

THE MISSION

JANUARY 2020

STATEMENT



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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CLIFF BUNGALOW - MISSION COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



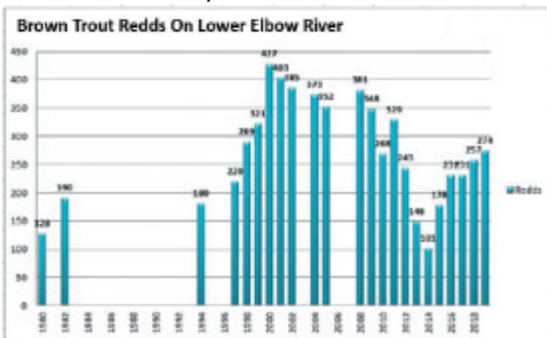
Counting Our Redds, and Our Blessings

Thank you! This yearly Brown Trout Redd Count is one of Calgary River Valleys' core activities, and we would not be able to do it without the volunteers who came forward after reading our notices in their community newsletters. They contributed to the City's and our Province's understanding of the health of our river and its inhabitants.

This Brown Trout Redd Count is important because:

- It monitors the aquatic health of the Elbow River, as indicated by spawning activity
- It collects consistent data over time and allows trends to be analyzed relative to development, severe events, climate change, etc.
- It encourages high school or university students to pursue the field of aquatic biology, and related fields (educationally and/or professionally)
- It educates adjacent landowners, recreational river-users and government personnel involved in river management decisions
- It provides direction for land use and river development decisions.

Lower Elbow Count, November 8



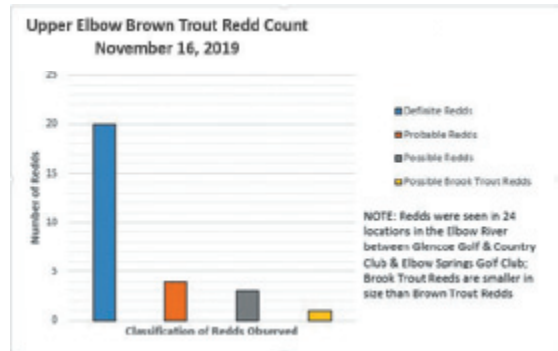
We had a beautiful day on the river. This year our volunteers counted a total of 274 Redds in the Lower Elbow, up 17 Redds from previous years. On the whole the trend is upward from the number counted immediately following the 2013 flood.

They also surveyed the new spawning gravels reintroduction projects accomplished earlier this year by the City of Calgary and Alberta Environment and Parks

below the Glenmore Dam, around Sandy Beach, and in the re-opened side channel at Elbow Island at Mission Bridge. Our GPS data will help these partners track the success of these projects.

At the end of our day we were joined at Fort Calgary by the mobile unit of Alberta Environment and Parks to decontaminate our waders and rafts to prevent the spread of Whirling Disease within the Elbow River Watershed.

Upper Elbow Count, November 16



A week's wait for weather paid off, and our volunteers enjoyed Chinook conditions. Once again, the Glencoe Golf Course and Country Club opened their facility to us, for which we are very grateful.

Some of us got to learn more how The Glencoe has achieved designation as a "Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary" through the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses, an Audubon International program. To reach certification, a course must demonstrate that they are maintaining a high degree of environmental quality in a number of areas including: Environmental Planning, Wildlife and Habitat Management, Outreach and Education, Chemical Use Reduction and Safety, Water Conservation and Water Quality Management.

The Brown Trout in the Upper Elbow River are physically separated from their downstream cousins by the Glenmore Dam, and have room to spawn in the river up to Elbow Falls. This was CRV's second year checking in on them in a six-kilometer stretch, and this year we found 3 times as many Redds as last year.

All in all, it was a very positive year.