



SEHAB Roundtable Template (Oct. 2014)

Our Vision: Pacific Region communities living sustainably within the natural limitations of healthy ecosystems supporting abundant and biologically diverse Pacific salmonids.

Our Mission: SEHAB C.A.R.E.S. SEHAB is the voice of the volunteer community dedicated to:

- Communicating
- Advocating
- Representing
- Educating, and
- Supporting its endeavours

SEHAB and the community have a shared commitment of ensuring functioning ecosystems supporting viable, genetically diverse and abundant indigenous fish populations.

SEHAB Member: Paul Cipywnyk

Area: North Side Fraser River, Burnaby to Mission

Community Advisor: Maurice Coulter-Boisvert

Date: Jan 16, 2015

Key Issues:

What top three points can you distill from community input to take to DFO RHQ?

1. More funding is required to undertake habitat restoration and enhancement projects.
2. DFO: Ongoing uncertainty about FPP, hatcheries, and dilution of DFO on-the-ground presence.
3. Urban and suburban development is having deleterious impacts on local creeks, and while municipalities are developing ISMPs and other environmental policies, much is being lost forever while waiting for implementation.

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Stories:

A few examples of successes, failures, challenges.

Please see detailed submissions below.

Issues Specific to SEHAB's Work Plan:

SEHAB Work Plan	Local Issue, Specific Examples	Actions by Community or DFO	SEHAB Opportunity
Wild Salmon Policy (Stock Assessment, Habitat)	Low returns in Burnaby (Stoney Creek, Byrne Creek) yet fish coming back to places not seen in decades (Buckingham Creek). No rhyme or reason? Still losing urban/suburban green space at a rapid rate.		
Aquaculture			
Capacity & Core Funding	Stoney Creek seeking more funding for habitat restoration		

Submissions, Comments from Groups:

Stoney Creek Environment Committee

I am currently the chair of the Stoney Creek Environmental Committee we are concerned with the Stoney Creek watershed which is on Burnaby Mountain flowing into the Brunette River.

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Some of the concerns that we have are funding issues to do more projects to improve habitat and finding enough volunteers to help complete projects.

We continue to read of changes to the fisheries act and reductions in budgets this is a serious concern as claw backs reduce and curtail that capability of the whole of DFO.

This winter we have extremely heavy rain fall which has caused very serious erosion as a result many trees have fallen down and there has been a tremendous amount of sediments and gravels wash down the mountain side. It is not yet determined how the spawned eggs will be effected. This is a big concern as many of the coho and chum numbers were down from other years. I have heard from other streamkeepers that they saw a low return. Do we know why this is occurring?

When it comes to the media there was much publicity about Burnaby Mountain and pipelines some people called themselves the caretakers of the mountain but they are not involved in any activities in our group. The media ignores the real caretakers streamkeeper groups who go about trying to improve things one step at a time. I find all this media focus not helping streamkeepers.

It would be helpful if there were more forums where streamkeepers in the lower mainland could get together to talk about issues. Maurice does a great job working and advising us but there is benefit to a forum where all concerned can discuss and have dialogue re streamkeeping issues.

I will look for some ideas that we are also concerned about and relay the email for your consideration. Thank you for consulting us.

John Templeton.

Examples of projects SCEC would like to undertake:

Thank you for your consideration and there are a few ideas that we have that we could use funding to hire people to do research and other things as volunteers we often have good intentions but lack the time and resources to do more field work.

Some of the projects that I think are important are as follows:

1. In the past we did some work on the density of the nooksack dace an endangered species in the Stoney Creek and Brunette watershed.

It has been several years since we last did a survey so we have no idea of the current population is doing so this is one project for consideration.

2. I have done sampling on trib 3a and two other water sources for over 2 years approx and we had some SFU students do so sampling on some creeks near the roadways at SFU . I believe there has never been an entire survey done on a lot of the major creeks right across the entire Burnaby Mountain. It would be of great benefit to know what the water quality is and how far the salt plume from SFU old salt shed has carried and communicated across the mountain. This

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would be on the side of the mountain that drains south towards Brunette River and Burnaby Lake.

We did do a survey on the development of chum fry and the salt contamination of trib 3a from this we found useful information as to the effect. A similar survey on coho would expand our knowledge.

