



Western Washington University
Western CEDAR

Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference
(Seattle, Wash.)

Apr 6th, 9:15 AM - 9:30 AM

The community engagement process: inclusivity, integration across cultures and fostering boundary permeability

Don Castleden

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The Application of Knowledge that Leads to Action

Presenters

Aaron Clark	Puget Sound Green Infrastructure Summit Across a Region and Sectors
	Sound Impacts: Building an Impact Metrics Portal
Rick Dinicola	Ground Water Availability: Shared Application of Hydrogeologic Tools
Don Castleden	Community Engagement: Inclusivity, Integration Across Cultures, Boundary Permeability
Casey Palmer-McGee	Samish Indian Nation – Efforts to Remove Marine Debris and Creosote Using GIS
Sara Breslow	Fostering Novel Collaboration for Regional Sustainability



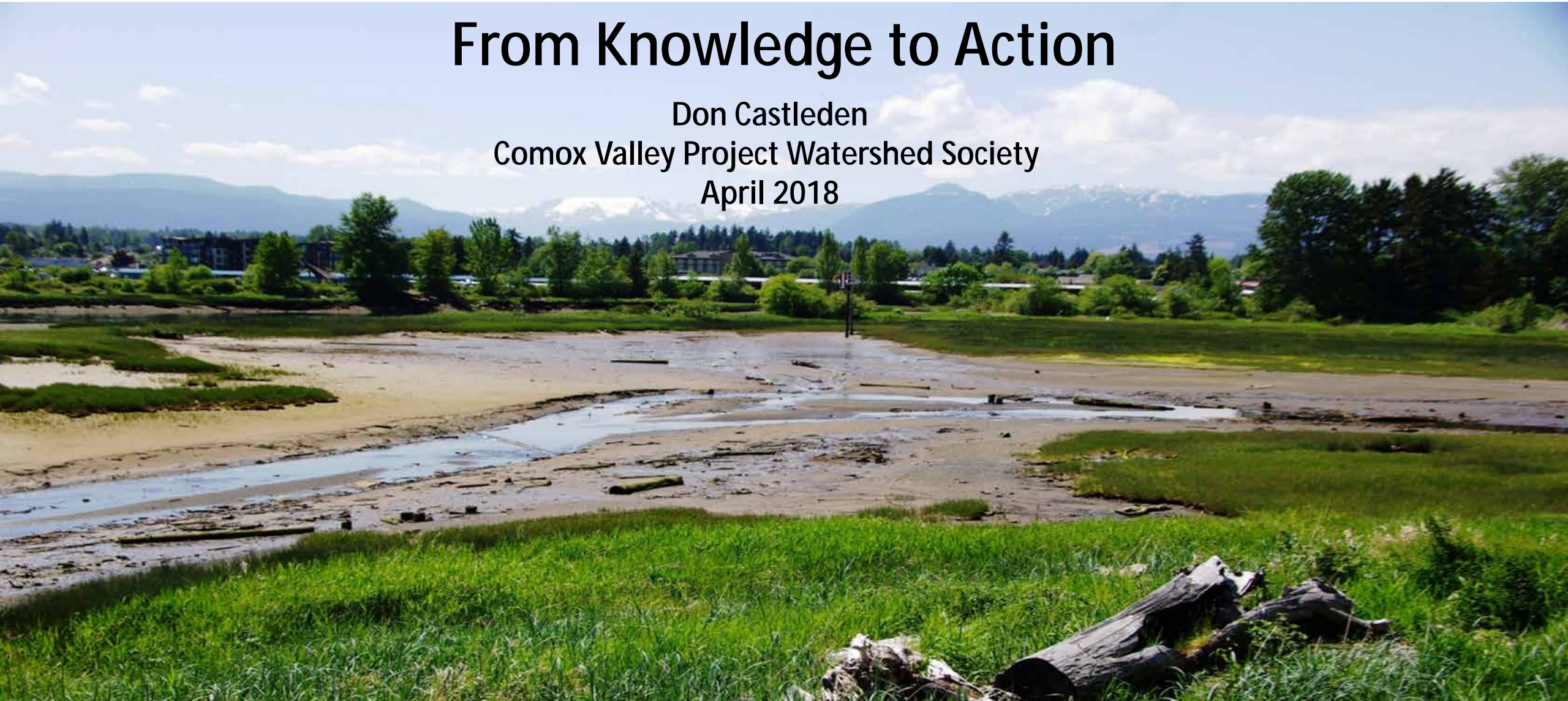
2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

