

WORLD FISHERIES TRUST

PAST PROJECTS



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1. Past Local Projects

1.1 Pacific Leatherback Turtle Recovery Plan (2003)

The world's largest sea turtle, the Pacific Leatherback, makes annual feeding migrations from nesting beaches in Southeast Asia all the way to Coastal BC. In 2007 WFT was part of the Recovery Team, which developed a rescue strategy for this remarkable animal.

With the coming into force of the new Canadian Species at Risk Act, Rescue Strategies and Action Plans are being prepared for all Canadian species designated as endangered.

With support from Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Additional Resources:

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA RECOVERY STRATEGY FOR LEATHERBACK TURTLES (*Demochelys coriacea*) IN PACIFIC CANADIAN WATERS (2006)

GLOBAL SEA TURTLE NETWORK

TURTLE TRAX- A SEA TURTLE PAGE

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE- LEATHERBACK SEA TURTLE

THE MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (MCS)

WWF-GUIANAS: MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION

1.2 Kennedy Lake Welcome Sign (2003)

In 2003, WFT launched a public awareness campaign about the Kennedy Lake watershed at Clayoquot Sound.

Although the Kennedy Lake watershed at Clayoquot Sound has played an important role in providing salmon for the region for many years, its significance was largely unknown to visitors.

The role of the watershed in providing salmon for the region probably doesn't occur to most visitors. Neither does the history of the watershed, the former greatness of the Clayoquot fishery or the efforts of many groups to study the system and bring the fishery back.

WFT launched a public awareness campaign centred on the Kennedy watershed and its significance to Clayoquot Sound and its people. In early 2003 the project unveiled the Kennedy Lake Welcome Sign on Highway 4.

In partnership with Regional Aquatic Management Society, Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, Hupacasath First Nation, Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council, Ucluelet Chamber of Commerce, Parks Canada, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and BC Ministry of Highways.

With support from the Vancouver Foundation, Fisheries Renewal BC, Weyerhaeuser Ltd. and the Vancouver Aquarium Foundation.

Additional Resources:

[KENNEDY LAKE WELCOME SIGN \(.PDF\)](#)

1.3 Salmon Genetic Conservation (2003)

WFT is a world leader in fish genetic conservation and was involved in several projects in 2003, including the First Nations Salmon Gene Banking, Salmon Gene Banking for DFO, and the Rivers Inlet Chinook Project.

There's enormous genetic variety in salmon stocks, and all of it is important. Our ability to rebuild stocks depends on saving that variety.

When salmon numbers get low, genetic variety begins to disappear, and even if we manage to "turn around" all the other factors causing the decline, we still risk losing the stock. That's when fisheries managers turn to gene banking, a way of preserving genetic variety before it disappears, and making sure it's there for later rebuilding.

WFT's fish genetic conservation projects include:

- First Nations Salmon Gene Banking: training and fieldwork for the Carrier-Sekani Tribal Council, Nuuchahnulth Tribal Council, Shuswap Nation Fisheries Commission and the Musqueam Indian Band.
- Salmon Gene Banking for DFO: field genetic conservation training, and management of sample inventory.
- Rivers Inlet Chinook Project: gene banking services for a local partnership that's rebuilding Chinook stocks in Rivers Inlet, B.C. The gene bank is part of the project's captive breeding program.

With support from Fisheries Renewal BC, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Pacific Salmon Foundation, and Oak Bay Marine Group.

1.4 Salmon in the Flight Path Interpretive Exhibit (2000)

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Wsikum First Nation and the Victoria Airport Authority were working to rebuild salmon runs near the airport. WFT told their story through an interactive exhibit installed at Victoria International Airport Main Terminal.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Wsikum First Nation and the Victoria Airport Authority needed to get the public interested in their efforts to rebuild salmon runs near the airport, knowing that local streams traditionally provided food for native communities. However, salmon restoration is technical and not intrinsically compelling so how would they tell their story?

WFT found the solution by reducing the details of stream restoration to a few principles and put them on a full-scale mockup of an aircraft tail, complete with flashing lights. SALMON IN THE FLIGHT PATH was installed at the Victoria International Airport Main Terminal for two years. During that time, 1.5 million travelers per year were educated about urban streams and the sponsor's part in protecting them.

To further educate kids, WFT created a flying salmon kit (SKYFISH) and gave these away to children on arriving flights.

