

April 15, 2022

Brian Smith, President
Polar Coachman Flyfishers
11915 Wilan Road
Prince George, BC
V2N 5A6

To: Spruce City Wildlife Association (SCWA)

Regarding: Chinook Salmon Recovery and Manfred Durau volunteering with Spruce City Wildlife Association (SCWA)

Manfred Durau is a Polar Coachman Flyfishers member who, seven years ago, stepped up and became deeply involved as a volunteer for SCWA. He began by feeding salmon fry at the hatchery several days per week during rearing season, and after three years of trial and error, assisting in managing several upgrades of the facility, he became a key member of the SCWA team.

In 2018, SCWA applied for and received a grant of \$650,000 from DFO and others to upgrade the hatchery into a modern, first-class facility, which despite Covid restrictions and thanks to volunteers like Manfred who donated thousands of hours of their time overseeing the project, was completed in 2011.



In June 2011, a team of volunteers including Manfred formed the Salmon Support Team to capture wild brood salmon stock in the Bowron, Swift and Nechako rivers for the collection of their eggs and sperms to be used at the new facility. Many PCFF and SCWA members participated in this venture; Manfred thanks all of them!



Today at the facility, there are 75,000 wild chinook salmon fry ready to be released back to their home waters during the freshet months of May and June. Four or five years from now when they return to their home rivers to spawn, it is hoped this progeny of fish developed and nurtured by the SCWA Salmon Support Team of volunteers will form the nucleus of a “new” enhanced wild stock of Pacific chinook salmon that will help return our northern rivers to their former glory.

Manfred Durau, a proud member of the Salmon Support Team!

Sincerely,
Brian Smith
cc M Durau