BCSRIF

British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund

ANNUAL RESULTS SUMMARY

2023–2024

Year 5 Report:
Program Expansion

Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

British Columbia | Colombie-Britannique

Canada

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ʻNamgis First Nation, 2024
BCSRIF Project 107

Acknowledgement

The British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF) recognizes that the efforts of its funding recipients span numerous traditional territories of First Nations.

We honour the deep-rooted knowledge and stewardship that Indigenous Peoples bring to these lands. With heartfelt gratitude, we pay respect to those whose territories we work upon, live in, and serve.

University of Victoria, 2023
BCSRIF Project 006

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Introduction

The **British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF)** is a collaborative grants and contribution program and partnership between the federal-provincial governments.

BCSRIF plays a **crucial role in supporting wild Pacific salmon recovery and the sustainability and modernization of British Columbia's fish and seafood sector.** Administered by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), BCSRIF provides funding to a diverse range of B.C.-based recipients, including: Indigenous organizations, commercial and recreational angling organizations, environmental non-governmental organizations, academic institutions and stewardship groups through two overlapping phases to-date.

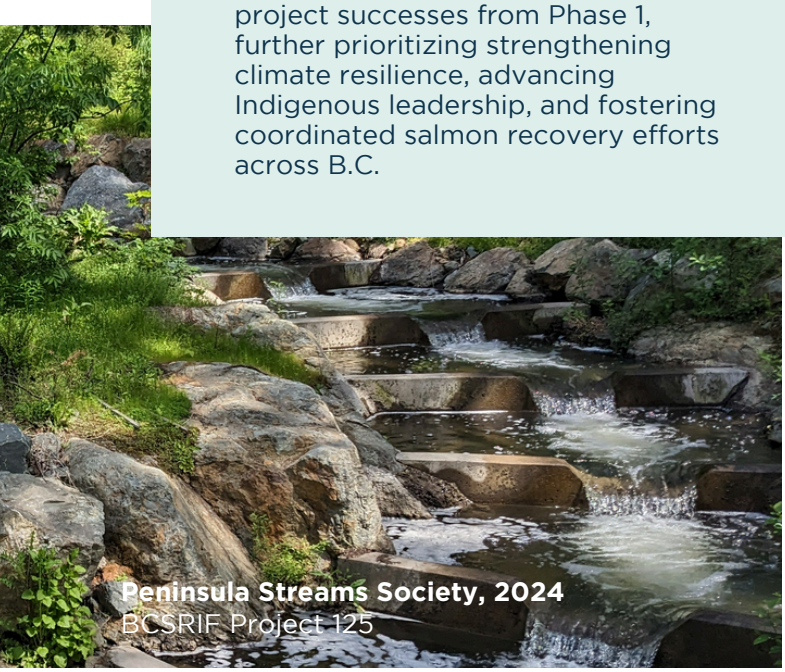
PHASES OF STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN SALMON RECOVERY

1

B.C. Salmon Ecosystem Support
(Phase 1)
Canada's Fisheries Funds, 2019–24
Investments strengthened salmon resilience through habitat restoration, stock and ecosystem monitoring, and developments in sustainable fisheries.

2

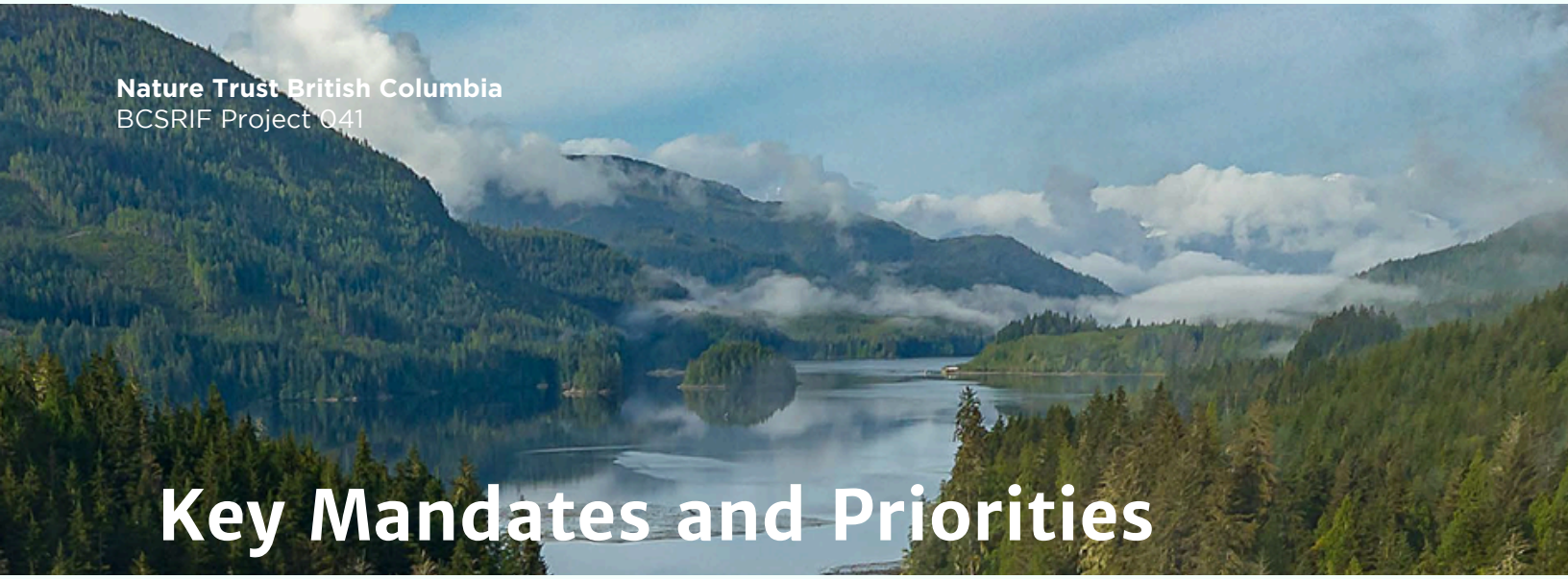
Program Expansion
(Phase 2)
Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative, 2021–26
Provided continuity to high impact project successes from Phase 1, further prioritizing strengthening climate resilience, advancing Indigenous leadership, and fostering coordinated salmon recovery efforts across B.C.



Peninsula Streams Society, 2024
BCSRIF Project 125

Across both phases, BCSRIF has sustained strategic investments in its three foundational pillars—**Innovation, Infrastructure, and Science Partnerships**—advancing salmon recovery by driving technological innovation in monitoring, strengthening environmental and research infrastructure, and supporting collaborative science to inform adaptive, evidence-based management.

The **2023–24 Annual Results Report presents BCSRIF's Year 5 outcomes, highlighting key socio-economic and ecological impacts** from both active and completed projects. Results reflect contributions from both program phases and are based on internal analysis and annual recipient reported results. The report captures on-the-ground achievements and benefits, helping to demonstrate BCSRIF's **alignment with federal and provincial priorities** over time, and **ongoing contributions to salmon recovery and fisheries sustainability**.



Key Mandates and Priorities

Fisheries and Oceans Canada

BCSRIF supports the Government of Canada's priorities for the fish and seafood sector, as outlined in the Minister of Fisheries and Ocean's mandate commitments. Operating under the Integrated Fish and Seafood Sector Contribution Management Framework, BCSRIF aligns with Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO) core responsibility to manage fisheries sustainably. BCSRIF also **prioritizes initiatives that address climate change impacts, restore at-risk stocks, invest in carbon-absorbing coastal habitats, and advance Indigenous leadership,** connecting Indigenous Knowledge, fisheries science and collaborative stewardship.

Through these efforts, BCSRIF contributes to federal objectives by ensuring projects are in alignment with one or more of the following objectives:

1. Enhancing sustainability, productivity and competitiveness in the fish and seafood sector;
2. Building resilience to climate and ecosystem impacts;
3. Promoting Canadian fish and seafood products as global-leaders in quality and sustainability.

Canada's fish and seafood sector is adapting to global competition and rising consumer demand for sustainably sourced, high-quality products, with innovation driven by programs like BCSRIF to meet evolving market access requirements.

