

COWICHAN STEWARDSHIP ROUNDTABLE NOTES

DATE: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020: 9am to 12:00 pm Zoom meeting, invite will be sent out prior to mtg.

Questions? Write to co-chairs at cowichanstewardshiproundtable@gmail.com

Time	Agenda Item
9:00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome and acknowledgement that we meet on Coast Salish peoples' land ● Appreciation to Tom Rutherford, Jill Thompson and the Cowichan Watershed Board for kindly donating the Zoom platform for our meeting. ● Regrets: Tom Rutherford CWB, Geoff Strong, Environmental Scientist ● Attending: Parker Jefferson Co-Chair CSRT, Genevieve Singleton Co-Chair CSRT, Jill Thompson Cowichan Watershed Board , Eric Marshall Cowichan Valley Naturalists' Society, Brian Houle Paper Excellence, Rick Bryan Paddle Sports, Pam Jorgenson Mosaic Forestry, Edmond Duggan Paddlers, Barry Hetschko Somenos Marsh Society, Dave Preikshot District of North Cowichan, Joe Saysall Friends of the Cowichan, Sierra Harvey Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre, Joy Wade Fundy Aqua Services, Richard Lake Sidney Anglers, Stephanie Cottrell Cowichan Land Trust, Elodie Roger Somenos Marsh Society, Jane Kilthei One Cowichan, Cowichan Estuary Nature Centre, Ian Morrison, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Tim Kulchyski Cowichan Tribes, Karen and Jim Deck Save Our Holmes Society, Ian Douglas, DFO Community Advisor
9:10-9:30 CSRT Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Karen Deck has offered to take notes monthly. Thank you, Karen. ● Decision about River Day held over ● December meeting: Stephanie Cottrell will talk about Best Waterways, suggestion to have smaller zoom rooms at this meeting to allow for social interaction. Further discussion on Terms of Reference at future meetings. ● Request from BCCF to speak in February. ● Terms of Reference was discussed, suggestions will be incorporated into a draft and be sent out for review.
Approximate start of 9:30 depending on Terms of Reference discussion	<p>Round the Table</p> <p>Tim Kulchyski: Minister McKenna announced a \$24.2 million grant to Cowichan Tribes. Now their efforts around flooding will catch up to municipal projects, i.e. diking. Cowichan Tribes is also trying to collect base line information on the Cowichan and Koksilah Rivers. Funds have been at a stalemate since the '90's. COVID has made it difficult to have physical team meetings and Cowichan Tribes' capacity has been stretched, making applying for grants more difficult. Tim</p>

mentioned the Salish Sea as one of the initiatives in line. Escapement for Chum is close.

Parker Jefferson: The restoration on Riverbottom oxbow was very successful.

Genevieve: Stoltz Bluff is blown out; restoration is needed. Next steps will be discussed in the new year with BC Parks and BCCF.

Dave Preikshot: NC council approved an environmental advisory committee. It will consist of 9 people who will be looking at climate change policy and general environmental issues.

Jill Thompson: appreciation was given to Jill for all her help with Zoom meetings.

Rick Bryan: COVID and associated restrictions have increased peoples' desire for recreational opportunities and instruction.

Eric Marshall: The number of sea lions in Cowichan Bay is down. Perhaps they're out fishing or moving on. A rare long tail duck was spotted for the second time ever. Lots of ducks in the bay. 24 eagles seen

Edmond Duggan: BC Parks has found a replacement for Christine Rikley. There are lots of trees in the river these days.

Stephanie Cottell: will present information about Best Waterways in December.

Quamichan Middle School is using the resources and restoration activities.

Cowichan Land Trust's Forest Beyond Trees project: forest ecosystem restoration on private land covenant, conservation on private land; reports available soon.

Barry Hetschko: A Trumpeter Swan was shot on the south side of the bay, also putting people in danger. Save Our Estuary is also concerned about the trailer park. Swan and goose count is cancelled this season; searching for ways to have a COVID safe way to conduct the Christmas bird count.

Jane Kilthei: Eric Marshall's birthday party at the Nature Centre and fundraiser were successful. The heron web cam will be live on the website in February.

Sierra Harvey: Eco-Action had a successful restoration season. Dave Polster and Genevieve Singleton provided a restoration workshop for youth. Several classes did restoration work at Bright Angel Park.

Water conservation workshop to take place the following weekend. The Centre will be closed until Feb. 1.

Ian Morrison: on the UBCM board of directors, and on First Nations relations and environmental committees. Told attendees there will be an important message from Dr. Bonnie Henry today. Re: Regional Parkland Acquisition Fund. There is division on the board as to amount of money to be spent on this item. Budget discussions will take place over the next 6 weeks. The rezoning of Greendale Rd will likely be adopted in 3rd reading. Regarding Estuary campground proposal. The Board of Directors referred this to the Government, who will be making a decision on the application.

Ian Douglas: It's been a challenge to catch brood stock for the hatchery. Production meetings next Friday regarding NGO's enhancement projects

Joy Wade: Joy and Genevieve have a small contract with DFO regarding Cowichan Lamprey; threatened species who require habitat protection. They will be educating

	<p>school and community groups about this animal and the consequences of harming its habitat. Please let them know if you know of a group that would like a presentation.</p> <p>Joe Saysall: The river is high, which is saving redds from drifters. The project on Stanley Creek is at a standstill due to damage of the riparian zone. The project to close the river from 70-mile trestle to the weir has been rejected. Orcas had been seen circling sea lions on Brentwood Bay.</p>
11:05-11:20	Brian Houle, Paper Excellence, "Overview of 2020 Weir Operations", presentation was emailed out to CSRT list serve
11:20 -11:50	Dr. David Preikshot, Engineering Department, North Cowichan Municipality, "Quamichan Lake Water Quality Update", presentation was sent out to CSRT list serve

Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of the month, except August. Upcoming meetings: Feb. 2020 Thea Rogers, BCCF, will present on findings re sun lotion in the Cowichan River. Next meeting December 17, 2020