



Trees for Herring Project

Squamish Terminals and the 4th Squamish Scouts partnered to collect Christmas trees to place as spawning habitat for herring in the Squamish Harbour. Christmas trees collected by the 4th Squamish Scouts were provided to Squamish Terminals and its partners for the purpose of creating new spawning habitats for herring in Howe Sound. Herring eggs, that may otherwise wash up on beaches and become stranded, will stick to the trees until they hatch, thereby increasing the hatch out of herring eggs and helping to increase the population of herring within Howe Sound.

Project Update – January 25, 2016

On January 16th, a group of approximately 20 volunteers from the Squamish Scouts, Cubs & Beavers, Envirochem, Envirowest, Squamish Terminals and a few others completed the prep work required to submerge the Christmas trees in Howe Sound. This involved trimming branches off the trees and securing the trees together in groups of two.

Installation of the Christmas trees in Howe Sound took place on January 24th and the trees were submerged in two different locations off the North East and South ends of Squamish Terminals site.

Now we will wait patiently for the herring spawn to kick off and once the spawn is in progress, Envirowest will do their best to monitor the action with underwater cameras. The herring spawn typically occurs from the latter part of January through to early March, with the hatching of eggs approximately 2 to 3 weeks after fertilization.

Following the hatch out, we will pull all of the trees out of the water and report out with our findings so stay tuned....

If you have any questions or for more information, please email us at tides@sqterminals.com. For a great video on this initiative, visit <http://www.pacificherring.org/traditional-harvest-spawn-hemlock-trees>

