

# NORTH SHORE culture COMPASS

## SALMON & STREAMS

# COHO TREASURE HUNT

**IN-PERSON AT AMBLESIDE (WEST VANCOUVER) AND ONLINE AT  
NORTHSHORECULTURECOMPASS.CA. ESTIMATED TIME: 1 HR.**

OVER FOUR DECADES, THE COHO SOCIETY OF THE NORTH SHORE HAS WORKED ON MANY EXCITING SALMON CONSERVATION AND HABITAT PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS, ALL WITH THE AIM OF PROTECTING SALMON FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. SALMON HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN LOCAL ECOSYSTEM. THE SQUAMISH NAME, TEM CHÁYILHEN (TUM CHAI-YAY-LHEN) CAN BE BROKEN DOWN INTO 'SCHAY' (MEANING 'TO FAST/SACRIFICE') AND 'ILHEN' ('TO EAT') SO THE WORD MEANS 'THE SALMON ARE SACRIFICING THEMSELVES FOR US TO EAT IN SEPTEMBER'. THE SALMON & STREAMS TREASURE HUNT IS A NEW ADDITION TO THE COHO FESTIVAL.

### YOUR TASK:



1. USING THE CLUES AND MAP, FIND A LETTER AT EACH OF THE LOCATIONS - SOME CAN BE FOUND ONLINE!
2. ONCE YOU'VE FOUND THEM ALL, UNSCRAMBLE THE LETTERS TO FIND THE CODE WORD.

### CLUE 1: SQUAMISH WELCOME FIGURE AMBLESIDE PARK, BEACH GROUYNE

The Welcome Figure is a West Vancouver landmark in Ambleside Park, where the Coho Festival is held and where Squamish Nation members perform the Blessing of the Salmon Ceremony. It is constructed from an old growth cedar log from Hollyburn Mountain and is a gift from the Squamish Nation. The Welcome Figure's hands are raised as a gesture of welcome and giving thanks. In Coast Salish Indigenous cultures, including Squamish culture, salmon are a primary food source and a symbol of abundance, wealth, and prosperity. They are also viewed as Supernatural beings who experience eternal life, offering themselves as food each spring, and then when the entirety of the salmon skeleton is returned to the sea, the spirits rise again. Salmon are held in high regard and ceremonies, like the Blessing of the Salmon Ceremony during the Coho Festival, are often held to celebrate the return of the Salmon to their traditional spawning grounds. Can you find the plaque? Have a read of the blessing.

WHAT DIRECTION IS THE WELCOME FIGURE FACING? HINT: THE MOUNTAINS ARE NORTH AND YOU CAN USE THE COMPASS AT THE TOP OF THE PAGE!  
TAKE THE 1ST LETTER!



CLUES 4, 5, 6 COULD BE DONE ON TABLET OR DESKTOP - DETAILS ON PAGE 2

### CLUE 2: MACDONALD CREEK ESTUARY RESTORATION DUNDARAVE SEAWALL AND 19TH ST.

For many years, the outflow of MacDonald Creek into the ocean has been a restrictive point for mature salmon trying to return to the creek. Before restoration the creek flowed out of a culvert and through beach cobble before reaching the ocean. This lack of a defined channel meant that salmon could only access the creek during the highest ocean tides, which occur only for a few hours every two weeks. The 80-metre channel that was built allows salmon to access the creek during moderate tides, which occur daily.

HAVE A LOOK AT THE BLUE INFORMATION BOARD AT THIS LOCATION. WHAT MONTH DO FISH START ARRIVING IN MACDONALD CREEK? TAKE THE LAST LETTER!



SINCE YOU'RE HERE:

THE PIECE OF PUBLIC ART TO THE LEFT WAS MADE BY ARNT WERK AND IRWIN PARK'S GRADE 6 CLASS BACK IN 1994. THE BRASS FISH WEATHERVANE IS AN EXAMPLE OF INTRODUCING STUDENTS TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND CREATING COMMUNITY AWARENESS ABOUT THE CREATURES THAT CALL THE NORTH SHORE HOME.

### CLUE 3: MEMORIAL PARK REARING POND MEMORIAL PARK - 19TH ST AND DUCHESS AVE

The Memorial Park Centennial Rearing Pond was constructed in 2012 to provide a habitat for juvenile coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and the aquatic insects on which they feed. This rearing pond provides a restful habitat with a constant water flow through winter storms and summer drought periods. The shallow depth of the pond supports aquatic insect production – an important food source for the fish. Stumps and logs in the pond provide protection and shade for young fish. Each year coho fry are drawn here by the gentle outflow, and will remain in fresh water for a full year before migrating to the ocean. After a year and half at sea some will return in the fall as adults to spawn in MacDonald Creek.

IS THAT ANOTHER BLUE INFORMATION BOARD?  
HOW MANY COHO FRY ARE ON THE BOTTOM OF THE SIGN? TAKE THE 2ND LETTER!

**CLUE 4:** **COHO FESTIVAL EDUCATION CENTRE**  
ONLINE - NAVIGATE TO THE NORTHSHORECULTURECOMPASS.CA

The main purpose of the Coho Festival Education Centre is to provide a learning environment for up to 1,500 elementary school students (that's around 70 field trips per year!). Here, you can learn all about the conditions salmonids need to survive, including a safe, clean habitat and a healthy diet of naturally occurring aquatic insects. Yum!

