

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 16, 2016

### **Summerland Fish Hatchery Exploring Potential Impacts of Development on Water Source**

The Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC retained MDM Groundwater Consulting Ltd to evaluate the potential impacts of the Banks Crescent Development currently going through the development application process. This review identified areas of possible concern and recommended courses of action for mitigating anticipated impacts. The review is posted on the District of Summerland website and can be found at: <http://www.summerland.ca/planning-building/banks-crescent>. The Summerland Trout Hatchery is considered a significant stakeholder in this process as its water is sourced entirely from a groundwater spring near the proposed Banks Crescent development site. We are in discussion with the District of Summerland regarding the concerns identified by MDM Groundwater Consulting Ltd and how they may be addressed in order to ensure the hatchery's health and sustainability.

"We are pleased to see so many people care about the health of the Summerland Fish Hatchery and value it as an important part of the community. We have commissioned this study to make sure we have all the facts." says Tim Yesaki, Vice President of Operations, Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC. "At this time we don't know the full extent of the development impacts and are awaiting response to our concerns. We are having an ongoing dialogue with our consultant and the District of Summerland as we work through the process."

The Summerland Trout Hatchery is one of six hatcheries owned and managed by the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC. Every year, the hatcheries raise and release over eight million trout, char, and kokanee salmon into 800 lakes around the province. The Summerland Hatchery raises one million of the fish and stocks 300 lakes.

The Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC was created in 2003 as a private, not-for-profit organization, funded mainly through freshwater fishing licence revenues. In partnership with the Province, the Society annually stocks eight million trout, char and kokanee salmon in 800 B.C. lakes. It also manages special hatchery programs for endangered species including white sturgeon, conducts fisheries research, education and conservation programs and works to make angling more accessible for all. As of April 1, 2015, under a new agreement with the provincial government, the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC receives 100% of fishing licence revenue to invest in infrastructure and services to support freshwater fishing in BC. With the increased revenue, the Society is investing in additional research and infrastructure projects across the province. To find out more, visit [gofishbc.com](http://gofishbc.com)

Media Contact:

Tim Yesaki, Vice President of Operations  
Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC  
Office: 250-414-4200