

GUMBOOT GAZETTE



New
Signs



Thank You
Volunteers!

Jackpine
Wetland
Interpretive
Trail

Summer
Interpretive
Events

Water
Quality
Monitoring



AGM



FAUNA
FEATURE:
Common Merganser



Clothing
and
Greeting
Card Sales

Photo
Contest

Follow Us on Social Media:



@lakelse_watershed_society_



@Lakelse Watershed Stewards Society

Interpretive Walks and Events!

It was another successful event season out at Furlong Bay Campground!

LWSS hosted five interpretive walks this summer on the Twin Spruce Trail, sharing information about local plants, fish, wildlife, and habitats.



Our first interpretive event of the season was an Intro to Geocaching event at Gruchy's Beach Trail. LWSS handed out pamphlets and talked to visitors about Geocaching etiquette. LWSS also deployed six new geocaches this summer. Happy hunting!

Thank you to the Outdoor Recreation Council of BC for supporting the geocaching event.



More Interpretive Events!

With the support of BC Parks and our other event partners, we were able to host four more events!

Terrace Search and Rescue hosted a Lake Safety event complete with knot tying, throw bag lessons, and boat rides



LWSS hosted a Fish Print event where participants used paints to make a detailed print of an adult coho salmon



Teresa Wesimiller hosted a Birds Event where she spoke about local bird species and participants made DIY bird feeders from recycled materials



SkeenaWild hosted a Skeena Watershed event with activities on benthic invertebrates and their role in the salmon life cycle



Thank you to BC Parks and our event hosts!





Jackpine Wetland Interpretive Trail

We are excited to announce construction has begun on the new interpretive trail near Jackpine Flats!



Keep an eye out on our social media pages for project updates and announcements on the trail's opening



LWSS would like to thank all our project partners including:



Sign Installations

We created and installed these signs to encourage the responsible use of ATVs in and around sensitive ecosystems!



3 ATV signs installed throughout the watershed



Wetland sign installed at Herman Lake

For young or experienced outdoor enthusiasts alike, we created these wetland signs to spread awareness about the importance of wetlands!

Thank you to all our project supporters!



Regional District of **Kitimat-Stikine**



PACIFIC SALMON FOUNDATION



BC Parks



Water Quality in the Watershed

It was another successful season of water quality monitoring! We conducted weekly water quality monitoring on Lakelse Lake and its tributaries. We also collected water samples at Furlong Bay, Gruchy's Beach, and the Picnic Site to test for E.coli.

This year was another healthy year with E.coli results of less than 2 per 100ml!

Reports will be available later in the winter on the LWSS website.



Thank you to Pacific Salmon Foundation and the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine for supporting this program!



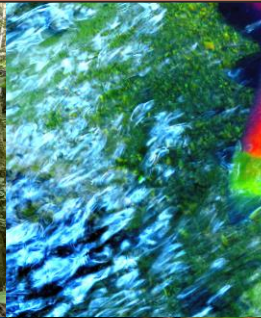
Regional District of
Kitimat-Stikine



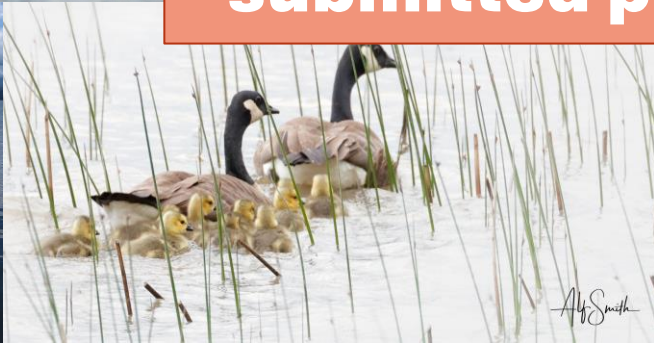
**PACIFIC SALMON
FOUNDATION**



Summer Photo Contest 2023



Thank you to all who submitted photos!



Ally Smith

Summer Photo Contest Winners

Fish and Wildlife: Alf Smith

June 3rd, 2023 / Catt Point Lakelse / Osprey



Landscapes: Paula Brown

Recreation: Chris Ashford



Aug 17th, 2023 / Herman Lake



July 24th, 2023 / Lakelse Lake Provincial Park

FAUNA FEATURE

Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*)

The **Common Merganser** is a large duck that can be found in freshwater rivers and lakes across Canada. They are a frequent flier in the **Lakelse Watershed!**

DIET

Common Mergansers are **piscivorous**, meaning they eat fish. They will sometimes eat other prey such as mussels, shrimp, worms, and salamanders.

