

Nootka Sound Watershed Society  
Draft Minutes  
Wednesday, September 27th 2017  
The Lodge at Gold River, 7pm

1. Welcome and Introductions –

Attendance:

Kent O'Neill - President, NSWS Ricki Moore - TSES Paul Kutz - Western Forest Products Marcel Miner - Streamkeepers Chris Erickson - Conuma Hatchery Frank Collins - TSES Dave Davies - Community Advisor, DFO	Craig Blackie - Grieg Seafood Teresa O'Neill - Treasurer, NSWS Samantha Kagan - Secretary, NSWS
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- b. Review and adopt of the Agenda – **Motion to accept: Ricki 2nd: Teresa**
2. Review and adopt of the minutes June 15th, 2017 – **Motion to accept: Ricki 2nd: Frank**
3. Review of action items from June 15th, 2017 meeting -

Action Items: NEW ITEMS

Action	Who	Completed
Follow up with Craig re: Griegs seapens for TSES	Kent	Ongoing - Craig - yes we can help out, pens out at Seychelles area, right size, question is when? Before April?
Call BC Hydro contact re: Big Bend	Kent	Done - Kent registered for mailing list re: BC Hydro FWCP funding.
Send MMFN Creel Survey funding proposal to NSWS	Kadin	Ongoing

Action Items: ONGOING ITEMS

Action	Who	Completed
Look into whats left to do at Big Bend	Kent and Sam	Kent - to call Hydro Sam - to call Mark at Conuma Excavating Paul Kutz - cedar available through WFP
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 Sam Big Bend Creek Data	Marcel, Roger	Complete
Speak to Mike re: collaborative agreement	Kent	Complete

5. Old Business

a. **Fisheries Stewardship Coordinator Report.**

Kent - got email that funding almost secure

b. **Fisheries Habitat**

**Dave** - Louis Vansolkema approached Dave - has habitat project - restoring fish passage to pond on Leiner River

c. **Hatchery Update**

i. **Conuma -**

**Chris** - Returns are looking good - 9000 Chinook after all SEP, ESSR, etc. Looks like a healthy number.  
Burman Chinook, Gold River Chinook looking good - 3000 in the pump house pool, Pink salmon also.

**Kent** - taking the Gold River issue to area 25 - need to enumerate better, should be an opportunity to sport fish there.

**Chris** - also thinks there should be a sport opening as no conservation issue there - need to lay down an escapement goal

**Chris** - Conuma Coho - all clipped, approx. 97 000

- Holding GR chinook - not positive how many between 400 - 500 000 eggs.

- Start taking eggs tomorrow (SEPT 28) AM. will know by the end tomorrow.

- Conuma Chunook: taken 3.2million eggs

- Burman Chinook: taken 322 480 eggs. Shane is taking more tomorrow.

**ACTION:** Kent to write letter to E&B Helicopters

d.

ii. **Tahsis -**

**Frank** - very exciting, having record months. Swimmers estimate 1500 - 2000 chinook in Leiner River with fish still swimming in. Estimate 400 fish in Tahsis River.

TSES has taken 156 000 - 166 000 Chinook eggs.

Anticipating full egg targets from both Rivers. Goal: 300 000 fry release between both rivers.

iii. **Zeballos -**

**ACTION:** Kent to call Stacey re: Zeballos update

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

**Kent** - had in season calls each week (almost) - unsure of AREA D contributions - to be determined

6. **New Business**

a. **NICF**

**Dave** - thinking about estuary projects

**Kent** - called Mike McColluch Coastal BC Steelhead Biologist. re: state of steelhead in the River. We could try to secure funding to enumerate steelhead

**ACTION:** Kent to find out more

**Frank** on behalf of Frank Falavolitto - concerned about lack of chinook in Canton River. Is it because pool is filled in?

**Craig** - Kadin counted 80 chinook yesterday (September 26th 2017)

**Chris** - historically Canton not a chinook river. count of 94 in canton 35 years ago - not far off from what we're seeing now.

**Frank** - if chinook in canton are Conuma strays, this could be changing once Conuma fry get better influence from Conuma River with new pen location

b. **Grieg Seafood Update**

**Craig** - Grieg has new pens in Tahsis and has leased a new boat for transport and lice treatments. Will decrease likelihood that treated lice will be lost to the environment - will collect inside boat instead. Studies performed last year by consultants to Griegs suggest that treated lice do not re-attach to out migrating juvenile salmon. DFO performed its own lice surveys and will release study soon.

**c. NWS Conuma Hatchery Hire**

**Chris** - need to find replacement for Shane. So far no suitable candidates found  
**ACTION:** Sam to re-advertise position

**7. Correspondence**

Letter to Grieg Seafood - appreciation certificate for donation and support.

**8. Financial Report**

Issued cheque for educational food program  
\$21 000 from cougar creek from membership sales  
**Motion to accept:** Craig **2nd:** Frank

**9. Next Meeting**

**October 25th 2017 Location TBD**

**10. Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn:** Paul **2nd:** Teresa