

# StreamTalk

The newsletter for stewards of salmonids and their habitat • Volume 14 • Number 1 • Spring 2007

## Targeting Invasive Plants

*Some are pretty, but alien plants are having a not-so-pretty effect on habitats throughout the province. Along with efforts to improve water quality, habitat and public awareness, salmonid stewardship groups are adding invasive plant control to their to-do lists.*

### On the coast

Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands and the regional districts of Powell River, Mount Waddington and Comox-Strathcona are home to rare and endangered plants that depend on unique habitats for survival. Population growth, natural resource extraction and tourism create pathways of alien plant invasion. Infestations are estimated to be in the tens of thousands, growing daily in size and density.

Until recently, management efforts were undertaken by individual stakeholders, often in isolation. The Coastal Invasive Plant Committee (CIPC) is a newly formed non-profit society working to coordinate those efforts. It brings together private and public sector stakeholders, including First Nations, governments, utilities, industries and conservation groups. Its 2006 Action Plan could serve as a blueprint for other

regions wanting to attack the problem this way. First, members identified priorities based on five main themes: communication; baseline inventory/mapping; education and awareness; management and coordination; and funding. This resulted in a list of actions:

- share information
- identify target pathways of invasion
- make a baseline inventory and map
- add data to the B.C. Invasive Alien Plant database
- develop a website and listserve
- issue regular newsletters/updates
- develop public outreach material
- respond to new sightings
- compile Best Management Practices for inventory, monitoring and treatment of priority species
- work with local governments to develop management plans

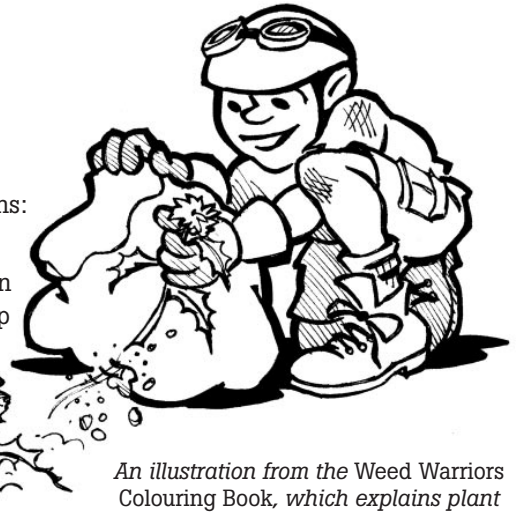
Not a short list! But these initiatives are well under way, and will become easier and more effective as public awareness increases and more volunteers and groups come forward to take part. Visit [www.coastalinvasiveplants.com](http://www.coastalinvasiveplants.com).

### In the East Kootenays

By Lisa Mose

Invasive plant species choke out native vegetation. In riparian habitat, this can lead to erosion, sedimentation and loss of aquatic habitat. In fields and forests, it threatens native food sources for elk, deer, birds and other wildlife.

The East Kootenay Invasive Plant Pilot Project is a collaboration of the Province of B.C., Regional District of the East Kootenay, Kootenay Livestock Association



*An illustration from the Weed Warriors Colouring Book, which explains plant control methods to young warriors.*

and B.C. Wildlife Federation.

Part of the project is the launching of Weed Warriors to help control infestations on Crown lands.

Over 500 volunteer Weed Warriors have tackled noxious weeds by hand-pulling, as any area that is within 10 metres of a creek, river or wetland and 30 metres of a well is considered a herbicide-free zone.

To become Weed Warriors, community and kids' groups attend a four-hour event. They learn how to identify plants, are shown methods of controlling them and hand-pull a local site. Groups receive a \$250 donation, and tools, native seed and refreshments from sponsors such as Home Hardware, Top Crop and Interior Reforestation and Save-on-Foods.

The program is being developed so that other regional districts around the province can deliver Weed Warriors in their communities. Call 1-866-weedwar, email [weedwar@telus.net](mailto:weedwar@telus.net) or visit [www.weedwarriors.ca](http://www.weedwarriors.ca).

