



Campbell River Salmon Foundation Annual Report 2010

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

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

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

M.B. (Mike) Gage, Chairperson	Kris Mailman, Vice Chairperson
Kent Moeller, Treasurer	Therisa Lowe, Secretary /Banquet Chairperson
Don Bendickson, Director	Dale Blackburn, Director
Martin Buchanan, Director	Richard Chapple, Director/Banquet M.C.
Mark Gage, Director	Jamie Gaskill, Director
Mike Moscovich, Director	Mark Murphy, Director
Joe Painter, Director	George Stuart, Director

Our third annual Banquet, Auction and Dance was held on March 13th, 2010. This event was sold out and attended by 400 people.

C.R.S.F. and all of our generous contributors can be proud of the results of this special evening that has become the main event for raising funds for salmon enhancement in the City of Campbell River.

Our new Banquet Chairperson is Therisa Lowe. Therisa and the Banquet Committee put in long hours to produce the results that gave the C.R.S.F. our most successful banquet fundraiser on record. The gross revenue was almost \$126,000 resulting in a net contribution close to \$100,000.

Our previous Chairperson Bill Fitzgerald stepped down after being the Banquet Chairperson for C.R.S.F. in 2008 and 2009. Bill and I worked as Co-Banquet Chairs for the P.S.F. for over 10 years before the C.R.S.F. was founded in 2007. Our P.S.F. banquets were hosting 400 people in the latter years.

Bill Fitzgerald worked in Campbell River as the Manager for Canadian Fishing Company for 30 years. Bill was an excellent representative for Canfisco and a champion for our coastal fishing communities.

Bill resides closer to Courtenay and is now employed by Comox Valley Harbour Authority as an assistant manager. He continues to use his fundraising skills by being the Chairman of Fundraising for the Knights of Columbus – Courtenay Chapter.

The next C.R.S.F. banquet will be held at the Campbell River Community Centre on Saturday, March 12th, 2011. The Coast Discovery Inn Hotel will continue to provide the catering services and Ritchie Brothers will also return to take care of the live auction. Ken Beaton will again provide music and the sound system.

The following list is comprised of partnerships and projects that we became involved with in late 2009 and year to date 2010.

July 13, 2009 – In partnership with Sayward Fish and Game Wildlife Association we contributed \$3,226.80 for the further development of rearing channels on the Salmon River.

July 20, 2009 – C.R.S.F. contributed \$5,000 to B.C. Centre for Aquatic Health in continued support for their plankton study.

September 9th, 2009 to April 23, 2010 – C.R.S.F. contributed \$ 7,207.67 to a feasibility study of the fish passage issue at the Salmon River Diversion.

October, 1, 2009 – In partnership with the D.F.O. Quinsam Hatchery funds were contributed in the amount of \$10,460 towards mainstream chinook enhancement in the Campbell River.

October 9, 2009 – C.R.S.F. in partnership with the B.C. Conservation Foundation contributed \$10,000 towards the Salmon River Nutrient Enrichment program.

October 9, 2009 – In partnership with the Gillard Pass Fisheries Association C.R.S.F. contributed \$2,000 to the enumeration of Phillips River Chinook Stock.

September 16, 2010 – C.R.S.F. contributed \$1,000 to the Simms Creek Stewards Society in continual support for their ongoing water storage projects.

February 17, 2010 – In another partnership with D.F.O. (Quinsam Hatchery) C.R.S.F. contributed \$3,752 towards the downstream enumeration of pink salmon.

April 4, 2010 – On the mainland coast C.R.S.F. continues to support the 3.5 mile Homathko River project of bank stabilization and erosion control. C.R.S.F. contributed \$4,300. towards hauling and placing rip rap to prevent the Homathko from entering Cumsack Slough. International Forest Products contributed another \$16,000 on the same project. Cumsack Slough is 1,600 acres of wetland juvenile fish habitat of high value to both fish and wildlife in the Homathko Valley.

The Campbell River Gravel Committee raised and spent over \$200,000 in 2006 and 2007 diverting the Homathko River away from this valuable habitat and C.R.S.F. will continue to partner with others to improve the erosion control that is required to protect Cumsack Slough in the future.

April 23, 2010 – Funds were allocated in the amount of \$5000 as our second contribution to the B.C. Centre for Aquatic Health Science in support of their Discovery Passage Plankton Monitoring program.

April 23, 2010 – C.R.S.F. contributed \$1,000 to the Campbell River Steelhead project in partnership with B.C. Freshwater Fisheries Society.

October 8, 2010 – Our latest and last expenditures for 2010 were contributions made in the following order.

Gillard Pass was awarded \$4,300 to their Phillips River Chinook enumeration project.

In partnership with Salmon River Fish and Wildlife Association we contributed \$2,000 towards counting salmon in the Salmon River from Woodlands Lodge to about ten miles up Grilse Creek. Grilse Creek is a major tributary to the Salmon River, it has at least 15 miles of anadromous fish habitat not to mention the enormous acreage of rearing habitat. We saw coho salmon at least ten miles up the Grilse from the confluence with the Salmon River. Total cost of the two hour flight was approximately \$3,500 and Salmon River Fish and Game Association paid the balance.

Our 2nd annual contribution of \$10,000 was made to the British Columbia Conservation Foundation the further nutrient enrichment studies in the Salmon River.

The following update of the Salmon River Diversion Fish Passage Consultative Committee is included in our annual report by Harry Brownlow, as follows:

“There has been a collaborative process in place to look at coho and steelhead fish passage at the Salmon River Diversion Dam. A committee of agencies and stakeholders are following a Fish Passage Decision Framework agreed to by BC Hydro, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Ministry of Environment.

Over the past two years the committee has developed the following reports:

- An update from 2001 to 2010 on the Salmon River Literature Review;
- A report on the biological rationale for fish passage;
- A report on the possible fish passage options (fish ladders and side channel);
- A high-level BC Hydro review of those fish passage options, with no show stoppers found.

In fall 2010, a velocity barrier was discovered in the Fisheries and Oceans fish ladder, installed in the early 1990's. This water velocity barrier was removed in September. An application for BC Hydro's Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, Coastal (formerly BCRP) is likely to be submitted to our F12 to provide further fish ladder modifications and extensions to potentially become the adult fish passage solution. The work is anticipated to happen in 2011 if the application is approved. By the end of 2010, the Salmon Diversion Fish Passage Committee was preparing to move to the submission stage (the rationale for fish passage) to the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, Coastal Board and then to BC Hydro. The process of FWCP recommendation to BC Hydro is deferred in favour of exploring the fish ladder effectiveness without the velocity barrier before considering a separate diversion project.”

Harry Brownlow is the Environment and Social Issues Manager of Coastal Generation, BC Hydro.

The Board of Directors of CRSF is completely comprised of volunteers who meet a minimum of four times per year. We are very fortunate to have most of our unavoidable administrative needs provided in kind by Seymour Pacific Developments Ltd.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M.B. Gage', written in a cursive style.

M.B. (Mike) Gage
Chairman
Campbell River Salmon Foundation

Mission: To promote the conservation, rehabilitation and enhancement of watersheds for Pacific Salmon between the Oyster River and south of the Salmon River estuary and eastward to the adjacent mainland coast.

www.crsalmonfoudnation.org