

The Atmospheric River Deluge

November, 2021

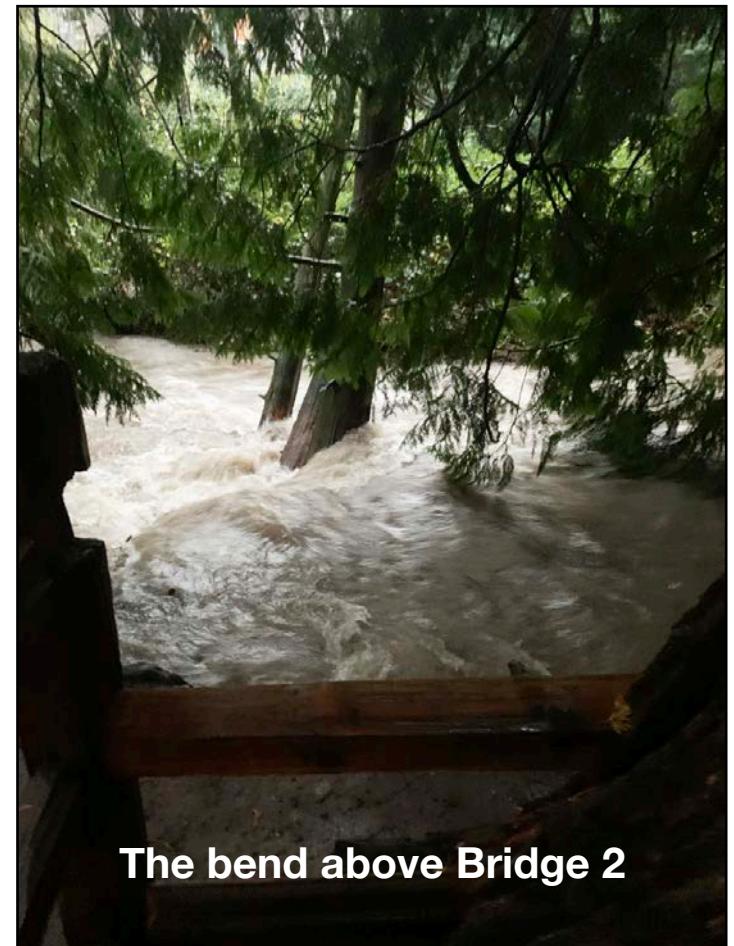


This section of the Trail at
Bridge 5 is closed indefinitely

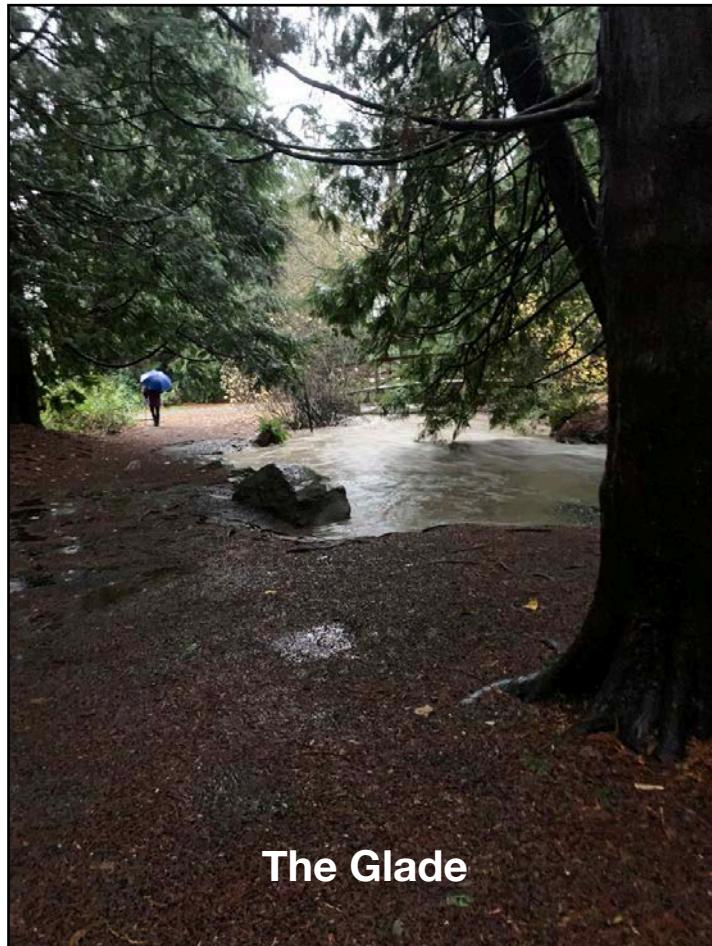
The Deluge of the November 13th Weekend:

Except as noted, these photos were taken before 8 a.m. on Sunday, November 14 in the rain and gusting wind.

