ANNUAL REPORT 2014

The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation

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Helping Community Groups Succeed!

Introduction

We at the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation like helping our community partners improve conservation of wild Atlantic salmon. That's why we strive to facilitate conservation action. Although our process is accompanied by pretty rigorous accountability for performance and use of funds, we do everything we can to keep our approach to business as user friendly as possible.

The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to improving and strengthening the conservation of wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat in Atlantic Canada and Quebec.

The Foundation is a volunteer-based organization that opened its doors in February 2007. The Board of Directors of the Foundation are volunteers, along with all of the volunteer experts on its advisory committee who have come together to ensure the wise use of the trust fund for the conservation purposes for which it is intended.

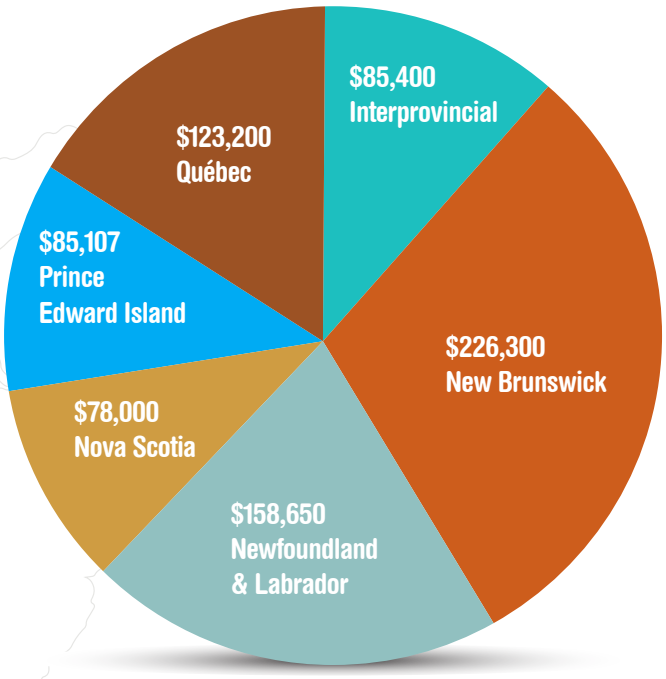
The Foundation has the dual mandate of prudently investing the trust funds to generate income while preserving capital, and ensuring that the organization is well managed so it can provide funding to eligible salmon conservation initiatives in Atlantic Canada and Quebec, in perpetuity.

A significant feature of the Foundation model is the inclusion of volunteer experts drawn from conservation groups, Aboriginal organizations and federal and provincial governments in all of its advisory processes. The Board of Directors of the Foundation actively relies on advice and recommendations forthcoming from the six technical-advisory committees to guide the work of the Foundation. It is a model of partnership and inclusiveness that is unique in the conservation world.

This annual report reflects the Foundation's eighth year of operation. In 2014 the Foundation continued to build on the successful operational structure it created over the first seven years, and launched new development activities with liquor corporation partners to augment its ability to support and extend salmon conservation initiatives. The year also witnessed completion of the Foundation's seventh round of grants in support of community salmon conservation projects as well as the 2015 call for funding proposals which closed in December.

Background

The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation (the Foundation) was formed by a group of volunteers who incorporated a non-profit organization in 2005 to prepare a proposal to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to accept responsibility for the Atlantic Salmon Endowment Fund (ASEF) Program. The



Grants Amounts Approved in in 2014

ASEF was created by the Government of Canada as a permanent source of funding to help conserve, restore and protect wild Atlantic salmon and their habitat in Atlantic Canada and in Quebec.

The ASEF reflected, and continues to reflect, the calls of conservation organizations, Aboriginal groups and government officials for a permanent source of funding to help watershed and community organizations working on a range of wild Atlantic salmon habitat, enhancement, monitoring and conservation initiatives.

The organization that was created as a result of the federal investment was structured to meet the following objectives:

1. Be managed at arms-length from DFO by an incorporated organization;
2. Be a charitable organization;
3. Invest appropriated funds and hold them in trust;
4. Draw on contributions from other public and private sources;
5. Deliver the program from income generated on the principal amount; and
6. Facilitate partnership with the provinces, Aboriginal groups and community volunteer organizations.

