

Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program



2011/12 FINAL REPORT

FSWP File Number* 11 66 PG LR

* Please use the FSWP File Number provided in previous FSWP project correspondence.

1. Project Information

1.1. Project Title

Xeni Gwet'in Chilko Roundtable Watershed Plan

1.2. Proponent's Legal Name

Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government

1.3. Project Location

Nemiah Valley, BC

1.4. Contact for this report

Name: Nancy Oppermann

Phone: 250 398 2646

Email: nancyo@shaw.ca

1.5 Funding Amount

Original Approved Grant Amount:	Total FSWP Expenditures:	Final Invoice Amount:	Final Non-FSWP leveraging, including cash and in-kind:
\$40,000	\$40,000	\$12,000	\$63,051

2. Project Summary

Please provide a single paragraph describing your project, its objectives, and the results. As this summary may be used in program communications, clearly state the issue(s) that were addressed and avoid overly technical descriptions. Maximum 300 words.

This project built on the achievements of Roundtable meetings held annually since 2008 to develop a watershed management planning process that protects, monitors and enhances Pacific Salmon while addressing community goals and objectives to implement Xeni Gwet'in's ecosystem based management plan. Salmon in the Xeni Gwet'in Caretaker area can easily be considered the primary component species and their sustainability is a key consideration for the health of many species as well as the health and well-being of the Xeni Gwet'in community who rely heavily on the wild salmon for sustenance. The Xeni Gwet'in Chilko River Watershed Roundtable brings citizens together with government agencies to discuss watershed issues that maintain, protect and enhance salmon stocks in the Xeni Gwet'in Caretaker area and to develop a management structure. The Tsilhqot'in People of Xeni and the community they represent have made it abundantly obvious that they are the stewards of the Xeni Gwet'in Caretaker area including the salmon that call the Chilko River watershed (including the Taseko River Watershed as part of the Fraser Basin Watershed) their home. The connection to

their land is firmly supported by the late Justice J. Vickers in his Supreme Court of British Columbia 2007 decision relating to the Roger William rights and title case: *The Xeni Gwet'in are viewed amongst Tsilhqot'in people as the caretakers of the lands in and about Xeni...are charged with the sacred duty to protect the nen (land...* Salmon are the keystone species of the Taseko and Chilko River watersheds and their value to the broader human marketplace is indisputable however their local value to the Xeni Gwet'in First Nation and the flora and fauna of the watershed rely on this truly sustainable resource is immeasurable. The Roundtable during this session, explored development of a hydriparian planning guide to refine and inform Xeni Gwet'in's community eco-system based plan. The challenges remain for the community to struggle with: lack of serious and sincere consultation by government; lack of scientific data for decision making; lack of community-based land management funding for the watershed and ecosystem; inappropriate fishing regulations and inadequate monitoring; logging uplift without proper watershed planning to guide industry; potential mining impacts- another CEAA process Fish Lake/Taseko area; overharvesting of some fish species; declining fish stocks and future of Fraser Salmon threatened; effects of mountain pine beetle on the local area, wild fires (we've had three major fires in the area since 2003); impacts of climate change; lack of funding to ensure proper planning and data is available to implement ecosystem-based plan to name the more prominent watershed issues facing our remote community. As the Chief Forester recently reported "there has been little watershed planning undertaken in the province and salvage logging could be impacting those important areas".

OPTIONAL: Please give a short statement (up to 100 words) of the most compelling activity or outcome from your project.

This project provided the funding to bring together community members to discuss important issues, provide recommendations and a process with technical and traditional expertise to develop a hydriparian planning guide that is led by the stewards of the land – the Tsilhqot'in People of Xeni. Watershed issues ultimately lead to influences on the salmon and habitat and it is the hope of this planning process that recognition and assistance will be garnered to ensure one of the province's most important resources is managed sustainably. The Government of Canada has recognized the benefits of ecosystem based planning through Fisheries and Oceans Canada and has commented on their website: "The ecosystem based management approach is critical to ensure sustainable use of natural resources providing ecosystem goods and services" (FOC) – now if we could just demonstrate that on the ground with community-based management and monitoring functions. We also need to convince local reaches of government of the benefits of this healthy salmon resource that benefits First Nations, commercial and sport fisherman from Chilko to the rearing grounds in the North Pacific. We are building the capacity and are willing to initiate and implement the process within the Xeni Gwet'in Caretaker area and one of BC's top Salmon bearing systems in the province.

