NORTHWEST INDIAN FISHERIES COMMISSION

Leveraging Tribal Programs

National Congress of American Indians
2011 Annual Tribal Exchange Network Conference

Palm Springs, California

May 4, 2011

Presented by: Bruce Jones
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

Member Tribes of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

Made up of 20 treaty tribes in western Washington

The NWIFC is primarily a support service organization that provides direct services to its member tribes to assist them in their natural resources management efforts.

The NWIFC employs approximately 70 full-time staff and has 3 offices.

The Challenge

➢ Tribes requirement to report to EPA (i.e., 106 funding)

➢ Desire to exchange data with partners (other tribes, NWIFC, state agencies)

➢ Tribal data management was in various formats

➢ Data needed to be stored, managed and assessable

NWIFC Exchange Network Node Project

The Solution

➢ Implement the NWIFC Node on the Exchange Network,

➢ Install Node Clients at our Tribe's offices,

➢ Create a water quality database for tribal water quality data, and

➢ Providing training on the use of the database, Node, Node Client, and Exchange Network.

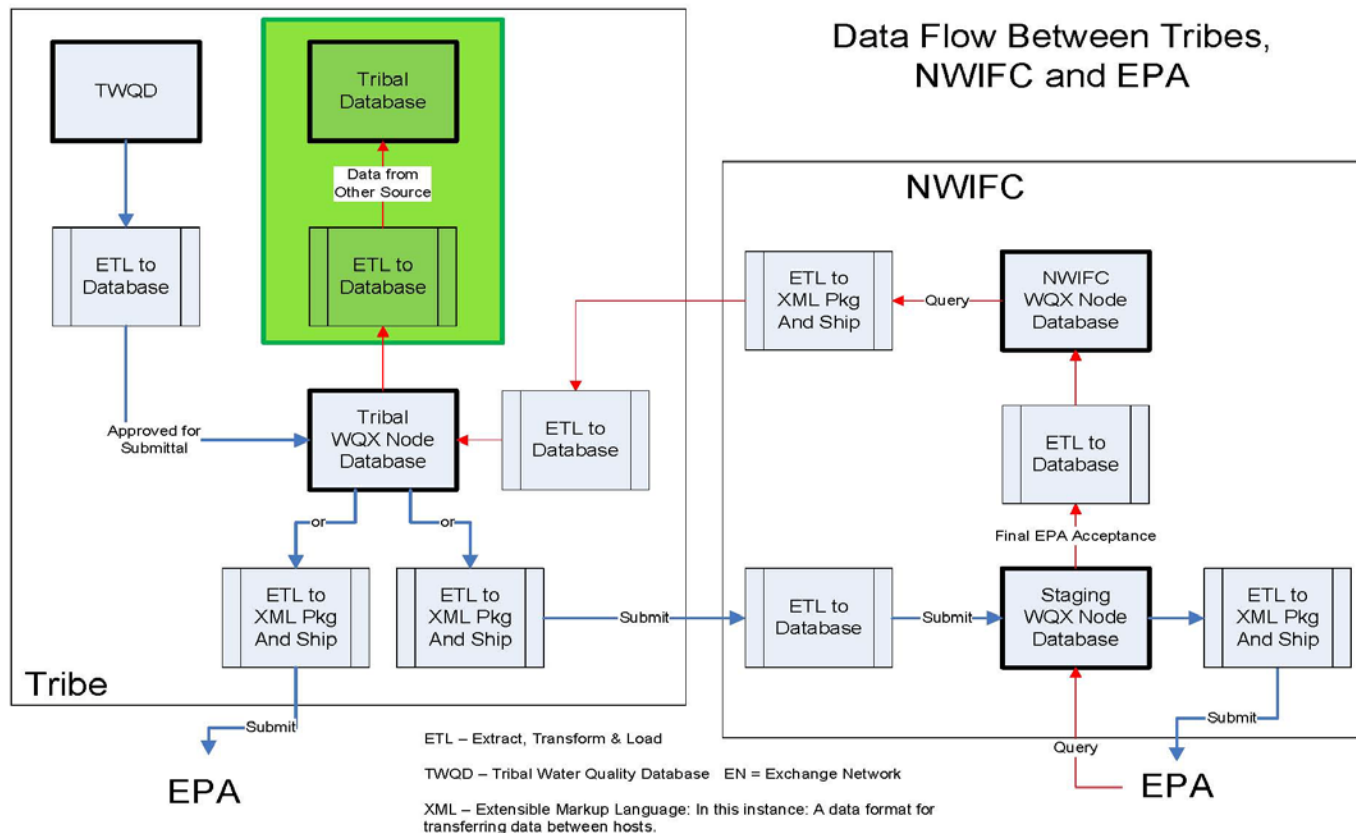# NWIFC Exchange Network Node Project

Solution Overview
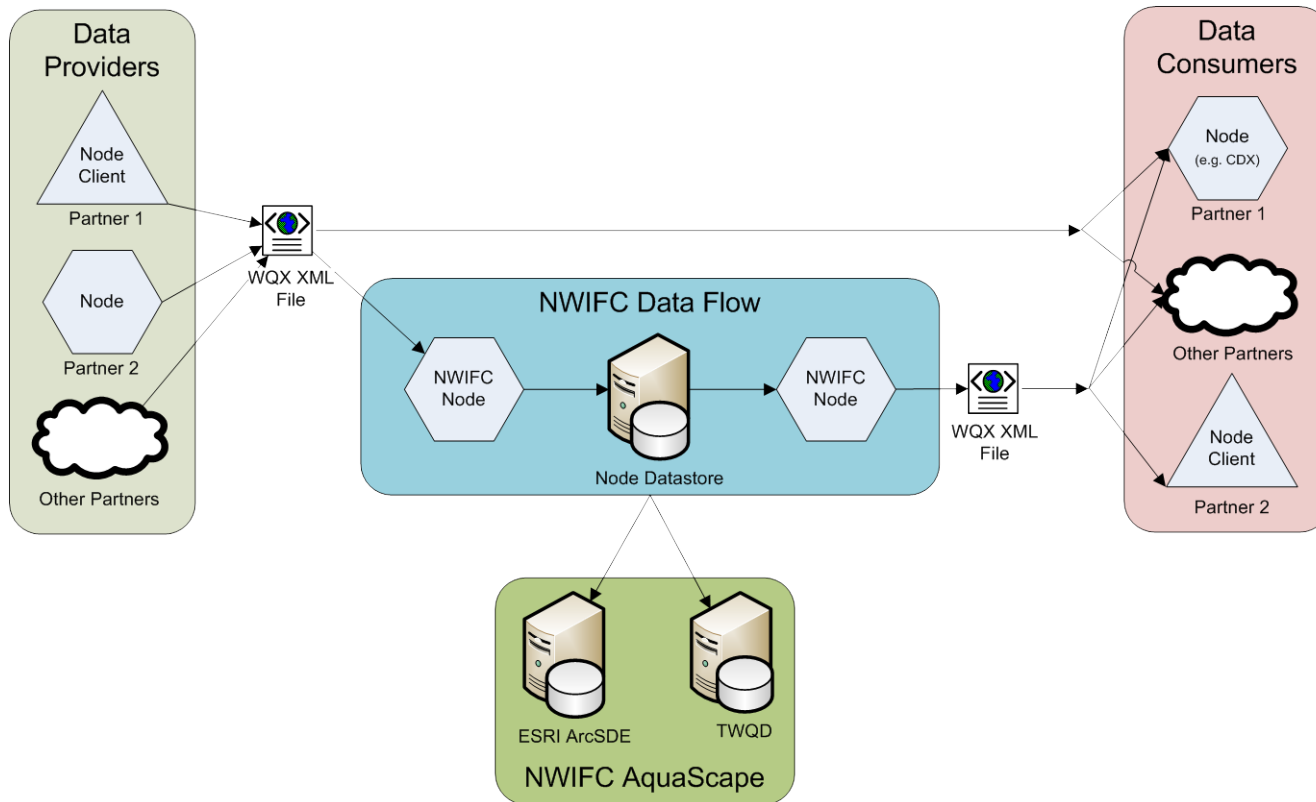
Diagram: From Windsor Solutions, Inc

Data Flow Between Tribes, NWIFC and EPA

All data received by NWIFC will be via the "Staging" Node Database. Tribal data will be passed on to EPA (as requested) and held in this database until "Accepted" (no errors) by EPA. Then data will be moved to the "NWIFC" Node database for access by member tribes and EN partners.

