

Part 1: Summary

\*\*\*Please see comments for instructions.

**SUMMARY FUNDING TABLE**

|                                 | <b>2019-20 Budget</b> | <b>2019-20 Spending</b> | <b>Variance</b> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Haida Gwaii (various)</b>    | \$14,200              | \$14,200                | \$0             |
| <b>Yakoun River</b>             | \$7,575               | \$8,433                 | \$858           |
| <b>Tlell River</b>              | \$8,000               | \$1,455                 | -\$6,545        |
| <b>Mainland Coast (Various)</b> | \$0                   | \$0                     | \$0             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>\$29,775</b>       | <b>\$24,088</b>         | <b>-\$5,687</b> |

**General Project Summary**

There were three components to the QWS projects in 2019-20. A River Guardian program was successfully delivered in partnership with the BC Conservation Foundation and the Haida Fisheries Program. This was the second year of the project and it ran smoothly again in 2019-20, and has already produced meaningful insights into the spatial-temporal distribution and behaviour of steelhead anglers on the Yakoun River, as well as providing an opportunity for angler engagement. Based on the success of this project and recently completed analyses, we are considering extending the Guardian efforts to include waters other than Yakoun in the coming year and/or using camera traps at angler access sites on the Yakoun to augment survey data using a vehicle-to-angler conversion. Fisheries staff from BC Conservation Foundation, MFLNRORD, the FFSBC and the Haida Fisheries Program were mobilised on-site and prepared to complete the Yakoun River juvenile steelhead electrofishing surveys this year but a sudden onset of high water levels meant that the surveys could not be completed. Nevertheless, our efforts to complete these surveys and the successful delivery of the Yakoun Guardian Program have continued to promote improved information sharing and a collaborative stewardship approach with Haida Nation. As was the case in Year 1, the Tlell project did not progress again in Year 2 - this project is being done in partnership with the Tlell Watershed Society (TWS) to address a local interest for liberalization of cutthroat trout harvest regulations. We have continued to make ourselves available to the TWS and are continuing to communicate in hopes that this partnership will be more successful in the future, however we will not be pursuing this activity again in Year 3 of the QWS project (this activity was originally only proposed for years 1 and 2). As a result of the difficulties with the Tlell component and the Yakoun electrofishing this year, there were unspent QWS dollars which we are returning in the amount of \$5687.

**Capital Asset Purchase information:**

n/a

**Additional Supporting Information**

Data reports have been completed for the River Guardian patrols and the steelhead juveniel electrofishing surveys. These are still in raw form but are currently on file and available at the Regional office.