These objectives have been attained very successfully and continue to drive the organization and its way of doing business.

Annual Report 2014

Helping Community Groups Succeed!

The ASCF operates in the large and complex geographic, political and stock status environment of Atlantic Canada and Québec. To address these complexities, the Foundation relies completely on inclusive, expert advisory committees that are unique in opening all processes to broad and meaningful involvement as well as full transparency.

In 2012 the Foundation received a very positive value for money audit conducted by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The audit resulted from a provision in the funding agreement with the Government of Canada whereby the performance of the Foundation is to be assessed every five years according to performance measures identified in the funding agreement. The audit found that the Foundation represents excellent value for money, is demonstrating measurable progress on several fronts.

Foundation Mission Statement and Goals

The mission statement of the Foundation is "To promote enhanced community partnerships in the conservation of wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat in Atlantic Canada and Quebec".

Four goals flow from this statement, around which our strategic direction is built and from which our granting process flows:

- To be **an effective source of funding for community volunteer organizations** in conserving, restoring and protecting wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat.
- To **enhance cooperation and partnership** among governments, Aboriginal organizations, community volunteer groups and others in the interests of conserving, restoring and protecting wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat.
- To **promote and improve conservation planning and management at the watershed level** as the basis for ensuring effective use of and accountability for funds made available for wild Atlantic salmon conservation initiatives.
- To **improve public awareness, education and research** respecting the conservation of wild Atlantic salmon and salmon habitat.

The Granting Process

The Foundation is interested in funding innovative projects that will have a high probability of success with measurable results for on-the-ground conservation of wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat. It considers eligible projects related to the following categories:

- Development of salmon and salmon habitat conservation plans for a watershed or sub-watershed (watershed planning)
- Conservation, rebuilding and restoration of wild Atlantic salmon and salmon habitat
- Restoring access of wild Atlantic salmon to salmon habitat
- Public education and awareness of the importance of conservation of wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat

Emphasis is placed on improved conservation planning and management at the watershed level, as an ecological and geographic unit, as a way to promote most effective use of, and accountability for project funds.

The Foundation holds one call for proposals annually. Proposals may be submitted online from April to a closing date for receipt of proposals in mid-December. Proposals for funding are reviewed by staff for completeness then forwarded to the advisory committees for review and recommendation during the period February –March. Each advisory committee follows a standard proposal assessment and scoring procedures designed by the Central Advisory Committee. Recommended proposals are reviewed and approved by the Board in early spring to enable all final approvals to be given well before the opening of the conservation field season. Each project proponent that was unsuccessful in gaining approval for funding is given an explanation why it was unsuccessful both for information, and to encourage future submissions.

Technical Advisory Committees

The Foundation relies heavily on its volunteer technical-advisory committee structure to make good decisions on the projects that should be funded. Our advisory committee model is unique in the world of salmon conservation. It's a strategic direction that promotes inclusiveness and partnership, while assuring excellent advice in addressing the unique salmon conservation imperatives faced in each of the five provinces.

There are six advisory committees consisting of a Central Advisory Committee and five Provincial Advisory Committees. Appointees to these committees are each volunteers proposed in consultation with stakeholder groups and governments. Our advisory committees have proven to be a very successful way of assuring broad volunteer inclusiveness and ensuring full transparency in the granting process.

The Central Advisory Committee is a committee of technical experts with the dual mandate of assisting the Board of Directors in maintaining effective policy, procedures and strategic direction. This committee is also responsible for reviewing and recommending inter-provincial and strategic project proposals, and in monitoring their outcomes.

Each of the five provincial advisory committees is responsible for identifying the salmon conservation priorities unique to its province; reviewing proposals for conservation funding and making recommendations on which projects should be approved for funding. They also participate actively in monitoring approved projects to help ensure they are progressing as intended. These committees meet twice annually to carry-out their responsibilities.

