

**Round table Report**  
**June/2023 SEHAB meeting**  
**SEHAB Rep Kyle Milburn, NCVI**  
**CA: Jacob Melville**

## Summary

- Any issues that are affecting groups and their projects.
  - Low summer flows and fish stranding ongoing
  - Increased development Rampant Riparian Areas Protection violations
  - *Volunteer burnout? Recruiting and retaining volunteers is difficult*
  - *Technical support contract is potentially being cut to support Fanny Bay and other groups( Dave Clough)? Will this go out to tender or is this a larger picture cutback?*
  - *Funding and maintenance concerns for Wilfred Creek hatchery that was recently revitalized (100K Chum and 5k Coho released this spring)*
  
- Regional/provincial/federal government responsibilities regarding enforcement. Habitat loss is happening faster than ever before.
  - Regional level working on “volunteer compliance” is not acceptable as time lines for compliance is in many cases taking >4 years only to then being forced to the province or DFO or court. In the meantime, valuable habitat and fish populations are being lost forever. (STILL ON GOING)
  - Historical HADD’s are not being acknowledged or smaller system infractions not being pursued by DFO due to lack of resources (Small stream matter and legislation should still apply).
  
- The need for more accurate stream mapping to support responsible development. Smaller first and second order streams, wetlands and groundwater sources are in many cases not accurately mapped and as development increases many are being infilled, completed rerouted, culverted or buried by private property owners.
  - Limited response from SEHAB requests for group reports.
  
- Any positive things that are directly related to DFO:
  - Resounding support and appreciation for CA: Jacob Melville (active on site, not afraid to get dirty and get things done, comments received back are he is the best thing from DFO we have seen in our area in the last 4-5 years)
  - DFO for paying for all the Streamkeeper group's insurance 2023-24
  - The River Never Sleeps Festival!!!
  - Baynes Sound Eco forum (State of the Sound report to be developed with multi stake holder engagement)
  - BC parks foundation property acquisition of the Chef Creek Estuary with aims to acquire additional adjacent properties.

## **Group reports**

### **Group report**

#### ***Roy Creek Enhancement Group***

*No comments at this time*

#### ***Fanny Bay Salmonid Enhancement Society***

- River Never sleeps festival was a huge success with >750 people in attendance in the rain.*
  - Mapping small streams initiative continued with CVRD, RDN and PSF grants being awarded to Weaver Technical FBSE has matched contributions >20k*
  - Volunteer burnout? Recruiting and retaining volunteers is difficult.*
  - Technical support contract is potentially being cut to support Fanny Bay ( Dave Clough)?*
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