NWIFC Node Development Process

Currently we have:

➢17 tribes with the TWQD installed

➢15 tribes with the Node Client installed

➢ 9 tribes in production mode

➢Most tribes are currently mapping their databases/spreadsheets to TWQD to facilitate the transfer of data to EPA.

Tribal Water Quality Exchange Solution
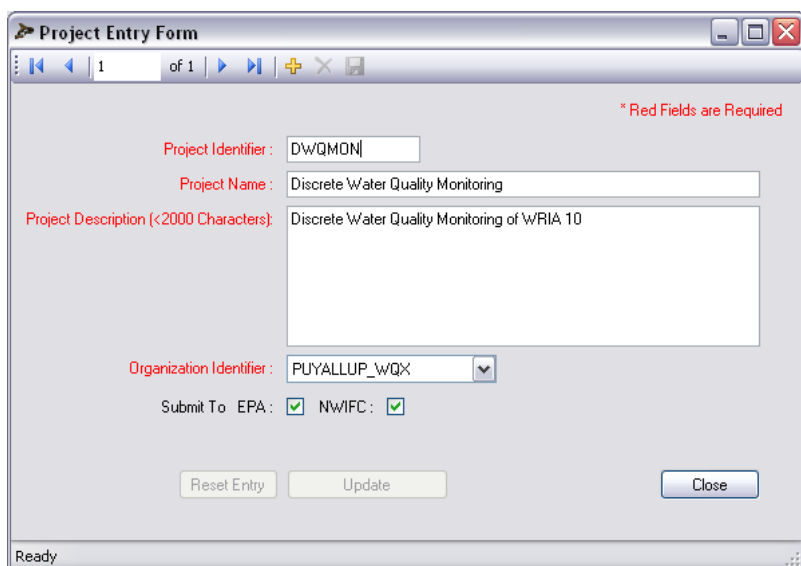
Three basic components:

➢ **Tribal Water Quality Database**
 (with Data Entry Forms)

➢ **OpenNode2**
 (installed at the NWIFC Office)

➢ **NWIFC WQX Node Client**
 (installed at Tribal Offices)

Components of NWIFC Data Exchange Solution

1. Tribal Water Quality Database (TWQD)

- Microsoft SQL Express database

- Uses WQX schema

- Validates key fields against WQX domains

- Tribes may use to store and manage data locally

Components of NWIFC Data Exchange Solution

2. Exchange Network Node
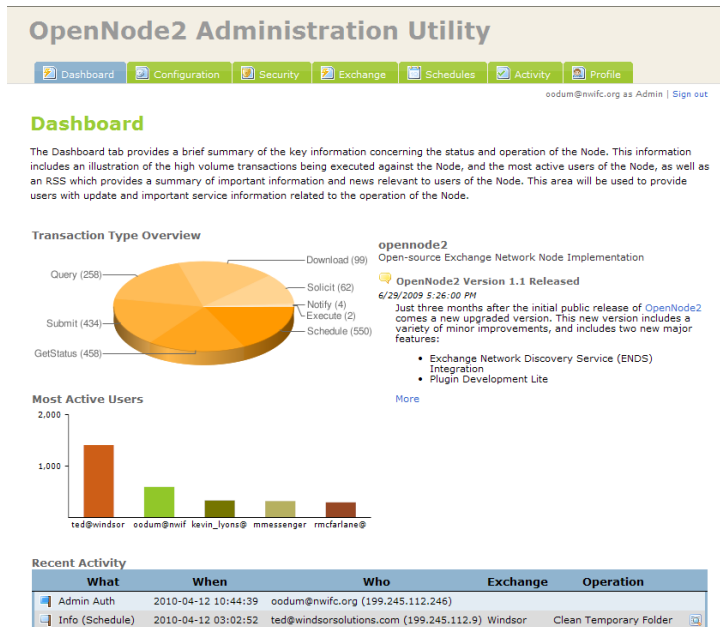
- OpenNode2 at the NWIFC communicates with tribal node clients and EPA node