The 2023–24 Annual Results Report highlights Year 5 outcomes, **showcasing the program's alignment with government priorities and its measurable socio-economic and ecological impacts**.

Key Mandates and Priorities

Province of British Columbia

During these times of uncertainty, **the Government of British Columbia (B.C.) is committed to investing in the people of our province, and the health of the animal species and ecosystems that we depend on**. As such, it is vital that we continue to support the health of wild Pacific salmon species and the restoration of our natural environment to provide opportunities for British Columbians, the communities that rely on these resources, and the economic benefit they bring when managed in a sustainable and responsible way.

The Province of British Columbia remains dedicated to the principles of BCSRIF. We value our natural environment for the ecosystem services, cultural significance, and the wealth of economic opportunities it provides. Through our Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship (WLRS) mandate we are committed to restoring estuaries, inter-tidal zones, and critical salmon spawning habitats. **BCSRIF continues to be our main avenue for funding our efforts to restore salmon populations, improve watershed security and lead on our Coastal Marine Strategy.** The WLRS mandate and Service Plan continues to emphasize our **support for reconciliation and partnerships with First Nations** to effectively steward the water, land and natural resources of B.C.

We are enacting a transformation of this management and stewardship, together with First Nations, to build a co-developed land and resource management regime. BCSRIF contributes towards this transformation through the restoration and monitoring of vitally important areas of the Province. **BCSRIF aligns with the WLRS mandate commitments to the ongoing implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA)** and commits to work with First Nations to identify and protect critical ecosystems. The partnerships that have been developed through BCSRIF, and the projects that have been supported, are key to strengthening employment opportunities and innovation in First Nations and rural and coastal communities, to support advancing reconciliation, and to protecting salmon and aquatic habitat.

Nature Trust of British Columbia
BCSRIF Project 041

Program Overview

Governance and Structure

The British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF) operates under a collaborative governance framework involving federal and provincial partners. This structure **ensures strategic alignment, effective program delivery, and accountability** across all levels. The following outlines the key roles and responsibilities of the Minister, governance committees, and the BCSRIF Secretariat in overseeing and implementing the program.

Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and Canadian Coast Guard: Oversees fish and seafood sector priorities. Ultimately approves BCSRIF strategic funding priorities and joint funding recommendations.

BCSRIF Steering Committee: Co-chaired by DFO Deputy Minister and B.C. WLRS Deputy Minister. Reviews and approves strategic funding priorities and joint recommendations.

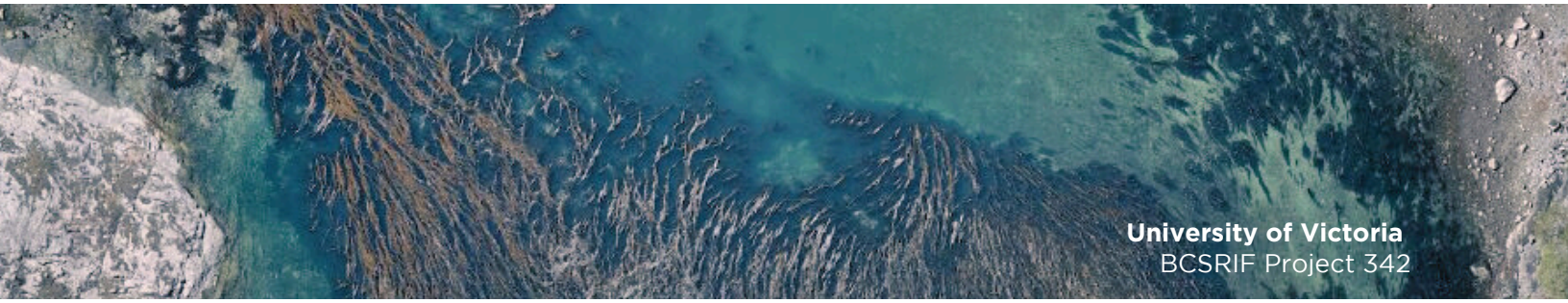
BCSRIF Management Committee: Co-chaired by DFO Pacific Regional Director General and BC WLRS Assistant Deputy Minister. Reviews and approves BCSRIF strategic funding priorities, joint funding recommendations, and program business as advanced by the DFO-BC joint operations committee.

DFO-BC Joint Operations Committee: Co-chaired by BCSRIF DFO Director and BC WLRS Executive Director. Develop strategic funding priorities and joint funding recommendations.

BCSRIF Secretariat: The BCSRIF Secretariat (DFO) oversees program implementation, financial management, and stakeholder engagement. The Director ratifies contribution agreements and provides strategic direction; the Agreements Team handles funding logistics and recipient interactions; the Partnerships and Outreach Team manages applicant engagement and technical coordination; and the Integrated Reporting Team analyzes recipient reporting for program outcomes.

Yucwmenlúcwu (Caretakers of the Land)
BCSRIF Project 273

Program Overview



Timeline, Funding Commitments and Key Trends

BCSRIF has experienced significant upward trends in funding demands and allocations:

Demonstrating Demand:

- **Intake 1:** $327M requested (192 EOIs);
- **Intake 2:** $197M requested (126 EOIs);
- **Intake 3:** $354M requested (139 Applications);
- **Total:** $878M requested from $257.1M available, showing strong interest.

Process Improvements:

- **Streamlined Intake 3:** Removed Expression of Interest (EOI) stage for direct applications;
- **Enhanced engagement:** Increased outreach to prospective applicants;
- **Approval Rate:** 22% Increase from Phase 1 to Phase 2.

Fund Utilization:

- $257.1 million in 170 projects across phases; with 100% fund allocation.

Joint Focus:

- Projects reflect shared **priorities and co-funding** by the Government of Canada and the Province of B.C., supporting conservation efforts and sustainable fisheries.

Overall, BCSRIF has conducted 3 application intakes, received 457 applications for $878 million, and has **allocated 100% of available funds while remaining adaptive and dynamic to meet rising demand**.

BCSRIF Milestones, by Key Dates

From Application Open Date to Agreement Close Date

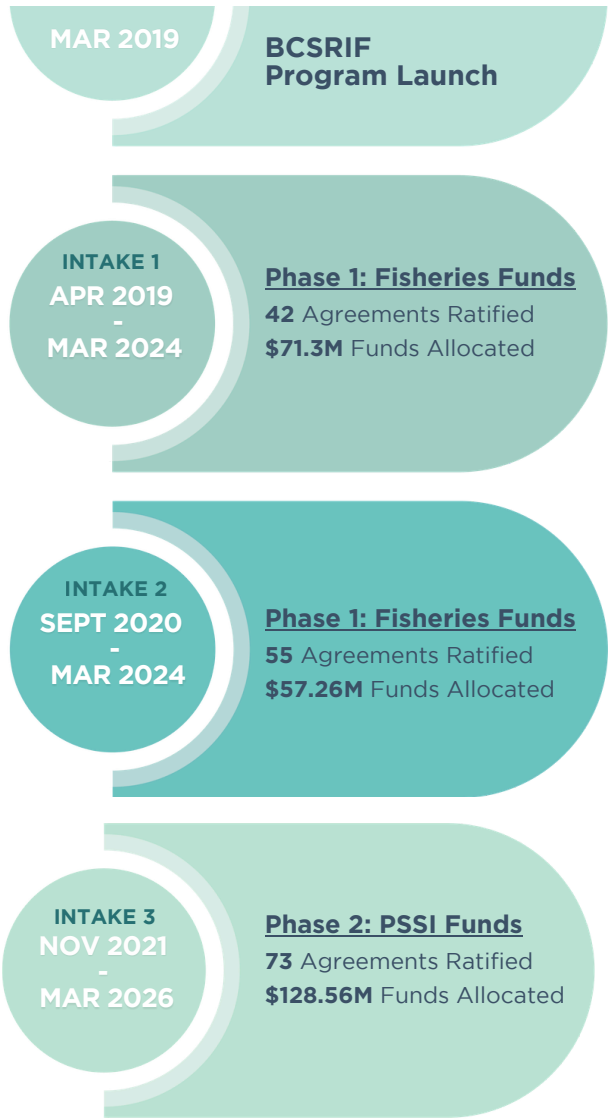


Figure 1: BCSRIF Program Milestones, 2019-26
(All figures are accurate at time of publication)

Program Overview

Funding Distribution Across Pillars

Recipient Profile Diversity

BCSRIF's broad eligibility approach has enabled a wide range of organizations to contribute to Pacific salmon recovery. **Indigenous organizations represent 40% of recipients**, embedding Indigenous Knowledge, stewardship values, and community priorities into restoration and conservation outcomes.

