

2006 Volunteer Efforts Awards

This year the BCLSS is pleased to announce the awarding of four volunteer efforts awards to: Lakelse Lake Group; Glen Blair, Tabor Lake, Ian and Margaret Stewart, Heffley Lake Community Association; and Wayne Hewitt, Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee. The groups and individuals were recognized by Lisa Torunski, BCLSS Director of Smithers/North Coast region, at the 9th Annual BCLSS Conference on June 17th, 2006 held at Cowichan Lake on Vancouver Island.

The Lakelse Lake Group was formed in 2002 thanks in part to the hard work of Ian Maxwell. To date, Ian has dedicated hundreds of hours of work on behalf of the Lakelse watershed, including: providing input to the Lakelse Lake Management Plan, lake water quality monitoring, participating in numerous lake public education initiatives, spearheading fish sub-committee, maintaining active involvement in fisheries issues, and participation in regional planning initiatives.



Ian Maxwell accepting award for Lakelse Watershed Stewards from Lisa Torunski.

Glen Blair of Tabor Lake has been the lead sampler of the Level 3 monitoring program and has managed the successful Elodea harvesting program on Tabor Lake. Glen began his volunteer efforts under the Ministry's Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) over 10 years ago, making him one of the longest standing VLMP volunteers in the program. Thanks for your amazing contribution to the health and preservation of Tabor Lake!



Ian & Margaret Stewart have made Heffley Lake their home for the past 35 years. Ian's detailed diary of the conditions and events on Heffley Lake include complete weather data, lake levels and ice on/off dates, which provide extremely valuable data for the historical record of Heffley Lake. Margaret's extensive knowledge of the local wildlife and plants is willingly shared with others. She is an enthusiastic participant in all of the Association's activities often being the voice of reason needed to find common ground between two different viewpoints. Ian and Margaret were instrumental in initiating a movement to have speed and towing restrictions on the most sensitive parts of the lake and helped organize the lakes first annual clean up event. The knowledge and commitment displayed by both Ian and Margaret are essential to the HLCA's success.



Rod Andrew accepting Heffley Lake Award from Lisa Torunski.

Wayne Hewitt of the Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee has carried out a lake sampling program for the last 8 years. He has spent countless hours serving on local committees as an advocate for water protection on Salt Spring Island. Wayne has led efforts to protect the water quality of Cusheon Lake.



Deb Epps accepting award from Lisa Torunski on behalf of the Cusheon Lake Stewardship Committee.

Congratulations to all of 2006's award recipients! The BCLSS directors, staff and members thank you for your tireless commitment to the protection and preservation of Lakelse, Tabor, Heffley and Cusheon Lakes.

Further information is provided in the July 2006 (Volume 9, Issue 2) edition of the BCLSS newsletter.