3. This year we have again witnessed migrating salmon not being able to get through the twin culvert pipes on Ashgrove Crescent near the entrance to Willowleaf Place. This is a city of Burnaby road and every year the salmon try to go through but can't make it. I would love to be able to change this but have no idea as to making this happen. It will cost a lot of money but whose going to pay is this grantable.

4. We have had a fall of extreme rains which has caused a lot of washouts causing trees to fall over and downstream there had been a huge increase in aggregate deposits some spawning habitat has been enhanced but I also saw redds deposited and then covered with a fine layer of silt. Only spring will determine how the survival rate has been. We don't have a GPS mapping of a lot of the creeks where problems are. This could be a project to do a survey of the watershed .

5. I do random sampling of creek 3a fish densities a few times a year but limited time has prevented us from being able to determine how far up the mountain the cutthroat are and in which creeks. If we don't know how far up the mountain the fish are how do we protect the habitat.

These are some ideas and am sue we can have further discussion as to where we go from here etc.

Thank you for your consideration

John Templeton

Hyde Creek Watershed Society

I am a new member with the HCWS and have volunteered to communicate with SEHAB on behalf of the hatchery and in conjunction with Cliff Kelsey, President. We provide the following update/comments to share at your upcoming meeting with the DFO:

- For returns – We a happy to report that the DFO has cut back on our egg take due to the watershed looking very healthy now
- We are pleased to report that of the first clipped Coho Jacks released in 2012, fifteen returned to be identified this fall
- Fisheries Protection Program – Is there a simple document that outlines the Program as it relates to small hatcheries operated by volunteers?

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- Habitat impacts – In our area we continue to be impacted by local building
- Our public outreach grows yearly with our free tours, classes and Festivals
- Our 15th Annual Salmon Festival, held in November, received excellent media coverage from the Tri Cities (local) papers. Held on a beautiful sunny day, the Festival was a huge success with approximately 5,000 attendees
- We have a brand new website **www.hydecreek.org**
The Salmon Festival is showcased on the blogspot link under Album on the Home page or go to **<http://hydecreeksociety.blogspot.ca/>**

Thank you
Susan Ingram, HCWS Volunteer

Byrne Creek Streamkeepers Society

Our general concerns remain as in past years: rapid development in our watershed, some of which may be beneficial to the creek as completely impervious commercial & warehousing areas are redeveloped into somewhat watershed-friendlier residential areas.

On the other hand, we are still losing green space as lots are consolidated, and what were previously yards, gardens, orchards, and pocket forests are developed.

We are also concerned about timelines in Integrated Stormwater Management Plans for creeks on Burnaby's South Slope, including Byrne Creek, in which watershed-friendly features such as rain gardens, street-edge alternatives, etc., seem to be taking a long time to implement.

However, we are generally pleased with the City of Burnaby's progress toward an Environmental Sustainability Strategy. Local stewards have been involved in public consultations, and it appears that the importance of healthy watersheds and urban biodiversity are being recognized and included in policy documents that are being developed.

Low returns of chum, decent return of coho.

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Our partner, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)

DFO Vision: To advance sustainable aquatic ecosystems and support safe and secure Canadian waters while fostering economic prosperity across maritime sectors and fisheries.

DFO Mission: Through sound science, forward-looking policy, and operational and service excellence, Fisheries and Oceans Canada employees work collaboratively toward the following **three strategic outcomes**:

- Economically Prosperous Maritime Sectors and Fisheries;
- Sustainable Aquatic Ecosystems;
- Safe and Secure Waters.

In working toward these outcomes, the Department will be guided by the principles of sound scientific knowledge and effective management.

Salmonid Enhancement Program: The Salmonid Enhancement Program (SEP) plays a key role in conserving and managing Pacific salmon stocks. The program aims to rebuild vulnerable salmon stocks, provide harvest opportunities, work with First Nations and coastal communities in economic development, and improve fish habitat to sustain salmon populations. SEP broke new ground when it was launched in 1977 by working closely with citizens and schools to raise awareness of salmon conservation and to carry out hands-on community salmon enhancement and stewardship projects. Three of the program's main activities are: Hatcheries, Resource Restoration, Stewardship and Education.