Environmental NGOs, industry, academia, stewardship groups, and municipalities also lead conservation, research, and community engagement, further contributing to the program's success across the 3 pillars.

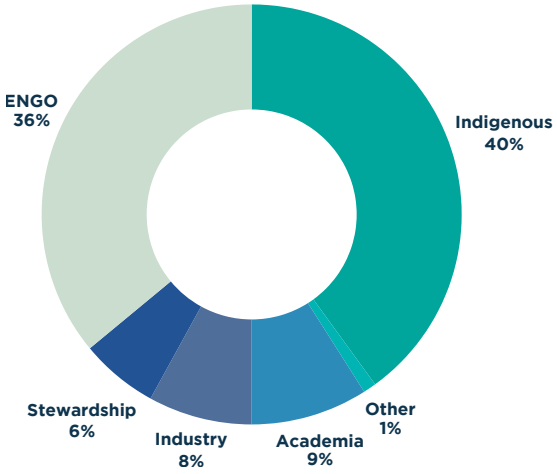


Figure 2: BCSRIF Funding by Recipient Profile, 2019-24

Strategic Investment Across B.C.

Between 2019 and 2024, BCSRIF ratified agreements across its **three pillars**—innovation, infrastructure, and science partnerships—with projects implemented throughout B.C.

Image: BCSRIF Project Map, by Pillar

Innovation ($101M, 55 projects): Projects have developed cutting-edge tools such as digital licensing apps, Artificial Intelligence for salmon escapement monitoring, sustainable fishing gear, and novel habitat restoration techniques.

Infrastructure ($78M, 56 projects): Investments have strengthened environmental infrastructure, including salmon habitat restoration and upgrades to research facilities and equipment.

Science Partnerships ($78M, 59 projects): Collaborations with academic and research institutions have expanded scientific knowledge and best practices through peer-reviewed studies and technical publications.

Project Results

2023-24 Year in Review

Significant on-the-ground results were reported across both phases of the program, which operated concurrently during the 2023–24 fiscal year (March–April).

Of the **143 Active Projects in 2023–24**:

- **Phase 1: 25** projects have concluded, while **72** were in their final stages of delivery.
- **Phase 2: 71*** projects had already begun demonstrating tangible outcomes, contributing to the sustainability of B.C.'s fish stocks—in particular wild Pacific salmon—and supporting the broader fish and seafood sector.

The 2023-24 year represents an important milestone for BCSRIF in phases 1 and 2 and for all of the funded projects and their collaborators. **With projects in various stages of delivery as well as BCSRIF monitoring in full swing** (desktop, field and financial), program and project initiatives continue to build momentum, laying a strong foundation for long-term ecological and economic benefits across British Columbia.

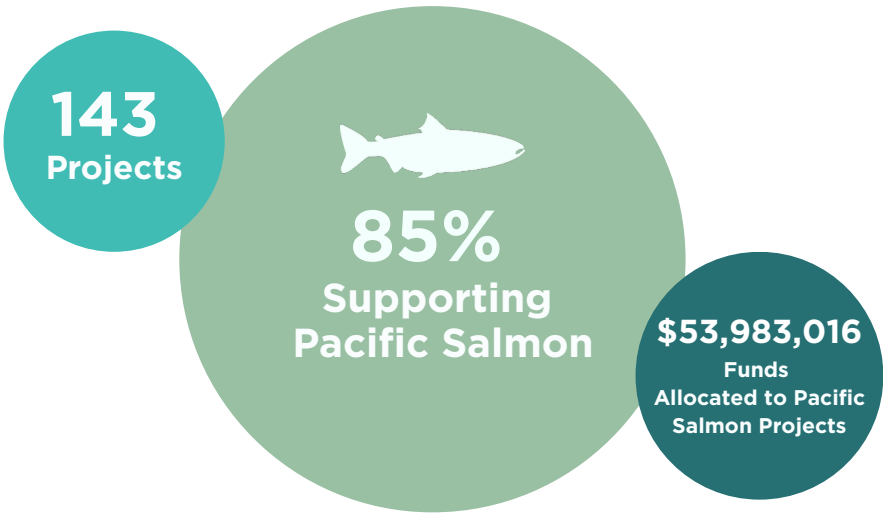


Figure 3: BCSRIF 2023-24 Year in Review - Active Projects

*Two more phase 2 projects started in 2024-25, increasing the total to 73, with outcomes to be reported in next year's annual results.

K'omoks First Nation, 2023
BCSRIF Project 318

Project Results

Featured Outcomes by Pillar

The 2023–24 outcomes, aligned with strategic pillars, showcase broad ecological benefits and the far-reaching impact of cross-sector collaboration. **Key project examples selected help to demonstrate the diversity of these efforts and results.**

FNFLFS, 2024

Investing in Innovation

Combining community mapping with geospatial technologies and Indigenous Knowledge systems in their project (218), First Nations Fisheries Legacy Fund Society focused on enhancing the capacity to monitor and manage wild salmon habitats in First Nations communities.

This innovative work will continue to inform long-term conservation strategies for at-risk salmon species in the Kispiox River, Okanagan River, and Lower Fraser.

Cascadia Seaweed, 2024

Advancing New Technologies

Cascadia Seaweed Corp (201) **developed FishCam and computer vision technology for high-temporal resolution marine biodiversity monitoring.** The project gathered 2.7 million fish observations over 16 months.

These advancements in technology have reduced data gaps and will continue to inform long-term conservation strategies for a range of fish taxa including salmon and forage fish such as Pacific herring.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2024

Enhancing Capacity for Resilience to Ecosystem Shifts

The UBC Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences (092) studied ecosystem shifts caused by climate change, **enhancing understanding of the implications of food availability for out-migrating juvenile salmon in the Salish Sea.**

Through development of Innovative analytical tools, B.C. researchers are advancing insights into changes in the abundance and distribution of salmon prey.

Project Results

Featured Outcomes by Species of Focus

Healthy wild fish stocks are vital to B.C.'s coastal communities, with strong economic and cultural value. Sustaining species like salmon, sablefish, and rockfish requires **tactical investment and collaborative efforts on habitat restoration, fishing sustainability research and population studies to ensure long-term ecological and economic resilience** for BCSRIF species of focus.

Salmon

OBJECTIVE:
To enhance the recovery and maintenance of healthy and diverse salmon populations.

Featured Achievements for Salmon (2023-24)

65% of BCSRIF salmon projects engaged >1 partners in 2023-24

Climate Change

The Pacific Salmon Foundation's project (279) **engaged 18 partner organizations to establish the first "made in B.C." framework for assessing climate change impacts on salmon** and steelhead Conservation Units.

Priority Salmon Stocks

Bringing the Salmon Home is **an Indigenous-led initiative by 5 government partners** (Syilx Okanagan Nation, Ktunaxa Nation, Secwépemc Nation, Canada, and B.C.) **to explore salmon reintroduction in the upper Columbia**, blocked since the 1930s—assessing feasibility through Indigenous Knowledge & western science.

BCSRIF Projects Focused on Salmon * 84%

Groundfish

OBJECTIVE:
To further improve the scientific understanding and sustainability of these fisheries, ensuring that populations remain healthy and productive.

