



The GUMBOOT GAZETTE



Volume 10, Number 4

Winter 2020

The Lakelse Watershed Newsletter



Winter has arrived!

With the cold weather comes snow and ice!

Check out the newsletter to learn about ways to de-ice your driveway while being environmentally friendly!

Learn about ice safety!
Know how thick ice needs to be to safely hold weight.



Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year



Read about projects we ran this Autumn, and upcoming events!



Learn how to make pine infused cleaning vinegar!





Alternative De-icers

For icy surfaces use inexpensive sand, grit (such as limestone), sawdust or cinders.

A thin layer of any of these products scattered down the wheel track of your drive or along your walkway will provide traction.

Avoid sodium chloride salt and urea (a fertilizer sold as de-icer) to de-ice sidewalks and stairs. Both are tough on plants and surface water and are toxic to aquatic life.

Environmentally friendly de-icer can be found at hardware stores.



ATTENTION!

Ice safety

Minimum thickness of clear, hard ice

Come on, it's alright. Look, the water is stiff- *Thumper*



*Not recommended, but if you must, proceed at your own risk.

If you fall through the ice self rescue is possible! Follow this step-by-step diagram in order to get yourself out of the water!



Treading water

Do not panic and thrash about. Resist the urge to gasp, slowly tread water or grasp the edge of the ice to keep your head above the water.



Kick and pull

Keep your hands and arms on the ice and kick your feet. This brings your body to a horizontal position, parallel to the ice surface.



Horizontal kick and pull

Once horizontal, continue to kick your feet while pulling with your hands. Draw yourself up onto the ice.



Roll onto the ice

Keep your weight spread out as you roll, crawl, and slide across the ice until it will support your weight.



Pine Infused Cleaning Vinegar

With the holidays comes family, food, and cleaning! A good pine infused vinegar is a nice smelling, environmentally friendly, natural cleaner to use around the winter months. Here are two easy pine infused vinegar recipes!

Pine branch method:

Collect a few pine branches and give them a good wash with some warm water. Allow them to dry, then cut them so they will fit and fill a glass jar. Place them in a glass jar and top it with vinegar. Allow to sit in the pantry for 2-3 weeks, then strain out the branches. (You can use a piece of cloth between the lid and the jar to prevent corrosion while it sits).

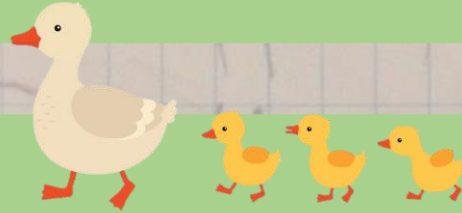
Pine needle method:

The other way is to remove the pine needles from the branches, then allow them to dry out for 2-3 days. After the needles are dry, fill the jar with needles about half-way, then fill the jar with vinegar, and follow the same steps as above. This option has a stronger pine smell, which some people prefer.

After your pine infused vinegar is ready just add equal parts distilled water (or boiled cooled water) and infused vinegar to a reusable spray bottle. Use this as an all-purpose spray on anything except mineral surfaces, such as granite and marble. Happy cleaning!



Wetland Keepers Workshop



Learn technical skills to steward your own wetland!

Wetlandkeepers is a two-and-a-half-day workshop that educates participants about wetland conservation! Learn about wetland mapping, plant and animal identification, soil sampling and other wetland classification and stewardship skills.

A mix of hands-on field work and presentations will provide participants with the technical skills to steward their own wetland. Receive a Wetlandkeepers certificate at the end of the workshop!

Stayed Tuned! Dates and times will be announced this spring!

Email Chera at chera.hrem@gmail.com if interested in participating!