From Knowledge to Action

Don Castleden

Comox Valley Project Watershed Society

April 2018

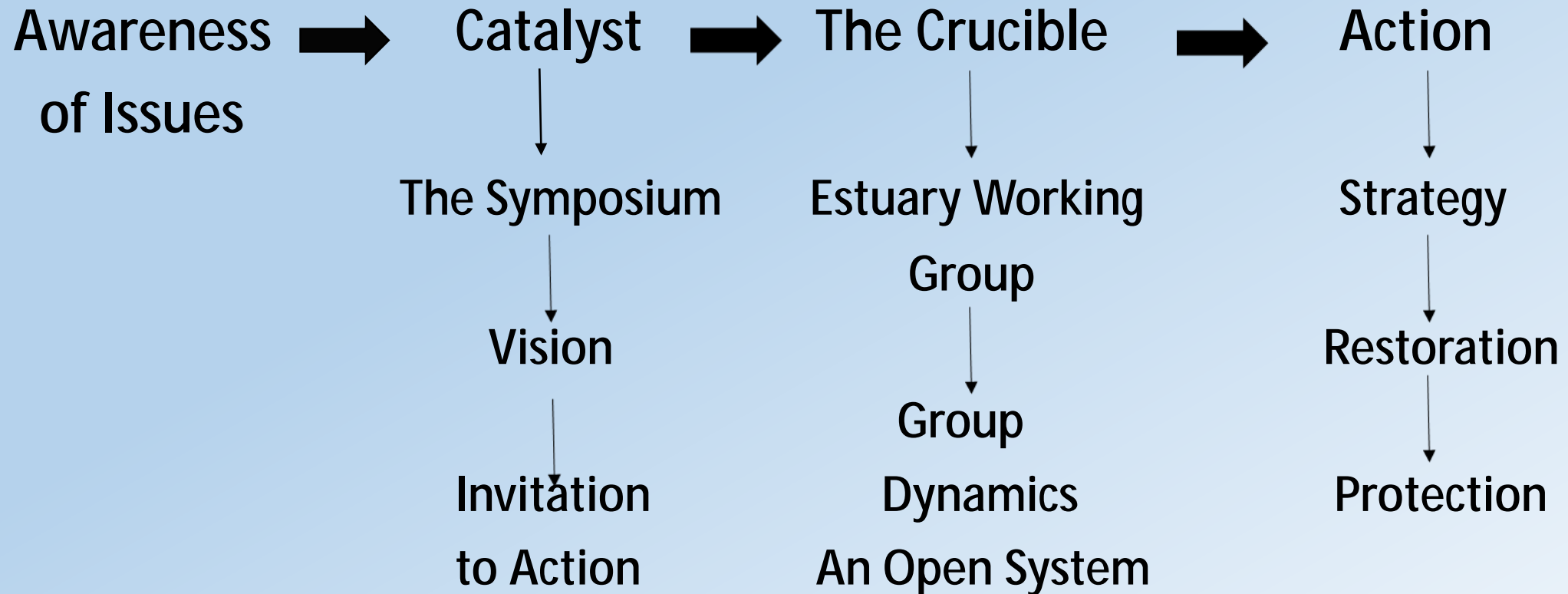


Comox Valley Project Watershed Society Estuary Working Group

Restore and Protect
K'ómoks Estuary



From Knowledge to Action - an Emergent Change Process



Awareness of Issues

- Plans to Build a Service Station on Dyke Road in the K'ómoks Estuary
- For Sale Sign on a Vacant Sawmill Site
- Seal Predation



The Catalyst

Symposium

Western & Indigenous Knowledge

Vision Exercise

“What would I like the estuary to be like
in 20 years”

