

History of the Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club and Little Campbell Hatchery

In 1956, the club was started by local residents concerned about damages from gravel extraction near the rivers' headwaters. This began over 55 years of volunteer dedication to restoration and enhancement of the Little Campbell River & its' tributaries.

Juvenile Wood Duck



Andrew Prentice

In 1973 a wood duck nest box program began with placing 200 nest boxes along the river.

In 1976 participation in the Salmonid Enhancement Program (SEP) began with cleaning up and rehabilitating spawning beds on Jenkins Creek, a tributary of the Little Campbell River.

In 1978/79, members purchased the 29 acre site on 184th Street; spawning channels were dug and the first volunteer hatchery in the province was built. It was completed in 1984 and over 150, 000 salmon are raised and released annually.

The hatchery has conducted 30 years of research with Fisheries & Oceans Canada and the provincial Freshwater Fisheries.



Coho fry, KEEPS

The Education Centre and initial nature trails were built in 1994. Over 6,000 students and members of the public visit the hatchery and nature trails annually.

Increasing human population and accompanying pressures require opportunities to reconnect with the natural world and our commitment to stewardship for wildlife and all remaining natural areas.

Did you know the Little Campbell River has been listed as an Endangered River in British Columbia?

Legal protection is patchy. The "Fisheries Act" is currently the strongest protection for the river and is supported by the local municipalities that the river runs through. Under the federal Fisheries Act, "fish habitats" are defined as those parts of the environment on which fish depend, directly or indirectly, in order to carry out their life processes. The Act also defines 'fish' to include all the life stages of 'fish, shellfish, crustaceans...'. Fisheries and Oceans Canada's long term policy objective is the achievement of an overall net gain of the productive capacity of fish habitats. The "no-net loss" principal is the best guideline to protect the river.



Juvenile Barn Owls, Roy Thomson

The Little Campbell River and watershed is inhabited by Species at Risk which are protected under Federal legislation. It is also a part of the Fraser River delta Important Bird Area, the top rated of 600 designated sites in Canada.

Resources & Links

Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society
www.birdsonthebay.ca

Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club/
Little Campbell Hatchery www.sfgc.ca

Little Campbell Watershed Society
www.lcws.com

A Rocha Canada www.arocha.org

Langley Environmental Partners Society
www.leps.bc.ca

The Georgia Basin Habitat Atlas: Boundary Bay www.georgiabasin.net

BC Nature, Federation of BC Naturalists
www.naturalists.bc.ca

Bird Studies Canada www.bsc-eoc.org

Fishbase www.fishbase.org

World Wetlands www.ramsar.org

Native Plant Society www.npsbc.org

E Flora/E Fauna Project
www.geog.ubc.ca/~brian/florae/

Invasive Plant Council of Metro Vancouver
www.ipcmv.ca

Fisheries and Oceans Canada
www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Thank you Project Partners & Volunteers!

Little Campbell River Forest Trail Interpretive Signage & Restoration Project Funding acknowledgements:

TD Friends of the Environment; Fisheries and Oceans Canada; BC Nature & the BC Naturalists' Foundation; Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club; Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society; City of Surrey SHaRP; A Rocha Canada; Langley Environmental Partners Society

Brochure: Margaret Cuthbert, Yvonne Dawydiak, Phillip Milligan; Map: Margaret Cuthbert, Roy Thomson, Harry Paddon

Printed on FSE Certified Paper

Little Campbell River (Tat-a-lu) Forest Trail Interpretive Guide



Little Campbell River, Margaret Cuthbert

1284 184th Street, Surrey,
south of 16th Avenue.

Turn into the parking lot beside
the hatchery or cross the bridge
and park adjacent to the
Education Centre on the hill.

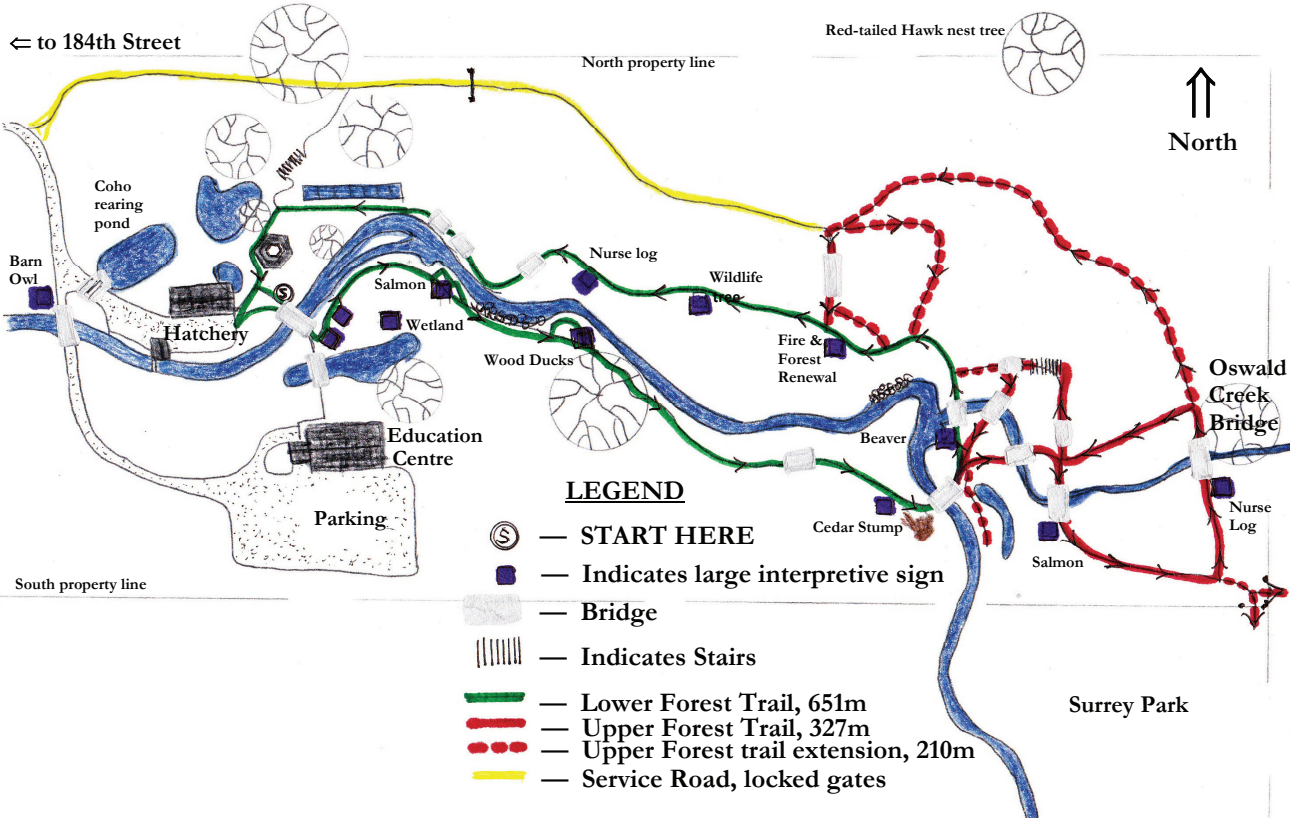
Lower Forest Trail loop: Start at the north side of the bridge over the river below the Education Centre. This trail is **650 meters** in length, an easy, level walk and is wheelchair accessible.

