

WEST VANCOUVER STREAMKEEPER SOCIETY
PRESIDENT'S REPORT – ON BEHALF OF THE DIRECTORS
MAY 9, 2013

Meetings

- Previous AGM was held on May 10, 2012.
- MembersqMeetings held on September 27 and January 24.
- Seaside Social evening held at Hollyburn Sailing Club on April 4.

Administration

- Two board members, Sandi Dix and Celia Utley, resigned during the past year and two new directors were appointed by the board to replace them . Peter Gaskill and Assunta Detels.
- Bill McAllister has served as treasurer and Mike Akerly as secretary.
- The charitable status achieved in September 2011 served us well in our fund raising efforts for the Centennial Rearing Pond. For this project over \$90,000 in cash was raised and another \$35,000 of in-kind donations was contributed.

Nelson Creek Hatchery

- Hatchery Operations Coordinator . Elizabeth Hardy.
- Volunteer operated. We receive eggs that are raised to the fry stage, from two sources.
- 190,000 chum eggs from the Tenderfoot Hatchery near Squamish. This is after two years of no chum eggs being available due to poor adult returns.
- 60,000 coho eggs from the Capilano River Hatchery.
- The chum fry were released on April 25 and 26 into 7 streams - McDonald, Rodgers, Lawson, Willow, Eagle, Nelson and Cypress Creeks.
- The coho fry will be released into 12 streams on May 13 and 14 into Eagle, Nelson, Larson, Willow, Cypress, Caulfeild, Rodgers, McDonald, Lawson, West Brothers, Hadden at the Capilano Golf Course and Wood Creek at Parc Verdun.
- The District has assisted with upgrades to ensure a secure water supply into the Hatchery; the last item being a new valve to be installed later this spring after all the fry have been released.

Student Outreach

- West Vancouver Secondary . EPN (Environment Protection Network)

- Sixth year of this program
 - Spawner salmon surveys with Streamkeepers . 104 students, 19 teams
 - Wrap-up held on December 13, Mayor Mike Smith, councillors and school trustees attended
 - Delegation to West Vancouver District Council by Streamkeepers and the EPN student leaders on January 14.
 - EPN students assisted at Community Events . Adopt-a-Fish, Community Day and the Coho Festival.
 - Weed pulling and removing invasive plants.
 - Shoreline cleanup . Ambleside and Dundarave.
 - On April 29 four EPN students received West Vancouver Youth Achievement Awards for their contribution with Streamkeepers
 - Coordinator . John Barker
- Elementary Schools
 - Storm drain marking . two events last fall both with Irwin Park Elementary. Cedardale and Ridgeview are being organized for this spring. We are also in the process of organizing an event with a girl guides group.
 - The total storm drains marked by these student events is just over 1,200 throughout the community.
 - In addition, we have loaned our kits and instructed employees of two North Vancouver branches of the Royal Bank in the last two years. Approximately 500 storm drains have now been marked by the bank employees and families. For this we received a \$2,000 donation from RBC.
 - Coordinator . Sherry Parrott

Temperature Logging

- We continue to monitor and gather temperature data in several locations in 8 streams in West Vancouver . Cypress, Eagle, Larson, Rodgers, Lawson, McDonald, Hadden and Brothers.
- The temperature loggers are downloaded by a team of volunteers every three months.
- Coordinator . previously Assunta Detels and now Alyson Fretz.

Work Plan

- In-stream work - completed
 - This will be the third year of the fish ladder on Cypress Creek to assist returning pink salmon during the low water periods of summer. The ladder will be installed in late July and removed in late September for the winter period.
 - Viewing platform at Brothers Creek off Keith Road . an earlier

project . worth a visit any time but particularly during the spawning season.

- Nelson Creek Hatchery - the emergency water supply was completed and a fire hose loading system created for loading the Fisheries tank on the day of fry releases.
- New baffle added modification of some existing baffles on Lawson Creek.
- Modification of baffles on lower Nelson Creek adjacent to Marine Drive at Telegraph Trail.
- Centennial Rearing Pond in Memorial Park. The Official Opening took place on April 27 and was held in conjunction with Adopt-A-Fish. Don Dunbar, local resident served as Master of Ceremonies and Mayor Mike Smith performed the ceremonial ribbon cutting, assisted by several youngsters all with scissors. Many thanks to Bill McAllister, the co-lead with me on the project for Streamkeepers. Special mention should be made of Dan Henegar, Manager of Parks Arboriculture and Horticulture, who was the District's lead person assigned to the project. Bug life in the pond is strong evidenced in two macro-invertebrate samplings . one in early February and the other in early April. Fish trapping in early April produced 6 cutthroat trout and 11 juvenile coho, a great indicator of things to come. A subsequent trapping produced 13 fish, a mixture of young coho and cutthroat trout, which were on display in an aquarium at the Official Opening.
- In-stream work . in progress
 - Culvert modifications at Wood Creek, a tributary of Eagle Creek, which runs through Parc Verdun where excellent spawning and rearing habitat could be utilized if we can assist salmon to gain access to these areas beyond this 130 metre culvert that runs under Keith Road.
 - Removal of a concrete obstruction in Caulfeild Creek.
 - Estuary improvements at McDonald, Rodgers and Larson Creeks.
 - Keeping creek mouths open . Larson, Claymore, and Dogwood . prone to beach logs blocking access.
- Longer term projects
 - Fish ladder on Hadden Creek at Hadden Drive
 - Fish ladder on Hadden Creek into Capilano Golf Course
- Road signage . yellow fish on metal signs near creeks . 18 added last summer in the eastern part of the community at Brothers, Hadden, Lawson and McDonald Creeks. There will be another 10 signs added this year.
- Work plan projects are managed by Creek Coordinators.
- Dave Reid . Work Plan Coordinator.

