



Presidents' Report



Trail 3D Archery

A few months ago there was considerable concern the Club was planning to curtail the use of the Club nature trails for the three annual 3D archery events in 2019. This concern was driven by the fear the annual planting along the trails was aimed at closing down the archery shooting lanes.

At that time, in a letter to all members, I explained the planting was, in fact, an ongoing process that has taken place every year since the trails were originally opened in the late 1980's. I also explained while some of the shooting lanes used over the past decade did require replanting new ones would be identified. A committee of three Club Directors, including two from the archery program, were charged with touring the trails and identifying new shooting lanes. This work has been completed and the 2019 3D events will proceed as planned.



Nominations for 2019 Directors

The Club Annual General Meeting will be held this year in the Club hall on Tuesday, December 18th starting at 7:30pm. As is the case every year, a main order of business at the meeting is the selection of Club Directors for the following year.

It is no secret our Club, like many other volunteer organizations, struggles to find dedicated volunteers within the Club membership to take on the role of a Club Director. The consequence of this challenge was made abundantly clear this year when the Burnaby Rod & Gun Club made a donation of \$20,000 to our Club. This fine Club, with a long history, was forced to wind down and dispose of its assets mainly due to their inability to attract enough Directors to keep the Club operating. It is not unusual for a Director of our Club to take on responsibility for more than one executive position.

If you are interested, have the time, and feel qualified to take on the role of a Director in the Club I encourage you to step forward and submit your name. Just speak to a current Director or leave a message on the Club phone. A member of the Nominating Committee will contact you and discuss the responsibilities associated with the different positions on the Club Executive. A complete list of all those positions is included on the last page of this Newsletter.

Trail Mural Completed



Several students from Semiahmoo Secondary Schools have completed the painting of the nature mural on the sides of the Club picnic storage shed adjacent to the trails. Thank you to the students who participated in the project. On September 30th MLA Gordie Hogg officiated in a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter

Hatchery Upgrade Completed

The hatchery volunteers have just completed the final phases of the hatchery upgrade in time for the return of the spawning salmon. This final stage included the installation of the final two 8 foot diameter fiberglass rearing tanks to replace the old aluminum rearing troughs initially installed in 1984.

These tanks will initially be used to hold Chinook and Coho salmon brood stock prior to the egg take. After their four month incubation period the salmon fry will be transferred to the tanks early in the New Year. The counter clockwise flow of water in the tanks can be controlled to ensure the salmon fry are constantly swimming against the current and gaining strength.

Thanks to the volunteers who contributed to the modifications and installation of the tanks with a special thank you to Ray Smith for the substantial plumbing job required for the installation.



Tanks filled with water and undergoing a comprehensive test process



A view of the extensive plumbing required to facilitate the flow of water from the bio-filter building and to permit drainage into the outside settling ponds.

New Hatchery Video

Lester Lightstone, a longtime member of the Club and an avid archer, has just produced a short video on the “egg take” process undertaken by the qualified hatchery volunteers at this time of the year.

The link to the video is included below:

<https://vimeo.com/298802713>

As a professional videographer, Les has used his skills to produce a number of videos and drone photographs of the Club grounds and activities. Perhaps the most notable was the video produced by the Club to express our opposition to the proposed destructive truck parking facility on the banks of the river upstream from the Club grounds. This video was widely shared within the community, including the City of Surrey Mayor, Council and staff. It was instrumental in having the developer withdraw his proposal. For those Club members who have not had the opportunity to view this 2015 production videotaped by Les and produced by Russ Froese a link is included below:

<https://vimeo.com/144184719>



Les and hatchery volunteer Sue MacRae in river during the videotape of the “truck park” video and below Les piloting his drone



The Club owes much to Les for his support. Included below is a link to a unique 360 degree view of the club grounds provided by Les. (just move your cursor across the screen).

<https://viewer.hangar.com/A0VapdrV>

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter

Ongoing Development Activity

Over the past few months a small group of Club Executives continue the seemingly endless task of engaging developers and government agencies in an attempt to ensure the protection of the Little Campbell River and its tributaries. While there are number of new proposed developments that demand our attention, four initiatives drew to a successful conclusion.

The “**Dawson Creek**” an 80 unit condominium development located on the banks of Fergus Creek adjacent to the 16th Avenue overpass at Highway 99. When this development was announced we identified a number of issues with the development plans that would adversely impact the creek. This led to an appeal to the City of Surrey Mayor and Council to delay a decision on this development until we had an opportunity to meet with the City Planning Department and the developer.

