

## NORTH SHORE STREAMKEEPERS

### Minutes - Meeting of May 11, 2010

**Present (12):** Karen Munro, chair, Joyce Mathieson, Dick Pearce, Bob Gelling, Jan Lander, Doug Hayman, Sandie Hollick-Kenyon, Krista Tulloch, Miles Hogan, Ron den Daas, Tacha Hyde, ZoAnn Morten.

**Regrets:** Mike Gosline, Graham Knell, Richard Boase, Terry Bragg, Brian Comey.

**DFO Communiy Advisor** (Sandie Hollick-Kenyon): John Barker of the West Vancouver Streamkeepers has been very successful in enlisting the support of elementary and secondary schools in various **streamkeeping projects** in West Vancouver. He should be invited to a future meeting to communicate his approach to raising stream awareness in this segment of the community. Doug Hayman suggested that the construction of a fish counter on Hasting Creek would be very useful and may be a project that could be undertaken by interested high school students. Metro Vancouver is beginning a **Water Use Planning** process for Capilano and Seymour watersheds. There is opportunity for volunteers to be involved in this process in a variety of ways. This is a very important planning process that will decide how water is used in the future in both watersheds; make sure your voice is heard. For more information keep an eye on the NSSK bulletin board. 100,000 **pink fry** were released into Mackay Creek at the blind channel next to Seaspan and in Heywood Park above Marine Drive on March 24, 2010. Fifty thousand fry were released into Mosquito Creek below Marine Drive at Bewicke Ave on April 1, 2010. Historically, pinks existed in both these streams but have not been seen in either creek for many years. These two releases are a first attempt to re-establish pink salmon back to suitable North Van streams. Pink eggs were collected last fall from Chilliwack River, eyed eggs transferred to Seymour River Hatchery, fry ponded and fed at Seymour for one week before release. The **Lower Fraser River Volunteer Recognition** event is Saturday, June 12 at A Rocha Field Studies and Ecology Centre (173 Street, Surrey). Detailed information is available at [www.pskf.ca/ubb](http://www.pskf.ca/ubb). All volunteers are urged to attend; registration is required.

**Finances** (Karen Munro): A volunteer treasurer is still badly needed. The two accounts maintained previously have been combined into one general account with a balance of \$6832.35. The students of Windsor House School, mentored by Jennifer Corsu, donated \$315 to the Streamkeepers. If equipment is needed, an extensive catalogue is available at the web site of Dynamic Aqua Supplies.

**Hastings Creek** (Doug Hayman): Janet Dysart organized an **invasive plant pull** in Hunter Park (WHEN?). Waves Coffee Shop provided coffee for the volunteers. The stream will be **walked** to check for blockages during the next few months. **Smolt trapping** found 9 coho and 11 cutthroat; 5 of the coho were found adjacent to an area which had been considered by some to be blocked by a log jam. Howard Rode, a 90+ volunteer, found several dead coho fry in Hunter Park.

**Lower Mackay Creek** (Terry Bragg by e-mail): The annual cleanup, sponsored by the North Shore Fish and Game Club, was undertaken by four volunteers. The amount of debris found between Welch and Marine was negligible and the group wondered whether an annual cleanup was necessary. In previous years, several bins have been filled with waste. A walk to inspect the need was suggested to precede any future cleanups. (ZoAnn Morten): On May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010, as a part of the International Year of Biodiversity, a water quality sample will be taken on lower Mackay Creek to encourage local residents to observe and understand that the health of the creek depends on its water quality,

**Upper Mackay Creek** (Ron den Daas): Over the last few months the extra footage needed to complete the **documentary film**, funded by Pacific Salmon Foundation and based on the Mackay Creek Ecology Community Art Project, has been shot. The footage includes filming the estuary and upper reaches of Mackay Creek, the use of the incubation box, numerous releases of chum and pink salmon fry and interviews with many individuals and groups involved with past and present stewardship on Mackay Creek. A successful **Earth Day habitat restoration event** was held this April at Fairmount Park with over 250 students from Highland Elementary School and hosted with the assistance of Graham Knell and Sandie Hollick-Kenyon. Participants enthusiastically removed invasive plants and replaced them with natives, supplied by PSF, along the riparian corridor of a tributary of Mosquito Creek. The school wrote a letter of thanks. Teacher Jennifer Sherlock is keen to continue salmon conservation activities annually. Bodwell School, situated at the Mackay Creek estuary, has contacted the NSSK about similar habitat restoration. Emergent **coho fry** from last winter's coho return were spotted in Upper Mackay Creek in April.

**Morten Creek** (ZoAnn Morten): Chum fry have been released into Lynn Creek with the help of community volunteers. Coho fry will be released into Morten Creek once the hungry coho smolts have left for the ocean. A newt was found in Morten Creek. This year's coho fry were seen emerging from a redd that was recognized in the fall. Funds have been received to replace the floor boards and feeders at the hatcheries. Morten Creek is applying for society status in order to obtain insurance coverage with the PSkF Streamkeepers VIP policy.

## **New Business**

**The Blueridge Community Association** has thanked and encouraged the work of the North Shore Streamkeepers in support of the local environment. ZoAnn spoke at their meeting May 15th and thanked them for the return of \$1500, the residue from an earlier partnership on a project. These funds will be used by the NSSK to help pay for training and workshop attendance by our volunteers, for storm drain marking supplies, and for display materials.

**Gift of GPS Unit:** The BC Field Trips Organizing Committee, represented by Krista Tulloch, presented a Garmin GPS Unit to the North Shore Streamkeepers in memory of Scott Morrison, a former active member of NSSK. He had promoted conservation of the BC coast through the DFO and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Authority. The unit was received by ZoAnn Morten who thanked Ms Tulloch and commented on its value to the work of the Streamkeepers,

**Society status** (ZoAnn Morten): The group has been unable to obtain liability insurance for work parties because it has no official society status. It was moved by Dick Pearce and seconded by Ron den Daas that the North Shore Streamkeepers seek official society status; passed unanimously. ZoAnn volunteered to work with Karen Munro to prepare an application.

**Official Community Plan** (Dick Pearce): Several members of the group, mentored by Richard Boase, have met twice to discuss the environmental aspects of the District's OCP, now under review. Karen Munro and ZoAnn Morten are preparing a draft for submission to the group before it is forwarded to the DNV committee.

## **Next Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 14, 2010 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)

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 <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)

Upper Mackay Creek: Ron den Daas, [ecosystem@shaw.ca](mailto:ecosystem@shaw.ca)

Morten Creek: ZoAnn Morten 604-986-5059, [zmorten@shaw.ca](mailto:zmorten@shaw.ca)

<http://morten-creek.pskf.ca>

Seymour River: Ed Walls 604-288-0511

[seymoursalmonidvolunteer@hotmail.com](mailto:seymoursalmonidvolunteer@hotmail.com)

or [www.seymoursalmon.com/](http://www.seymoursalmon.com/)