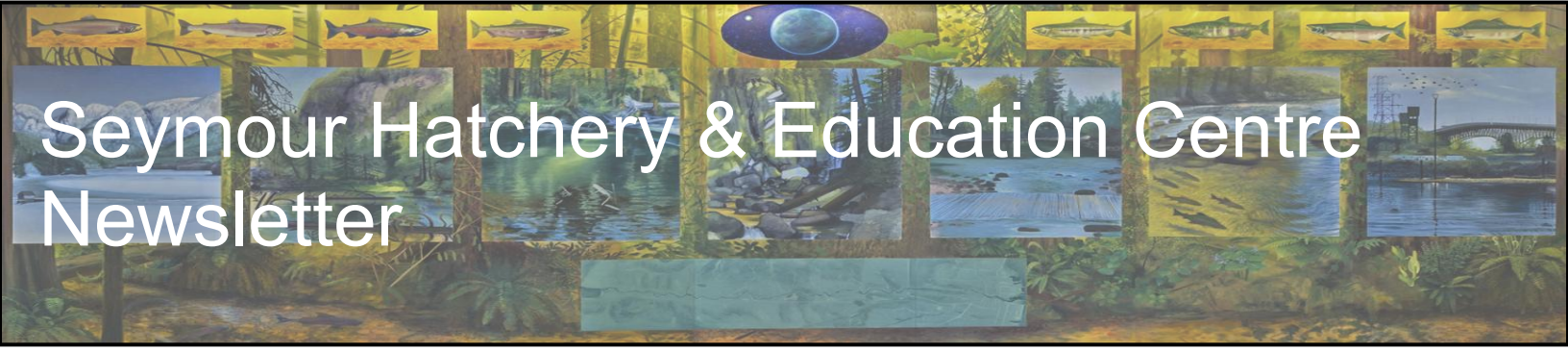


Seymour Hatchery & Education Centre Newsletter

Spring 2026

So, we had one of the mildest winters in decades which has resulted in our fisheries enhancement activities to begin approximately two weeks earlier than usual. Two weeks does not sound significant but means eggs hatching earlier and the fry having more time to begin feeding in the system. We have continued to engage with visiting high school and university students for firsthand learning, especially with our weekend volunteer assistance from high school students.

We had a positive winter holding period for our summer-run steelhead, along with capture of winter-run steelhead during spring. To date we have completed our summer run spawning and are entering the phase of when our winter runs will ripen in preparation for spawning in May.

We also had a successful chum fry release at Heritage Park in April, with the support of the DNV Firefighters Charitable Society. Over 12,000 fry were released by the local community on the day.

Our activities continue with the generous support of the Metro-Vancouver, Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), the District of North Vancouver Firefighters Charitable Society, the Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF), along with private and corporate donors. We also deeply appreciate our community volunteers for helping us accomplish so much for the watershed.



Chum fry releases by little ones at Heritage Park, North vancouver

Enhancement 2026

Fry Releases:

Pink fry – 105,000

Chum fry – 67,000

Adult Spawns:

Summer steelhead – 8 pairs spawned

Winter steelhead – 3-4 pairs anticipated

Upcoming Smolt Releases:

Coho smolts – 50,000

Steelhead smolts – 31,000

Media Highlights

North Shore News – Federal Funding

Global News – Chum Fry Release

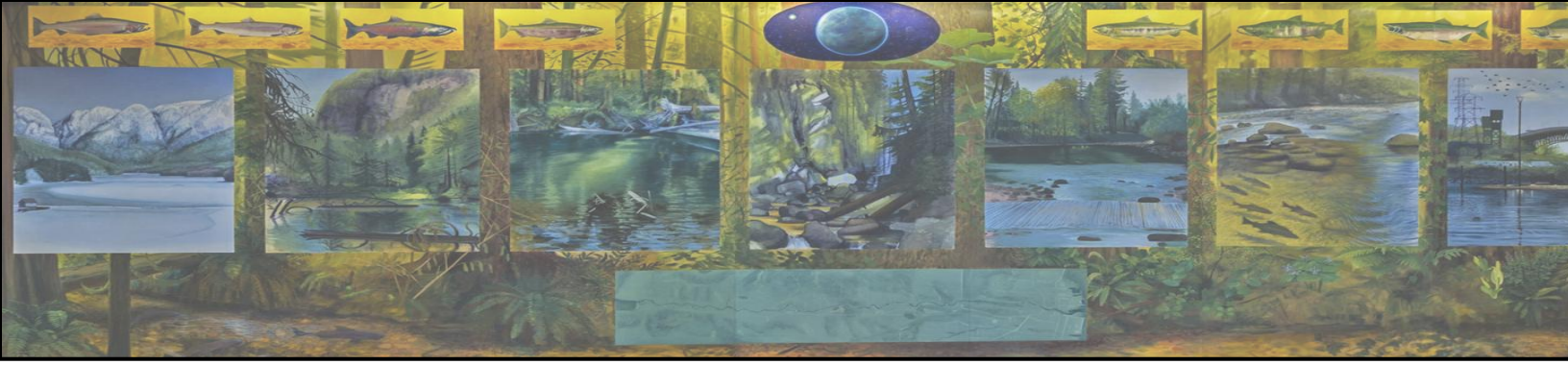
Contact

If you have any questions or would like to contribute to our newsletter, please email volunteering@seymoursalmon.com

PO Box 30085, North Vancouver, V7H 2Y8

Phone: 604-288-0511







Crowds at Heritage Park during the chum fry release

In the Watershed

We have regularly observed summer-run steelhead spawning in the Seymour River this early spring, and we anticipate another positive year for this species. This year's adult summer runs will be returning during freshet and early summer, so we hope to see positive numbers in our fish river seines later this year.



Adult summer-run steelhead on a Redd in preparation for spawning

Winter-run steelhead have also been observed upstream of the Seymour Canyon and rockslide area, which is positive news for confirming fish passage of this species during the early spring flow conditions.

Small numbers of winter runs continue to be observed in the river again this year; however, at least we are still seeing them in the system and able to collect adults for broodstock production.

We completed spawning our eight pairs of summer-run steelhead, which is anticipated to total 28,000 fry hatching during June. Our broodstockers were also on the water capturing winter-run steelhead and we anticipate spawning 3-4 pairs before the end of the season. The winter-run adults are yet to ripen since they have only recently arrived in the watershed and transported to the hatchery.



Returning adult winter-run steelhead captured for broodstock

Coho fry are also rearing in the indoor troughs and we anticipate fin clipping and moving these to the outdoor ponds sometime later in June and early July.



Coho fry emerging in Hurry Creek

Education

Our Gently Down the Seymour spring classes began in March and are fully booked until June, totalling 55 classes. The spring weather has been perfect to enable the kids to get into the nearby Hurry Creek, learn about stream invertebrates in the laboratory and learn about the salmon life cycle at the facility.

Our spring classes come primarily from Vancouver, North and West Vancouver, Burnaby, and Coquitlam schools and all have enjoyed their education day in the forest so far in 2026.



GDS class enjoying wading in Hurry Creek and taking stream measurements

Staff Farewell



Megan involved in a river seine holding a chinook salmon

We are saying goodbye to Megan, our Program Coordinator at the end of April as she continues her higher education at Vancouver Island University. Megan has been with the Society full-time since 2022 following completion of BCIT's Diploma in Fish, Wildlife and Recreational Management. We wish Megan the best in her ongoing career development, although we are sure to see her seining with us on the Seymour regularly.

Fundraising

We are beginning our fundraising for the season to continue funding our education programs, facility operations, and restoration initiatives. The DNV Firefighters Charitable Society are once again preparing for their annual Barn Burner on June 5th, along with the Fishing Derby on September 18th. You can find the silent auction at the following links:

Barn Burner Concert

DNV Fire Charity Auction

Fishing Derby

The **DNV Firefighters Charitable Society** continues to be a significant support for the Society, especially our education program. Their efforts are instrumental in enabling almost 2,000 elementary school children the opportunity to spend a day at our hatchery and education centre, learning about all thing's salmon and their life cycle. On behalf of the Society, we would also like to say a huge thank you to the following donors of prizes towards the auction:

- **River Titans Pro Anglers**
- **Fred's Custom Tackle**
- **Mustang Survival**
- **North Vancouver Tourism Association**
- **Kinetic Footwear & Orthotics**
- **Pacific National Exhibition (PNE)**
- **Local Artist, Sieneke Toering**
- **Everything Wine**
- **Society Board of Directors**

We also received a generous donation from the **Seymour Golf and Country Club**, and were fortunate to welcomed their staff to the hatchery for a site tour and update on our education and enhancement programs.

We are also continuing our efforts to raise funds for a hatchery truck replacement. Donations toward this vital upgrade would be appreciated using the following QR Code: