



April/May/June
2023

Alouette River Management Society Presents...


Alouette River News

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Here are some easy tips on how you can help the declining population of pollinators. As natural habitats are continuously being destroyed and pesticide use is increasing, we are causing a significant threat to the lives of all pollinator species (bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, flies, humming birds, and even wasps).

 Plant a pollinator friendly garden this year, or add pollinator friendly plants to your existing garden! Choose plants with

lots of variety that come in different sizes and colors. This will attract a large variety of pollinators and give them many food sources! It is important to choose native and non-invasive plants to grow including lupine, lavender, rhododendrons, white clover & heather just to name a few. Another benefit of planting native species is they require less water and maintenance as they are meant for our environment.

 Being a pollinator friend, you can also create nest sites on your property to encourage a safe space for bees. Nests should be placed within 200-300 feet of plants and trees which blossom in the spring. This helps the bees conserve energy so they do not waste time foraging for food.

 This summer, try to implement one of these tactics into your garden routine to help keep pollinators healthy so they can continue their important job of pollination!



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Salmonid Enhancement Program Community Workshop

May 19th was the kick off of the three day SEP community workshop. The Salmonid Enhancement Program (SEP) is a Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) program which aims to rebuild vulnerable salmon stocks, provide harvest opportunities, work with Indigenous and coastal communities in economic development, and improve fish habitat to sustain salmon populations. DFO's network of community advisors, located across BC and the Yukon, provide ongoing technical support and guidance to assist community groups and Indigenous people in achieving their goals of supporting salmon and ecosystem health. Community advisors collaborate with community groups and networks to bring technical support and project specific expertise to community projects.

Marissa, ARMS Watershed Project Manager: "Over May long weekend we were given the opportunity to attend the Salmonid Enhancement Program's Community Workshop up in Port Hardy, BC. This was the first time I have ever attended a conference like this, and it was such a wonderful experience! It was great to be able to learn from others in the field, especially those who have had decades of involvement. To be able to share the space with so many passionate and informed stewards of the environment was something I haven't had much involvement in before, and I feel so fortunate to have experienced it."

Layla, ARMS Education Coordinator: "I had the opportunity to attend the Salmonid Enhancement Program Community Workshop in Port Hardy this May. It provided a chance to connect with people from across British Columbia who are all working to support their local salmon populations. Participants had the option to attend workshops on different topics. The highlight of the trip was visiting the Quatse Salmon Stewardship Center. Their staff lead participants on a hatchery tour and showcased different educational programs and tools they have used. I found that of value as it provided a great opportunity for me to learn from experienced people in a similar role to my own. Seeing so many passionate folks coming together to support our salmon truly made this conference an uplifting event."





ECO - Education:

Since January ARMS has taught 101 classroom workshops and field trips. The pollinator workshops were back again due to popular demand. The Butterfly Beauties workshop was the most requested, being led 29 times this spring. This workshop teaches students about the butterfly life cycle, anatomy, and classes have the opportunity to raise Painted Lady caterpillars to butterflies. The Buzzing with Bees workshop engaged students, teaching them about the life of bees. Unfortunately, we were unable to bring live bees into classrooms this year as our bees did not survive winter and we were not able to replenish our hives in time. However, we recently restarted our hive and are looking forward to having the bees out again next spring! A number of these workshops were also offered at local seniors' homes and the Ridge Meadows Seniors Center. During the spring, we ran 20 field trips at the River Heritage Center for students ranging from preschool to grade 7. The students were able to participate in various activities such as visiting the ALLCO Fish Hatchery, releasing fry, examining aquatic bugs, and taking guided forest tours to explore ALLCO Park.

ARMS hosted a Mother's Day pollinator event in Maple Ridge Park. This event engaged 35 participants who all had the opportunity to paint terracotta pots that were filled with native flower seeds, as well as plant native species in the local wetland. The event was concluded with a butterfly release in the park. This event was made possible by the financial contribution of the TELUS Friendly Future Foundation.

