

Brohm Ridge Resort Development (Garibaldi at Squamish)

Brohm Creek is likely the most important rearing streams for steelhead in the Cheakamus watershed. Habitat destruction and poor ocean survival have had a major impact on reducing the numbers of steelhead returning to the Squamish watershed. Now Brohm Creek is threatened by a proposed ski and golf resort planned for Brohm Ridge in the Brohm Creek drainage. Scott Simpson's article in the Vancouver Sun (October 9, 2008) provides an overview of this proposed development and outlines concerns about the impact the development may have on the Brohm Creek fish habitat. The link to his article is <http://www.canada.com/vancouversun/news/business/story.html?id=925fe169-d9fb-4302-b539-664648537296>

The BC Conservation Foundation commissioned PSlaney Aquatic Science Ltd. to prepare a report on the possible impacts that the resort development, known as Garibaldi at Squamish, would have on the Brohm River. This report is available at <http://www.livingrivers.ca/gbvi/index.html> The report details numerous concerns on potential negative impacts that the development could have on the Brohm watershed. Construction could result in excessive sedimentation of the streams and altered stream flows. The resort's water requirements (that may have to come from Brohm) may result in insufficient water flow for steelhead rearing and spawning, especially during summer and late winter. Nitrogen-rich run off from the fertilized residential properties and golf courses could result in an over-enrichment of the Brohm.

This project was first proposed in 1997 and then resubmitted to the Environmental Assessment Office in 2006. The project is still under review and details on the project along with comments received on the project can be viewed at <http://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/epic/projectStatusCategoryReport.do?ceSearchIndex=&cuSearchIndex=1#curr> Click on Garibaldi at Squamish Project 2006.

The Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) has concluded the formal public comment period on the Project Application. The EAO is currently awaiting additional information from the proponent and they anticipate having another public comment period once the additional information is accepted by EAO.