



# CAMPBELL RIVER SALMON F•O•U•N•D•A•T•I•O•N

## Annual Report 2015

The Campbell River Salmon Foundation has completed its eighth year of operation. This report is intended to update our members and contributors on the activities and accomplishments of CRSF in 2015. During 2015 the Foundation funded over \$184,000 which facilitated more than \$558,000 in total funding through 11 different projects for local Salmon Enhancement.

Our mandate is to promote the conservation, rehabilitation and enhancement of watersheds for Pacific Salmon north of the Oyster River and south of the Salmon River estuary and eastward to the adjacent mainland coast.

The current Board of Directors is comprised of the following volunteers:

Martin Buchanan, President  
Troy Wilson, Treasurer  
Don Bendickson, Director  
Richard Chapple, Director  
Corby Lamb, Director  
Rick Senger, Director

Dale Blackburn, Vice President  
Therisa Lowe, Secretary  
Stuart Carstairs, Director  
Rupert Gale, Director  
Kent Moeller, Director  
Terry Stuart, Director

### 2015 Projects

**\$1,500** – CRSF provided funding to help establish the new Timberline High School Stream to Sea Biology 11 program.

**\$8,500** - CRSF continued to fund the Campbell River Chinook incubation box program carried out by the Fisheries and Oceans Quinsam Hatchery. This program in its tenth year is very important to the recovery of Chinook stocks in the Campbell River. In the spring of 2015, 458,000 fry were released from the incubation boxes. These fish when they return are increasingly contributing to the natural spawning in the Campbell River.

**\$6,300** - CRSF sponsored a recirculation tank system for the new Discovery Passage Sealife Society Explorer Lab located at the Maritime Heritage Centre. The lab will provide opportunities for experiential learning to help foster a better understanding of local salmon watersheds and marine habitats.

**\$1,750** - CRSF provided funding to the Sayward Fish and Game Club for their Salmon River Chinook enhancement program.

**\$800** - CRSF provided several limited edition prints and posters to the Gillard Pass Fisheries Association for their fundraiser held at Stuart Island in August. The GPFA operates a Chinook hatchery and stock assessment program on the Phillips River.

**\$500** - CRSF spearheaded the Campbell River Second Island Channel Gravel Removal Project. During the extreme river flows in December 2014, gravel washed into the opening of the Second Island Channel effectively dewatering it. BC Hydro Fish and Wildlife Compensation Fund made \$50,000 of emergency funding available and Department of Fisheries and Oceans provided engineering and project supervision. The channel was opened re-establishing 8000 m<sup>2</sup> of spawning and rearing habitat in the channel and creating 4000 m<sup>2</sup> of spawning habitat in the mainstem of the river. This project is primarily funded by the BC Hydro Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program (\$24,500) and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (\$33,200). CRSF coordinated the project and provided administration (\$500).

**\$10,000** - CRSF provided funding towards the purchase of 165 acres of significant coastal wetland habitat along the lower Salmon River by the Nature Trust of BC. This property compliments the adjacent 257 acres previously secured by the Nature Trust BC since 1978 and allows a larger, contiguous area of protection at the Salmon River estuary and along its banks.

**\$14,800** - CRSF provided funding to Greenways Land Trust Kingfisher Creek restoration project. The project is to improve access and habitat for Coho and Chum salmon in Kingfisher Creek.

**\$15,000** - CRSF provided funding to the BC Conservation Foundation for their Elk Falls Gravel delivery project. The project will establish a system to allow bulk placement of spawning gravel to the Campbell River downstream of the new suspension bridge.

**\$120,000** – CRSF completed a fish passage project on the Quinsam River cascades below the outlet of Lower Quinsam Lake. The cascades were only passable to Coho and Steelhead during a narrow range of flows, this project will allow passage throughout a wide range of flows allowing better utilization of the abundant Coho and Steelhead habitat above the cascades. This project was first identified by a fisheries officer in the 1930's.

**\$5,000** - CRSF provided funding to the BC Centre for Aquatic Health Sciences Plankton Monitoring Program. This program assesses near shore plankton productivity. Growth rate of juvenile salmonids during early marine migration is correlated to increased survival to adult and to plankton blooms.

## Ongoing Projects

\$68,000 was raised at the annual banquet and auction. This included donations from generous sponsors. The CRSF would like to thank all of its contributors and volunteers for their generous support.

CRSF continues to explore potential projects and has applied to BC Hydro Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program for 2016 funding to replenish Campbell River Chinook spawning gravel washed out by the December 2014 extreme flows. The ongoing replenishment of spawning gravel is critical to the recovery efforts for Chinook in the Campbell River.

CRSF continues to receive generous cash and in-kind contributions from local businesses and individuals.

In closing I would again like to thank Seymour Pacific Developments Ltd. for covering the CRSF administration costs annually as they have since our inauguration in May 2007.

The volunteer CRSF Board of Directors works hard to keep administration costs very low so that monies raised goes directly to projects.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Martin Buchanan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Martin Buchanan  
President  
Campbell River Salmon Foundation

[www.crsalmonfoundation.ca](http://www.crsalmonfoundation.ca)