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Greenways Gazette Spring Issue 2008

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GLT'S Mission and Goals:

Our Mission:

The mission of the Greenways Land Trust is to enhance the community through the creation and management of greenways networks, based on principles of stream and land stewardship and development, within public and private property partnerships.

Our goals:

- To work with the City of Campbell River, community stewardship groups, and landowners to plan and develop a Greenways Habitat Corridor System.
- To act as a community resource centre on issues of land and stream stewardship.
- To act as an agency to accept and manage environmentally sensitive land.

Greenways Land Trust anticipates a busy year in 2008

The Discovery Coast Greenways Land Trust is a charity established in 1996 to develop and protect ecological and recreational greenways for people and wildlife.

Board of Directors

Ron Burrell	President
Richard Hamilton	Vice President
Bob Dice	Treasurer
Lesley Fell	Secretary
Jerry Fletcher	Director
Chuck DeSorcy	Director
Barry Ross	Director

Staff

Erin Pierce	Operations Manager
Cathy Skalk	Office Assistant/



Richard Hamilton (Vice President) - holding apple tree cuttings to root and over winter at the Haig Brown Property.

Check out our website for updates on GLT events at
www.greenwaystrust.ca.

You can also read about the history of Greenways Land Trust and it's role in maintaining the natural beauty of Campbell River

How does Greenways get involved!

Greenways Land Trust strives to learn more about what the community of Campbell River wants from its natural spaces. To better understand these needs we lend our support to other active organizations.

Greenways Land Trust staff or Board members were members of or regular attendees at meetings of the following groups or organizations: Beaver Lodge Forest Lands Committee, Environmental Advisory Committee, Concerned Citizens of Coal Bed

Methane, Haig-Brown Centennial Event, Willow Creek Watershed Society, Stewardship Committee, Elk Falls Community Forum, Communities in Bloom and Campbell River Salmon Foundation.

By attending these meetings, we are able to learn more and update our organization of important upcoming issues that will affect our community.



Erin Pierce,
Operations Manager

Sneak Peek

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Success! Campbell River Salmon Foundation Gala Event



The first annual Campbell River Salmon Dinner and Auction on March 22 was a huge success with \$90,000 raised. Over 400 guests attended to bid on a variety of auction items. Greenways volunteers logged over 100

volunteers hours to this event. The Campbell River Salmon Foundation is a registered charity and not for profit organization developed to promote salmon enhancement in watersheds north of the Oyster River and south of the Salmon River and the adjacent mainland coast.

Greenways Land Trust supports the CRSF and looks forward to working with them on salmon and stewardship enhancement projects!

Stewardship Awards recognizes Greenways Director and staff



The downpour of rain didn't stop the Haig Brown Festival from taking place on BC Rivers Day—Sept 30th. Although participants had to be prepared with rain slickers, umbrellas and gum boots!

From left to right—DFO Community Advisor Barry Peters, GLT Director/Willow Creek Steward Chuck DeSorcy and Mayor Roger McDonnell.

Approximately 75 people braved the elements and came from all over north island to learn more about our rivers, including the near by Campbell River. In between fly casting demonstrations and information booths, the stewardship awards were announced. Chuck DeSorcy, a dedicated Greenways Board of Director and Willow Creek Steward was given a award of special recognition for his stewardships efforts. Also GLT's summer student Drew MacLennan was recognized in the youth category. In the afternoon, Sandra Milligan led a informative, interpretive walk throughout the Haig Brown Property and King Fisher Creek. Sandra highlighted the plants and habitat restoration projects that have taken place on the property over the years.

Haig Brown Heritage Apple Seedlings



Volunteer Barb Phibbs

“How are we going to get up that tree!” Erin Pierce, GLT Operations Manager asks Barb. With the help of volunteers and Haig Brown property staff, Greenways took cuttings from the old apple trees located on the property. Once we had gathered all the apple varieties, we placed the cuttings in the Haig Brown garden in hopes that they will overwinter and root in the spring. These tree are nearing the end of their lifespan and Greenways would like to ensure that these heritage apple trees live on. Hopefully even in your own back yards. We will keep you posted on their progress!

2007 Spring and Fall Fish Fences

Spring Juvenile and Fall Adult Fish Fences were placed on Casey, Woods and Simms Creek. These fences count how many smolts were exiting and returning to local streams.

Spring Fence

Casey Creek=21 coho smolts, Simms Creek=2789 coho smolts and Woods Creek=241 coho smolts.

Fall Fence

Casey Creek=1 coho salmon, Simms Creek=89 coho salmon and Woods Creek=18 coho salmon.

Thanks to AFTECH Services, volunteers and DFO Public Involvement Program for funding and making these projects possible.