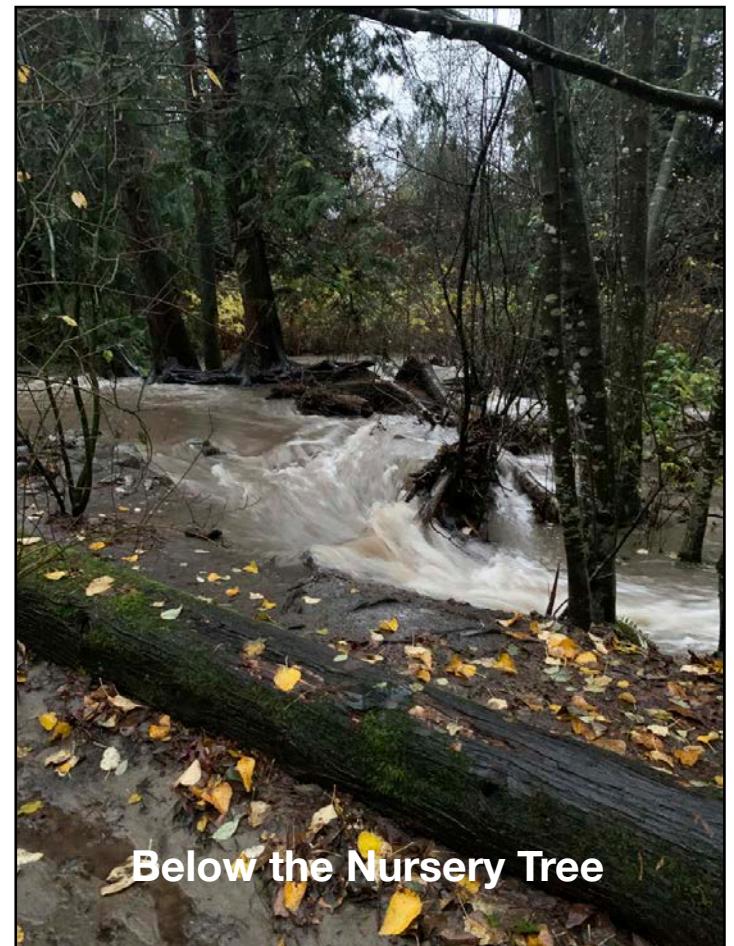
The Atmospheric River began dumping at about 2 p.m. on Saturday the 13th. It ended 48 hours later. The total amount of rain, measured at YXX, was 173 mm. Those of you who know the Trail will see that the Creek channel is much changed in many places.