In partnership with Imagecraft Studio Limited

With support from: Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Victoria Airport Authority

1.5 A Genetic Blueprint for Rebuilding Clayoquot Sockeye Salmon (1996-2000)

WFT worked with local partners to create a "family tree" for Clayoquot sockeye stocks, using the new tool of DNA fingerprinting.

Sockeye salmon used to be the mainstay of the fishery in Clayoquot Sound, British Columbia, a region nominated as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. The fishery collapsed in the 1970s.

If Clayoquot sockeye are to be rebuilt, managers need to understand how each stock is related to all the others. Between 1996 and 2000, WFT worked with local partners to create a "family tree" for Clayoquot sockeye stocks, using the new tool of DNA fingerprinting. The genetic

relationships we discovered are now available for managers and community groups developing enhancement plans for the stocks.

The project was featured in the Pacific Canada exhibit at the Vancouver Aquarium in 2001.

In partnership with the Vancouver Aquarium Foundation.

With support from MacMillan Bloedel Limited, Forest Renewal B.C. and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Additional Resources:

WORLD FISH NEWS- MARCH 1999

1.6 Counting Salmon at Kirby Creek (1997-1999)

WFT teamed up with local partners to build a salmon counting fence in Kirby Creek, a Coho-producing stream in Sooke, British Columbia.

How do you tell how many salmon are out there? One way is to count how many are caught. But to manage salmon properly, you also need to know how many are going up the river to spawn. For that, you need a counting fence.

WFT teamed up with local partners to build a counting fence in Kirby Creek, a Coho-producing stream in Sooke, British Columbia. The fence was operated by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and local groups to help monitor the health of local stocks until 2003.

In partnership with Fisheries and Oceans Canada and local groups

With support from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, the Shell Environmental Fund, Western Forest Products Ltd., Scott Plastics Ltd. and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Additional Resources:

WORLD FISH NEWS- FEBRUARY 1998

1.7 Up the Creek™ Board Game (1998)

WFT developed the Up The Creek™ board game to engage players - young and old - in the life of salmon and what they experience during their migration.

Salmon are particularly important to the coastal economy, culture and ecosystems of BC. However, many salmon stocks are dwindling drastically, in a large part due to things humans are doing. Salmon are particularly sensitive to these impacts, as they depend on a variety of different environments during their migration. As such, they are exceptional indicators of intertwined oceanic, freshwater, and terrestrial ecosystems.

Turning the tide on disappearing salmon requires changes in human behaviour, and a large part of creating this change is education, engagement, and action.

WFT developed Up The Creek™ to engage players (ages 12 - adult) in the life of salmon and their migration experience. Up The Creek™ takes players into the dangerous world of six real-life British Columbia salmon runs: Dean River steelhead, Chilko River Chinook, Morice River pink, Kitimat River Coho, Skeena River chum, and Bowron River sockeye. The goal is simple: avoid extinction. To do so, players have plenty of hazards waiting for them.

The hazards are real, because Up The Creek™ was developed with help from real fisheries biologists, fishermen and First Nations.

Since 1998, WFT has sold or donated 1,000 games throughout North America and the world. An eight-page Teachers' Guide, sponsored by [BC Hydro](#), was produced by WFT in 2000 and was distributed free with the game.

With support from the [Vancouver Foundation](#), [Thrifty Foods](#), [Fisheries and Oceans Canada](#), the [BC Ministry of Fisheries](#), and the [McLean Foundation](#).

Additional Resources:

[TEACHER'S GUIDE- UP THE CREEK](#)

2. Past International projects

2.1 Amazon Fish, Amazon People (2011)

An international exchange of experiences in artisanal fisheries and small-scale aquaculture involving specialists from Brazil, Bolivia and Canada.

2.2 Gente da Maré (People of the Tides) Project (2008-2011)

This project promoted equity and citizenship through the development of sustainably managed coastal resources in traditional communities of the northeast coast of Brazil - some of the most disadvantaged in the country.

In 2015, Gente da Maré was awarded second place for a Social Technology in the category of Women at the Premio Banco de Tecnologia Social 2015 in Brasil.