Featured Achievements for Groundfish (2023-24)

68 people received training in 2023-24 groundfish projects

Species at Risk

The University of Victoria **advanced descending device technology to improve post-release survival rates of rockfish** bycatch in recreational fisheries through the project "Enhancing Rockfish Recovery Through Citizen Science." (006)

New Technology

Wild Canadian Sablefish **established an integrated system of data capture technology and in-situ monitoring** in their project "Management Strategy Evaluation for Bottom Contact Fisheries with Assessments of Sensitive Benthic Habitats" (372).

BCSRIF Projects Focused on Groundfish * 3%

*The metrics for 'projects by species' are cumulative, covering the period from 2019 to 2024.

Outcomes by Species of Focus

BCSRIF invests in **innovative and sustainable approaches** to fisheries and aquaculture, including **advancements in kelp and shellfish sectors**. Featured projects reflect efforts towards long-term ecological resilience and viability of key marine industries in British Columbia.

Kelp

OBJECTIVE:
Improved sustainability of the aquaculture industry to ensure the protection and conservation of marine ecosystems and wild fish populations.

Featured Achievements for Kelp (2023-24)

42 jobs were supported in 2023-24 kelp projects

Fisheries & Seafood Innovation

Cascadia Seaweed Corp's project (201) **generated 11 publications in 2023-24, focusing on integrating traditional and advanced monitoring technologies** to study the impact of coastal kelp farms on the habitat of migrating Pacific salmonids and their prey.

New Technology

The initiative "Supporting B.C.'s Kelp Industry" (445) **enhanced the production of kelp seeds, benefiting farmers and ecological restoration efforts in the region**. Nursery systems provided seeds to five kelp farms and two restoration projects across B.C.

BCSRIF Projects Focused on Kelp * 3%

Shellfish

OBJECTIVE:
Support activities related to the fish and seafood harvesting, processing and aquaculture sectors in B.C.

Featured Achievements for Shellfish (2023-24)

62 people attended workshops in 2023-24 shellfish projects

Collaboration & Partnerships

Mariculture Limited Partnership's BCSRIF project (253) seeks to **modernize oyster farming in Barkley Sound by improving traditional methods**. The 2023-24 workshop involved over 40 participants, focusing on scalability and labor efficiency in industry.

Aquaculture

A B.C. Shellfish Growers (432) **framework focuses the selecting shellfish genetics for enhancements in survival, growth, and marketability.** In 2023-24, they made advancements in a floating upwelling system and a processing float to improve efficiency and environmental performance.

BCSRIF Projects Focused on Shellfish * 4%

*The metrics for 'projects by species' are cumulative, covering the period from 2019 to 2024.

Outcomes by Species of Focus

BCSRIF **fosters innovation and collaboration to protect ecologically and culturally significant species and ecosystems while safeguarding against aquatic invasive species** in collaboration with Indigenous partners stakeholders.

Pelagics

OBJECTIVE:
Investigate numerous elements of pelagic ecology, including food web interactions and cultural connections.

Featured Achievements for Pelagics (2023-24)

29 Indigenous partners engaged in 2023-24 pelagic projects

Collaboration & Partnerships

The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council project (341) "ʔaayaaqa 'Herring' Spawn Dynamics" **examines life history traits and spawning on West Coast Vancouver Island**. Their 2023-24 draft report summarizes data analysis and literature to aid in creating an Indigenous fisheries management framework.

Scientific Research

In 2023-24, Ecofish Research conducted the first study since 1994 on Oolichan larvae migration in Gardner Canal and Douglas Channel, providing **vital data for understanding this endangered species** in Haisla Territory and their migratory patterns.

BCSRIF Projects Focused on Pelagics * 3%

Aquatic Invasive Species

OBJECTIVE:
Focus on innovative methods to detect, monitor and control AIS, contributing to the broader goal of ecosystem health and resilience.

Featured Achievements for AIS (2023-24)

91 jobs were supported by 2023-24 AIS projects

Community Engagement

The Council of Haida Nation's project (215) **successfully trapped and eradicated 439,165 European Green Crabs (EGC)** in 2023-24. This effort informs future EGC plans for CHN and Northern Shelf communities, sharing data with Indigenous and government partners, including Alaskan communities. The project also initiated discussions on regional EGC monitoring and presented findings at regional conferences.

BCSRIF Projects Focused on AIS * 3%

*The metrics for 'projects by species' are cumulative, covering the period from 2019 to 2024.

Project Results

Social and Economic Outcomes

Jobs

Update on Job Outcomes: In the 2023-24 fiscal year, BCSRIF **supported over 1,800 people through paid employment**, for implementing project outcomes contributing to the B.C. salmon recovery economy. This was the highest year of annual persons paid, reported in BCSRIF history, reflecting the peak implementation stage of projects in both phases of the program.

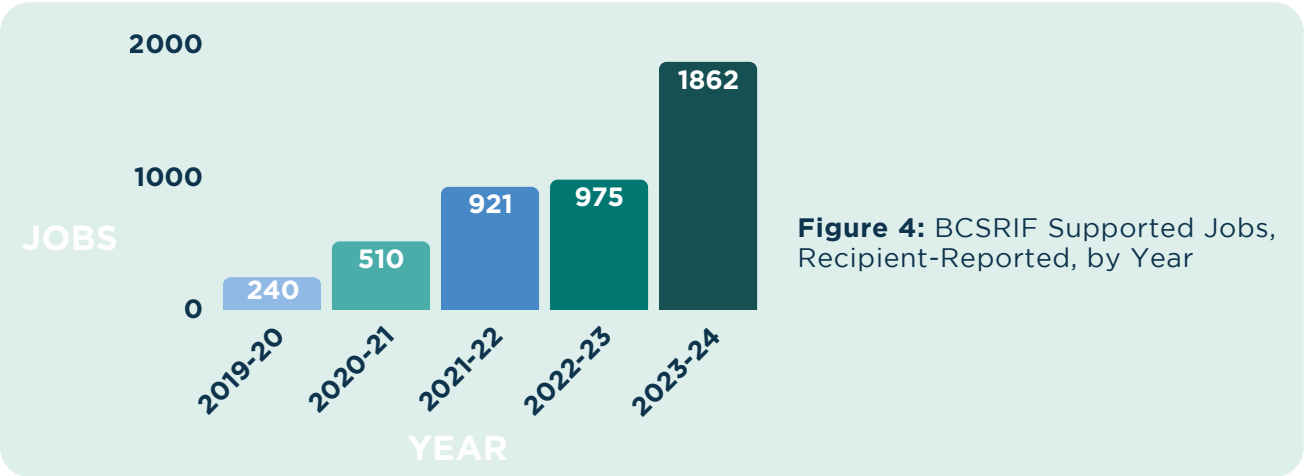


Figure 4: BCSRIF Supported Jobs, Recipient-Reported, by Year

Workforce Development

In 2023-24, **1,446 individuals received specialized training** toward building skills in new technologies and practices that support habitat restoration, environmental science, and project management, strengthening B.C.'s salmon recovery workforce, up from 711 people in 2022-23.

Community Engagement

Complementing workforce development efforts, BCSRIF-funded initiatives also report results on efforts towards community engagement and outreach.

In 2023–24, **BCSRIF-funded projects facilitated 368 workshops and outreach events, engaging over 7,500 participants**—both in-person and virtual. This broad participation highlights deepening engagement as well as public interest in salmon stewardship, environmental education, and the advancement of fisheries and environmental science.

Together, these initiatives highlight the critical role of a skilled workforce, scientific innovation, and informed community engagement in driving successful salmon recovery.

Project Results

Demographics and GBA+

Since 2021, BCSRIF has integrated Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) metrics into recipient annual report templates to gather metrics for understanding project team demographics and approaches and support inclusivity. The GBA+ analytical tool assesses trends and visible and invisible barriers related to gender, ethnicity, age, and geography. Consistent with previous years, BCSRIF projects engaged diverse team members in project delivery. Demographics reported by recipients in 2023-24 include representation by **women in 136 teams**, **Indigenous Peoples in 107 teams**, and **2SLGBTQ+ individuals in 40 project teams**, among other diversity reported.

