

# Legacy Achievements 2006 - 2010 and Future Investments



## Living Rivers Trust Fund

### Georgia Basin / Vancouver Island Business Plan



[www.livingrivers.ca/gbvi](http://www.livingrivers.ca/gbvi)

October 2010

**British Columbia Conservation Foundation**



**Before**



**After**

***Cowichan Stoltz Bluff Remediation***

**\$1.2 Million investment cost-shared by *Living Rivers* and many partners**

**This Canadian Heritage Rivers award winning project has stopped sediment entering the Cowichan river from a high eroding bluff. The remediation of this site has resulted in improved salmon spawning conditions , reduced flooding hazard downstream and higher water quality for the Crofton Mill.**



**Restored habitat for rearing salmonids**



**Innovative nutrient enrichment**

***Building momentum since 2006 in establishing partnerships, delivering projects and fostering innovation for sustaining watersheds and salmonids impacted by climate change.***

- \* Water Management Plans / Pilot Watershed Governance***
- \* First Nations Legacy***
- \* River and Estuary Habitat Restoration, Fish Passage***
- \* Stream Flow / Temperature Improvement***
- \* Nutrient Enrichment***
- \* Community Involvement***
- \* Fish Stock Assessment and Production Planning***

***The British Columbia Conservation Foundation provides program management and cost-effective technical expertise.***

### A Stoltz Testimonial from Industry

"In the past, during the fall and winter rains you could say there was a consistent pattern to how a storm would cause the river water to increase in turbidity and how that would persist. The last couple of years have seen a rather dramatic change in the amount and persistence of turbidity in the river. When a rain storm hits we get the usual spike in turbidity but it never persists to the extent it used to. The quality improves much more quickly now".

"In the past during the winter and spring you would also get periods of sudden high turbidity without any precipitation. We (the assistant shift engineers) would always believe these to be times the clay bank up the river slid. We never had confirmation of that, it's just that's what we thought it was. This never happens now either."

Regards, *Ron Irwin*, Asst. Shift Engineer, Catalyst Paper Corp, Crofton Mill



**Top Right:** *Living Rivers* funding was instrumental in construction of the community-led Millstone River Falls salmon bypass channel in Nanaimo.

**Centre Right:** *Living Rivers* is supporting experimental Seymour River Steelhead smolt transport by barge to Point Atkinson in order to increase marine survival.

**Lower Right:** *Living Rivers* and its partners are exploring options for bringing cold water from depth in Great Central Lake into the Somass River near Port Alberni. River water temperatures above 20 degrees C stop sockeye salmon spawning migration. This extremely important run is already at a significant risk of a major migration failure. That risk is increasing with climate change.



***The Living Rivers  
Georgia Basin /Vancouver Island  
Partnership and Steering Committee  
provides oversight for the business  
plan and fosters new partnerships and  
relationships.***



## NE Vancouver Island & Mainland Coast

Quatse **HR**  
Keogh **WA**  
Cluxewe **HR, E**  
Nimpkish **E**  
Kokish **HR**  
Tsitika **E**  
Eve **E**  
Salmon **HR, E, FP**