The bend above Bridge 2



The Glade

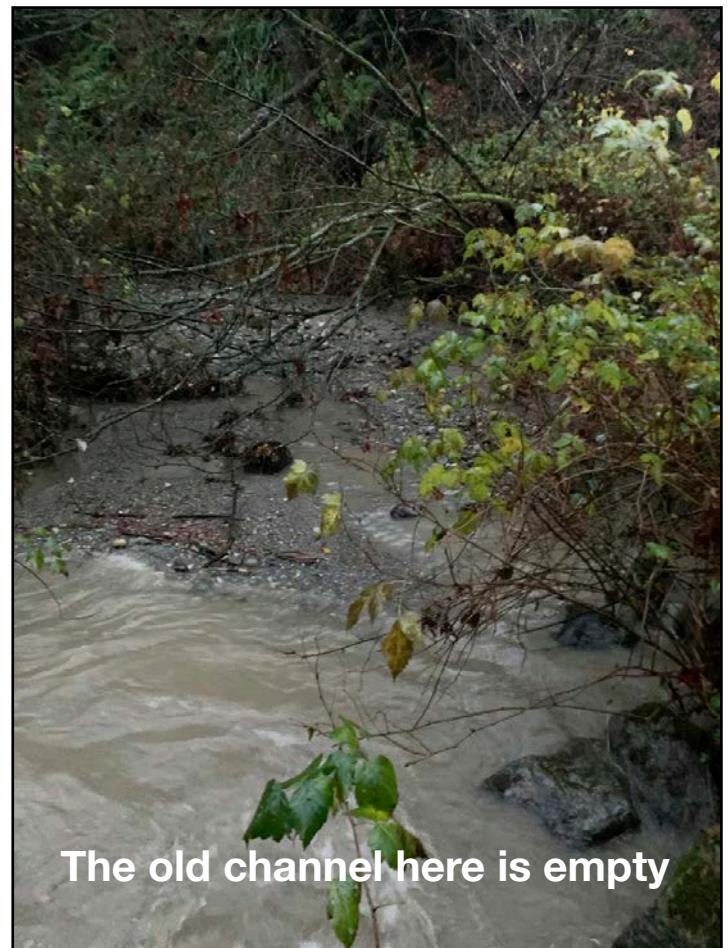


Below the Nursery Tree

Near Bridge 4:



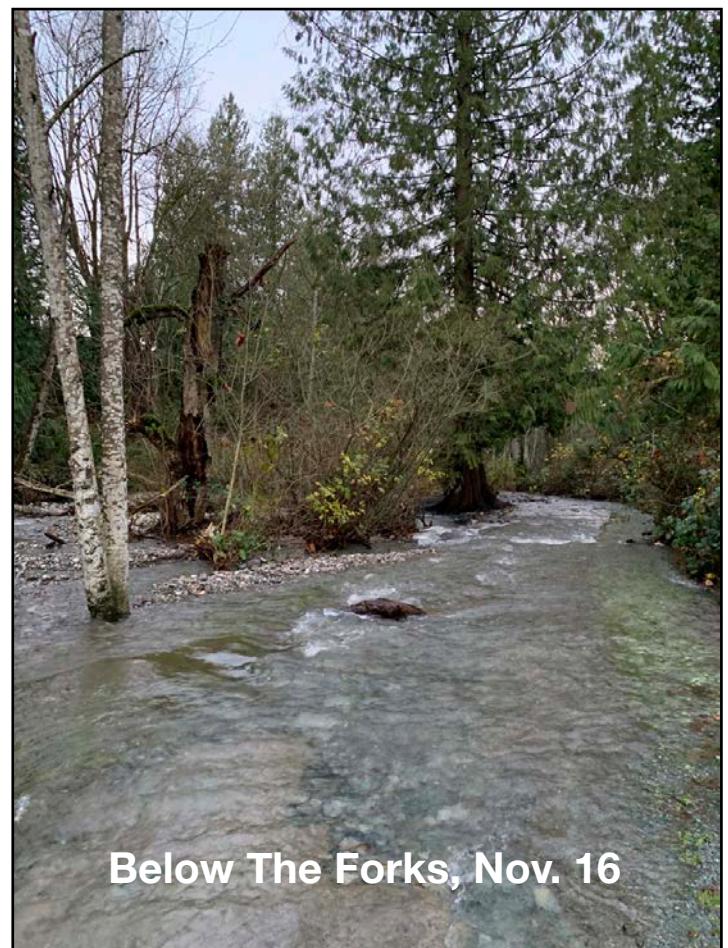
New channel above Bridge 5



The old channel here is empty



Bridge 5 is washed out

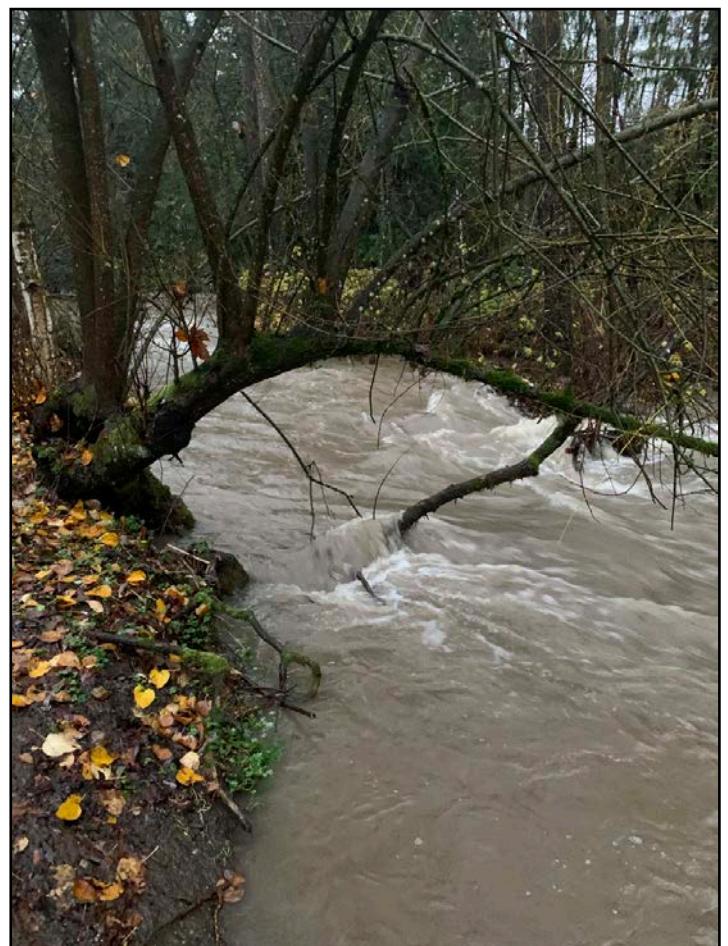