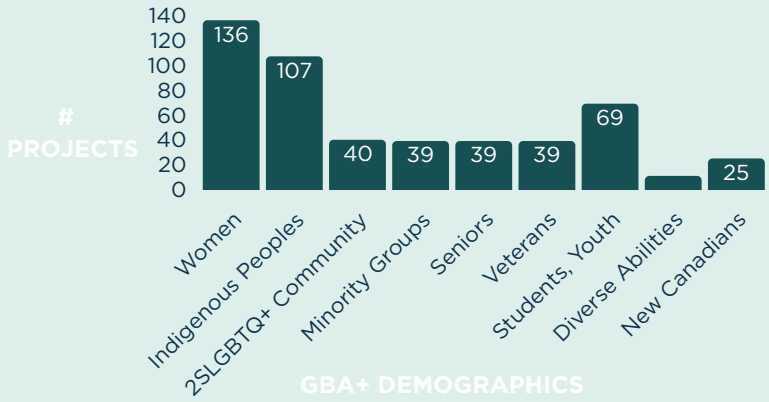


Figure 5: BCSRIF Projects reporting GBA+ representation in project delivery in 2023-24

Danny Swainson, Pacific Salmon Foundation, 2021
FRISCB projet 040

Project Results

Indigenous Participation in BCSRIF (2023-24)

Indigenous engagement in BCSRIF continues to be a key strength, with **44% of the 143 active projects in 2023–24 led by Indigenous organizations.** Additionally, **76% of all active projects reported direct support from Indigenous partners**.

Capacity-building efforts also expanded significantly. Nearly **600 Indigenous individuals received training in 2023–24, more than doubling the previous year's total of approximately 270**. Training focused on critical areas such as environmental monitoring, habitat restoration, and sustainable fisheries management—skills essential to long-term salmon recovery.

These outcomes are reinforced by Phase 2 refinement to BCSRIF's contribution agreements, which now include more robust discussions on Indigenous Knowledge (IK) collection and stewardship with agreement clauses that prioritize planning and clarity around IK inclusion. Together, these efforts reflect BCSRIF's **commitment to supporting Indigenous leadership, and advancing technical capacity to support ongoing collaborative stewardship of B.C.'s aquatic ecosystems**.

Scw'exmx Tribal Council, 2022
BCSRIF Project 018

Project Results

Ecological Outcomes

To assess ecological outcomes and overall program performance, BCSRIF asks recipient organizations to report on project results that contribute to fisheries rebuilding, species at risk recovery, wild salmon conservation, and fish habitat restoration. **These outcomes are measured through a set of ecological performance metrics that reflect the scope and impact of funded initiatives.**

It is important to note that while these metrics provide valuable insight into program effectiveness, variations in data collection methods and reporting standards among recipients may influence how results are interpreted and applied. Despite these differences, the aggregated data reported by BCSRIF recipients offers a meaningful snapshot of the program's contributions to aquatic ecosystem health and salmon recovery efforts across British Columbia.

Highlights of key ecological outcomes reported by BCSRIF projects (2023–24):

- **Project Focus:**
  - 128 projects support wild Pacific salmon recovery
  - 63 projects focus on Southern B.C. Chinook
  - 28 on Interior-Fraser Coho
  - 25 on Fraser Sockeye
  - 19 on Thompson-Chilcotin Steelhead

- **Habitat & Planning:**
  - 89 watershed recovery plans developed

- **Fish Passage:**
  - 37 projects restore access where migration barriers exist

Redd Fish Restoration Society, 2022
BCSRIF Project 242

Project Results

Ecological Outcomes

Salmon Habitat Restoration

Over **$110 million (40% of total funding) has supported 57 projects** which include estuary and freshwater habitat (aquatic, riparian) restoration, barrier removals, as well as watershed and climate resiliency planning.

BCSRIF funding recipients report over **8.4 million m^2 of salmon habitat restored and/or reopened to salmon access by 2023-24**. In addition, European Green Crab aquatic invasive species trapping control was undertaken in select estuaries off of the West Coast of Vancouver Island and Haida Gwaii. These restoration and mitigation efforts are best supported by ongoing monitoring for efficacy.

Fish Habitat Performance Measures

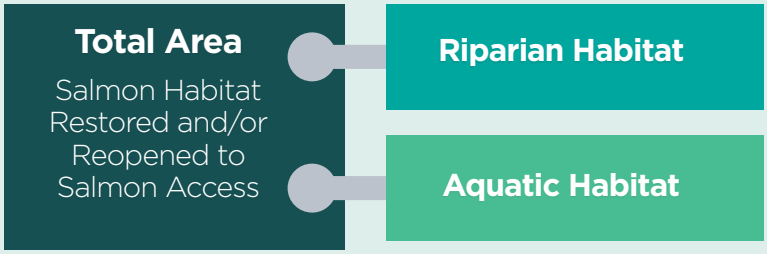


Figure 6: Components of Salmon Habitat Restoration Metrics

OVER 8.4 MILLION M²
Salmon Habitat Restored or Reopened for Access by 2023-24

Salmon Stock Monitoring

BCSRIF supports salmon stock monitoring priorities through infrastructure enhancement and data collection to assist recipients in assessing and analyzing local salmon populations in an effort to strengthen science-based ecosystem and fisheries management.

Sustainable Fishing Innovation

Projects include Indigenous-operated pound net feasibility, real-time bycatch monitoring in groundfish trawl fisheries, and studies on Fishing-Related Incidental Mortality (FRIM) in recreational fisheries. These initiatives inform more sustainable practices across commercial, recreational, and Indigenous fisheries.

Project Outcomes

Scientific Research

Science and research are integral to many of the initiatives supported by BCSRIF. In 2023–24, **62 projects, representing 43% of all funded initiatives, included components focused on academic study and scientific research**.

These research-oriented projects collectively **produced 153 publications or publicly released datasets**. Since the program's inception in 2019, **BCSRIF-funded projects have generated a cumulative total of 225 publications and datasets.**

153 Publications and Datasets Generated in 2023-24

In addition to supporting academic outputs, BCSRIF also funds projects that contribute directly to fisheries science and management. **Over half of all BCSRIF-supported projects involve scientific modelling, simulation studies, or data collection efforts** that inform fisheries management systems and frameworks. These include activities such as stock assessments, recovery planning, evaluations of salmon fitness, and advanced techniques like eDNA and DNA testing.

Through these efforts, BCSRIF continues to play a vital role in advancing evidence-based approaches to the sustainable management of British Columbia's fisheries resources.

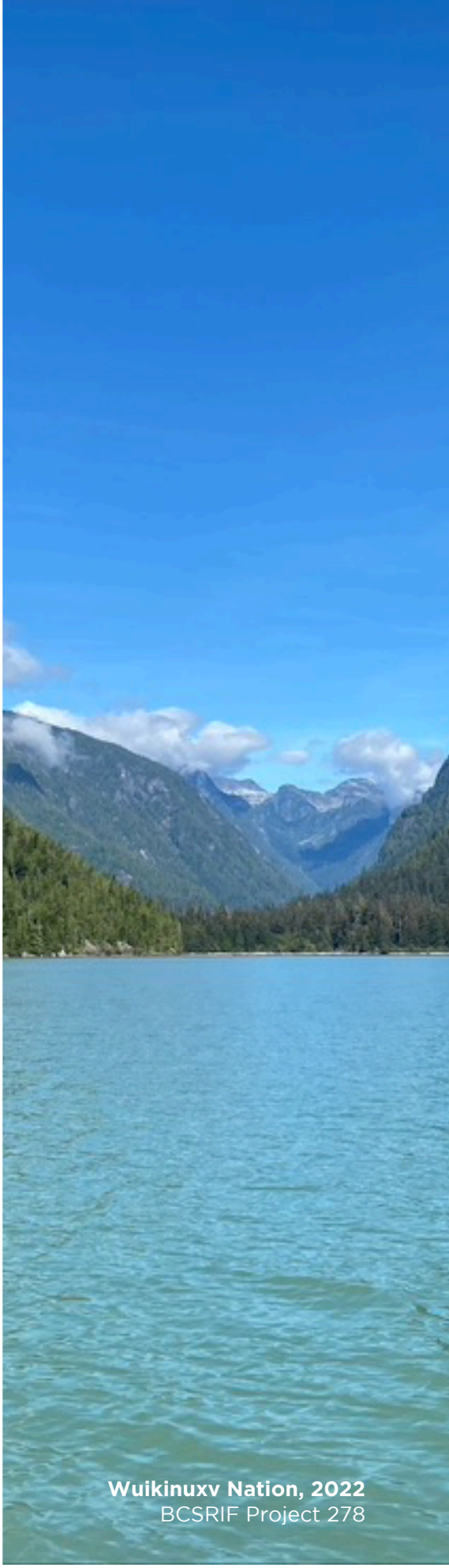
Mariculture Limited Partnership
BCSRIF Project 253

Looking Ahead

In 2023–24, the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund continued to demonstrate the value of coordinated federal-provincial investment in the **long-term resilience of wild Pacific salmon and the broader fisheries sector**.

