

Bringing Governance into Conversation with 'Traditional Knowledge'

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Norval Morrisseau (1970) *Creation*

Four Orientations

I. Ecological

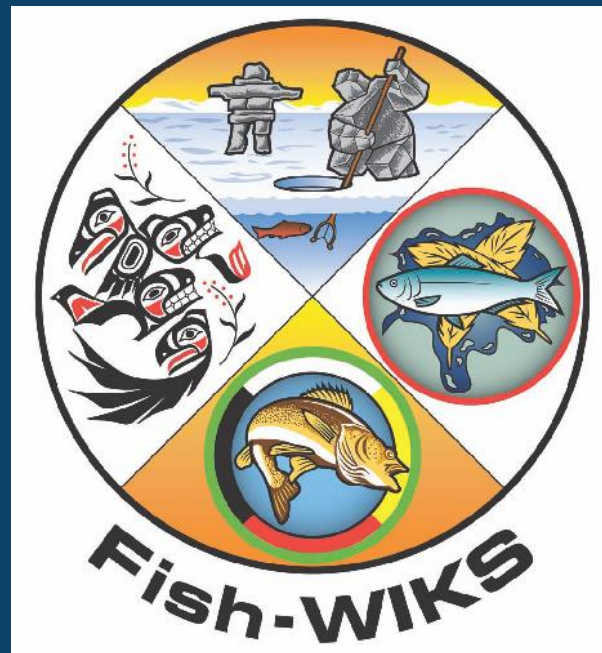
II. Critical

III. Relational

IV. Collaborative

Research Project

Fish-WIKS: Understanding how Western and Indigenous Knowledge Systems can improve the sustainability of Canadian fisheries

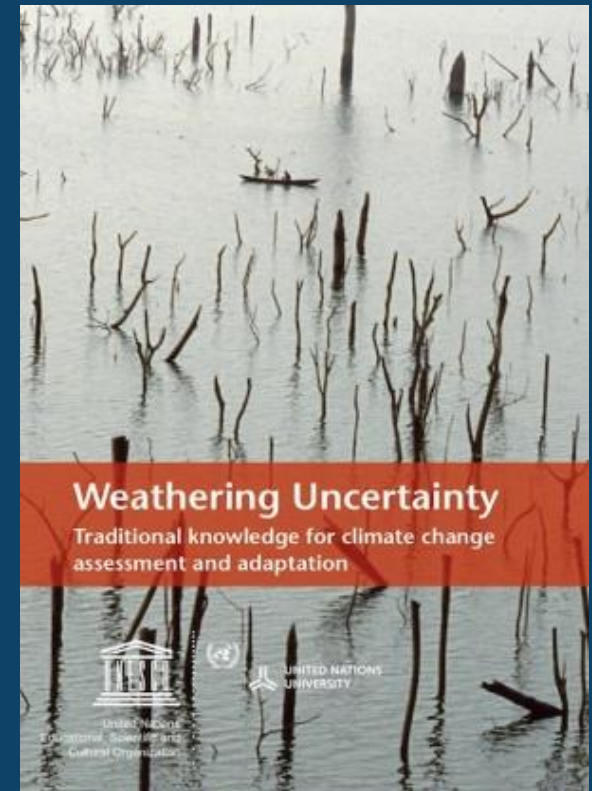
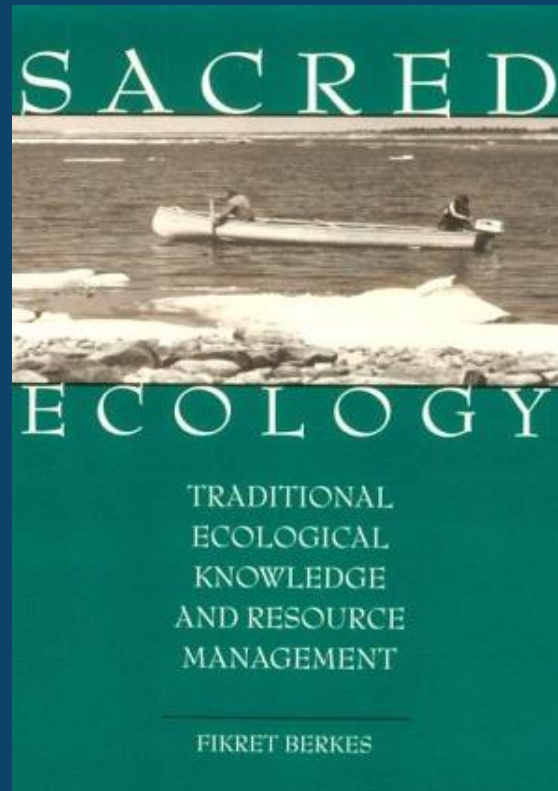
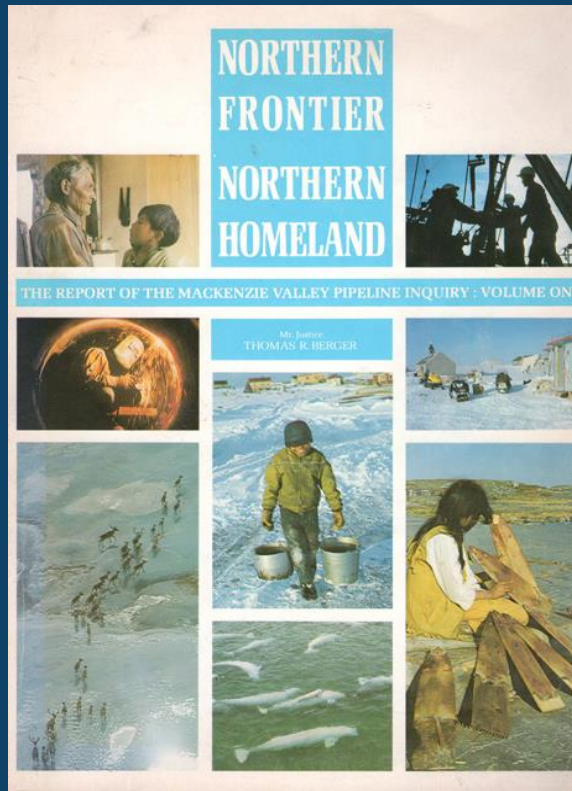


