

Nootka Sound Watershed Society

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday June 22, 2005 in the Mowachaht/Muchalaht band office.

Present:

Michel Rabu (P)-Gold River Fish Camp; Pat Dennison (T)-Gold River Resources Ltd.; Jim Mitchell -Gold River resident; Dick Dennison (D)-Gold River Rod and Gun; Roger Dunlop- NTC Fisheries; Jamie Jame-Mowachaht/Muchalaht Band; Dave Davies-DFO Community Advisor; Steve Emmonds-Conuma Hatchery; Tim Davies-Grieg Seafood; Kim Black-Gold River Fishing Lodge; Temple McPherson-Gold River Lodge; Bill Haggarty-Gold River resident; Jeff Pawelchak-WFP Inc.; Jennifer Koch-Gold River resident

1. Michel Rabu called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

- Michel asked everyone to sign the attendance sheet.
- Paul Smith has resigned. Jennifer Koch will be taking the minutes for the meeting-no objections.

2. Introductions around the table

3. Changes/additions/approval of agenda

- Michel Rabu asked for changes to the agenda.
- Roger Dunlop added a 10 minute update on Luna. Approved.

4. Changes or additions to minutes of the previous meeting

- Michel Rabu asked for changes or additions to the agenda.
- Pat Dennison stated under adjournment the next meeting is on Wednesday, September 28, 2005 same time, same place had to be changed.
- Bottom of 2nd page talks about Grieg Seafood funding starting July 05. Tim Davies wanted to clarify the funding in July 2005 is a portion of the original funding.
- Bottom of 3rd page under new business regarding swims. It was clarified that Grieg has 4 swims planned and more swims will be provided if required.

5. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Pat Dennison, seconded by Roger Dunlop, all in favour, none opposed, so moved.

6. Old business arising from the minutes

- Letter of thanks to WFP Inc. for work with the Burman.
- Jim Mitchell suggested a letter be sent to WFP for their assistance with the Tlupana Chinook-use of boathouse for pen and crew feeding fish. Ensure letter was sent or send another.
- Logo/Letterhead-Jamie Jame has on his computer.
- Accept letter to WFP-Michel Rabu motion, seconded by Jamie Jame, all in favour, none opposed, so moved.

- Send the second letter to WFP Inc.-motion Jim Mitchell, seconded Tim Davies, all in favour, none opposed, so moved.
- Letter of Edwin Blewett-Privitization of Hatchery-Jim Mitchell.
- Chinook update-STRAY RATES
 - o Better definition of escape rates-150,000 due to this issues. DNA sampling-less Robertson fish further upstream
 - o 4 weirs applied for by First Nations for the Oktwanch, Gold, and Muchalat Rivers.
 - o not a lot of returns expected this year
 - o suggest angling program
 - o collect extra fish, get rid of RobertsonXRobertson at later date.
 - o Steve Emmonds-extra eggs will create Hatchery capacity issue. Readings of otoliths have been late historically. Hatchery will be bogged down before 250,000 target hit unless readings done.
 - o Dick Dennison-ask Bruce to expedite readings
 - o Michel Rabu-send in letter form
 - o Steve Emmonds-suggest send letter to Bruce's boss.
 - o Dave Davies-will attempt to push otolith readings.
 - o Michel Rabu-lower Gold harvest-usually 50/50 RXR. Suggest harvest earlier. Get guides to get their rods out
 - o Pat Dennison- once fish reach that high in the river-ready to spawn.
 - o Jim Mitchell- has confidence in ratings-cannot do locally
 - o Steve Emmonds-otolith labs are specialize-digital pictures
 - o Dave Davies-commits to taking on otolith readings, DNA plugs. 150,000 target is set, suggested taking on some extra.
 - o Roger Dunlop-potential to miss upstream fish
 - o Dave Davies-can get angling permits for collecting brood stock
 - o Jim Mitchell-Forest Stewardship Education Class-can they participate?-to Davies-replied sure.
 - o Roger Dunlop-for the Burman-put on tags
 - o Dave Davies-Frames collect eggs on Burman.
 - o Roger Dunlop-Didn't get contacted for Burman tags last year.
 - o Steve Emmonds-more strays to Burman likely to be very little.
 - o Pat Dennison-tagging on lower gold-no funding for gold.
 - o Dave Davies-suggest only tackling Brood stock-better bang for buck
 - o Roger Dunlop-juvenile trapping-getting funding
 - o Dave Davies-getting permits for pens
 - o Roger Dunlop-points out First Nations filed against DFO for permitting 2 new fish farms. Suggest asking the chief about the pens.
 - o Emmonds needs pens, Davies permits take time
 - o **NEW BUSINESS** Tim Davies motion to write a letter to First Nations (Council of Chiefs) requesting approval and location for pens (Muchalaht, Tahsis River). DFO, Rod and Reel. Seconded

by Bill Haggarty, all in favour none opposed, so moved. Jennifer Koch to draft letter.

