

## **North Shore Streamkeepers Society**

### **Minutes - Meeting of September 13, 2011**

**Present (19):** Karen Munro, chair. Joyce Mathieson, Dick Pearce, Bob Gelling, ZoAnn Morten, Jan Lander, Doug Hayman, Tacha Hyde, Wayne Poole, Michael Gosnell, Brian Comey, Terry Bragg, Ron den Daas, Scott Brydle, Graham Knell, Sandie Hollick-Kenyon, Richard Tak, Richard Boase, Angela Negenman.

**Regrets:** Miles Hogan, Ed Walls

**Municipal Report - North Vancouver City** (Angela Negenman): The construction of the playground and washroom in **Heywood Park** continues with an expected completion date in mid October. The construction of the **hatchery** is in the permitting stage (see more below). The **Invasive Plant Inventory** draft report, including plant inventory, analysis, and habitat restoration prescriptions, has been submitted by the environmental consultant; the City is now in the early stages of developing the **Invasive Plant Management Strategy**. The City has worked with **Evergreen** to expand the scope of the Mahon Park Stewards to include all City parks and natural areas; a few invasive plant removals have been held in Heywood Park. The NSSK is invited to join the City, Evergreen and other community groups in celebrating **Rivers Day** at Mackay Creek in Heywood Park on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, at Marine Drive and Hamilton Avenue, from 10am to 2pm. The event will combine invasive plant removal and native plant planting. Tools, plants and light refreshments will be provided. The City has introduced **CityShaping**, an initiative aimed at engaging as many community members as possible in updating our Official Community Plan (OCP). For more information go to the website at <http://www.cnv.org/CityShaping/index.html>.

**Lower Mackay – Heywood Park Hatchery** (Terry Bragg): The City, North Shore Fish and Game Club (NSFGC), and the North Shore Streamkeepers have combined to expand and improve the existing hatchery. The present hatchery and public washrooms will be modified by extending the building 15 feet. The budget for this project is about \$44,000, with the City providing \$24,000 and NSFGC and NSSK fundraising to provide \$20,000. Fisheries & Oceans will provide the necessary equipment. Generous donations have been provided by the Pacific Salmon Foundation (\$6000), Coho Society (\$5,000), North Construction (\$3,000 in kind), North Shore Fish & Game Club (\$2,000), Richard Tak birthday fund (\$1,500), Vancouver Anglers Society (\$1000), and BC Landscape Architects Society (\$500). About \$1,000 is needed to complete the funding commitment; the NSFGC is following leads for that.

**Municipal Report – North Vancouver District** (Richard Boase): Much in-stream work has been postponed because of urgent and expensive repairs to the **Mission Creek culvert**. The **fish ladder at Donovan's Pond** was examined by DNV engineering staff and an outside consultant. DNV staff preferred to design and build a more permanent structure. The cost of such a structure is expected to be in the tens of thousands but offers a more natural looking and permanent structure. Insufficient funds are available at this time to undertake the construction. The DNV is preparing a design drawing, which can be used to make a capital budget request, a grant applications or to solicit funding from other sources. Several members of the group noted that the purpose of the ladder is an escape route for smolt, not an entry for spawners, requiring a structure of considerably lower cost and offered to undertake temporary repairs. This work would be acceptable to the DNV, subject to the appropriate supervision and a pre-approved work plan; Graham Knell would be the appropriate member of DNV staff to contact for assistance. After the next **NSSK meeting**, the DNV is asking that the group adhere to Corporate Policy 02-0755-1 which outlines the protocol for community groups using meeting space at DNV Municipal Hall. The NSSK will be required to arrange their own meeting schedule by calling the Facilities Booking Coordinator at 604-990-2209. On evenings when the NSSK are the only group meeting, the NSSK will be required as per policy to pay for Commisionaire services, approximately \$100 plus tax. In order to facilitate accurate and timely **communication**, the group was asked to submit a detailed written request to the Environment section for information two weeks in advance of the meetings. The DNV would then be in a better position to coordinate the information request, ensure that the appropriate staff is consulted and that the most current information is made available.

**Graham Knell** reported that he will be assisting several groups during the next few months: Sept 17 Friends of Hunter Park, Sept 24 Invasive plant removal at Mosquito Creek Park, Oct 1 invasive plant removal and replanting in Draycott Park, and Oct 29 trail building and planting at Mackay Creek Park.

**DFO Communiy Advisor** (Sandie Hollick-Kenyon): The contributions of the several Streamkeepers who assisted at the **Coho Festival** and the Coho Walk on September 11 were much appreciated. The event was very successful. A **fish kill** occurred in upper Mackay Creek July 8<sup>th</sup>. Water samples and fish cadavers were examined by Nick Russo of Environment Canada; no toxic components were found in the water or tissues. The protocol for reporting spills needs review and documentation; Sandie and Angela will review local reporting lines. **Aquaculture licences** have been issued to all local groups involved in salmon enhancement, including the North Shore Fish and Game Club. 2011 is **Pink Year**; volunteers should be looking for fish in lower Mackay, Mosquito and Lynn Creeks. A strategy session at Lynn Creek is planned for September 14<sup>th</sup>. **Rivers Day** celebrations are planned in Heywood Park Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, interested

members may wish to arrange events on the Saturday 24<sup>th</sup>. The **SEHAB meeting** will be held November 4 – 6; members with salmon enhancement and streamkeeper concerns that they wish to have presented to SEHAB should contact Brian Smith at [manager@seymoursalmon.com](mailto:manager@seymoursalmon.com) or 604-288-0511.

