

Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program



2011/12 FINAL REPORT

FSWP File Number* FSWP 11 56 HWRS LR

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

1. Project Information

1.1. Project Title

Bonaparte Watershed Streambank Restoration Project

1.2. Proponent's Legal Name

Bonaparte watershed Stewardship Society

1.3. Project Location

Bonaparte River

1.4. Contact for this report

Name: Mike Wallis

Phone:250-573-7838

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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:
\$ 35,000	\$35,000	\$10,500	\$30,410

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.

In 2011 the FSWP funded a series of 4 high priority streambank restoration projects located on the Bonaparte River using standard bioengineering methods to provide streambank stability and improved instream fish and aquatic habitat features. The sites are important Coho and Chinook spawning and rearing habitat. Rainbow trout including Steelhead also use the river system.¹ The capacity for supporting these species is at risk, partially due to habitat degradation over the length of the River. Incremental loss of habitat quality and complexity reduces the capacity of the system to support these and other aquatic species. Prior to restoration instream values at the sites were compromised due to lost instream complexity, sediment loading, summer low flow, lack of riparian vegetation and unstable bedload in adjacent areas.

¹ As well as Pink salmon, Kokanee and other species

Similar bioengineering practices have been effective at other locations along the Bonaparte River, with over 100 locations restored during the past 10 years by the BWSS and its partners. The individual sites provide benefits in terms of sediment source control, instream fish habitat complexing and riparian planting activities for fish and other aquatic values as well as contributing to improved water quality and reduced impact to the land base during flooding. Completion of many individual restoration sites using similar methods has been shown on the Salmon River to have a cumulative effect benefitting not only the individual site features but also overall watershed health. In addition the sites represent education opportunities to extend education and improve awareness of beneficial practices and the value of salmon and healthy salmon habitat.

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

Continued support from partners such as CP, CN, MoTI, DFO, and Wastech allowing leverage of FSWP funding and growing interest amongst landowners participating in streambank restoration projects demonstrates a willingness to use best practices to achieve streambank erosion control and fish/fish habitat improvement. With each restoration site that is completed using bioengineering techniques the willingness of others to participate increases, demonstrating that with the right technical and funding support public goods such as fish and riparian values can be cooperatively protected. Without core funding from organizations such as DFO or FSWP after 2012, it will be difficult to trigger matching or complimentary cash and in-kind contributions, and maintain the momentum and cooperation gained up to 2012.

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. Select sites , Prepare prescriptions and file Sec 9 applic	Prescriptions completed, section 9 application approved
2. Procure materials and construct sites	Materials procured and delivered, sites constructed
3. Reporting	As built report and FSWP final report completed

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>A routine for undertaking construction has been developed over the past 10+ years. The construction process is very routine and simple. Standard bioengineering practices are followed for constructing the sites. Landowner interaction during the project planning process is a key opportunity to provide education and awareness regarding riparian and instream salmon habitat values, which is a high value deliverable that is derived from undertaking the fish habitat improvement and streambank restoration activity in cooperation with the landowner.</p> <p>Completed restoration sites generate local interest and are become conversation topics. They generate the best advertising possible for persuading local compliance with beneficial practices in and around streams and fish habitat, through a process of leading by example. Tours of sites will continue to be undertaken and results will be promoted within the local community. The most recent tour of a BWSS restoration site was a tour of a site undertaken on Bonaparte Band lands near Cache Creek which occurred in late February, 2012 and these educational events are ongoing.</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.	Restoration sites undertaken on Bonaparte Band Lands as recently as 2010-11 and the Band continues to partner with the BWSS
Active partnerships with one or more organizations.	Funding from FSWP has been matched by many contributors over the years, with Wastetech and MoTI contributing high value rock and landowners providing in-kind support to the most recent restoration projects.
Engagement and participation of diverse and under-represented groups.	
Relationship building, as a foundation for sustainable, enduring activities.	
Capacity building, including mentorship models, leadership training and skills development.	Completed restoration sites generate local interest and are become conversation topics. They generate the best advertising possible for persuading local compliance with beneficial practices in and around streams and fish habitat, through a process of leading by example. Tours of sites will continue to be undertaken and results will be promoted within the local community. The most recent tour of a BWSS restoration site was a tour of a site undertaken on Bonaparte Band lands near Cache Creek which occurred in late February, 2012 and these educational events are ongoing.
Recognition and support of champions and their initiatives.	The recently retired president of the BWSS was recognized by the BWSS with an appreciation award, and he also subsequently received the Stewardship Excellence award from FBC in February, 2012. Another longstanding member of the BWSS Directors has taken on the

	role of President demonstrating the same interest and integrity as his predecessor
Opportunities to influence policy and decision making,	The new president is active in the area of improved water management and is working to inform and influence positive change in that critical area, while supporting ongoing restoration efforts.

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?

Critical mass has been established through the efforts of the WSS and its partners in terms of generating interest in continuing with streambank restoration, with over 100 sites completed and many landowners awaiting assistance with their sites from the BWSS who are willing to participate using bioengineering methods. At this juncture, with the education and awareness achieved to date, the availability of funding is the limiting factor rather than cooperation from landowners. Attempts to find alternative base funding, that cost share contributions can be attached to is currently underway by the BWSS to provide future opportunities towards achieving the long term watershed sustainability goals of the BWSS.

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.Sustainability goals require sustainable funding support
- 2.The demonstration benefits from restoration sites improve with age
3. A small efficient program can maintain momentum better than a large,underfunded one

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.

The deliverables consist of an as-built report summarizing the latest four restoration sites attached by email.