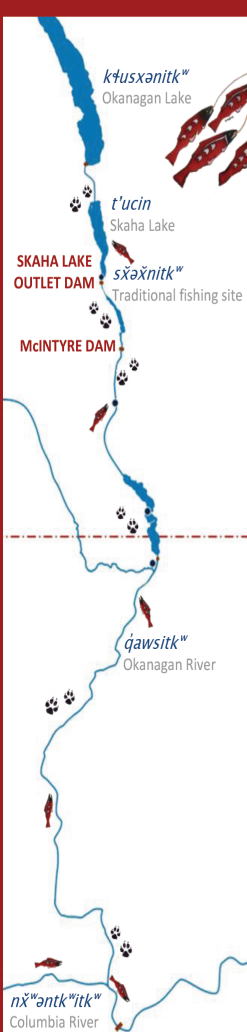


The project *Fish Passage at McIntyre Dam* provided salmon access to 11.5 km of upstream important historic habitat.



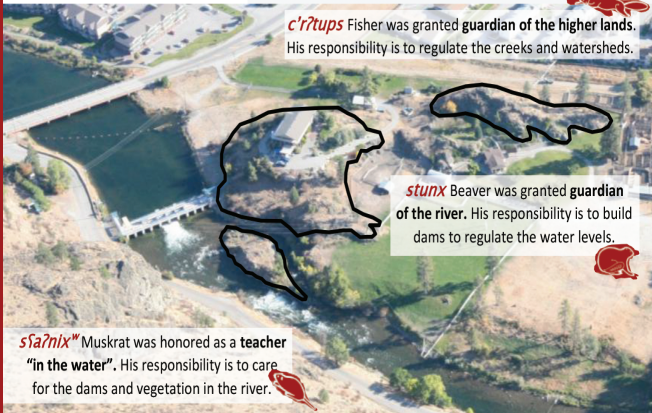
sinklip BRINGING SALMON TO tʷucin (SKAHA LAKE)

Written by June Paul as per the story told orally by Richard Armstrong

sinklip (Coyote) brought salmon from the south at the n̓w̓əntkʷitkʷ (Columbia River) and into the q̓awsitkʷ (Okanagan River) in Washington and in the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia. On his journey, *sinklip* stopped at the south end of tʷucin (Skaha Lake) near s̓ə̓x̓nitkʷ (traditional fishing camp in Okanagan Falls) and asked the syilx people for a wife and a home. He continued his journey to the north bringing the salmon into tʷucin. When he returned for his wife and a home in s̓ə̓x̓nitkʷ, he discovered his given wife was impregnated by another. Coyote was very disappointed, so he put the m̓x̓alʷ (cradleboard) above the river to let everyone know that he did not receive this promise. However, to show his promise for the salmon, he placed his fishing spear above the river, across from akspaqm̓ix (Vaseux Lake.)

With Coyote's promise for salmon he left three rock formations at s̓ə̓x̓nitkʷ (Okanagan Falls): stunx (Beaver), s̓aʷn̓ixʷ (Muskrat) and cʷr̓tups (Fisher). These are the Coyote's story markers and are visible above q̓awsitkʷ between the n̓ʷaylintən (McIntyre Dam area) and s̓ə̓x̓nitkʷ.

SALMON GUARDIANS at s̓ə̓x̓nitkʷ



cʷr̓tups Fisher was granted guardian of the higher lands. His responsibility is to regulate the creeks and watersheds.

stunx Beaver was granted guardian of the river. His responsibility is to build dams to regulate the water levels.

s̓aʷn̓ixʷ Muskrat was honored as a teacher "in the water". His responsibility is to care for the dams and vegetation in the river.