### In this issue:

- Stream to Sea Honoured ..... 2
- Belcarra Beachkeepers ..... 3
- Streamkeepers Update ..... 4
- Help for Still Creek ..... 5
- Species at Risk Projects ..... 6
- Project Highlight: Cowichan Estuary Eelgrass ..... 7

# Stream to Sea gets top marks...

The Stream to Sea education program has received national recognition for the impact its learning activities have had on hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren.

The Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication, known as EECOM, has chosen DFO's Stream to Sea program as the recipient of its 2006 award for a government agency that has demonstrated excellence in environmental education and has increased public awareness about the environment. EECOM is a national, not-for-profit group whose mission is "to nurture environmentally informed and responsible individuals, organizations and communities."

Community advisor Mark Johnson represented his colleagues, accepting the award at EECOM's annual conference near Halifax in the fall.

"This award means a lot to all the DFO staff who are proud of the program and feel it has a real impact," Mark says. "This award also recognizes all the school teachers and community volunteers whose

dedication and efforts make the program a success."

A team of community advisors and education coordinators have been bringing fish, streams and the ocean to classrooms across B.C. and the Yukon for the past 25 years, working with their local schools and community stewardship projects. In the past several years, the foundation of this education program, Salmonids in the Classroom, has been expanded to highlight the marine environment, the impact of human activities on salmon and aquatic ecosystems and the concepts of stewardship and sustainability.

DFO's education team has worked with environmental leaders to broaden the perspective of its education program. The ideas of Bill Rees, UBC professor and creator of the eco-footprint concept; Guy Dauncey, a guru of green energy; and Tim Turner and Peter Donaldson, influential Pacific Northwest environmental educators, have been incorporated into the Stream to Sea curriculum.

## ...but we plan to make it even better

Not wanting to rest on their laurels, community advisors and education coordinators met in August to map out a strategy of Stream to Sea expansion and improvement for the next five years.



Visitors to Kingfisher Interpretive Centre use dams and diversions to prevent flooding of a model village.

Dr. David Zandvliet, a professor in education at Simon Fraser University, is excited about the program's integrated, experiential environmental education. He is preparing a grant proposal to study its effectiveness in creating aquatic stewards and took this opportunity to share his research on the importance of learning environments to students.

Participants also visited Kingfisher Interpretive Centre in Enderby, a stellar example of a Stream to Sea field trip destination. Manager Neil Brookes has created an in-stream model watershed, with a tiny Okanagan village surrounded by farmland and road systems.



Mark Johnson (right) accepts the award from EECOM president Grant Gardner

"The award comes at a good time," Mark adds. "It reinforces the changes we've been making and also gives due credit to the foundation of our education program: Salmonids in the Classroom and the classroom incubators. We've taken that foundation and made the program even better."

EECOM said in presenting the award: "The aquatic stewardship and salmon release programs are very hands-on and relevant to learners, have longevity, a successful track record and high visibility in the communities. The people involved with the programs care about them enormously, and the positive impacts of raising and releasing salmon on young people are very powerful. This program deserves national recognition and celebration."

Field trip students address land-use and flooding issues, discovering their "inner beaver".

During the strategy workshop, three areas of concentration were identified:

- To take an ecosystem-based approach to education;
- To formally adopt a strategy of encouraging the stewardship ethic, a message which was being delivered but had not been officially recognized;
- To promote the concept of sustainability through the balancing of economic, social and environmental factors.

# Belcarra Beachkeepers

By Shannon Bleasby

Belcarra Beachkeepers is a partnership between the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) at Belcarra Regional Park, near Port Moody. It began due to increasing concern about the impact of many visitors on the beach and its organisms. The aim is to shield the park's intertidal ecosystem through public education and monitoring of recreational crabbing, clamming and collection of other marine species.

Last summer, dedicated volunteers dressed in sea-star-purple shirts roved the beach showing children and parents how to explore it while leaving it intact. Live displays on the wharf introduced local marine creatures and the recreational fishing regulations that apply to

them. The volunteers fielded plenty of questions: Where does that trail go? What lake is that? (pointing at Burrard Inlet). What's that blob of jelly on the beach?

The Beachkeepers also conducted the second year of an ongoing crab study. They recorded the size, sex, overall condition and catch frequency for red rock and Dungeness crabs brought up in recreational traps. This was a wonderful addition to Beachkeepers. Not only were the volunteers collecting valuable biological data, they were also gaining confidence in their knowledge and speaking skills. A win-win situation.