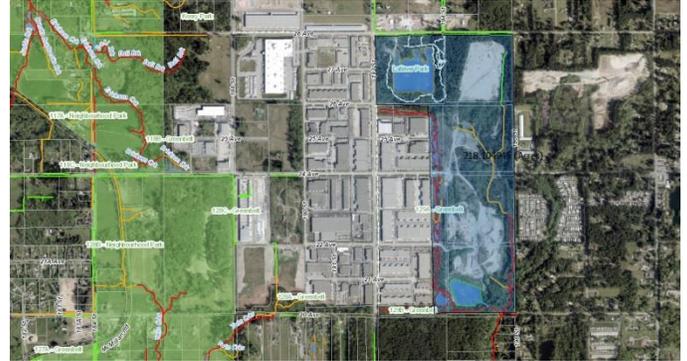
At the request of the Mayor and Council a meeting was subsequently scheduled with the developer, his engineering consultants and City staff. During the meeting we made a presentation highlighting the significance of this section of the creek to the spawning salmon. At the conclusion of the meeting the developer and City staff agreed to change the development plan in keeping with our concerns. These included:

- All construction must be setback 30 metres from the creek bank;
- Installation of a fence to limit access to the creek
- Retaining the creek banks in a natural state
- Extensive planting in the 30 metre setback and
- Removal of a public pathway within the setback

As is our practice, we visited and toured the development with the developer’s staff on a number of occasions during the construction phase to monitor progress. We are pleased to report this development has been completed and the developer has done a great job in addressing our concerns. As a follow up we plan to meet with the Strata Council and residents to explain the reasons and benefits behind our involvement in the shaping of their development.



West side of Dawson Creek development with creek setback on right

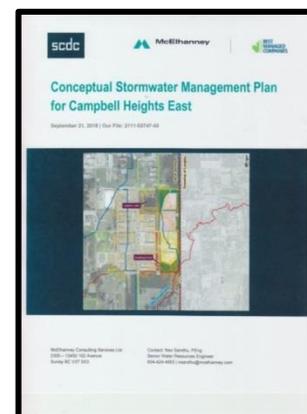


East Campbell Heights is a 200 acre undeveloped area two kilometers north east of the Club grounds which touches on the banks of the Little Campbell River. It is bordered on the east by the Langley border (196th Street); on the north by 28th Avenue and on the south by 20th Avenue.

Over a decade ago the City of Surrey Mayor and Council placed a ten year moratorium on the development of this land. The moratorium was a result of the environmental disaster created during the construction of North Campbell Heights to the west of this area. The ten year period expired a few years ago and the City transferred responsibility for the development of this land over the City of Surrey Development Corporation – SCDC.

For the past three years the Club, A Rocha, the Semiahmoo First Nation, the Little Campbell River Watershed Society and the Surrey Environmental Partners have been meeting with SCDC to agree on the best approach to the development of this land and the protection of the river. Our focus has been on the management of storm water once the area is covered by buildings, roads and parking lots. If not effectively controlled the storm water will flood into the river rather than being absorbed into the aquifer.

With the support of one of the best storm water management engineers in the country we were able to introduce a new concept in storm water management that was adopted by the SCDC. This will ensure the storm water will be redirected into the aquifer. This is critical since the Little Campbell River depends on the aquifer as its primary source of water.



Continued on page 4

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter

Continued from page 3

As an element of the construction of the **Highway 99 overpass at 16th Avenue** in 2014, the Provincial Ministry of Transportation created a salmon habitat area on the east side of the Highway north of 16th Avenue. Since this new extension of Fergus Creek was constructed Coho salmon have been spawning in the channel.

During the summer the Ministry of Transportation staff noticed the channel was silting up and, without prompting, they engaged environmental contractors to repair, restore and improve the channel as shown below.



Looking north along the east side Highway 99 at 16th Avenue

For a number of years there was a growing concern the spawning salmon were having difficulty negotiating the culvert under **184th Street** just a few hundred meters north of the entrance to the Club grounds. This culvert provides access to Twin Creeks for the spawning salmon moving up from the Little Campbell River. This fall, after a number of requests from the Club, the City of Surrey Engineering Department approved a rebuild of the culvert including a modified fish ladder.



