



# Summerland Yacht Club Newsletter

Summerland Yacht Club, 13209 Lakeshore South, Summerland, BC, V0H 1Z1  
Telephone: 250-494-8312, Fax: 250-494-8399, [syc-admin@shawbiz.ca](mailto:syc-admin@shawbiz.ca)

Editor: Art More, [artmoreajm@yahoo.ca](mailto:artmoreajm@yahoo.ca)  
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## Let the Boating begin !

Lift-in is coming up fast - Saturday, April 16. The crane arrives by 8 am and boats will be lifted into the lake from their winter storage in the parking lot . Lift-in should go much quicker this year because there are fewer boats in winter storage.

If your boat needs to be lifted in, please contact the Club Office right way and be sure to drop off your deposit of \$125.00. Total cost of lift in is \$140.00 including GST.

That evening, the *Spring Fling* celebrates the start of the boating season with cocktails, dining and dancing. What a great way to get the year off to a good start! Get your tickets, \$25, asap at the SYC Clubhouse or at SASS Boutique on Main street in Summerland.

Here's to a wonderful year on the lake!!



### SYC Events Calendar

April 16, 8 am	<b>Lift In</b>
April 16,	<b>Spring Fling</b>
6:30 pm, Cocktails	
7:00 pm, Dinner	
8:00 pm dancing	
April 30	<b>All members wine and Cheese</b>
May 5	<b>Thursday sail begins</b>
May 6	<b>Pyjama Party, First Mates</b>
May 8	<b>Steak and Rib nights begin</b>
June 4	<b>Commodore's Ball</b>
June 5	<b>Commodore's Sail Past</b>
July 2	<b>SYC Dock Party</b>
July 8-10	<b>SYC Giants head Regatta</b>
August 5-7	<b>Invasion Weekend</b>
	<b>Ball Tournament</b>
	<b>Mexican Night</b>
October 15	<b>Lift out</b>

## **Dredging**

The plans for dredging are not going well. We have yet to obtain permission from the Department of Fisheries despite hours of work by Gil Inglis and Doug Campbell and going through a very thorough environmental review with Golder and Associates of Kelowna. We had hoped to dispose of the dredged material in deep water at a site used by the last dredging 17 years ago. The alternative is to dispose of it at a dry land site, which could cost twice as much and take much longer to carry out. We'll keep you posted.

## **Winter damage**

Winter damage to docks and pilings was reduced considerably this year, with the installation of the pumps which continuously circulated water and prevented ice build up. An added bonus is that our beaver seems to have moved elsewhere. Some docks are being repaired and a few pilings are being replaced. Harbourmaster Ian Kavanagh has been overseeing this.

## **Meeting with Mayor Janice Perrino**

On March 9, the Executive met with Mayor Janice Perrino at her request. She presented and discussed the top 5 priorities for Council; a list of tasks that have been completed or are in progress; and a list of issues and problems facing Summerland. Then we discussed some of the pressing needs of the SYC. Mayor Perrino was very knowledgeable and supportive of the Club. She readily agreed to assist in finalizing our lease with the municipality. She indicated that it is not possible to give more than a 5 year lease because of provincial laws affecting municipalities and the political situation surrounding the alternative approval process. She also offered to support the approval and financing of the dredging project in any way she could.

Our thanks to Mayor Perrino for being so open, frank and supportive!



## **Commodore's Cabin**

2010 was a hectic and yet successful year, in spite of a heavy agenda which included walkway construction, the dredging issue, lease discussions, kitchen/bar operational and staff issues, yard and building maintenance, .

With the beginning of our new season just a few days away, we look forward to a successful 2011 season which we annually kick off with LIFT-IN and the SPRING FLING PARTY on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

It looks like we will be welcoming about 7 new members to the Club within the next few weeks. We look forward to meeting them at the upcoming MEMBER'S WINE & CHEESE PARTY on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Success this season, again, will be measured by the support and participation by the membership in the various social events throughout the year.

The call for volunteers will be louder than ever as the need to lower our cost takes on a higher meaning in these difficult financial times, so please contact Chris in the office and sign up for your areas of interest to help the club out.

THE SYC IS THE PLACE TO BE

Have a safe, fun boating season,

See you at the club!!

Respectfully  
D.G. Doug) Campbell  
Commodore

## SYC Board for 2011

Your Board is already hard at work getting the Club facilities ready for the new boating season. Board members are the following:



**Commodore Doug Campbell**



**Moorage Director Joe Bisceglia**



**Vice Commodore Brian Wilkey**



**Yard Master Bill Laidman**



**Treasurer Joan Kyliuk**



**Past Commodore  
Janice Cornett-Ching**



**Secretary Art More**



**Staff Captain Gil Inglis**



**House Captain Shelley Reimer**



**Fleet Captain Ralph Williamson**



**Harbourmaster Ian Kavanagh**

### Docks End Restaurant

New cook, Ray Youngman, and new menu!

