

**MINUTES OF THE AMALGAMATED CONSERVATION SOCIETY MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 02, 2019 AT THE ESQUIMALT ANGLERS' RAMP**

CLUBS REPRESENTED:

Victoria Fish & Game Protective Association – Wayne ZACCARELLI

Royal Canadian Navy Anglers' Association – Tom COLE

Esquimalt Anglers' Association – Gary CATON

Clover Point Anglers' Association – Tom VAIDA

Haig-Brown Flyfishing Association – Ian HOLDER

Victoria Golden Rods & Reels – Dave COOKE

Goldstream Volunteer Salmonid Enhancement Association – Jim PEARSON

Guest: Chris Bos (Victoria SFAC second seat/alternate chair)

The meeting called to order at 1935 hours with president Tom COLE in the chair.

The secretary read the minutes of the previous monthly meeting held 05/12/18.

MOVED BY: Gary CATON that the minutes of the December meeting be adopted as corrected.

SECONDED BY: Tom VAIDA CARRIED

Gary CATON reported on the Esquimalt Anglers' AGM held December 06. The same slate of directors and executive were returned. Final coho count at Colquitz was 218.

Tom VAIDA noted that fishing has improved recently with some larger Chinooks being caught. The club's AGM is booked for March 25.

Tom announced that the Island Outfitters Boat, Fishing & Outdoor Show has been moved from Pearkes Arena to the dry ice arena in Langford around the third week in February.

Ian HOLDER indicated that the Club's next meeting is January 09 with fly tying on the 16th at the CPO Mess. About 60 members and guests attended the Christmas dinner at the Cedar Hill Golf Club.

Dave COOKE introduced himself as the new president of the Golden Rods & Reels. He is looking at having one evening meeting per month for those who cannot attend the weekly morning meetings. The Club would also like to get involved in a stream enhancement project. They have a history working on O'Donnell Creek at Elk Lake.

Jim PEARSON stated that coho and chum carcasses will be planted in Douglas Creek on January 26. The Goldstream Hatchery is still seeking Chinook eggs from either Cowichan or Nanaimo Rivers. All male coho spawners being held have been released after DNA samples were taken (adipose fin clip).

Jim mentioned an article composed by Justine Hunter and appearing in the December 31 edition of the Globe & Mail which featured the operations of the Howard English Goldstream Hatchery.

Wayne ZACCARELLI noted public comment being sought by DFO regarding the herring roe and reduction fisheries. After some discussion, it was agreed that the ACS should submit their recommendation of a 30% harvest reduction across all herring roe and reduction fisheries. The deadline for comment is January 09.

Wayne also mentioned upcoming meetings being held by the B.C. Wild Salmon Advisory Council which is seeking comment on their Options Paper. A public meeting is being held January 10 at the Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre. For more information check out their website and Options Paper.

Tom COLE spoke on the Chambers of Commerce led media event held at Esquimalt Anglers' ramp December 06. The economic impact of the angling closures was emphasized and it was noted that they would not result in any measurable benefit to the SRKW.

Tom noted that California and Oregon are re-opening access to rockfish after populations have recovered sufficiently to allow a managed harvest. The mandatory use of barotrauma release devices is credited with assisting the recovery.

Tom read a letter from Beecher Bay First Nation, dated November 05, to DFO Commercial Crab Management stating their displeasure with a lack of action to remove the commercial crabbers from Beecher Bay. The letter gives DFO a deadline of November 30 to effect the desired result. The commercial crabbers were still operating in Beecher Bay after November 30, so the First Nations cut the buoys off the lines.

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) annual meetings take place in Victoria January 28 through February 02. Tom noted that Gerry Kristianson will be retiring from his position as chair of the SFAB at their upcoming meeting.

Reference was made to a January 02 report that two more SRKW are showing symptoms of starvation and may not survive to summer.

The meeting adjourned at 2035 hours.