

Nootka Sound Watershed Society
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday April 27, 2016
Council of Chiefs Boardroom, Tsaxana 7:00 PM

1. Welcome and Introductions – 7:07 pm

Attendance:

Dick Dennison, Vice President Cheryle Miner, Treasurer Lyndy Vroom, Secretary Pat Dennison, GR Resources Ken Smith, GR Streamkeepers Section Paul Kutz, Western Forest Products Kadin Snook, MMFN Fisheries Coordinator	Dave Davies, DFO, Community Advisor Marcel Miner, GR Streamkeepers Craig Blackie, Grieg Seafood Rod McLeod, Councillor, Village of Gold River Rick Jones, GR Rod and Gun Club Louis VanSolkema, Councillor, Village of Tahsis Chris Erikson, DFO, Conuma Hatchery
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2. Review and adopt of the Agenda - Moved by Pat. 2nd by Cheryle. All in favour. Motion carried
3. Review and adopt of the minutes April 6, 2016 - Moved by Pat. 2nd by Cheryle. All in favour. Motion carried.
4. Review of action items from April 6, 2016 meeting

Action Items: NEW ITEMS

Action	Who	Completed
Letter to Grieg Seafood re: donation	Cheryle	DONE
Email Cheryle copy of PSF applications – transport tank and Zeballos	Kent	DONE
Invite Elmar to send a monthly report on Zeballos Hatchery that we can report at meetings	Sam	Report from Craig - Zeballos released all their fry from hatchery already – Grieg Seafood is going to go help set them up with water issues etc.
Confirm availability for next meeting at Tsaxana	Kent	Done
Confirm number of volunteers covered	Kent	Done – report in old business

Action Items: ONGOING ITEMS

Action	Who	Completed
Keep in contact with Sean Wong, Ministry of Transportation	Marcel	ONGOING – Rupert Wong was approached the other day and happy to work with NSWS as contractor will review and get back to us with pricing
Letter to Minister re: budget cuts with DFO, the impacts / effects that has.	Kent	ONGOING
Terms of Reference		ONGOING Kent looking at a simpler version and will present to us at another meeting.
Ongoing discussion with gillnetters re:stewardship fish	Dick/ Kent	ONGOING
Volunteer form	Bruce to circulate	ONGOING – look at condensed version and comment (Bruce emailed) Volunteer handbook – too long we need to have a smaller one to be easier more concise and immediately useable

Invite Mel Sheng to meeting to give presentation	Roger	ONGOING – email sent to Mel
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5. Old Business

a. Fisheries Stewardship Coordinator Reports – Sam and Bruce

West coast aquatic may be looking for funding for fall to continue with the stewardship coordinators – We need to talk to Tawney about all the projects that did not get finished due to time constraints. **ACTION** – to further discuss the continuation of the stewardship coordinators.

PSF funding for radios - \$1500 – this application went in to PSF for equipment for seining – the board feels they did not know anything about this application – some misunderstanding and confusion regarding this. PSF called Moutcha Bay to ask why they are not funding the radios for NSW, are there any other applications out there that we don't know about it. Dave reminded the board that the PSF application was discussed at previous meetings as going in for beach seining equipment- radios being only one item on the list of equipment required.

Where is the PSF application for the \$1500 for radios or beach seining **ACTION** – get a copy of PSF applications from Sam (or Tawney?)

Bruce – Report attached - **ACTION** – decide - are we going to finish the brochure?

Sam – Dave to report -

RFCPP funding – three requirements needed - need to have a plan (prescription) in place already, funding for the purpose of creating/ restoring fish habitat, require lots of money to add – in-kind

The applications that they were working on did not have all the requirements needed

Could not do it – Dave is going to try to help (assuming that we have coordinators in the fall)

Dave working with Shannon to maybe replace a culvert in the Canton – not sure all the history but looking at what to do here.

Dave feels they may be able to have a project in place for the fall and reapply to the RFCPP.

Tahsis / Leiner Estuary Update – successful beach seines- done two so far - first time 2 volunteers, yesterday 4 volunteers. Lots of fry in one spot next to eel grass right where road hits water. Water quality testing and invertebrate sampling under program from UVic – will submit data to UVic and they will report back on findings.

Plan is to do three more May 10, May 26, June 9, June 23 look at Sam's poster! **ACTION** – re circulate poster

b. Dunlop Fence /Feeding chinook at Muchalat Lake pen –

it is requested that the 7 volunteers that are doing daily checks on Dunlop Creek smolt indicator fence also go to Muchalat Lake to feed and look after the Gold River Chinook that will be in a pen tied at the dock for a few weeks.

c. Hatchery Update-

Conuma- Chris read the status report, the fish on hand at the hatchery - released all the chum, Conuma Chinook early group in the seapens, Burman Chinook went out to sea pen, Gold Chinook to lake pen tomorrow

One small well has been redeveloped increasing our water supply; Circular tubs for rearing are on their way looking at putting in 8 - 12&16ft tubs

Clipping – Moutcha bay has committed to clip all the fish – **ACTION** – Lyndy – email Heidi Fuerste about the possible timing and clipping numbers

Transport tank – ordered

Tahsis- all fish in seapens, Leiner in the pen for 3-4 weeks, Tahsis moved last week – all by themselves.

Zeballos – Craig gave an update in Action items.

d. Fisheries Management / Area 25 Harvest Committee updates - Dick/Kent (neither were able to attend meeting)

KADIN – they discussed a letter from SFA to close commercial prawn fishery.

Discussed looking at conservation closure, and do it an area closure – changing some of the catch limits (over/under)

Rogers's presentation – request to do gillnet in early July to catch the extra fish coming to Conuma

Chum discussion – same limited access as last year – if abundance goes up then it could be a bigger fishery

Possible opening from Victor Island to the Burman – if test fishery goes well. It has been acknowledged that this is an enhanced fishery.

MMFN is hiring two creel surveyors for the sockeye and may even be funding for more bio-sampling during fishery openings.

ACTION -Kadin is going to write a proposal to NSWS to help fund someone to help with info gathering at the docks re: when and where the fish were caught. **ACTION** add to the next agenda.

- e. **Insurance** – Kent – confirmed by email with insurance company - that this is to be a blanket coverage – recognizing that volunteers come and go and we do not want to try to administer individual names.

6. New Business -none

7. Correspondence - none

8. Financial Report

Financial Report was read by Cheryle.

MOTION to accept financial report. Moved by Pat. 2nd by Craig. All in favour. Motion carried

9. Next Meeting - Wed May 25th **Tahsis – Elementary school – 7pm**

10. Adjournment –8:32 Cheryle