City crew on 184th Street

These four projects are a testimony to the Club's ability to positively influence development in the Little Campbell River watershed and to work effectively with all levels of government. We are also planning to meet with the recently elected City of Surrey Mayor and Council to provide background to our long term campaign to protect the area east of the Club grounds and south of 16th Ave. During the election Mayor McCallum confirmed his support on this issue.

Fishermen on the River

At this time of the year it is always a pleasure to see the anglers return to the river. Recreational fishing is permitted on sections of the river downstream from the Club grounds. From October through December the fishermen will be hoping to catch the returning salmon and Cutthroat trout. Starting in late December and until March they will be angling for the prized Steelhead trout returning from the ocean to spawn.

It should not be forgotten the prime purpose of the hatchery is to raise and release salmon and trout for recreational anglers. Only hatchery raised Coho salmon, as well as Steelhead and Cutthroat trout, may be retained by anglers while "wild" fish must be released.



BC Lions Football Team Quarterback Travis Lulay with a Chinook salmon on the line a few weeks ago on the river



Anglers fishing on the Little Campbell River on a nice day in October

Bob Donnelly, President

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter



ARCHERY

Three of our Members represented our club proudly at the "Huntsman World Senior Games" in ST. George, Utah the week of October 8th. All three were successful:

Aaltje Stiegelmar took Gold for Barebow Recurve in both Target as well as 3D in the 75-79 category

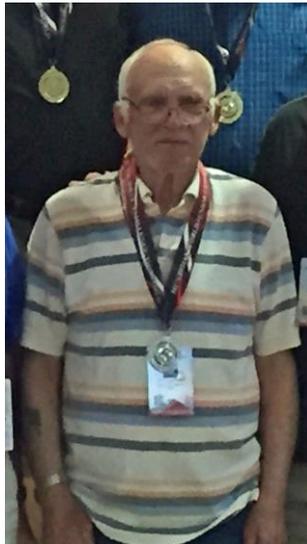
Peter Stiegelmar took home Silver for Barebow Recurve in the 3D 75 – 79 category

Gary Kellins took home Gold in Longbow/Woods in both Target as well as 3D in the 60 – 64 category

We had six Canadians who took home medals at this event, four from B.C. and two from Alberta. Congratulations to all!



Aaltje Stiegelmar



Peter Stiegelmar



Gary Kellins

JUNIOR OLYMPIC PROGRAM

The junior archery classes continue to be quite busy. Attendance has continued to be very good in both of our classes and all the students continue to work hard on completing levels in class. On October 27, we held our annual Halloween shoot and the students who attended had a lot of fun shooting at themed novelty targets.

November already looks to be a busy month. We will not have as many classes as usual because there are a few special events going on both in class and outside of class. For parents with students in class, please note our regular class schedule will be disrupted on November 10th and November 17th. On November 10 we will not have our regularly scheduled classes because we will be holding our first Mini-Tournament of the year. The mini-tournament is a great way for our students to try out a tournament in a familiar environment so they can see if they would like to participate in one outside of the club. Our classes will be cancelled on November 17 because we will have a shortage of instructors. Classes will resume with our regular schedule on November 24.

Since the last newsletter the students in class have been busy completing levels and we would like to congratulate all of our award winners this month. In particular, we would like to congratulate Scarlet Hayes for graduating from the Owl team to the Hawk team. Great work everyone!

Class Awards

- Scarlet Hayes:** Owl 18m: Graduated from to Hawk Team
- Andrew Cook:** Eagle 280 & BCAA Olympian 280 & 285
- Noah McNulty:** Eagle 250
- James Morrow:** Hawk 12m
- Paige Bedar:** Hawk 6m
- Logan Rix:** BCAA Master Bowman
- Kyle Wisla:** Owl 10m & 12m
- Aisha Wilson:** Owl 8m & 10m
- Dane Jansen:** Owl 10m
- Jersey Mackay:** Owl 6m
- Jacob Scott:** Owl 6m & 8m
- Theron Galpin:** Owl 6m
- Jayden Høglund:** Owl 6m

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter

Team BC Selection Event for the Canada Winter Games

Two junior members from our club, Emma Chylinski and Elissa Foley, have been selected to attend Team BC's Selection event (Oliver BC, November 24 & 25) for the Canada Winter Games. At this selection event the participants will shoot off to determine who will represent the province next year at the Canada Winter Games in Red Deer, Alberta. The team that is selected will be made up of two men and two women and both Emma and Elissa have a great shot at making the team. We wish them all the best luck at this event.