## West Coast

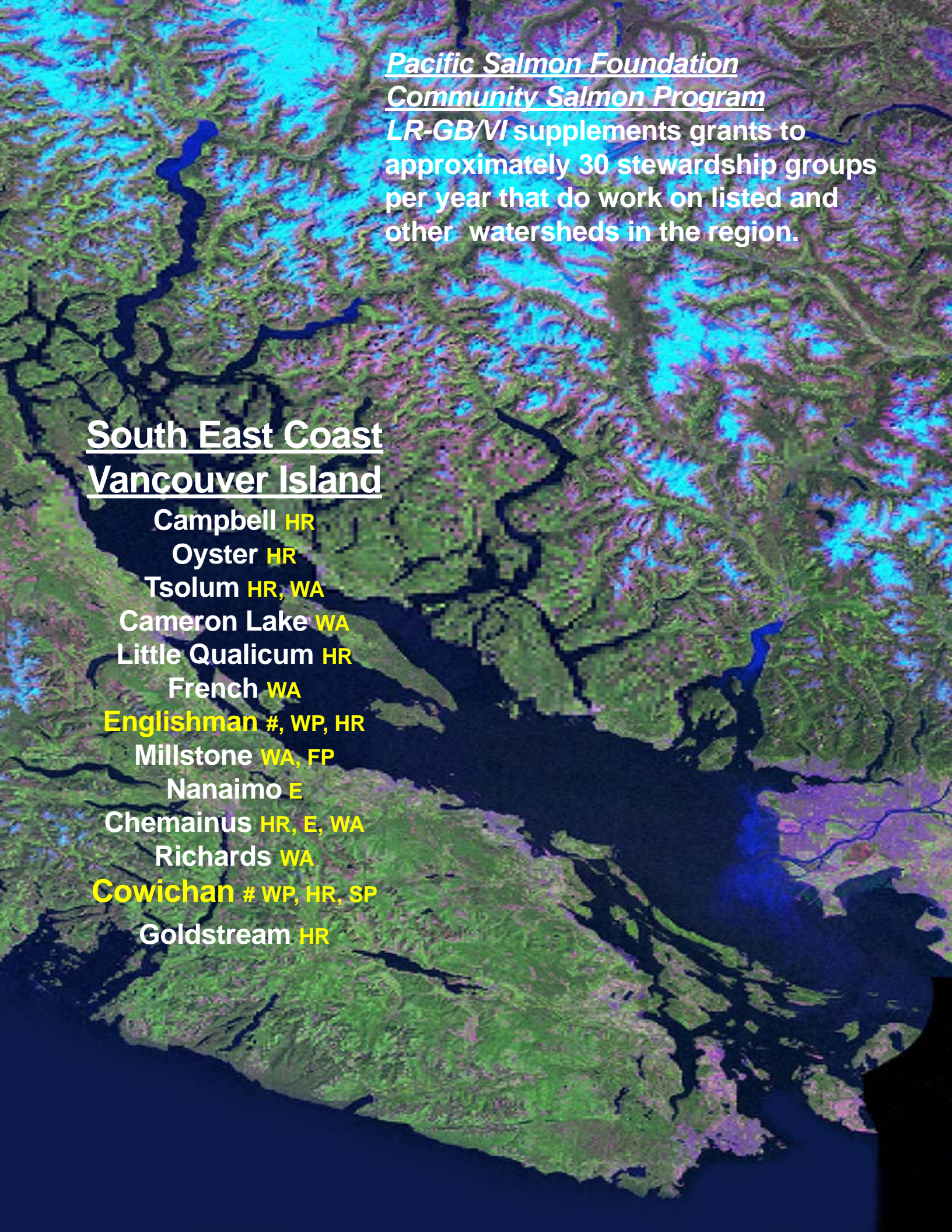
## Vancouver Island

Marble **E**  
Conuma **HR**  
Henderson Lake **E**  
Sarita **HR**  
Nahmint **HR**  
Ash **E**  
Somass **#, WP, HR**  
Barkley Sound **SP**  
San Juan **HR, E**  
Sooke **HR, WA**

### PROJECT TYPES:

# Regional Climate  
Adaptation Watershed  
WP: Water Planning  
WA: Water Augmentation  
HR: Habitat Restoration  
E: Enrichment  
FP: Fish Passage  
MR: Marine Smolt Release  
SP: Salmon Plans





Pacific Salmon Foundation  
Community Salmon Program  
LR-GB/VI supplements grants to approximately 30 stewardship groups per year that do work on listed and other watersheds in the region.