Coastal communities of northeastern Brazil are some of the most disadvantaged in the country. The lower social classes in these areas have traditionally relied on artisanal fisheries of coastal marine resources, including fish, shellfish, and algae. Fishing of bivalve molluscs is an important economic activity in many coastal communities of northeastern Brazil. However, decades of uncontrolled and unplanned collection has exhausted natural stocks. In addition, pollution from urban development is seriously contaminating remaining clam beds - resulting in serious environmental and socio-economic consequences.

WFT and our partners, the Center for Global Studies at the University of Victoria, SEAP - Brazil, and a variety of others, initiated the "People of the Tides" project through CIDA's Brazil-Canada Knowledge Exchange for Equity Promotion (KEEP). This project, within the KEEP framework, promoted equity and citizenship through the development of sustainably managed coastal resources in traditional communities of the northeast coast of Brazil.

The project actions were based on six key strategies aimed at improving the living conditions and income of fisherwomen in Northeastern Brazil:

- (1) strengthening the role of community leaders;
- (2) strengthening of institutional coordination of shellfish management and aquaculture;
- (3) community exchanges;
- (4) training of persons working for the extension activities via courses and workshops;
- (5) development of technology for shellfish cultivation and
- (6) studies on population ecology and fisheries management of bivalves.

The Gente da Maré project promoted equity and citizenship through the development of sustainably managed coastal resources in traditional communities of the northeast coast of Brazil - some of the most disadvantaged in the country. The project was developed to address the following issues related to shellfish management in Northeastern Brazil: gender equality, health at work, natural resource management, cultivation and seed production, processing and

health of seafood, and value chains and arrangements production. More than 1,300 women from Rio Grande do Norte, Paraiba, Pernambuco, and Bahia were involved in this project.

OUR PARTNERS

The Special Secretary for Aquaculture and Fisheries of the Presidency of the Republic
Marine Mollusk Laboratory
Federal University of Catarina
Agricultural Research and Extension Company of Santa Catarina
Sustainable Mariculture Laboratory
Rural Federal University of Pernambuco
Bahia Pesca, Institute of Biology
Federal University of Bahia

2.3 Brazil Inland Fisheries: Sustainable Livelihoods and Conservation (2003-2007)

This project places greater emphasis on the social side of Brazilian inland fisheries, including community-based management. Focusing on the northeast and central-west portions of the country, its overall aim is to create and implement a model for sustainable socio-environmental river management.

Focusing on the northeast and central-west portions of the country, this project's overall aim was to create and implement a model for sustainable socio-environmental river management.

In January 2003, building on the success of our Brazil Migratory Fish Conservation project, World Fisheries Trust began an expanded four years project, which places greater emphasis on the social side of Brazilian inland fisheries, including community-based management.

The project focused on the northeast and central-west portions of the country in the basin of the Sao Francisco River, and its overall aim was to create and implement a model for sustainable socio-environmental river management. The project balanced the transfer of "hard" fisheries technologies with an equal social component, and was divided into six sub-projects and cross-cutting themes:

- Building fishing community capacity for co-management
- Building sustainable livelihoods in fishing communities
- Transferring technologies to secure and build the resource
- Developing policies for sustainable fishing and community participation in management
- Creating awareness of Brazilian river fisheries and ecosystems
- Creating opportunities for youth and families

PROJECT REPORTS

[ENGLISH](#)

PORTUGUESE PT I
PORTUGUESE PT II
PORTUGUESE PT III

OUR PARTNERS

Universidade Federal de São Carlos (UFSCar)
UFSCar - Pro-rectorship of Extension
UFSCar - Departamento de Genética
UFSCar - Núcleo de Pesquisa e Documentação do Departamento de Ciências Sociais
Federação dos Pescadores Artesenais Minas Gerais
Prefeitura Municipal de Três Marias
Companhia Energética de Minas Gerais
Instituto Estadual de Florestas
Minas Gerais
Ministerio do Meio Ambiente: Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e Amazonas Leal
Polícia Militar - Minas Gerais,
Pontifícia Universidade Católica de Minas Gerais
Secretaria Especial de Aquicultura e Pesca
Votorantim Metais - Três Marias
Canadian International Development Agency
International Development Research Centre

2.4 Migratory Fishes of South America: Biology, Fisheries and Conservation Status (2003)

This book represents the first collection of the work of local scientific experts on fish species that migrate within the great rivers of South America.

