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

**March 2016**

By Judy Ackinclose

With long days of winter past, we at the hatchery are hoping this equally long stretch of rain will soon turn into showers. The moisture is welcome as we still remember last summer and how the streams dried up and even some of the older majestic trees succumbed to drought. We are not certain how the coho and chum eggs in the streams have made it through this winter what with all the flooding and instream gravel movement. Time will tell.

Good thing we have the “brood” coho and chum at the hatchery. The chum have been ponded into tanks and have taken to eating right away. All 160,000 chum will be released to Rosewall Creek in the next moth or so and head out to the ocean. Similarly, the pinks at Wilfred Creek Hatchery hatch, get used their surroundings and off they go. Not so with our coho, they will stay until May 2017 and then are released as smolts.

We are looking forward to a number of projects this summer. First, on Rosewall, the Department of fisheries and Oceans (DFO) is installing a new infiltration gallery in conjunction with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOT). The Wilfred Creek bridge will get some much needed new decking, thanks to FortisBC. The Wilfred Creek intake to the side channel will also get some attention from DFO.

We plan to host another of our River Never Sleeps Festival again this year. Please mark your calendar for Sunday, May 1st.

If you would like to help or see what is happening at the hatchery, our hours of operation are Wednesdays and Saturdays 9 am to 12 pm, Rosewall Creek on Berray Road. For more information, visit our website **www.fbses.ca**.