Message from the Chairman

Helping to create positive change.

While it may be true that time changes things, it's also true that we can help change occur by supporting the community groups, First Nations and other organizations engaged in conservation of precious wild Atlantic salmon resources. Helping create positive change is what the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation is all about.

2014 marks our eighth year of operation. In many ways it was a huge year in our evolution as a major force in facilitating salmon conservation. 2014 was the year in which, through hard work and prudent management, we became able to offer $1 million dollars in conservation project funding. That objective was one of the original objectives our foundation set for itself when we opened our door in 2007. Now that we have finally achieved our million dollar target we firmly intend to maintain that level of funding and, perhaps, set our sights yet higher!

Our foundation never rests on its laurels. We continue to gain experience as a granting entity; we learn helping community organizations, universities, First Nations and many others improve conservation of their rivers and salmon populations; and, we continue to seek new partners sharing the same goals.

Our partnerships are very important to us, and we could not do our work without building and nurturing strong partnerships all around us. Partnership on many levels is central to our business approach, whereby many individual contributions are focussed to gain greater results. These include our partnership with the Government of Canada through the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, to provincial governments, First Nations, municipalities and to community groups. We are especially indebted to our NB Liquor Corporation and PEL Liquor Control Commission partners for significantly adding to the pool of funds available for conservation projects. Every partner doing their bit to promote and sustain wild Atlantic salmon conservation.

"They always say time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself."
- Andy Warhol

Honourable Rémi Bujold, P.C, C.M.
Chairman of the Board of Directors

The basis of our success rests upon our dedicated pool of over 60 expert volunteers who serve on our Board of Directors and on our six expert advisory committees. These volunteers are the reason why we are able to strengthen our foundation's ability to fulfil its mission and to fund high quality conservation projects that contribute to our many performance indicators.

We are also indebted to the day to day efforts of our talented staff. They ensure we continually make excellent progress through strong management, based on progressive policy, plans and priorities, toward our overall goal of improving salmon conservation across the range of wild Atlantic salmon in Canada.

Working together: the conservation community, our volunteers and our staff - We are fulfilling the vision of becoming one of the world's most supportive wild Atlantic salmon conservation organizations!

Hon. Rémi Bujold, P.C, C.M.
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Executive Director's Report

Moving toward our goal of making a real difference.

"Our watchwords are: "Facilitate, don't Frustrate" ...we try hard to make conservation action happen via the community groups we help support."

Stephen Chase
Executive Director ASCF

It's rewarding to reflect back upon our eighth year in serving those interested in conservation of Canada's wild Atlantic salmon.

As we observe the progress made in our eighth year, it's clear that the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation is helping make significant and measurable gains in salmon conservation, all through the efforts of the community organizations, Aboriginal groups and other committed partners we help fund. Working together, we have established a solid approach to business based on a few simple, but important, principles: Planning; Priority Setting; Performance Measurement; and Partnership. These principles represent the essential elements of the Foundation's business model.

Our solid approach to business is shared with our funding recipients. Our watchwords are: "Facilitate, don't Frustrate". In other words, we try hard to make conservation action happen via the community groups we help support. It's often frustrating for recipient groups to seek and receive funding from funding entities. Our approach to business recognizes that, so we work with groups to help them realize their conservation goals. If they encounter a problem, say, cannot get landowner permission, or encounter a serious weather event, or cannot get another grant they applied for – we do what we can to carry-over our funding until the problem is solved. In our view, that's partnership.

The ASCF follows a fiscally prudent, long-term financial plan. 2014 witnessed a record sixty new conservation project grants, bringing our overall seven-year contributions to $2.5 million and funded project total to 211. Because we are careful in funding the best funding proposals, our leveraging (cash and in-kind) exceeded an overall $13.5 million, with 4.4 to one leveraging. Importantly, ASCF project funding also helps sustain well over 100 jobs, primarily seasonal and student workers, thus providing a very significant contribution to a mainly rural economy, while helping young people attain higher education.