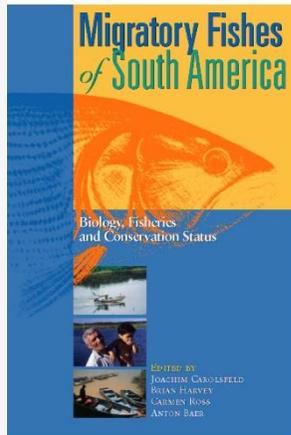
Edited by Joachim Carolsfield, Brian Harvey, Carmen Ross, and Anton Baer
Co-published by World Fisheries Trust, IDRC and World Bank - 2004
ISBN 1-55250-114-0
Paperback 380 pp.

This book represents the first collection of the work of local scientific experts on fish species that migrate within the great rivers of South America.

Fish species that migrate within the great rivers of South America support important local fisheries but are little known outside their native range. This book is the first collection of the work of local scientific experts on these remarkable fish.

The authors cover the Upper Paraná, Paraguay-Paraná, Uruguay and São Francisco basins in Brazil, as well as the Brazilian and Colombian Amazon. They discuss not only the principal

migratory species and their fascinating relationship with the water cycle in the rivers and wetlands, but also the fisheries they support, and their often precarious conservation status.



ABSTRACT

Fish species that migrate within the great rivers of South America support important local fisheries but are little known outside their native range. This book, written specially for the World Bank and the International Development Research Centre, represents the first collection of the work of local scientific experts on these remarkable fish. The authors cover the Upper Paraná, Paraguay-Paraná, Uruguay and São Francisco basins in Brazil, as well as the Brazilian and Colombian Amazon. They discuss not only the principal migratory species and their fascinating relationship with the water cycle in the rivers and wetlands, but also the fisheries they support, and their often precarious conservation status

[FULL TEXT HERE](#)

OUR PARTNERS

International Development Research Centre
World Bank

2.5 Brazil Migratory Fish Conservation (1999-2001)

A three-year project to promote the conservation and awareness of migratory fish species in four major river basins in Brazil, with the aim of ensuring the preservation - and thus permitting the utilization - of native Brazilian fish genetic diversity.

A three-year project to promote the conservation and awareness of migratory fish species in four major river basins in Brazil, with the aim of ensuring the preservation - and thus permitting the utilization - of native Brazilian fish genetic diversity.

Brazilian rivers are home to a spectacular variety of large migratory fish species of high economic and social value. These species make long annual journeys upriver to spawn, but their biology and distribution are not well known.

Like so much of the world's freshwater species, many of these migratory fish have been declining in numbers and diversity for decades. As with salmon in North America, the reasons for the decline in South American migratory fish stocks are complex. They include overfishing, pollution, loss of habitat, deforestation and the construction of dams that block migration routes.

Together with a network of Brazilian and Canadian partners, WFT carried out a three-year project to promote the conservation and awareness of migratory fish species in four major river basins in Brazil. The project's goal, "to ensure the preservation, and thus permit the utilization, of native Brazilian fish genetic diversity", was accomplished through training, technology development, networking and public awareness in both Canada and Brazil.

PROJECT SUMMARY

ORIGINAL BRAZILIAN PARTNERS

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais
Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina
Universidade Federal de Mato Grosso do Sul
Companhia Energética de Minas Gerais
Centrais Eléctricas do Sul do Brasil S.A.
Central Eléctrica de Furnas
Companhia de Desenvolvimento do Vale do São Francisco
Instituto Brasileiro do Meio Ambiente e dos Recursos Renováveis Fundação Biodiversitas

ORIGINAL CANADIAN PARTNERS

Canadian International Development Agency
Seastar Biotech Inc.
Fisheries and Oceans Canada

BRAZILIAN NETWORK PARTNERS

Brazilian institutions that became part of the network associated with the project and/or benefited from project activities, beyond the original partners, include:

Agencia Nacional de Energia Eletrica
Associação Mineira de Aquicultura
Companhia de Saneamento do Distrito Federal, Brasília
Centro de Apoio ao Pescador (Três Marias, MG)
Centro Nacional de Pesquisa de Peixes Tropicais
Empresa Brasileiro de Pesquisa Agropecuario
Fundação ZooBotanica de Belo Horizonte
Instituto Estadual de Florestas (Minas Gerais)
ITAIPIU Binacional
Ministerio do Meio Ambiente
Piscicultura Panama Ltda. (Santa Caterina)
Pontificia Universidade Catolica de Minas
Secretaria de Meio Ambiente e Desenvolvimento (Minas Gerais)

