

Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program



Fraser Basin Council



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada



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Salmon Hero Honoured by Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program

Vancouver, B.C. – The Pacific Salmon Foundation and Fraser Basin Council have announced Bev Bowler, Education Coordinator for Fisheries and Oceans Canada, is the 2010 Fraser Salmon Hero.

Ms. Bowler received the Salmon Hero award, which is sponsored by Rocky Mountaineer, in appreciation of her longstanding dedication to Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Salmonids in the Classroom

(www.salmonidsintheclassroom.ca), a program she has coordinated in the lower mainland for over 20 years. At Ms. Bowler's request, the award grant of \$4,000 will be donated to the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation (www.pskf.ca), which helps community members with an active interest in preserving and enhancing their local waterways to take action.



Bev Bowler (center) accepts her Salmon Hero cheque from Jim Vanderwal (left) of Fraser Basin Council and Terry Tebb of Pacific Salmon Foundation. The cheque will be donated to the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation.

"Early students of the program have grown into some of our region's most dedicated salmon stewards. Other students of the program have become teachers and have come back to me, eager to continue teaching from Salmonids in the Classroom," commented Ms. Bowler. "Thank you for this award that recognizes the value of this program and the many active volunteers and teachers required to deliver it at a scale that serves the lower mainland. Our program connects kids to salmon, an icon of British Columbia, and, we hope, initiates future salmon heroes."

Jointly managed by Pacific Salmon Foundation and Fraser Basin Council, the Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program and Rocky Mountaineer are partners in the annual Salmon Hero award to honour a person who has made a tangible contribution to the preservation, enhancement and improvement of the Fraser River watershed and its populations of Pacific salmon over the past year. The five other distinguished finalists this year were Chris Gadsden of the Chilliwack-Vedder River Cleanup Coalition Society, Patricia Gallagher of Simon Fraser University, Tony Matahlija of the North Fraser Salmon Assistance Society, Joleen Sellars of the Soda Creek Band, and Jim Woodey, recently retired from work with the Pacific Salmon Commission.

The Rocky Mountaineer, a BC based company, is the largest privately owned passenger rail service in North America. Now in its 20th year of operation, the internationally-acclaimed luxury train brings travellers from all over the world to experience the beautiful landscapes of British Columbia and the majestic Canadian Rockies.

“Our trains follow some of the most important salmon habitats in North America,” says Randy Powell, President and CEO of Rocky Mountaineer. “We are committed to preserving the natural environment along our rail routes and are proud of our on-going support of the Pacific Salmon Foundation, its Fraser Salmon Heroes Awards program, and the overall Fraser River recovery effort.”

The Fraser Salmon & Watersheds Program (www.ThinkSalmon.com) is jointly managed by Pacific Salmon Foundation and the Fraser Basin Council to deliver funds from the provincial Living Rivers Trust Fund and a federal initiative of Fisheries and Oceans Canada. The program is currently seeking renewal of its provincial and federal funding as the partners work towards a more stable long term funding mechanism. The FSWP mission is to inspire changes in human behaviour for the benefit of salmon and the watersheds on which we all depend.

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