**Restaurant hours beginning May 5**

Thursday race nights	4 - 9 pm
Fridays	4 - 9 pm
Saturdays	4 - 9 pm
Sundays	4 - 9 pm
Holiday Mondays	4 - 9 pm
Sunday Steak and Ribs - cook your own,	begins May 8

*Because we are now open to the public, and want to provide members, first, with the best experience, we kindly request reservations for the Steak & Rib night.*

*We thank you for your continued support and contributions.*

**BBQ Burgers & Smokies** begins May 7, 11 - 2  
at the Dock Sat, Sun & Holiday Mon

**Bar Thursday to Sunday** 4 - Midnight???

# Okanagan Lake

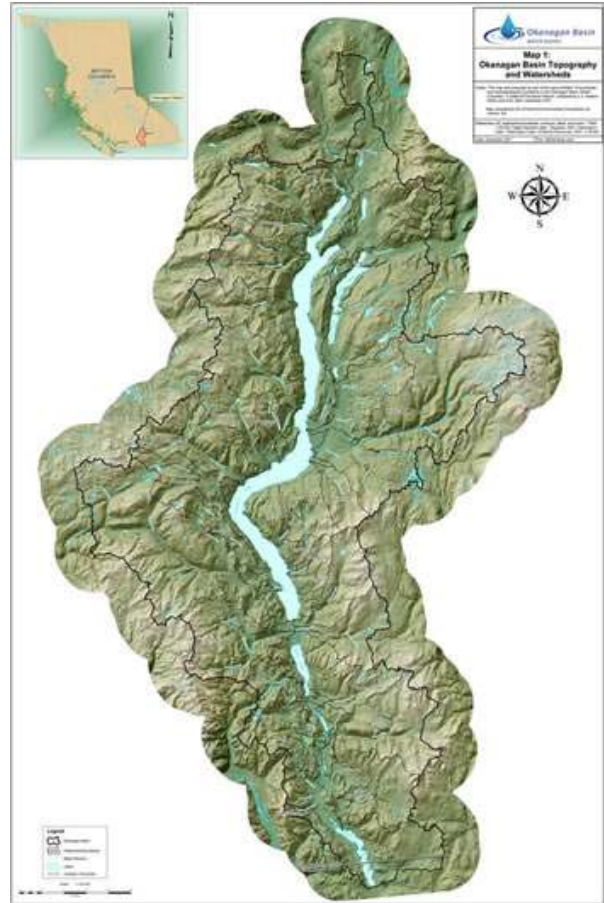
Okanagan Lake is 135 km long, between 4 and 5 km wide and has a surface area of 351 km<sup>2</sup>. It has a catchment area of over 6000 km<sup>2</sup>. Its maximum depth is 232 metres (766 ft) near Grant Island (also called "Whiskey Island" or "Seagull Island" by locals).

The lake is made up of three "bowls" or basins, north, middle and south, separated by shallower water. In some areas of the lake the bottom is covered by up to 750 meters of glacial and sediment fill which were deposited during the Pleistocene Epoch. The terraces along the banks of the lake were formed by periodic lowering of the lake's predecessor Lake Penticton as it drained slowly over the millennia.

The lake is home to several species of fish, including rainbow trout, kokanee and squawfish. See below and on the following pages for a description of the kokanee.

It is said by some to be home to its own sea monster - a giant serpent-like creature named *Ogopogo*. *Ogopogo* or *Naitaka* (Salish: *n'ha-a-itk*, "lake demon") is the name given the lake monster reported to live in Okanagan Lake. *Ogopogo* has been allegedly seen by First Nations people since the 19th century. The most common description of *Ogopogo* is about a 40 feet long sea serpent. It has

supposedly been photographed and even been caught on tape. Sightings have been documented since 1879 and there are many First Nations stories and legends about the sea monster.



