 **2024 SUMMARY**

Our 2024 season is coming to a close. The last coho were moved out on Nov. 13 and the trap was closed down for another year. What a year this was though!!!

Final numbers of fish moved were 8485, of which 7752 were Adults and 733 were Jacks.

A new all-time record for our project. That makes 5 years in a row that new records have been established. Goldstream Hatchery came and got 80 spawners for Brood stock and 38 spawners were transported to Shawnigan Lake School’s Hatchery for their Environmental Sciences program.

There was some serious concern about this year’s return, as their Mother run went through the torrential Atmospheric River in November of 2021. It seems Mother Nature dealt us a lucky hand to allow our spawning fish of that year to hunker down and ride out the deluge, ending up with a very good spawning result. Our returns this year are putting us once again at the top of Coho Salmon Enhancement projects on the BC Coast, that don’t have hatchery intervention. Quite a feather in our caps that we continue to increase the number of salmon year after year. We had huge numbers of jacks that returned this year, indicating that we should be prepared for another very substantial return next year. Another bright spot, was when the summer creek walk was done, there were very good numbers of fry that were spotted suggesting that 2026 will also be a banner year for us.

This project wouldn’t be the project it is today without the dedication and hard work of our many volunteers. A huge Thank You to all of you who have given a lot of your time and effort throughout the year, to ensure this very successful project continues to thrive. The Netters, what can be said about them and their effort to capture every Coho they could and give it a chance to spawn. Amazing dedication to put so many hours in at the trap. Thank You for all your time and without you putting in those many hours, we certainly wouldn’t have the numbers that we were able to transport to the spawning grounds.

We still have an ongoing opportunity to purchase apparel with our logo on it.

Many volunteers bought the different kinds of clothing last year and wore it proudly to show their pride of being part of such a great project and organization. For new and existing volunteers who would like to acquire some items, please go to our website - mbdcs.ca – and use the order form that is on it.

Many thanks to our numerous sponsors, who’s generous donations, allow us to continue to make this one of BC’s blue ribbon Coho streams.

It is time to kick back and get some rest after such a great year. Time will pass quickly and before you know it we will back in action again in the days ahead.

Our AGM will be in the early New Year, please bring your thoughts and new ideas of how we can continue to improve our project. Date TBD.

Stay safe and enjoy your time off.

Ken Gray – Director/Secretary

mbdcs.ca

mbdcsociety@gmail.com