

## Pacific Salmon Foundation

SEHAB Roundtable

February 5 2024

1. The **Community Salmon Program** is currently open and accepting new applications for funding through Feb 15 2024. A second intake will open early Sep through Oct 15 is that timeline is more suitable for your work.
2. PSF has been commissioned to oversee a stream crossings validation process for TMX and will begin assessments later this year once post-construction habitat construction is completed. This agreement was established some time ago but commencement of this work has been delayed.
3. Staff are preparing an effectiveness monitoring program to help determine the efficacy and longevity of Community Salmon Program-funded projects and how well they function over time. This is a challenge due to the diversity of project sites and resources required for a full-scale, long term assessment.
4. **Salmon Watersheds Program:** PSF released a new report highlighting conservation concerns for most steelhead populations in B.C. this week. 86% of the steelhead assessed are in the 'poor' status zone. Over the last two years, SWP has aimed to support steelhead conservation by centralizing the best available data in collaboration with First Nations, federal and provincial governments, academics, and independent steelhead experts.
5. **Accessibility Assessment and Improvement:** in partnership with the Rick Hansen Foundation and piloted with Mossom Creek Hatchery. PSF deploying a funding pot to accommodate assessments and select improvements. Seymour Hatchery is exploring options for updating their facility.
6. **Pacific Salmon Action Dialogue Series** hosted by FNFC and PSF. The upcoming session is taking place Monday, February 5 from 10 am – 12 pm. Welcome remarks will be given by Jordan Point and Mike Meneer, with a presentation from Tom Rutherford. The series is taking a deep dive into the Washington State Salmon Recovery Strategy to help scope what a "Made in B.C." salmon recovery model could look like.
7. VP Jason Hwang hosted a workshop entitled "Nearshore Salmon Habitat Restoration in the Context of Climate Resilience", in collaboration with DFO. Isobel spoke about the Marine Science Program's nearshore habitat work and there were also talks from representatives from Nature Trust of BC, University of Washington, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Samish Indian Nation, and K'Ómoks First Nation.

8. In collaboration with Watershed Watch Society, The David Suzuki Foundation, Living Oceans and Clayoquot Action, Manager of Fish Health Andrew Bateman and VP Allison Colina took part in a meeting with Parliamentary Secretary Kelly Greene and senior staff within the Ministry of Water Land and Resources Stewardship. The group discussed the Province's role in open-net pen salmon farm transition and shared concerns around pending expansion requests in the Clayoquot Sound region.