South East Coast  
Vancouver Island

Campbell HR

Oyster HR

Tsolum HR, WA

Cameron Lake WA

Little Qualicum HR

French WA

Englishman #, WP, HR

Millstone WA, FP

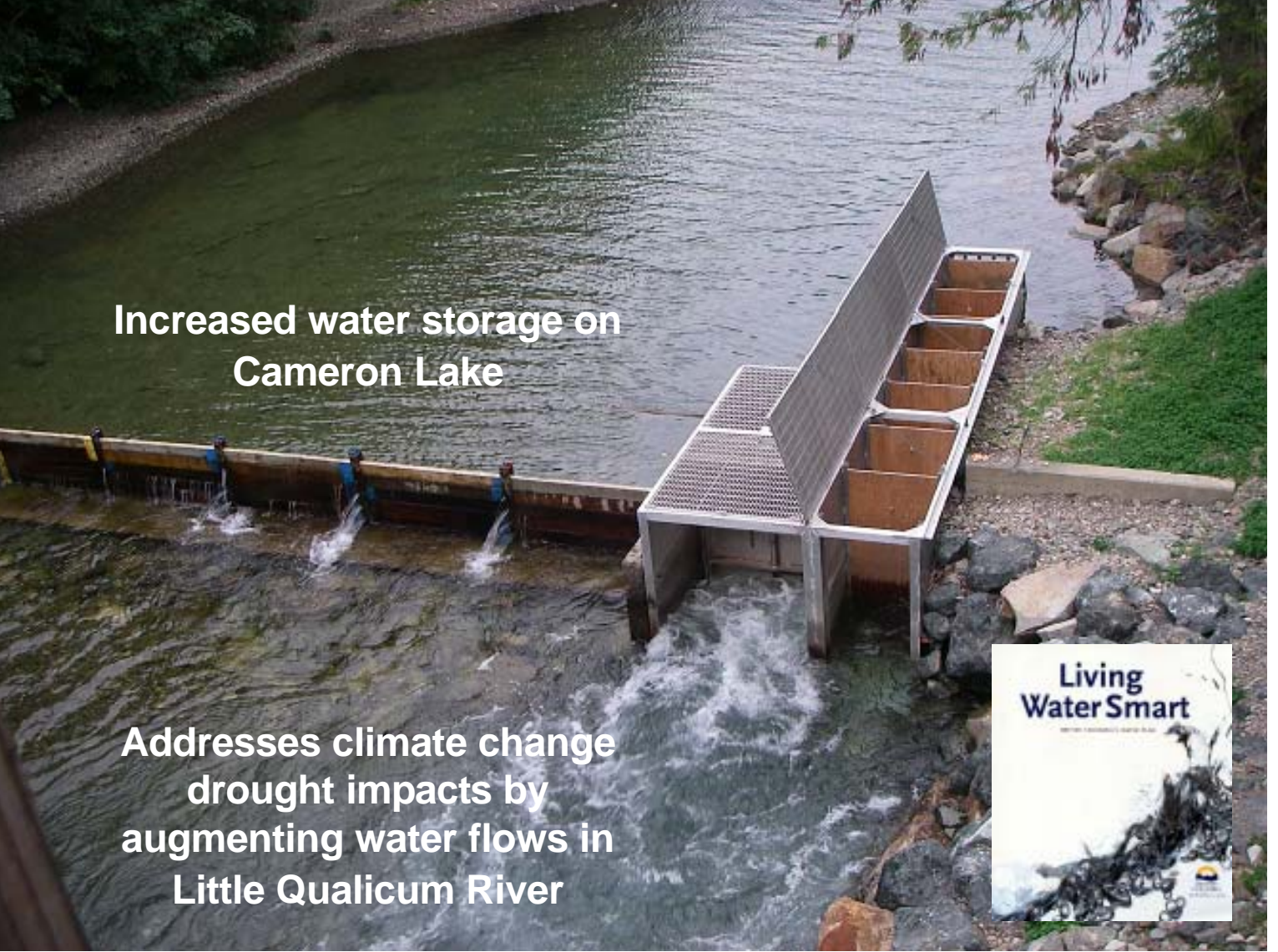
Nanaimo E

Chemainus HR, E, WA

Richards WA

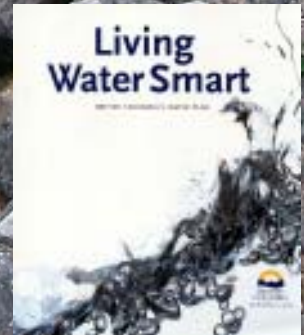
Cowichan # WP, HR, SP

Goldstream HR



**Increased water storage on  
Cameron Lake**

**Addresses climate change  
drought impacts by  
augmenting water flows in  
Little Qualicum River**



**Living Rivers is facilitating community-based actions in support of BC's Climate Action & New Water Plan (*Living Water Smart*) by:**