www.fishwiks.ca

Fish-WIKS

Orientation	What are the commonalities and differences between Western and Indigenous knowledge systems?	How can Indigenous knowledge systems improve fisheries management?
Ecological		
Critical		
Relational		
Collaborative		

I. Ecological



Berger Inquiry (Canada)
1977

Berkes 1999; 2012

United Nations 2012

I. Ecological

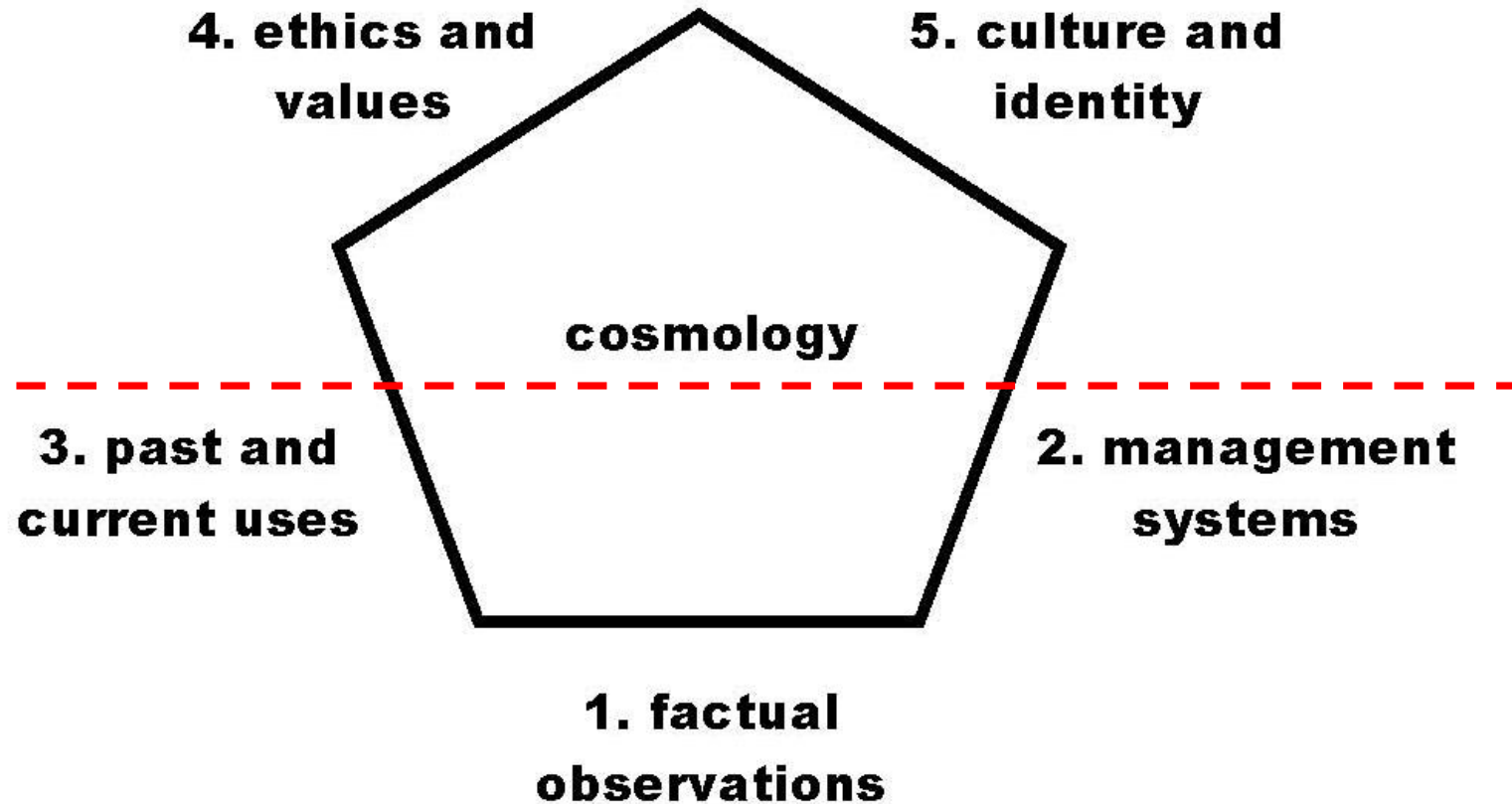
Properties

- Comparative
- Maintains Western worldview
- Focused on management
- Linear
- Outward/external orientation

Implications

- Achieves recognition
- But, extractive

II. Critical



II. Critical

Properties

- Emphasizes uneven relations of power
- Challenges co-management

Implications

- Compels important critique
- But, non-performative

III. Relational



Norval Morrisseau (1970) *Creation*

III. Relational

Properties

- Rooted in Indigenous worldview
- Focuses on responsibilities and governance

Implications

- Challenges existing policy framework
- Attends to Indigenous ways of life, self-governance, and established protocol for relating to neighbours

IV. Collaborative



*Three sisters as a model for
knowledge sharing*



Anishinabek/Ontario
Fisheries Resource Centre

