

NORTH SHORE STREAMKEEPERS

Minutes - Meeting of May 13, 2008

VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

Seymour Hatchery – Family fishing day. Rice Lake, June 15 10am – 3pm. Fun for all the family. See seymoursalmon.com.

Ugly Bug Ball III June 28 1:00pm. View displays and meet streamkeeper volunteers from the Lower Mainland. For details and registration, see www.pskf.ca/ubb

Hastings Creek Fry trapping. A weekend during July or August. Call Hagen Hohndorf

Present (19): Hagen Hohndorf, chair, Richard Boase, Doug Allan, Bob Gelling, Doug Hayman, Michael Gosnell, Shaun Hollingsworth, Richard Tak, ZoAnn Morten, Pat Morten, John Barker, Barrie Adams, Brian Comey, Joyce Mathieson, Dick Pearce, Sandie Hollick-Kenyon, Matt Casselman, Janet Dysart, Ron den Daas.

Regrets: Karen Munro, Terry Bragg

Thomas Creek Protection (Doug Allan, Planner, District of North Vancouver): A developer has requested that land adjacent to Mount Seymour Parkway be reclassified as multi-family residential with the proviso that the east bank of Thomas Creek be set aside as a 15 metre riparian area inaccessible to the public. The Council has asked the North Shore Streamkeepers to recommend a policy for the west bank of the stream and six adjacent lots. After extensive discussion following which no agreement could be reached, the attendees agreed to form a subcommittee of volunteers to formulate a recommendation on behalf of the group. The subcommittee members agreed to meet Tuesday May 20 at 7:30 pm in the District Hall.

Hastings Creek (Hagen Hohndorf): Smolt trapping was done when the water temperature was 3°C. No coho smolts were recovered but 17 cutthroat trout were caught. Because of the low water temperature, the trapping will be repeated the weekend of May 17. Fry trapping will occur during July or August. Janet Dysart reported that Streamkeepers and nearby residents participated in a cleanup of Hunter Park. However, garbage continues to be dumped in the riparian zone. Richard Boase noted that a meeting with the Hastings Creek

group and the District is still needed to discuss future plans for the creek.

McKay Creek (Brian Comey): The annual cleanup was completed on April 22. Fourteen volunteers participated, mostly members of the North Shore Fish and Game Club. Advance publicity was provided by the North Shore News. Tim Horton's provided much appreciated doughnuts and coffee. Much less debris was found than in previous years but invasive plants are still a major problem.

On behalf of Streamkeepers Ron den Daas has received a grant from The Pacific Salmon Foundation for \$6,000.00 to purchase native plants to support a Stream Ecology Public Art Project. He anticipates in kind funds of volunteer hours and donations of approximately \$6,000.00 and is in the process of applying to the North Shore Community Arts Council for \$5,900.00 to give Streamkeepers the opportunity to move forward on their public awareness campaign 2008/2009. The project will be designed to enhance public participation in sustainable practices around local streams and will focus initially on Heywood Park on MacKay Creek. Local artists will assist school children and interested public to produce stencils representing native plants and other elements of the MacKay Creek ecology; these will be used to apply images onto the Hatchery site in the park. In addition, invasive plants will be replaced with native species in riparian areas during restoration events held in conjunction with this project. The project is expected to enhance public awareness and cooperation in maintaining healthy stream habitat. This project will also coordinate with work the City, the District of North Vancouver, Evergreen Canada, the North Shore Fish and Game Club and Department of Fisheries and Oceans is undertaking along the MacKay Creek corridor 2008/ 2009

Monitoring of water quality on lower MacKay continues. A few coho and many cutthroat trout have been seen. Numbers of Coho caught in this years fish trapping are dramatically down from last years count.

Morten Creek (ZoAnn Morten): A well publicized fish release occurred on April 15 with the assistance of Girl Guides and locals. The water recirculation equipment at the hatchery is being reinstalled. Wild coho were spotted in the creek during a course put on by Malaspina College. An application for funds to replace the bridge has been accepted. The celebration on Rivers Day of the 20th anniversary of Morten Creek Hatchery was suggested.

