

26 May 2014

Hook, Line & Sinker

A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE "SIDNEY ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION"



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.

www.sidneyanglers.com

Next Meeting

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Date: Sunday, 22 June 2014

Where: North Saanich Yacht Club

MINUTES OF THE ANGLERS' GENERAL MEETING

26 May 2014

Members and Guests Present – 47

President Brian Dunic called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm It was moved by Doug Ellison and seconded by Don McIvor that the minutes of the last meeting (April 28, 2014) be accepted. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW MEMBERS/GUESTS/VISITORS

Rick Brand

(We hope that we haven't misspelled your names)

CORRESPONDENCE

N/A

INTRODUCTION OF OUR COMMUNITY ADVISOR – Shona Smith

Our DFO Community Advisor, Shona Smith was introduced and she gave us all a brief overview of her role.

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 Clive Lane and seconded by Grant MacPherson to accept the report. The membership were all in favour.

TOWN OF SIDNEY – Brian Dunic

The rocks have been moved so we don't have to be as careful.

RAMP DUTY – Larry Dalziel

Larry gave an overview of the role of performing ramp duty and stated that we require two people for each Saturday, Sunday and Stat holidays between now and labour day. He advised that he would be passing around a volunteer sheet for the ramp duty.

ANNUAL DERBY UPDATE

It was reported by Rick Fell that the Derby was extremely successful this year, there were more fishers, more sponsors, more cash and merchandise prizes. He advised that Jim brought in more money than anyone and noted that he was astonished at the number of contacts Jim had and utilized in order to ensure the success of this Derby. He further advised that a lot of people needed to be acknowledged for their job well done as volunteers and members of the Derby Committee. Thanks you's were given to all.

It was announced that Bill Stringer had agreed to be next year's Derby Chairman and will be calling on others to assist him.

SALMONID ENHANCEMENT EVALUATION COMMITTEE – Grant MacPherson

Obviously we have more money to invest in our activities thanks to the Derby. A meeting is being scheduled as soon as a new Committee is appointed.

COWICHAN ROUND TABLE – Ken Clements/Claude Theriault

Restoration is being done on Sandy Pool, the parking area, mulching the banks and cottownwood and on the boulders at the pullout. Otherwise, two presentations were given: one on aquifers in the Duncan area and the other on the estuary log booms causing damage (this is an ongoing problem dealing with western forest projects). Also there is a team doing swims to count fry and smolts in the river and the bay.

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

Not much to say here as Ian Bruce is our speaker and will be providing further information. We haven't been recording the great numbers of smolts we were earlier and things are winding down so we will soon be removing the smolt trap.

2. Sidney Anglers' BBQ & June Meeting – June 22, 2014

Members were reminded that our BBQ will be held at the North Saanich Yacht Club and the Secretary will be sending out more details for all of the members. 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 Royal Victoria Yacht Club BBQ festivities.

NEW BUSINESS:**1. Net Pen**

Clive Lane and Grant MacPherson confirmed 22,000 coho will be going into a net pen for the final year and they are ready now. Brian Dunic stated that Dan Claxton will be calling him to confirm that all of the paperwork is done. We are looking at the second week of June and will be calling on a work party to set up the net pen. Shirley will send out an email to solicit volunteers for this and for the various other related activities including feeding of the smolts.

2. New Project SAA Members might be interested in – Clive Lane

Clive mentioned a new proposed project for herring enhancement. He had read that Squamish Streamkeepers lost a tremendous amount of herring due to various things such as kreosote on the docks, etc... and what they have done is wrap kreosote and concrete pilings with black mat (similar to what is used in gardens to keep back weeds). They put out clothesline with fabric below the surface and spawn collects on there. This year they had 20 million eggs and this also attracted other aquatic food for salmon and young coho to feed off of. They had funding from DFO for their project. Dr. John Matson has a presentation on their activities, etc., and they would be interested in doing one for us.

New Project SAA Members – Cont'd

Our Community Advisor, Shona Smith advised that she would check the internal process and what is required in terms of approvals and will provide us with any info she finds. Clive was reminded by Executive that all of these ideas do take a considerable amount of work and that we have difficulties finding enough members to carry out the activities we are involved in now. He was asked also to check with our Eel Grass contact to see what activities they may have already in process or if they are thinking of doing anything like this. Further thought and consideration will be given to this idea and perhaps further discussion at a later date, once all of the information is gathered.

