

# Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program



Fraser Basin Council



## 2009/10 FINAL REPORT

FSWP File Number\* FSWP 09 D EE 53

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

### 1. Project Information

#### 1.1. Project Title

Langley Thinks Salmon

#### 1.2. Proponent's Legal Name

Langley Environmental Partners Society

#### 1.3. Project Location

Langley BC

#### 1.4. Contact for this report

Name: Nichole Marples

Phone: 604.532.3511

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#### 1.5 Funding Amount

Original Approved Grant Amount:	Total FSWP Expenditures:	Final Invoice Amount:	Final Non-FSWP leveraging, including cash and in-kind:
\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$75,700.00

### 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.

Through the Langley Thinks Salmon project, LEPS engaged multiple sectors of the community by facilitating community engagement in, and responsibility for, stream and riparian protection, salmon conservation actions, and habitat restoration, with the end goal of encouraging citizens to *act* and *think salmon* through commitment to behaviour change for the benefit of salmon and watersheds.

*Salmon in your Backyard* outreaches to single family residents and townhouse owners, engaging citizens in understanding how daily practices affect salmon habitat, and encouraging behavioural change.

*Salmon in your Schoolyard* engages the school community to create a common understanding that we are all connected to salmon and watersheds.

*Salmon Saturdays* provides ongoing opportunity for citizen engagement in stream stewardship activities to raise community awareness and improve and enhance salmon habitats and watershed health.

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

### 3. Final Project Results and Effectiveness

3.1 Copy EXPECTED OUTCOMES from your detailed proposal and insert into this section. Add additional rows as needed. Then please list the FINAL OUTCOMES (the tangible end products resulting from this work) associated with expected outcome.

If FINAL OUTCOMES differ from the original EXPECTED OUTCOMES please describe why, and the implications for the project.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES	FINAL OUTCOMES
<p>Deliver 15 Salmon in your Schoolyard workshops to engage elementary school students.                      - Create an on-line learning resource package</p>	<p>15 workshops held April '09-April '10. Further programs also booked for May '10.</p> <p>January 2010                      Blacklock Fine Arts Elementary School                      Grades 1-2, 4 workshops, 4 primary classes, 88 students total</p> <p>March 2010                      Nicomekl Elementary School                      Grades 3-5, 4 workshops, 4 primary classes, 90 students total</p> <p>Uplands Elementary School                      Grades 1-5, 7 workshops: 3 primary, 2 Montessori, 2 intermediate, 176 students total</p> <p>On-line learning resource package in draft stage of development.</p>
<p>Deliver 10 Salmon Saturday events                      - Create an on-line resource package: the 'How to Host a Salmon Saturday' guidebook</p>	<p><b>Yorkson Fish Release April 18 '09</b>                      45 parents and kids released 50,000 Chum salmon into Yorkson Creek, in partnership with the Fisheries and Oceans Canada Community Advisor.</p> <p><b>Family Creek Peek at Little Campbell Hatchery May 16 '09</b>                      LEPS partnered with the Little Campbell Watershed Society in conjunction with the City of Surrey Environmental Extravaganza to present an up-close look at the critters that help make our streams healthy. Participants were introduced to the aquatic insects that reside in our local streams. 50 kids and parents attended.</p> <p><b>Dogs 4 Salmon June 20 '09</b>                      This is an eco-friendly people- and- pets gathering designed to turn dog walks into Salmon-Friendly occasions, encouraging dog owners to be the eyes and ears of their local creeks during their dog walks, and prevent their dogs from harming salmon by not playing</p>

in local streams during sensitive salmon-spawning times. Salmon-friendly dogs whose owners participated in this project received an eco-friendly pet package, including a bandana imprinted with the Fisheries and Oceans "observe-record-report" hotline, biodegradable dog-waste bags, and organic dog biscuits. Big Dog Little Dog Bakery sponsored the event.

75 people directly spoken to, 48 Dogs 4 Salmon kits distributed, 50 email addresses collected and added to monthly mailout list. Event received 267 hits on the LEPS events webpage.

