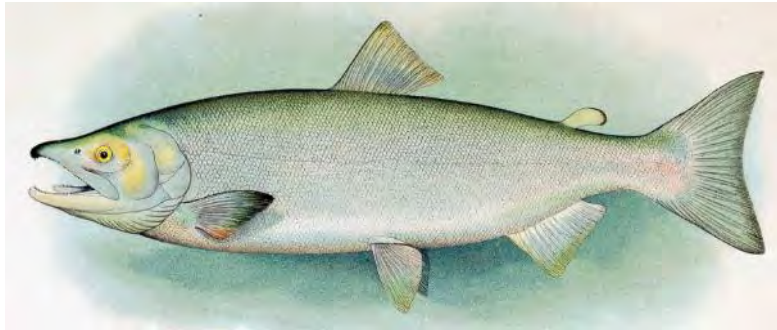


Photo: S.Johnson & Nation Member Facebook



Sockeye (sc 'win) are Anadromous Fish

Sockeye: Spawning and ocean-dwelling phases



Okanagan River



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/8/88/Sockeye_adult_male.jpg/1200px-Sockeye_adult_male.jpg

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/6/63/Oncorhynchus_nerka.jpg

By Pfly - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=2010626>

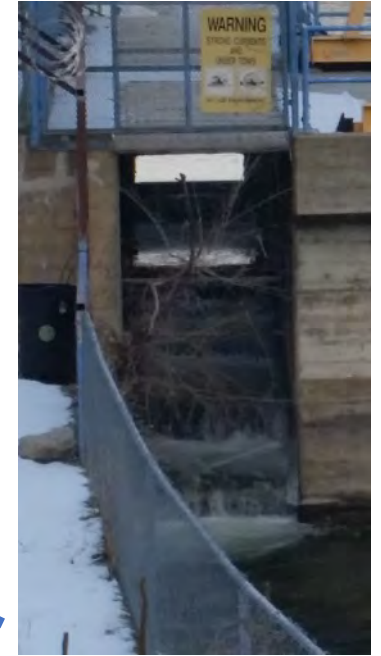
Restoration Actions



Photo: ORRI



Photo: R. Blanchet



Included:

- Water Flow Management
- Fish passage past dams
- Habitat restoration
- Salmon Fry Release
- Social gatherings and ceremony



Photo: N Willows



Photo: R. Blanchet

Successful Outcomes



Photo: S.Johnson



Photo: Okanagan Select Salmon



Photo: ONA Facebook

Communities



Photo: Nation Member Facebook



Photo: Nation Member Facebook

Households



Photo: R. Blanchet

Community-University Partnership

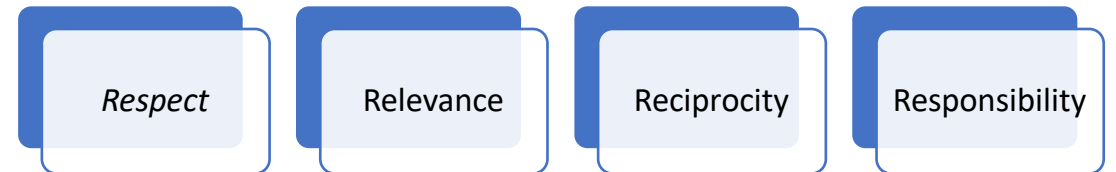


Relationship Building

- *With the topic and the people affected by it*



Photo: P.Terbasket: Okanagan Salmon and Our Health



The 4 Rs: (Kirkness, & Barnhardt, 2001).

Community Based Research Timeline

CIHR Funding
Awarded

Initial Engagement

FNFNES.
Okanagan Lead
Researcher (OSOH)

Research Engagement

Nation & Community

Data Collection

Training
Surveys
Interviews
Community Updates

Publications

Open Access Journals
Media

2012

2014

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

2021

Research Proposal

Nation/University
Partners

Community Engagement

Councils,
TEK , Elders,
Project tools developed

Results

Nation review
Publication process
Infographics
Community review
Infographics sharing.



