Rivers Smith Projects	2004-5										
	Project Area	Species	Outcome	2004/5 Activities	Priority	Cost	PSEF	DFO	Other		
Information and Coordination	Coordination and Support				1	$ 92,000	$ 52,000				
Abundance / Stock assessment	Docee Fence	sk,co,ch	adult counts for inseason and postseason		1	$ 95,000		$ 95,000			
	Genesee Fence						$ 3,000				
	Long Lake juvenile assessments	sk	fall fry abundance for postseason	spring and fall suneys	1	$ 25,000		$ 25,000			
	Owikeno Lake juvenile assessments	sk	fall fry abundance for postseason	spring and fall suneys	1	$ 25,000		$ 25,000			
	Owikeno adult enumeration	sk	index of adult abundance for tribs	Fall stream suneys	1	$ 70,000		$ 70,000			
		sk	absolute abundance of Owikeno aggregate	Warnock acoustic	2	$ 75,000	$ 7,000				
				Marine sounding program	2	$ 45,000					
	Sockeye smolt size and age - Owikeno	sk	linked to fall fry abundance estimates	Warnock RST	3	$ 20,000					
	smolt size, age, and timing - Long	sk, co, ch	linked to fall fry abundance estimates	Docee RST	2	$ 30,000	$ 10,000	$ 15,000			
	Chinook assessments	ch	suneys?	dead pitch	1	$ 16,000	$ 17,536		$ 16,000	PST + private	
	Chinook assessments	ch		Aerial suneys, stream walks	1	$ 18,000		$ 18,000			
	Coho assessments	co	index of adult abundance, juvenile suneys?	fry density suneys	3	$ 10,000			$ 10,000	PST	
	Coho assessments	co		adult AUC estimates	2	$ 30,000					
	Chum assessments (Nekite)	cm	index of adult abundance, juvenile suneys?	mark recapture suney	3	$ 30,000					
	Sport harvest monitoring	ch,co	catch data	lodge and non-lodge creel suneys	2	$ 25,000	$ 14,000				
	Strategic Enhancement	all	fry augmentation #s?, fecundity	broodstock, incubation, marking, sampling	1	$ 150,000	$ 13,100	$ 150,000			
		sk	recovery of marked enhanced sockeye	samples?	1	$ 25,000		$ 25,000			
				Warnock chinook coded wire tagging	1	$ 35,000			$ 35,000	Sport Fish	
Habitat Protection / Rehabilitation	Critical habitat suneys	all	Highest level of protection	Long Lake chinook	1	$ 10,000	$ 10,000				
				assemble critical spawning & rearing habitat data	1		$ 7,000				
				write-up Warnock estuary mapping	2	$ 5,000					
	Logging impacts to lake habitat	sk	opportunities to improve habitat	Machmell flats log removal feasibility study	2	$ 10,000	$ -	$ 10,000			
				Dallary / logged watershed comparison	3	$ 10,000					
	Various stream restoration	co,ch,sk	opportunities to improve habitat	Investigate channel connection opportunities	3	$ 15,000					
	Estuary assessment/restoration	all	opportunities to increase survival	breach the Warnock dyke and monitor	1	$ 10,000			$ 10,000	TransLake	
	Lake enrichment	sk	increased survival	Long Lake fertilization	3	$ 150,000					
Knowledge	Owikeno and Long Lake limnology	sk	factors limiting fry production	monitor zooplankton community - summer	1	$ 5,000					
	Early marine productivity studies	sk	factors limiting smolt survival	SFU study	1	$ 90,000	$ 60,000	$ 15,000	$ 25,000		
	Early marine seal predation studies	all	factors limiting smolt survival	seal survey	3	$ 10,000					
	Lake sediment studies	sk	historical abundance info	core analysis	3	$ 10,000					
	Gather traditional knowledge	all	historical abundance, distribution, use	Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nation interviews	2	$ 10,000					
	Ecosystem studies	all	increased understanding of ecosystem	model ecosystem	3	$ 250,000					
	Capacity studies	co		develop habitat model for coho	3	$ 20,000					
	Fits Hugh Seine productivity			Fitz Hugh Productivity	1	$ 3,000	$ 3,000				
Monitoring and Evaluation	Various stream restoration	co,sk		Machmell channel	1	$ 15,000			$ 15,000		
						$ 1,399,000	$ 196,636	$448,000	$111,000		

RSSEPS Presentation to Nanakila 2004

RSSEPS Structure

The **Rivers and Smith Salmon Ecosystems Planning Society** (RSSEPS) was constituted under the BC Societies Act on August 21, 2003. This represented formalization of an entity that has existed since mid 2000 for purposes of convening different parties and interests to pursue the common goal of stewardship for salmon and their ecosystems.

