

## **NORTH SHORE STREAMKEEPERS**

### **Minutes - Meeting of November 10, 2009**

**Present (15 ):** Karen Munro, chair, Joyce Mathieson, Bob Parrott, Bob Gelling, Doug Hayman, Ron den Daas, Brian Comey, Sandie Hollick-Kenyon, Steve Okrainetz, Pat Morten, ZoAnn Morten, Dick Pearce, Don MacDonald, Richard Boase, Terry Bragg.

**Municipal Report – North Vancouver District** (Richard Boase): Considerable remedial work has been done on District streams: culvert replacement along **Indian River Drive**, gravel extraction from **Lynn Creek**, and bank stabilization on **Upper Mackay** in two spots near Ranger Avenue. The number of similar projects has increased; this is the result of the erosion of stream beds and also of nearby urban development impacting the instream habitat. In the area near **Maplewood Creek** which was affected by Metro Vancouver watermain replacement the creek was realigned and has been renaturalized; spawning chum were spotted in the new habitat this year. A new **pesticide bylaw** has been in place for almost a full year; the DNV has a number of good handouts on this new bylaw. The **Environmental Protection & Preservation Bylaw** is to be revised in the near future. **Mission Creek**, where several culverts act as barriers, is being studied to improve access by fish, particularly at the Windsor Road crossing. The beaver dams on lower **Mackay** are being watched to assess whether the dams represent a barrier to fish. Position papers on **Storm Water Management** are being prepared and, hopefully, will be discussed during the current Official Community Plan review.

**DFO Community Advisor** (Sandie Hollick-Kenyon): Invasive plants were removed on **Mackay Creek** in the Mackay ravine and the area replanted with the aid of Graham Knell of the District; also the flow into off-channel habitat was improved and a small tributary, Virginia Creek, was mapped. The **Rivers Day** activities in Heywood Park on September 25th were well received by the public (for details, see below). **Pink eggs** were collected with the Seymour Salmonid Society from the Chilliwack River. Some of the fry will likely be seeded into other North Shore streams. The annual general meeting of the **Seymour Salmonid Society** will be at 7:00 pm on November 24th at the CanFor Icesports Mall; Matt Foy will be speaking on coho release timing. The Fell Channel intake on **Mosquito Creek** is plugging with fallen leaves. Any members walking in the area should report poor flow in the channel to Sandie. The **chum egg takes** from the Alouette River have been completed and will be used for hatcheries in North Vancouver and Port Moody. The

redevelopment of **Heywood Park** was the subject of a meeting with the City of North Vancouver.

**Pacific Streamkeepers Federation** (ZoAnn Morten): Two groups of Civil Engineering students from UBC are studying **Stormwater Management** within the District. In January 2010 one group will be examining methods by which individuals owning property in an area around Royanne and Baird can improve drainage patterns on their properties. The second group will be focusing on the best methods of handling stormwater below the street in the same area. A federal **judicial inquiry** has been initiated to examine the causes of the current scarcity of sockeye. A review of the **Fisheries Act** by the federal government is currently under consideration. The recent Globe and Mail criticism of hatcheries by Mark Hume has failed to recognize the continuous improvement of **hatchery practices** as knowledge of best practices grows. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans has formed a group to evaluate the effectiveness of **remediation** done as compensation for authorized Harmful Alteration, Disruption or Destruction (HADD) of fish habitat during development. The **Bill Good show** on CKNW will feature a series of programmes focused on salmon. The work of the Streamkeepers will be highlighted.

**Finances** (Terry Bragg): The balance in the general account is \$2086.37 and in the environmental damage fund is \$770.46.

**Hastings Creek** (Doug Hayman): Two spawner surveys have been completed. No fish were seen. The fish ladders are being regularly monitored and have been clear. The banks have been full and the flow fast, so that fish have been difficult to see. A hose has been draining an excavation site into the creek. Members should monitor this drainage as it is acceptable only if the water is clear.