GVRD and DFO would like to thank all the volunteers that dedicated their time and expertise to our



Shannon Bleasby in action. Photo: Lynn Castagner.

program this summer. Without them Belcarra Beachkeepers wouldn't be possible and the beach and creatures that call it home would disappear forever.

Beachkeepers is always looking for volunteers and will return in full force next summer with exciting activities and events. Perhaps Beachkeepers is something you might like to get involved in? For more information please email [beachkeepers@gvrd.bc.ca](mailto:beachkeepers@gvrd.bc.ca) or call 604-520-6442.

## Do big developments always spell trouble for the environment? Not necessarily.

By Mike Nicell

Conventional wisdom would predict problems for a salmon stream that runs through a property with contaminated soil, especially if big earth-movers are due to move in.

But the 800-acre piece of land in Union Bay, south of Courtenay, belongs to Jim Youngren, whose hobby is raising wild salmon. Add a project manager willing to don gumboots and wade into the situation, Streamkeepers expertise and approval from DFO, and the result has been good for Hart (Washer) Creek.

The creek drains 64 km<sup>2</sup> of watershed above Union Bay. It was named for a local bootlegger, but is known as Washer Creek because it was used by a coal company to wash the product before shipping.

The stream was straightened to create a stronger current. Since the company's demise in the 1950s the stream has silted in and the banks collapsed.

"This stream was virtually dead," said Kensington Island Properties (KIP) vice-president Brian McMahon, who has become a member of the Hart Watershed Society. By the time the work is complete, KIP will have spent close to a million dollars on salmon enhancement.

Led by Mike Nicell and Gary Hargreaves, Streamkeepers spent more than 1,000 hours assessing the creek in 1999. Each summer since, as the creek dried up, coho fry were salvaged, taken to Fanny Bay Hatchery and returned when water levels rose. Success is measurable. In 1999, only 5,000 coho were counted in the

watershed, a number that jumped to hundreds of thousands last year.

The new creek design provides a side-stream in which salmon can rest on their way to spawn. The main stream has been diverted from the coal hills, resulting in a more natural bend with large woody debris and huge rocks.

The development, to be named Coastal Pointe, has received third reading from the Regional District. If it gets final approval, the developer intends to dredge a 22-acre lake in the upper watershed as a containment source to ensure year-round water levels. Back in the 1930s when fish were plentiful, one seine net could collect 13,000 coho. If all goes well, the dedicated volunteers of the Hart Watershed Society are certain that the stream will once again be as productive.





# Module Movies

Creating video versions of some of our training modules has given us more than we bargained for.

The original intent was to provide a visual to accompany the written word

and to pique interest in Pacific Streamkeepers Foundation methods and projects. But now we realize that the tapes are rich in information, and can be used to instruct groups unable to find a qualified trainer in their area.

The videos were produced in partnership with Capilano College and Rogers Cable. Then our webmaster discovered a method of internet video-sharing (like "You Tube" only with a lot less clutter)

that would allow us to easily show them in high-quality Flash format. You can view the *Streamkeepers Overview* and *Modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 7* and *11* at [www.pskf.ca/video/index.html](http://www.pskf.ca/video/index.html), hosted by Brightcove.com.

You can also upload your favourite "salmon jumping at the falls" video there for free.

We have been reorganizing [www.pskf.ca](http://www.pskf.ca), adding benefit to the Streamkeepers program with new resource materials. You will find them under the publications heading, where you can download the *Streamkeepers Handbook* or pick a module that applies to your current group activity. Along with the pdf of the module, you will find links to our internal web resources and to many external sites of direct interest.

These modules can be found at [www.pskf.ca](http://www.pskf.ca). Those shown in italics are available in video.