Haig Brown Centennial Events

Throughout 2008, Campbell River will be celebrating Roderick and Ann Haig-Brown’s 100th year. The Haig-Brown Centenary Celebration aims to raise awareness of the values and vision of Roderick and Ann Haig-Brown among British Columbians and visitors to British Columbia through events, creation of new works, projects and activities spanning the worlds of arts, social justice, conservation, education, and angling. For more information about upcoming events—please visit the website:

<http://www.haigbrowninstitute.org/>

Kingfisher Creek ... Update A total of 353 trees and shrubs got planted over the 3 days this fall as part of the Kingfisher Creek Habitat Restoration Project. Kingfisher Creek runs through the Haig Brown Property and flows into the Campbell River. The main goal of this project was to remove invasive plant species and replace with native tree species. The trees were planted in order to extend and reinforce the riparian buffers along the creek. Also browse guards were installed to keep the pesky deer from snacking on the cedar seedlings. Irv Penner—Project Coordinator states below:

“I wish to extend a very hearty thank you to each and every one of these hardworking and totally dedicated watershed stewards. Their efforts need to be fully acknowledged and applauded. Certainly I would have gotten no where without their generous help. Indeed they were all a great pleasure to work with and hopefully their great enthusiasm for watershed restoration has been fanned by the results of their hard work.”



Volunteer Gabe Richard

Some work still needs to be completed in the Spring 2008, so contact Greenways if you are interested in becoming involved! A special thanks to the Pacific Salmon Foundation for funding this project!

Simms Creek Fall 2007 Happenings.....Our major fall project was building a water storage weir in the south fork of the creek – readily visible from the bridge on the Rail Trail in the Beaver lodge Lands. This construction required 2 days of excavator time to place the approximately 100 yards of rock and gravel required, followed by a day of manual labour doing some revegetation to mitigate damage to the ground cover.

There were also some smaller water storage projects along the Butterfly Trail. Downstream of the Butterfly pond we built a small weir (small because it was done by hand) as well as a series of 3 weirs in the large ditch alongside the trail.



Fall Fish Fence Count: photo by Barb and Doug Round

The adult counting fence, in place from about mid October to the end of November, showed gratifying returns, at least compared with the previous two years, although still not where we would like to see them. There were about 100 coho returning this fall whereas we would like to see 200 to 300. Unusually, there were also several springs counted – they usually spawn below the fence.

We also made comments to the City Planning Dept. on a proposed development on Alder Street close to the Creek. While the development would not encroach upon the riparian area we did identify two small wetlands that could be protected. Although our concerns were at least listened to there was no basis for protecting these small areas as there was no fish population. We also got the stewardship website up and running. Simms Creek is the only group on the site at the moment

but it will be a relatively simple and inexpensive procedure for each of the other groups to join in.

Article by Tom Easton—Simms Creek Steward

For more information on stewardship groups in Campbell River see www.crwatersheds.org





Volunteer Experiences, Barb and Doug Round: Before moving to Campbell River on Vancouver Island we checked out lots of amenities – shopping, gym, pool, parks and beaches, library and other services. We bought a home backing onto beautiful BC forest, and were aware that Simm’s Creek ran through that woods somewhere.

We were fascinated to learn that this tiny creek is an important spawning ground for several types of salmon. We learned about the efforts made by the Stewards group to build weirs to ensure continuous water flow throughout the year to provide cool, moving water for salmon and trout fry (youngsters). On a interpretive walk advertised in the paper, we learned that the Simm’s Creek Stewards were planning an event in a few weeks to put fish fry into the creek. We asked if we could tag along.

A group of Stewards had worked at the Hatchery the week before, netting these tiny (about an inch long) fish, and clipping one fin on each. These marked fish were all designated for Simm’s Creek. In several years when the fish return to spawn, they can be identified by their marked fins as being from this particular batch. This outing was a lot of fun, as well as a lot of work. We must be gluttons for punishment, because we asked if we could join the Stewards, and began to attend the monthly planning meetings.

Written by Barb Round

To read more about Barb and Doug’s adventures with the Simms Creek Stewards, including the Fall Fish Fence and Fish Fling!!! Check out our website at www.greenwaystrust.ca—Volunteer Testimony



*Doug Round at Fall Fish Count.
Photo by Barb Round*



Are you a member yet?

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

There are two different ways to become a member. Choose from an annual fee OR help support us monthly under different support levels.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:

- Student \$10 Adult \$20 Corporate \$100
- Family Rate \$30

MULTI-YEAR MEMBERSHIP

- Adult 3 years for \$50

OR

MONTHLY SUPPORT

I would like to become a monthly donor for \$ _____ per month.

- I have enclosed a void cheque to authorize Discovery Coast Greenways Land Trust to begin monthly withdrawals.

Please return this form to: Greenways Land Trust, PO Box 291 or Suite #208-991 Alder St. Campbell River, BC V9W 5B1

You can also reach us by calling 287-3785 or greenways@greenwaystrust.ca

Thank-you to our project supporters:

Pacific Salmon Foundation—Caddisfly Creek Mapping Project, Shell Canada, Vancouver Foundation, DFO Public Involvement Program, Starbucks, Human Resources Development Canada, Browns Bay Marina, Coastal Community Credit Union