Given we are touted as a "resource-rich" province, our remote reaches where this is in evidence is seeing no return for what is being "harvested" by industry whether we are discussing the forest industry (160% increase in raw logs shipped this year) to mining companies releasing annual reports of over \$100 million dollars of profit (recently reported from the Gibraltar mine) from the region or the commercial fishing industry on the coast that profits are recorded at up to \$200 million. As residents of these resource-rich communities we see nothing of these revenues returning to the community to manage, monitor or steward these important resources, poor education and continued erosion of health services.

3. Final Project Results and Effectiveness

3.1 Please copy THE EXPECTED DELIVERABLES from your detailed proposal and insert into this table. Add additional rows as needed. Then describe the FINAL DELIVERABLES (the tangible end products resulting from this work) associated with each expected Deliverable.

If FINAL DELIVERABLES differ from the original EXPECTED DELIVERABLES, please describe why, and the

implications for the project./	
EXPECTED DELIVERABLES	FINAL DELIVERABLES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information meetings to be held • Ecosystem based management (EBM) plan to be discussed • Proposed hydroriparian planning guide to be discussed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five full days of meetings were held in the fall 2011 inviting interested community members to attend for information and collect their feedback • Information was collected during community meetings and provided to Herb Hammond and Xeni Gwet'in's historic EBM designed by Herb Hammond for the Xeni Gwet'in Caretaker Area for refining and updating • The community has gained an understanding of hydroriparian planning and how it fits as part of Xeni Gwet'in's EBM plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experts to be contacted and requested to advise as a panel of experts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herb Hammond, RPF and ecologist, Rick Holmes, RPBio hired to assist community with understanding on technicality of watershed processes and how they impact fish and fish habitat • Technical guidance, including input from Traditional Ecologists in attendance at meetings, on the design of a hydroriparian planning guide was received and incorporated into guide.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview report on hydroriparian planning and its positive influences on salmon will be written 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Xeni Gwet'in community and the Chilko River Roundtable became the initial stage for implementation of a hydroriparian planning guide as part of a EBM for their Caretaker Area. • Hydroriparian Planning Guide was completed and drafted for review by Xeni Gwet'in Leadership, community members, other community's and non-FN community partners.
3.2 Please evaluate the EFFECTIVENESS of your project in achieving Project Objectives, using the specific measures of success identified in your proposal. Please include any notable successes or challenges.	
<p>We formed a social/science advisory team who met in October, November and December to review Xeni Gwet'in's ecosystem based management plan with technical and traditional expertise to provide guidance and assistance in the initial design of a hydroriparian planning guide as part of the ecosystem based management plan.</p>	
3.4 If applicable, please describe project outcomes that relate to one or more of the following strategic approaches (Section 2.1 of RFP; section 8 of detailed proposal template), and include specific examples.	
Engagement of First Nations. Please specify who, and in what capacity.	The project was undertaken by Xeni Gwet'in First Nations Government and the Roundtable brought together community members, government agencies, NGO's and community partners.
Active partnerships with one or more organizations.	Worked with neighboring Tsilhqot'in community Yunesit'in and community partner group Chilko Resorts & Community Association. Meetings were open and inclusive and community members were encouraged to participate.

<p>Engagement and participation of diverse and under-represented groups.</p>	<p>First Nations are largely under-represented in this country/province/region – so this was an excellent opportunity to engage and participate with a diverse group of people including different government agencies and their representatives. There are few opportunities and it is becoming increasingly infrequent for community-based planning and consultation to be implemented. An interesting direction observed given there is much research which shows strong community participation and drive ensures better policy and governance decisions and provide the opportunity to inform good management decisions.</p>
<p>Relationship building, as a foundation for sustainable, enduring activities.</p>	<p>We are hopeful that we will be able to secure funding to continue these important community meetings. As watersheds are the foundation for Ecosystem based Management, in fact our very existence, and very little data exists in Provincial data bases (google-earth is used more commonly then ground-truthing) on the ecosystems in the region so there is much research data required to make informed decisions over land and resource management.</p>
<p>Capacity building, including mentorship models, leadership training and skills development.</p>	<p>This project provided an opportunity for the Xeni Gwet'in community c to coordinator (in-kind contribution) to participate in the meetings, take notes, and build organizational and communication skills working with project consultants, Xeni Gwet'in leadership and community members. The Roundtable provided an opportunity for everyone participating to build capacity and build leadership amongst First Nation communities, government and neighbors. Opportunity for traditional information to be shared as well.</p>
<p>Recognition and support of champions and their initiatives.</p>	<p>Associated practices are essential to ensure an effective form of ecosystem restoration and conservation. There has to be a sincere determination and will of government to protect ecosystems more effectively than the approach that now prevails. The Xeni Gwet'in have long been recognized as champions at their own initiative. They were instrumental in the development of Tsylos Provincial Park and co-manage it. The BC Supreme Court in the 2007 William Case granted Tsilhqot'in rights and proven title to traditional lands. The information collected to date through the Quality Waters Management Planning enabled them to be instrumental in providing evidence at the CEAA Prosperity Mine hearings with a Panel recommendation that the project not be granted approval (a second CEAA process slated to review a 2nd proposal in 2012). They have two protocol agreements in place with two non-First Nation societies. All of the work undertaken to date help the coastal Pacific Salmon fishery that is reaping the harvest of salmon that have been well looked after by the Xeni Gwet'in First Nation through their stewardship of this important resource in the headwaters of the Chilko and Taseko River drainages.</p>
<p>Opportunities to influence policy and decision making,</p>	<p>Developing a Watershed Management Plan that protects and manages a fresh water ecosystem important to us locally, provincially and nationally to provide direction and recommendations towards sustainable management for aquatic as well as human use. The Xeni Gwet'in First Nation can utilize this Roundtable to make more informed decisions and bring forward to regulators much needed information and data collected from the area. The information</p>