IV. Collaborative

Properties

- Optimistic, long-term view
- Explores procedural innovation: processes, relationships, conditions, and frameworks that support expression of Indigenous knowledge

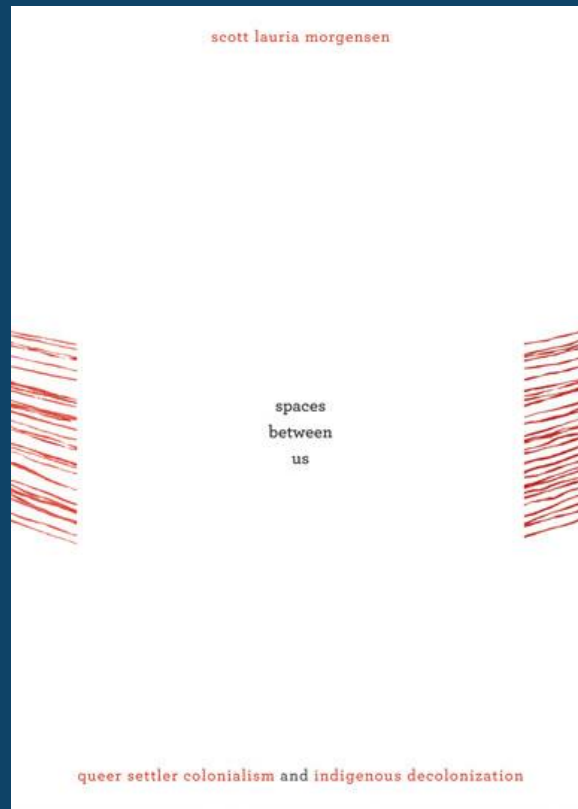
Implications

- Moves beyond critical analysis/damage-centered research
- Centers the agency, capacity, and resiliency of communities

Applied to Fish-WIKS

Orientation	What are the commonalities and differences between Western and Indigenous knowledge systems?	How can Indigenous knowledge systems improve fisheries management?
Ecological	Indigenous knowledge complements post-positivist science	Through adaptive management frameworks
Critical	Uneven relations of power marginalize Indigenous knowledge	Only with structural change
Relational	Distinct knowledge systems can be shared for mutual benefit	Through self-governance and the nation-to-nation relationship
Collaborative	Potential for knowledge co-production	Empowered, collaborative processes at multiple scales

Concluding Thoughts



Book review. Latulippe, N. (October 16 2012).
Environment and Planning D: Society and Space.

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