Facilitated Small Groups

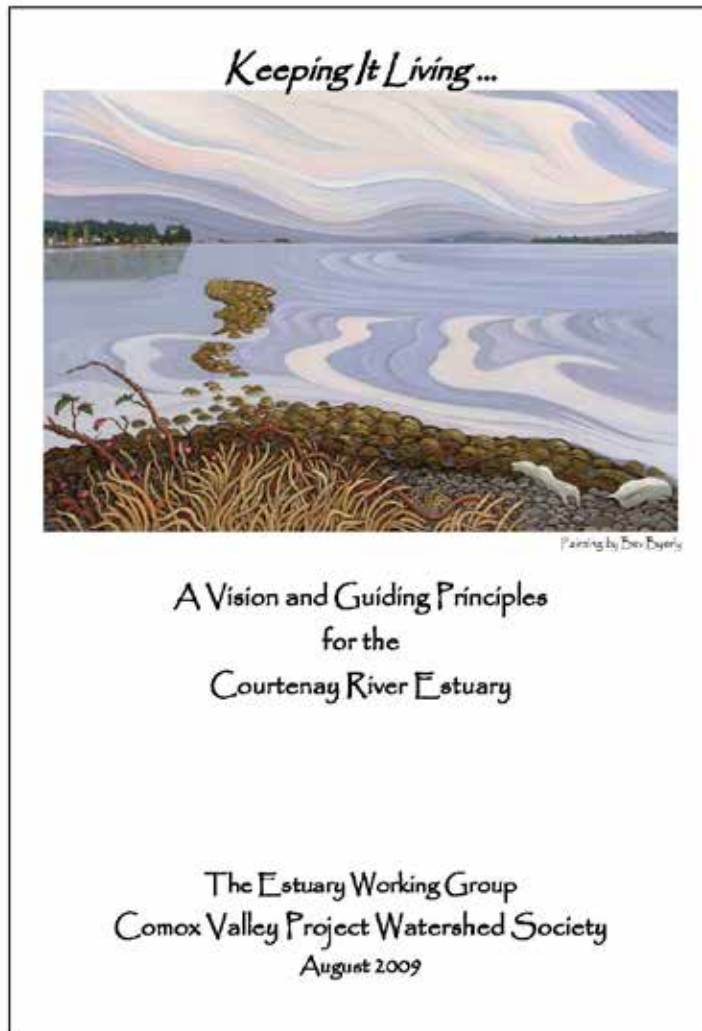
Invitation to Act



The Crucible

Estuary Working Group Forms

- Representatives from 12 Environmental Groups
- Two representatives from Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Individual Professionals – Archaeologist, Estuary Historian, 2 Biologists



'Keeping It Living'

Vision and Guiding Principles for the Courtenay River (K'omoks) Estuary

The Vision had to be acceptable to the K'omoks Nation

'What Does the Estuary Need from Us?'

An Open System

- Open system – meaningfully engages all participants in collaboratively identifying direction for the future - the visioning exercise
- Transparency and inclusion, trust, non hierarchical, emergent between equals, a genuine interest in the views of others
-
- Open innovation - the process of involving external parties in innovation processes occurring outside the organizational boundaries

The Estuary Working Group (EWG)

The Group Dynamic – Why was the group effective? Members Reflect

- Committee helps to build ideas
- It is an exciting group
- It's an effective forum for integrating knowledge & interests
- Well-run group
- Ideas are welcomed, heard, respected
- We make our own priorities
- Energy & knowledge
- It is easy to contribute
- Share our own knowledge
- Opportunity to learn from others
- Great learning experience
- Inspired by the passion on the Committee

Estuary Working Group

Members Reflect on Impact in the Community

- Raised public awareness of the estuary and Project Watershed
- No longer perceived as a threat to government **boundary issue**
- We are now a “resource” and “partner”
- Developed credibility with all three levels of government
- Allows collaboration & encourages input from various groups. We are a factor in drawing people out of their agencies to collaborate **boundary issue**
- We are viewed as the authority on estuary issues
- Contribute to a scientific understanding of the estuarine environment
- Organized: we are a hub for many organizations