**Yorkson Creek Clean up, July 18 '09**, 6 volunteers at the event, one truck load of garbage removed

**Stormdrain Marking Challenge, August '09**

This Salmon Saturday was extended for the month of August. LEPS challenged Township of Langley groups and businesses to mark storm drains within their respective communities. Prizes were awarded for outstanding initiative of most storm drains marked. 27 kits given away, 550 door hangers distributed, 436 storm drains marked, 3 free standing displays set-up at local community centres

**Bertrand Instream Cleanup September 12 '09**, 5 people at the event, 1 truck load of garbage removed

**Green Living Symposium October 17 '09**

Co-sponsored by the Township of Langley this event occurred in conjunction with WaterWeeks. This one-day event involved expert speakers revealing simple things that citizens can do to live green. The morning session focused on local food, including a local, organic and seasonal lunch catered by *A Seasonal Experience*; and the afternoon kicked-off Waste Reduction Week, discussing waste reduction and responsible consumerism.

Presentations included:

**Building Capacity for Local Food Production:** Ian Lai, *Evergreen*

**Understanding our Food System:** Spring Gillard, *Gardenheart productions*

**The Road to Zero Waste:** Helen Spiegelman, *Zero Waste Vancouver*,

and a special screening and group discussion of Annie Leonards' **The Story of Stuff**

Each participant received eco-living take-aways including a reusable hemp shopping bag, a low-flow tap aerator, a vine maple seedling, and CFL lightbulbs.

65 participated in the event. Event received 339 hits on the LEPS calendar of events. From evaluation forms completed by participants, 74% of attendees say that information they received during the event will influence a change in their current actions; and 96% would recommend the event to a friend.

**Meet and Greet Salmon Celebration November 21 '09**

The salmon celebration was held at Williams Park, which includes the confluence of the Salmon River and its main tributary, Coghlan Creek. The event was designed to bring families up close and person with the salmon in our streams, and included games, displays, nature walks, juvenile fish trapping and identification, and a salmon dissection. 31 people attended the event, including a scout troop.

**Make it a Green Cleaner Christmas workshop December 12 '09**

This workshop allowed participants to make a unique Christmas gift for family and friends at Christmas, as participants make and take home environmentally friendly household cleaners for gifting. This workshop was so popular; a second session was added. 24 people participated in total.

**Salmon Friendly Homes workshop February 6 '10**

LEPS and Stream of Dreams partnered for this event. The workshop is designed to allow participants to learn about Langley's 700 km of salmon streams, meet young Coho salmon from the Salmon River, and discover how to make your home Salmon Friendly. Participants create and take home their own set of Dreamfish. The event received 135 hits on the LEPS website. Unfortunately, the event was cancelled due to low pre-registration. A Salmon Friendly Homes brochure was created for this event. LEPS will attempt this event again in the future.

**Salmon Friendly Gardens seminar March 13 '10**

This workshop style seminar had guest speakers present practical solutions for making neighbourhoods a better place and encouraging residents to start something healthier for them and for salmon in their backyard!

Presentations included:

**Grow Healthy ~Grow Smart~** Township of Langley  
**Converting Lawn into a Vegetable Patch** ~ Ward Teulon, *City Farm Boy*

**Rethinking Weeds** ~ David Catzel, *Glorious Organics*  
**Gardening for Wildlife** ~ Jude Grass, *Birds on the Bay*

**Pesticide Alternatives That Work** ~ Martin Harcourt, *Mainland Landscaping and Gardening Ltd*

50 people attended the event. The event received 170 hits on the LEPS website. Each participant received a native black twinberry plug to plant in their yard. From evaluation forms completed by participants, 85% of attendees say that information they received during the event will influence a change in their current actions; many mentioned specifically by no longer using chemical pesticides and fertilizers on their lawns and

	<p>gardens.</p> <p>On-line 'How-to' resource in draft stage of development.</p>
<p>3. Deliver 2 community workshops, minimum 15 household/streamside consultations, 250 informational mail-outs, 10 opportunities for direct contact (i.e. displays at community events), and 250 prompts and incentives to engage residents and encourage behavioural change.</p>	<p>3 site consultations, two of which resulted in significant LEPS assistance and youth crew involvement with invasive species removal.</p> <p>13 newspaper listings and articles promoting project activities (3 paid ads)</p> <p>20 community events attended  Langley Canada Day Celebrations (June 30 and July 1), Aldergrove Days Festival (July 25, 26), Langley International Festival (Aug), Langley Demonstration Garden Open House (May 23) and Blackberry Bake-off (August 24), Wildlife Week Celebration (April 11), Earth Day Treeplanting Celebration (April 25), Salmon Enhancement Program Community Workshop (May 15,16), Glen Valley Organic Farm Open House (April 24), Canadian Environment Week Free Tree Giveaway (June 5), Fraser Assembly (June 9,10), Township 7 Vineyard Artisan Fair (June 28), RCMP Musical Ride, Sustainable Food Fair (Aug 29), Feast of Fields (Sept 13), Campbell Valley Country Celebration (Sept 19, 20), BC Rivers Day Festival (Sept 27), Fraser Valley Bald Eagle Festival (Nov 21, 22)</p> <p>350 samples of make-it-yourself natural weed killer and natural insect repellent distributed</p> <p>600 Salmon Friendly Gardens brochures distributed</p> <p>150 prompts distributed</p> <p><b>Salmon Friendly Homes workshop February 6 '10</b>  LEPS and Stream of Dreams partnered for this event. The workshop is designed to allow participants to learn about Langley's 700 km of salmon streams, meet young Coho salmon from the Salmon River, and discover how to make your home Salmon Friendly. Participants create and take home their own set of Dreamfish. The event received 135 hits on the LEPS website. Unfortunately, the event was cancelled due to low pre-registration. A Salmon Friendly Homes brochure was created for this event. LEPS will attempt this event again in the future.</p> <p><b>Langley Green Tour October 3 '09-</b> 25 citizens participated in this tour of innovative sustainability projects within the Township of Langley. Tour started at the LEED certified Township of Langley municipal hall. Participants picked up a freshly made lunch featuring local, seasonal ingredients and organic products, and then boarded an articulated hybrid bus provided by Coast Mountain Bus Co. The first two stops, in NE Gordon and Milner Heights neighbourhoods, showed</p>

different types of neighbourhood rain gardens, which are designed to allow natural infiltration of rainwater into the soil. Third stop featured the amazing water-absorbing pervious pavement on 208 Street. Fourth stop showcased green driveways as well as solar panels and natural landscaping; with the final stop at Murrayville's eco-garden oasis, the Langley Demonstration Garden, featuring a presentation from rainwater harvesting specialist Dean Barr of Rainbarrels BC. Event received 154 hits on the online LEPS calendar of events. This event was promoted in conjunction with Township of Langley WaterWeeks.

**3.2 Please evaluate the EFFECTIVENESS of your project in achieving Project Objectives. Please identify the indicators you have used to measure the effectiveness of your project. Please include any notable successes or challenges.**

*Objective #1 To engage schools in curriculum-based Salmon in your Schoolyard workshops hosted in their schoolyards, offering direct experiential opportunities leading to better understanding of, and respect for, watersheds.*

As a program, Salmon in Your Schoolyard (SIYS), seeks to move schools to action by motivating students to become better stewards of their local watersheds. The program opens doors for students and teachers, allowing them to get involved in salmon stewardship within their community. In addition, the program design is easily modified for use by Environmental Organizations throughout the Fraser Basin.

Salmon in Your Schoolyard was designed as a "residency program" more than as a workshop. Rather than visit the school once to deliver its message, SIYS has a 2-4 week presence in each participating school. During the first week, teachers oversee 3 activities to ensure students have a certain level of salmon awareness. At the end of week 1 or 2, students complete a Field day hosted by LEPS staff. Three stations are set up in the schoolyard (or in the gym); each giving students a better notion of what makes a watershed healthy for Salmon. Each station also provides hands-on experiences highlighting behaviours that students can adopt in order to best support the needs of Salmon. Following the Field day, students design a stewardship project that has a measurable outcome. At the end of the program, project ideas are shared and celebrated. To conclude, students receive beads for each stage of the program and build a keychain/zip pull to signify the work they have accomplished.