- 1 *Introductory Stream Habitat Survey*
- 2 *Advanced Stream Habitat Survey*
- 3 *Water Quality Survey*
- 4 *Stream Invertebrate Survey*
- 5 Storm Drain Marking
- 6 Stream Cleanup
- 7 *Streamside Planting*
- 8 Streamside Fencing
- 9 Observe, Record, Report
- 10 Community Awareness
- 11 *Juvenile Fish Trapping and Identification*
- 12 Salmonid Spawner Survey
- 13 Creel Survey
- 14 Introductory Handbook for Instream Habitat Restoration Projects
- 15 Fry Salvage
- 16 Controlling Beavers

## Caring for Ecosystems awards

The Fraser Basin Council (FBC) presents Sustainability Awards for contributions to the present and future health of the Fraser Basin.

Winners were announced November 16 at a gala dinner, presided over by B.C. lieutenant governor Iona Campagnolo and FBC chair Dr. Charles Jago.

In the Caring for Ecosystems category, there were two recipients this year: the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Lands, and the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation – with special mention of executive director Zo Ann Morten.

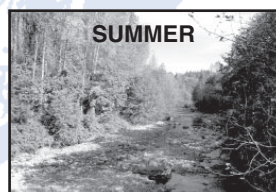
The Ministry was honoured for its Britannia Mine Water Treatment Plant project, which has ended many years of polluted run-off into Howe Sound at the former mine site. The plant treats five million cubic metres of water per year, significantly improving water quality and aquatic habitat in the area.

The Pacific Streamkeepers Federation serves as an information exchange for streamkeeper and enhancement groups; facilitates their training and coordination; and lends a larger voice to enhancement issues.

The award honours its volunteers and executive director Zo Ann Morten, who has helped teach scientific observation and monitoring to 30,000 volunteer aquatic stewards across B.C. Congratulations, ZoAnn!

## On our website

Meet some Streamkeepers on our home page at [www.pskf.ca](http://www.pskf.ca). Find out how and why they just had to jump into stream stewardship. We will be adding a new person monthly, so check back often.



Bob Patton's weekly photos showing the seasons of Lynn Creek can be seen on one of the posters. He has created a desktop slide presentation as well, set to Handel's "Water Music."

You have monitored the health of your local stream. How do you communicate the results to others? Go to [www.pskf.ca/mod10/posters/index.html](http://www.pskf.ca/mod10/posters/index.html) to see the "Making a Difference" Streamkeepers in Action poster series. Use them as a template to create your own poster, and take it to public events to share your story. For those wanting more tips and tools, sign up for the related session at Workshop 2007 in Williams Lake.

# Help for a city stream

By Shannon Campbell

Still Creek is part of the Brunette River system, flowing for 17 km through densely populated sections of Burnaby and Vancouver, and ending in the Fraser River at New Westminster. Some 70 per cent of the creek and its tributaries runs underground in pipes and culverts, hidden from the view of city dwellers.

Now, thanks in part to the Still Creek Stewardship Society, short-term and long-term plans are in place to protect, rehabilitate, and enhance this urban stream. SCSS is a not-for-profit registered charitable organization run by volunteers dedicated to environmental projects and public education. A glance at their busy schedule last year shows some of the ways they brought Still Creek some much-needed attention.

Last spring, SCSS hosted a fish release near the Great Canadian Superstore at Rupert Street and Grandview Highway. Children from surrounding schools helped to release 1,000 chum fry, supplied by DFO, into the creek – a magical moment that everyone there will long remember.

It took the society several years of lobbying to get local government to

recognize the Still Creek tributary that runs under Falaise Park, sometimes making the ground too soggy to use. September 26 was B.C. Rivers Day and SCSS celebrated by participating in opening ceremonies for the Falaise Park Wetland Gardens, which are designed to capture surface



*A young volunteer releases even younger chum to a new home.*

runoff waters in beds of native plants. SCSS hosted a planting in the park that day, and took part in storm drain marking, invasive species removal and nesting box installations in Renfrew Ravine.

SCSS has received funding from Wal-Mart/Evergreen to complete planting projects at Renfrew Ravine and Nootka Elementary School. Grants will also assist the publication of a Still Creek walking tour brochure. The group was also successful in an application to the

Vancouver Parks Board Renfrew Park Ravine Master Plan. The writing of this plan commences in 2007 and will involve extensive public consultation and input.

Future projects include partnering with the City of Vancouver on the Cornett Road enhancement project located in the Grandview-Boundary industrial area.