The year also witnessed huge growth in our ability to help fund conservation projects through a long-term partnership with the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation's "*Protect Our Rivers - Protégeons nos rivières*" sales event that yielded a solid $66,000 in 2014. A strong gain was also posted through our partnership with the PEI Liquor Control Commission's "*Island Rivers-Worth Protecting*" sale, which completed another year at $21,600 toward the overall, 5-year goal of $100,000. These are exceptional examples of corporate partnership dedicated to improving the natural environment.

In new developments, we were excited to launch work on the "Salmon Hub" which is intended to become our free, web-based one-stop shop for wild Atlantic salmon conservation information. All of the projects we fund have stories and information to share so we are building upon our capacity to share information. There is also many and diverse sources of salmon conservation information "out there" but no easy way of making it accessible so our plan is to let "Salmon Hub" evolve into the "go-to" source of information, conservation techniques and guidance for everyone interested in salmon conservation.

Meeting our challenges and embarking on new directions makes our work so rewarding. It also keeps us moving toward realizing our goal of making a "real difference" in salmon conservation.

Stephen Chase Executive Director ASCF

Foundation Objectives 2014

The following objectives were stated in the 2014 Business Plan

Objective 1: To continue observing a prudent investment and financial strategy to restore the ASEF to its adjusted value and to create a reserve fund.

2014 Actions: The Foundation's investment portfolio is managed in accordance with a very prudent long-term investment and financial management plan. This plan conforms to the Investment Policy and Investment Strategy adopted pursuant to the requirements of the Funding Agreement with the Government while enabling a reasonable response to the project funding expectations of the salmon conservation community.

The long-term financial plan is reviewed at least twice annually by the Board of Directors. Its purpose is to restore the market value of the fund to match the funds adjusted book value at the earliest possible date, taking into account financial market performance, and Funding Agreement requirements.

The Foundation has worked hard to restore the market value of the trust fund since the 2008-09 financial market decline, by reinvesting most of the trust fund income toward recovery of the market value of the fund so it matches the adjusted book value, as required by the funding agreement. In 2014, this objective was achieved and surpassed. As a result, the Foundation was enabled to increase its grant funding from the basic amount awarded in the early years ($300,000) to $550,000 for 2014. In addition, due to very good returns on the trust fund investments, the Board subsequently resolved to provide $1 million in funding for project grants in 2015, as well as to create a reserve fund to ensure the Foundation's ability to continue to make $1 million in grant funding available each year into the future.

Objective 2: To observe a funding allocation model that is reflective of and responsive to the various conservation needs and priorities of each province.

2014 Actions: As at 31 December 2014 the market value of the fund was reported as just over $38 million. As noted above, this placed the market value of the trust fund above the projected 2014 year-end amount as presented in the long-term financial strategy.

The Foundation continues to follow a funding allocation model based on the advice of the Central Advisory Committee which is designed to optimize response to the respective conservation needs of each province. The funding formula provides for a base allocation to each province that can be supplemented according to a funding distribution formula that reflects individual provincial conservation variables. Each year, provincial conservation priorities are reviewed by each advisory committee to help ensure funding is directed where desired results may be obtained.

Objective 3: To maintain and strengthen a results-based management approach to funding Foundation projects.

2014 Actions: The Foundation conducts its business in accordance with its comprehensive *Audit and Evaluation Strategy*. All projects report their performance in a uniform manner designed to populate a database developed by the Central Advisory Committee.

The standard project reports and database are designed to reflect the performance measures in the Funding Agreement, and are improved as necessary to enable the Foundation to be a results-based management organization. During 2014 additional refinements were made to project report forms through feedback from grant recipients and advisory committees to ensure that necessary data was reported but also to simplify required reporting.