UPCOMING SUMMER ECO-CAMPS:

Week 1: **July 17 – 21 2023 (Pixelmon Senior)**

Week 2: **July 24 – 28 2023 (Pixelmon Junior)**

Week 3: **July 31 – August 4 2023 (Survivor)**

Week 4: **August 14 – 18 2023 (Flip Flap Flop)**

Week 5: **August 21 – 25 2023 (Get STEAMed)**

Monday to Friday 9:30am – 2:00pm

Investment: \$190/ week

alouetteriver.org/education/summer-camps-2023



Adopt-a-Butterfly Fundraiser

Over 200 families experienced the amazing transformation of the Painted Lady metamorphosis this spring! The Adopt-a-Butterfly campaign raised \$7,200 with the support of the community across the Lower Mainland. This pollinator activity is a fundraising initiative to support the Alouette River Management Society. Thank you to everyone who supported the 2023 Adopt-a-Butterfly fundraiser, it was another successful year! 200 Painted Lady's were adopted who have since contributed to the pollinator community of the Fraser Valley! We look forward to seeing everyone again next year.

Road Salt and Salmon Success:

ARMS is still working away at its part of the Road Salt and Salmon Success Project. The project is an undertaking by several researchers from DFO, UBC, SFU and BCIT. This five year study collaborates with local streamkeeper groups to look into the impacts of road salts on salmon in creeks all over Metro Vancouver. According to the group, there's already research showing that high concentrations of salt in freshwater, where salmon begin their lives, can be harmful. It's not known exactly how much salt is winding up in streams around Metro Vancouver, and it hasn't been established that the effects on Pacific salmon are the same as those on Atlantic salmon that have already been studied.

In April ARMS Watershed Projects Manager, Marissa, set gill traps in the South Alouette River to sample both the impacted site by Horseman's Park, and the unimpacted site at ALLCO Fish Hatchery, to collect data on the present juvenile salmonids. In mid May, an aquatic invertebrate survey was conducted at both sites to collect data on the present river situation. This data, along with data collected by other streamkeepers groups in the lower mainland, will be used to help researchers understand the impact road salt has on salmonids and the freshwater aquatic habitat.

Stay tuned for updates...



Have you adopted your block?

The Adopt-a-Block Program has had a very busy quarter attending many community events as well as hosted a streamside restoration event.

Ridge Meadows Earth Day which took place on April 22nd, in Memorial Peace Park saw hundreds of community members gather to celebrate. The adopt-a-block booth had fun crafts for children to engage in by writing down their earth day goals on a flower to be hung for the day.

On May 3rd, the Adopt-a-Block Coordinator along with ARMS staff had a very successful morning along Coho Creek, located behind a property on Balabanian Circle. Adopt-a-Stream hosted a one hour event with two staff and four volunteers who were able to fill a large garbage bag full of litter as well as add twelve native plants to the streamside - a mix of hardhack and sword ferns.

Pitt Meadows Day hosted on June 3rd saw over 570 visitors to the booth alone! The biggest hit of the event was our prize wheel. After successfully answering a trivia question, participants got salmon stickers to take home. It was a successful day and kids to adults were lined up at the booth eager to learn more about the Alouette River Management Society and the Adopt-a-Block program!

On June 4th the North Cottonwood Trail adoption members from Meadowridge school hosted a book sale fundraiser for the Adopt-a-Block program and presented the coordinator with a cheque of \$2,238! We would like to thank all of the members for their hard work and dedication to the program as well as their financial sponsorship.





Father's Day Fish Release

The annual Father's Day Fish Release was a huge hit as always with around 250 people out despite the cloudy weather! The rain held off for the event and the cooler weather provided a much better transition for the chinook fry from the transport trailer to the river. On hotter years, the trip from the cool tank to the warmer river can be more stressful for the salmon so it was a perfect day for the release!

Providing the community with the opportunity to release salmon fry into the Alouette River offers a deeper connection with nature, in turn fostering responsible environmental actions. When children have that one on one experience releasing a fish on their own, they get excited and want to share their new knowledge and love for nature with others.



Help keep bears safe!

As the days get longer and flowers are blooming, we have started to notice our big furry friends emerging from hibernation and showing up in our backyards and communities. At this time of year, they are looking for food as they have not eaten since October! The diet of a black bear consists of mainly plants (about 80%), but 20% is made up of fish, rodents, insects and carcasses. Bears typically hibernate as there is little food source from October to April, but now that there are more human attractants around, they are able to get food all year-round making hibernation not as necessary. Bears love to snack on our garbage, barbecues and birdfeeders, so will make their way to areas where food sources like this are accessible. If you spend time in the woods, the likely hood that you'll encounter a bear is quite high. By being more bear aware in our daily lives, we can not only protect ourselves, but help keep bears safe and alive. When in the woods, keep the following in mind to reduce the likely hood of surprising a bear.