- Ø **Employing shared interests, hard work & “on-the-ground” success as forces for positive change in communities where environmental quality and economic vitality are compatible, and likely inseparable;**
- Ø **Sponsoring Cowichan, Somass, Englishman, Theodosia and Capilano – Seymour Watershed Management Planning;**
- Ø **Improving water supply and fish habitat quantity/quality in many streams suffering from pre-existing habitat issues and summer droughts exacerbated by climate change;**
- Ø **Providing expertise and resources for community-led Watershed Boards or Stewardship Councils overseeing fish and water sustainability through partnerships, innovation and cost-sharing.**

## **Living Rivers is enhancing BC's *New Relationship* with First Nations by:**

- Ø Increasing the capacity of First Nations to engage and play a leadership role in water, fisheries and watershed planning/management processes;
- Ø Sponsoring FN biologist and fisheries technician interns in academic and practical skills development in their own communities (with a goal of full-time employment);
- Ø Building working partnerships that attract outside funds and increase the leverage of strategic Living Rivers' investments.

### **2010 First Nations Legacy Participants**

A-Tlegay Fisheries Society  
(*Five First Nations*)  
Campbell River Indian Band  
Cowichan Tribes (*Co-Chair, Cowichan Watershed Board*)  
Hupacasath First Nation (*Somass Basin Water Management*)  
Hul'qumi'num Treat Group  
(*Five First Nations*)  
Huu-ay-aht First Nation  
Kwakiutl First Nation  
'Namgis First Nation  
Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council  
(*Thirteen First Nations*)  
Pacheedaht First Nation  
Sencot'en Alliance  
Sliammon First Nation (*Chair, Theodosia Roundtable*)  
Squamish First Nation  
Sencot'en Alliance  
Tsawout First Nation



## Future Plans for Living Rivers extension

**Continue to build momentum with an expanding range of contributing partners sharing mutual climate change adaptation, water and fisheries sustainability goals with**

- 14+ BC First Nations in the Georgia Basin/Vancouver Island area
- BC Ministry of Environment
- BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- Natural Resources Canada via Fraser Basin Council
- Alberni-Clayquot, Capital, Cowichan Valley, Metro Vancouver and Nanaimo Regional Districts
- Pacific Salmon Commission (Southern Endowment Fund)
- BC Conservation Foundation
- Pacific Salmon Foundation
- Campbell River Salmon Foundation
- Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation
- BC Hydro – Bridge/Coastal Fish & Wildlife Restoration Program
- Forest Investment Account
- Catalyst Paper, TimberWest, Western Forest Products, Island Timberlands
- 30 + Stewardship groups, local governments and other partnerships.

**With an extension of the Living Rivers Trust fund in 2011 and beyond, *Living Rivers - Georgia Basin/ Vancouver Island* can and will play a key role in implementing cost-effectively -**

- # BC's Climate Action Plan
- # BC's Water Plan (Living Water Smart)
- # BC's New Relationship with Aboriginal People
- # Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Wild Salmon Policy
- # Natural Resources Canada - Regional Climate Adaptation Collaborative
- # First Nations Legacy in Watershed Sustainability and Management
- # Regional Government Growth Management Plans
- # Community, Industrial and Agricultural Water Supplies
- # Sustainable Community Flood Hazard Management
- # Greater Georgia Basin Steelhead Recovery Program

### Our Vision

"Healthy watersheds and sustainable fish populations through shared responsibility, stewardship and wise use of water."