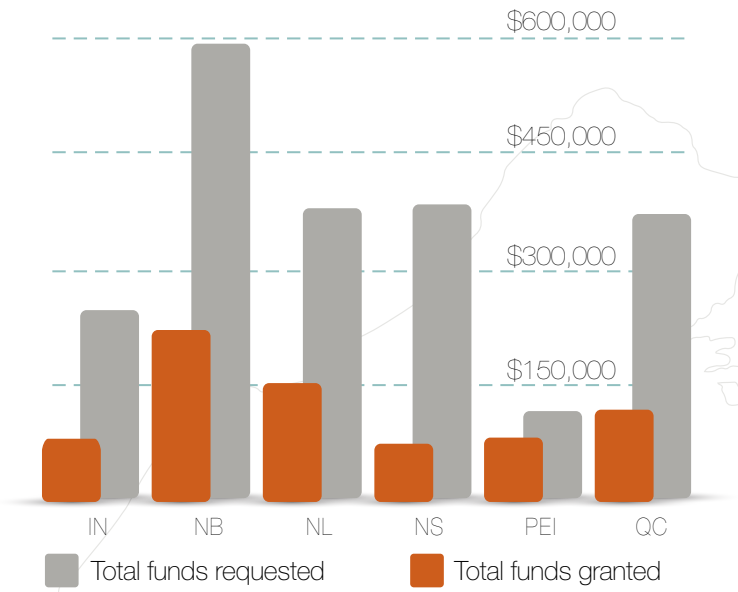
Up to and including 2014, 211 salmon conservation projects had been funded by the Foundation through a total investment of $1.75 million in grant funding. The total value of these projects, in both cash and in-kind contributions, was over $13.5 million resulting in an overall leveraging benefit of 6.7 to one. Foundation, however, completed and had provided final reports out of a total of 151 projects approved during the six rounds of grants (2008 to 2014). Of the 211 projects 52 remain in some stage of completion by year-end including 10 multi-year projects. Of the 2008-2014 projects, only 8 were cancelled, for varying reasons.

Objective 4: To strengthen the Foundation's relationships and communications with current and potential stakeholders/ beneficiaries, the public, and potential supporters.

2014 Actions: Throughout 2014 the Foundation carefully followed the direction identified in the communications plan, which is designed to facilitate the Foundation in establishing a distinct profile; building public understanding of wild Atlantic salmon conservation needs, and building public support for salmon conservation.

Foundation Objectives 2014

The following objectives were stated in the 2014 Business Plan



During the year the Foundation issued periodic press releases and posted items on its website, as well as sending regular email messages to its constituents and interested stakeholders. The Annual Report and the Business Plan are both designed to promote understanding of and support for the Foundation, and are frequently shared with external groups. Throughout 2014 the Foundation provided regular updates to Facebook and Twitter to keep followers informed of developments. The number of followers on both social media increased significantly during the year.

In 2014 the Foundation launched a monthly newsletter featuring announcements and updates on the Foundation, as well as profiles on several advisory committee and Board of Director volunteers. Growth in the number of recipients increased significantly throughout the year with over 400 individuals and organizations receiving the newsletter by year-end.

Throughout 2014 the Foundation partnership with the Canadian Rivers Institute jointly hosted the monthly webinar series on fish and freshwater issues. Several expert individuals were invited to present the topics and lead discussion on-line with regular attendance by representatives of First Nations, NGOs, governments, academic institutions and businesses. The series has provided major new opportunities for information sharing and partnership building. In 2014, 12 webinars were hosted with a total of 547 participants.

Several communications were also made jointly with corporate partner organizations, including the Prince Edward Island Liquor Control Commission which sponsors the "Island Rivers – Worth Protecting" sales event, and Alcool New Brunswick Liquor, which sponsors the "Protect Our Rivers" sales event. Both arrangements are long-term partnerships through which 100 percent of funds are committed to river conservation projects in the respective provinces.

2014 was the fourth year for the PEILCC "Island Rivers – Worth Protecting" partnership resulting in a three year total contribution of over $76,000 for conservation funding in the province.

In 2014 ANBL held its third "Protect Our Rivers" sales event which raised $66,000 for a three year combined total of over $270,000 raised by ANBL for river conservation in New Brunswick.

The Foundation will continue to build corporate partnerships as a priority.

2014 Project Profiles • NL

Seeking a better understanding of the salmon populations in rapidly developing Labrador.