Paul Van Tassel



RANGE REPORT

Greetings, members! Marijuana is now legal in Canada, but to our range officers, it falls under the category of alcohol, and any other drug which can affect the safety of our range. For those of you who partake in it, a good guideline would be to follow our military. Wait 24 hours before handling a firearm.

Safety is our #1 priority in the range, and we want it to be yours too. If you are taking anything that can impair your judgement, or even if you are really tired, please come again another day. We'll be here, ready to help you have a great time.

Allan Johanson, Range Director

MEMBERSHIP

A Reminder To All Club Members

Memberships are valid from January 1st to December 31st, so please remember to submit your 2019 membership forms as soon as possible. For those of you who have pro-rated memberships, a 2019 membership card will be sent to you in the New Year.

Important Member Notice

Though the club maintains volunteer liability insurance club members are reminded that volunteer activities are undertaken at their own risk. Members are also reminded to:

- Not to undertake tasks for which they are not physically fit or are not qualified to do.
- To observe all safety codes and procedures
- Not to operate machinery or equipment without proper training

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter



HATCHERY

HELP NEEDED!!

The beginning of fall and the snowbirds are getting ready to fly south for the winter!

Little Campbell Hatchery

However, around the same time the Little Campbell Hatchery is expecting an influx of residents returning to their birth place after an epic journey that took some of them to the Gulf of Alaska and back home again. With only their inbuilt GPS's to guide them, they are anxiously awaiting the first major rainfalls (unlike the local residents) so they can take the next step in ensuring the salmon will return for generations to come.

They could not do this without some help from a dedicated group of volunteers who will spend countless hours at the hatchery over the next 7 months to ensure the vast majority of the 160,000 salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout fry will get off to a good start. Although many of them will not survive the time spent in the Campbell River or the ocean, especially now we have a seal visiting us at the hatchery. Bears, fishermen, killer whales, and even more seals also await them.

I have the pleasure of volunteering at the hatchery (which many of my friends didn't even know it existed!). I scrub out the rearing pens with a great group of volunteers who made me feel welcome from the first day I started.

The Semiahmoo Fish and Game Club sponsor the Salmon in the Classroom project where schools raise salmonids in the classroom and then visit the hatchery to release them in the spring. Over 90,000 school children, teachers and parents have visited the hatchery over the years.

I also take groups of school kids on tours- both in the classroom and on the nature trails. I love the kindergarten kids as their questions and often their answers always bring a smile to my face. Rachel Carson said in her book, "The Sense of Wonder" we often lose our Sense of Wonder, but these primary-aged school kids constantly remind me that we as adults, don't have to lose ours.

"What do you know about Salmon?" I asked a kindergarten class. The answers ranged from "They come in cans" to "They make great Sushi!!" Perhaps it was my fault for asking the wrong question.

The reason for my letter is that we are always looking for volunteers to do everything from netting and counting the salmon at the counting fence, to helping take the eggs and milt, clipping the fins on the juvenile salmon, maintaining the hatchery and making coffee!!

For you retired people who love working with kids, how about telling our next generation of adults what a great story the migration of the salmon really is, and how we make sure that in years to come this huge influx of returning residents will be there every fall.

So if you want to check us out you can find us at 1284 184th Street. If you come on a Saturday morning be sure to bring the family and we will sign you up and you might get a cup of coffee and a cookie!

Chris Johnson, Hatchery Volunteer



EDITOR'S DESK

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Thanks, as always, to everyone who contributed this month's newsletter. If you have a story or photos you'd like to share with members, please contact me. I am always looking for articles and photos to put in the newsletter.

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club Newsletter



HUNTING

The 2018 hunting season has had some positive results, even with MU-5 being closed. Shawn, Stan, Jim, Robert, Chris, Nate and Fred have harvested animals this year, with many more still to report in. The weather has been great and the results show it. Not only moose, deer, elk and black bears but lots of grouse, and fish on the hunting trips. Remember to keep a wing on your grouse to establish species when asked by a BC Conservation officer. Fill out your tags immediately after harvesting your animal. Gut and skin as soon as possible and hang a few days before taking it to be processed. While hanging, take time to remove as much fat as possible as the fat is the source of the "gamey" taste. Anything white (fat) should be removed before cutting into steaks, roasts and burgers. Below are some photos to enjoy.



FROG BOAT FOR SALE

A frog boat (pictured below) has been generously donated by club member Dave S. The club is selling the boat (new at \$1800) for \$500. If you are interested please contact Phillip Milligan at

phillipmilligan@telus.net

