

28 April 2014

# Hook, Line & Sinker

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE "SIDNEY ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION"

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## **Our Purpose**

To encourage and develop interest in sport fishing and to foster and actively promote conservation and to participate in activities designed to promote habitat restoration and salmon enhancement in the Sidney area.

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[www.sidneyanglers.com](http://www.sidneyanglers.com)

## **Next Meeting**

**Time: 7:30 p.m.**

**Date: Monday, 26 May 2014**

**Where: Mary Winspear Centre**

## **MINUTES OF THE ANGLERS' GENERAL MEETING 28 April 2014**

**Members and Guests Present – Sixty (60)**

**President Brian Dunic called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm** It was moved by Edgar Hutchinson and seconded by George Gartrell that the minutes of the last meeting (March 24, 2014) be accepted. MOTION CARRIED.

## **NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS/VISITORS**

***Ron Esty***

*(Please excuse us, we hope that we haven't misspelled your name)*

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

N/A

**TREASURERS REPORT:** – Ken Clements provided the membership with an update on current assets, a copy of which was made available to the members for review.

A motion was made by Rick Fell and seconded by Bob Hull to accept the report. The membership voted in favour – motion passed.

**TOWN OF SIDNEY** – Brian Dunic

Brian talked to them last month and docks were in. Everything else seems to be running fine haven't heard any issues on the machine.

**RAMP DUTY** – Jim Dunn

Ramp duty starts in long weekend in May and he will be sending around a sign-up sheet.

**ANNUAL DERBY UPDATE** – Jim Dunn/Rick Fell

**Tickets** – The Derby is coming up fast – May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. The tickets are available for purchase tonight for \$125. Per rod/person (tickets include dinner both Friday and Saturday night). Books of tickets are also available so that members can assist with the sales.

We have currently sold over 200 and expect the numbers to reach 225 or 250 soon. Tell friends to buy a ticket even if they aren't fishing the Derby and come to the dinner.

There is a total of 15,000 cash prizes and almost 20,000 merchandise.

We would prefer banquet tickets sold in advance so that the caterers can be adequately prepared, but they will be available at the door as well. The sooner you get your tickets the better. Dinner Tickets are \$15. on Friday and \$20. on Saturday. Boondocks is catering the Dinner on both nights.

**Volunteers** – We still need volunteers as we had two people cancel because of a family emergency so we need two more people from 4-7 pm on Saturday night to work the entrance and sell dinner tickets. If anyone available would be most appreciated.

Each volunteer will be contacted one or two days before their duty and they will have a dinner ticket.

**SALMONID ENHANCEMENT EVALUATION COMMITTEE** – Grant MacPherson

Grant advised that he and the Secretary visited Goldstream (Howard English Hatchery) to take photos and see what they have done with the money that we provided them. They have built a new building to house the children and other people who attend tours there so people can stay warm and dry during the talks, etc... and to facilitate in taking care of the smolts. They were thrilled with the donation and they requested that we pass on a Big Thank you to everyone in our Association.

Peter McCauley and Judy Ackinclose, President of the Hatchery requested that they be able to personally thank us and I believe they want to present our membership with some kind of recognition. We have invited them to our BBQ on June 22, 2014 so they will be attending. They will be sending out a note about theirs which I believe is on the Friday before ours and they have invited us to attend as well.

Nikki Wright also thanked us for helping out with the Eel Grass and for the donation. She is presently doing an assessment of planting in Brentwood Bay and is also doing site assessement for the net pen we may be using for a chinook project.

We currently have something in the works with a PhD Student at UVIC to do with pinning Chinook salmon – Grant will be updating the membership on this later.

**Shaw Creek** – We are working with Cowichan Society on the recovery of Cowichan River stocks and we will be identifying fish for hatchery propagation. Last year there was a contamination issue with the dna and it was a failure.

We have a number of things in the works and he will update the membership following their next SEEC meeting.

**COWICHAN ROUND TABLE** – Ken Clements/Claude Theriault

Claude advised the membership that there were two very interesting presentations. One of the two PhD students gave a presentation on a study of predators (seals and sea lions) in the Cowichan – they learned that he had obtained a copy of a census in early 90's where they had 50 predators in summer and 100 in winter combined. Nowadays the numbers are 150 in the summer and 300 in the winter. His research will be on what they eat and how much – their diet is pacific herring and salmon 2000 smolts a day or 50,000 a month is the estimate of what they would eat. They forage for 40 kilos a day. Using a passive integrated transponder on some animals and by studying their scat, they will attempt to determine what they are eating. Later in the year they will come back to present a follow-up of their findings.

The second presentation was from Parks, BC and dealt with the Cowichan River having been designated as a Canadian Heritage River, thus Parks have an obligation to maintain the river in a sustainable fashion; the Director of BC Parks reported that five Provincial parks would be seriously affected should the Northern Gateway Pipeline be approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

N/A

**NEW BUSINESS:****1. Reay Creek and the Smolt Trap – Grant MacPherson**

Grant gave a special thank you to those who helped out and requested that they need more people to help monitor the smolt trap so if you are interested please contact him or the Secretary and let them know.

