

PROGRESS REPORT SHOWS BENEFIT OF PARTNERSHIPS

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Since being named Program Manager for the Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund (PSEF), Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF) has undergone significant changes that have strengthened its position within the fisheries community as the leading non-government organization addressing conservation, restoration and stewardship of Pacific salmon. To illustrate the changes, Pacific Salmon Foundation invited stakeholders to their offices on September 26, 2002 to view their expanded operations and to get a first look at *Common Vision: Salmon* – the first joint progress report published by PSF and PSEF.

“This has been an exciting time of growth for Pacific Salmon Foundation,” said George Hungerford, Chair of PSF. “The new partnership with the Endowment Fund is another example of the importance of building strong alliances. It has created an opportunity for the Foundation to strengthen our leadership capabilities and our ability to leverage additional resources toward a healthy, wild and sustainable salmon stock.”

The report, *Common Vision: Salmon*, not only refers to the common mission statement between PSF and PSEF, but also to the overall dedication from the many people committed to the enhancement of Pacific salmon.

“The progress report shows many examples of how representatives from all sectors of the province are working together to bring vibrancy back to salmon populations,” said Dr. Paul Kariya, Executive Director of Pacific Salmon Foundation. “By the very nature of its title, this report illustrates the benefits and advantages of working together so that future generations will enjoy the abundance seen by their predecessors.”

The report highlights a diverse range of projects funded by Pacific Salmon Foundation’s Community Salmon Program, including education, habitat restoration and stewardship initiatives. Since its inception, Pacific Salmon Foundation has provided over \$3.3 million for 345 projects. Total project expenditures generated surpassed \$18.5 million as of December, 2001.

The progress report also provides a detailed look at the scientific and holistic approach being taken by the Endowment Fund Society in focusing on watersheds in initial priority regions in BC – the Thompson-Nicola, Georgia Basin and Central Coast.

Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund is well on its way to addressing issues and projects identified in its first two recovery plans –for the Coldwater River in the Nicola Valley, and for the Englishman River on Vancouver Island and for the recovery plan underway for sockeye stocks in Rivers and Smiths inlets. New recovery plan initiatives will be announced for four new watersheds and their salmon stocks later this fall. The Technical Committee of the Endowment Fund has also directed its attention toward marine survival issues believed to be a major factor affecting the return of salmon stocks.

For a copy of *Common Vision: Salmon*, please visit www.pacificsalmon.ca or contact Pacific Salmon Foundation at 604-664-7664.