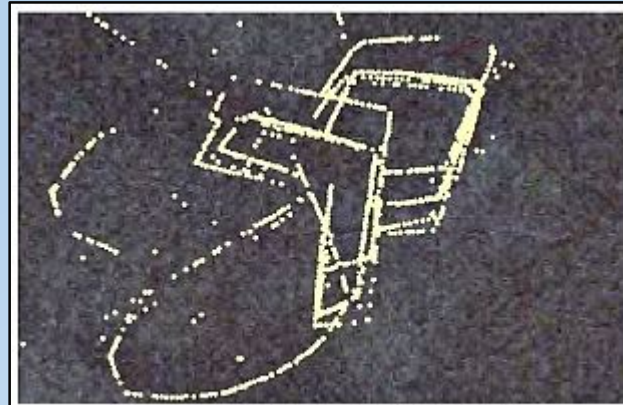
Strategy to Influence the System

- Symposium Influences the Political Process
- EWG Influences Policy - Estuary Management Plan
- Keeping It Living Award
- Effective Relationship with Local Media
- Memorandum of Agreement – K'ómoks First Nation & Project Watershed
- Briefing Municipal Candidates on Plans to Acquire & Restore the Field Sawmill Site



Protection Archaeological Research

- EWG supports Independent Archaeologist investigating stakes in the estuary
- Potential recognition of fish traps as a National Historic and World Heritage site



Comox Harbour Fish Trap Project
Heart Trap & Chevron Trap -Nancy Greene, 2010



The K'ómoks Estuary 2015

Keeping it Living

The Return of Abundance

PROJECT WATERSHED'S
Art for the Estuary
 FUNDRAISER

May 12 - 31 **Now, Then and Future:
 Exhibit & Silent Auction**
 Pearl Ellis Gallery | Tues to Sat 10-4pm & Sun 1-4pm
 Free admission. Bidding is happening now until 12:00am May 30 at the gallery
 and online at www.projectwatershed.ca/keeping-it-living-2015-auction/

May 23 **"Upstairs Downstairs" Gala**
 Pearl Ellis Gallery & the Lions Den
 Saturday 7-9pm | Tickets \$20 advance, \$25 at the door
 Available at Comox Valley Art Gallery, Pearl Ellis Gallery, Project Watershed,
 and online at projectwatershed.ca

FEATURING

- Wine & Appys - a Taste of the Estuary
- Keeping it Living - Silent Auction
- World Class Art for a World Class Estuary - Juried Live Auction
- Project Watershed - In Depth Presentation
- Featuring - Andy Everson's 2015 Artwork and Limited Edition Prints

PROJECT WATERSHED
Restoring and Protecting Our Estuary; the Heart of our Valley
 - Internationally Recognized Climate Change Mitigation and Research
 - National Historic Site Nomination Committee Member
 - Fish, bird, and wildlife habitat restoration

Sponsorship Artwork - 'Stillness'
 by Internationally Renowned Northwest Coast Artist
 Andy Everson

12"x 20" - 100 Signed Limited Edition Prints on Archival Paper \$150
 16"x 20" - 10 Signed Limited Edition Circle Prints on Canvas \$250
 24"x 40" - 10 Signed Limited Edition Circle Prints on Canvas by request.
 All prints come with a letter of authenticity and story of the image.

www.keepingitliving.co
 250-792-2873

2015 SUBMISSIONS AT A GLANCE

Backroad Estuary Morning - Brian Bucknell

The Staff Line - Bruce Muir

Views from the Courtenay Air park #101
 Bev Brierley

What's Up! - Ken Kirkby

Art Auction



Grad Student's Research
 Prioritizes Fish Habitat

Research & Restoration Projects

Blue Carbon Research

North American Partnership for Environmental Community Action (NAPECA) Research Grant

Eelgrass - Carbon Sequestration

Eelgrass and Saltmarsh Restoration



Measuring carbon sequestration in estuary sediments



Air Park Breach
with the City of Courtenay

Engineered Salt Marsh Islands Protecting the Royston Sea Side Trail

In Partnership with the Comox Valley Regional District



Simms Park Side Channel

In Partnership with the City of Courtenay



Kelp Research

- Kelp seeding (sori) on ropes
- Study of stress-resiliency of life stages



Kus-Kus-Sum Memorandum of Understanding

Project Watershed, K'ómoks Nation
and City of Courtenay collaborate in
the purchase and restoration of
Kus-Kus-Sum



Thank You
Questions?