You will see a series of interpretive signs: starting at the **Little Campbell River ortho/facts sign** then cross the bridge, see the **project acknowledgement** sign then the **‘What you might see’** along the trail sign. As you walk east, to the right note the **wetland** interpretive sign next to the pond. Further along, see the **salmon spawning** observation area, then the **wood duck** observation area and further still the **cedar stump** sign. Cross the bridge and continue north, see the large **beaver** sign. Cross the next bridge, stay left and walk west, you will come to a large tree stump with three species of trees growing from it. The **fire and forest renewal** sign is here. Walking west you will see the **wildlife tree** and the **nurse log** signs. As you complete the **Lower Forest Trail** loop turn south to return to the parking area.

Upper Forest Trail loop: Start at the blue bridge midway along the Lower Forest Trail loop. This trail is **327 meters** in length and is not wheelchair accessible. On the north side of the bridge, turn east or right, continue into the forest, keep to the right. You will see the **Oswald Creek spawning salmon** sign. Continue up the hill and turn left onto the trail. Walking north, you will see a large stump and the **nurse log** sign. Proceed across **Oswald Creek Bridge** and return to the **Lower Forest Trail** loop. If you choose to extend your walk another **210 meters**, continue north. A Y in the trail on the left returns to the lower trail or a little further along you can return to the **Lower Forest Trail** at the **fire and forest renewal** sign.

Little Campbell River (Tat-a-lu) Forest Trails

The Little Campbell River Forest is a unique gem amidst the farmland of the Hazelmere Valley. Though logged in the early 1890's, the forest is now a second growth, succession forest inhabited by an abundance of wild flora and fauna. As the forest trail changes with the seasons, it holds fascinating insights into the ecology of the river.



• On the driveway west of the hatchery, note the **barn owls** interpretive sign •

Flora and Fauna you might see!

Fauna: mallard, wood duck, spotted sandpiper, great-horned & barn owls, barn swallows, pileated, hairy & downy woodpeckers, northern flicker, kingfisher, black capped & chestnut backed chickadees, brown creeper, red breasted nuthatch, Pacific wren, spotted towhee, dark-eyed junco, song sparrow, American goldfinch; black-tailed deer, beaver, mink, river otter, squirrel, Townsend's chipmunk; American bullfrog, red-legged frog, salamander, side-banded snail, banana slug; and spawning Chinook, Coho, Chum, Steelhead & Cutthroat trout.

Flora: Douglas-fir, western red cedar, grand fir, western hemlock, white birch, Bigleaf maple, vine maple, black twinberry, beaked hazelnut, red huckleberry, salmonberry, lady & spiny wood ferns, western trillium, vanilla leaf, false lily of the valley, false Solomon's seal and Hooker's fairybells.

*Ask to see species lists at the hatchery.

Scan the Forest Trail for Clues

1. How did the aboriginal people use the plants along the forest trails?
2. What evidence of wildlife do you see along the trails?
3. How have humans impacted this once old growth forest?
4. What kinds of natural cycles are at work along the forest trails?
5. Why is it important to protect wetlands and natural areas like the Little Campbell (Tat-a-lu) River?
6. How are the physical characteristics of the river important to salmon at different stages of their lifecycle?
7. What species of animals are found on the forest floor?
8. What predator /prey relationships are at work in the forest and along the river?
9. Which animals make or find a place to breed along the river or in the forest?
10. What is the importance of dead or dying trees to the forest ecosystem?
11. What evidence can you find that tells this is a second growth forest?
12. How do invertebrates indicate the health of the river?

Use your smart phone to scan the QR code on select signs along the forest trails.

Did you know the Little Campbell (Tat-a-lu) River has the greatest population of spawning salmon for its size in the Lower Mainland (Fraser River delta)?