

NEWS RELEASE  
For immediate release  
December 13, 2006

Freshwater Fisheries Society of British Columbia

## **NEW HATCHERY SUPPORTS OKANAGAN SPORT FISHING**

**PENTICTON--**The Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C. has acquired the Lime Springs Trout Hatchery near the southern end of Skaha Lake as part of its continuing effort to provide quality angling opportunities in the Okanagan. The two-acre property is located one kilometer north of Okanagan Falls, and the society has been raising trout at the site under an agreement with the previous owners for the past several years.

The Lime Springs Trout Hatchery and surrounding property was purchased from Derek and Jill Salter who have operated it as a private hatchery and "U-Catch" fishing attraction. The Salters will continue to live in their home on a portion of the property. The Salters are fisheries advocates who wanted to ensure that the property continued to serve Okanagan anglers. "This is a unique property that is particularly well situated for stocking lakes and streams in the Southern Interior," said Summerland Trout Hatchery Manager Mark Siemens. "We are fortunate that the Salters' lifelong commitment to fishing in the Okanagan has afforded us the opportunity to purchase the property and ensure that it will be used to support recreational fishing well into the future."

The Freshwater Fisheries Society is a not-for-profit society with a mandate to conserve and enhance freshwater fisheries resources around the province. The society operates five freshwater hatcheries and raises rainbow, cutthroat and steelhead trout as well as brook char, kokanee and white sturgeon. In cooperation with the Ministry of Environment, the society releases more than 7 million fish into nearly 1000 lakes and streams annually. Stocking programs support nearly half of the provinces freshwater fishing activity, and odds are that most anglers have or will catch a fish cultured at one of the society's hatcheries. The society is funded primarily through freshwater fishing licence fees.

"We have enjoyed a wonderful working relationship with the folks from the Freshwater Fisheries Society and the Ministry of Environment for many, many years," said Derek Salter. "Jill and I are thrilled that this special property will continue to support Okanagan sport fishing for generations to come".

-more-

The society will develop a long-term plan for the Lime Springs Hatchery over the coming months with the objective of integrating it into the society's broader fish culture and angler development and education programs. The property's proximity to the Summerland Trout Hatchery and its significant supply of spring water make it ideally suited for fish culture operations.

For more information on stocked lakes in the Okanagan, please contact (250) 494-0491, or visit our website at: [www.gofishbc.com](http://www.gofishbc.com).

-30-

For more information contact:

Mark Siemens  
Summerland Trout Hatchery Manager  
(250) 494-0491