The **results presented in this report** underscore how sustained support for innovation, infrastructure, and science partnerships is helping communities, organizations, and researchers **advance meaningful outcomes for Pacific salmon**.

As BCSRIF projects deliver both immediate on-the-ground benefits and **support capacity for future sustainability, the program remains an important contributor to salmon recovery**, sustainable fisheries, and ecosystem resilience in British Columbia.



Wuikinuxv Nation, 2022
BCSRIF Project 278

Appendix 1

List of Active BCSRIF-Funded Projects

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Fishing B.C. App: Tidal Waters License Integration and Recreational Catch Monitoring and Data Collection Enhancements Project	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Innovation	$714,445
Squamish Estuary Chinook Salmon Habitat Restoration Project	Squamish River Watershed Society	Infrastructure	$1,089,320
San Juan and Gordon Rivers – Salmon Estuarine Habitat Restoration	Pacheedaht First Nation	Infrastructure	$3,255,606
Aeromonas salmonicida Genome Sequencing and qPCR Test Development	Kwantlen Polytechnic University	Innovation	$278,272
South Coast European Green Crab Control Project - Phase 2 (SC EGC CP-P2)	Coastal Restoration Society	Infrastructure	$1,994,100
Salmon Recovery – advancing planning and action	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Innovation	$4,513,980
Meziadin River Up-looking Hydroacoustic Sockeye Smolt Enumeration Project	Gitanyow Fisheries Authority	Innovation	$749,585
Bute Inlet Salmon Viability Strategy	Xwemalhkwu (Homalco) First Nation	Science partnerships	$775,225
Research in support of Sarita Chinook as an Ecological Indicator and WCVI Chinook Salmon Rebuilding	Huu-ay-aht First Nations	Science partnerships	$1,662,046
First Nations led salmon habitat and population monitoring, research and cumulative effects assessment in the Lower Fraser River and Boundary Bay	Salish Sea Indigenous Guardians Association	Innovation	$2,222,120
Chinook Salmon Assessments and WCVI Chinook Salmon Rebuilding in the Kaouk and Artlish Watersheds	Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et' h' First Nation	Science partnerships	$976,813
NEWSS-Salmon Habitat Recovery Projects	Nechako Environment And Water Stewardship Society	Innovation	$1,500,000
ʔaayaaqa (Herring) Herring Spawn Dynamics	Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council	Science partnerships	$575,960
British Columbia Kelp-Encrusting Bryozoan (B.C. KEB)	University of Victoria	Science partnerships	$948,794

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Digital Imaging of Wild Coho Returns to the Lillooet River Conservation Unit	Lil'wat First Nation	Science partnerships	$694,491
Genetic monitoring of Kokanee- sockeye salmon (Oncorhynchus nerka) hybrid fitness and long term outcomes associated with an experimental re-introduction program	University of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$218,350
Selective Fishing Using a Salmon Trap in the Campbell River Estuary	A-Tlegay Fisheries Society	Innovation	$1,143,116
Chemainus-Koksilah Twinned Watershed Salmon Sustainability Project- Phase 2	Halalt First Nation	Innovation	$1,217,814
Clayoquot Pacific Salmon Recovery Initiative	Redd Fish Restoration Society	Innovation	$3,610,000
Estimating aggregate Coho salmon escapement to the Lower Fraser Management Unit	Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance Society	Infrastructure	$543,840
Campbell River Estuary Salt Marsh and Eelgrass Restoration	Discovery Coast Greenways Land Trust	Infrastructure	$1,932,064
TFN Fish Trap – Capacity Building, Communications and Operations 2023-26	Tsawwassen First Nation	Innovation	$810,062
Determining the mechanisms of impacts of a changing climate on zooplankton in the Salish Sea using models and observations	University of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$253,963
Basin-scale Events to Coastal Impacts (BECI)	North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)	Science partnerships	$1,154,750
Identifying and mitigating hot spots of salmon exposure to toxic road runoff	University of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$1,747,809
Watershed Futures Initiative: Towards climate resilience of salmon watersheds	Simon Fraser University	Innovation	$1,254,022
Restoration of salmon habitat at Cultus Lake, BC: a Green Shores® demonstration project	SCBC Stewardship Centre for B.C.	Innovation	$531,674
Thompson-Shuswap Salmon Habitat Assessment, Monitoring and Restoration Program (2023-26)	Shuswap Nation Tribal Council Society	Innovation	$1,306,000
10,000 Wetlands Project	The B.C. Wildlife Federation	Innovation	$1,538,703
Skeena River Fish Trap Project	Lax Kw'alaams Business Development LP.	Infrastructure	$2,272,760
Management strategy evaluation for bottom contact fisheries with assessments of sensitive benthic habitats	Wild Canadian Sablefish Ltd.	Innovation	$257,400

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Resilient Waters Phase 3: Restoration and Research for Salmon and Flood Resilience in the Lower Fraser Watershed	MakeWay Charitable Society	Infrastructure	$3,613,173
Farmland Advantage: Scaling the Implementation of Riparian Restoration	Investment Agriculture Foundation British Columbia	Infrastructure	$3,000,000
Lower Adams Habitat Restoration Initiative (LAHRI)	Little Shuswap Lake Band	Innovation	$1,884,333
Strait of Georgia Herring: Restoring the Salmon Food Web	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Science partnerships	$3,722,499
Restoring Fraser River Estuary Salmon Habitat (ReFRESH)	Ducks Unlimited Canada	Innovation	$5,000,000
Development of High-resolution Climate Change Freshwater Hazard Data for B.C.	Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium	Science partnerships	$558,355
Tsecmenúlecwem-kt (We Repair the Land) - Deadman Recovery and Resiliency Initiative	Skeetchestn Indian Band	Innovation	$4,000,000
Charting a Path for Coastal First Nations' Community Salmon Enhancement Initiatives	Great Bear Initiative Society	Innovation	$1,959,302
Mitigating Inputs of Tire Wear Toxins to Protect Salmonid Habitat on Vancouver Island	British Columbia Conservation Foundation	Innovation	$2,293,016
Mapping, monitoring and restoring important forage fish habitats in Coastal British Columbia to support salmon conservation efforts.	Comox Valley Project Watershed Society	Science partnerships	$1,402,754
Evaluating climate change scenarios for the Quesnel Watershed to determine flood, fire and temperature risks posed to Upper Fraser salmon stocks.	University of Northern British Columbia	Infrastructure	$5,000,000
Supporting and connecting community-based monitoring for climate-resilient salmon ecosystems	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Innovation	$3,997,861
The Sablefish Solution	University of Victoria	Science partnerships	$378,070
Oolichan From Estuary to Offshore: Assessment of Early Marine Populations and Limiting Factors of Central Coast Oolichan (Eulachon: Thaleichthys pacificus) in Douglas Channel and Gardner Canal	Ecofish Research Ltd.	Science partnerships	$1,213,354
Watershed Restoration Prioritization Tool/Solutions for Gold River Steelhead	Nootka Sound Watershed Society	Infrastructure	$1,165,470