NESTING

Common Mergansers nest in tree cavities. Females typically lay 8-12 eggs and bring their chicks to the water immediately after hatching to feed on fish. Females sometimes raise young in groups (called a **crèche**) and can be seen with over 70 ducklings at a time!



CONSERVATION

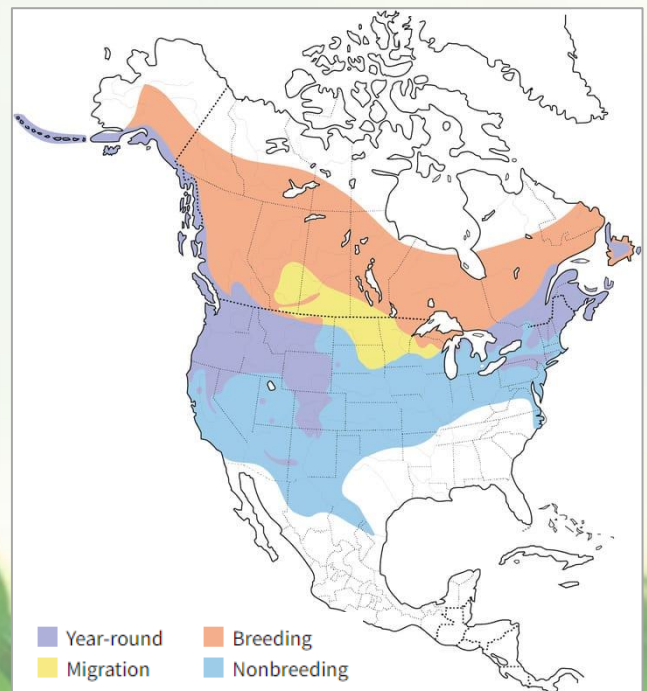
Common Mergansers are a useful **bioindicator** for fish-bearing streams and lakes because they are vulnerable to contaminants.

FUN FACT

Adult males can swallow fish that are over 30 cm long!

MIGRATION

Common Mergansers are a **short distance-migrant** that leaves late in the fall and returns early in the spring.



THANK YOU to all of our new and returning volunteers!

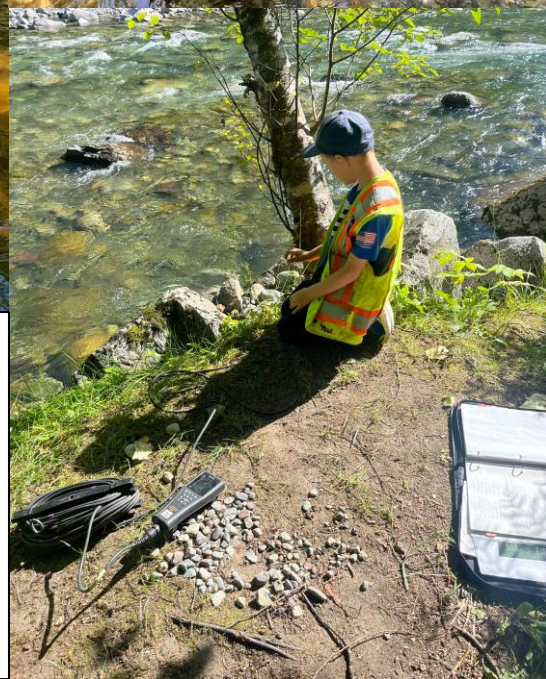


We had over 60 hours contributed by volunteers to our programs this year!



Volunteers assisted with our lake sampling program, weekly watershed circuit, and the Scully Creek fry out monitoring program.

We hope to see you again next year!



Clothing and Card Sales



Hoodies – \$45

T-Shirts – \$25

Hats – \$25

**Greeting
Cards – \$5**



**UNISEX SIZES S-2XL
AVAILABLE**

**Funds raised support your local watershed
projects and programs**

If interested, email:
watershedcoordinator.lakelse@gmail.com

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

LWSS AGM

When: December 5th, 2023 at 5:00 pm

Where: Terrace Community Library Meeting Room

If you will be attending, please RSVP by email to:

watershedcoordinator.lakelse@gmail.com

Keep in touch!

Visit our website:

<https://www.lakelsewatershedsociety.com/>

Follow us on social media:



@lakelse_watershed_society_



@Lakelse Watershed Stewards Society

We're always looking for neat photos of the Lakelse Watershed to feature on our pages, send them along!