

July/Aug/Sept

2023

#### In this issue:

**Urgent Roof Repairs** pq.1 Mark your calendar! pq.2

**Environmental Education** pq.2

Sockeye pq.3

Canada Summer Jobs pq.3

Ridge Meadows Rivers Day pg.4

Streamkeepers Training pg.4

Adopt-a-Block Update pg.5

Become a partner pq.7

ARMS in 100 words pq.7

Contact us! pg. 7

Follow us on Social Media!









### Alouette River Management Society Presents...



### WE NEED THE COMMUNITY TO HELP!

#### The Rivers Heritage Center is in need of desperate repairs!

ARMS' base of operations is in need of desperate repairs! The River Heritage Centre is our location for running all manner of activities to do with advocating for and educating about the importance of the Alouette River and its surrounding watershed. ARMS staff and many volunteers work out of the Rivers Heritage Centre throughout the year delivering environmental workshops, hatchery tours, kids eco-camps, offering a place for other groups to have meetings, workshops, and to hold special events among many other activities.

With different roof contractors we identified that our roof on the River Heritage Centre needs to be rebuilt so that it will house the work we do now and into the future. Over the summer ARMS worked with BC Roof Inspections to put a scope of work together and to put the work out for tender for our roof rebuild project. Now we will be moving into our fundraising campaign period to reach our goal of \$100,000 to rebuild and reroof the River Heritage Centre. Please email sophie!@alouetteriver.org if you can help in anyway—thank you!



WE **NEED COMMUNITY** SUPPORT!

**DONATE** TODAY!

#### Contact the Alouette River Management Society: 604-467-6401

#### **Greta Borick-Cunningham**

**Executive Director** 

arms@alouetteriver.org

#### **Sophie Sparrow**

Communications & **Engagement Manager** sophie@alouetteriver.org

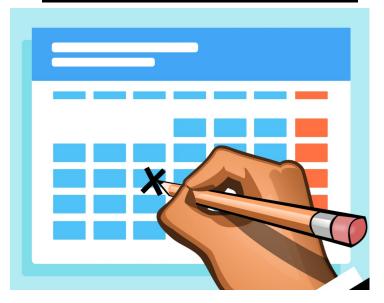
#### **Marissa Waddell**

Watershed Projects Manager watershed@alouetteriver.org

#### **Layla Haslinger**

**Environmental Education** Coordinator education@alouetteriver.org

## Mark your calendar!



#### **Himalayan Blackberry Removal**

When: October 7th (9:45am - 1:00pm)

Where: Reg Franklin Park, 12155 Edge Street,

Maple Ridge

What: Morse Creek riparian restoration: Himalayan

Blackberry removal

#### **English Ivy Removal**

When: October 29th (11:00pm - 2:00pm)

Where: Reg Franklin Park, 12155 Edge Street,

Maple Ridge

What: Morse Creek riparian restoration: English Ivy

Removal, Panago pizza lunch provided!

#### **Public Hatchery Tour**

\*\*MUST RSVP to attend: sophie@alouetteriver.org\*\*

**When:** November 5th (11:00pm - 12:30pm)

<u>Where:</u> ALLCO Fish Hatchery, 24959 Alouette Road,

Maple Ridge

<u>What:</u> Learn about Pacific salmon and the ALLCO Fish Hatchery

#### **Community Park Clean up**

When: November 15th (1:00pm - 3:00pm)

Where: Reg Franklin Park, 12155 Edge Street,

Maple Ridge.

**What:** Community Clean Up with the Maple Ridge

Adopt-a-Block Program

## **Environmental Education**

**Eco Camps:** Throughout the summer ARMS offered 5 exciting summer camps to 86 children ages 5-12. Themes included Pixelmon, Survivor, Flip Flap Flop and Get STEAM'ed. Campers learned about things from predators to art to chemistry. We are delighted to receive positive feedback from parents, one saying that they "loved how every day was a new action-packed adventure, and the leaders were so much fun!" We are grateful for the support of our five incredible high school volunteers who helped make our camps possible. As well as Hannah and Zaiden, our summer camp students who planned and ran the camps. Their creativity and fun ideas made the camps a memorable experience for everyone involved. We want to thank all the campers for showing up every day ready to learn, play, and make camp as exciting as possible.

**Fall Education:** This fall ARMS will be offering a variety of educational workshops and field trips. We're bringing back some classics like Scales and Tales, Night Creatures, Forest Explorers, and Wildlife Habitat Building. After receiving more requests that cater to older students, we have reintroduced in-class salmon dissections, and have created an adapted version of the Wild Water Cycle program to better suit older students. The majority of our fall bookings are for field trips to the River Heritage Center, which offers students a chance to visit the ALLCO hatchery, explore ALLCO Park, and learn about the Alouette watershed up close. Bookings are still available through our website and we look forward to being back in the classroom this fall.

For details on all of the classes offered visit our website:

Field trips: https://alouetteriver.org/field-trips

Classroom Programs: https://alouetteriver.org/school-programs





# Sockeye!

To date we have had 28 sockeye return for the 2023 season! "This sockeye season has been so exciting to be a part of. 14 sockeye were caught in the trap on August 28th which is the most ever caught in the ALLCO Fish Trap in a single day. It was unbelievable and unprecedented, but so encouraging to see!" said Marissa Waddell, Watershed Projects Manager. The salmon were successfully transported to the Alouette Reservoir to complete their lifecycle. We are still hopeful to see more sockeye return in October, fingers crossed!