- May be used to send or receive data

- Responds to requests for data from partners

Components of NWIFC Data Exchange Solution

3. Exchange Network Node Client
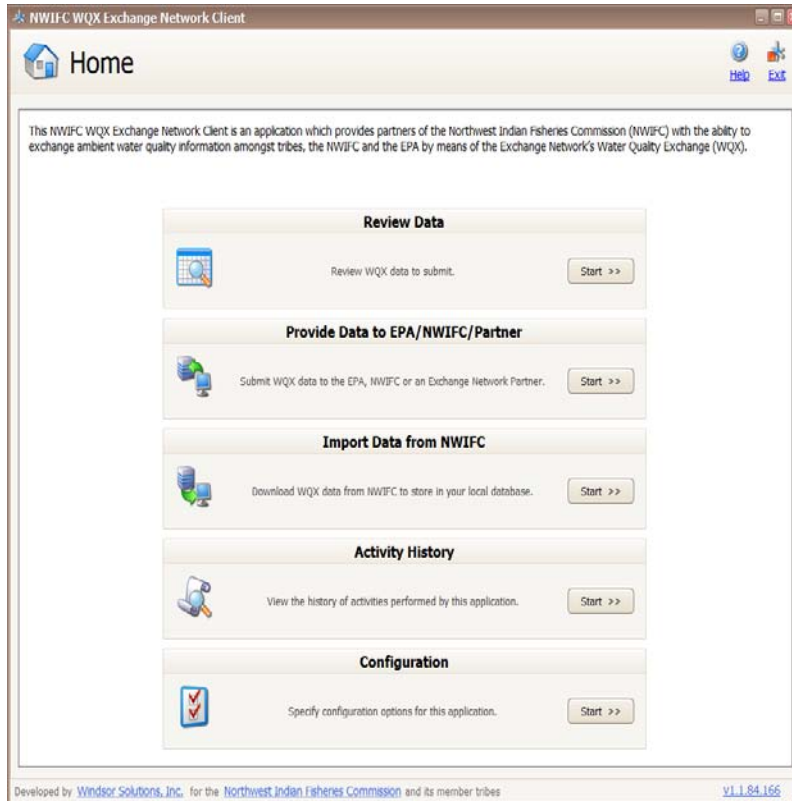
- Custom built application

- Easy to use with a browser

- Tribes may use to submit and receive data

Benefits of the NWIFC Solution

➢ **Efficient data exchange technology**

    ✓ Twenty tribes are able to exchange data with each other, EPA, NWIFC and others

➢ **Cost effective – "Build Once, Use by Many"**

    ✓ Nodes clients and TWQD are available at little or no cost

➢ **Common database structure**

    ✓ Allows for more cost-effective tools development and support

➢ **Flexible implementation**

    ✓ Accommodates differences in data resources, systems and technology among tribes