**Pacific Streamkeepers Federation** (ZoAnn Morten): PSKF is working with DFO to update Modules 9 (Observe Record Report), 10 (Community Awareness) and 12 (Spawner Surveys) of the Streamkeepers Manual. This will update the new province-wide phone numbers for reporting pollution and fish-kill events. Having recently reported a strong smell of oil on Keith Cr, ZoAnn found that pollution incidents should be reported to PEP (Provincial Emergency Preparedness).

A number of one-year research projects were suggested to BCIT students in the Department of Sustainable Resources:

- Locate and record the present status of sites near streams, oceans or wild spaces which have been issued developmental variance permits during the last five years.
- Assess whether or not green technology, such as planted roofs or swales, are as beneficial as intended and have been sustained after completion of a development.
- Locate and evaluate undisturbed waterfront and riparian areas.
- Evaluate riparian setbacks in areas for which municipal, provincial or federal governments are responsible
- Examine areas improved as compensation for environmental damage to determine if they are being monitored and maintained in accordance with mitigation plans.
- Record the frequency and extent to which fire fighting foam and chemicals enter streams through storm drains. Are such events recorded?

**Finances** (Miles Hogan by e-mail): The current balance is \$728.96. The major expenditures this year have been for liability insurance, (\$170.00), membership in the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation, and copying the audio film 'Wild Chance'.

**Seymour Hatchery** (Ed Walls by e-mail): For coho, 600 have been marked for population study, 45 pair have been collected for broodstock and all newly hatched have been marked before raising to smolts. For steelhead, not numerous this year, six broodstock have been retained and fry will be clipped at the adipose fin and moved outside shortly.

**Hastings Creek** (Doug Hayman): Fry trapping on July 8<sup>th</sup> recovered 47 cutthroat trout, five coho and seven crayfish; many coho fry were seen but not trapped. A presentation was made to the science teacher at Argyle School encouraging the school to install a fish counter in the creek. A new bridge and trail improvements have been completed at Hunter Park. Repair of the leak in

Donovan's Pond has been attempted. Temporary repairs of the fish ladder will be undertaken until the District is able to construct a permanent ladder. Weekly spawner surveys will begin in October and continue until late December; these are open to all. Janet Dysart, sponsor of **Friends of Hunter Park**, announced that invasive species will be removed and replanted with native species on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Upper Mackay Creek** (Ron den Daas): A serious fish kill occurred on July 8<sup>th</sup>. A creek clean up involving the Sunnyside Neighborhood, the Streamkeepers and Graham Knell of the District staff will be held October 29<sup>th</sup>. The Heywood Park Community Art Project 2011, associated with the development of the hatchery in Heywood Park, will proceed when the hatchery addition is complete. - the Carson Graham Art Academy students are scheduled to participate in this project. The film 'Wild Chance' is now available on line at <http://vimeo.com/29190784>. The film continues to be submitted to festivals for screening, including the Coho Society's Green Film Festival scheduled for November 2011 at the Kay Meek Centre.

**Morten Creek** (Jan Lander): The remaining approximately 5,000 fed chum fry were released into Lynn Creek near the mouth of Morten Creek on May 1<sup>st</sup>. As noted at the April 21 NSSK meeting, about 20,000 were released at Bridgman Park. The actual number of fed fry released this year was 24,732 chum and 7,264 coho. Coho broodstock was 3 females and 2 males. Most of the loss of coho eggs was between the spawn and eyed stage. After shocking, very few deaths were recorded, none after fry emerged. On June 7, 3,500 of the coho, calculated by weight, were released into several spots in Lynn Creek below Morten Creek with the help of DFO (Sandie and Scott). The remaining approximately 3,500 were released into Morten creek in the pond beside the hatchery. **Hatchery repair** work started June 15<sup>th</sup> and progressed to the final state of a roof cap, renewed skylights and roof top by the end of August. Any areas that showed signs of leaking were foamed. The water pipe was extended directly to the standpipe outflow to keep the trough dry during the summer. Also the boards were shortened in the outside square tank to lessen the amount of sediment coming into the tanks. No posting for work parties was done as the work did not require a large group. Last week the hatchery had dried out nicely including the troughs. The inside wall panelling is about to be replaced.

**Nominating Committee:** Bonnie Brokenshire, Sandie Hollick-Kenyon and Dick Pearce were appointed.

## **Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 8, 2011 - 7:30 – 9:15 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](mailto:karen-munro@shaw.ca)

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

2116 William Avenue, North Vancouver BC V7J 2P6

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@yahoo.ca](mailto:pastoys@yahoo.ca)

Lower Mackay Creek and North Shore Fish and Game Club incubation facility: 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; [volunteering@seymoursalmon.com](mailto:volunteering@seymoursalmon.com)

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