

Roundtable Report
June 11-14, 2023
SEHAB Member: Janet Lemon
North coast Area
Community Advisor: Rob Dams

Key Issues:

1. Oldfield Creek Hatchery will relocate to Port Edward, and they are looking for all the support they can get
2. Climate change is on the front burner as floods, droughts and extreme low temperatures have caused many issues for the salmon streams and for all the facilities in our area. Volunteers and groups have no extra money to implement climate change preparedness.

Some highlights of the various groups on the North Coast

Kispiox Area: New hatchery is to be built at Gitwanow as the Kitwanga group begin to enhancement their sockeye run. This year they took 20K eggs and sent them to be incubated at Snootly Hatchery in Bella Coola however eggs had to be destroyed as they had BK and IHN. They will try again and hope to do 50 K next year. .

Eby Street Hatchery: continues to be an active group. They now have the Zymacord river designated as an indicator stream for lower Skeena Coho. They marked 20,000 coho with coded wire tags They received their funding from the Northern Fung

Hartley Bay Hatchery: The group have a new stream bottom intake and new streamside intake through BC Salmon Restoration and Innovative funding. With the re-plumbing and repairs they plan to have it operational by the fall egg intake but that may be subject to low summer flows. North West Hydraulics is doing the work

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Oldfield creek Hatchery: The Society has undergone a stressful time after the rockslide in November 2021. The group now has McElhanney engineering Firm doing the planning for the relocation. They need to be sure the water supply will be enough since they have to get it from the Port Edward town supply. They have good Community support and several partners.

The Lakelse Watershed Society: This group are keeping active and have a potential at the Lakelse hot springs regarding geothermal. They are asking for Lakelse to be designated as a sensitive water area.

They continue doing the underwater video camera project and are setting base line data on air and water quality They have also been working on a Public interpretive trail.

Steelhead Society is monitoring a gravel pit along the Skeena which traps up to 3-6K fry etc. when the waters recede. They hope to be able to channel it out or fill it in,

Syewart continues to monitor and will be pulling out the Clements beaver Dam.

Coastal First Nations are hoping to install a water system so they can enhance the chum run in the Kalum River. They have funding from BC SHRIF. They have been drilling water test holes.