

# NORTH SHORE STREAMKEEPERS SOCIETY – 2012 NOV 21 MINUTES

**Present (18)** Janet Dysart, Chair, Richard Boase, Julie Pavey, Angela Negeman, Caroline Jackson, Graham Knell, Sandie Hollick-Kenyon, Matt Casselman, Richard Tak, Bob Gelling, ZoAnn Morten, Ron den Daas, Brian Comey, Terry Bragg, Dick Pearce, Joyce Mathieson, Tacha Hyde, Jan Lander

**Regrets:** Karen Munro, Doug Hayman

**AGM** – Confirmed membership. Janet Dysart made a motion that minutes of 2011 be adopted, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joyce Mathieson, all in favour and carried. From meeting of Sept 19, Dick Pearce made a motion the AGM and election of board be postponed to May 2013 meeting, Joyce Mathieson 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favour and carried. The board members present agreed to stay on until May 2013 meeting. It is noted that Miles Hogan resigned as treasurer and board member in September 2012, and a replacement has not yet been found. March notice to go out and nominating committee to be formed.

**Municipal Reports – North Vancouver District:** (Richard Boase) Julie Pavey, R.P.BO, Section Manager, Environmental Sustainability introduced herself to the group. Came from City of Port Moody and brings with her much background as a Registered Biologist, and involvement with streamkeeper and stewardship groups. Julie offered to do for a future meeting of the “What Swims Beneath” presentation which was given at the Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference. This project had a number of partners including all Port Moody stewardship groups and it won a BCRPA Award for Program Excellence in 2011. Julie is flexible to do it at one of the meetings next year; it would take about 0.5 hour.

**Sunset Boulevard Project** (Richard Boase) The work was done to decommission and abandon an old wood stave water line. A new water line was brought up Sunset Blvd. and connected to an existing water line near the top of the hill. There was some excavation work required and as a result a few alder trees needed to be removed for WorkSafe BC requirements. The excavation work was undertaken on the existing pathway that comes up from Mackay Creek at the pedestrian bridge crossing. The work was originally scheduled for summer on 2012 but was delayed until early September due to a nesting pair of Cooper’s Hawks near the work site. The DNV will generally restore natural areas disturbed by infrastructure work by placing soil and plants within the affected area. This particular work site did not warrant any new work as the disturbance was within an existing pathway. The DNV is working toward a policy on invasive plant species management and until a comprehensive policy and management plan is in place, invasive plant species removal and restoration projects are coordinated on a case by case basis through the DNV Parks Dpt.

**Hastings Creek - Donovan Pond** Richard Boase was unable to confirm the carry-over of Parks Dpt. funding to fix the fish ladder at Donovan Pond. This question needs to be directed to the DNV Parks Dpt.

**Seylynn Village Centre** - The DNV response to the question regarding community amenity projects arising from Seylynn area development is as follows. Funds for neighbourhood improvements, which could improve riparian conditions along Lynn Creek, were secured as part of the rezoning approval for the original Seylynn Village development. This same approach to

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neighbourhood amenities is continuing with the current revised proposal, and payments by the developer would be required as development proceeds. The details of the specific projects that might be funded have not been worked out as the DNV is still working on identifying and prioritizing projects that fit the criteria of an eligible amenity project. Further work on neighbourhood priorities will take place as part of the ongoing implementation planning work for Lower Lynn Town Centre. One of the ideas to help identify and prioritize projects is a recreational needs assessment study that DNV Parks would lead. Lynn Creek is an important recreational and ecological corridor and would therefore figure prominently in the aforementioned study. Ideas for amenity projects relating to Lynn Creek would be first discussed at a staff level and then assuredly brought forward to NSSK for their input.

**Municipal Reports – City of North Vancouver** (Angela Negenman) Angela introduced Caroline Jackson, who is back in the Environment Group with the City after a 2 ½ year secondment with Energy Management with BC Hydro. She is looking forward to stewardship and working with volunteers, in particular, energy and climate action.