Sharing Information & Technology

- Trading Partner Agreements

- Information & Materials Sharing Agreements
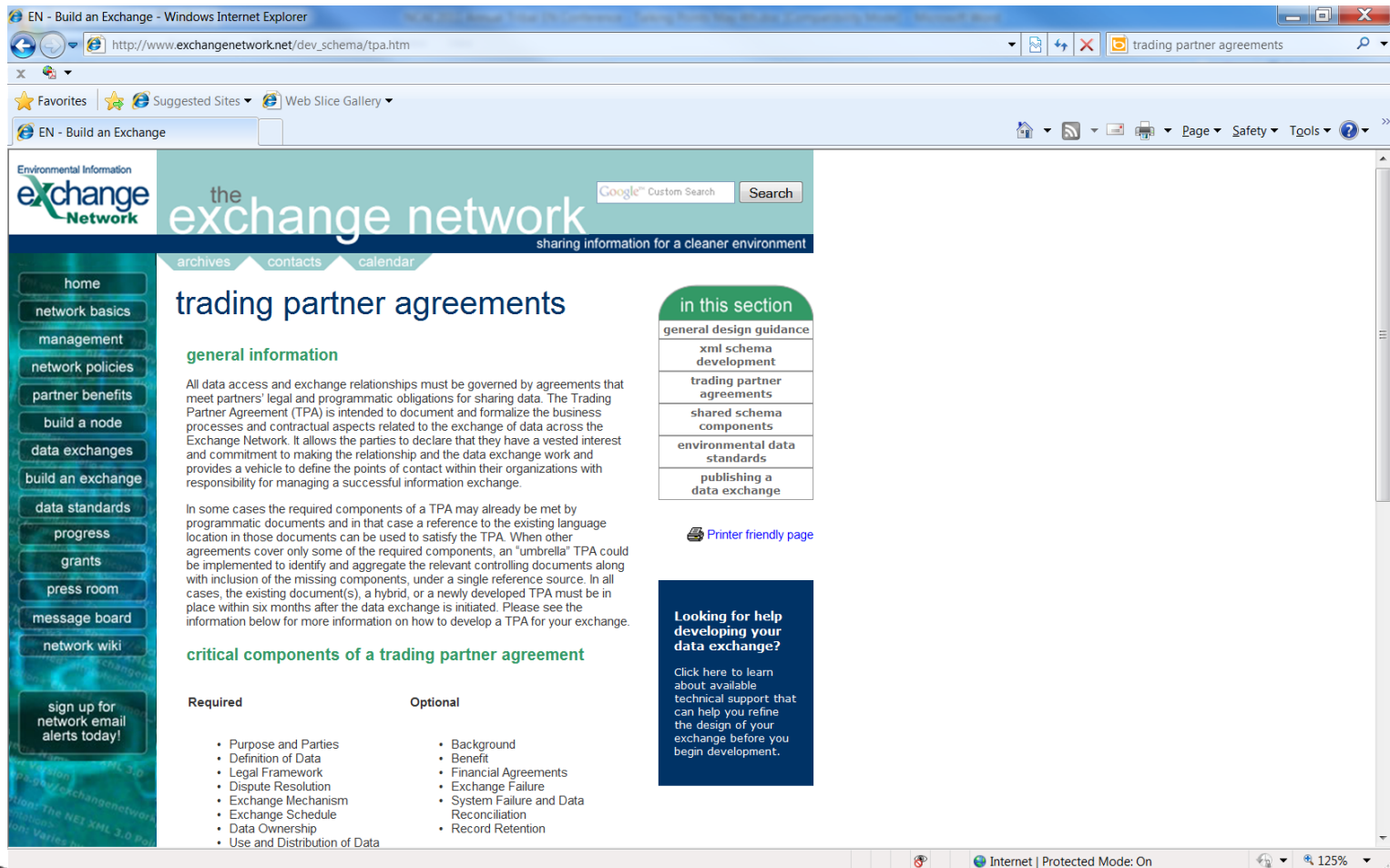
Trading Partner Agreements

- 2 Fundamental Objectives:
  - Establish and characterize a data sharing relationship
  - Document the business processes and issues
- 4 member tribes have TPAs
- Information and template: Exchange Network webpage (www.exchangenetwork.net/dev_schema/tpa.htm)

Trading Partner Agreements

Information & Materials Sharing Agreements

- 2 Fundamental Objectives:
  - Establishes an Information & Materials sharing relationship
  - Gives Grantee limited use rights to the I&M
  - Does not transfer Ownership, interest or any other property rights
  - Basically: Use but don't Sell
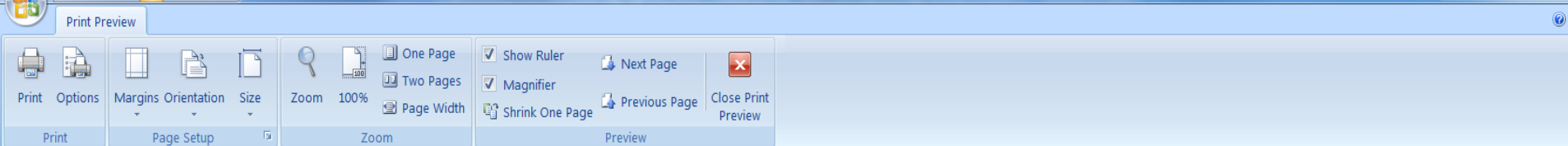
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Inventory and Assessment Program
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Information and Materials Sharing Agreement

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