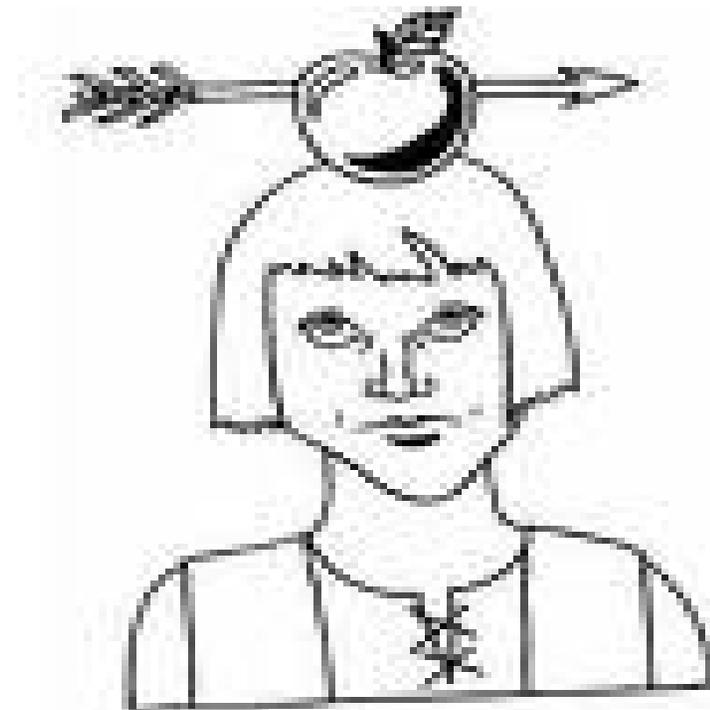


Cowichan Watershed Board

April 7, 2011

“Targets”



Overview

- The Task
- The Parameters
- The Process
- The Outcomes



Water Quality Target

- *We want clean water in our watershed*
- **TARGET:** TSS levels (turbidity) in the Cowichan Watershed should meet accepted water quality guidelines
- Ecosystem health Goal, water quality objectives
- Standards have been established
- Federal/Provincial monitoring program in place
- Projects planned and implemented to address issues



Water Supply Target

- ***Summer water flows are critical and have been declining***
- **TARGET:** Cowichan River summer flows need to be 7CMS or higher
- Science based target
- This minimum flow provides for
 - Juvenile salmonids over summer habitat
 - Adult salmon upstream access to spawn
 - Sewage dilution to maintain health standards
 - Recreation – tubing, kayaking
 - Community Water supply
- Addresses Ecosystem Health goal and water quality objectives
- Monitoring and infrastructure funded and in place



Water Use Target

- ***We need to use our water wisely***
- **TARGET** – Achieve a X?% reduction in Peak Summer Demand by 2015
- % Reduction to be based on analysis of others
- City of Kelowna achieved a 16% reduction (1997-2001)
- Shared Responsibility
 - Residents (education and incentives)
 - Businesses (commercial audit can be voluntary at this time)
 - Local government (leak detection)
- Consumption in CVRD is increasing!
- WMP Goals- Reduce demand; Increase awareness



Salmon Sustainability Target

- *We want healthy salmon populations in the Watershed*
- Salmon are anadromous
- Freshwater habitats are critical
- **TARGET-** Steelhead fry abundance in the Cowichan should meet or exceed target densities
- Steelhead good indicators of river health
- Science based targets exist
- Monitoring program already in place
- Ecosystem health & water supply goals



Estuary Health Target

- ***We want to be able to eat shellfish from Cowichan Bay***
- **TARGET-** Shellfish from designated areas of Cowichan Bay will be harvested for human consumption by 2020
- Complex situation with several concerns
 - Bacterial infection (fecal coliform)
 - Viral infection
 - Heavy Metals
- A “stretch target”
- Precautionary approach necessary
- Considerable resources required
- Major changes to status quo needed
 - Sewage management
 - Agricultural practices
 - Monitoring program
- Incremental changes necessary to meet this goal beneficial to watershed health in themselves
- Addresses public awareness and ecosystem health targets, public health objectives.



Riparian Target

- ***We want to protect and enjoy Stream, River and Lake front habitats***
- **Target** – Increase riparian parkland in the Cowichan Valley by 10% by 2020
- **Target** – Establish multi-jurisdictional riparian protection protocols between all levels of government in Cowichan Valley by 2014
- Intact riparian areas contribute to:
 - Enhance water quality
 - Ecosystem health
 - Flood control
 - Erosion control
 - Public education opportunities
 - Cultural/social objectives



Watershed IQ Target

- ***You Can't fully value what you don't understand***
- **Target:** Increase knowledge of Cowichan Watershed among Residents and visitors
- Facilitates support for land use and conservation measures
- Enhances sense of pride
- Promotes culture of stewardship
- Could assess annual survey
- Incorporate watershed field trip into grade 5 curriculum