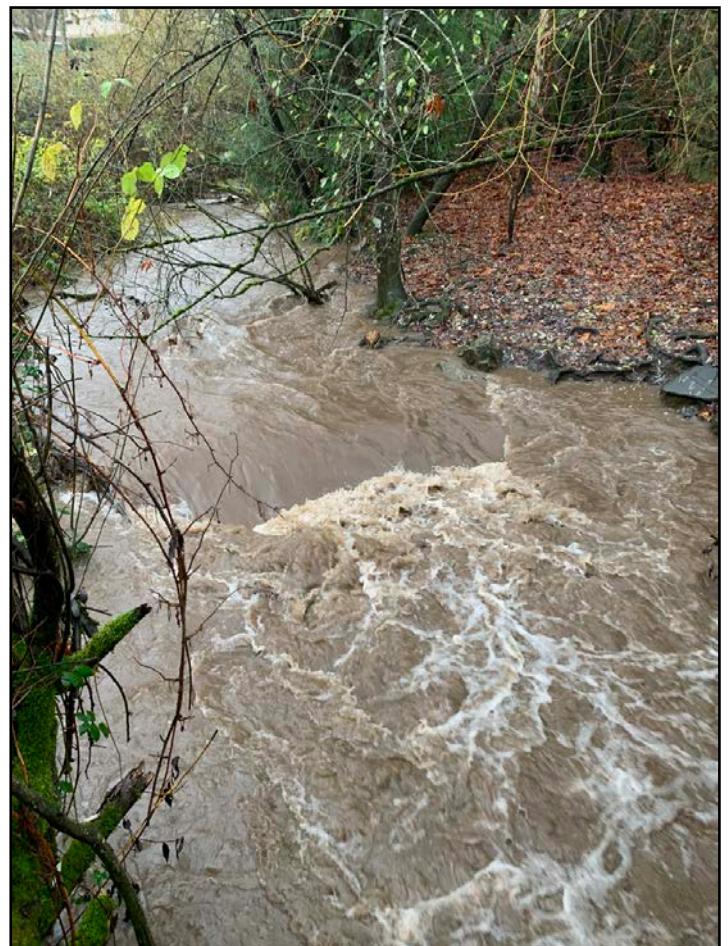


Below The Forks, Nov. 16

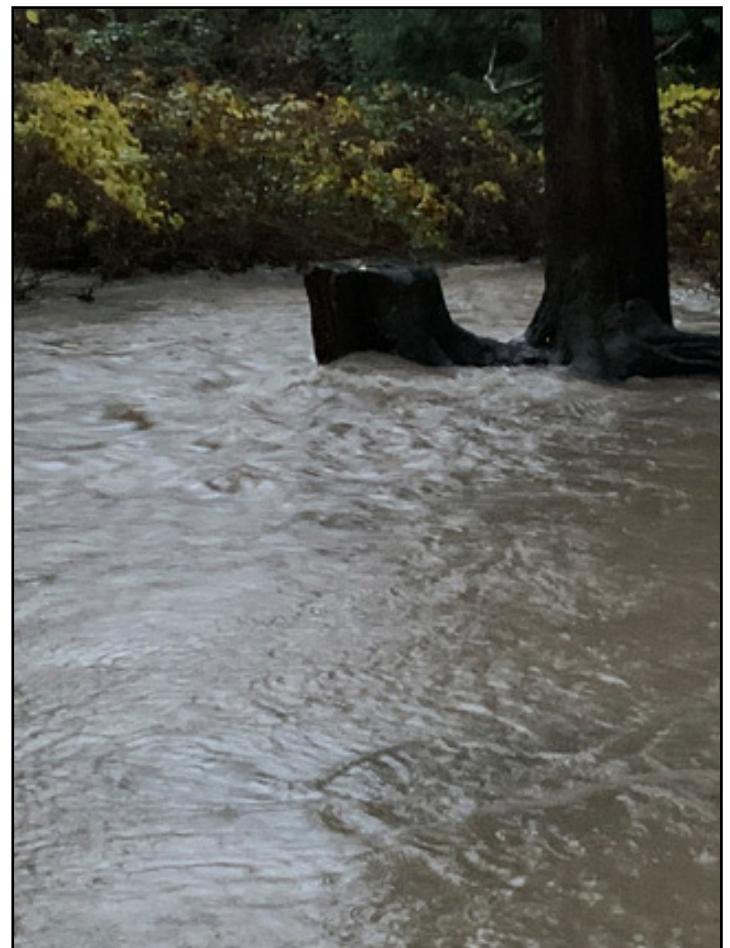
Side by Side Comparisons:

