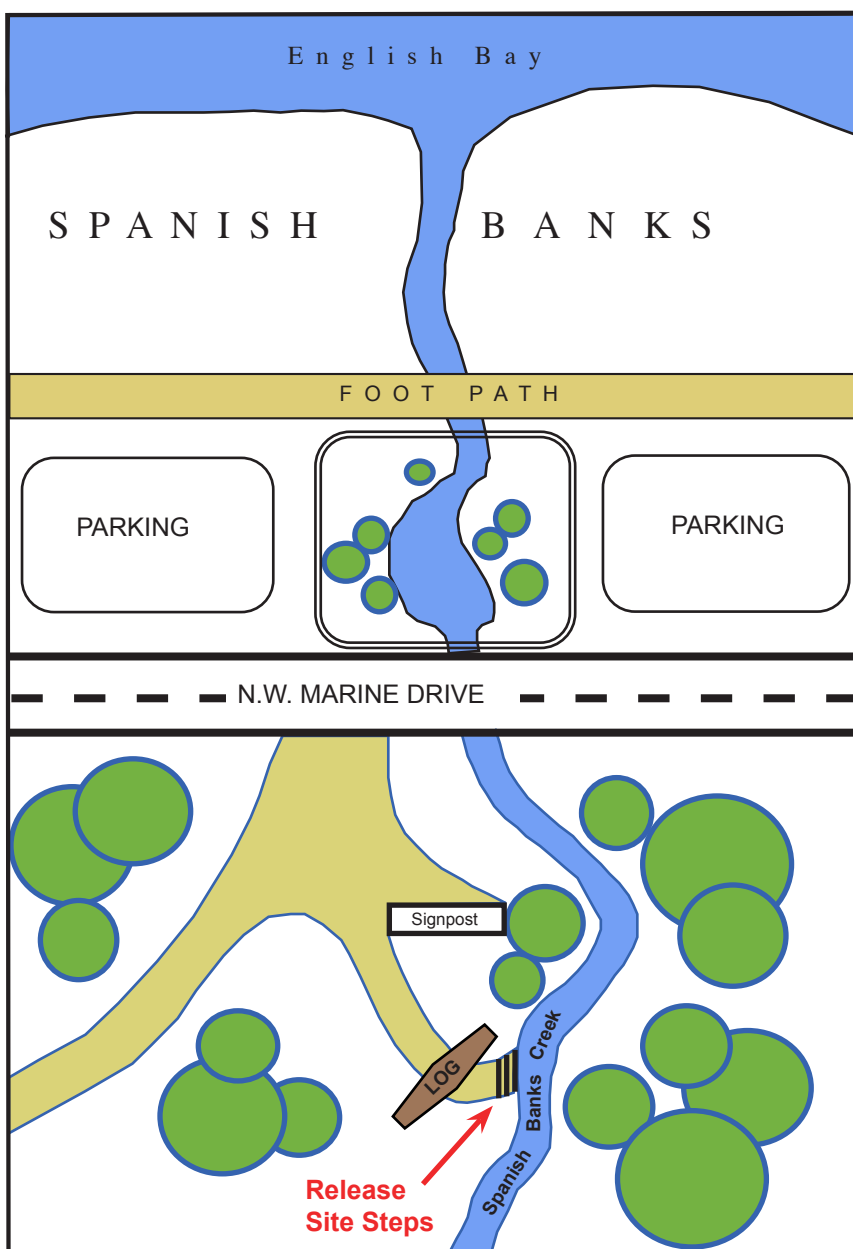


# Spanish Banks Chum Release Site

## Directions

On N. W. Marine Drive pass three 'park kiosks' along the beach. The sign for Spanish Banks Creek is on the right, and the creek is on the left side of the road, behind the adjacent signpost.



## Release Site

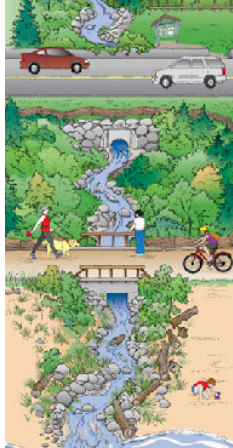
Access to the creek is behind the signpost. Step over the log (placed by volunteers to prevent bikes in the creek). The steps placed beside the creek were built by volunteers. Students must use these steps to release their fry. Please walk carefully to avoid destroying important stream-side habitat and plants.



## Guidelines for Exploring the Beach at Spanish Banks

- step lightly - respect the animals that make this their home - look, don't take.
- replace rocks that were turned over and fill any holes that were dug.
- watch the ocean - tides come in very quickly over the sandbars.





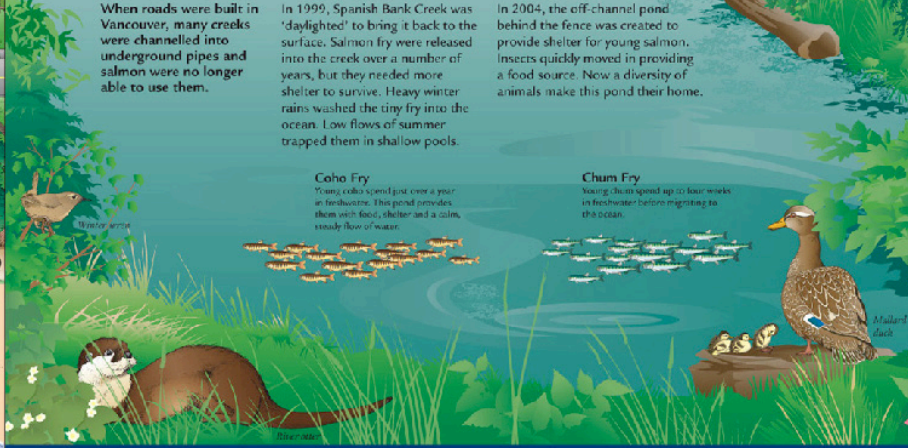
### Up the Creek...

The pond and other restoration work have made it possible for salmon to survive in Spanish Bank Creek. But their journey is still challenging. Help protect their habitat—keep people and dogs away from the pond and creek.

When roads were built in Vancouver, many creeks were channelled into underground pipes and salmon were no longer able to use them.

In 1999, Spanish Bank Creek was 'daylighted' to bring it back to the surface. Salmon fry were released into the creek over a number of years, but they needed more shelter to survive. Heavy winter rains washed the tiny fry into the ocean. Low flows of summer trapped them in shallow pools.

In 2004, the off-channel pond behind the fence was created to provide shelter for young salmon. Insects quickly moved in providing a food source. Now a diversity of animals make this pond their home.



#### Coho Fry

Young coho spend just over a year in freshwater. This pond provides them with food, shelter and a calm, steady flow of water.

#### Chum Fry

Young chum spend up to four weeks in freshwater before migrating to the ocean.

### BUILDING THE OFF-CHANNEL POND

Digging the pond



September 2004

Planting native species



October 2004

The evolving habitat



August 2006

This successful project is due to the ongoing dedication and commitment of the Spanish Bank Streamkeeper working with GVRD, Fisheries and Oceans Canada and Vancouver Parks & Recreation.



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