

## **SEHAB update Kevin Ryan June 2024**

**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**

Engineering Consultant is still putting the masterplan together for the estuary, and lower river

-we do have a detailed project ready for a funding application for work at the estuary which includes replacing an old round culvert, and replacing it with a square culvert which would be installed lower under the CN railway, and allow fish passage during all tide levels, and a saltwater marsh

-we have to break rock again on the 2014 rockslide. We do not have passage of pink salmon, and winter-run steelhead. Our Engineers have designed a 1.5m drop of the lip on the new headpond to allow fish passage.

- in partnership with DFO, and Metro Van, we continue to build off channel fish habitat at our Junior Creek location

-we have released our chum fry, and are rearing our coho and steelhead, getting ready to mark them, and put them in our outdoor holding ponds

- our elementary school program- Gently Down the Seymour (GDS), was oversubscribed in 20 mins this year and is scheduled to be complete by end of school year (june), and should have seen approximately 1600 people go through the one day event. We will run another program in the Fall putting another 800 people through the event.

-we will be hosting a Family Fishing Day event again on Father's Day

Our AGM is scheduled for July 11, 2024- please check our website for details of time and location

Seymour Salmonid Society has started a project to improve their accessibility for disabled individuals. Pat Dennett who did similar project work at Mossom Hatchery will be the special consultant on this project.

### **North Shore Streamkeepers**

Update from Keegan Cassidy

#### **Mosquito Creek**

Phase 2: Funds available to place 80 logs into the creek, consultation with Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh nations who are in agreement to progress with the work. They are waiting for a first nations band along Fraser River near Chilliwack to provide the logs. No idea of timeframe.

### **Lynn Creek:**

Previous work done on side channel held up over the heavy rains over winter however a few large cottonwood trees have blocked the side channel and sediment has built up. More work needed to restore proper flow.

Neptune Terminals are doing some work and have offered to provide 100 boulders to be placed into the lower areas of the creek.

Vancouver Pile also doing work in the creek there needs to be coordination between the two groups hoping Port of Vancouver will provide this.

### **Morten Creek**

Fish kill in Maple Wood creek cause by power washing using bleach.

6ppd also killing coho in North Shore creeks.

New provincial regulations re converting single family housing to 4 units is a concern for encroachment on riparian and general increase in more house construction.

### **Port Moody** (CA Brian Smith)

#### **Noons Creek**

Noons is currently finishing a project to reline the walls of the pond which is failing. With lots of DFO assistance they have completed the relining and rebuilding of the walls. As well DFO working with city of Port Moody to possibly relocate the intake to a better location.

DFO have convinced PMES board to participate in the PIT tagging project, they have tagged 2000 fish.

### **Mossom Creek hatchery**

#### **Community Events:**

**Open House every Sunday:** Average # visitors 30-40

#### **Production:**

Chum 49,000 eggs received Allouette

Coho 11,000 eggs some from Noons & Mossom

Pink 89,000 eggs received from Chilliwack

Total: 149,000

#### **PIT tagging 5 year Research Project:**

Phase 1 In 2023 we tagged 90 coho with V7 chips (very expensive \$450 each) results showed very low numbers made it out of Burrard Inlet (10-15%).

Phase 2 2024 Project objectives are to identify best release locations based on returning spawners.

Project designed by UBC student Zachery Sherker PhD candidate in Scott Hinch's lab with help from Kamil Szlachta. The antenna array located at base of Mossom Creek estuary. Cost was \$30,000 approx \$15,00 for antenna remainder for tags. All funds raised by BIMES society

Coho PIT tagging of 4000 coho smolts completed early May we had several DFO staff and 10-15. Several volunteers learned how to insert PIT tags took 3 ½ days to complete.

Late in May released 1300 in Mossom Creek (650 near hatchery 650 just above IOCO Rd). 1300 from Seapen and 1300 just west of Carraholly Point around base of Indian Arm into Burrard Inlet.

**Release Locations:**

We are working with DFO production department to allow UBS Scott Hinch's recommendation to use West Van research lab location as a potential release location. This idea has been met with a good deal of resistance from DFO production team. Concern is strays entering North Shore watersheds. We are hoping to secure approval to do this for 2025 smolt release.

All fish survived the tagging and appear very healthy for each release.

May 31<sup>st</sup> initial results show 1216 coho of the 1300 released successfully passed the antenna array at base of Mossom.

This will be a 5 year project.

**Coho smolt increase:**

Mossom in discussion with DFO CA to increasing coho numbers from 4000 to 6000. We will need to replace the square tub with a bigger round tub and are prepared to secure the funds for this. Primary reason to support larger numbers is to support the 5 year research study to determine best success for release locations in Burrard Inlet.

## **Maple Ridge**

### **Alouette River Management Hatchery (ALLCO)(ARMS)**

Everything on target no issues.

### **Kanaka Creek (KEEPS) - Bell Irving Hatchery**

325K chum fry and 30K coho smolts have released.

Projects: Redoing coho rearing ponds thanks to PSSI funding. The fencing is down, awaiting the fencing crew to remove the posts. After that, the heavy machinery arrives to dig out the ponds, install a new head wall with steps down into the ponds themselves.

Then a new fence will be installed. Finally, we'll install the new cable system and predator netting. All this before we clip the coho fry in July!

## **General**

Many creeks and hatcheries concerned about climate change specifically low snow levels and less rain than normal will lead to drought. Volunteer aging out is a common concern we hear frequently.

## **Real Time Independent Water Quality Monitoring**

Port Moody, Burnaby and just recently Coquitlam now include real time independent water quality monitoring into their ESC (erosion sediment control) bylaws. This protects all the creeks from construction waste water especially preventing cement wash very high ph and other construction turbidity into the storm drains and into the creeks.

Kevin Ryan  
June 2024