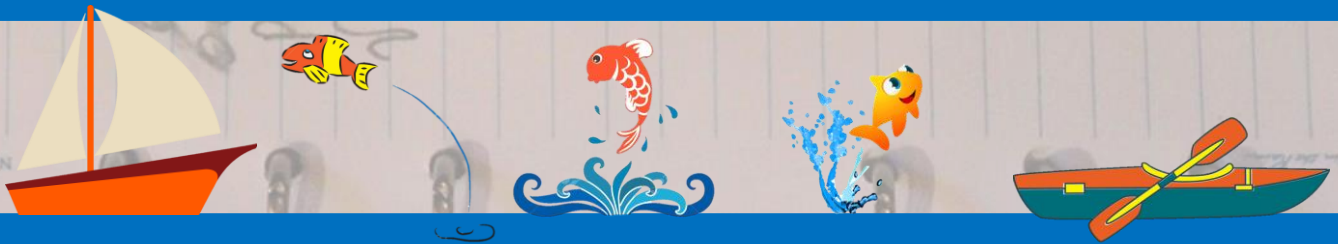


NEW SIGNAGE



We teamed up with the Invasive Species Council of British Columbia's Clean Drain Dry team to add more signs and increase awareness around Lakelse Lake.

The signs will be placed at recreational locations within the Lakelse watershed reminding people to Clean Drain and Dry their equipment to prevent the spread of invasive species.



ATTENTION

Invasive species impact our waters



Once you leave the water...

CLEAN

plants, animals and mud from boat and gear

DRAIN

all water from boat and gear onto land

DRY

all parts of your boat and gear completely



Report Zebra or Quagga mussel sightings to the R.A.P.P. Hotline 1-877-952-7277
For more information: CleanDrainDry.ca



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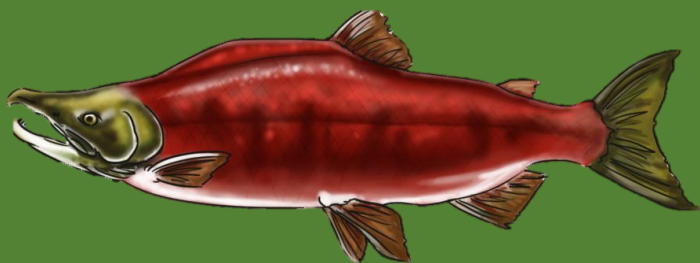
SCULLY CAMERA

The Scully camera had another successful year!

180 Coho were counted moving through the fish fence!

Sockeye footage is still being reviewed. If you want to help us review the footage and count some sockeye feel free to contact Chera @ chera.hrem@gmail.com.

A duck, beavers, and even a mink (pictured below) were captured on camera!



What's in a Name?

Lakelse is derived from the Coast Tsimshian language word "LaxGyels", meaning freshwater mussel. The mollusk is found on the bottom of both Lakelse Lake and Lakelse River.



California Floater

There are three types of freshwater mussels found in the Lakelse system. The California Floater and Western Floater are found in Lakelse Lake, while the Western Pearlshell is found almost exclusively in Lakelse River.



Western Pearlshell



Western Floater

Read more regarding Lakelse Lake and freshwater mussels at:

<http://lakelsewatershedsociety.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Lakelse-2060.pdf>