A visit to the hatchery has students experiencing three interactive stations, each with an outdoor component and an opportunity to use tools of investigation, like chest waders, microscopes and thermometers to explore the life and habitat of Seymour River Valley.

Find this location on the North Shore Culture Compass Map and select the listing to find out more!

WHAT IS THE COHO FESTIVAL'S SIGNATURE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM CALLED? TAKE THE LAST LETTER!



**CLUE 5:** **INTAKE TO LYNN CREEK 'OFF CHANNEL' HABITAT**  
ONLINE - NAVIGATE TO THE NORTHSHORECULTURECOMPASS.CA

Did you know that young salmon are called salmonoids?

You've navigated to an off-channel habitat that provides refuge and feeding areas for young salmonids especially during high flows. This project enhanced 150 metres of existing habitat by installing 4 boulder/log complexes. It was a big team effort and was completed by the North Shore Streamkeepers with support from BCIT-Rivers Institute, District of North Vancouver, Tsleil-Waututh Nation, Port of Vancouver, Pacific Salmon Foundation, North West Hydraulics Consulting Engineers, Mount Seymour Lions Club, and lots of volunteers!

Have a look at the listing for this location on the North Shore Culture Compass. The inlet to the channel has developed a blockage, so a project to improve the flow of the water is in progress.

WHAT IS BLOCKING THE FLOW OF THE WATER?  
TAKE THE 5TH LETTER!

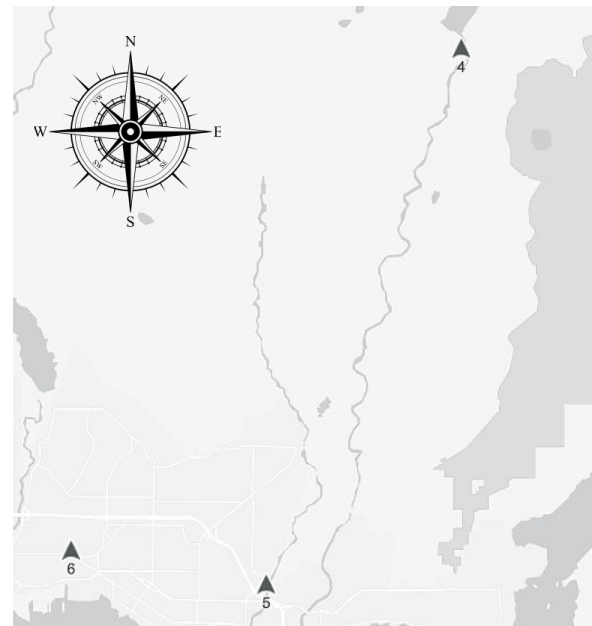


**CLUE 6:** **MACKAY CREEK HATCHERY AND SALMON HABITAT MURAL**  
ONLINE - NAVIGATE TO THE NORTHSHORECULTURECOMPASS.CA

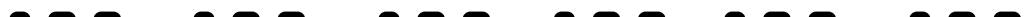
In 2012, a new hatchery and interpretive centre was built with a beautiful and bright community mural of a salmon habitat painted on the outside. The purpose of this community artwork was to engage students, local residents and the greater community in the natural ecology of the North Shore. Since the development of the new hatchery, the Coho Society have supported community salmon releases that are open to the public and are a great opportunity to see salmon. In 2021, although the number of guests were limited, First Nations elders were in attendance and were able to bless the special event.

Head to the northshoreculturecompass.ca and navigate to this location by typing the clue's name in the search bar.

WHICH PARK IS THE MURAL LOCATED IN? TAKE THE 4TH LETTER OF THE NAME. WHICH LETTER COMES BEFORE IT IN THE ALPHABET?



HAVE YOU GOT ALL THE LETTERS AND UNSCRAMBLED THEM TO FIND THE CODE WORD? CONGRATULATIONS!



CONTINUE EXPLORING! THE NORTH SHORE CULTURE COMPASS IS A FREE ONLINE MAP OF THE NORTH SHORE'S ARTS AND CULTURE. START YOUR JOURNEY BY EXPLORING THE MAP'S MANY EXCITING CATEGORIES, INCLUDING PUBLIC, ART, FIRST NATIONS AND SO MUCH MORE. LISTINGS FROM YOUR CATEGORY OF INTEREST WILL APPEAR ON THE MAP AND IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER ON THE RIGHT. TYPE KEY WORDS INTO THE SEARCH BAR IN THE LEFT CORNER TO FIND SPECIFIC RESULTS OR ZOOM INTO THE MAP, PAN AND CLICK ON THE ARROWS TO EXPLORE WHAT'S ON THE MAP. EVERY LISTING CONTAINS A WEALTH OF INFORMATION JUST WAITING TO BE DISCOVERED, AS WELL AS DIRECTIONS TO VISIT THE LOCATION. THE NORTH SHORE CULTURE COMPASS IS A PROGRAMME BY NORTH VAN ARTS.

