Integrated Flood Management Project Applications

September 2010

Context

- November 2009 1 in 7 year flood
- 2nd event in January 2010
- Coincidental completion of Lower Cowichan/Koksilah River Integrated Flood Management Plan

Issues Identified in the Plan

- Dikes inadequate for 200 yr flood
- TCH overtopped in 200 yr flood
- Log jams &sediment deposition serious problems
- Dyking ad hoc –unintended consequences
- Channelization maintenance and fish habitat issues
- 200 yr flood levels higher than predicted earlier
- Bridge clearances inadequate
- Development issues
- Structural solutions alone costly/impractical

The Plan -Underlying documents

Products supporting Plan

- Updated floodplain maps
- Flood scenario mapping
- Habitat sensitivity maps

The Plan -Goals

- Reduce flood risk to communities; protect aquatic, riparian habitat, cultural values
- Innovate to minimize short/long economic, environmental, social costs (where possible build on assets).
- 3. Achievable, broadly supported, sustainable

The Plan -Strategies/Principles

- Plan strategies discuss :
 - Naturalized state
 - Siting of future development
 - No net adverse impacts
 - Decrease vulnerability re current situation
 - Channel conveyancing and off channel relief
 - Promote basin wide planning initiatives
 - Ongoing monitoring/maintenance

Recommended Actions

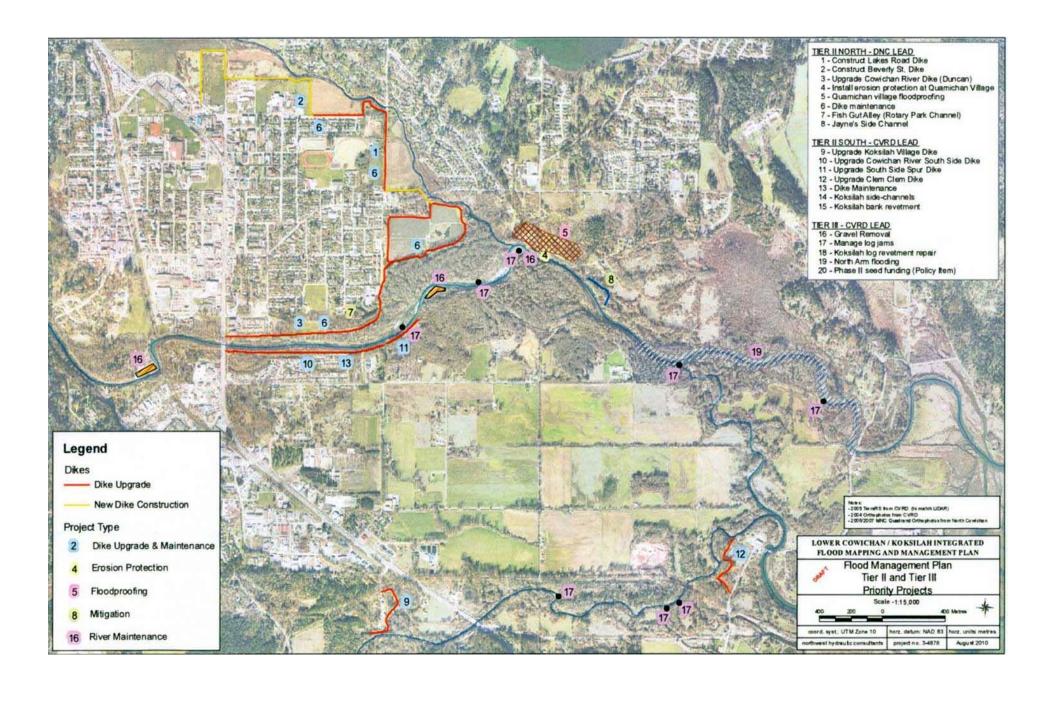
- Dike upgrades & new dike construction
- Channel maintenance/improvement
- Gravel and log jam removal/maintenance
- Veg. removal
- Set back dike construction
- Upstream sediment/debris control
- Road modifications
- Bridge replacements
- Recommended compensation projects

Federal/Provincial Program

- Announced June 2010
- Tier 1 infrastructure projects to be completed early 2011 (deadline July 30)
- Tier 2 infrastructure projects –completion dates early 2014 (deadline Sept. 24)
- Tier 3 strat. flood protection -completion dates early 2014 (deadline Sept. 24)

Federal/Provincial Program cont'd

- Program for local govts. and dyking authorities 1/3-1/3-1/3 funding
- FN's projects "funded separately and administered by INAC"



Issues

- Gt. Opp. -recent flood, new plan, lots of projects.
- Complex model
- Deadlines -no time to digest plan, model, or for comment/buy-in by those affected including INAC
- No formal governance structure
- Risk of increasing CT's flood protection gap
- Good will within community
- Politics difficult.

Role of Watershed Board

- Attempt to provide objective voice
- General support for parties
- Work with CVRD on stakeholder/beneficiary workshop (likely won't happen in advance)
- Larger role?