Photo: N Willows

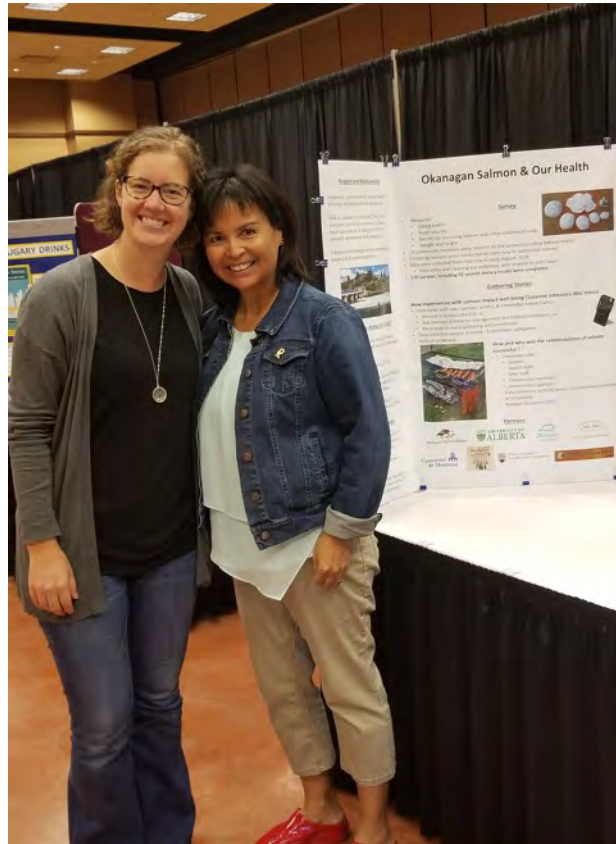


Photo: S.Johnson



Photo: S.Johnson



Photo: P.Terbasket

Community Engagement

- Participating in Nation gatherings, events, ceremonies
- Meetings and discussion with community
- Prepping Salmon for the feast
- Experiences with salmon, water and the land

Indigenous & Community-Based Research Principles

- OCAP™ Principles
 - Ownership
 - Control
 - Access
 - Possession (<http://www.fnigc.ca/ocap.html>)
- Tri-Council Policy Statement
- Research is driven by the Nation
- Study is done in full partnership
- Building capacity within community
- Collaborative review processes
- Providing regular updates



Photo: R. Blanchet

CULTURAL CONNECTEDNESS

Okanagan
Salmon and
Our Health Study



Results from 265
Participants In
2017-2018*

n'titx^w

80% would like
to eat more
salmon

83% are proud of their
Nation's relation to
salmon

snaqsilx^w

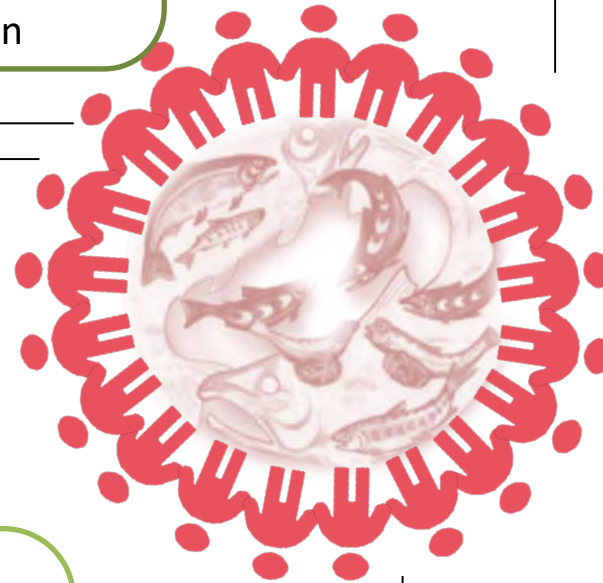
34% often refer to
traditional foods in
Nsyilxcən language

71% feel Okanagan
Sockeye Salmon was
more important than
other salmon

Nsyilxcən

55% felt that ONA fisheries
management aligned with their
cultural values

73% said that their cultural
practices and events are very
important



66% said that their cultural
identity is linked with the
salmon

Partners

*the 2017-2018 fish run was low

November 2019



Acknowledgments



Limlæmt

- Participants
- Community interviewers
- Partner communities



PENTICTON INDIAN BAND



For more information, please contact:



- Suzanne Johnson, RD, Okanagan Nation Research Lead
- Pauline Terbasket, Executive Director



- Dr. Noreen Willows, Professor
- Dr. Rosanne Blanchet, RD, Postdoctoral Fellow



- Dr. Malek Batal, Professor

Funding



Limləmt
Thank you
Merci



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