**Bewicke trail** (from Copping Street to Bewicke Park) construction to start soon, completion anticipated by March 2013. **Phase 2 of Heywood Park Project** wilderness trail loop deficiencies and decommissioning of old trail underway. **Rivers Day Celebration at Lynnmouth Park** on Sunday, September 30 had approximately 100 volunteers, an invasive plant bin filled and 234 native plants planted, including 30 trees. **Lynnmouth Park** Evergreen-MEC stewardship initiative in Lynnmouth Park has held 4 stewardship events to date, including most recently November 10, where invasive plants were removed north of Cotton Road and 4 bird houses were installed. **Evergreen City Park Stewards** Uncover Your Creeks Data Collection has started with one event last month, where several City Stewards participated in water quality sampling on Wagg Creek at Jones and 18<sup>th</sup> Street. Second sampling will be during the City Stewards event on November 24th. Evergreen is working with students from Carson Graham Secondary School to arrange for a group to take monthly samples from Wagg at Jones and 18th. **Invasive Species Management Strategy** is being developed this winter, and CNV propose a discussion at the January NSSK meeting and/or an additional meeting to discuss the strategy. Treatments by contractors for hogweed and knotweed to resume in spring, and coordinated effort of stewardship and internal crew efforts continue on other priority species.

**Municipal Reports – North Vancouver District** (Graham Knell, Trail and Habitat Co-ordinator)

A quick summary of some of the work The Parks Department did to ensure the quality of the water flowing in the District Creeks:

- Grousewoods – all the bridges are being replaced, and the garbage removed from the creeks that all flow into MacKay Creek
- Murdo Frazer Park – the small stream that feeds the pond off MacKay Creek had become so silted that in the height of the summer it would stop flowing. This has been opened up.
- Lynn Canyon Park – bridge built over small tributary of Lynn Creek at the south end of the Park – to prevent the Mountain Bikers from muddying up the creek.

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- The last two sections of the Baden Powell Trail are now out of Canyon Creek and these old sections are being decommissioned and restored.
- A damaged and exposed section of Parkside Creek, Deep Cove, was planted and restored.
- A bridge and the trail leading to it has been replaced and upgraded – this creek is a tributary of Parkside Creek.
- Many of the bridges and stairs on the Baden Powell Trail from Panorama Park to Quarry Rock have been upgraded to ensure that creeks are not impacted.
- With PSF funds – the re-vegetation of the east and west sections of the MacKay Creek wetlands.
- Hunter Park – took advantage of the Lower Mainland Green Team numbers and plant donation to restore riparian sections of Hunter Park.
- A donation of \$500 in trees were planted along Mosquito Creek just above Evergreen Place.
- Maplewood Creek Park had a major clean-up removing Invasive Species. Local School kids did the planting of native riparian plants –the Chum are back and spawning along reaches of the restoration.

### **DFO Community Advisor** (Sandie Hollick-Kenyon)

- Chum egg takes complete for the fall – all went well and targets were met.
- New StreamTalk is out – if you would like to receive the newsletter via email contact: Joanne.Day@DFO-mpo.gc.ca, or call her at 604 666-6614.
- New PIP application process now in place. Suggest that NSSK apply in case they need small funding in the future – next 3 years.
- Watching Lower Mackay Creek – below Marine Drive for fish access.
- Mackay Hatchery up & running
- Draft BMP's (Best Management Practices for fish culture) now available for review if anyone is interested.
- Volunteer Community Workshop 2013 – May 17, 18, 19 (long weekend)
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Reminder – your SEHAB rep is Brian Smith, 604 761-5335, [www.SEHAB.org](http://www.SEHAB.org)

**Pacific Streamkeepers Federation** (Zo Ann Morten) The Cohen Commission recommendations can be found at <http://www.cohencommission.ca/en/FinalReport/> One of the recommendations is for Fisheries and Oceans Canada to implement their Wild salmon Policy. Several copies brought to the meeting for members, and can be found online at <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/species-especies/salmon-saumon/wsp-pss/index-eng.htm> Andrew Saxton is our MP and marking a page suggesting this may be of interest to him, and/or invitation to him to visit your projects may help our MP's understand our local area. Biennial SEP Community Workshop 2013 is in 'our backyard', and Bowen Island offers some unique places to stay. Karen suggested 'home sharing' with others from out of town. if you have room and would consider billeting a delegate from another area of BC please let Zo Ann know. Workshop is May 17 - 19th the long weekend in May. Check out <http://workshop.pskf.ca/> for

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more information. registration packages should be available by the end of December.