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Portage Creek Chinook Salmon Recovery Program	St'át'imc Government Services (SGS)	Science partnerships	$810,467
Establishing a long-term strategy for understanding and mitigating the impacts of the European Green Crab invasion on Haida Gwaii	Secretariat of the Haida Nation	Science partnerships	$3,016,571
Post Flood Support for Fish and Fish Habitat Recovery in the Nicola Watershed	Scw'exmx Tribal Council	Infrastructure	$5,309,810
Columbia River Salmon Reintroduction Initiative (CRSRI): Bringing the Salmon Home	Okanagan Nation Alliance	Innovation	$5,273,138
Restoring freshwater connectivity for Pacific salmon	Canadian Wildlife Federation	Infrastructure	$2,288,035
Mitigating the Effects of the Invasive European Green Crab on the Central Coast of B.C.	Heiltsuk Tribal Council	Science partnerships	$1,423,750
Empirically resolving interspecific competition experienced by North Pacific salmon in the open ocean	University of British Columbia	Innovation	$186,450
Investigation of water acidification and habitat on imprinting and homing in Pacific salmon	University of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$541,750
Fish Passage Restoration in Gitksan Territory	Skeena Fisheries Commission	Innovation	$677,300
Resilient Estuaries in the Salish Sea: Phase Two (Baseline Assessments and Ground-truthing)	SeaChange Marine Conservation Society	Innovation	$1,160,085
Shellfish Aquaculture Sustainability Enhancement Program	B.C. Shellfish Grower's Association	Infrastructure	$1,000,000
Towards food security: restoring salmon and their habitat	Wet'suwet'en Treaty Office Society	Science partnerships	$565,000
Colquitz River Salmonid Restoration and Monitoring Project	Peninsula Streams Society	Infrastructure	$250,000
Establishing baselines, risks, and mechanisms of thiamine deficiency in British Columbia Chinook salmon	University of British Columbia	Innovation	$545,151
Highway 16 and CN Corridor Stranding Remediation/Willow Creek Arch Culvert/Mid-Scully Creek Spawning Gravel Addition.	Kitsumkalum Indian Band	Infrastructure	$888,261
Nanwakolas 50 Watersheds Project	Nanwakolas Council Society	Science partnerships	$2,875,000

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Identifying factors that influence early marine survival of WCVI Chinook salmon	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Innovation	$1,150,000
Enhancing Estuary Resilience: A Collaborative Approach to the Monitoring and Restoration of Estuaries with Coastal First Nations	Nature Trust of British Columbia (NTBC)	Innovation	$3,493,975
Supporting B.C.'s Kelp Industry and Enabling Coastal Restoration and Research by Increasing Hatchery Seed Supply	West Coast Kelp Ltd.	Infrastructure	$92,434
Xá:y Syí:ts'emílep: Gill Bar Restoration and Management Plan	Stó:lo Service Agency	Innovation	$1,513,649
Chilako River and Tributary Stream Corridor Restoration Demonstration	Lheidli T'enneh First Nation	Innovation	$3,250,000
Analysis of forestry effects on Pacific salmon in Musgamagw Dzawada'enuxw territory and across coastal B.C.	Salmon Coast Field Station Society	Science partnerships	$1,519,522
Gwa'sala 'Nakwaxda-xw Fully- Integrated Salmon Habitat Restoration Project (GNN-FISHR)	Gwa'sala 'Nakwaxda'xw Nations	Infrastructure	$873,215
Boundary Bay Chinook salmon restoration in the TA'TALU watershed	A Rocha Canada	Science partnerships	$535,388
Establishing a Test Fishery for Chinook Salmon in key areas of the B.C. Coast	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$1,573,653
FRIM – Short term mortality holding and respirometry studies	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$1,724,644
Informed Approaches to Determine Bottlenecks to Survival for Chinook and Coho Salmon and Steelhead	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Science partnerships	$5,096,359

Appendix 2

List of Closed BCSRIF-Funded Projects

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Elaho River Chinook Salmon Restoration	Squamish River Watershed Society	Infrastructure	$522,486
Electronic Application for Enhanced Selective Fishing and Bycatch Avoidance	Canadian Groundfish Research and Conservation Society	Innovation	$600,000
Creation of Salmon Conservation Facility	Juan de Fuca Salmon Restoration Society	Infrastructure	$216,349
Enhancing rockfish recovery through citizen science, outreach and field experiments	University of Victoria	Science partnerships	$758,780
Development of North Island wet lab capacity to investigate wild/farm salmon interaction and stock restoration	Centre for Aquatic Health Sciences Society	Innovation	$742,443
Innovative Habitat Restoration Demonstration	British Columbia Conservation Foundation	Innovation	$4,952,373
Historical review and Indigenous engagement to increase efficacy of, and Indigenous participation in the British Columbia Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF).	National Indigenous Fisheries Institute	Science partnerships	$355,095
Determination of Bottlenecks Limiting Wild and Enhanced Juvenile Salmon and Steelhead Production in B.C. using PIT tags and Spatially Comprehensive Arrays	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Science partnerships	$4,619,877
Enhancing Estuary Resiliency: An Innovative Approach to Sustaining Fish and Fish Habitat in a Changing Climate	Nature Trust of British Columbia (NTBC)	Innovation	$8,552,415
Empowering Indigenous community fisheries with deep learning - computer vision for adaptive management of terminal salmon fisheries	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Innovation	$410,300
Enhancing Sustainability of capture and release marine recreational Pacific salmon fisheries using new tools/technology	University of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$1,938,002
Improving Sustainability of British Columbia's Commercial Spot Prawn Fishery and Prawn Stocks	Pacific Prawn Fishermen's Association	Science partnerships	$117,996
Elephant Hill Fire Riparian Restoration Project	Secwepemcul'ecw Restoration and Stewardship Society	Infrastructure	$2,629,833

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Plateau Fire Recovery – Riparian Plant Collection and Planting for Restoration of Chinook and Coho Salmon Habitat in the Nazko Area	Baker Creek Enhancement Society	Infrastructure	$750,000
Place-based Risk of Climate Change to Sustainability of B.C. Wild and Hatchery-origin Salmon	Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium	Science partnerships	$1,025,000
Upper Fraser Chinook Strategic Enhancement Project	Spruce City Wildlife Association	Infrastructure	$240,362
Inkaneep Creek Restoration	Osoyoos Indian Band	Infrastructure	$360,283
Optimizing Recirculating Aquaculture Systems for Sustainable Salmon Production	University of British Columbia	Innovation	$1,829,490
Drivers of Inter-annual variability in Zooplankton Feeding in the Strait of Georgia: A combined model-observation approach	University of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$165,000
Seymour Watershed Restoration Project	Seymour Salmonid Society	Infrastructure	$618,844
Upper Adams Salmon Restoration Program	Adams Lake Indian Band (ALIB)	Science partnerships	$2,521,181
Broughton wild salmon restoration project	'Namgis First Nation	Innovation	$4,220,529
Independent B.C. First Nations Genomics Lab Project - Phase 1	'Namgis First Nation	Infrastructure	$50,560
Phase 2: Independent First Nations' Genomic Lab for B.C.	'Namgis First Nation	Infrastructure	$1,977,828
Implementation of the Broughton First Nations Indigenous Monitoring and Inspection Plan	'Namgis First Nation	Infrastructure	$7,349,000
Percy Walkus Hatchery Upgrade	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Infrastructure	$336,895
Assessment of forage fish populations and their habitats to support enhanced conservation of chinook salmon	Comox Valley Project Watershed Society	Science partnerships	$321,779
Chilliwack Coho PIT Tag Escapement Project	Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance Society	Innovation	$679,690
Resilient Waters Project: Phase 1	MakeWay Charitable Society	Infrastructure	$598,756
Millstream Fishway Project	Peninsula Streams Society	Infrastructure	$300,000