## Identification chart for SYC Fishermen

*Rainbow Trout*



*Squawfish*



*Kokanee Salmon*



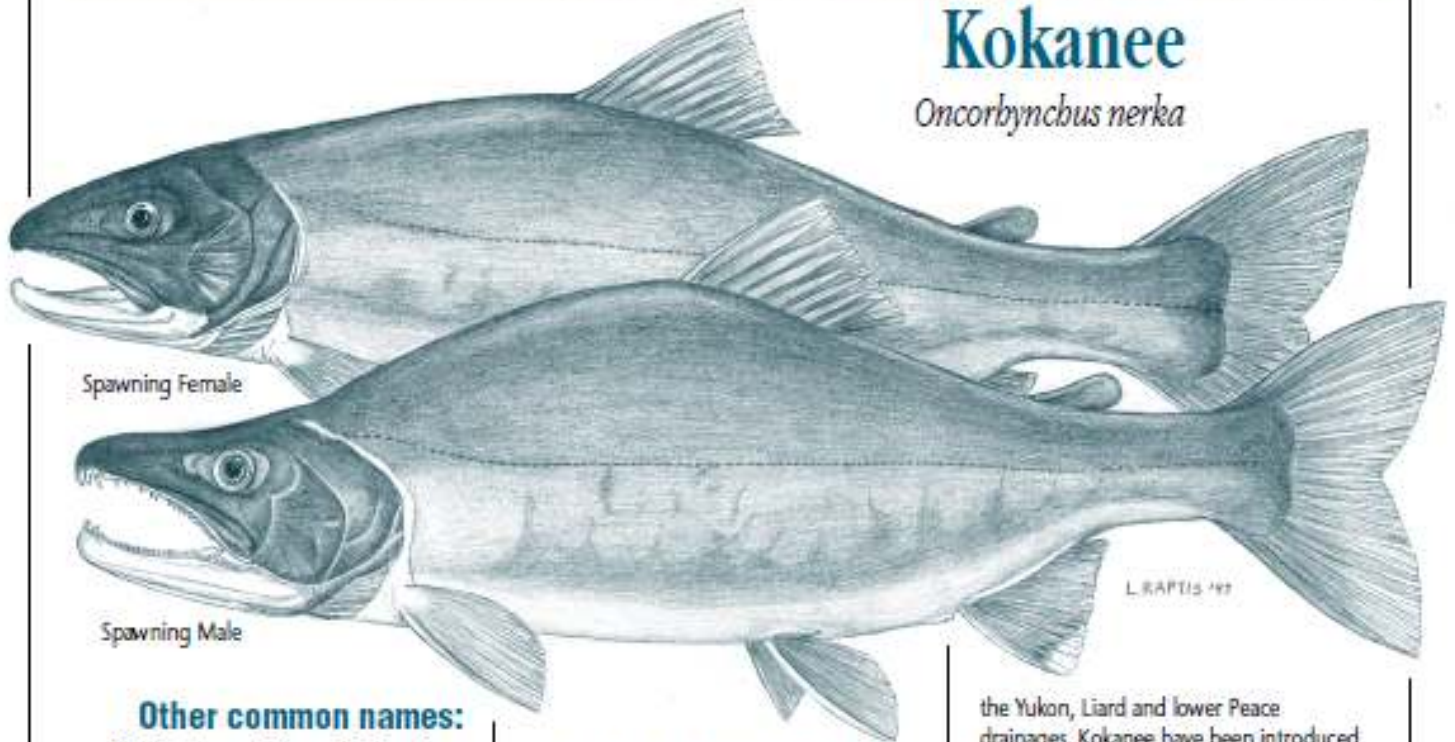
*Ogopogo*



# B.C. Fish facts

## Kokanee

*Oncorhynchus nerka*



Spawning Female

Spawning Male

### Other common names:

*Kickininee, little redfish, silver trout, landlocked sockeye, blueback*

Typical range in length for adults: 20 – 25 cm:

Maximum length: 60 cm

Typical range in weight for adults: 0.1 – 0.2 kg

Maximum weight: 4.5 kg

### What do they look like?

Kokanee look very much like sockeye salmon. Kokanee in non-breeding condition have bright silver sides and a dark grey to blue back, sometimes with a few dark markings on the dorsal fin (the fin on its back). The anal fin (the lower fin

nearest the tail) has a long base and the trailing edge is quite angled rather than square, features often used to distinguish kokanee from char or trout. During spawning season, kokanee change colour, usually turning crimson with a green head, but sometimes black. The males develop long jaws, hooked snouts, and large teeth. A slight hump forms behind their head. Spawning females are not as colourful as the males and their overall shape does not change.

### Where do they live?

Kokanee live at mid depths in the open waters of lakes. At spawning time, they move into tributary streams or along the lake shore. Natural populations are found from California to Alaska, and in northeast Asia. Populations of native kokanee are more abundant and widespread in B.C. than in other parts of their range. They are found in most of our major systems except

the Yukon, Liard and lower Peace drainages. Kokanee have been introduced into many lakes throughout North America.

### What do they eat?

Kokanee feed almost exclusively on zooplankton, tiny aquatic animals from the size of a pinprick to the size of a small fish hook. They strain zooplankton from the water by means of many fine combs on the gills called gill rakers. They will also eat tiny plants, insects, and freshwater shrimp when available.

