



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: Charmaine Carr-Harris

Area: North Coast (alternate)

Community Advisor: Rob Dams

Date: 18 January 2015

Key Issues:

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

1. Continuing cutbacks to salmon enumeration/stock assessment, such as creekwalks.
2. Continued erosion of fisheries enforcement activities in North Coast waters.
3. Critical estuary rearing habitat threatened by proposed industrial development.

Salmon Enhancement and Habitat Advisory Board - Roundtable

Stories:

A few examples of successes, failures, challenges.

- Commercial fishery: The sockeye and pink salmon fisheries were stronger than they have been in several years, and next year is forecasted to be even better.
- The CNP section of the North Coast FOC division is reallocating resources, and will be replacing two older ships with light, fast boats. The number of officers and patrols will be further reduced.
- The BC Government issued environmental assessment certificates to one LNG terminal and two pipelines in the Skeena estuary, the pipelines do not require further legislative review at the federal level.
- Most stock assessment activities in Areas 3, 4, 5 have been curtailed so that there are very few creeks for which salmon enumeration data, especially for coho, are available. Budget has been cut for local charter-patrol creekwalkers, so even their assigned creeks might not get enough walks to get a coherent estimate.
-

Salmon Enhancement and Habitat Advisory Board - Roundtable

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) | Less available information about productivity of wild and enhanced salmon populations, because of budget cuts for enumeration activities. | Several community groups are willing to contribute volunteer time to helping to produce estimates, but require training/support/knowledge transfer to get started. | Coordinate transition from DFO to community agencies to do this work? |
| Aquaculture | | | |
| Capacity & Core Funding | Budget cuts to enforcement, reduced CNP patrols this year to be followed by reduced vessel capacity next year. Less information has resulted in increasing animosity between user groups feeling that other sectors are not following the rules. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community education to highlight existing CNP programs, so public has sense that fish are still being looked after. 2. Open channels of communication so infractions can be reported directly to CNP | Clarify CNP policies re. reporting infractions, distill to community groups and volunteers. |

Submissions, Comments from Groups:

Oona River Resources Association (Jan Lemon): Another successful egg take, with 25,000 coho fry now incubating. Jan has identified and is currently mentoring a potential successor to take on some of the administrative and operational aspects of the hatchery.

Salmon Enhancement and Habitat Advisory Board - Roundtable

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.