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Pacific Salmon Commission and BioSonics Embark on Hydroacoustic Training Mission

In May 2009 a group of hydroacoustic researchers from the Pacific Salmon Commission visited BioSonics corporate headquarters in Seattle for a day of advanced training in support of their newly purchased BioSonics DT-X echosounder system. Andrew Gray, Yunbo Xie, Jacquie Nelitz, and Fiona Martens from the Commission's Vancouver office joined BioSonics Senior Scientist Mike Burger and General Sales Manager Eric Munday aboard BioSonics' research boat for system operation and data collection demonstrations while surveying on Lake Washington. The group then returned to the BioSonics lab to analyze the data, discuss specific technical solutions for their applications, and preview the latest BioSonics software. Munday stated, "We're thrilled to be working with the Pacific Salmon Commission. They are leaders in their field and we look forward to seeing the results of their important work"

The Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) was formed by the governments of Canada and the United States to implement the 1985 Pacific Salmon Treaty which set long-term goals for the benefit of the salmon and the two countries. Membership on the sixteen-person body includes representatives of commercial and recreational fisheries as well as federal, state and tribal governments. Under the terms of the Treaty, the Fraser River Panel of the PSC actively manages the fisheries for Fraser River sockeye and pink salmon during an intensive in-season management period. PSC staff rely heavily on hydroacoustics to monitor upstream escapement in support of the Panel's management decisions. Commission staff, in conjunction with staff from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, have developed a highly sophisticated hydroacoustic monitoring protocol involving mobile and fixed-position survey techniques for the management of salmon runs in the Fraser River. This April, the Pacific Salmon Commission purchased a dual 200 kHz BioSonics DT-X echosounder system that will serve as the cornerstone for their hydroacoustic program in the years to come. "We spent several weeks evaluating different hydroacoustic systems. Ultimately we chose BioSonics based on ease of use, data quality and equally as important, their responsiveness and level of technical support" stated Andrew Gray, Hydroacoustics Biologist.

BioSonics is a consulting, engineering and manufacturing firm specializing in application of hydroacoustic technology for monitoring and assessment of aquatic biological resources. Staff expertise includes; oceanographers to physicists to biologists, electrical engineers to programmers to applied mathematicians. For over thirty years, BioSonics scientific echosounders have been used in oceans, lakes, rivers, estuaries, or anywhere accurate assessment of aquatic organism abundance, distribution or behavior is required. Versatile, rugged, and modular designs allow for installation in every environment imaginable.

Contact

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