

Newsletter #5 – February - April 2011

1) Streamkeepers Social Evening: A social evening was held at the Hollyburn Sailing Club on Thursday, March 17, 2011. It turned out as intended ó a social gathering, with refreshments and snacks served, allowing members to talk, mingle and connect with other Streamkeepers, creek coordinators, committee heads and directors. Displays covering hatchery operations, temperature logging and storm drain marking provided information on some of our ongoing activities. Liz Leduc and Jim Torry led the organizing of this most pleasurable evening.

2) Charitable Status: Our application was prepared by Bill McAllister and submitted in early April.

3) Nelson Creek Hatchery: Approximately 67,000 eyed coho eggs were delivered from the Capilano Hatchery to the Nelson Creek Hatchery in late January. The coho hatched in mid-March and will be ponded in April after the alevin stage. The cold spring has delayed the salmon development by about four weeks. The coho fry should be ready for release into local creeks in early June.

4) Emerging Fry: Streamkeepers are busy checking all of our streams for emerging chum and coho fry. This data is collected by Elizabeth Hardy to ascertain the spawning success of the returning salmon last fall. This is an easy but important task that all volunteers can do. For an information sheet on what to look for, contact eahardy@shaw.ca

5) Hay Park Intake Pipe: The volunteer team continues to clean the intake pipe that feeds the rearing pond in McDonald Creek in Hay Park. The pond is loaded with coho smolts that have successfully over-wintered there and will soon depart for the ocean.

6) Meetings with District Staff: Monthly meetings are scheduled with the District to review Environment Development Permit applications and other issues concerning local streams. Members who have particular concerns and would like to have an item brought forward at that meeting should contact Bill McAllister <jacmcallister@telus.net>.

7) Earth Day: Streamkeepers will have a display at the North Shore Earth Run to be held at Ambleside Park starting at 9:30 a.m. on April 24. For more information contact Jim Torry at <jaytee2@shaw.ca>

8) Adopt-a-Fish: This annual event, held in concert with the Coho Society, will take place on April 30 at McDonald Creek in Memorial Park starting at 10:00 a.m. and winding up at 1:00 p.m. The children will sign in at the Memorial Library and then proceed to the park to receive their bucket of coho smolts, which they then release into the creek. This event is being organized by Nora Gambioli <noragambioli@hotmail.com> See the Streamkeepers website for more details ó www.westvancouverstreamkeepers.ca

9) Community Day: Streamkeepers will again be participating in Community Day on June 4, both in the parade and with a display booth at the Recreation Centre. Member participation is

welcome. Nora Gambioli is also organizing this event.

10) Temperature Loggers: Matt Casselman has been collecting water temperatures for the last year in Brothers and Hadden Creeks as part of his masters degree at UBC. Streamkeepers will be taking over the downloading and collection of this data from the in-stream loggers under Matt's guidance. A team of volunteers attended a training session on April 16 and will perform a monthly download of the data from the seven temperature loggers. The volunteer team led by Assunta Detels <adetels@gmail.com> includes Sigrid Bailey, Celia Utley, Elizabeth Hardy, Geoff Goldsmith-Jones and Wonjun Kim.

11) Storm Drain Marking: Four elementary schools have expressed an interest in participating in the storm drain marking program at St. Anthony's, Eagle Harbour, Gleneagles and Westcot. We plan on working with two schools this spring and two in the fall. There will be a call for volunteers before the end of April.

12) Invertebrate Sampling: Thibault Doix, Streamkeeper member and environmental consultant, has offered to work with our Society to perform five creek habitat evaluations under the federal CABIN designation (Canadian Aquatic Biomonitoring Network) for assessing the ecological condition of Canada's freshwater streams. This initiative is being headed up by Hugh Hamilton. For more information contact <hugheah@smartt.com>

13) Work Plan report:

- McDonald Creek - the split cedar rail fence has been installed in Hay Park and the interpretive sign relocated there from Memorial Park.
- Hadden Creek fish ladder at Hadden Drive at planning meetings are underway, led by Mike Akerly <mdakerly@telus.net>
- The Nature Centre at a team consisting of Barrie Adams, John Barker, Bill Chapman and Bill McAllister are working toward the objective of developing a Nature Centre in West Vancouver.
- Cypress Creek fish ladder - following preliminary meetings with CAER (DFO laboratory) personnel and DFO biologists the fish ladder design will be finalized in May. The intent is to see the fish ladder in place in time for this year's pink run due to arrive in late August. Creek Coordinators for this project are Noel Murphy and Barrie Adams <adaco@telus.net>

14) Membership Renewal: New members and renewals have been noticeably strong and we thank everyone for their support. Membership in the Society now exceeds 100. If you have yet to sign up for 2011, please notify Jim Torry, our membership coordinator, <jaytee2@shaw.ca> who will send you a membership renewal form. The fee is \$10.00 for the calendar year.

15) The next Newsletter: Announcements will be provided over the summer months and our newsletters will resume in September. Many thanks to all those who have volunteered time to assist Streamkeepers in the drive to enhance habitat, improve our runs of salmon and impart knowledge through our education programs. It has been a busy and most productive year so far.

John Barker, President
April 17, 2011
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