

SEHAB update Kevin Ryan Feb 2025

North Shore, Port Moody and Maple Ridge

DFO CA Brian Smith (Port Moody, Maple Ridge)

DFO CA Gillian Steele (North Shore)

North Shore (CA Gillian Steele)

Seymour Hatchery Report from Shaun Hollingsworth

The Seymour Salmonid Society (SSS) would like to recognise the significant annual contribution of \$153,500 by Greater Vancouver Water District (GVWD) to support enhancement and education efforts at the Seymour Hatchery. Multiple funding sources such as PSSI and PSF amongst others.

Broodstock Collection and Production

We released the following into the watershed as part of our enhancement program:

- 288,200 chum fry (23,200 of which were Seymour River origin) in the lower river
- 157,700 pink salmon fry (100% Seymour River origin) in the lower river
- 48,000 coho smolts released from the hatchery into Hurry Creek
- 32,800 fed fry above Seymour falls Dam
- 24,000 summer run steelhead smolts ocean released at West Vancouver laboratory
- 7,600 coho smolts released to seapens at Port Moody
- 3,500 winter run steelhead smolts ocean released at West Vancouver laboratory

We spawned 49 pairs of Seymour chum by the end of November and anticipate spawning up to 65 pairs of coho by the end of December. In addition, we spawned 94 pairs of Alouette chum. We have completed our or summer run steelhead adult collection and will begin winter run collection early next year in preparation for spring 2025 spawning. We are also continuing the egg incubation activities to ensure sufficient fry and smolt production for the coming year ahead.

Question:

They have NSSK meetings ever 2 months. Good representation from all levels of government EXCEPT provincial. Asking SEHAB to find out why they are not attending or even responding to messages. Mentioned by Shaun Hollingsworth President.

North Shore Streamkeepers

Update from Keegan Cassidy

Strong spawning returns in 2024 Mosquito Creek had 300+ Chum and 200+ Coho. Another big restoration project completed adding 50 logs and 200 boulders.

Mackay also had record returns.

Morten Creek We are appreciative of the PSSI funding to assist in hatchery updates including a replacement bridge and funds to cover our hatchery and volunteer insurance costs . Our spawn to eyed egg survivals are again optimum

Port Moody (CA Brian Smith)

Noons Creek

Community Events:

Open house ever Saturday

Spawning coho were first to show up at Noons in the hundreds early October.

DFO CA and Tech with volunteers rebuilding the outdoor pond in September

Mossom Creek hatchery

Community Events:

Open House every Sunday: Average # visitors 40-50

10 year new building anniversary June 11 (dinner) and 14 (Open house)

2026 will be 50 years that Ruth Foster and Rod MacVicar started the hatchery.

Returns:

Coho average returns numbered 200+ CHUM were over 1000. Highest numbers ever recorded in 50 years. 100% of coho eggs and 50% chum eggs were secured from Mossom returns.

Students from Heritage Woods Secondary once again did most of the volunteer spawning count. This year Eric our DFO Aquatic Teck along with a few volunteers did spawning counts from Inlet all the way to hatchery. Several chinook were also spotted.

Struggling somewhat securing enough volunteer help to assist DFO with multiple egg takes.

Very short notices making it impossible for volunteers to plan and be available.

Weather:

Cyclone bomb in 2024 and 2021 atmospheric river and other high water events cause our 1000 gallon 7000 lb. settling tank foundation to pull apart 6" pipe, tank bottom and sides were damaged and platform had failed. We figure over additional 1000 lbs of sand and silt was in the tank and the drain had been blocked, due to small access on top of tank impossible to see even with water drained with a separate pump. Once dismantled we took away 20 wheelbarrows of sand. New tank purchased and much stronger platform with addition protection from the elements has been constructed. We are so appreciative of DFO CA Brian Smith Eric our Teck who were immediately on scene and were able to by-pass system and protect all eggs and salmon in hatchery. Cost of replacement including labor and materials was over \$7000. We got the new tank and platform done in 2 weeks.

PIT tagging 2024 5 year Research Project:

The last cyclone bomb damaged the antenna array and had to be removed and replaced. We received unexpected funding from DFO which was appreciated. We also rebuilt (needed to hire a welder) the foot bridge and have made it so the antenna can be removed in advance of any heavy rain event.

Project lead Zach has determined that the AC to DC converter was causing too much interference so we will be moving to a solar power installation.

Maple Ridge

Alouette River Management Hatchery (ALLCO)(ARMS)

Chum: 375,000 green egg target, resulting smolts released to the Alouette/700,000 green chum eggs collected at this site for other facilities. Chinook: 50,000 eyed eggs transferred from chilliwack where they are reared then released to the COQUITLAM River as smolts. An additional 80,000 eyed chinook eggs transferred from Chilliwack to Allco Hatchery, where they are reared and the resulting smolts are released to Alouette River. Coho: 80,000 eyed eggs are collected, and the resulting smolts released to the Alouette River and tributaries. Steelhead: The province drops off 25,000+ fry to Allco each year. The resulting smolts are released into the upper and lower Alouette River. DFO does not have anything to do with the steelhead production as steelhead is Provincial jurisdiction. Sockeye: The Allco staff collect adult sockeye at the Alouette fish fence from June through September and transport them above the Alouette Lake Dam where they are released to spawn naturally. Numbers vary from as little as 6 to as many as over 100 adult sockeye transported and released annually above the dam

Kanaka Creek (KEEPS) - Bell Irving Hatchery

As with the entire lower Fraser, it was a record year for chum in Kanaka Creek. Double what we would normally see on this cycle. Estimated escapement for Kanaka in 2025: Chum 13,000+ Coho 1200+ Chinook 20+: 36,000 coho eggs

Fish Fence

DFO did a complete review of the fish fence identified major work is required probably costing over \$150,000. Discussions ongoing between DFO and Metro Van and society to figure out how money will be raised. It has been a real challenge right from the start with the A-pillar replacement. First, finding engineers to take on the project, and now signing off on it. Understand the signoff just happened.

Question for DFO

What's happening with the education program, as far handouts like posters, 'The Incredible Salmonids' handout, pins, hats and all the other materials that have a REAL lasting impact (a lifetime for many) on people. And the incredible teaching and learning opportunities they create. Never mind being a fantastic way to also promote the Salmonid Enhancement Program overall and leave people with an understanding of how important it is.

General concern

With PSSI funding ending in 2026. Question about both DFO tech Eric Kukulowicz and Section Head Jenny Lynne. We have projects that require this level of support can we continue to count on this level of DFO support. PIT tagging? Community hatcheries need to know so we can plan accordingly.

Kevin Ryan Feb 2025