Departamentos de Pesca e Serviço de Inspeção de Pescado e Derivados / Ministério de Agricultura e do Abastecimento (Brasília)
Secretaria de Recursos Hídricos (Brasília)
Universidade Estadual de São Paulo
Universidade do Vale de Sinos (Rio Grande do Sul)
Universidade Federal de Lavras (Minas Gerais)
Universidade do Oeste de Santa Catarina
Universidade de São Paulo

NORTH AMERICAN NETWORK PARTNERS

Canadian and North American institutions that participated in project activities, beyond those initially proposed:

BC Hydro
BC Ministry of Environment
BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
BC Ministry of Forests and Range
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Future SEA Technologies Inc.
International Development Research Centre
LGL Ltd. Environmental Research Associates
LOTEK Wireless Inc.
Memorial University
Northwest Marine Technology Inc.
Sea Spring Salmon Farms Ltd.
Texas Parks and Wildlife
Vancouver Aquarium
Western Canada's Genetic Centre

2.6 Global Citizenship in Fisheries and Aquaculture (2008)

This project informs and engages Canadian middle school students on fisheries and aquaculture in select developing countries, how these relate to everyday life in these countries, and how Canadian activities are contributing to Millennium Development Goals through these activities.

This project was initiated in 2008 by World Fisheries Trust and associates, with funding provided by the Government of Canada through the Canadian International Development Agency and their project "Global Classroom Initiative".

The first eight lesson plans developed focus on communities in Mozambique and include resource materials and appropriate links. They have an approach that engages students by highlighting personal lives with relevant reference to Canadians' own everyday lives or experiences.

With support from the [Canadian International Development Agency \(CIDA\)](#)

Additional Resources:

LESSON PLANS

2.7 5th International Fisheries Observer Conference (2007)

This conference brought together broad representation from the international fisheries community to address key issues concerning fisheries observer programs, emerging fisheries monitoring technologies, and other approaches for fishery dependent data collection.

Improving the sustainability of fisheries is necessary to ensure continued livelihoods around the globe. Monitoring the quantity and type of fish caught, and the manner in which fishing occurs is essential to sustainable management. The International Fisheries Observer Conference series has, over a number of years, guided the development of best practices for fishery monitoring programs and promoted their implementation globally.

The 5th International Fisheries Observer Conference was held at the Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria, BC, on May 15th to 18th, 2007. The conference brought together broad representation from the international fisheries community to address key issues concerning fisheries observer programs, emerging fisheries monitoring technologies, and other approaches for fishery dependent data collection.

The conference organizers received funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Conference Secretariat and WFT was contracted to act as the Developing Country Liaison for the conference and oversee all issues pertaining to involvement of the developing country delegation.

Approximately 22 delegates were invited to participate in the conference, representing 19 developing countries, including Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

The conference was managed and hosted by [Archipelago Marine Research Ltd.](#) with Howard McElderry acting as the conference Chairman.

With support from the [Canadian International Development Agency \(CIDA\)](#)

2.8 Aquatic Resources and Development (2004-2007)

This project allows a format for fresh thinking in this area of sustainable use of aquatic biodiversity, and encompasses several novel initiatives with new approaches to the task of bringing aquatic biodiversity issues into our culture, society, and policies.

As the demand for saltwater and freshwater resources increases, so do the strains upon the ecosystems that sustain them. Sustainable fisheries rest upon aquatic biodiversity, but conservation of that biodiversity has always been a "hard sell," lagging behind the strides made for terrestrial plants and animals. It now seems most feasible in a people context - that is, when biodiversity is associated with livelihoods.

The Aquatic Resources and Development project was created as an outgrowth of the position paper SUSTAINABLE USE OF AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY: Key Issues and Opportunities for IDRC written by WFT in 2002. It allows a format for fresh thinking in this area, and encompasses several novel initiatives with new approaches to the task of bringing aquatic biodiversity issues into our culture, society, and policies.

The Sink or Swim roundtable discussions, held September 26 & 27, 2006 in Victoria, BC, were aimed at outlining models, key principles, and research findings that can form the foundation of effective aquatic conservation communication initiatives - initiatives that will lead to meaningful engagement among key audiences.

