



# SPEAKERS SERIES

# The Enforcers!

## Meet our Conservation & Fishery Officers. Free Public Lecture

#### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

WHAT	Come learn first hand from two of the rare and valuable people who work to safeguard Cowichan's fish and wildlife through their roles as enforcement officers.
	Willi Jansen (Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Fishery Officer, Duncan Field office) and Mark Kissinger (BC Wildlife Branch, Conservation Officer for South Vancouver Island.) will team up give us their perspectives on our watershed.
	Learn about the tools they have (and don't have) to protect fish and wildlife and their habitats, as well as opportunities for an engaged community (like us!) to support stewardship and conservation. All welcome!
WHEN	Thursday March 28th 7:00-8:30 pm
WHERE	VIU Cowichan Campus, 2011 University Way, Duncan, BC. Lecture Hall – Rm 140
About the	



Willi Jansen: Willi was born and raised on Vancouver Island (Yellow Point), spent her High School years at Ladysmith Secondary, and attended Malaspina College, in Nanaimo (now called Vancouver Island University) in their Fisheries and Aquaculture Program. She then spent 11 years at Nanaimo River Hatchery as their lead Fish Culturist before changing gears and starting her career as a Fishery Officer, with Fisheries and Oceans Canada, in 1992.

Willi has been a Fishery Officer for 27 years, and has worked out of the Duncan Field Office for the last 24 years. During this time she has not only worked on several investigations under the Fisheries Act such as Habitat violations, Marine Mammal violations, and illegal fishing activity, but more importantly has had the opportunity to work with several partners such as Cowichan Tribes, Cowichan Harvest Roundtable, Cowichan Valley Regional District, City of Duncan, Municipality of North Cowichan, Town of Lake Cowichan, Islands Trust, many other stakeholders and residents. She is a strong believer that we all need to work together to ensure the health of our communities and watersheds.



Mark Kissinger: Mark was raised on Vancouver Island and spent his spare time fishing and camping. He attended Vancouver Island University where he studied anthropology. Mark Completed a BSC in Wildlife Biology from the University Northern British Columbia. Mark also studied Human Ecology in Sweden as well as Environmental Regulations and Enforcement at the Swedish Police University in Umea.

Mark began work with the Ministry of Environment as an invasive species tech and later worked as a habitat biologist for MOE and The Nature Trust of BC. Mark Left BC and worked in Northern Sweden as a Conservation Officer, working along the Arctic Circle for 5 years before returning to BC. Mark has worked for the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service for 14 years. His first

placement was the North Shore, followed by Clearwater and finally the Cowichan Valley. Mark enjoys the diversity of his job and interacting with the public. (Photo Source: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/ConservationOfficerService/">https://www.facebook.com/ConservationOfficerService/</a>)

### **Media Contacts:**

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Cowichan Watershed Board – cowichanwatershedboard.ca or Find us on Facebook

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