### What is their life cycle like?

From August to early December, mature kokanee move into the inlet streams of lakes, and along lake shores to spawn. In streams, they select areas with clean gravel, moderate flows, and upwelling groundwater. Like other salmon, the female turns on her side and digs a nest, or

redd, in the gravel by flexing her tail. She then settles into the redd, with the male at her side, and eggs and sperm are shed together into the nest bowl. Right away the female uses her tail to cover the eggs with gravel. Once this is done she may move on to another site to dig another redd. She may repeat this process two or three times, not necessarily with the same male, before she dies. Shore spawning fish can behave quite differently. In Okanagan Lake, for example, some kokanee spawn over shallow cobble and gravel beaches. No redd is constructed. The eggs fall down into natural spaces between the rocks, where wave action maintains oxygen levels for incubation. The eggs remain protected under the gravel through the winter, hatching between late March and early May. The number of eggs deposited by a single female depends on her size (numbers from about 370 – 1800 have been reported).

The fry spend about a month living in the gravel then wiggle their way out. From a stream the fry travel after dark making their way to the lake as quickly as possible. In the lake, the fry move to open water and form schools close to the surface. They feed on zooplankton and often grow to reach 6 cm in length by the late fall. Kokanee usually grow to 10 - 15 cm during their second year and to 20 – 25 cm in their third or fourth year. Intolerant of warm water conditions, kokanee live in cooler waters 5 - 30 metres below the lake surface and undergo unusual vertical migrations at dawn and dusk to feed on surface zooplankton and insects. During the winter they remain at mid water depths. Kokanee mature between 3 – 5 years of age and, like other salmon, die once they have spawned. In large lake ecosystems, kokanee play an important role as food for large predators like rainbow, bull trout, burbot, and sturgeon. Other wildlife species such as osprey, kingfisher, mink and bears feed on them as well.

## How are they doing?

Kokanee is a yellow-listed species, which means the species is not at risk in British Columbia. However, kokanee are susceptible to industrial, agricultural and urban development due to their dependence on clear flowing streams. Kokanee populations are considered at risk from forestry practices that increase sedimentation or water temperature. There are no known extinctions, although some populations (e.g., Okanagan Lake and Arrow Lakes) are in severe decline due to decreasing lake productivity, degraded stream habitat, and competition for food with an introduced freshwater mysid shrimp. Reservoir formation can also significantly reduce productivity causing drastic declines in kokanee numbers; this has occurred in Kootenay Lake and Arrow reservoir.

## How you can help:

- Undertake careful forest harvesting practices adjacent to kokanee habitat.
- Conserve water use and support management initiatives that provide suitable stream flows for fish.
- Never transport live fish or other organisms from one body of water to another. This could transfer diseases and parasites from one ecosystem to another, or upset the natural balance in the ecosystem where they are released.
- Be aware that what you dump down the sink, or into your septic tank, roadside



storm drains or sewers may find its way into streams or lakes. Help keep water quality high by using detergents and soaps minimally and by not dumping harsh chemicals, such as bleach, paint thinners or antifreeze, into drains.

- Form a group of water stewards and volunteers to monitor local water quality.
- Obey angling regulations and habitat protection bylaws, guidelines and regulations, since they are designed to protect fish and their habitat. You should also Observe, Record and Report violations of the regulations by phoning 1-800-663-9653.

## No kidding!

- Kokanee are sockeye salmon that spend their entire lives in fresh water, never going to sea.
- Kokanee are second only to rainbow trout as the most popular game fish in B.C.
- Kokanee size depends on genetics, numbers of kokanee and how much food is found in their home lake. In the West Arm of Kootenay Lake, where mysid shrimp get trapped in the flow of water from the main reservoir to provide an abundant and steady food supply, 1.5 kg kokanee are common. In nutrient-poor coastal lakes, they are unlikely to exceed 75 g.
- The flesh of kokanee is orange-red, due to the carotenes found in the skeletal structures of the zooplankton they eat.
- In Kootenay Lake, at least three separate races of kokanee exist in different parts of the lake, each "homing" to different spawning streams. In Okanagan Lake there are distinct populations of stream and lake shore spawners.
- Okanagan, Arrow, and Kootenay lakes each contain from 0.5 – 1.5 million kokanee spawners in a typical year.
- Large rainbow and bull trout like to eat at least two adult size kokanee every day of the year.





# **SUMMERLAND YACHT CLUB SPRING FLING**

**SATURDAY APRIL 16, 2011**

**Tickets \$ 25.00 Available  
through SYC office or at Sass  
Boutique in Summerland**

**Music by Tim McGee**

**Cocktails 6:30  
Dinner 7:00  
Dancing 8:00**

**Dinner includes BBQ Steak, Baked Potato,  
Caesar Salad, Garlic Toast, Dessert**