

Enhancing Estuary Resilience:
An Innovative Approach to Sustaining Fish and Fish Habitat in a Changing Climate

A BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund (BCSRIF) Project

PROFILE: Tom Reid - West Coast Program Manager

Tom Reid is Project Manager for the BC Salmon Restoration and Innovation Fund's five-year research project to monitor and assess the resilience of 15 estuaries on Vancouver Island, the central coast and Haida Gwaii and implement several restoration projects.

Throughout this multi-faceted project, Tom is responsible for meeting the goals and objectives of the project and is accountable to multiple funders, partners, government, and scientific and academic advisory teams. He directly oversees the project's operations including field teams, supplies, equipment, budget and communications.

Tom frames this complex, signature project around two components: the scientific monitoring and restoration work and the opportunity to build a network of meaningful partnerships with coastal First Nations communities, The Nature Trust of BC and other project partners. He is dedicated to building lasting relationships with the project's First Nation's partners that he hopes will go beyond the lifecycle of the project.

Tom views estuaries as the heartbeat of ecosystems between rivers, the ocean and upland environments. From a strategic perspective, the data that he is in charge of gathering will provide insight into an estuary's resilience over time and help inform restoration and management efforts including where resources will be most effective. This work is critical to protecting and restoring the province's wild fish stocks and their habitats.

Tom holds a degree in geography and history from Simon Fraser University and an Applied Science diploma in Fish and Wildlife Management from the British Columbia Institute of Technology. He worked for the Ministry of Environment conducting fish habitat and water quality assessments and did land management field work with The Nature Trust of BC before joining its West Coast Conservation Land Management Program in 2000.

Tom, an avid outdoorsman, lives in the Gulf Islands with his wife and twin daughters.