Seymour River (Matt Casselman): A photo and video presentation demonstrated the wide range of activities undertaken at the hatchery to build the fish stocks in the Seymour River; the species involved include pinks, coho, chum and steelhead. The annual Family Fishing Day at Rice Lake is planned for Sunday June 15, 10 am – 3 pm. Activities which are suited to all family members have been arranged. Some volunteers are needed.

North Shore Streamkeepers Web Site (Pat Morten): This has been improved substantially. For good communication, all members of the group should register on the site using the bulletin board facility. Suggestions for improving the usefulness of the site are welcome.

West Vancouver Streamkeepers (John Barker, Barrie Adams): These two visitors summarized the many activities of their group. The importance of establishing a good working relationship with the District Council was emphasized. The publicity associated with the return of coho to local streams has enhanced public awareness and support. The installation of fish ladders and operation of the hatchery have been important to their success. The recruitment of high school students as volunteers and the appointment of streamkeepers to planning committees represent important recent developments.

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DFO Community Advisor's Report (Sandie Hollick-Kenyon): Ugly Bug Ball III will take place on June 28 beginning at 1:00 pm at the A Rocha Field Studies and Ecology Centre in Surrey. This is an opportunity for all lower mainland salmon enhancement and streamkeeper volunteers to meet and share ideas in a casual setting sponsored by the community advisors of the Salmon Enhancement Programme and the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation. Detailed information about the programme and a registration form may be found at www.pskf.ca/ubb.

Municipal Report - North Vancouver District (Richard Boase): A detailed summary of work affecting creeks planned by the District's Engineering Department was illustrated with aerial photographs of the sites: Dovercourt (culvert headwall replacement, Fire lane 7 off Indian River Road (culvert repair), MacKay Creek near Edgemont (bridge abutment protection), Lynn Creek (test drilling next to creek) Mosquito Creek at Montroyal (bridgestabilizer replacement), Seymour River at Mount Seymour (seismic upgrade of bridge), Maplewood Creek (restoration by Metro Vancouver), Lower McKay Creek (trail repair and realignment by DNV Parks), William Griffin Centre, Lynn Canyon Park, Seymour River Public Art project.

Finances (Dick Pearce for Terry Bragg): The balance in the general account is \$3364.53 and in the environmental damages fund is \$6959.87.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 9, 2008- 7:30 pm
District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver

IMPORTANT AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Fisheries Violation Reporting: 604-666-3500

General Coordinator: Karen Munro 604-988-4072, karen-munro@shaw.ca,
www.nssk.ca

Secretary: Dick Pearce 604-987-9604, rhpearce@interchange.ubc.ca

Pacific Streamkeepers Federation: ZoAnn Morten 604-986-5059
pskf@direct.ca or www.pskf.ca

North Shore Streamkeepers Web Site: www.nssk.ca. Message board is at
<http://disc.yourwebapps.com/Indices/232171.html>

District Web Site: www.dnv.org/Services/Environment/ District Information Phone:
604-990-2410

Community Advisor: Sandie Hollick-Kenyon 604-666-0743, [HollickSa@dfo-
mpo.gc.ca](mailto:HollickSa@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Hastings Creek: Hagen Hohndorf 604-708-9094, fnh@shaw.ca

McKay Creek: Terry Bragg 604-985-7272, terrybragg@shaw.ca

Maplewood Creek: Blair Wilson 604-929-2025

Morten Creek: ZoAnn Morten 604-986-5059, zmorten@shaw.ca,
<http://members.shaw.ca/mortencreek/index.html>

Roche Creek: David Cook 604-924-0147 cookeco@hotmail.com

Seymour River: Matt Casselman 604-640-9640

seymoursalmonidvolunteer@hotmail.com or www.seymoursalmon.com/