

Following are highlights of Fraser Basin Council's current work in the Fraser Valley.

Lower Mainland Flood Management Strategy – LMFMS highlights

- **Lower Mainland Flood Forum** – Registration deadline for the Flood Forum on Oct 8-9, 2019 in Vancouver is extended to September 25. More than 150 delegates are expected at forum, which will highlight work completed so far, and draft recommendations. It's also a chance for partner organizations to give feedback and identify what other work is required. People from member municipalities are encouraged to attend to learn more about this important adaptation strategy.
- **The team grows** – Frances Woo joined the flood management team as an assistant program manager, to work on various aspects of Phase 2 of the flood strategy, and on the new Provincial Flood Strategies initiative.
- **Communications** – Flood team members are refining content for a flood strategy website. Work continues on developing a video series to provide information on flood hazards and flood risk reduction.
- **Seismic vulnerability of dikes** – Golder Associates (engineers) is hired to undertake the borehole drilling and analysis to better understand the seismic vulnerability of Lower Mainland dikes.
- **Flood and Environment Atlas** – If you haven't yet, explore the online atlas at www.cmnbc.ca/atlasgallery/lower-mainland-flood-and-environment-atlas

Cultus Lake Aquatic Stewards (CLASS)

- **Smallmouth bass in Cultus Lake:** On Aug. 20 a team of biologist from B.C. government (ECCS and FLNRORD), DFO and Thompson Rivers University met in Chilliwack to start plans to eliminate invasive smallmouth bass (SMB) from Cultus. It appears to be the only Fraser Valley Lake to have the fish, which was likely introduced. SMB devour young salmon and small native fish (CL pygmy sculpin). B.C. approved \$40K+ for four years for a mitigation plan. CLASS attended the meeting; its members may help to catch and monitor SMB and share information to the public.
- CLASS volunteers take **water clarity** (Secchi wheel) readings to share with the BC Lake Stewardship Society's province-wide BC Lake Stewardship and Monitoring Program database.
- CLASS members will help FVRD director Taryn Dixon with the **Canada geese** count at Cultus Lake this fall, as part of a series of counts this year to aid in developing a goose management plan for the lake.
- FBC installed **Clean Drain and Dry** signs from Invasive Species Council of BC at Cultus Lake Park, Lindell Beach, Stave Lake and Lake Errock, to teach boaters not spread **invasive plants and mussels**. This year, B.C. found 10 boats with zebra mussels entering the province. See bit.ly/2lFBtEZ and dontmoveamussel.ca
- CLASS members helped Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society locate **yellow flag iris** and **Japanese knotweed** this summer around Cultus Park and lake, to prepare for a removal program this fall.

Fraser Valley Illegal Dumping Alliance (FVIDA)

- To mark **BC Rivers Day**, on **Sept. 22** the Chilliwack/Vedder River Cleanup Society hosts a public cleanup at the Chilliwack Fish & Game Clubhouse, 48685 Chilliwack Lake Rd., from 8:30 a.m. to around noon, with food, prizes, community booths including the Adopt-A-River program members. See cleanrivers.ca

Fraser River Peacemakers

- Fraser River Peacemakers held a Gathering on the River on Aug. 26 to remind anglers and aboriginal fishers to maintain good manners and respect on the river: see bit.ly/2maB2CV and bit.ly/2lGKJc7
- Sts'ailes and Skowlitz First Nations and the Peacemakers continue to meet to prevent situations from arising on Chehalis River, and develop recommendations for DFO. FBC Fraser Valley provides secretariat support to FRP. Learn more about the Peacemaker at: fraserriverpeacemakers.ca

Coded Wire Tag program to identify Chinook and Coho

- FBC Fraser Valley continues to interview leaders in the recreational angler community on ways to boost participation in DFO's Coded Wire Tag (CWT) program in 2020.

For more information, please contact:

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