**Brief Field Program Update**

We continue to monitor numerous hydrometric (water level, flow and temperature data) stations throughout the territory. This study gives us a better understanding of rivers in an ever-changing environment. The sites are in areas of salmon spawner and habitat assessments that GWA conducts. As we aim to fill important gaps in habitat and spawner surveys, our efforts will be increasing on Chinook and River sockeye assessments.

The FSC fishery monitors are back in action. They can provide current newsletters and fishery notices. The GWA monitoring program has been highly regarded in the Skeena and the cooperative efforts of fishers have been so important to the science.

The eleventh week of trapping is under way at the Slamgeesh Salmon Enumeration Program and the sockeye smolt migration to the sea has come and gone. We saw decent numbers based on the number of females that returned in 2016 (N=152). To date, we estimate that ~8,500 Sockeye smolts out-migrated from Slamgeesh Lake. This is equal to ~56 smolts per female. The Coho smolt season is under way with an estimated 32,700 smolts making their way from Slamgeesh Lake to the ocean. These are not the highest numbers ever recorded at Slamgeesh for either Sockeye or Coho but are what we would expect given the number of female spawners in 2015. The smolt traps will be in full operation until the first week of July. The adult fence will be in full operation no later than July 18, 2018.

We would like to welcome back Alicia Fernando, our biologist providing technical program coordination. We also have biologist, Taylor Wale home for the summer providing some technical support between her masters research. Currently our biologist, Ryan Whitemore is presenting his research at the Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Conference in Seattle, Washington. What a great opportunity to show the salmon genetics community that the First Nations within the Skeena Watershed have the capacity to apply and execute their own genetics research within the Skeena Watershed.