

## **Cowichan Stewardship Roundtable Notes**

- 17/05/18

### **Opening – Genevieve**

- Acknowledgment of Unceded territory of CT
- Tim/Tom to take notes today.
- Melissa to take notes in Sept.
- Regrets from Cheri Ayers, BCCF staff
- Planning initial meeting to plan watershed celebration 2019 (Tim Martha, Genevieve)

### **Parker Jefferson**

- 8-month multi-stakeholder process results in consensus plan for moving forward with increased positive storage
- CVRD process to create a water/watershed function will be up for referendum this October. Will allow CVRD to accept sr. government funding to dedicate to water storage infrastructure etc.
- Public meeting today in Youbou to discuss forest harvest plans for Holmes ck watershed

### **Melissa Nottingham**

- Update on research work DFO is carrying out on juvenile chinook in Cowichan Bay
- Pit tagging of chinook (5K) is continuing
- Surface water being used to finish Cowichan chinook smolts hopefully will address straying issue

### **Kelly Dougan**

- Land based experiential learning at Cow High
- Would welcome donations of rain gear
- Environmental science component – looking for individuals interested in working with students

### **Bob Copp**

- Cowichan River neighbourhood association
- Will speak later about provincial park

### **Martha Lescher**

- Volunteer with SMWS
- Saturday June 9 – fossil fuel free festival in Hooey park
- Music, entertainment, trash sculptures, lots of demo's from sustainable technology

### **Loren Duncan**

- River resident with 90 year old mother!

#### **Ian Morrison**

- Many antiquated septic systems
- Grant obtained to really improve waste management infrastructure in Ian's area
- OCP process is moving forward
- Watershed function – a maximum of 750K tax requisition approved – will provide opportunity for receiving funds
- CVRD is partnering with RV association on Sutton creek for long term management plan
- Discussion of DP process as it applies to boal road development in Sh-hwuykselu watershed
- Little beach is
- Lake Cowichan FN – hired DFO employee to establish hatchery project – Ashburnham creek?

#### **Rick Bryan**

- Attend BC paddlers AGM – no longer Van Island zone rep.
- Job to recruit recreational paddlers
- Need to engage people on the river
- Always available to promote safety on the river
- Open invitation

#### **Chad Ormond**

- QUARS biologist
- Supports 5 first nations through AAROM funded group

#### **Jordan Maher**

- QUARS Exec. Director
- Increase capacity to member first nations
- Technical and management work also outreach and education

#### **Joe Saysell**

- Friends of Cowichan
- Working on weir issue in 1977
- Fry salvage
- Sunscreen might be a major issue for our river

- Wants river closed upstream of 70M trestle – a regular closure should be invoked for whole river mid June to sept. due to warm water

#### **Tim Kulchyski**

- James Craig retiring from BCCF,
  - Tim spent some time reviewing some of the great work James has done on the Cowichan
- BCCF involved in chinook juvenile trapping initiative
- Mid river DIDSON in place to count summer chinook upstream migration

#### **Julia Newman**

- CO-chair of CERCA
- Very involved in re-zoning issue on the estuary
- Involved in estuarine mapping
- Next meeting PowerPoint

#### **Geoff Strong**

- Canadian meteorological and oceanographic society
- Hosting national meeting 2021

#### **Alistair MacGregor**

- Making case for weir raising in parliament with some support expressed
- Bill C68 – changes to fisheries act
  - Moving its way thru the process
  - Improvements to act are significant
  - NDP would like to see protection for environmental flows
  - Fin Donnelly – very knowledgeable
- Fin Donnelly
  - Coming to Van island to speak re fish farms

#### **Hannah Hall**

- Working on Bring back the bluebird project
- Working in the field – 13 adults, 5 nests, 14 nestlings already
- Providing mealworms to fledglings
- Lots of outreach work

**Molly Hudson**

- Open house in Youbou today 1 – 8 pm

**Ken Traynor**

- CLRSS
- AGM June 24
- 10 sites as part of shoreline stewardship restoration project
- Expansion to Gerald Thom memorial park
- Gerald Thom memorial bursary
- Lamprey sampling ongoing – pretty slow going

**Christine Rikley**

- New area supervisor for BC Parks
- Management planning process for Cowichan Provincial park
- Initial comment period open to everyone
  - Will ID what needs more detailed process work
- Opportunity to sign up for further inclusion in process
- Sign up sheet passed around for those who want to be kept in the loop with respect to process

**Dexter Robson**

- Env. Education program
- Watershed health talks in elementary school

**Tom Rutherford**

- Acknowledgement of uniqueness of CSRT and “Cowichan way of doing business”
- WUP process very important
  - Outcome positive so far but work is just beginning, will take tremendous effort to see this through to completions
- Will Duguid, UVIC Doctoral candidate speaker series speaker Thursday may 24<sup>th</sup> 7pm VIU, inshore marine salmon survival.

**Edmond Duggan**

- Summer games sports advisor for canoe and kayak
- Volunteers necessarily
- Trials for FN athletes in Nanaimo – talk to Edmond re details

### **Genevieve Singleton**

- Eagle heights 144 hectares protected due to over 25 years of work lead by CVNS
- Syd Watts legacy
- Cowichan Tribes support acknowledged and appreciated

### Presentations

#### **Molly Hudson**

- Presentation on Goshawks
- See slide deck for detail

#### **Mathew Eco drones**

- Focus on watershed management
- See slide deck

#### **Bob Copp**

- Citizens group concerned with BC parks planning process
- Concerns focused on firing range
- Issues of concern include
  - Noise
  - Lead contamination
  - Stray bullets outside of range fencing
  - Impacts on fauna
- Christine responds to concerns and encourages all those in attendance to sign up for participation in the process if engaged