

What if we can't arrange a field trip?

All is not lost—KEEPS also visits classrooms! Our Watershed Road Show is available to all grade levels, throughout the school year. It is also an effective way to prepare the class for a future field trip visit, and many teachers choose to combine the Watershed Road Show and a subsequent field trip as a package. For more information about our popular classroom program, call KEEPS or visit our website.



**Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society**



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**Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society**

*Field trip information package for teachers*



**2006-2007**



*Warning: this publication contains material that results in students getting outside, learning about nature and how to help the environment while having fun.*



## Welcome!

The Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS) is a Maple Ridge-area non-profit stewardship organization based at Bell-Irving Hatchery on Kanaka Creek. Our most prominent activity is public environmental education. We offer a wide variety of interactive field trip programs to all grade levels. By reviewing this guide as well as our program brochure, you will ensure that your students will derive the maximum benefit from your visit with us.

### *Expected learning outcomes—Primary*

Students will learn what a riparian zone is, and ways that it helps salmon. Students will identify common plant species using visual aids. Predator / prey interactions will be taught via a series of interactive games. Students will have a chance to examine the streambank area to see what is living there. The role of the hatchery will be introduced, and students will learn how the life cycle of wild salmon differs from hatchery salmon.

### *Expected learning outcomes—Intermediate*

Students will learn two methods of determining stream health: directly, by measuring water chemistry, and indirectly, by examining and identifying indicator species. The function and importance of the riparian zone and surrounding forest will be covered. Current environmental / resource issues such as global warming and habitat loss will be incorporated into the program. The role of the hatchery as a management tool will be discussed. Classes that have not had the KEEPS classroom Watershed Road Show program will be given an overview of the salmon life cycle.



- Kanaka Creek contains coho, chum and pink salmon.
- Chinook and sockeye salmon are sometimes seen in Kanaka Creek, but it is usually because they have strayed off course.
- Coho salmon normally return to spawn at age 3. A salmon, usually a male, that returns one year early is known as a “jack.”
- Steelhead and cutthroat trout are also found in the creek.
- Most salmon fry have dark vertical stripes called parr marks. Pink salmon fry are silver all over.



*A pair of spawning coho salmon*



*Can you spot the coho salmon fry in this photo?*



## How to find us

### Bell-Irving Hatchery

From Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows: proceed east on Dewdney Trunk Road until 256th Street, then south (right) on 256th for approximately 1.0 km to the parking area on the southeast side of the Kanaka Creek bridge.

From Mission: Turn north on 240th Street from Highway 7 and proceed to Dewdney Trunk Road, then proceed as above.

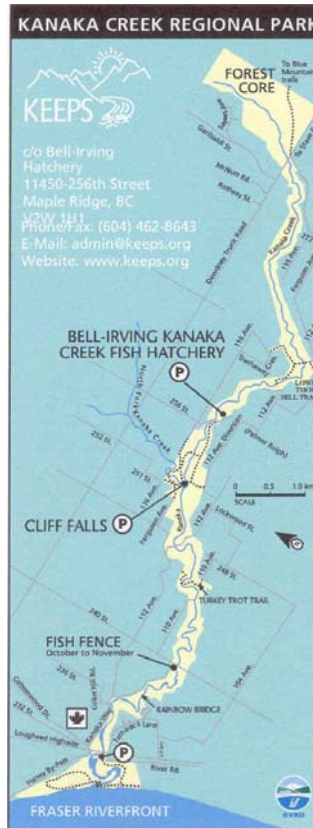
### 240th Street Fish Fence

The 240th Street Fish Fence is approximately 2.0 km north of Highway 7 on 240th Street. It is also accessible from the north by traveling 2.0 km south on 240th Street from Dewdney Trunk Road.

### Estimated travel times from:

Lougheed and Harris: 25 minutes  
Dewdney and 232nd: 15 minutes  
Mission: 30 minutes

*Right: entrance to hatchery parking area*



## Before you arrive

What does KEEPS need to know about the field trip group?

- Teacher / group leader name and contact information
- Number of students
- Grade level / age
- Preferred time of day (morning vs afternoon)
- Time availability
- A brief explanation of program expectations
- Special needs such as wheelchair accessibility
- Snack plans

What are considerations for students to keep in mind?

- Arrive prepared for changeable or inclement weather. In the fall and winter, it is normally colder and damper in the Kanaka watershed than most other areas of Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows.
- We discourage the use of umbrellas, as they hinder eye contact and can actually be hazardous when deployed among a group. Hats or hoods are preferable.
- Adequate footwear is important (rubber boots recommended.)
- In the event of wet weather, students should have a change of clothes available.

Where do we meet you?

- For all field trips occurring or originating at Bell-Irving Hatchery, KEEPS interpreters will meet your group at the eastern end of the public parking area at the appointed time.
- Meeting arrangements for field trips to other locations (such as the 240th Street fish fence) will be made between KEEPS and the group leader in advance of the program.



### Is the field trip site wheelchair accessible?

All of our field trip programs with the exception of the Cliff Park Circle Tour are wheelchair accessible.

### How do we pay?

- Cash or cheque will be collected by the KEEPS Education Coordinator at the time of the program, or at the school at an agreed upon time.
- Cheques are to be made out to KEEPS.

### What about cancellations?

- A group may cancel up to within 24 hours prior to the scheduled start of the program without paying the program fee. If a group cancels within 24 hours of the program start time, the field trip fee will be applied.
- A group will not be required to pay the fee if the cancellation is the result of severe weather or illness on the part of the KEEPS interpreters.

### What sorts of conditions would be cause for cancellation?

- High winds
- Severe lightning
- Heavy snow, if it produces extremely hazardous driving conditions
- Flood conditions in Kanaka Creek
- Forest fire

### How long are the programs?

- In general, primary grade programs last 1 1/2 hours while intermediate programs are 2 to 2 1/2 hours.
- We can accommodate longer time slots upon request.



### Can programs be modified to suit our curriculum?

- The answer is yes! We often place special emphasis on a certain aspect of our program so that a teacher can best address his / her needs.

### Are there washrooms?

- There are outhouses located at the Bell-Irving Hatchery site; interpreters will indicate their location during the field trip introduction.

### What about discipline?

- KEEPS assumes no responsibility for student discipline. However, we may request that a student temporarily sit out in the event that he / she is creating a situation that is either unsafe or distracting to the other students. We will notify the teacher of this behaviour prior to undertaking this extremely unusual step.

### Is there a first aid station?

- We carry first aid kits, and are trained in first aid. In addition, KEEPS does not conduct field trip programs in areas without cell phone reception.

### Are there guidelines for parent volunteers?

- As with the students, it is extremely important to adequately dress for the weather.
- Although we realize that cell phones are a part of our busy lives, please attempt to minimize their use during the program. If you must take or receive a call, please move out of earshot of the program.
- Questions and / or assistance from parents are heartily encouraged!