

Roundtable Report

SEHAB Feb. 2024

Paul Cipywnyk, North Side Fraser River

CA Isaac Nelson

Summary

1. Any issues that are affecting groups and their projects that are directly related to DFO

Continuing concern about climate extremes.

2. Any positive things that are directly related to DFO

CA is doing great work and is appreciated by all groups.

3. Any things coming up that DFO should know about

High rates of volunteer burnout. Some smaller groups have disappeared, and it is difficult to get people to take board/executive positions. Succession is a huge issue.

4. Any issues that are affecting groups and their projects that are related to other agencies.

Ongoing pollution events. Cross-jurisdictional issues, with some creeks traversing multiple municipalities and regional governments.

Never-ending development that is severely impacting permeable-to-impermeable ratios in watersheds.

On a positive note, some groups have had meetings with new staff in their municipalities to let them know what streamkeepers do, and what kinds of local support volunteers need.

Group reports

Alouette River Management Society

The Alouette River Management Society had a great 2023 overall with lots going on in the Alouette watershed. Our Watershed Projects Manager, Marissa Waddell, compiled some highlights from the year. Please see below:

- Added a 5th stream for spawner surveys this year: 232nd Street Channel (new), Coho Creek, Latimer Channel, Millionaire Creek, and North Alouette
- Streams were surveyed weekly from October to January by a group of 22 volunteers
- Enhanced 180 sq m of spawning habitat in 232nd Street Channel
- Restored an additional 180 sq m of rearing habitat in a side channel of the South Alouette through the removal of gravel from the dry side channel
- Trained 44 volunteers on riparian planting techniques
- Planted 110 native trees and shrubs at 232nd Street Channel

We'd also like to report that our Community Advisor Brian Smith has helped the Allco Hatchery enormously in 2023 to help secure funding for upgrades.

Thanks to Marissa for leading many of our salmon stewardship and community engagement over the past 2 years. Marissa will be leaving ARMS and her last day with us is January 31. She will be stepping into a new position at the Pacific Salmon Foundation! All the best Marissa!

Stoney Creek Environment Committee

Here's the count information by incident type from Aug to mid-Nov. I was surprised at how many incidents we reported. I've asked Randy for data that includes December so, I can have a more complete picture. We are also going to work on possibly breaking it down a bit differently so, we can separate construction incidents and the project/site which will allow us to compare how many are construction-related vs other types and also the number of incidents for each project/site.

Count of Type of event					Grand
	Discoloration	Milky white water	Muddy water	Oily water	Total
2023					
Aug	1	4		1	9
Sep	1				3

Oct		1	1		5	7
Nov					9	9
2023 Total	2	5	1	1	19	28
Grand Total	2	5	1	1	19	28

Janice

Byrne Creek Streamkeepers Society

Tour with new City of Burnaby environmental planner.

Meeting with City of Burnaby staff

Perhaps set up regular meetings.

How does the City view its relationship with streamkeepers?

What would happen if streamkeepers disappeared? Bottom line is nobody would monitor creeks.

It's very difficult to get people into board/executive positions.

Continuing concerns about massive development in our watershed. The ratio of permeable to impermeable surface in the watershed is already dangerous to the creek (lack of infiltration and severe storm flows), and it just keeps getting worse.