It's a busy schedule, but SCSS is out to ensure that this city stream is part of our urban landscape for generations to come.

## Dream donation

Education and community involvement were at the top of the shopping list for Safeway No. 148 at Royal Oak and Kingsway this year.

The store recently handed over more than \$13,000 to the Stream of Dreams Mural Society, money raised during their 2006 We Care charity fundraising campaign.

Joan Carne, one of the founding members of the society, gives particular credit to store manager Donna Dixon and charity fundraising team leaders Denise Hunter and Dianne Stevenson for their hard work.

The Stream of Dreams Murals Society offers stream and watershed education programs for local schools. The program has garnered national recognition for its efforts.

Visit [www.streamofdreams.org](http://www.streamofdreams.org) for more information, and the latest news.

## Beware the giant!

By Tristan Brown

Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) is a perennial and invasive plant of the parsley family. It can grow up to six metres high, with an umbrella-like canopy of up to a metre across. It has white cottony flowers which can release thousands of seeds per year.

It can be found in cold, moist soil, often near streams, on Southern Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands, Vancouver, West Vancouver, North

Vancouver, Burnaby and Richmond.

Due to the tenacious nature of the weed, these borders are being expanded.

The watery sap is hazardous. Contact with the skin causes severe sensitivity to ultraviolet radiation, and painful burns that can result in blisters and dermatitis.

If eyes are exposed, temporary or



even permanent blindness may occur. Should you come in contact with the sap, get out of the sun immediately, wash thoroughly, and contact your doctor.

To remove the plant, start by covering all exposed skin and wearing safety glasses.

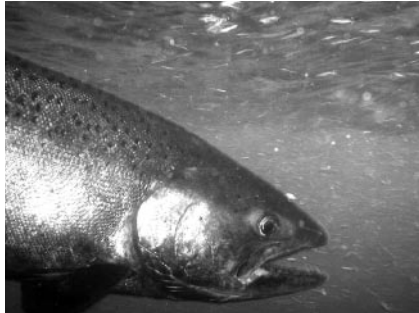
Cut the roots eight to 12 cm below the soil surface, and dispose of in the garbage. Do not compost.

*Photo: B.C. Ministry of Agriculture*



# WANTED: your action plans for **Species at Risk**

According to the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, there are currently 516 plant and animal species at risk



A healthy coho. Photo: Mike Stefiuk.

in Canada, listed in five categories: Special Concern, Threatened, Endangered, Extirpated, and Extinct.

Environment Canada, Parks

Canada and DFO are working on a joint national strategy for their protection. Stewardship groups can apply for funding under the Habitat Stewardship Program for the DFO *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) Program. Projects for this year include:

**Haida Gwaii Abalone Stewardship:** Through improved public awareness, community surveillance and monitoring, the Haida Tribal Society is working to rebuild northern abalone stocks.

**Species at Risk material is among the latest Stream to Sea lesson plans available online. The plans are designed to teach about bioaccumulation in killer whales, the life cycle of the white sturgeon, and habitat loss issues on interior coho stocks.**

Visit **Stream to Sea** online at [http://www-heb.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/community/education/primary/primary\\_e.htm](http://www-heb.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/community/education/primary/primary_e.htm)

## For love of lakes

B.C. lakes are under a lot of pressure these days, due to development and other land use issues. The B.C. Lake Stewardship Society (BCLSS) has a vision of clean, healthy lakes that provide quality habitat for aquatic life, wildlife, and people.

The Society brings together scientists, environmental professionals, lakeshore stewardship groups, residents, government agencies and the public. It helps with training and technical support to fledgling stewardship groups, and supplies lake monitoring programs, educational materials and networking workshops.

**Coho Habitat Stewardship in the Thompson Basin:** The Fraser Basin Council is addressing the issues of high irrigation water demand in the Thompson Basin through the development of a climate and soil moisture station network. The stations will allow irrigators to water their crops more effectively and conserve water for endangered interior Fraser coho salmon.

**Critical Habitat Enhancement and Protection for Salish Sucker and Nooksack Dace:** Langley Environmental Partners are

facilitating stewardship projects on private land, and restoring critical habitat for Salish sucker in Atchelitz Creek, Mountain Slough, Salwein Creek and Gordon's Brook. The project will also increase dissolved oxygen levels in Salish sucker habitat, organise a Gentle Ditch Maintenance program, and increase the length and width of buffer strips of native riparian vegetation.