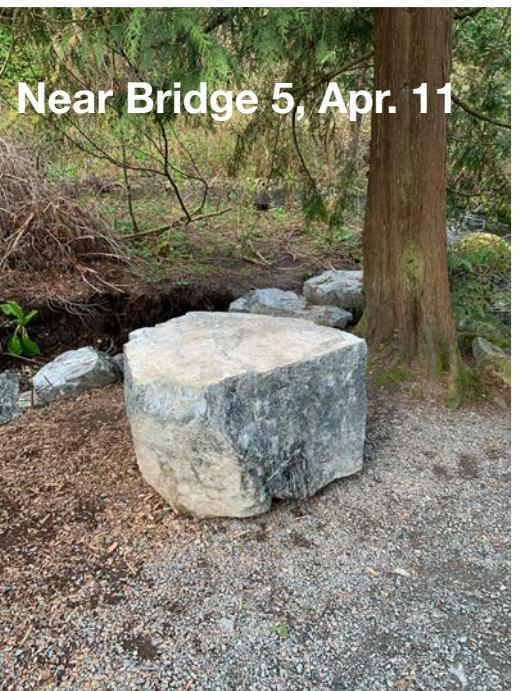


Side by Side Comparisons (continued):



Side by Side Comparisons (continued):

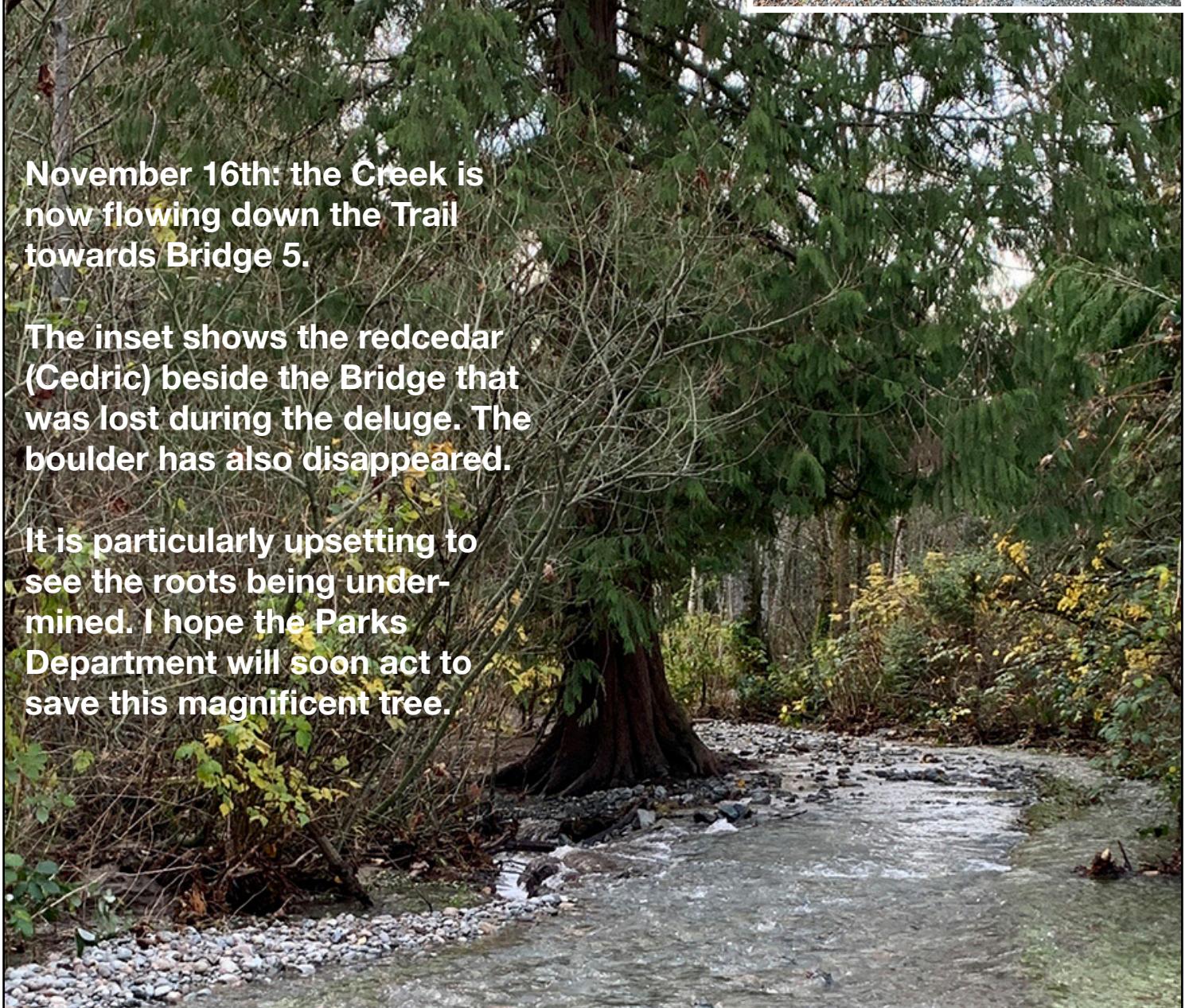




November 16th: the Creek is now flowing down the Trail towards Bridge 5.

The inset shows the redcedar (Cedric) beside the Bridge that was lost during the deluge. The boulder has also disappeared.

It is particularly upsetting to see the roots being undermined. I hope the Parks Department will soon act to save this magnificent tree.



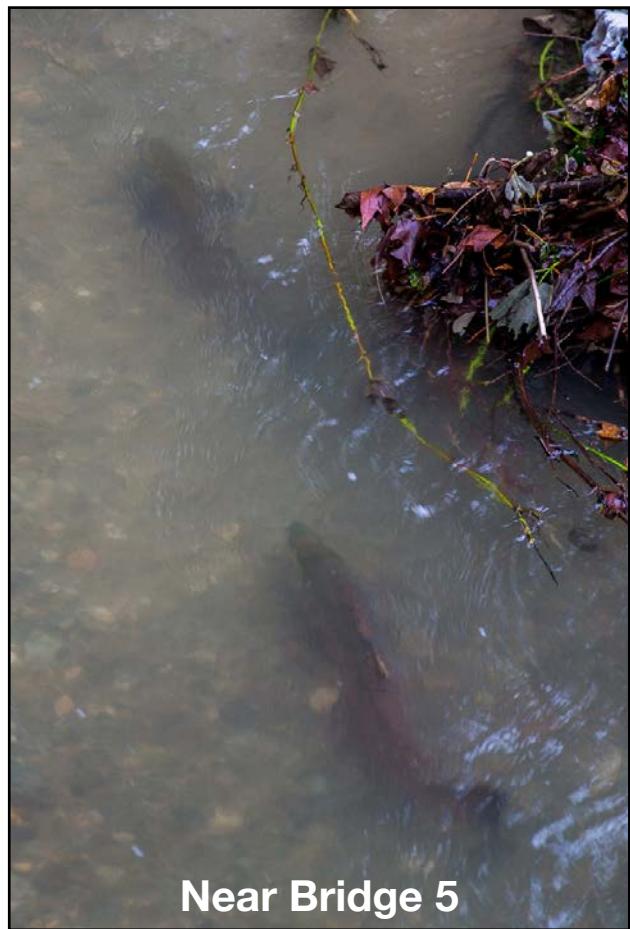
And now the good news – The salmon are back!

The eggs from earlier spawners will probably not have survived the torrent. However, hope remains. These photos, taken by ARPSES*

photographer, Bill Beatty, on November 17th show just how resilient the Coho salmon are.



Bill's comments: "I don't believe it! As of 3 p.m. today, I counted at least a dozen spawners in Stoney just from the trail. The water has subsided quickly in the creek and they seem to have just come out of nowhere, in spite of the godawful mess on the flats! (Matsqui Prairie). What incredible fish!"



Postscript: during the last week of the month, another 230 mm of rain fell, bringing the total to over 540 mm. It was a historic event.

* Abbotsford Ravine Park Salmon Enhancement Society