**Mackay Creek** (Brian Comey): The hatchery is operating well; 35,000 chum eggs from the Alouette River are now incubating. Three beaver dams between the park and the ocean appear to inhibit the movement of fish up the stream. Five spawners were seen below the first dam and some fish have been seen near the hatchery.

**Upper Mackay Creek** (Ron den Daas): Spawner surveys are underway Thursday mornings; volunteers are welcome. We will request that the City of North Vancouver Parks Department keep the decommissioned washroom facility available for stream education when Heywood Park is redeveloped. Our Rivers Day event at Heywood Park, featuring the Mackay Creek Ecology Community Art Project attracted about 150 people during its 6 hour opening. Valerie Moodie of the Squamish Nation invoked a blessing on the event. Tim O'Hara, the Environmental Officer for the Squamish Nation, has been helpful in developing collaboration. A five minute video about the Community Art Project

emphasized the art work of school children after their introduction to the natural features in the streams near their schools. Pat Morten edited the film, which was shot during several streamkeeper events. The final reports for the Pacific Salmon Foundation grant, the NVOCA grant and the CNV Green Grant have been submitted. Extensive film footage was shot during the development of the Mackay Creek project. Application has been made to the Pacific Salmon Foundation for funds to assemble an extensive documentary film describing the project and the conservation work of the North Shore Streamkeepers.

**Morten Creek** (ZoAnn Morten): The incubator box at the hatchery has been improved; 30,000 chum eggs from the Alouette River are now incubating. The resulting fry are to stock Lynn Creek. Outside pipes have been insulated.

### **New Business**

**Meetings in 2010** (Dick Pearce): The suggested meeting dates were approved: January 12, March 9, May 11, September 14, and November 9. Meeting space in the District Hall has been reserved by Richard Boase.

**Maplewood Creek Park** (Richard Boase): RB and three friends have undertaken a personal project of facilitating the creation of a park designed to introduce handicapped persons to salmon and stream biology in this newly opened area in the District. This is a novel attempt to open the natural world outdoors to those who normally find this inaccessible and unfamiliar. Funds are being sought from Aviva community funds. You may support their application by a vote at <http://www.avivacommunityfund.org/ideas/acf3579>

A **North Shore Environmental Network** has been formed to facilitate collaboration amongst environmental groups in the area.

### **Next Meeting**

**Tuesday, January-12, 2019 7:30 pm**  
**District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver**

**North Shore Streamkeepers Phone Line:** Call District system at 604-990-2255, go to Environmental Services under option 7, and then to North Shore Streamkeepers under option 4.

## IMPORTANT AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Fisheries Violation Reporting: 604-666-3500

General Coordinator: Karen Munro 604-988-4072, [karen-munro@shaw.ca](mailto:karen-munro@shaw.ca), [www.nssk.ca](http://www.nssk.ca)

Secretary: Dick Pearce 604-987-9604, [rhpearce@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:rhpearce@interchange.ubc.ca)

Pacific Streamkeepers Federation: ZoAnn Morten 604-986-5059  
[pskf@direct.ca](mailto:pskf@direct.ca) or [www.pskf.ca](http://www.pskf.ca)

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

District Web Site: [www.dnv.org/Services/Environment/District Information](http://www.dnv.org/Services/Environment/District%20Information)

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

Hastings Creek: Doug Hayman 604-987-0434 [pastoys@shaw.ca](mailto:pastoys@shaw.ca)

Mackay Creek: Terry Bragg 604-985-7272, [terrybragg@shaw.ca](mailto:terrybragg@shaw.ca)

Morten Creek: ZoAnn Morten 604-986-5059, [zmorten@shaw.ca](mailto:zmorten@shaw.ca) or ,  
<http://members.shaw.ca/mortencreek/index.html>

Roche Creek: David Cook 604-924-0147 [cookeco@hotmail.com](mailto:cookeco@hotmail.com)

Seymour River: Ed Walls 604-288-0511

[seymoursalmonidvolunteer@hotmail.com](mailto:seymoursalmonidvolunteer@hotmail.com) or [www.seymoursalmon.com/](http://www.seymoursalmon.com/)