Do you have an idea for a project? Contact acting SARA coordinator Liane O'Grady at [ogradyl@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:ogradyl@pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca).

### West Creek Wetland Preserved

Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD), Township of Langley, B.C. Trust for Public Lands and The Land Conservancy (TLC) announce that they have purchased West Creek Wetlands.

Up to 18 threatened or endangered species, such as Pacific water shrew and green heron, are among the wetland's 170 residents. The main channel of West Creek, one of B.C.'s 14 designated "sensitive" streams, has healthy stocks of coho and chum.

West Creek Wetlands was brought to the partners' attention by Glen Valley Watersheds Society and Langley Environmental Partners Society. GVRD contributed \$1.4 million, the Township \$700,000, B.C. Trust for Public Lands \$300,000, and TLC \$150,000. The former owner generously agreed to reduce the price by donating \$1.1 million to TLC's fundraising campaign. To date, over 200 people from across British Columbia have donated to the campaign. Visit [www.conservancy.bc.ca](http://www.conservancy.bc.ca).



Photo: Edward Stanford

*Brrrr. Charlie Lake Conservation Society members take winter water samples.*

The B.C. Lake Stewardship and Monitoring Program was launched in 2003 in partnership with the Ministry of Environment. Citizens are invited to workshops where they can access information that is valuable in lake management decisions. As there is more reliance on individuals and groups to take on a greater role in stewardship activities, collection of lake data by volunteers is extremely important. It establishes a strong baseline that allows lake health to be monitored and managed over time.

The BCLSS delivers presentations and training to those who are

interested in protecting and monitoring a nearby lake. Water quality data collected by trained volunteers is sent to BCLSS to be summarized. After three consecutive years results are compiled into a lake specific brochure, which is distributed to local people.

Visit [www.bclss.org](http://www.bclss.org) or call toll free: 1-877-BCLAKES.



## We'd like to be...under the sea... In an eelgrass isopod's garden

By Ann Archibald

The Cowichan Community Land Trust Society (CCLT) and its partners have been working over the past two years to restore eelgrass habitat in the Cowichan estuary. Funding from the Pacific Salmon Commission, Habitat Conservation Trust Fund and DFO has supported the CCLT and many community volunteers in restoring this vitally important habitat.

The Cowichan estuary covers a vast area, and the rivers that cut through it make it treacherous underfoot. As a result many hours were spent in rowboats with local residents willing to point out remembered eelgrass habitat and suitable substrate. Everyone loved the opportunity to spend sunny summer days like this, but then the hard work began.

Having found potential transplanting sites, we went to work to organize some tests. The methodology used was developed by Cynthia Durance of Precision Identification. Four hundred test transplants were placed over one summer weekend, using the combined labours of the Seagrass Conservation Working Group, Nikki Wright's team at SeaChange Marine Conservation Society, local students, divers, Cowichan Tribes members, local government and members of the Naturalists' Society.

The following spring, those test transplants had increased by 70 to 80 per cent in two of the four test plots. This meant that the larger transplant of nearly 6,000 eelgrass shoots could proceed. Transplanting 6,000 eelgrass shoots is no small feat of coordination. All the transplants

needed to be harvested individually by divers and then brought to shore where volunteers carefully twist-tied a non-galvanized washer to each shoot. Then they were rowed out to divers, who planted them along a designated transect. Most of our volunteers thoroughly enjoyed themselves, despite one very rainy Saturday when the land crew was as wet as the divers!

Monitoring plans are underway for next spring and summer and include coordination with local kayakers, the Young Naturalists' Streamkeepers group and the Dragon Divas. So for now, while the nights are long and the tides are high, we wait and hope for eelgrass.



Nikki Wright reveals the life and times of eelgrass to volunteers. Photo: Eric Marshall.

## Jumpstart your salmon stewardship career

The Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF) is pleased to announce the second year of the Stewardship Community Bursary. It gives financial assistance to aquatic stewardship volunteers enrolled in education and training programs aimed at a career in salmon recovery.