gathered and planning undertaken will complement and increase the knowledge for managing our Caretaker land and resources.

3.5 Please describe how the benefits of this project will be sustained and/or be built upon into the future. What are the planned next steps, or recommendations for further work, if applicable?

The Chilko Watershed Roundtable's existence is critical in bringing together the concerned voices related to salmon stocks in the Chilko River watershed which directly impacts the Fraser Basin. Through dialogue at this venue it is hoped that the members will influence positive change in the watershed that will enhance the well being of fish and fish habitat and ultimately the well being of all who live in this pristine watershed and benefit from the resources it contributes local, provincially and federally through the Fraser Basin system.

In-kind contributions were secured from community partners in the way of accommodations and travel and participation in the Roundtable. The Xenigwet'in project coordinator also provided payroll support and communications on how the project is progressing. Discussions are part of this table to establish a framework for funding and more participation in the management of this precious resource and value to the local, provincial and federal economies.

3.6. What are the top three lessons learned from this project that could be useful to communicate to others doing similar work in the Basin?

- 1. Importance of community-based planning**
- 2. Capacity building at community level**
- 3. Benefits of sustainable and ecologically sound planning at the community level**
- 4. Identifying weaknesses in public policy, monitoring and implementation at the community level**

3.7 REQUIRED: Attach all DOCUMENTATION of Final Deliverables, and LIST attachments in Section 8. These may include technical reports, maps, photos, evidence of communications, lists of meeting participants, etc.

4. Outreach and Communications

Please describe how you have communicated project activities and results within local and basin-wide communities, across organizations and/or to decision makers.

Please list and attach copies of (or links to) any communications materials from these efforts that you have not previously submitted.

Commemorative plaque with Black powder-coated salmon signage placed at two prime locations: Henry's Crossing bridge on the Chilko River and Davidson Bridge on the Taseko River.

Reports are available and will be available on Xenigwet'in and partners websites. Our reports will be posted at www.ThinkSalmon.com as well as our community websites; www.xenigwetin.com; www.xeni.ca; www.chilko.org

5. Project Expenditures

In Part A, please list all line items from your original proposal, and add any additional line items for costs that were not originally budgeted. Please include more specific descriptions of services or items where possible, (e.g. the name of the company or individual contracted), and actual rates, unit costs, and total expenditures. In Part B, report the original amount budgeted per line item from the detailed proposal, and the actual FSWP and non-FSWP amounts spent. Please NOTE that FSWP does not expect actual expenditures to necessarily align with the original budget.