1. Never travel alone in the woods. Travel in a large group, as bears will be afraid of our presence.
2. Be on the lookout for bears especially on twisting trails or in dense bush areas where bears may not be able to sense your approach. As well, look for key signs that bears have been in the area such as fresh scat, marks on trees or paw prints.
3. Keep dogs on a leash while in the woods. While they can sometimes warn us that a bear is near, if they are off wandering by themselves, they can get into confrontations with bears and could even bring an angry bear to you.
4. Make lots of noise such as singing, clapping or talking loudly to scare away bears.
5. Bears are most active in the early morning and evenings, so pay extra attention during those times.
6. Whatever you pack in, pack out. Even if you don't encounter a bear during your visit in the woods, left over garbage or attractants can cause a threat to users using the area after you.

**ARE
YOU
BEAR
AWARE?**



HELP KEEP BEARS SAFE!

www.alouetteriver.org

Did you know bear spray is over 90% effective in preventing injury in the event of a rare bear attack? Like a seat belt, or first aid kit, you may never need to use your bear spray but you will be happy you have it if things go wrong.

Bear spray is only effective if you learn how to use it and transport it safely. You can learn about bears and bear spray by taking the WildSafe BC FREE 30 minute online course.



British Columbia Conservation Foundation



ARMS turns thirty

ALOUETTE RIVER MANAGEMENT SOCIETY Since 1993 30 Years

Birthday Activities

FISHING & TOURS
10am - 12pm

Learn to fish with Freshwater Fisheries Society and catch a rainbow trout! Tour the ALLCO fish hatchery and explore the world of aquatic invertebrates!
Must register to attend

LUNCH & CAKE
12pm - 2pm

Join us in celebrating 30 years of the Alouette River Management Society with a hotdog lunch, cake celebration, face painting & more!
Must RSVP to attend



Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC



Please note there are separate registration forms to attend the tours and/or lunch.

For details contact sophie@alouetteriver.org

Happy Birthday!

The Alouette River Management Society is celebrating its 30th birthday this year and we are very excited to be hosting a birthday party on August 20th. This is an opportunity for ARMS members, volunteers and supporters to join us! We have a lot going on for the day so please register for what you are interested in, registration links below. Also, please understand we have limited space available for both the tours and the lunch so make sure to register for one or both of the activities if you would like participate. We hope to see you there!

We would like to acknowledge the financial support of the **Maple Ridge Community Foundation** and the in-kind support of the **Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC** and the **Maple Ridge Lions Club!**



Rainbow trout fishing & tour registration link:

<https://forms.gle/usBU5zyPbe9XuyWT6>

Birthday celebration lunch & cake registration link:

<https://forms.gle/YkGT33B1sd9hpiCL7>



\$94,407.44 approved this quarter!

Thank you for the continued support in the ongoing work around the Alouette Watershed!



Making a positive impact on people, animal welfare and the environment

The Stewart Family Foundation - \$15,000 for Morse Creek Connections – Freshwater Initiative Phase 2



TD Friends of the Environment Foundation

TD Friends of the Environment - \$7,500 for Pivotal Pollinators Project



Telus Friendly Future Foundation - \$8,325 for Pivotal Pollinators Project



City of Maple Ridge Festival Support Grant - \$1,500 for 30th Annual Ridge Meadows Rivers Day



Renewable Energy.
Sustainable Development.

Innergex - \$1,000 for 30th Ridge Meadows Rivers Day



Canada Summer Jobs Program - \$14,952 for three summer environmental positions for youth aged 15 - 30 years.



We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the BC Gaming Grant.