3. Prawns – Richard Lake

He provided an update on the prawn issue. He advised that we have all been concerned about prawns and that there has been some correspondence with DFO on the issue which has been quite positive. The information coming to his attention lately has indicated that commercial exploitation has been down of late but he asked, if there is anyone who knows anything different or new please talk to him and let him know on the break.

4. John Tapio

John advised the membership that he had recently won a prize for one free month of dry storage at Van Isle marina and unlimited launch access. He cannot use this and he will bring this to the BBQ to give away.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE DRAW

At the last meeting Scott March's name was drawn for \$75., however, he was not in attendance, therefore tonight's draw is for \$100. The winner this evening was Don Carter. Congratulations Don.

FISHING REPORTS OR STORIES

None to report.

LADDERBOARD

April 2014:
Winner of Draw is: Russ Flower

SPRING DERBY RESULTS – May 18, 2013

- 1st Anna Kosick - 8lbs 12oz. Saanichton Spit - Tiny Teaser
2nd Brian Smith - 7lbs 7oz. Hamley Pt. - Cop Car Spoon.
3rd Murray Kosick - 7lbs 3oz. Saanichton Spit - Tiny Teaser

No other fish weighed in.

NEXT DERBY –

President's Derby – Sunday, June 8, 2014 – this has been changed from the one indicated in the Tide Book. The Secretary will send out a reminder.

TONIGHTS SPEAKER:

Ian Bruce, Peninsula Streams Society, gave a very informative powerpoint presentation on their activities and listed all of the creeks and activities that they are working on and have worked on. This is just some of what he presented.

He showed a detailed map of Reay Creek and its depths and contours and talked about the historical activities of both Sidney Anglers and Peninsula Streams in working on this creek. In addition he talked about the sediment contamination and the upgrades done by the airport in addition to discussing the sediment core sampling that has been done and discussing the very scary implications, etc. He advised that as soon as they get the analysis back of the sediment samples they will be calling another public meeting.

Mr. Bruce went on to talk about the current activities of our members Grant MacPherson, Rick Brand, and himself with some much needed construction assistance from Scott March and Wayne Lussier. Further he showed a graph showing the relationship of precipitation and the numbers of coho smolts in the creek. He said that in total to date, they had 478 coho smolts come through the trap as well as some skulpin, sticklebacks and one trout, all of which has provided us with some good information on numbers and timing of their movements out to the ocean. He advised that DFO was amazed at the results from the smolt trap and that we have actually observed natural reproduction in this creek. He said that we could expect on a prediction of 500 smolts coming back that 10 percent (so 50 coho adults) could be returning to the creek each year. What is amazing is that for such a short stretch of creek to have this many returns. He went on to say that if we added more rearing habitat, we could go to 60 or a maximum of 100 coho returning. He mentioned that 500 to 1500 smolts are released in the creek each year but until now we had no information about how many survived and were going out to sea.

For those of you who are interested, an article on our activities in Reay Creek is coming out in this June's edition of Pacific Yachting. This will be a very informative article written by Tom Davis. He encouraged everyone to read it.

Ian told us that years ago a farmer put an irrigation damn in the creek further up and it was rebuilt in the 60's and 70's when the subdivision went in. DFO actually engineered it. Tom Davis gave Grant and Ian the archives with photos showing it has been built properly. Slopes can be changed adding more material and face and spillways reconfigured. There is no reason (the town is looking into this) to tear the damn out, we can tune it up and make other efficiencies. Fish get through there all of the time. If we do work on the damn we will just make it better.

Of course all of these activities take a lot of money and Peninsula Streams is extremely thankful to Sidney Anglers for the support they have given over the years and for the much needed support that they look forward to receiving from us both financially and in terms of volunteers in the future.

UPCOMING SPEAKER:

To be announced.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

BBQ and Meeting **Sunday 22, June 2014, at the North Saanich Yacht Club.**

ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion for adjournment was made by Clive Lane and seconded by

Grant MacPherson. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.