Nature Centre

- Letter to Mayor and Council on August 31, 2012.
- Two meetings have been held with all 6 stewardship groups that will be participating in the Nature Centre.
- In addition to our group, the other stewardship societies are Old Growth Conservancy, Friends of Cypress Provincial Park, Lighthouse Park Preservation, North Shore Wetland Partners and West Vancouver Shoreline Preservation.
- Meetings with Anne Mooi (Parks) and Bob Sokol (Planning), both Directors at the District.
- Navy Jack House is the preferred location. Visits held with Lloyd Williams who is the prior owner and present occupant of this house on the waterfront. Letter of support provided by Lloyd.
- A report will be given by Anne Mooi to Mayor and Council in mid-June.
- Coordinators on behalf of Streamkeepers . Bill Chapman (chair) and Liz Leduc.

Creek Monitoring

- Creek Coordinators . 19 members covering eighteen streams
- Spawner salmon surveys . will start earlier this year on Brothers Creek with the anticipated return of pink salmon from the strong return in 2011.
- Results of returning adult salmon in our streams in the fall of 2012.
 - Average to low coho returns in most creeks.
 - Very strong chum year in Brothers and Hadden Creeks.
 - Good return year for chum in Eagle Creek.
 - Adult coho salmon observed in McDonald Creek.
 - Salmon able to access Eagle Creek above Marine Drive . new culvert in 2010.
 - Adult salmon, both chum and coho, in Hadden Creek above Stevens Drive.
- Emerging fry . three year pattern - five streams with emerging coho fry where no adults observed in the prior fall . Claymore, Willow, Caulfeild, Dogwood and Rodgers creeks.

Relationship with and Contribution by the District of West Vancouver

- Support of Mayor and Council.
- Monthly meetings with the District staff which includes representatives from Parks, Engineering and Environment and these meetings always include a review of all EDP applications and subsequent site visits.
- The new Manager of Environment and Sustainability, Sandra Bicego, was hired in early May. The position will report to Brent Leigh, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer.
- Participation in the Invasive Plant Species Strategy Working Group . members Bill McAllister, Hugh Hamilton, Michael Evison and Councillor Nora Gambioli are on the Working Group.

- Assistance with ongoing maintenance in creeks and construction of creek enhancements.
- Mapping for storm drain marking program.
- Review and input on the Culvert Inspection Report this spring.
- Participation in Integrated Storm-water Management Plans (ISMP).
- Coordinator . Bill McAllister

Donations and Funding

- Sustained funding
 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada . PIP grant
 - Park Royal
 - Pacific Arbour
 - British Pacific Properties
 - Royal Bank
- The Seaside Social . Park Royal, Thrifty Foods, Everything Wine, The Bakehouse, Staples and Seapan.
- Memberships and donations from members.
- Project focused funding . the Centennial Rearing Pond in Memorial Park
 - Pacific Salmon Foundation
 - The Coho Society of the North Shore
 - Pacific Arbour
 - West Vancouver Community Foundation
 - British Pacific Properties
 - Newalta
- Individual donations
- In-kind contributions . environmental consultant Alex Sartori has been extremely helpful on many projects and examining opportunities for stream enhancement projects . Centennial Rearing Pond, Nelson Creek baffles, Hay Park intake pipe.
- Funding Coordinator . Bill Chapman

Membership

- 160 members
- Record keeping, notices, membership renewals and letters.
- Membership Coordinator . Liz Leduc

Volunteer Participation

- Coordinator . Jim Torry
- Volunteer teams -
 - Hatchery operations . team of five.
 - Cleaning the intake pipe at Hay Park . team of six.
 - Temperature loggers . downloading data . eight streams requiring eight teams of two volunteers per team.
 - Other volunteer opportunities

- Spawner salmon surveys . all creeks
- Emerging fry surveys . all creeks
- Fry release . from Nelson Creek Hatchery
- Storm drain marking . two elementary schools each the fall and two in the spring . six volunteers per outing

Community Events

- Coordinator Celia Utley
- Adopt-A-Fish . Saturday, April 27
- Community Day . Saturday, June 1
- Coho Festival . Sunday, September 8

Communication

- Four newsletters published since last year's AGM.
- Website . kept up-to-date with announcements, photographs and additional information.
- Considering Social Media . team of Assunta Detels, Joshua Laycock and Taylor Hunt will be reviewing this and making a recommendation to the board.
- Announcements to membership . via email, mail or through the website.
- Support from North Shore News and North Shore Outlook.
- Communication Coordinator - John Barker

Committees and Coordinators

- Nature Centre . Bill Chapman and Liz Leduc
- Nelson Creek Hatchery operations . Elizabeth Hardy
- Community events . Celia Utley
- Membership . Liz Leduc
- Volunteer participation . Jim Torry
- Work Plan . Dave Reid
- Funding . Bill Chapman
- Student Outreach . Elementary - Sherry Parrott
- Student Outreach . Senior Secondary - John Barker
- Beach Clean-Up . Hugh Hamilton
- Temperature loggers . Alyson Fretz
- Property development and stream protection bylaws . Doug Scarlett
- Intake pipe monitoring and storage locker . Jim Torry
- Regulatory, legal and insurance - Mike Akerly
- District Council and staff contact . Bill McAllister
- Communications . John Barker

John Barker, President

May 9, 2013