

Gillard Pass Fisheries Association 2013 Summary



Photo courtesy of Eiko Jones

An adult Chinook being released back to the Phillips River after tagging and biological sampling. The Chinook Population Study and hatchery broodstock collection requires up to 50 days of field work each fall and involves dozens of dedicated volunteers working under the direction of GPFA staff with technical support from Pacificus Biological Services. ***Thank you to our many volunteers!***



2013 Highlights

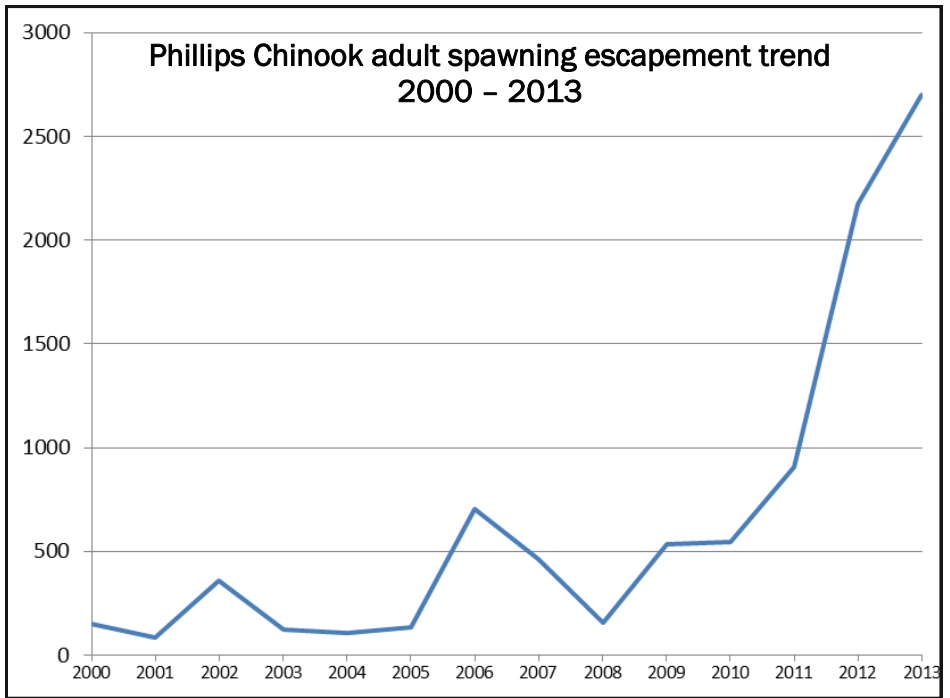
- Estimated over 2,700 adult Chinook returning to spawn in 2013...***the largest Chinook return in over 25 years!***
- Released over 160,000 sub-yearling Chinook smolts back to the Phillips River - all smolts were coded wire tagged and marked with an adipose fin clip.
- Captured 76 adult Chinook for broodstock and an additional 210 as part of the Chinook Population Study. This is the most fish encountered since GPFA began operations in the 1980s and included a record single seine of 80 Chinook.
- Over 160,000 eyed eggs collected for the GPFA hatchery on Sonora Island, to be tagged and released in spring 2014.
- Over 45,000 eggs on hand at Omega Hatchery to be raised as yearling smolts and tagged & released in 2015.
- Fundraised close to \$200,000, including over \$130,000 at the annual Stuart Island Salmon Enhancement BBQ & Auction.

Save the Date!
Salmon Enhancement
BBQ & Auction
August 2, 2014

Continued next page...

Chinook returns to the Phillips River have shown a dramatic increase over the last few years. Hatchery fish have contributed significantly to this increase and should result in better natural production in the coming years.

These increasing hatchery returns are markedly different than what has been happening at other Chinook hatcheries in southern BC where returns have been flat or declining. It seems that the significant investments to improve the GPFA hatchery operation are beginning to pay off! Of course these investments were only possible because of the tremendous support GPFA receives from the local area.



Support for GPFA continues to amaze!

The success of the **2013 Stuart Island Salmon Enhancement BBQ and Auction** once again showed how much the individuals and businesses in the Stuart Island area care about salmon. In addition to raising well over \$130,000, the event was a celebration, with live music generously provided by the Mailman family. Notable guests included the Governor General of Canada, the Right Honourable David Johnson, and Rick Hansen who along with their wives stopped by as guests of Mr. & Mrs. Brandt Louie.



Thank you to our many supporters

Gold Supporters: Seaspan Marine Corp., Dave Ritchie, Dent Island Lodge, PACCAR, Jamie Nordstrom/Seattle Foundation, Sonora Resort, London Enterprises, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Marine Link, Campbell River Salmon Foundation, Pacificus Biological Services, Great Bear Nature Tours, the Mailman Family

Silver Supporters: John & Pat Wane (Goose Landing), Inlet Navigation, Warm Springs, Kenmore Air, Fawn Bluff, Stuart Island Community Assn, Browns Bay Marina, Viktor Davare, River Sportsman, Margaret & Robert Cheshire, House of Treasures.

Bronze Supporters: Discovery Launch, John Watt, Tracey Gibbons, Islander Reels, Guy Johnson, Steep Island Lodge, Outlandish Shellfish Guild, Tara Kristian, Paccar Guides, Ritchie Guides, Sonora Guides, Dent Guides, Nanook Lodge, Parker Marine, Dolphins Resort, Sharon & Scott Laird, Corilair, Eagle Creek Lodge, Gibbs Tackle, Redden Net, Campbell River Whale Watching, Tye Marine, Ocean Pacific, Ed Jordan, Ski Tak Hut, Vancouver Island Air, April Pt. Resort, Tammy Ritchie, Carol Schmidt, Eric Barclay Insurance, Pacific Yachting, Ski Tak Hut, Advanced Marine, Martin Buchanan, , Rupert Gale, St. Jeans Cannery, BMO/Phil Griffiths, Rick & Cathy Pearson, Blind Channel Resort, Deb Martin, Jeremy Maynard, Greg Ward, Moeller & Co., Boatland, Hub Barton Insurance, Rick Cockwill, Discovery Fuel Dock, West Coast Duty Free, Interfor, Western Forest Products, TimberWest, Pacific Coastal Airlines, West Coast Helicopters, Neil Cameron, Northern Divine Caviar, Trevor & Wally Nowak, Susie & Rich Chapple, Gerry Mandin, Shipway Gaffs, John Deal, Pacific Salmon Foundation.....and many others!

GPFA also acknowledges the ongoing support of the Kwiakah First Nation.

Questions?
Or to donate,
contact :
Rupert Gale
250-287-0845
ritchie.foundation@shaw.ca