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Partnership for a novel framework for assessing and managing Pacific Herring fisheries on the West Coast of Vancouver Island	Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council	Innovation	$390,500
Cowichan River Salmon Restoration program - Sustainable Water Supply - Engineering	Cowichan Valley Regional District	Infrastructure	$2,999,218
Science-based review of hatchery results in the DFO Pacific Region	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Science partnerships	$1,083,498
BC Fish Passage Joint Venture	Canadian Wildlife Federation	Science partnerships	$3,999,721
Kitwanga River Sockeye Salmon Recovery Plan Implementation	Gitanyow Fisheries Authority	Science partnerships	$867,020
Bear River Autonomous Salmon Enumeration	Skeena Fisheries Commission	Science partnerships	$402,439
Promotion of Habitat Restoration and Stewardship on Agricultural Lands in B.C.	BCCA Program Delivery Inc	Innovation	$550,000
IYS: International Pan-Pacific Salmon Expedition (2021)	North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission	Science partnerships	$3,305,457
B.C. Fishing App	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Innovation	$910,500
Vision 2021	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Innovation	$700,879
Winter Salmon Survey in the Gulf of Alaska	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Science partnerships	$650,000
The Fermentative production of Microalgae as food for juvenile bivalves in B.C.	Seed Science Ltd	Innovation	$475,492
Shellfish aquaculture strategic renewal program	B.C. Shellfish Grower's Association	Innovation	$3,500,000
Evaluation of coastal kelp farms as novel habitat for migrating salmonids and their prey	Cascadia Seaweed Corp	Infrastructure	$1,886,046
Kingfisher Intake Restoration	Kingfisher Interpretive Centre Society	Infrastructure	$43,396
Chapman Creek Hatchery water supply and capacity upgrades	Sunshine Coast Salmonid Enhancement Society	Infrastructure	$70,000
Seymour Hatchery Infrastructure Renewal	Seymour Salmonid Society	Infrastructure	$80,410

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Modernizing catch reporting in Canada's Pacific Region Salmon Fisheries	Archipelago Marine Research Ltd	Innovation	$317,557
A-Tlegay Kelp Production and Restoration	A-Tlegay Fisheries Society	Infrastructure	$171,713
Mitigating impacts of the European Green Crab invasion on Haida Gwaii	Secretariat of the Haida Nation	Science partnerships	$2,796,887
Chemainus/Koksilah Twinned Watershed Sustainability Project	Cowichan Tribes	Science partnerships	$1,370,332
Developing a cumulative effects modelling framework for the recovery of aquatic salmonid populations	University of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$253,610
UAV Habitat Mapping to Inform wild Salmon Stewardship	First Nations Fisheries Legacy Fund Society	Innovation	$2,478,221
Skeena Estuary Habitat Management and Protection Planning	North Coast-Skeena First Nations Stewardship Society	Innovation	$2,334,024
Ecosystem Management of kelp forest	North Pacific Kelp Wild Foods Inc.	Science partnerships	$99,999
South Coast European Green Crab Control	Coastal Restoration Society	Science partnerships	$3,534,340
Supporting West Coast Oyster Industry Development Through Expansion of Nursery Seed Supply	Nova Harvest Ltd	Infrastructure	$210,000
Selective Fishing Using a Salmon Trap	Tsawwassen First Nation	Infrastructure	$875,325
Highway 16 corridor fish stranding	Kitsumkalum Indian Band	Infrastructure	$213,032
Babine Lake Creel Survey	Lake Babine Nation	Science partnerships	$372,951
Development and establishment of Vancouver Island Salmon Committee	Island Marine Aquatic Working Group	Innovation	$397,540
Landslide impact on the flow dynamics, fish migration and genetics of Fraser River Salmon	Simon Fraser University	Science partnerships	$3,566,728
Assessment of sampling methodologies, March 2022 Gulf of Alaska	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Science partnerships	$308,000
Causes and consequences of vateritic otoliths in hatchery- reared Coho salmon	University of Victoria	Science partnerships	$512,458

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Climate Action Priorities for Salmon	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Innovation	$3,270,151
Clayoquot Wild Chinook Salmon Initiative	Central Westcoast Forest Society	Infrastructure	$792,782
First Nations-led Freshwater Salmon Habitat Assessment and Restoration Planning in the Central Coast	Central Coast Indigenous Resource Alliance Society (CCIRA)	Innovation	$2,747,628
Kleanza Creek Salmon Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Project	Kitselas First Nation	Infrastructure	$561,335
Applying Innovation and Collaboration to Improve Productivity, Economic Stability and Environmental Performance of Oyster Culture	Mariculture Limited Partnership	Infrastructure	$558,015
Aquaculture Opportunities and Sustainability Survey	Gwabalis Fisheries Society	Innovation	$107,167
Exploring Spatial Management Opportunities for Rockfish using Indigenous Knowledge and Subtidal Surveys	Ha'oom Fisheries Society	Science partnerships	$202,500
Understanding FRIM in the B.C. Public Fishery	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Innovation	$205,916
Modernizing Recreational Catch Monitoring, Data Collection and Communication	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Innovation	$343,750
Recreational Release Mortality Studies and Fishing Related Incidental Mortality (FRIM)	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$833,250
Fraser Salmon Management Program	Fraser Salmon Management Council	Science partnerships	$400,000
Fraser River Estuary Salmon Habitat (FRESH) Restoration Projects	Ducks Unlimited Canada	Infrastructure	$4,781,409
Conservation Fishing - A First Nations Demonstration Selective Fishing in the Lower Fraser River	Harrison Salmon Producers LLP	Infrastructure	$789,200
SFAB Vision - Phased Implementation	Sport Fishing Institute of British Columbia	Innovation	$453,324
Salmon River Collaborative Salmonid Habitat Enhancement and Restoration Initiative	Yucwmenlucwu (Caretakers of the Land) Splatsin Development Corporation	Science partnerships	$208,289
MakeWay - Resilient Waters Lower Fraser Valley Rehabilitation	MakeWay Charitable Society	Infrastructure	$2,686,479
Wuikinuxv Assessment and Restoration of Rivers Inlet Salmon	Wuikinuxv Nation	Science partnerships	$543,374

Project Title	Recipient Organization	Pillar	Funding Allocation
Supporting the Ongoing Use and Development of the Pacific Salmon Explorer	Pacific Salmon Foundation	Science partnerships	$3,776,300
Selective Fishing Gear Pilot in the Fraser River	Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance Society	Infrastructure	$1,293,613
Technology for more sustainable fisheries in B.C.	T. Buck Suzuki Foundation	Infrastructure	$320,700
First Nations-led catch monitoring to inform sustainable mixed-stock fisheries management on the Central Coast	Central Coast Indigenous Resource Alliance Society (CCIRA)	Innovation	$1,533,176
Collaborative Freshwater Research and Restoration Initiative in the Thompson Watershed	Shuswap Nation Tribal Council Society	Infrastructure	$789,102
Nanaimo Hatchery Upgrades to Improve Hatchery Performance and Assessment and Monitoring Capabilities	Nanaimo River Stewardship Society	Infrastructure	$1,030,431
Coastal First Nations Salmon Enhancement and Restoration Initiative	Great Bear Initiative Society	Infrastructure	$2,826,811
Watershed Restoration Prioritization Tool/Solutions for Gold River Steelhead	Nootka Sound Watershed Society	Infrastructure	$324,953
Fish and Fish Habitat Survey for Finfish Aquaculture	We Wai Kai First Nation	Infrastructure	$144,200
The application of nanopore technology for the rapid detection and characterization of pathogenic organisms in enhancement hatcheries	Centre for Aquatic Health Sciences Society	Science partnerships	$306,000
Monitoring lipid content of Fraser- bound Chinook at Albion	University of British Columbia	Science partnerships	$36,869
Deadman River Hatchery Upgrades	Skeetchestn Indian Band	Infrastructure	$385,000
Rebuilding Wet'suwet'en Sockeye Salmon Abundance and Diversity	Wet'suwet'en Treaty Office Society	Science partnerships	$848,160
Kus Kus Sum – Restoration of key habitat to re-establish ecosystem services that will support B.C. fisheries.	K'ómoks First Nation (KFN)	Infrastructure	$1,712,652
Rehabilitation of Critical Infrastructure to Improve Survival of Thompson Steelhead and Chinook	Scw'exmx Tribal Council	Infrastructure	$1,314,027
Kitwanga River Sockeye Salmon Enhancement Project	Gitanyow Fisheries Authority	Infrastructure	$950,000