



B.C. SALMON FARMERS ANNOUNCE 2017 CALL FOR RESEARCH PROPOSALS

For Immediate Release

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CAMPBELL RIVER, B.C. – The BC Salmon Farmers Association (BCSFA) Marine Environmental Research Program (MERP) is now accepting proposals for 2017 for projects that will provide a better understanding of the marine environment and B.C.'s wild marine species, particularly wild salmon stocks.

BCSFA created the MERP in December 2014, committing \$1.5-million over five years (2015 – 2020) to fund research through a competitive process that is managed by a third-party Science Advisory Council (SAC), which is comprised of members from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver Island University, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Pacific Salmon Foundation, as well as industry experts.

To date, \$470,000 has been committed to funding research for seven projects, with over 30 researchers from 10 organizations.

“It’s important for us to better understand B.C.’s coastal environment to ensure the longevity of both wild and farm-raised salmon,” said Dr. Don Noakes, SAC Chair and Dean of Science at Vancouver Island University. “The Marine Environmental Research Program has opened up collaborative partnerships amongst researchers that are focused on conducting objective and transparent research to learn more about our oceans.”

For a full list of projects, visit the BCSFA website at <http://bcsalmonfarmers.ca/research-innovation/>

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About the BC Salmon Farmers Association:

B.C. salmon farmers grow 58% of all salmon raised in Canada and account for 60% of the total landed value of seafood in British Columbia, generating more than \$1.14-billion towards the provincial economy. The BCSFA represents the province’s vibrant and diversified salmon aquaculture sector, inclusive of companies raising salmon, as well as the businesses that proudly provide services and supplies.

For more information visit BCSalmonFarmers.ca

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