Built smolt trap - screened off creek above tidal influence - we maintain every day and keep clean. The Creek will rise and fall about 3 ft in 24 hours so this shows how dynamic a system it is.

For the amount of time we have had the smolt trap in, we have had a significant number of smolts (just under 500 at this time) through the trap. Far more fish are going to sea than we anticipated.

A couple of properties are being impacted by erosion and the Town of Sidney has been contacted. There are some mitigating measures being implemented.

## 2. **FN0327-RECREATIONAL - Salmon - Fraser River Spring Chinook - Areas 18, 19, 20 and 29 - Recreational Fishery Management Actions**

The Restrictions will take place May 4, 2014 – after our Derby. So we were able to obtain special compensation for our Derby – this is the first time this has ever happened.

**Before you go fishing May 4th check the website.**

## 3. **Zone 1 Restrictions Letter – Sidney Anglers’ Response**

DFO stated they are planning to commence restriction in Zone 1, they mentioned this originally to the SFAB at the Dec 1st 2013 South Coast SFAB mtg, then kept saying they hadn’t decided finally. But in the IFMP on page 56 in the gray box at the bottom of the page DFO mention “planning to begin the season with zone 1 management actions”.

Unfortunately, an in-season adjustment won’t be made until mid-June when our fisheries starts 5-2 Chinook regs, thus no advance notice. So if you plan for Zone 1 you’re are getting a 62 to 85 cms slot off Sidney, ridiculous when predictions are for more than double the return from last year. There are 3 zones of restrictions – the premise always starting off with zone 1 which is the most restrictive.

Sidney Anglers’ has provided a feedback response letter to this issue.

**Be sure to check the Regulations for restrictions before you go fishing.**

## 4. **Prawning**

Prawing opened April 1st – Anyone who has any anecdotal stories of really good or really bad prawning situation please send them to Richard Lake so he can share them with the Cowichan Round Table.

- Clive advised that they had 1000 lbs of prawns with only one female in the trap over the period that they were prawning on the Sidney side.
- Colin Menzies - sees one boat going out and coming in picking up 10 traps every day off Willis point and they have reported it.
- Rick Fell picked up 1400 in Brentwood. He advised that guys going in a skiff overnight which was suspicious.
- Richard Lake advised that enforcement people in DFO interested in doing something about it so please let them know.

May 8 - 15th will be closure for prawns.

**5. Sidney Anglers' BBQ – June 22, 2014**

Members were reminded that our BBQ would be held at the North Saanich Yacht Club and the Secretary will be sending out more details for all of the members. They were also reminded that there will be no General Meeting on the following Monday this year as we will be combining the BBQ with our June General meeting and they will be held together at the BBQ festivities.

**MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE DRAW**

At the last meeting Adam Gottleib's name was drawn, however, he was not in attendance. Tonight's draw was for \$75. Scott March's name was drawn and he was not in attendance unfortunately. The next draw will be for \$100.

**FISHING REPORTS OR STORIES**

- Jim Dunn caught a large fish
- Two fish were caught in the Channel
- Some decent fish were caught recently at Coal also. Bob Haney caught a few fish at Coal – this has been the hot spot
- Someone else mentioned that there was good fishing off the wall at Pender

**LADDERBOARD**

<b>March 2014:</b>
<b>Winner of Draw is:</b> John Oja

**PREMIER DERBY RESULTS – April 6, 2013**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Don McIvor – 18lb 7oz – Hamley Point - hootchy
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Brian Dunic – 15lb 7oz – Coal Island - strip
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Christos Macris – 9lb 6oz – Coal Island - anchovy
- 4<sup>th</sup> Joyce Menzies- 7lb 13oz – Sunkist house - coyote
- 5<sup>th</sup> Gerry Fisher – 6lb 9oz – Fairfax Point – anchovy

Colin Menzies – 6lb 3oz – Sunkist house - coyote

**NEXT DERBY –**

- *Annual Sidney Anglers' Derby May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>*
- *Spring Derby – May 18*

**TONIGHTS SPEAKER:**

Our speaker at this meeting was *Tom Davis* who spoke to the members about Fishing the Annual Sidney Anglers' Salmon Derby. Tom is the former owner of Rhys-Davis lures and a life member of the Sidney Anglers' Association. He is extremely knowledgeable in a number of areas of fishing and conservation issues and has written many articles for magazines and other publications. His presentations to the membership are always enjoyed by everyone in attendance and this one did not fail to provide the same quality of information and entertainment. Thanks again Tom.

**UPCOMING SPEAKER:**

To be announced

**NEXT MEETING DATE:** Monday, May 26, 2014

A Motion for adjournment was made by Eric Oja and seconded by Jim Halston. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.