**FANNY BAY SALMONID ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY (FBSES)**

**May 2016**

By Judy Ackinclose

What a great day at our River Never Sleeps festival on May 1st!! The stars aligned to make it an absolutely amazing event. At the end we tallied up numbers and our attendance was close to 500, sold out of 30 dozen Mac’s oysters, record number of hamburgers devoured and a hearty thumb’s up from everyone. Many thanks to the wonderful volunteers who spent numerous hours preparing for and working the day of the festival. Two thumbs up to Sandra Martindale for her fantastic job in advertising, Erna Smith for putting the poster together. We also had a “Destination Passport” concept which made the festival even more fun! Of course one of the main events, which happened all day long, was the opportunity for children of all ages to release coho smolts in the river, huge hit!

The quiet after the festival did not last long as the unseasonal hot weather has the streams drying early. Cook, McNaughton and Hart creeks have salvage operations in full swing. Saving these trapped wild coho is so important and gratifying. Any and all help is so very welcome and appreciated. Both Rosewall and Wilfred Hatcheries will be going through some maintenance and upgrades over the coming months and our annual picnic/work party in June that is usually held at Wilfred Hatchery will be done this year at the Cook/Relic Creek area.

The Mud Bay and Cook Creek smolt traps are underway. At present, 734 coho smolts and 23 cutthroats have passed through the trap at Mud Bay Creek and at Cook Creek, just over 400 coho smolts. The trap at Mud Bay creek will remain in operation until mid-June.

Our AGM was held in May which included a very interesting presentation on local Eel Grass Project Research. Please join us on a Wednesday or Saturday work party for coffee and learn more about what our volunteers do. Our hours of operation are 9 am to 12 pm, Rosewall Creek on Berray Road. For more information, visit our website **www.fbses.ca**.