

Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program



Skowkale Canoe Shed: Feasibility Study

FSWP File Number* # 07350-35/FSWP 08 LR 17

*Please use the FSWP File Number provided in previous FSWP 2008 project correspondence

Contact Information

Sponsoring Organization's Legal Name

Skowkale First Nation

Are you a federally registered Charity, Non-profit organization or Business (Yes /No)?

If yes, please indicate which. Charity Non-profit organization Business

Registration number **89205 7134 RP0001** GST number

Are you a registered Society (Yes / No)? Society Registration number

Mailing Address

**PO Box 2159 Chilliwack, BC
V2R 1A7**

Street Address (if different from above)

**7686 Chilliwack River Road
Chilliwack, BC**

Project Manager¹

Name: Lydia Archie Title: Band Manager
Affiliation: Skowkale First Nation Phone: (604) 792-0730
Fax: (604) 792-1153 E-mail: manager@skowkale.com

¹ All correspondence will be directed to the Project Manager.

Alternate Project Contact

Name: Title: Coordinator
Affiliation: Phone:
Fax: E-mail:

Partners / Subcontractors

Name: Catherine Sherlock Affiliation: The Sherlock Group
Phone: 604-924-4880 E-mail: csherlock@telus.net

Name:	Affiliation:
Phone: ()	E-mail:
Name: r	Affiliation:
Phone: ()	E-mail:

Project Information

Project Title			
Skowkale Canoe Shed: Feasibility Study			
Project Location			
Chilliwack			
Amount Requested		Total Project Value	
			Non-FSWP funds²

² Non-FSWP funds include both cash and in-kind funding. In-kind funding refers to all non-cash contributions such as equipment, supplies, labour, etc. Please refer to Budget Section for further details.

Project Summary

Please provide a single paragraph describing your project, its objective, and the results. As this summary will be used in program communications, clearly state the issue addressed and avoid overly technical descriptions. Do not use more than 300 words.

The Skowkale First Nation has embarked on an exciting program to create a centre of learning and engagement about salmon and watersheds in urban Chilliwack. We are planning on creating an aboriginal aquatic/fisheries interpretive centre. Alongside the new hatchery building is an old 'canoe shed' which has been used to store Skowkale traditional canoes. It has a great deal of natural rustic charm but unfortunately it is too dilapidated to restore. Instead a concept plan has been drafted to construct a new building which will provide a unique experience which will honour traditional aboriginal practices, and help maintain local salmon stocks. Interpretation programs will be developed using the resources of the new hatchery and the Little Chilliwack River to provide a well rounded aquatic experience. Historically, the area has served as traditional grounds for a number of community activities including fishing, trapping, hunting, medicinal plant growing and swimming. In the past, when the water quantity was greater and the water quality was better, the area thrived. The goal is to continue to make improvements and recreate a legacy of renewal.

OPTIONAL If your project lends itself to sparking interest through a compelling sound bite (for potential use in FSWP media communications), please tell us what that sound bite would be. Do not use more than 150 words.

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Species and life stage(s) the project targets: please list

Chum and coho Salmon at all freshwater life stages.

Watershed(s) the project targets: please list

Little Chilliwack River, Fraser River Watershed

Project Deliverables and Results

- Paste in the deliverables outlined in your Detailed Proposal (question #3 under project 'relevance and significance' heading) into the table below. Then, please list the results associated with each deliverable.
- Please include copies of any relevant communications products (brochures, posters, videos, website addresses etc.) resulting from this project.

Deliverable	Result
1. The Skowkale canoe shed will be assessed to see if it is appropriate and safe for interpretive use. An engineering contractor will be consulted for a definitive recommendation.	The Skowkale canoe shed was assessed to see if it is appropriate and safe for interpretive use. An engineering contractor was consulted and he recommended the canoe shed not be used for the interpretive purposes proposed. The building would require a complete overhaul. It was agreed the building was not going to serve the purpose originally thought. Other options are being considered. The canoe shed will try to be retained for storage and aesthetic purposes.
2. A comprehensive interpretive plan will be prepared. The hatchery and the Little Chilliwack River will also be used as part of the experience and incorporated into the interpretive design. A professional interpretive design consultant will be retained to develop an interpretive program working in close cooperation with the Skowkale Hatchery and Education Revitalization Project Committee.	An education / interpretive conceptual plan was prepared by a professional interpretive design consultant working in close cooperation with the Skowkale Hatchery and Education Revitalization Project Committee. The report will be used to refine and build on the current education program and develop an interpretive trail system. A conceptual plan for a new education / interpretation centre was prepared which includes a sketch of the proposed new centre. These products will help the group to decide and fundraise for these potential future projects.

Project Effectiveness

Please evaluate the effectiveness of the project, using the objective standards, quantifiable criteria and/or quality control measures identified in your Detailed Proposal (under question #1 in the 'performance expectations' heading).

The project is building a great deal of momentum. Student visitation numbers are up. Also, a regular set of alternative school students come to the site to carry out watershed assessment, habitat restoration and hatchery improvements activities. We had our largest and most successful Earth Day celebration ever on April 22, 2009. We had 200-300 participants which visited the educational stations and helped release coho salmon smolts. We had a keynote address from The Honourable Steven Point, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia. He praised the work being done by the students, teachers and partners.

What are the top three lessons learned from this project that would be important to communicate to others doing similar work throughout the Basin?

Working in partnership is an important part of success.
Endeavour to make community a strong part of the project.
Planning to plan.

Project Effectiveness

Please describe how your project has addressed each Priority Activity identified in your Detailed Proposal.

Priority Activity ¹	How the Priority Activity has been Addressed
Salmon are the focus of the Skowkale Fish Hatchery and Education Centre. Their values to the entire watershed will be highlighted. The target audience are K-12 students. The site will offer students a direct experience with nature, as well as, interesting, interactive displays.	Salmon and the habitat that supports them continue to be the focus of the project. We have reached out and engaged more students. When they visit emphasis is put on getting them to interact with nature.
The facility will continue to foster native watershed champions, like Harold Archie.	Many of the students involved in project activities and support are aboriginal. We also have a strong link with Sto:lo Education Centre which uses the site as an added resource to their programming.

¹Please paste each priority activity identified in your Detailed Proposal in the space provided.

Further Comments

Please provide any further comments including recommendations for future conservation efforts and suggestions for helping partners to meet the goals of the Fraser Salmon and Watersheds Program. If your project produced a narrative or scientific report or additional project products (e.g. maps, photos), attach them as an appendix.

Submission Instructions

Please send your Final Report electronically to your designated FSWP Staff Contact. If you are uncertain who this person is or how to contact them, please contact Tiffany Pither, FSWP Administrator.

Email: tpither@psf.ca

Phone: (604) 664-7664 Ext 119