In addition to providing support to schools in the form of expertise and facilitation, LEPS also developed a resource to guide participating students and teachers through the program. It also provides references and suggestions to stimulate ideas for either class or individual stewardship projects. By providing the student resource, along with a teacher resource kit, LEPS hopes that SIYS will educate and lead schools to action, while minimizing interruptions to regular classroom routines and workloads.

In spite of some challenges, SIYS proved to be a very successful program. Feedback from teachers was positive and follow-up visits to participating schools indicated that students retained key messaging about stewardship and about the needs of Salmon. The Field day was designed in such a way that it was easily modified for use with primary and intermediate students. The program also provided teachers with resources to help them teach sustainable practices and they came away with a student generated product useful for student assessment. 354 students, plus teachers and administrative staff, participated in the 15 workshops delivered.

*Objective # 2 To deliver monthly Salmon Saturdays, partnering with local stewardship groups and community organizations to engage families and individual residents, raising community awareness and addressing challenges related to sustaining salmon.*

This project was effective in reaching the stated objective. LEPS engaged with a diversity of organizations, including Fisheries and Oceans Canada, City of Surrey, Little Campbell Watershed Society, Yorkson Watershed Stewardship Committee, Big Dog Little Dog Bakery, ISL Engineering, Bertrand Creek Enhancement Society, Township of Langley, Nicomekl Area Scouting, Salmon River Enhancement Society; to deliver ten successful Salmon Saturday events. 400 citizens attended and directly participated in the events



*Objective # 3 To offer the opportunity for citizens to understand how their daily practices affects salmon, and facilitate commitment to behaviour change through adoption of salmon-friendly lifestyle practices.*

LEPS attendance at twenty separate community events provided the opportunity to directly engage citizens in dialogue about how our daily actions may have a detrimental affect on local salmon populations and habitats. Conservative estimates of 4,000 people attended the LEPS/Langley Thinks Salmon display booth and were directly interacted with at community events. Hundreds of residents participated in making their own cleaning products, and learned that all drains lead to fish habitat. Thousands of brochures were distributed, including 'Home Tips for Clean Streams', 'Salmon Friendly Gardens', 'Salmon Friendly Homes', 'Where and When to see Salmon', 'Making your Home a Better Place', 'Better Solutions', to name just a few. As well, newspaper articles were printed, offering ten tips to Think Salmon. Two community workshops were planned (one was held) designed to raise awareness of local sustainability issues.

**3.3 REQUIRED: attach all DOCUMENTATION of Final Outcomes, and LIST attachments here. These may include technical reports, maps, photos, evidence of communications, lists of meeting participants, etc.**

Promotions and Advertising: examples of posters, ads and press releases  
Salmon in your Backyard: site consultation reports, brochure, posters, Green Tour evaluation analysis  
Salmon in your Schoolyard: Salmon in your Schoolyard primary and intermediate workshop outlines, SIYSY photos, SIYSY thank you letters  
Salmon Saturdays: posters, recipes, Green Living Symposium evaluation analysis, Salmon Friendly Gardens briefing, photos

**3.4 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?**

Throughout the development and implementation of the Langley Thinks Salmon project, LEPS has built a sense of community around salmon and watershed sustainability.

This project enables LEPS to achieve our vision of engaged citizens contributing to healthy watersheds. Using public commitment and social diffusion, LEPS is developing social norms related to salmon and watershed sustainability in Langley and beyond. Over the long-term this equates to an active and engaged citizenship living more sustainable lives with lesser impact on local watersheds.

This project has developed into a strong, fundable program of interest to many funding sources. LEPS will seek funding to continue this program with funding from other sources, utilizing the Big Online fundraising database. LEPS is building community for fundraising contacts through individuals, businesses and an increased membership base.

**3.5 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. Increasing the knowledge of citizenry makes individuals more aware of how daily actions have the potential to affect their watershed, and therefore empowers individual behaviour change.

2. Hosting a continuing series of regularly scheduled monthly community stewardship events provides ongoing opportunities for citizen engagement in stream stewardship activities, supports and builds capacity of local volunteer stream stewards, raises community awareness, and improves and enhances salmon habitats and watershed health.

3. Offering stream consultations takes a lot of staff resources and each individual case is fraught with challenges and multi- jurisdictional legalities and regulations that can be confusing and frustrating to landowners. Stream management can be a difficult task!