

## **Activities Completed As Part of the Kingfisher Interpretive Society Education Program Regarding the dangers of Introduced Aquatic Invasive Species.**

One of the main goals of the Kingfisher Interpretive Society is Education to ensure that the Shuswap Watershed is and continues to be a healthy ecosystem. Many initiatives have been undertaken. Some have been specifically to educate youth and the general public regarding the dangers of invasive species and some have been broader in scope but have included the messages about invasive species. The following initiatives have taken place under the Direction of Kim Fulton aka Dr. Fish:

- Oct. 21 – Field day with Chief Atahm School from Chase B.C. and Bert Edwards Science and Tech School from Kamloops. Invasive species station creek side and Invasive species session in the classroom with younger students. Debriefing session with Tascha Stubbs.
- Jan. 14 - Meeting with key high school teachers to plan a Pro-d event with a broader audience to develop a Shuswap Watershed Education Package. Invasive Species was identified as a key issue to include.
- Jan. Pro- d session with District 83 teachers. 20 in attendance mostly Secondary Science Teachers but some Elementary and Distance Education Students. Brainstorm of activities and structure to go along with the Shuswap Watershed Poster. Invasive Species was identified as a key threat to the health of the watershed.
- Feb. 4 Presentation to District Elementary Principals to encourage school participation in Shuswap Watershed Week activities
- Meeting at Armstrong Carwash to encourage owner to allow a trail connection through his property near a riparian area. Offered to plant native trees and shrubs along creek.
- Feb. 17 – Meeting with Web Design Team to plan web site with the inclusion of Invasive Species education materials developed in conjunction with MOE and the Fresh Water Fisheries Society
- Feb. 19 Student Leadership Conference with Shuswap Watershed poster as unifying theme. Invasive species used as an example for student poster projects.
- Feb 25 News conference for the release of Watershed Poster.

- Mar. 1-2 Delivery of Watershed Posters to all schools in the watershed and businesses in the water shed including Vernon, Lumby, and Cherryville
- Mar. 18 collect native plant material cuttings for later riparian replanting projects.
- Mar. 24 meeting with Armstrong Elementary Leadership kids to plan Watershed Week Activities
- Mar. 25 meeting with Rancho Elementary Leadership kids to plan Watershed Week Activities.
- Mar. 30 meeting with Maintenance Supervisor and Principal of Salmon Arm West to plan native plant arboretum at the school. Meeting with Principal and Leadership Students from North Canoe Elementary School to plan riparian replanting project on Canoe Creek.