A pre workshop workshop will be held on Dec 11th at the Pacific Salmon Foundation office #300 1682 West 7th Avenue Vancouver, BC, V6J 4S6 more info on this will be on our NSSK message board shortly. This will be a fundraising workshop, how to set budgets, write proposals, leverage and show in kind support etc. With fun people and some pot luck tapas we will put the fun in *fundraising*.

Streamkeepers' training session is in July on Brothers Creek in West Vancouver. Tacha Hyde was presented with a Certificate of Achievement for 2012 training she undertook.

## **Finances** (Karen Munro, interim treasurer)

Bank balance as Oct 31, 2012 was \$5715.28. In comparison, balance for October 31, 2011 was \$1544.06. There have been several grants this year, with disbursements and final reports still required. A treasurer is still required.

## **Seymour River** (Matt Casselman)

- Chinook - A poor return this year. No more than a half dozen seen. No broodstock taken.
- Coho – Initial escapement estimate of 2000-3000. Coho are currently spawning near the hatchery. The hatchery has 75 pairs for broodstock.
- Chum – 600,000 eggs taken from Alouette River. Small numbers of chum seen in Maplewood Creek (~40) and the Lower Seymour (~10).
- Summer Run Steelhead – A total of 262 adults counted on an early August snorkel survey in the upper half of the river. Fish were predominantly (>90%) hatchery origin. This large hatchery return may be due to the steelhead barging program the hatchery has been used in recent years to increase initial marine survival of smolts (steelhead smolts were transported out of Burrard Inlet and release near Lighthouse Park).
- Seymour Salmonid Society Annual General Meeting, Tuesday, November 27, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. at Canland Ice Sports. Guest speaker, Stan Woods (Senior Engineer, Metro Vancouver Utility Planning). His talk is titled "Developing a Joint Water Use Plan for the Capilano and Seymour Watersheds."

**Friends of Hunter Park** (Janet Dysart) This year we held two weed pulls and planting, May with the Lower Mainland Green Team (LMGT) who gave us a large donation which was used to purchase native plants and trees, and September with locals and their children. We will repeat the same times next year also with LMGT.

Janet attended with Angela from NVC the fall **Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver** forum on Grouse Mountain. There were several speakers with interesting topics, a) spreading invasives to our waterways by boats coming up from the US especially in the summer, b) regulation of Invasive Alien Species activities by CFIA, c) lessons learned from this year's contracts to reduce predominantly Japanese Knotweed and Hogweed, d) using goats in the Okanagan trained to eat invasive weeds such as knapweed and thistle, 400 of them trucked to

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BC from Alberta! The final session was a planning one aiming to produce a regional strategy for invasive weed control.

**Hastings Creek** (Doug Hayman) We have done 5 spawner surveys and have not seen any coho, only cutthroat trout. This might not be a surprise as we are trying to replace this run by releasing 9,000 fry this coming spring. We should be able to get the adults for this by broodstock from Lynn Creek.

One piece of interesting news is that Mike and I did see two adult chum at the top of Hoskin's Ladder and as far as I know that is a first.

**Mackay Creek** (Terry Bragg) Total of 41,734 chum eggs placed – nice working under cover and all is working well. Very gratifying having this hatchery. Since Oct 23 in our spawner surveys we have seen 12 live chum and 13 dead.

### **Upper Mackay Creek** (Ron den Daas)

- 1st spawner survey 2012 – 1 live coho – which is rare. It was very lively + 1 carcass
- 2nd spawner survey - another carcass found
- Ken Ashley has been contacted and has agreed to speak at a NSSK meeting in January or March 2013 to explain some of the estuary habitat restoration he is developing on North Shore creeks and beyond.
- 'Wild New Territories', a contemporary art, tri-city project that will showcase 20 Canadian and international artists in galleries and with outdoor installations along Coal Harbour and into Stanley Park will open at the SFU Gallery on Burnaby Mountain on January 12th 2013 and at the SFU Teck Gallery at the SFU downtown campus January 13th 2013. For more information go to [www.wildnewterritories.com](http://www.wildnewterritories.com)
- To see the Coho festival open water swim film teaser that features swimmers and jumping Coho go to - <http://vimeo.com/49408445>