Part A: Actual units, rates, costs per unit, and total project expenditures to date					Part B: Original FSWP budget and breakout of actual project expenditures			
Labour								
Service	# of People	Daily Rate	Total # of Days	Total Project Expenditures	Original FSWP Budget (from detailed proposal)	Total FSWP Expenditures	Total Non FSWP Contribution	
							Cash	In-Kind
Bookkeeping services	1	225	6	1,350.00	1,350.00	1,350.00		
Silva Ecosystem Consultant	1	750	11	8,250.00	8,250.00	8,250.00		
Cariboo Envirotech Ltd	1	600	14	8,400.00	8,400.00	8,400.00		
Project Coordinator	1	375	20	7,500.00	7,500.00	7,500.00		
XG Coordinator	1	200	16	3,200.00				3,200.00
XG Chief & Council	3	500	5	7,500.00				7,500.00
Chilko Directors	2	500	5	5,000.00				5,000.00
Friends of Nemiah Valley	1	500	1	500.00				500.00
Prov Govt Reps	2	500	4	4,000.00				4,000.00
Fed Govt Reps	2	500	5	5,000.00				2,000.00
Community members	6	100	5	3,000.00				3,000.00
Labour Sub-Total				53,700.00	25,500.00	25,500.00	0.00	25,200.00
Materials, Supplies & Equipment								
Item	# of Units	Unit Cost	Total Project Expenditures		Original FSWP Budget (from detailed proposal)	Total FSWP Expenditures	Total Non FSWP Contribution	
							Cash	In-Kind
Mapping	5	600	3,275.00		3,000.00	3,275.00		
Travel - Slocan-WL-Slocan	2	2000	3,830.00		4,000.00	3,830.00		
WL-XGCA-WL	3	1500	5,883.00		4,500.00	5,883.00		
Meeting Expenses	5	250	1,068.00		750.00	1,068.00		
Facility Rental	5	75	444.00		225.00	444.00		
Community meeting expenses	1	1000			1,000.00			
Materials, Supplies & Equipment Sub-Total				14,500.00	13,475.00	14,500.00	0.00	0.00
Administration & Overhead								
Item	# of Units	Unit Cost	Total Project Expenditures		Original FSWP Budget (from detailed proposal)	Total FSWP Expenditures	Total Non FSWP Contribution	
							Cash	In-Kind
Administration	1	6000			1,025.00			
Administration & Overhead Sub-Total				0.00	1,025.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FUNDING SUMMARY - DO NOT FILL - FSWP STAFF USE ONLY								
Total Originally Budgeted FSWP Contributi					40,000.00			
Total Project Expenditures					68,200.00			
Total FSWP Expenditures					40,000.00			
Total Non FSWP Contributions					25,200.00			

5.1 If you have had any significant differences in spending in comparison to your original budget, please provide an explanation. Significant differences could include costs that exceed 20% of a line item or budget category (labour, materials, administration), and new items or services that were not originally budgeted, exceeding 10% of total FSWP contribution.

Budget and project was completed on time and within budget.

5.2 Please describe all non-FSWP project contributions, cash and in-kind. ATTACH letters of confirmation for non-FSWP contribution sources (cash and/or in-kind).

Non-FSWP Contribution Sources	Letter of Confirmation Attached (Y/N)	Cash (\$)	In-Kind (\$)	Total (\$)

6. Additional Comments

OPTIONAL: Provide any additional comments or recommendations for future efforts and suggestions for helping partners to meet the goals of the Fraser Salmon and Watersheds Program.

We are disappointed that this valuable community funding resource is not available to communities. We thank everyone who assisted us with our projects since 2008 and we wish you well in your future endeavours!
Water is Sacred – Water is Life! Sechanalyagh!

7. DECLARATION

Please complete the following declaration:

I, _____, hereby declare that:

- 1) The information provided in this report, including all attachments is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that I am authorized to sign on behalf of the stated proponent organization;
- 2) The information contained in the above financial statement submitted by us to PSF, is accurate in all material respects and is net of any GST Input Tax Credit received or receivable by us and that the funds were used exclusively for the project as originally proposed or as formally amended by PSF;
- 3) **Any funds previously paid to the Proponent by the Foundation have been used to fund project expenditures approved by the Foundation and in full compliance with the Regulation on the Use of PSF Grant Funds and Reporting Procedures set out in the Application for Funding submitted by the Proponent to the Foundation;**
- 4) **The balance of any funds previously paid to the Proponent which were not used as set out in item 3 have been returned to the Foundation;**
- 5) **Any additional funds paid to the Proponent by the Foundation will be used in this manner.**

Signature: _____

Date: March 15, 2012

(Authorized Signatory)

Marilyn Baptiste, Chief

Name: _____

(Print Name)

8. APPENDICES

LIST all REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION here, and attach at the end of this report. These include:

1. Documentation of FINAL RESULTS. These may include technical reports, maps, photos, lists of meeting participants, etc. (Section 3).
2. Communications and Outreach materials, if applicable (Section 4)
3. Letters of Confirmation for non-FSWP contributions (Section 5.2)

1. Meeting List of participants
2. Initial Hydroriparian Planning Guide
3. **RESULTS - Field-based Workshop-Applying the Xeni Gwet'in Ecosystem-based Plan with a Focus on Water part of the Xeni Gwet'in Chilko Watershed Roundtable - Quality Waters Management Plan**
4. A 2011 Overview of an Ecosystem Based Management Application for the Nemiah Creek Watershed
5. Ecosystem-based Conservation Planning towards Ecological and Cultural Sustainability on Xeni Gwet'in Lands