## **Canada Summer Jobs Funds three students!**

## **Grant total \$15,534**

This summer we had three amazing summer students, Kaelen Coles-Lyster, Zaiden Grayda-Reyes, and Hannah Daley. Thanks to Canada Summer Jobs for their help in funding our summer team! Our summer team got out into the community to support our outreach staff, conducted juvenile fry identification surveys, caught aquatic invertebretes to assess water health, talked to the public about our education and environmental programs, had fun leading camp kids through 5 weeks of summer activities in ALLCO Park, and celebrated ARMS 30<sup>th</sup> birthday at the ALLCO Hatchery with ARMS, Maple Ridge Lions and, BC Wildlife Federation! Kaelen, Zaiden and Hannah were a terrific trio and we wish them all the best in the new school year!



Kaelen is currently a third-year student studying Sustainable Business at Simon Fraser University. Growing up on the North Alouette River, she has seen first hand how climate change and human activity have altered the river over the years. In this summer role, she is looking forward to educating youth about the Alouette Watershed and how they can take actions to help conserve it for future generations to come! Outside of work, Kaelen races bikes competitively and loves backpacking and rock climbing.



Zaiden first joined ARMS as a volunteer during their Spring Break ARMS Eco-camp. He loved the idea of finding the bond between youth and nature which led to him officially joining the team for their summer camps, he hopes to contribute to the concept of cherishing youthfulness in a nature-filled environment! Outside of work, you can find him taking pictures and discovering the beauty of the world, or sharing his passion for music with the people around him.



Hannah has joined ARMS staff for the summer as a Camp Leader. She began her journey with ARMS as a volunteer, working as a Camp Counsellor for ARMS Eco-Camps in 2022. Hannah is currently attending high school and in her last year. She has been working with children of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds for quite a long time. Hannah enjoys being outdoors by hiking, kayaking, and paddle boarding. She is excited to work and learn even more about the environment throughout the summer.

# **30th Ridge Meadows Rivers Day**

We successfully hosted the 30th Annual Ridge Meadows Rivers Day event on Sunday 24 September, 2023 in ALLCO Park, Maple Ridge, B.C. We had 456 attendees, 31 exhibitors, 48 volunteers who contributed 179 hours on the day! We were honored to have Mavis and Coleen Pierre of Katzie First Nation lead the welcoming ceremony with a blessing. We provided an opportunity to showcase a local small business by subsidizing a donation of coffee from local coffee shop "The Nut". We hired local entertainers: Click and Clown, The Wild, Tiffany Stone and Lisa Rae Simons and the TaaDaa Lady with the Nylon Zoo to provide fun for kids and their families. We also recruited mostly local environmental and community groups to attend the day including Ridge Meadows Recycling Society, Maple Ridge Museum on the Move, Maple Ridge Bears, the CEED Centre, Golden Ears Transition Initiative (GETI), North Fraser Bee Club, WildSafeBC, Wild Play and many more. We also had AjM Disposal Services, BC Wildlife Federation and the BC Conservation Foundation's Northern Spotted Owl group attend as well. Photo credit: Anya Chibis Photography















## Pacific Streamkeepers Training Workshop



ARMS offered a streamkeepers training workshop on September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, free to volunteers and ARMS members. This was made possible by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Public Involvement Program, which focuses on outreach, stewardship and educational activities. Eleven participants became certified by the end of the two day workshop. Streamkeepers training provides citizen science in stream habitat surveys, water quality

monitoring, juvenile fish trapping and identification and stream invertebrate studies.

Salmonid Enhancement **Program** 

## Maple Ridge & Pitt Meadows Adopt-a-Block Programs

This quarter the Adopt-a-Block Programs engaged participants in over twelve activities including a Jerry Sulina Park clean up with Ridge Meadows Child Development Center, Maple Ridge Park clean up with local business Alair Homes, Hoffman Park clean up with Highland Park Elementary and Morse Creek clean up event hosted in Reg Franklin Park. Adopt-a-Block was also involved in a series of summer outreach where participants and staff discussed the issues involving responsible recreation along the South Alouette River. This outreach series over the summer engaged over 250 participants. When discussing Responsible Recreation, participants were quizzed on how they are respectful when recreating in nature and received tips and tricks on how to share our natural spaces with other humans and creatures alike. Trivia questions surrounded topics of bear safety, responsible river use, fishing practices, and (of course) elements of leave no trace! Some participants completed a litter pickup accompanied by a litter bingo sheet – prizes awarded for those who successfully completed the task.









#### **Become a Partner**

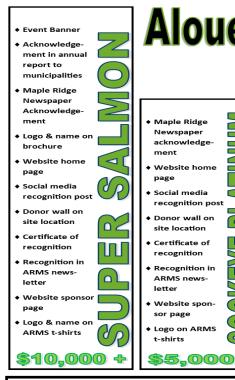
The Alouette River Management Society is a small grass-roots group working actively to protect the environment and educate our citizens about the importance of the Alouette Watershed. We can only do this with long-term sustainable funding to staff and build our capacity. While project grants are great, 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** Maple Ridge Newspaper









#### ARMS in 100 Words:

acknowledge

recognition post

site location

recognition

ARMS news-

letter

sor page

page

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 adopta-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.



Check out our website: www.alouetteriver.org



/Alouetterivermanagementsociety



@alouetteriverms



YOU [[]] /Alouetterivermanagementsociety