Labrador. Unquestionably one of the last strongholds for wild Atlantic salmon. So much so, in fact, that stocks in places like Lake Melville can sustain an important subsistence and resident food fishery for local Nunatsiavut (Inuit), Innu and NunatuKavut (Inuit-Metis) communities.

The Nunatsiavut government, Memorial University, the Department of Fisheries and Ocean, Dalhousie University, and l'Université du Québec à Rimouski (UQAR) have partnered to spearhead a project to study Atlantic salmon stocks in Lake Melville, and its extensive watershed.

"Labrador is currently experiencing rapid economic development – the lower Churchill hydroelectric project, road construction and mining," says Todd Broomfield, Director of Renewable Resources with the Nunatsiavut government's Department of Lands and Natural Resources. "We need a better understanding of the salmon populations there to properly manage, conserve and secure this important food source for future generations."

ASCF provided $30,000 for the project, which is aimed at determining three important pieces of information: whether Atlantic salmon in Lake Melville are genetically distinct and should be managed independently, whether the fisheries in Lake Melville are comprised of a single stock or represent a mixed stock harvest, and which rivers in the lake's large watershed contribute to salmon production.

"This field season went really well," says Marie Clément, a research scientist working for the Marine Institute's Centre for Fisheries Ecosystems Research and stationed at the Labrador Institute of Memorial University. So well, in fact, that the team met all of the fieldwork objectives in just over two months, instead of the expected two field seasons.

"Our graduate students spent from mid-June to mid-August sampling within the Lake Melville region and Upper Grand Lake," Clément reports. "Most rivers flowing into Lake Melville are not accessible by roads and the remoteness of juvenile salmon habitats represented the main challenge of this field season. Using a combination of boats, canoes and a helicopter, our students successfully reached salmon juvenile habitats and captured 531 salmon parr in 11 rivers."

> "Labrador is currently experiencing rapid economic development... We need a better understanding of the salmon populations there to properly manage, conserve and secure this important food source for future generations."
>
> Todd Broomfield, Director Renewable Resources
> Nunatsiavut Department of Lands & Natural Resources

Meanwhile, two students hired by the Nunatsiavut government spent their summer on the wharves of the North West River and Rigolet, gathering samples from some 424 adult salmon that were harvested through the local subsistence fisheries.

"The fishers expressed a lot of interest in the project," says Broomfield. "They interacted with the students and team members on almost a daily basis, providing samples without hesitation and asking about salmon conservation in general. We're looking forward to sharing our results with the community in the future."

All samples have been sent for analysis at the various labs that are also partners in the project. Once assessed, the team hopes that the data will answer some crucial questions.

"The results should inform us about which rivers contribute to salmon production," says Marie Clément. "This will help us protect important salmon habitat during the planning phase for any construction projects that will be part of the area's economic development."

The information will also be valuable to the Nunatsiavut government as it considers the future of, and the best location for, a salmon assessment facility within the Lake Melville watershed.

2014 Project Profiles • QC

Anglers on the Petit Saguenay River sign Charter to protect precious salmon

When Richard Bernier viewed a disturbing video of a badly executed catch and release that had almost surely resulted in the death of a once healthy wild Atlantic salmon, he decided that something had to be done to prevent such an unfortunate situation from happening again. That was in September, 2010.

An experienced angler, and director general of the Petit Saguenay River Association (PSRA), Bernier decided that what was needed was a clear and simple teaching tool, something visual that would help anglers learn how to assure the survival of the salmon they were catching and releasing. Also necessary was a commitment from anglers to preserve fish and their habitat, and to practice what they learned about properly catching, handling and releasing a salmon. That's when Bernier came up with the idea of developing a Charter for the protection of wild Atlantic salmon.

To move his idea forward, Bernier called upon five experienced anglers in the area to form the Committee to improve survival of Atlantic salmon in the Petit-Saguenay River (ISASPSR). The committee's mandate was to develop the salmon protection Charter and the educational tool that would help anglers improve their practices. The project has so far received $22,000 from ASCF, since 2012.

