

Skeena Knowledge Trust

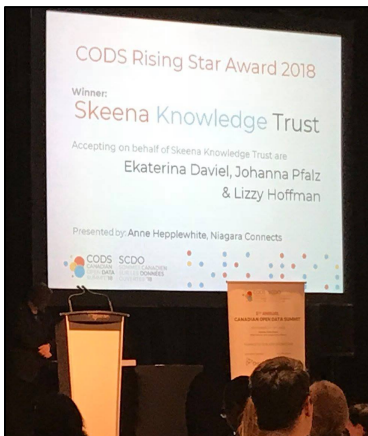
2018 Year in Review

A Year of Firsts

- First year in operation as an independent organization
- First run-through of the Annual Knowledge Plan prioritization process

Highlights

- Officially became an organization with the signing of the Skeena Knowledge Trust Agreement in September 2017
- Registered as a charity with the Canadian Revenue Agency in August 2018
- Achieved national recognition with Canadian Open Data Summit Rising Star Award in November 2018



This was a big year for the Skeena Knowledge Trust – our very first as an independent organization in fact! After many years of hard work by the Skeena Knowledge Trust Governance Establishment Group, the SKT was officially initiated in September 2017 and is now a fully-fledged and purpose trust and registered charity.

As anyone who has been involved in setting up a new organization can attest, there are a lot of details to consider and pieces to put in place, and the SKT was very fortunate to have the support of the Bulkley Valley Research Centre and funding from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation to get up and running.

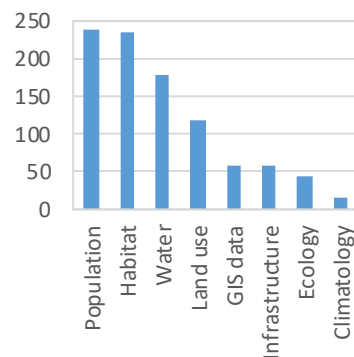
The Annual Knowledge Plan process set out by the SKT Trust Agreement was implemented for the first time in 2018 with trustees Greg Knox and Don Morgan spending time with the technical team to identify current and potential threats to wild salmon within the Skeena River watershed. The threats were used to assess risk to the objectives set out by the information management framework. High-priority objective classes and related threats identified for 2018 included:

- Wild salmon populations
 - Harvesting pressure
 - Climate change
- Wild salmon habitat
 - Development within the Skeena River estuary
 - Climate change (i.e. flow regimes)
- Hydrospheric ecosystem integrity
 - Land use activities (forestry, agriculture, energy production, mining, fossil fuel transport)
 - Transportation corridors
- Water quality
 - Pollution
 - Climate change (i.e. temperature)
- Salmon fisheries
 - Harvesting pressure

By the numbers

576 Datasets in the Skeena Salmon Data Centre

By category:



118 Layers in the Skeena Maps Portal

33 Maps in the Skeena Maps Portal

25 Users with profiles on the Skeena Salmon Data Centre

24 User accounts on the Skeena Maps Portal

Featured datasets



Fisheries and Oceans Canada water temperature monitoring within the Upper Bulkley River watershed (15 datasets)



Nutrients and Algae in the Upper Bulkley River Watershed 1997-2000

Activities

- ✓ Presented on the SKT at the Bulkley Valley Research Centre Seminar Series and the Canadian Open Data Summit
- ✓ Supported the Babine Lake Invisible Migration Celebration
- ✓ Introduced the Skeena Salmon Data Centre to the Upper Bulkley Roundtable and worked with researchers to increase accessibility of ongoing monitoring data
- ✓ Digitized over 70 reports from the Nadina Community Futures Watershed Library and added to Data Centre
- ✓ Prepared interactive maps on the Skeena Maps Portal for a variety of water quality monitoring assessments

2018 marked a year of growth not only for the SKT as an organization but also in terms of resources and datasets curated for the Skeena Salmon Data Centre and Skeena Maps Portal. As per the 2018 Annual Knowledge Plan, resources added to the Data Centre focused on water quality and quantity within the Skeena River watershed, regional climatology and climate change impacts, and the digitization of materials primarily related to salmon and salmon habitat within the Upper Bulkley River watershed. Datasets added to the Maps Portal included provincial base mapping, land use, and infrastructure layers.

On the technical side of things, the SKT technical team hosted a coding sprint in September and number of technical upgrades were prioritized and initiated/completed for the Skeena Salmon Data Centre and the Skeena Maps Portal in 2018. Help pages were developed and integrated into the Skeena Salmon Data Centre and Skeena Maps Portal in order to provide guidance for users and improve user experience.

The importance of good data governance, storage, organization, and management is becoming increasingly recognized by universities, governments, and organizations in Canada and around the world, and the open data movement is gaining traction as a means of improving government transparency and providing citizens with access to information. The SKT was born from the need to know what salmon related information exists in the Skeena River watershed and how it is changing in order to support more informed decision-making about Skeena salmon and their habitats, and is now starting to gain recognition as a leader among community data portals in Canada.

After a fantastic first year, we are excited to see where the coming years will take us!

Recognition



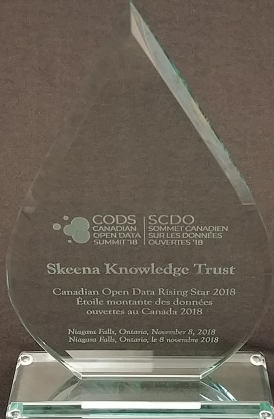
Winner of 2018 Canadian Open Data Summit Rising Star Award



Invited to contribute to collaborative working sessions with BC Water Funders Collaborative Water Monitoring & Reporting Working Group and Geoscience BC

Looking Forward

- Complete upgrade to the Skeena Maps Portal and add enhancements to the Skeena Salmon Data Centre including:
 - Search by spatial area
 - Additional support for private data set management
 - Enhanced data visualization capability
- Diversify funding resources to support operations and projects
- Continue to develop relationships with individuals and organizations conducting relevant research and monitoring
- Reach out to community members and organizations on the coast to raise the profile of the SKT and increase usership
- Develop educational workshops and materials to introduce the SKT tools to new users



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