Arte Chico, another project initiative, attempted to mobilize the communicative power of artists to raise community awareness of conservation issues.

Centered in Brazil, Arte Chico celebrated the art and culture of the San Francisco river, bringing biodiversity into popular culture and making grass roots linkages within the community. The first phase of the project was a groundbreaking survey of the rich artistic resources in the middle portion of the river; the final report of this sociological study will form the basis for the next phase, which involved the creation of a local organization to raise funds from government and private sources.

With support from the [International Development Research Centre \(IDRC\)](#)

Additional Resources:

[FINAL REPORT](#)

[SINK OR SWIM ARTICLE- DEVIN BARTLEY \(FAO AQUACULTURE NEWSLETTER, 36, DECEMBER 2006\)](#)

2.9 Expert Workshop on Comparative Environmental Costs of Aquaculture (2006)

WFT convened an international workshop to bring together international experts on aquaculture development, ecology, environmental economics, and environmental impact and energy analysis to discuss a variety environmental accounting systems.

At the request of FAO's Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, and with the support of the FAO Fisheries Department and the Vancouver Aquarium, WFT convened an international workshop titled Study and Analysis on Environmental Costs of Aquaculture Production in Comparison with Other Food Production Sectors in Vancouver in April 2006.

The workshop brought together international experts on aquaculture development, ecology, environmental economics, and environmental impact and energy analysis to discuss a variety environmental accounting systems, such as Energy and Ecological Footprint Analysis, Life Cycle Assessment and Material Flows Accounting. As a result, FAO was provided with advice on how to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of these accounting systems and how to deal with the subject in the future.

With support from [FAO of the United Nations](#)

Additional Resources:

[WORKSHOP ARTICLE- DEVIN BARTLEY \(AQUACULTURE NEWSLETTER, 35, JUNE 2006\)](#)

2.10 Expert Workshop on Status and Trends in Aquatic Genetic Resources (2006)

This workshop brought together a small group of internationally recognized experts in the fields of aquaculture, capture fisheries, molecular genetics, international development, and aquatic conservation.

At the request of the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) to prepare a document on the status of aquatic resources, WFT and the Fishery Resources Division of FAO convened a second international workshop in 2006. The workshop, titled Status and Trends in Aquatic Genetic Resources: a Basis for International Policy, was held May 8th to 10th, in Victoria, British Columbia.

The workshop brought together a small group of internationally recognized experts in the fields of aquaculture, capture fisheries, molecular genetics, international development, and aquatic conservation. During the workshop the experts identified key policy issues, priorities and implications for the international development community, recommended the creation of technical guidelines and identified areas of work that FAO could pursue to improve information, build capacity, create policy instruments and raise awareness and education.

In direct follow up to this workshop, and as part of our Aquatic Resources and Development project (Funded by IDRC), WFT held a workshop titled 'Sink or Swim' Roundtable on Aquatic Genetic Resources in Victoria, BC, September 26th & 27th, 2006 to raise the profile of genetic resources for fisheries and aquaculture.

With support from [FAO of the United Nations](#)

Additional Resources:

[WORKSHOP ARTICLE- DEVIN BARTLEY \(AQUACULTURE NEWSLETTER, 35, JUNE 2006\)](#)

2.11 Blue Gold: Access to Aquatic Genetic Resources in Indigenous and Local Communities (2003)

This book documents the results of a three-year study during which WFT worked with communities around the world to gather experiences with fish genetic resources, provide information on the issues, and help communities create their own policies for access to fish genetic resources in their area.

One of the most difficult issues faced by nations implementing the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) is how to ensure that benefits arising from biodiversity are shared with those who provided access in the first place. In many cases, access has been provided by local and indigenous communities. A lot of attention has been paid to benefit sharing for plant genetic resources such as seeds or medicinal plants. The problem of aquatic genetic resources has been almost completely overlooked - yet more and more communities are becoming recognized as sources of this potentially valuable commodity.

WFT worked with communities around the world to gather experiences with fish genetic resources, provide information on the issues, and help communities create their own policies for access to fish

genetic resources in their area. The results of the three-year study was published in the book *Blue Genes: Sharing and Conserving the World's Aquatic Biodiversity*.

