



Campbell River Salmon Foundation Annual Report 2009

The Campbell River Salmon Foundation has completed its second year of operations and is well into the third year.

This report is intended to update our members partners and contributors on our recent projects and plans for the future.

The current Board of Directors is comprised of:

MB. (Mike) Gage, Chairperson
Kent Moeller, Treasurer
Joe Painter, Director
Richard Chapple, Director
Dale Blackburn, Director
George Stuart, Director
Mark Gage, Director

Kris Mailman, Vice Chairperson
Monique Hebert, Secretary
Therisa Lowe, Banquet Chairperson
Don Bendickson, Director
Martin Buchanan, Director
Mike Moscovich, Director

Our second annual Banquet, Auction and Dance held March 22, 2009 was a sold out event attended by 400 people and was a huge success raising \$74,000. C.R.S.F. will hold its 3rd Banquet on March 20th, 2010. at the same venue, Campbell River Community Centre. Mark your calendar and be sure to watch for further announcements.

The following is a list of projects in which we are partners and contributors in 2009.

On February 6th, 2009 the Storey Creek Fish Passage was created under Fairway #12. This passage enables Coho smolts to return to the ocean from storage ponds upstream of the #12 Fairway and also provides passage for them to return in 3 years as adults hopefully in 2012 or 2013. Coho stocks in Storey Creek will be monitored this fall and if they are not present, the creek will be fryseeded next spring by D.F.O.

Quinsam River Cascades Fish Passage assessment was funded this year by Bridge Coastal Restoration Program (BCRP).

CRSF loaned \$13,000 to the D.F.O. to jump start the down stream counting of juvenile pink Salmon. These funds will be repaid in full to CRSF by BCRP when the project and final reports are completed to BCRP's satisfaction. Total cost of this project is \$37,290.

In March 2009 the construction of a counting fence at Village Bay Lake was completed in partnership with Quadra Island Salmon Enhancement Society. Total cost of the project was \$17,000, \$4,000 from CRSF and \$13,000 from Q.I.S.E.S.

On May 20th, 2009 CRSF partnered with Sayward Fish & Game Association to plant Red Cedar, Douglas Fir, Spruce and some Red Alder seedlings on the banks of the Salmon River and the Big Tree rearing channels. The seedlings and browse protectors were donated by the Ministry of Forests. CRSF and Sayward Fish & Game Association shared the cost of planting.

On July 13th, 2009 CRSF funded the construction and rehabilitation of a Coho rearing channel on private property in the lower Salmon River across from Woodlands Lodge at Sayward. Total cost of excavation was \$2,719.

July 20th, 2009 CRSF contributed \$5,000 to the BC Centre for Aquatic Health Science to help fund their on going study of juvenile Salmon release as it responds to the plankton bloom in local ocean conditions. This contribution of \$5,000 is our second such contribution since 2008.

August 2009 BCRP funded further spawning gravel placement in the Upper Campbell River in the first Island area. Local contractors placed 2,500 tons of material in 5 days. The total cost is probably less than the \$180,000 that was planned. The project was almost identical to the work done by the same contractors in 2006. All of the major spawning gravel placement in the Campbell River is done by local contractors and fully funded by BCRP.

July, August and September 2009

An assessment of adult fish migration past the Salmon River Diversion Dam is now being conducted by a crew of biologists on contract to the DFO and partially funded by BCRP. Fish are being tagged and watched by electronic devices to see if and how many can actually make it past the facility that diverts water from the Salmon River via canal into Brewster Lake and then into Lower Campbell and John Hart via Fry and Gray Lakes. Stay tuned for the final report, BCRP contribution is \$100,000. D.F.O. contribution is approximately \$45,000.

Campbell River Elk Falls # 3 monitoring study to determine the amount of use from the latest improvements to flow (improvements were made in 2008). Cost of this project is fully funded by BCRP in the amount of \$17,000.

In September 2009 Simms Creek Stewards Society received \$1,000 from CRSF to create more water storage in the headwaters of Simms Creek.

In October 2009 CRSF partnered with Gillard Pass Fisheries Association with \$2,000 for the capturing and tagging of Chinook in the Phillips River for assessment when tags are recovered.

Also in October 2009 CRSF funded BCCF (Living Rivers) in support for the Salmon River Watershed Nutrient Enrichment Program 2009-2011. The "ask" totals \$30,000 over 3 years or \$10,000 per year. This would provide the fertilizer and labour to treat target reaches of the Salmon River below BC Hydro's diversion dam and the Upper White River. Funding by CRSF will replace funds previously supplied by Western Forest Products Forest Investment account which was cancelled this year due to budget shortfalls.

"Last but certainly not the least"... CRSF and DFO will jointly conduct a project entitled "Campbell River Mainstream Chinook Enhancement" in the upper Campbell River above the confluence of the Quinsam. C.R.S.F. will contribute \$10,500 to this project.

This project starts October 1st, 2009 and CRSF will contribute \$10,000. This project is in its 5th year and was previously funded by the Pacific Salmon Commission.

As you can see we are growing in capacity, thanks to all of the local stream keepers within our mandate. And a big thank you to all of those that have contributed by supporting CRSF. Financial support is important and the way the money is spent is equally important.

The Board of Directors of CRSF is entirely made up of volunteers. We have a minimum of four meetings per year. The Banquet Committee is also volunteer and they also have at least four meetings to pull the event together.

CRSF operates out of the office of Seymour Pacific Developments Ltd at 920 Alder Street in Campbell River. We are appreciative of the use of their facilities and their friendly staff.

Funds from the Pacific Salmon Commission and others for local projects have been greatly reduced in 2009. This has given CRSF an opportunity to fill the void. Our funds are generated from Individual and Corporate donations, Partnerships as well as money raised by our excellent Banquet Committee in 2008/2009.

Thank you to all of those involved.

M.B. (Mike) Gage
Chairperson C.R.S.F.