- Resurrect Enhancement Hatchery
Benefits of Gold River Hatchery (Mitchell)
 - Great education
 - Participation of community numbers
 - Small scale
 - Cost
 - Funding
 - Emmonds-storing of equipment-who's is it? Eg. diesel generator- does it belong to the Frames?
 - Ask DFO to transfer equipment from the Frames. It is not known if the Frames are still active. Dave Davies will talk to Frames. Michel Rabu suggested the Frames be invited to next meeting.
- Update on Enhancement sub-committee meeting
 - Return rates, 5400 escape, Capacity 16000. Model.
 - Tahsis 500
 - Tashish 1500
 - Burman 1700
 - Marble 2400
 - Mitchell-best model so far but doesn't take into account Riparian Habitat, amount of spawning channels, productivity of watershed.
- Finalize precautionary principle
 - Must meet with chiefs to address.
 - Literature handed out by Roger Dunlop: 1) Oceans Act 1996, c. 31, 2) The Conservation Basis for the regulation of Whale Watching in Canada by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans: A Precautionary Approach, 3) SALMON The World's Most Harassed Fish.
 - Jamie Jame asked when chiefs can meet. Make NSWS available to the chiefs.
 - Tim Davies-described his reaction to Precautionary Principle at last meeting. Less concerned after re-reading the definition. Suggest re-wording or defining long term. Motion to taking terms of reference to chiefs, seconded by Mitchell, all in favour, none opposed, so moved.

7. Correspondence

- Michel Rabu-Village Council Meeting – rent relief
- Pat Dennison to show new society struggling-attend Village Council Meeting
- Jim Mitchell is not permitted to discuss the issue as member of council, conflict of interest.
- Rent amounts to \$900 plus tax

- Several discussion regarding stewardship co-ordination, who pays for co-ordination (Andrew Day), Streamkeepers involvement, \$2500 PIP funding.
- Michel Rabu-Does NSWS need an office? Consensus appears to be no.
- Mitchell-Stewardship co-ordination-Streamkeepers cannot afford, it was understood NSWS would take on costs.
- Dick Dennison-NSWS did not say they would not do stewardship co-ordination.
- Michel Rabu calls ORDER!
- Issue needs to be researched, phone bills (\$302) questioned.
- Dick Dennison-motion to pay rent (\$925), Jim Mitchell seconded, all in favour, none opposed, so moved.
- Jim Mitchell requests comment of personal phone bills be retracted.
- Letter to village to notify space vacant.
- Several discussions regarding Aquatic Management Board, stewardship co-ordination, roles of NSWS and Streamkeepers, amount of funding given to Streamkeepers from NSWS (\$2500).
- Dave Davies
 - Keep groups separate
 - Itemize definitions, task

8. New Business

- Secretary needed-elect at later date, get minute book etc. Michel Rabu suggests paying the secretary.
- Dick Dennison-Has Bruce commented on Coho?
- Dave Davies-reinstating IFP document
- Dick Dennison-Should we commit to sea pen for coho in September.
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9. Presentations

- Chiefs currently meeting in Nanaimo with DFO regarding Luna
- Can listen to Luna-Hanna channel
- Attempting to get Luna to expand range to outside, sockeye is an inside diversion
- Coast Guard runner knocked off
- 2 whales came in for visit-with Luna for awhile.
- 5 other whales also in the inlet.
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10. Reports

- Pat Dennison-Reading of Financial Statement for May 2005

11. Action Items/Open Discussion

- Memberships-ideas to raise funds.
- Charging \$11 at Boat Launch-\$1 to NSWS. Jamie Jame to talk to Wayne.
- Donation box
- Stickers-sell to guides-assign to someone
- Auction
- Dinner and Dance door prizes

- Angling for Chinook-charge people for brood stock-try it and see
- 2nd letter to WFP
- Functions of stewardship co-ordination
- Award for conservation 2005 ????? Present in fall
- Fishing Derby

12. Adjournment

- Dick Dennison moved to adjourn at 10:05 p.m. Next meeting is on Wednesday, September 28, 2005, 7 p.m., at WFP boardroom.
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