The book is available for purchase from the following sources:

- [Stylus Publishing](#)
- [CPLPress Online Bookshop](#)
- [UBC Press](#)

With support from the [International Development Research Centre \(IDRC\)](#)

2.12 Biodiversity Effects of Mariculture (2002)

WFT prepared a review paper on the biodiversity effects of mariculture - the farming and husbandry of marine plants and animals in brackishwater or marine environments - for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Mariculture.

Mariculture is the farming and husbandry of marine plants and animals in brackishwater or marine environments. While mariculture output is still dwarfed by the tonnage of farmed freshwater organisms, it is growing explosively and its practices have important implications for marine biodiversity, especially in light of a trend toward the culture of high-value carnivorous species.

Mariculture practices have many effects on biodiversity, ranging from the genetic effects of large-scale deliberate release of farmed fish into the wild to the effects on primary productivity that filter down through the food chain.

WFT prepared a review paper as a background document for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Mariculture, established by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The paper helped the expert group evaluate the state of scientific and technical knowledge on the effects of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity, and provide guidance on criteria, methods and techniques that avoid the adverse effects of mariculture and stock enhancement on marine and coastal biological diversity.

With support from [Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity](#)

Additional Resources:

[FINAL REPORT ON CBD WEBSITE](#)

2.13 The Blue Millennium Project: Managing Fisheries for Biodiversity (2001)

WFT surveyed progress in 52 countries on dealing with fisheries issues in biodiversity planning; prepared a "Fisheries Primer" for planners, and convened an international workshop on fisheries and biodiversity.

The Blue Millennium Project was created to help national biodiversity planners come to grips with fisheries issues.

WFT surveyed progress in 52 countries on dealing with fisheries issues in biodiversity planning; prepared a "Fisheries Primer" for planners, and convened an international workshop on fisheries and biodiversity.

The workshop Blue Millennium: Managing Global Fisheries for Biodiversity, was held in Victoria, B.C. June 25-27, 2001, and brought together authors of fisheries management case studies from around the world, including Canada, Namibia, Philippines, Brazil, Laos, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Barbados, Uganda and New Zealand.

The workshop represented the first opportunity for global fisheries scientists and management professionals to meet and review actual national experiences in incorporating biodiversity considerations into the fisheries sector.

With support from the [United Nations Environment Program \(UNEP\)](#) and [International Development Research Centre \(IDRC\)](#)

2.14 Action Before Extinction: An International Workshop on Fish Genetic Conservation (1998)

WFT brought together representatives of fish genetic conservation programs around the world to discuss techniques and policies.

Genetic conservation means saving genetic variability before it disappears. A number of nations have begun fish genetic conservation programs, and more are being planned.

With Action Before Extinction, WFT brought representatives of these programs together for the first time, to discuss techniques and policies. The workshop was held in February 1998, in Vancouver, and was attended by delegates from fifteen countries, including Canada.

Order the book.

With support from: Alcan Aluminum Ltd., BC Hydro, BC Ministry of Fisheries, Environment Canada, Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Creative Salmon Co., Fisheries and Oceans Canada, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), and the Robert Schad Foundation.

Additional Resources:

TABLE OF CONTENTS AND EXCERPTS FROM THE CONFERENCE (coming soon)

Coastal communities of northeastern Brazil are some of the most disadvantaged in the country. The lower social classes in these areas have traditionally relied on artisanal fisheries of coastal marine resources, including fish, shellfish, and algae. Fishing of bivalve molluscs is an important economic activity in many coastal communities of northeastern Brazil. However, decades of uncontrolled and unplanned collection has exhausted natural stocks. In addition, pollution from urban development is seriously contaminating remaining clam beds - resulting in serious environmental and socio-economic consequences.

- Building fishing community capacity for co-management
- Building sustainable livelihoods in fishing communities
- Transferring technologies to secure and build the resource
- Developing policies for sustainable fishing and community participation in management
- Creating awareness of Brazilian river fisheries and ecosystems

Creating opportunities for youth and families

2.15 Revised Program of Work on Inland Water (2002)

Review documents and case studies for COP 8. Funded by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

2.16 Development of an Aquatic Animal Diversity Information and Communication System (2000)

Funded by FAO of the United Nations.

2.17 The Impact of Dams on Fish, Fisheries and the Environment (1999-2000)

Technical review and bibliographic database. Funded by FAO of the United Nations.

2.18 Model Policy on Aquatic Genetic Resources (1998-2002)

Funded by the International Development Research Centre.