

Times Colonist - Our Community

By Pedro Arrais, August 23, 2015 06:00 AM

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\$40,000 in awards aid Pacific salmon projects

Four Pacific salmon projects in the Victoria area recently shared in more than \$40,000 awarded by the Pacific Salmon Foundation.

The projects support education, training and habitat rehabilitation. They include:

- Stewards of the Future Conference — Hosted by the Government House Foundation, the conference is a training session for 120 secondary-school students studying sustainable resource management.
- Community Restoration of Douglas Creek — Friends of Mount Douglas Park Society will continue their work to improve fish habitat in this important creek.
- Swan Creek Capital City Allotment Gardens Restoration Project — The Peninsula Streams Society will be improving fish habitat in Swan Creek in Saanich.
- Colquitz River Habitat Restoration — The Peninsula Streams Society will make improvements to Colquitz River salmon habitat.

The Pacific Salmon Foundation's Community Salmon Program is funded primarily from sales of the federal government's Salmon Conservation Stamp, a decal that must be purchased annually by anglers if they wish to keep Pacific salmon caught in saltwater off the West Coast.

All proceeds from the \$6 stamp are returned to British Columbia, generating about \$1 million for community grants annually.

Money is also raised through fundraising dinners, auctions and donations from individuals, foundations and businesses. Several businesses and foundations also contribute to the Pacific Salmon Foundation's community salmon program.

"The Community Salmon Program captures the essence of what we are trying to do at the Foundation," said Dr. Brian Riddell, president and CEO of the Pacific Salmon Foundation. "Government, business, First Nations and volunteers all working together - that is the best way to ensure the future of wild Pacific salmon."

For more information, go to psf.ca.