PACIFIC SALMON FOUNDATION

- 1) Pacific Salmon Foundation - \$6,000 for Alouette River Salmonid Habitat Assessment and Restoration Project
- 2) Pacific Salmon Foundation—\$2,500 for ALLCO Fish Hatchery Predator Net Replacement Project



- 1) Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program - \$31,130.44 for Alouette Watershed Sockeye - Fish Passage Feasibility Project Year 7
- 2) Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program Community Engagement Grant - \$1,000 for Ridge Meadows Rivers Day



FIRST WEST FOUNDATION

First West Foundation – \$5,000 for Board Development and Volunteer Training



Maple Ridge Lions Club - \$500 for 30th Ridge Meadows Rivers Day

Upcoming Events:

Summers with Salmon Series - Maple Ridge Park

Backyard Biodiversity - July 4th & 6th (12pm—2pm)

Responsible Recreation - July 11th & 13th (12pm—2pm)

The Salmon Shuttle - July 18th & 20th (12pm—2pm)

Country Fest - July 29th & 30th

Sustainable Summers Series - Osprey Village

Trash talks - August 15th & 17th (12pm—2pm)

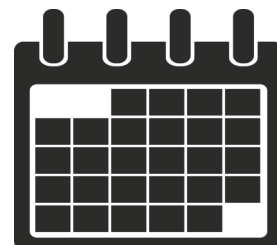
Salmon & Streams - August 22nd & 24th (12pm—2pm)

For more information contact:

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Consider becoming a sponsoring partner

The Alouette River Management Society is a small grass-roots group working actively to protect the environment and educate our citizens about the importance of the Alouette Watershed. We can only do this with long-term sustainable funding to staff and to build our capacity. While project grants are great, they very often do not provide for staff wages, administrative costs and running the organization, all of which are essential to do the work we do. Six levels of sponsorship are available. Please consider supporting local environmental initiatives by sponsoring the Alouette River Management Society. We are a registered charitable non-profit organization and all donations are tax deductible.

Be an Event Sponsor: Choose from an ARMS event such as the Father's Day Fish Release, Annual ALLCO Fish Hatchery Tour or the OWLES (owls, wildlife and endangered species) Community Workshop (\$500/event)

Sponsor Projects: Annual projects include Alouette River Butterfly Gardens and Pollinators, Overwintering Coho Fry Habitat Monitoring, Interpretive Signage and Fish Passage Advocacy (\$1000/project).

Sponsor Education Programming: Spring break and Summer Eco-Camps for kids (\$1000/camp). In-class workshops as well as on location tours (\$100/workshop).

Support Operations: Sponsorships are needed for the essential operations of the Rivers Heritage Center, ARMS headquarters, community space and interpretative centre. **Take out a Sponsoring Membership!**

Alouette River Management Society

Sponsorship Levels

Corporate, Business, Family & Individual

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event Banner • Acknowledgement in annual report to municipalities • Maple Ridge Newspaper Acknowledgement • Logo & name on brochure • Website home page • Social media recognition post • Donor wall on site location • Certificate of recognition • Recognition in ARMS newsletter • Website sponsor page • Logo & name on ARMS t-shirts 	SUPER SALMON	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maple Ridge Newspaper acknowledgement • Website home page • Social media recognition post • Donor wall on site location • Certificate of recognition • Recognition in ARMS newsletter • Website sponsor page • Logo on ARMS t-shirts 	SOCKEYE PLATINUM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition in ARMS newsletter • Social media recognition post • Donor wall on site location • Certificate of recognition • Website sponsor page 	CHINOOK GOLD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media recognition post • Donor wall on site location • Certificate of recognition • Website sponsor page 	COHO SILVER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donor wall on site location • Certificate of recognition • Website sponsor page 	CHUM BRONZE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate of recognition • Website sponsor page 	PINK PARTNERS
\$10,000 +		\$5,000 +		\$2,500 +		\$1,000 +		\$500 +		\$250 +	

ARMS in 100 Words:

The Alouette River Management Society (ARMS) is dedicated to proactively protecting and improving the Alouette Watershed and surrounding areas by creating a healthy environment connecting parks, trail systems, public centers and waterways. Volunteer supported, ARMS is involved in watershed inventory and monitoring, habitat restoration, public awareness and adopt-a-stream, liaising with all levels of government and private land owners, and working towards the protection of aquatic habitat. ARMS offers environmental education programs including fieldtrips, classroom and habitat programs, and day camps. ARMS is currently advocating for a fish ladder over the Alouette Dam, reconnecting the river and lake since 1928.



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