The applicant must be a Canadian citizen and a resident of B.C., must demonstrate financial need, and must be a full-time student in good standing in at least year two of an accredited program that leads to a career that supports Pacific salmon. He or she must also be a member of the aquatic stewardship volunteer community.

The bursary is supported by DFO community advisor Joe Kambeitz, the Friends of Gardner Frost and others. Army & Navy Department Stores became a new partner in

2006, donating a dollar from each sale of a Sam Cohen fishing rod.

Joe Kambeitz began fundraising 18 years ago for such a bursary. His goal was to help bridge the gap between Salmonids in the Classroom and higher education. This year he created a six-foot fibreglass salmon sculpture mold that any group may use in exchange for a donation to the bursary fund. Call Joe at 604-666-0742. You may also donate directly to the fund by calling the PSF.

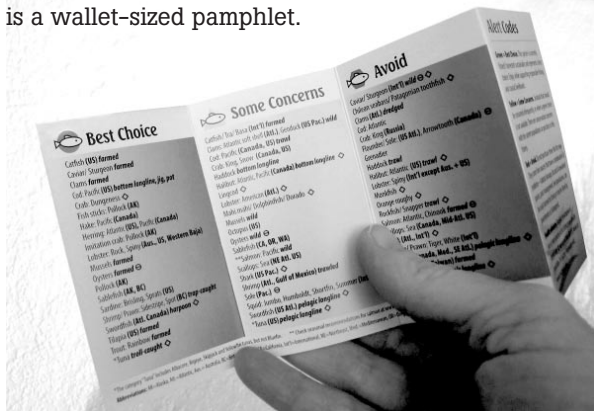
Complete applications are accepted from September 1 to midnight September 30. Obtain an application package at [www.psf.ca/bursary](http://www.psf.ca/bursary), all B.C. colleges and universities, or by calling the PSF at 604-664-7664.





[www.seachoice.org](http://www.seachoice.org)

Fish is a healthy choice of food, but these days you need to ask a few questions before you make your choice at a restaurant or supermarket. Is it a species that is caught or grown in an environmentally safe and responsible way? Is it prone to contamination by pollutants? Sustainable Seafood Canada has developed a website and some other tools to help shoppers make good choices. One of these, a list of best choices, species of concern and seafood to avoid, is a wallet-sized pamphlet.



[http://www.ywsc.ca/green\\_lawn.html](http://www.ywsc.ca/green_lawn.html)

The Yorkson Watershed Stewardship Committee in Langley, with funding from the DFO Public Involvement Program, has developed a project that encourages urban homeowners to be green gardeners. They can obtain a sign that proclaims their gardens to be free of pesticides, herbicides and harmful fertilizers. The committee would like to share the idea – and the sign artwork – with groups in other communities. Visit the website, or contact Lisa Dreves at [ldreves@tol.bc.ca](mailto:ldreves@tol.bc.ca)

<http://www.greenlegacies.ca>

Created for professional advisors (lawyers, financial planners, and appraisers) and donors, *Green Legacies: A Donor's Guide for B.C.* provides detailed information about 22 planned giving options for nature, including gifts of land or covenants. An update has just been produced to describe some changes to the rules regarding giving to nature.

<http://www.fish.bc.ca>

The Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council offers a library of reports that it has commissioned in the past, on topics such as fish stocks, habitat, and aquaculture. It also has resources for students and teachers.

<http://www.stewardshipcentre.bc.ca/stewardshipcanada/home/scnBCIndex.asp#>

The Stewardship Centre of B.C. has made some new reports available on its website. Among others, the list includes:

Cowichan Community Land Trust:  
*Stewardship Progression Project: Evaluation of 11 Years of Landowner Contact*

*Wildlife Tree Stewards Training Manual*

West Coast Environmental Law: *Smart Bylaws Guide*

Finding Solutions Network: *Funding Survey of 100 Enviro Organizations*

Land Trust Alliance:  
*Safeguarding Canada's Wealth - Bringing Stewardship and Conservation into Ecological, Economic Valuation.*

Smart Growth BC: *BC Sprawl Report 2004 - Economic Vitality and Livability*

DFO: *BC Guide to Watershed Law and Planning*

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