

**Cheakamus Ecosystem Restoration Stakeholder Team  
Meeting #9  
Thursday September 27, 2007  
6:30 pm  
Howe Sound Inn and Brewing Company  
Meeting Summary**

Gil Sage	B.C. Federation of Fly Fishers
Steve Hanson	B.C. Federation of Fly Fishers
Patti MacAhonic	B.C. Wildlife Federation
Edith Tobe	Squamish River Watershed Society
Spencer Fitschen	Independent
Carl Halvorson	North Vancouver Outdoor School
John Buchanan	Independent
Victor Elderton	North Vancouver Outdoor School
Roman Lehocky	Independent
Doug Morrison	Squamish Streamkeepers
Caroline Ashekian	District of Squamish

Regrets: Jack Cooley, Brian Klassen, Dave Brown, Dan O’Kane

*Cheakamus Ecosystem Restoration Steering Committee (CERSC)*

- Normand Pellerin – CN

*Cheakamus Ecosystem Restoration Technical Committee (CERTC)*

- Chessy Knight – Nautilus Environmental (District of Squamish)

*Other Resources*

- Kelli Svendsen – CN
- Caroline Melville – Instream Fisheries
- Peter Fredericksen – Triton Environmental

Meeting Facilitator and Note-taker: Tom Sadleir – Cornerstone Planning Group

The following information materials were provided to all meeting participants:

- Meeting Agenda
- July 20, 2007 CERSC meeting summary
- August 8, 2007 CERTC meeting summary

## **Requests to CERTC/CERTC Members**

- That CERTC/CN advertise the October 25 Public Information Session in the *Vancouver Sun* and *Province*, given the number of Squamish residents who rely on these newspapers and, that some Stakeholder Team members are from the Lower Mainland and/or are representatives of groups whose membership includes Lower Mainland residents.

## **CERTC Items**

Updates were provided for the following recovery projects and activities:

- KM 6.5 Re-watering Project
- Wilson Slough reconnection project
- LWD demonstration project
- Fish culture programs (steelhead, pink, chinook)
- Cheekye Bridge abutment
- October 25 Public Information Session planning

Comments were received as follows:

### *Wilson Slough reconnection project*

Interest in the project start date was expressed and it was noted that construction was expected to commence the following week. A 36-inch steel pipe will be used and electronic floodgates will be installed. Interest in the depth of the pipe was expressed and it was noted that the contractor is responsible for that determination. No dredging or other activity is planned for Upper Wilson Slough.

### *LWD demonstration project*

It was noted that this is likely the most ambitious LWD project attempted in terms of river flows. The durability of the structures, and their ability to withstand a catastrophic event, were questioned. The need for, and use of, anchoring was confirmed and it was noted that new LWD techniques are being used. It was noted by the NVOS that no site remediation had taken place and that North Vancouver School District #41 was still seeking formal agreement with the BCCF regarding the LWD project.

### *Fish culture programs*

It was noted that steelhead levels were promising, but it was noted that this was non-spill-affected year fish

## **Stakeholder Team Items**

### *Coho*

The impact of the spill on Coho was raised. It was noted that 50% were impacted and that there is ongoing monitoring of juvenile coho in the upper river. It was noted that coho are expected to recover naturally.

### *Sculpin and Lamprey*

A discussion took place regarding the value of non-native invasive species such as sculpin and lamprey. The merit of enhancing populations of these species as a means of recovering overall ecosystem health was debated. It was concluded that efforts of this kind were unlikely in British Columbia, which, it was agreed, is salmonid-centric.

### *Chum Fry Populations*

NVOS reiterated that the chum fry population has increased substantially due to the lack of predators (sculpin) and that these fish returning as adults could have unexpected effects on the natural environment, noting that over-spawning events have occurred with chum in the past, and could have unforeseen consequences.

## **Other Business**

### *Open House*

The next Cheakamus Ecosystem Recovery Open House is scheduled for October 25, 2007, to coincide with the update of the 2007 Cheakamus Ecosystem Recovery Plan.

### *Next Meeting*

The next Stakeholder Team is scheduled for November 29, 2007.

### *Adjournment*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.