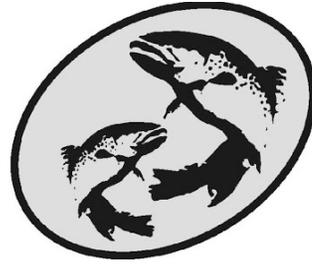


La fondation pour la Conservation du
SAUMON ATLANTIQUE



The ATLANTIC SALMON
Conservation Foundation

NEWS RELEASE

More than \$100,000 for wild Atlantic salmon conservation efforts in Nova Scotia

April 12, 2018, Fredericton, NB – The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation (ASCF) has awarded \$112,901 to eight conservation projects to be carried out in Nova Scotia this summer.

These projects range from fish habitat restoration and geo-database development in the LaHave River Watershed and fish passage improvements in the Cheticamp Watershed, to an acid mitigation project in the West River and a tributary remediation and monitoring initiative in the East River.

The grants to Nova Scotia applicants are part of more than \$1 million in grants ASCF has awarded this year alone for wild Atlantic Salmon conservation projects in Nova Scotia, PEI, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, and Quebec.

“This year the ASCF is entering its second decade of providing funding for Atlantic salmon conservation, an effort that is helping tilt the balance in the wild Atlantic salmon’s favour against the considerable challenges it faces, from offshore overfishing to climate change”, says Stephen Chase, executive director of ASCF, as he announced the 2018 grant recipients.

The winning applicants of conservation, environmental, and Aboriginal groups and university researchers from across Atlantic Canada and Québec, successfully passed the screening process first by the advisory committee for each province and then by the Foundation’s Scientific Advisory Committee.

Chase says “We are proud of being able to fund these projects, but we regret not being able to fund more, as these represent only about half of the applications we received, and many of those that didn’t make the cut were also very worthy initiatives. We hope that in the future we will be able to fund even more projects.”

In addition to the 9 projects specifically in Nova Scotia, the province's wild salmon will **also benefit from more than \$100,000 in ASCF funding of four scientific studies** including one on the effects of striped bass predation on Atlantic salmon smolts.

In total, ASCF has awarded 65 grants throughout Atlantic Canada and Quebec, totalling more than \$1.1 million.

The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation, now recognized as an established and reliable source of funds for conservationists and researchers, is a volunteer, non-profit, charitable organization established with the goal of helping to achieve healthy and sustainable wild Atlantic salmon stocks in Atlantic Canada and Québec. Funded with an initial endowment from the Government of Canada, plus the proceeds from partnership arrangements, sponsorships and donations from generous supporters, the Foundation has created a trust fund to promote and strengthen partnerships among groups working to conserve wild Atlantic salmon. Conservation projects and program administration are financed from interest earned by the trust fund.

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NOTE: A complete list of the projects funded in Nova Scotia is attached.

For further information or interviews contact:

Stephen Chase
Executive Director
The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation
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E-mail: chasesa@salmonconservation.ca

Winning Nova Scotia Grants for 2018

Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation: LaHave River Watershed Project 2018 – Aquatic Connectivity Assessment, Fish Habitat Restoration, and Geo-database Development.

Approved amount: **\$12,500**

Contact: Brooke Nodding, 902-634-9977, brooke@coastalaction.org

Cheticamp River Salmon Association: Fish Passage Improvements within the Cheticamp River watershed (Phase II).

Approved amount: **\$10,000**

Contact: René Aucoin, 902-224-5854, cheticampriversalmon@gmail.com

Inverness South Anglers Association: Southwest Mabou River Restoration Plan – Phase II.
Approved amount: **\$10,000**
Contact: Geoff Nishi, 902-945-2822, gknishi@ns.sympatico.ca

Margaree Salmon Association: Margaree River Watershed in-stream Restoration and Conservation Activity for 2018.
Approved amount: **\$20,000**
Contact: Paul MacNeil, 902-835-4517, nwmargaree@gmail.com

Mi'kmaw Conservation Group: East River Tributary Remediation and Atlantic Salmon Monitoring Initiative.
Approved amount: **\$6,000**
Contact: Angeline Gillis, 902-895-6385, agillis@mikmawconservation.ca

Nova Scotia Salmon Association: The West River Acid Mitigation Project.
Approved amount: **\$26,000**
Contact: Dr. Edmund Halfyard, 902-210-1475, eahalfyard@hotmail.com

Sackville Rivers Association: River Restoration 2018.
Approved amount: **\$5,000**
Contact: Damon Conrad, 902-865-9238, sra3@bellaliant.com

St. Mary's River Association: Salmon Habitat Enhancement (West River St. Mary's).
Approved amount: **\$23,401**
Contact: Kenny Silver, 902-522-2099, Kenny.silver@ns.sympatico.ca

Total Approved Grants: \$112,901

Scientific Advisory Committee Grants

While some of this research will be carried out on specific rivers, the knowledge gained will be valuable to other similar wild Atlantic Salmon habitat.

Restigouche River Watershed Management Council: Watershed-scale connectivity analysis: An applied GIS model towards the strategic management of barriers to Atlantic salmon migration.
Approved amount: **\$13,000** for 2018 (2nd year of 2 year project, total: \$26,000).
Contact: Carole-Anne Gillis, 506-759-7300, gilliscaroleann@hotmail.com

Memorial University (van Zyll de Jong) Assessing the impact of instream barriers and climate change on wild Atlantic salmon population persistence and production in forested boreal watersheds.

Approved amount: **\$23,300** for 2018 (2nd year of 3 year project, total: \$63,300)

Contact: Dr. Michael van Zyll de Jong, 506-648-5630,
michaelv@grenfell.mun.ca

Dalhousie University (Hutchings): Life history modelling project for wild Atlantic salmon.

Approved amount: **\$37,500** for 2018 (2nd year of 2 year project, total: \$75,000)

Contact: Dr. Jeff Hutchings, 902-494-2687, Jeff.Hutchings@Dal.ca

University of New Brunswick (Linnansaari & Curry): Effects of striped bass predation on Atlantic salmon smolts in the Miramichi River, NB.

Approved amount: **\$32,803** for 2018 (1st year of 2-year project, total: \$59,003)

Contact: Dr. Tommi Linnansaari, 506-458-7569,

tommi.linnansaari@unb.ca

or Dr. Allen Curry, 506-452-6208, racurry@unb.ca

Total Grants: **\$106,603**