

## **Jim Palmer and Jan Gemmell: Morrison Creek Headwaters Trips**



**Jan Gemmell** is current President of Morrison Creek Streamkeepers. She and her family have been interested and involved with Morrison Creek since moving to Courtenay in 1994.

Living just a short block from the banks of the creek and close to the surrounding parks and school grounds through which

the creek runs has given the opportunity to discover the inhabitants and moods of this diverse and vibrant rural and urban stream. Project Watershed and DFO provided the initial impetus for water quality monitoring, streamkeepers courses, smolt counting fences, habitat enhancement projects that have kept Jan up the creek with a smile. From childhood summers spent on the marshy shore of Lake Winnipeg, wilderness canoe trips with her uncle, floathouse living, oyster farming, streamkeeping and kayaking, water and the life it holds have been flowing through Jan's life. She has a certificate in Landscape Horticulture from Capilano College and is mighty keen on plants.

**Jim Palmer** has spent over twenty years exploring the Morrison Creek watershed and studying its natural and human history. He is personally acquainted with the SARA listed Morrison Creek Lamprey and six salmonid species living in this small stream. While focused on aquatic species, fish in particular, Jim is also fascinated by every aspect of flowing water, how it interacts with the landscape and all of the flora and fauna adapted to its moods and cycles. He has been involved in many stream monitoring, restoration and enhancement projects but his main passion is the conservation and protection of the stream and in particular the Headwaters of this amazingly productive watershed.

In a former life Jim was a float house dweller and oyster farmer, becoming intimately familiar with the intertidal zone, himself becoming one of its creatures with every aspect of life revolving around wind and tide and season. Whether its sea kayaking, beachcombing or exploring a spring or wetland, if there's water, that's where you will find Jim. He is also a technician with Current Environmental, a local consulting company specializing in aquatic habitat.

For more details visit <http://morrisoncreek.org/>