

**Newsletter #19 – December 2013 – January 2014**

**1) Next Members Meeting:** The next meeting will be the Seaside Social to be held on Thursday, April 3, 2014 starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Hollyburn Sailing Club located at 1326 Argyle Avenue, immediately west of Ambleside Park. This is an annual social evening to visit with others in our group, observe some interesting displays and chat about Streamkeeper activities.

**2) Streamkeeper Course:** We will be offering a Streamkeeper training course this year on May 24 and 25. It takes two full days (Saturday and Sunday) and will be held at lower Brothers Creek, near Clyde Avenue. Zo Ann Morten of Pacific Streamkeepers Federation and Dianne Ramage from Pacific Salmon Foundation will teach this popular course. The modules covered (1, 2, 3, 4, 7 and 11) can be seen on the website at [www.pskf.ca](http://www.pskf.ca) (click program, training, Streamkeepers handbook and modules). The cost of this training and the manual will be covered by the Society. Please contact John Barker ([jrbarker@shaw.ca](mailto:jrbarker@shaw.ca)) if you would like to attend.

**3) Spawner Salmon Surveys:** A presentation by Elizabeth Hardy at the Members Meeting revealed the following  $\delta$  spawning chum and coho were observed in Brothers, Hadden, Eagle, Lawson, McDonald and Rodgers creeks. Chum were seen in Macbeth Creek, while coho were observed in Wood Creek. A handful of chinook were spotted in the Brothers watershed. The abundant pink salmon pushed their boundaries out of the Brothers and Cypress watersheds and into Lawson and Wood creeks. Visit the website [www.westvancouverstreamkeepers.ca](http://www.westvancouverstreamkeepers.ca) to see the individual creek summaries.

**4) Student Outreach:**

Elementary  $\delta$  Storm drain marking events were held with Gleneagles and Hollyburn Elementary Schools last fall now bringing the cumulative total in the District to 1,620 storm drains marked over the seven years of this program.

Senior Secondary Schools  $\delta$  71 EPN students participated in spawner salmon surveys. Thirteen teams, each led by a Streamkeeper sponsor, surveyed Brothers, Hadden, Macbeth, Lawson and McDonald Creeks for a seven week period in search of returning adult salmon. The salmon numbers were remarkable which were enhanced by the strong run of pink salmon. On December 12 a Wrap-Up Celebration was held where Mayor Michael Smith presented tee shirts to the students. On January 27 two EPN students and John Barker appeared before Council as a delegation to report on the results of the spawner salmon survey program for 2013.

**5) Nelson Creek Hatchery:** 120,000 chum eggs were received in early January and 40,000 coho eggs will arrive in early February. These will be raised to fed-fry stage and should be ready for release into local streams starting in late April or May.

**6) Work Plan 2014:** Dave Reid has prepared an ambitious Work Plan for 2014 and has summarized the results of the 2013 Work Plan. Both reports can be viewed on our website.

**7) Would You Like To Volunteer?:** The following is in recognition of and a thank-you to all those who have volunteered time to assist Streamkeepers in many productive activities. This

listing also provides a broad look at the organization and will hopefully provide a stimulus to attract more volunteers. If any of these activities captures your interest, please contact the person leading the activity and offer to help. We welcome new participants. No experience necessary.

- **Temperature Logging** ó 8 creeks, two volunteers per creek, download data every three months from the in-stream logger to a shuttle which compiles data for the following creeks (Brothers, Hadden, Lawson, McDonald, Rodgers, Cypress, Eagle and Larson). Waders and training will be provided. Contact Aly Fretz ([alyfretz@gmail.com](mailto:alyfretz@gmail.com)).
- **Intake Pipe Cleaning** ó The two intake pipes that provide water to rearing ponds in Hay Park and Memorial Park require monitoring and cleaning; using a shovel or long-handled brush to clean leafy debris or gravel from the area adjacent to the intake pipe; one week of monitoring per person every six weeks. Waders and training will be provided. Time required ó half an hour per occasion. Contact Dave Martin ([djisastretch@hotmail.com](mailto:djisastretch@hotmail.com)).
- **Storm Drain Marking** ó Six Streamkeepers per event to assist elementary-aged school children to paint öyellow fishö on the road adjacent to storm drains, 4 occasions per year, 1.5 hours per occasion. Each of the six teams is accompanied by a parent or teacher and a Streamkeeper volunteer. Contact Sherry Parrott ([slp@sentinel-hill.com](mailto:slp@sentinel-hill.com)).
- **Senior Secondary School Student Programs** ó Attend spawner salmon surveys with a team of students. 15 volunteers required. One day a week for seven weeks starting in mid-October. Time required ó 1.5 hours per survey. Contact John Barker ([jrbarker@shaw.ca](mailto:jrbarker@shaw.ca)).
- **StreamTeam** ó Mostly university students; using citizen science to monitor creeks and check water quality (dissolved oxygen, turbidity and PH) and perform macro-invertebrate sampling. 3 hours per week. Contact Celia Utley ([utley@telus.net](mailto:utley@telus.net)).
- **Nelson Creek Hatchery** ó Volunteers required to assist with several events releasing fry into local streams. Contact Elizabeth Hardy ([nelsoncreekhatchery@gmail.com](mailto:nelsoncreekhatchery@gmail.com)).
- **Creek Coordinators** ó 1 to 3 coordinators per stream for year round monitoring of a creek to ensure the health of the creek is maintained; conduct spawner salmon surveys each fall and emerging fry surveys each spring. Contact John Barker ([jrbarker@shaw.ca](mailto:jrbarker@shaw.ca)).
- **Community Events** ó Three events per year ó Adopt-A-Fish (April), Community Day (June) and Coho Festival (September). A team of 10 is required to transport display items, set up and take down displays and meet the public to talk about Streamkeeper purpose, education and projects. Contact Celia Utley ([utley@telus.net](mailto:utley@telus.net)).
- **Weed Pulling** ó 2 events per year ó Hay Park and Memorial Park; 2 hours per event. May involve planting native vegetation. Contact Jim Torry ([jaytee2@shaw.ca](mailto:jaytee2@shaw.ca)).
- **Invasive Plant Mapping** ó Assist the District with mapping the location of Giant Hogweed and Japanese Knotweed along creek corridors using GPS; receive District training; two hours per event. Contact Bill McAllister ([jacmcallister@telus.net](mailto:jacmcallister@telus.net)).

**8) Nature Centre:** On January 27, Mayor Smith announced that our Streamkeeper proposal, involving five stewardship groups, received Council approval to move forward on the future use of Navy Jack House as a nature centre. The next steps will be the incorporation of a Society and preparation of a sustainable business plan.

John Barker, President 604-922-5780 [jrbarker@shaw.ca](mailto:jrbarker@shaw.ca)