Social Media



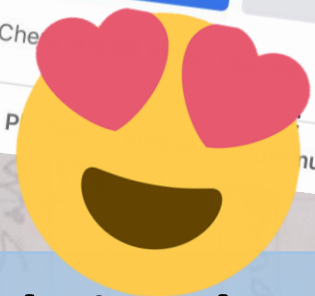
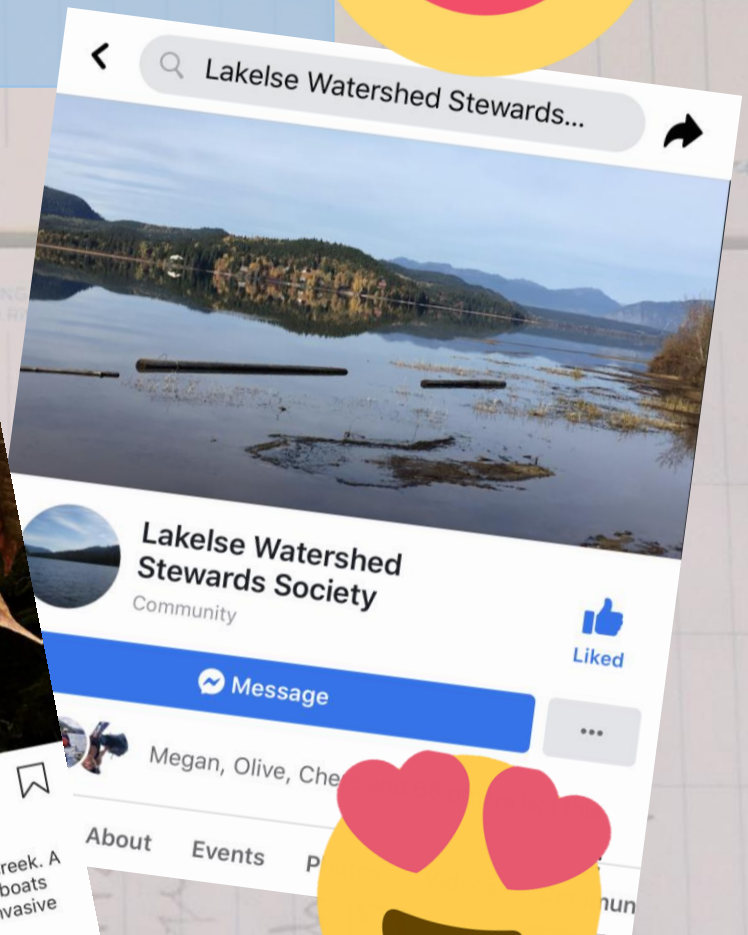
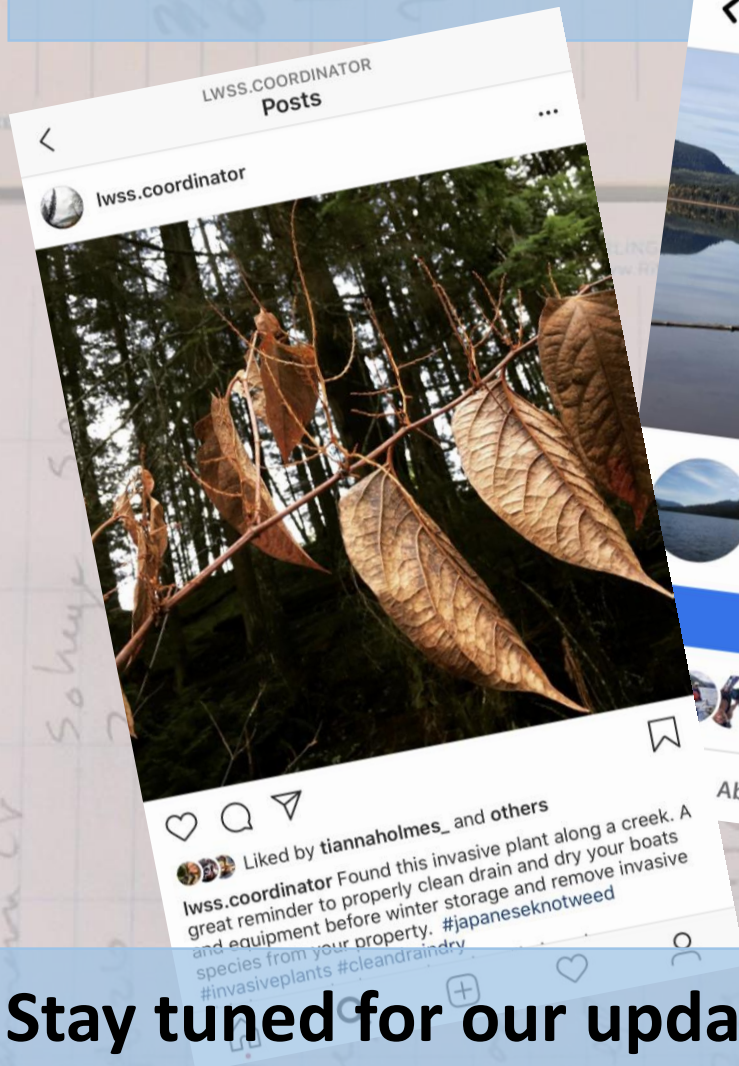
Keep up with events by following us on Facebook and Instagram!



Follow us @ lwss.coordinator



Follow us @ Lakelse Watershed Stewards Society



Stay tuned for our updated website that will launch in the New Year!



We would like to start a **Volunteer list** so we can call or email you for help when we need it!

Please email Chera @ chera.hrem@gmail.com in order to add your information to the list! Provide your name, email, and phone number (and state your preferred method to contact).

Take part in watershed and lake sampling or help us review footage from the Scully underwater camera.



One of our volunteers out on the watershed circuit!