RSSEPS grew out of a number of initiatives by First Nations, public agencies, forest companies, environmental and stewardship organizations, local governments, fishing interests and concerned individuals, undertaken in response to serious declines in salmon. In August 2000 what turned out to be an inaugural meeting of the group took place at Wuikinuxv Village in Rivers Inlet to consider a draft recovery plan for sockeye which had collapsed precipitously in both Rivers and Smith Inlets. The group has drafted although never formally adopted a vision statement as follows:

We see the salmon of Rivers and Smith, and their ecosystems, restored to health and to a level of optimal productivity. We see the full potential values of the salmon and their ecosystems realized for individual and community development including economic benefits. We envision the continuing development of cooperation in the work of recovery and stewardship.

Membership in the RSSEPS

As of mid 2003, the organizational membership included:

- Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw First Nation
- Wuikinuxv First Nation
- Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- District of Port Hardy
- Sierra Club of BC
- UBC Fisheries Centre
- Western Forest Products Ltd.
- International Forest Products Ltd.
- Coastal Ecosystems Research Foundation
- Rivers Inlet-Hakai Pass Sportfishing Association
- Province of B.C.

One commercial fisherman also sits on the RSSEPS although he does not purport to officially represent any part of or the whole of the commercial fishing sector. Generally, however, most of the people at the table are representatives of an identifiable organization, community or group.

RSSEPS Structure

The RSSEPS has a management committee of three which for 2004 is Bruce Burrows representing the Wuikinuxv First Nation, Colleen Hemphill representing the Gwa'sala Nakwaxda'xw First Nations, and Sharon Chow from the Sierra Club of BC. Gary Taccogna of the DFO is a Technical Advisor to the Management Committee.

The RSSEPS also has as a Technical Advisory Team which consists of DFO staff with expertise in Rivers and Smith Salmon stocks, fisheries biologists, plus scientists from UBC and SFU. The current Technical Advisory Team consists of:

- Bob Bocking Fisheries Consultant for the Pacific Salmon Foundation
- Bruce Burrows - Wuikinuxv Nation
- Nigel Haggan - UBC Fisheries Centre
- Jonathan Hepples - Stock Assessment Biologist for DFO
- Sandie MacLaurin - Community Advisor for DFO
- Doug McCorquodale - biologist for Gwa'sala Nakwaxda'xw First Nations
- Richard Routledge - Director of Environmental Science SFU
- Karl Wilson – Resource Restoration Biologist, DFO

The RSSEPS has a half-time coordinator who is responsible for project Development and Management, Fund Raising and Communications. The current coordinator for the RSSEPS is David Stevenson

Funding

In 2003, the RSSEPS received funding from the Pacific Salmon Foundation to develop a salmon Recovery Plan and to carry out field work in the summer of 2003. The money comes from the Pacific Salmon Endowment Fund (PSEF). The PSEF is an innovative and permanent long-term source of funding that was established with the federal government's contribution of $30 million - part of the Pacific Fisheries Adjustment and Restructuring Program announced in1998. The fund's investment interest is used to support salmon recovery in priority areas of BC and the Yukon.

2003 Projects

In 2003, funding from the Pacific Salmon Foundation was used to fund:

- the completion of the Recovery Plan for Rivers and Smith salmon
- the Coordination and Information Project,
- Hydroacoustic Adult Enumeration project in the Wannock River
- Juvenile Habitat Marine Survival Study in Rivers and Smith Inlets
- Docee Fence Co-management Capacity building in Long Lake
- Long Lake Juvenile Assessment

Reports on these projects can be viewed by clicking on the Projects 2003 section of our web page: www.rsseps.ca

Recovery Plan:

The major accomplishment of the Society early in 2004 has been the complete revision of an earlier draft of the **Recovery Plan** for the Salmon of Rivers and Smith Inlet. Thanks are due to Doug McCorquodale and the Technical Advisory Committee for their work on the revision. This Recovery Plan clearly defines the problems and the challenges facing the Society in realizing its goal of restoring the salmon stocks to healthy levels. The final report has been submitted to the PSF for copying and binding. It will be used as a guide for all of our field activities and as a tool for further funding. It is available on the RSSEPS web page: www.rsseps.ca.

	RSSEPS Project Summary 2004
Project #	**Project Name**
RS1 2004	**Project Coordination**
	David Stevenson
RS 3 2004	**Wannock River Hydro Acoustic Proposal - RFP**
RS 4 2004	**Early Marine Productivity Studies**
	Project Lead - Rick Routledge
RS 5 2004	**Docee Fence Co-Management Project**
	Project Lead - Doug McCorquodale
RS 7 2004	**Critical Habitat Survey of Long Lake Chinook**
	Project Lead - Doug McCorquodale
RS 8 2004	**Enhancement Evaluation Program – Owikeno Basin**
	Project Lead – Jonathan Hepples/Sandie MacLaurin
RS 9 2004	**Genesee River Fish Counting Fence**
	Project Lead – Jonathan Hepples
RS 10 2004	**Productive Capacity Review - RFP**
RS 11 2004	**Rivers Inlet Creel Survey**
	Project Lead Bruce Burrows
RS12 2004	**Wannock River Dead Pitch**
	Project Lead Bruce Burrows

Conclusion:

The RSSEPS is a partnership group dedicated to the full recovery of the salmon stocks of Rivers and Smith Inlets. We will continue to inform to local communities of our progress. We welcome your input and questions.