

Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program



2010/11 FINAL REPORT

FSWP File Number*	FSWP 10 D 27 HWRS
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* Please use the FSWP File Number provided in previous FSWP project correspondence.

1. Project Information

1.1. Project Title

Salmon River Watershed Restoration and Monitoring Project

1.2. Proponent's Legal Name

Salmon River Watershed Society

1.3. Project Location

Salmon River, South Thompson Drainage

1.4. Contact for this report

Name: Mike Wallis

Phone: 250-573-7838

Email: mikewallis@hughes.net

1.5 Funding Amount

Original Approved Grant Amount:	Total FSWP Expenditures:	Final Invoice Amount:	Final Non-FSWP leveraging, including cash and in-kind:
\$46,000	\$46,000	\$9,200	\$96,134

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.

The Salmon River Watershed Roundtable has been undertaking watershed planning and restoration activity for over 18 years. One objective within the Salmon River watershed plan identified in 1995 through a community driven, consensus planning process was to undertake activity that would return natural river process and function to the Salmon River watershed including large scale, long term streambank restructuring and riparian restoration activity at sufficient scale to enable improved riparian and fish habitat at a watershed level. The SRWR with its many partners have made substantial progress toward this goal with over 400 restoration sites now completed. The SRWR has set an interim goal of summarizing the outcome of this restoration activity by its 20th anniversary in 2013. To that end a reach by reach review of restored and unrestored sites is being undertaken. Results from reach assessments completed to date indicate that site by site improvements as well as indicators of

landscape level improvement are evident and documentable and that landowner perception of the value of stream and riparian values has also improved (see attached Reach 7 and 8 summary report). The assessment project will continue with a final watershed report being completed by 2012. The 2012 report will summarize progress to date on a site by site basis as well as at a landscape level scale, and will provide recommendations on priorities for future SRWR activities.

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

The indication from project assessment results to date is that individual actions can add up to a net improvement in streambank/riparian condition and human-landscape interaction behaviours. Recording and summarizing the results of streambank and riparian restoration activity effort on the Salmon River is providing very powerful motivation to participants and other interested individuals to continue pursuing the goals and objectives of the long term watershed sustainability developed in 1995.

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
1- Completion of 3 high priority Coho habitat restoration sites	None were undertaken due to a shift in priority to site assessment and monitoring, and a lack of cost share funding for streambank restoration activity
2- Documentation of all previous sites completed to date in a summary of trends and conditions report	The main emphasis of the SRWR workplan this year was to assess past restoration sites, delivered as a report attachment here
3- Continuation of monitoring to track human perception and riparian restoration achievements at a watershed scale	Changes in landowner perception of the value of riparian and instream fish habitat are described in the attached report
4.	

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

Indicators of success include the magnitude of the restoration program success by the SE RWR and its many supporting partners (see attached report).

The greatest challenge in achieving the outcome of completing 12 sites was uncertainty about securing the cost share funding that had been proposed. Additional funding was provided to the SRWR by DFO and AAFC late in the project year which enabled additional site assessments to be completed as part of the 2010 Assessment and Review activity. More is planned for 2011 so that a final report can be completed by 2012 summarizing all restoration sites.

3.4 IF applicable, please describe how your project has achieved one or more of the following supported processes (Section 2.2 of RFP; section 7 of detailed proposal template). If results differ from those originally anticipated, please describe.

Engagement of First Nations. Please specify who, and in what capacity.	The 2010 project also engaged with and supported the Splat'sin and Neskonlith bands on fish habitat assessment and fencing and planting projects.
Active partnerships with one or more organizations.	Landowners, FRISP, DFO, CSRD, Splat'sin Band and AAFC assisted in the 2010 site assessment activity.
Engagement and participation of diverse and under-represented groups.	See above
Relationship building, as a foundation for sustainable, enduring activities.	The relationships built during past cooperative restoration efforts are being drawn upon in undertaking the current assessment and monitoring priority.
Capacity building, including mentorship models, leadership training and skills development.	Local landowners have had the opportunity to participate and learn about riparian management and instream fish habitat values through the hundreds of projects that have been undertaken. Their interest is now reflected in their willingness to support the watershed wide site assessment procedure and to have their sites included in the assessment.
Recognition and support of champions and their initiatives.	
Opportunities to influence policy and decision making,	

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?

There is significant opportunity to undertake further restoration activity based on the successes of the SRWR over its first 18 years. The relatively consistent support provided by DFO and FSWP (as well as may others) for several years has earned a level of local trust that promises will be delivered upon and cooperative action can succeed. The past 18 years of effort by the SRWR has demonstrated that the interest and capacity to support watershed sustainability principles is present and can be further built upon. Procuring the resources to undertake further activity is probably the limiting factor in determining long term success. With approximately 62% of the critically eroding sites now restored and interest within the watershed raised, it is important to continue the restoration activity to a reasonable threshold that will result in a watershed wide improvement in riparian health. Continued restoration activity, site assessment and water management improvement remain

the three highest priorities for the SRWR within its 20-200 year watershed sustainability plan.

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. lead by example
2. allow people time to change their minds
3. provide consistent support for landowners interested in doing the right thing

REQUIRED: Attach all DOCUMENTATION of Final Deliverables, and LIST attachments in Section 7. 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.

Word of mouth, one on one site visits and community meetings were the most direct methods used to communicate results this year. Over the past 18 years the SRWR has essentially found that there is no end to the community based interest that can be found in watershed sustainability initiatives, and that the larger difficulty is meeting the need that is created when successful demonstration projects such as the Salmon and Bonaparte River Watershed projects generate new interest.