



PACIFIC SALMON COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY TREATY BETWEEN CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MARCH 18, 1985

600 – 1155 ROBSON STREET
VANCOUVER, B.C. V6E 1B5
TELEPHONE: (604) 684-8081
FAX: (604) 666-8707
www.psc.org

Seasonal Vacancy Announcement 2026 ASSISTANT FISHERIES TECHNICIAN – Hydroacoustics/Test Fishing Combined

The Pacific Salmon Commission (PSC) is seeking one **Assistant Fisheries Technician** for a unique seasonal contract position to support three field programs: (1) Hydroacoustics, (2) Hells Gate, and (3) Test Fishing. The position will **begin the third week of June and continue until the end of upstream sockeye salmon migration (approximately end of September/early October)** and is expected to work 4-5 days per week for a maximum of 37.5 hours. This position will jointly report to the Test Fishing Operations Manager and Fisheries Biologist, Program Lead. Successful applicants will be contributing towards the assessment of sockeye salmon populations for fisheries management as part of an international fisheries agency. This position is an excellent opportunity for applicants looking to gain more experience in the Pacific Salmon management process.

- (1) **Hydroacoustics Program:** Based at the Mission Hydroacoustic field site in Matsqui Regional Park, Abbotsford, BC. The Assistant Fisheries Technician will assist in deploying, monitoring, and processing hydroacoustic data to monitor the upstream passage of Fraser River sockeye salmon, gaining experience in fisheries hydroacoustics, small vessel operation, and hands-on salmon mortality sampling.
- (2) **Hells Gate Program:** Conducted primarily through a telework arrangement from home or the Mission Hydroacoustics site, with periodic travel to the Hells Gate site required to collect hard drives and data. Travel to and from the Hells Gate site will be compensated.
- (3) **Test Fishing Program:** Test Fishing Observer duties will be scheduled on an as-needed basis for coverage for the full-time Observers during peak periods or to provide coverage during illness or leave. Test fishing operations are based in Whonnock, BC, near Maple Ridge, and in Richmond near the Tom-Mac Shipyard. Travel to and from Test Fisheries will be compensated.

| Position | % Allocation by Program |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Hydroacoustics Program | 40% |
| Hell's Gate Program | 20-40% |
| Test Fishing Program | 20% |

Duties and Responsibilities:

Hydroacoustics Program:

- Processing hydroacoustic data to count fish passage through the lower Fraser River and performing backups using Microsoft Windows software
- Sit for extended periods of time enumerating data and working on computers
- Assisting with the deployment and monitoring of hydroacoustic equipment and setting up and maintaining the field site at Mission
- Operating a boat on the Fraser River (approximate length: (18ft)
- Perform some heavy lifting and field work tasks
- Work as part of a team and communicate effectively with team members

Hells Gate Program:

- Visit and potentially work on site at Hells Gate, a semi-remote location
- Observe and record counts of multiple species of salmon migrating past the Hells Gate fishways using a recorded camera system or in-person alongside other Fish Passage Counters
- Assess migration conditions and report qualitative observations of fish passage and river conditions to Pacific Salmon Commission staff
- Assist Fish Passage Counters with using the camera and recording technology
- Periodically deliver hard drives from the Hells Gate site to the Mission Hydroacoustic site or Vancouver office
- Conduct safety check-ins via GPS tablet applications

Test Fishing Program:

- Report to the test fishing vessel at a predetermined departure time
- Observe and record onboard catch effort and environmental data
- Provide physical and electronic copies of catch and effort data to the PSC Secretariat
- Conduct biological sampling of landed catch (i.e., scales, DNA tissue, heads, length, mass, and sex)
- Facilitate the transport of biological samples, as required
- Verify financial records regarding the sale of landed fish

Minimum Qualifications (Essential):

- Willingness and adaptability to work a dynamic shift work schedule. This position will require working weekends for the duration of the contract and rotating shifts including nights. Hydroacoustic shifts will be pre-scheduled and Test Fishing/Hells Gate shifts will be variable (length of shift, start time, etc.) depending on program needs
- Experience using Microsoft Excel and Windows operating systems
- Technical knowledge or ability to learn to operate an electronic tablet to transmit information

- Experience and/or willingness to learn proper boat operation of a motorized boat in a riverine environment
- Effective communication and ability to adapt to changing work environments
- Well organized with attention to detail and ability to work without direct supervision
- Experience and/or willingness to learn to visually identify Pacific Salmon species
- Certifications & Licenses:
 - Valid driver's license and reliable access to a vehicle for transportation and facilitation of PSC equipment
 - Possession of a Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC) (*Can be acquired in 1-day at <https://www.boaterexam.com/canada/>*)
 - Must be willing and able to complete required training for working in a semi-remote location

Advantages (Assets):

- Ability to identify Pacific salmon species and familiarity with Pacific salmon fisheries
- Experience sampling fish (preferably salmon)
- Experience working on board and/or operating vessels
- Experience collecting field data and/or setting up and taking down field sites
- Knowledge of hydroacoustics, test fisheries and/or salmon biology
- Advanced boating certifications (ROC-M, SVOP, SDV-BS)
- First Aid certification and Transport Endorsement

Salaries:

Wages will begin at \$25.93 CAD per hour, depending on experience plus 4% in lieu of vacation.

Interested applicants should email a cover letter and résumé detailing clearly how they meet each qualification. Please also include contact information for two references. Applicants should submit via e-mail to Ms. Angela Xu at resumes@psc.org by **11:59 p.m. PDT Sunday, March 22, 2026**.

Candidates selected for interviews will be contacted after the closing date.

For additional seasonal positions available at the Pacific Salmon Commission for the 2026 season, please visit <https://www.psc.org/about-us/history-purpose/employment-opportunities/> If interested in applying to multiple seasonal positions with the PSC, please submit separate applications for each position.

The PSC acknowledges that the Hells Gate Counting site is located on the traditional and unceded territory of the Nlaka'pamux People, the Brownsville Bar and Whonnock test fishery sites are on the stó:lō téméxw (traditional territory) of the stó:lō xwélméxw (stó:lō peoples) and the Mission Hydroacoustics site is on the stó:lō téméxw (traditional territory) of the stó:lō xwélméxw (stó:lō peoples).

The PSC is committed to employment equity, diversity, and inclusion and encourages all qualified individuals to apply.