

What's up at ARMS?

Alouette River Management Society

24959 Alouette Road, Allco Park, Maple Ridge, BC

Tel: 604-467-6401 Fax: 604-467-6478

Website: www.alouetteriver.org Email: arms@telus.net



Spring 2008

Upcoming Events

April 19 – Spring Festival, Maple Ridge Park, 11am to 3pm
Join ARMS for a ceremonial salmon fry release at 1pm.

April 22 to 24 – Aboriginal Days at the Rivers Heritage Centre with School District # 43.

April 26 – Earth Day, Memorial Peace Park, Maple Ridge, 11am to 3pm

May 3 – Port Moody Ecological Society's Fingerling Festival, Port Moody, 11am to 3pm

May 29 – Annual General Meeting for 2007-2008, Rivers Heritage Centre, 6pm

Alouette River Sockeye Trap and Truck

ARMS is pleased to announce our application to BC Hydro's Bridge Coastal Fish & Wildlife Restoration Program (BCRP) for "Alouette River Sockeye Trap and Truck Proposal" has been approved for the 2008 project year.

The \$124,100 project will proceed with \$80,300 funded by BCRP and will be managed and administrated by ARMS. Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) will provide in-kind technical assistance and ALLCO Community Hatchery-BC Corrections and BC Hydro will provide in-kind support.

The specific project deliverables are to:

- Modify the existing river brood stock diversion fence and salmon capture trap at ALLCO Hatchery
- Fabricate and equip a trailer to transport sockeye above the Alouette dam thereby facilitating a natural spawning process above this barrier
- Modify a transport vehicle to tow this transport trailer
- Fund genetic sampling cost on returning sockeye

In awarding this project to ARMS, BC Hydro and the granting public board, BCRP, have recognized the great opportunity we have to reestablish a sockeye run in the Alouette from kokanee, the original landlocked genetic stock.

The key that has brought the Alouette sockeye project to this developmental stage is partnerships along the way. BC Corrections, DFO, Ministry of Environment, BC Hydro, Katzie First Nations, and ARMS have formed the Alouette River Sockeye Re-anadromization Project Committee to oversee the reintroduction of sockeye into the Alouette.

ARMS continues to take on the role of leading and advocating for our community's wish to protect and enhance salmon stocks in the Alouette. The future looks bright for Alouette sockeye and we thank all of you for your support now and in the coming years as we reintroduce a lost race of salmon to the Alouette Watershed.

Scouts are Environmental Stewards

This spring and winter the First Division of the Laityview Scouts have taken time to give back to the environment. Organized by the ARMS, the troop split into two groups. The first group adopted a section of Balsam Creek, a block north of Maple Ridge Park. As stream stewards, the scouts removed invasive Himalayan blackberry, monitored water quality, mapped stream features, and picked up litter. The stream group was able to determine that Balsam Creek is a healthy stream with the presence of stonefly and mayfly nymphs, high oxygen and low turbidity in the water. The second group trekked through Golden Ears Provincial Park and cleared trails of debris and fallen trees in

preparation for the summer season.



Clearing trails in Golden Ears Provincial Park

The Laityview scouts wrapped up their environmental outreach with a tree planting on Saturday, April 5 along Balsam Creek. The scouts planted 300 Sitka Spruce seedlings and five 6 foot Douglas Fir in an area formerly dominated by blackberry.

Funding for Spawner Survey Kits

With the success of ARMS 2007 fall salmon spawner surveys in four Alouette River tributaries, ARMS will be expanding the surveys in the fall of 2008. Last year, the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation trained ARMS staff and donated one spawner survey kit. This spring Pacific Salmon Foundation has awarded ARMS with \$1400 to purchase spawner survey kits.

The kits include polarized sunglasses, measuring tape, fish dissection knife, thermometer,

salmon identification cards, write-in-the-rain paper, and neoprene gloves. ARMS will also be able to purchase waders for our volunteers, as many of the streams are inaccessible from the banks and must be entered to be able to count fish.

ARMS would like to thank the Pacific Salmon Foundation and the Pacific Streamkeepers Federation for their continued support.

Spring Break Camp

It was a cool and grey spring break this year, but somehow ARMS Spring Break Eco-Camp was spared a typical spring downpour. This year spring break was only four days and ARMS educators were able to fill each day with great games, crafts and activities. Our participants enjoyed such themes as Friendly Forest Day with a scavenger hunt and a tree planting, Lizard and Salamander Day with amphibian bingo and a salamander hunt, Bear and Cougar Day with bear and cougar masks and safety skits, and Freshwater Fish Day with fish feeding and a fish release.



Allco Park tree planting

Spring & Summer Programs at Rivers Heritage Centre

Evening Hatchery Tour and Nature Walk

This is a great activity for the entire family. Come and learn about your local fish hatchery, see the baby salmon, and release them into the Alouette River. A guided nature walk in Allco Park rounds out the evening.

Wednesdays, 6pm

May 7, 22 and June 4

BC Mammals Day Camp

What mammals live in our forest and just who really eats whom? Are these animals dangerous and how do we live among them? This camp will explore all of these questions with FUN activities, games and crafts. Topics include: bears, cougars, wolves, and coyotes.

July 9, 9:30am to 3:30pm

Bugs and Slugs Camp

Why are slugs slimy? Why do some bugs have 6 legs and some have 8? How do aquatic insects breathe underwater? Spend three days investigating terrestrial insects, aquatic insects, and slugs with creepy and crawly crafts and games.

July 14 to 16, 9:30am to 3:30pm

Owls and Rodents Day Camp

Do you know how owls and rodents are connected? Come and find out by seeing a live owl, dissecting real owl pellets, exploring their habitats, and playing games. It is a day filled with OWLY FUN!

July 23, 9:30am to 3:30pm

Wildlife Week

Take a walk on the wild side with Wildlife Week! Become a junior biologist and enjoy a wide variety of nature themes with different crafts, games, and activities each day. Themes this year include: Tuesday – Forest Detectives, Wednesday – Endangered Species, Thursday – Things that Fly, and Friday – Stream Creatures.

August 5 to 8, 9:30am to 3:30pm

Outdoor Adventure Day Camp

This one day camp explores the basics of safe, fun camping, and outdoor survival. Participants will learn how to put up a tent, and will have a chance to cook outdoors. Activities include outdoor games, treasure hunts, and orienteering.

August 20, 9:30am to 3:30pm



Summer camp wheelbarrow races

Contact ARMS for info: 604-467-6401 or armseducation@telus.net

For details or to register, contact Parks and Leisure Services at

604-467-7322 or 604-465-2470 or www.recreg4u.ca

**2007-2008
Board of Directors**

Geoff Clayton
Co-Chair

Gerry Miller
Co-Chair

Mike Ilaender
Treasurer

Ron MacLean
Director

Cheryl Power
Director

Bing Pare
Director

Zale Hammren
Director

Rick Bailey
Director

Keith MacGuire
Director

Staff

Amanda Balcke
Administrator

Kathryn Shiratti
Education
Coordinator



*"Through partnerships and education,
empower the community to take ownership and
responsibility of the natural environment"*

Join the
Alouette River Management Society

If you would like to become a member of ARMS, please complete the following registration and return it by mail or drop it off at 24595 Alouette Road, Allco Park, Maple Ridge.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Annual Membership Type:

Individual - \$10

Corporate - \$100

Area of Interest:

Rivers Heritage Centre

Environmental Education

Watershed Projects

Native Plant Nursery

Stewardship Issues

Habitat Protection

Nature and Wildlife

Fish and Hatchery Projects

Urbanization Issues

Other: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____