### **Morten Creek** (Jan Lander)

- Presently broodstock fishing for coho for Morten Creek Hatchery. We had a meeting with Sandie and Zo Ann in the fall to go over practices and quota. This year's quota is 14,000 green eggs, estimated to be 5 females and up to 10 males. Right now we have 2 females and 5 males in the trough. The females are very shiny and we will be checking for their readiness for spawning.
- Sandie has supplied us with 2012 recording sheets for broodstock collection, Egg Collection Data, ATU's, and more Juvenile rearing. Zo Ann has purchased some more baskets which we need for our coho eggs. Also a small storage cupboard, scale and oxygen test kit.
- As of Nov 5 Morten Creek has an estimated 31,092 green chum eggs.
- Will be taking another fry sampling of the coho in the pond, Monday, November 26, at 12 noon. Average weight on Oct 1 was 8.8 g.

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## Discussion of Other Creeks and concerns

Knotweed behind Rogers Video development on Mackay creek; NSSK expressed concern that there was no mention of removal of knotweed, which this area is totally impacted with, in the development. Several people (Karen, Terry, Brian, Sandie) met with the developer and Envirowest Consultants in October to discuss the site, challenges for knotweed removal and commitments. The City has reviewed senior agency approvals and knotweed treatment is included. The City will follow up on and work with the developer to ensure knotweed is appropriately treated and maintained. Knotweed within one metre of the creek will have to be mechanical removed due to herbicide use restrictions.

Richard Tak mentioned McNabb Creek open pit mine proposed over 15 year period. Petition <http://futureofhowesound.org/>.

**Public Relations and Outreach** Graham Knell signed as a volunteer speaker for elementary schools on topic of ecology. Other volunteers who wouldn't mind being contacted to talk about streams welcome to add names to our list.

Janet Dysart spoke to Ross Road School students about Hastings Creek and its history.

**Speakers & Topics:** Discussed following possibilities; **January** for Invasive Plant Workshop/speaker??? to co-ordinate with City of North Vancouver meeting in February with regards to Invasive plants. **March** meeting, Ken Ashley, Ron will contact; and **May**, Julie Pavey, presentation, "What Swims Beneath".

**Invasive Plants workshop** – ISCMV (Invasive Species council of Metro Vancouver) -do we want to host a workshop, venue can be Laura Lynn Lodge. Do we want to set up next year?

## **New Business:**

**2013 – NSSK Meeting Dates:** Following dates have been confirmed with the District, being the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every other month starting January 16, March 20, May 15, Sept 18 & Nov 20.

**Christmas Tree for Lynn Valley Village** (Janet Dysart) Group agreed to have a tree at LVTC as part of NSSK outreach. Decorating will take place December 2 @ 10 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING** - Wednesday, January 16, 2013 – 7:30 to 10:00 pm, District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver

- DFO VIOLATION REPORTING: OBSERVE, RECORD, RECORD (ORR) 604-607-4186
- A SPILL OF ANY TYPE Environment Canada – 604-666-6100 (24 hr)
- PROVINCIAL EMERGENCY PROGRAM – 1-800-663-3456
  
- ❖ President: Karen Munro 604-988-4072, [Karen-munro@shaw.ca](mailto:Karen-munro@shaw.ca)
- ❖ Secretary: Jan Lander, #109 – 1155 Ross Road, 604-904-8708, [in the canyon@yahoo.ca](mailto:in_the_canyon@yahoo.ca)

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- ❖ Pacific Streamkeepers Federation: Zo Ann Morten 604-986-5059, [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](http://www.dnv.org/Services/Environment/District) Information
- ❖ City of North Van:: Angela Negenman 604.982.3932 [anegenman@cnv.org](mailto:anegenman@cnv.org), [www.cnv.org](http://www.cnv.org)
- ❖ 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)
- ❖ Seymour River: Ed Walls, 604-288-0511; [volunteering@seymoursalmon.com](mailto:volunteering@seymoursalmon.com) or [www.seymoursalmon.com](http://www.seymoursalmon.com)