

Nootka Sound Watershed Society
Draft Minutes
Wednesday, October 25th 2017
Western Forest Products Boardroom, 7pm

1. Welcome and Introductions –

Attendance:

Kent O'Neill - President, NSWS Teresa O'Neill - Treasurer, NSWS Frank Collins - TSES Marcel Miner - GR Streamkeepers Jason Kydd- TSES Ricki Moore - TSES Dave Davies - Community Advisor, DFO	Lyndy Vroom - Conuma Hatchery, DFO Ken Smith - GR Resident Darcy Curr - Village of Gold River Steve Bradley - GR Resident Craig Blackie - Grieg Seafood Roger Dunlop - Fisheries Biologist, Nuchalnuh Tribal Council
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- b. Review and adopt of the Agenda – **Motion to accept: Teresa 2nd: Ken**
 2. Review and adopt of the minutes September 27th, 2017 – **Motion to accept: Frank 2nd: Craig**
 3. Review of action items from September 27th, 2017 meeting -

Action Items: NEW ITEMS

Action	Who	Completed
Contact Conuma Excavating and BC Hydro re: Big Bend	Kent and Sam	Kent contacted, Conuma Excavating wants to get paid for any trucking costs. BC Hydro - left message. Explained what we were doing.
Forward and publish Dunlop Creek data on website	Sam	Ongoing
Look into steelhead enumeration and possibility of funding	Kent	Phoned mike mccullugh, did some work this summer - via electro shocking on the Gold River. Budgetted 27 000 to be more aggressive with enumeration. Ongoing
Write thank you letter to E&B Helicopters	Kent	Done
Re-advertise NSWS Conuma labourer position	Sam	Ongoing
Contact Stacey Last re: Zeballos updates	Kent	Ongoing

Action Items: ONGOING ITEMS

Action	Who	Completed
Signage/ pictures at Big Bend –	Sam and Craig	Ongoing
Letter to Minister re: budget cuts with DFO, the impacts / effects that has.	Kent	Ongoing
Terms of Reference	Kent	Ongoing
Send MMFN Creel Survey funding proposal to NSWS	Kadin	Ongoing

5. **Old Business**

- a. **Fisheries Stewardship Coordinator Report.**
 b. **Fisheries Habitat**

Dave: Shannon Anderson and Dave are going to look at Leiner Creek November 1st.

Roger: working on proposal to Nuchalnullh Tribal Council involving using aboriginal rights to further the cause. More info to come.

c. **Hatchery Update**

i. **Conuma -**

Conuma Chum - 277 4048 eggs in incubation

Thupana Chum - 742 813 - eggs in incubation

Conuma Chinook - 3 319 152 eggs in incubation, including 0.5million river release group

Burman Chunook 399 128 eggs in incubation - Great collaboration between Shane and Kadins team to collect more eggs.

Gold R Chinook - 224 466 eggs in incubation - bears got a lot of females - if targets aren't met then all will be released in lake pen group.

Clipped Coho smolts - 98 180

ii. **Tahsis -**

Frank: Fantastic returns this year, brood capture was successful.

Issues: Surface water supply is an issue - there is sand in the pipes. Need to have someone take a look and give estimate to fix/replace.

ACTION: Dave Davies will contact DFO engineers.

iii. **Zeballos -** Roger - with loss of Elmar there is a lack of capacity so only doing school education component for now.

d. **Fisheries Management / Area 25 Harvest Committee updates**

Roger - seeing large numbers of Chinook in the Burman - a large proportion of these are clipped (likely Robinson Creek) fish. In total 2000 adults were tagged and had over 300 marked recaptures. Radio tagged 30 chum and 1 coho. Average freshwater lifespan (3 fish) was 10 days. There was a relationship observed between entry time and freshwater lifespan.

Kent - finished in season phone calls - there is still an ongoing limited entry chum fishery as of last Friday (October 20th, 2017)

Kent - need to ask DFO for better enumeration on Gold River and clear escapement goals.

Roger - we are putting our chinook stocks at risk by how we manage SEP protocols. We need to be able to mark all chinook and select for wild fish in enhancement protocol. It is expensive to do an adipose clip, but Kadin worked out that it would cost approximately 7 cents per fish to ventral clip. The NSWS would need to pay for assessment and marking - it would be a 3-4 year investment before returns were seen.

Kent - need to develop plan to allocate funding to marking.

Dave - latest from DFO is that SEP protocols/assessment will move towards PNI (proportion natural influence)

Kent: last year we stepped away from stewardship fishery, owners was put on user groups - Bill Peeron (sp) asking wholesale seafood distributors to get their buyers to donate to us.

6. **New Business**

Roger: DFO is consulting about Wild Salmon Policy - he will attend meeting.

7. **Correspondence**

8. **Financial Report**

Teresa went over the financial report - **Motion to accept: Roger 2nd: Frank**

9. **Next Meeting**

Wednesday November 29th 2017, 7pm. Location: TBA

10. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn: Frank, 2nd: Ricki