

**Pacific Salmon Commission
Restoration and Enhancement Fund Committee
Project Funding Announcements
June 2004**



In June 2004 the Northern and Southern Fund Committees were pleased to announce an inaugural round of 63 projects had been approved by the Committees for 2004/05 for a total expenditure of more than U.S. \$3.9 million or CAN \$ 5.1 million.

In selecting projects for this inaugural round of funding, the Northern and Southern Fund Committees requested the advice of the Pacific Salmon Commission's Panels and Technical Committees, recognizing that they were well placed to identify priority stocks and habitats; the information needs of the Parties; and, other requirements for implementation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty.

The Southern Fund Committee are supporting a total of 41 projects for U.S. \$2 million or CAN \$2.6 million. Proponents include Canadian and U.S. government agencies, First Nations, fishermen's associations, academic institutions and community groups from B.C. and Washington and Oregon States. These include:

- A project to use new sonar technology to improve the accuracy of in-season estimates of total salmon escapement in the Fraser River that will help managers develop and adjust in-season fisheries management plans based on more accurate data inputs.
- A feasibility assessment to determine if fishwheels, which have proven to be a successful assessment tool for coho salmon in the Fraser River, can be operated during the annual sockeye migration period when river flows peak.
- Support for the Nooksack Basin Stream Restoration Crew in Whatcom County, Washington, who will undertake a number of in-stream structural improvements to restore riparian habitat and function to salmon-bearing streams throughout the watershed.
- A habitat restoration project on the Deschutes River in Oregon by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation. Deschutes River fall chinook salmon are used by the U.S. Chinook Technical Committee of the PSC as an indicator stock to assess the effectiveness of abundance based harvest management.

The Northern Fund Committee are supporting a total of 22 projects for U.S. \$1.9 million or CAN \$2.4 million. Proponents include 5 First Nations from northern B.C. and the Yukon; collaborative projects co-managed by Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and a range of other

habitat restoration and fisheries management projects led by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. These include:

- A two-year joint Canada/U.S. project to develop and implement an effective, cost efficient Tuya River sockeye harvest system consistent with the Transboundary Annex provisions of the Pacific Salmon Treaty.
- A two-year study to provide in-depth information about the distribution and abundance of emigrating Tuya River sockeye salmon in the Stikine River and their spawning behaviour and level of success.
- Improved sockeye salmon stock identification techniques to better evaluate existing run reconstruction methods by providing accurate and timely estimates of stocks caught in Canadian and U.S. fisheries in the Northern Boundary area.
- A logging debris removal project on Oweekeno Lake which will restore critical lake shore habitat for spawning salmon and rearing fry, as part of a larger general recovery plan for salmon in Rivers Inlet on B.C.'s central coast.