

NEWS

Rodgers Creek Estuary Enhancement Project Completed

West Vancouver, November 9, 2015 – The West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society is pleased to announce the completion of the Rodgers Creek Estuary Enhancement Project. The purpose of the project is to improve creek access and egress for salmon and to protect the nearby shoreline from further erosion.

Salmon-friendly improvements to the Rodgers Creek estuary include a 65-metre channel through the intertidal zone, providing returning salmon better opportunities to reach their spawning grounds over a broad range of tides. Additionally, rock features and large woody debris were added to reduce wave energy and stabilize beach sediments.

“I am delighted to report that our project has already been endorsed by salmon,” said John Barker, President of the West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society. “Before it was finished, numerous pink salmon that typically return to other creeks in West Vancouver ventured into Rodgers Creek for the first time on record.”

While the Rodgers Creek project has already demonstrated its value in improved access for salmon, it will continue to contribute to and improve local ecology and environment by:

- protecting the shoreline from storm-driven waves
- improving the natural retention of shoreline sediments and, in turn, reducing shoreline erosion
- increasing biodiversity and adding to productive capacity
- enhancing public engagement and understanding of the estuary and foreshore areas

Barker added: “This project was no small undertaking. Its community and environmental benefits were made possible by our funding sponsors, collaboration with the District of West Vancouver and support from the community at large. We are most thankful for this

help in our ongoing efforts to protect and sustain salmon stocks and stream habitat in the community.”

The Society initiated the project in collaboration with the District of West Vancouver and raised all of the project funding. Funding was provided by the Pacific Salmon Foundation, Environmental Damages Fund (Environment Canada), West Vancouver Community Foundation, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation, Province of British Columbia, Coho Society of the North Shore and Tides Canada Foundation. Additionally, British Pacific Properties Ltd. and North Construction Ltd donated the majority of the boulders, rocks and other materials used to modify the estuary.

The Rodgers Creek project was completed in two weeks. The District of West Vancouver managed the project and Balanced Environmental Services Inc. of North Vancouver planned the project and supervised construction.

The Society participated in similar estuary enhancement projects on McDonald Creek in 2014 and Lawson Creek in 2007.

[View project drawing and photographs.](#)

About West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society

The West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society was established in 2001 to develop, promote and maintain best practices for protecting and sustaining wild Pacific salmon stocks. A registered non-profit organization, the Society has approximately 225 members, almost half of whom are actively engaged in volunteer streamkeeping activities. The Society also manages a fish hatchery, producing around 130,000 coho and chum fry each year that are stocked in local streams.

For more information please visit www.westvancouverstreamkeepers.ca or contact John Barker at 604-922-5780 or jrbarker@shaw.ca.