The educational tool, which the committee called the Atlantic Salmon Survival Scale, was developed by Bruce Tufts of Queen's University, a recognized expert on how environmental conditions and angling practices affect fish survival. With Tufts' recommendations, the committee developed a poster that shows the recommended amount of time to play a fish relative to the temperature of the water, and proper procedures for handling the salmon when releasing it.

> "We are very proud of our progress…(the Charter) has already had a positive effect on our valuable salmon resource."
>
> Richard Bernier, Director General
> Petit Saguenay River Association

"We have created large, high quality billboards of the poster, which are displayed in eight strategic locations, those considered the best fishing spots on the river," Bernier reports proudly. "We also hire a project coordinator each season, whose job it is to distribute our educational materials, assist and educate anglers on proper catch and release procedures, and raise awareness of our Charter for the protection of wild Atlantic salmon and encourage people to sign it."

The key points of the Charter call upon the signatory to respect the Atlantic Salmon Survival Scale when playing a salmon and to release all salmon, even the grilse, after they are captured; to stop fishing after he/she has caught two salmon; to use fishing tackle that will not harm the fish; to report anglers who do not respect the environment or are not using sustainable angling practices; and to endeavour to educate new anglers about proper procedures, the survival scale and the Charter.

At last count, the Charter already had close to 40 signatories including anglers from as far away as Fredericton and New Hampshire, as well as local businesses and artisans and the managers of other ZECs

"We are very proud of our progress," says Bernier. "The Charter presents a way for resource management and the sport fishery to exist in harmony, respecting the environment and furthering the principles of sustainable development. It has already had a positive effect on our valuable salmon resource."

2014 Project Profiles • NB

Reducing stream sediment through research, hard work and education.

Step by step, in a logical, strategic fashion. That's usually how progress is made, and that is exactly how a group in Tracadie, New Brunswick is proceeding with its plan to improve wild Atlantic salmon habitat in the area.

"Habitat restoration is one of the key projects identified in our 2013-2018 operating plan," explains Joannie Thériault, a biologist with the Big and Small Tracadie Rivers Watersheds Association. Thériault is also coordinator of the Association's three-year project to assess the Seal, Trout, Gaspereau and Thomas tributaries in the Small Tracadie watershed and then develop, and implement, remediation plans for each of them. The project has received a total of $33,900 in funding from ASCF.

This summer, year one of the project, Thériault's team methodically assessed each of the streams, collecting data every 150 metres. Information recorded included the GPS coordinates, a description and a picture of each site, and notes detailing environmental problems or any changes to the stream caused by humans, animals or weather. The condition of the banks (slope, stability, vegetation cover) was also evaluated, and readings of the water's temperature, dissolved oxygen, depth, width, velocity and flow rate were taken. Other observations such as weather conditions, the general appearance of the water, and any other relevant information were also recorded.

Maps of each stream, showing all relevant characteristics, were then produced, and all the information collected was carefully documented and problems prioritized by level of severity and need for repair.

"With that information we were then able to develop a detailed remediation plan for each of the streams," says Thériault. "Years two and three of the project will see those plans implemented and completed. Then we'll be able to measure the success of our work by comparing this summer's data with similar readings taken when the job is done.

"One thing we did know before we started was that sedimentation is a big issue for each of the streams," Thériault adds. "Much of it is due to bank erosion and instability caused by land development, and by ATVs."

Which is why another aspect of the project is public education.

> "It is not enough to restore the fish habitat. It is also important to involve the people in the community to ensure that the habitat is respected and preserved."
>
> Joannie Thériault, Biologist
> Big & Small Tracadie Rivers Watersheds Association

Through public presentations, workshops, pamphlets, newsletters, and visits and field trips with the area's schools, Thériault's team got its message out to over 1500 people. Property owners and ATV operators were asked to complete a questionnaire aimed at measuring how much they knew about erosion and the impact their activities have on the watershed. At the end of the survey there was an invitation to sign a pledge indicating that they would alter their activities to protect the watershed. Some 91 people made the commitment. Landowners agreed to address bank erosion and sediment problems by planting a buffer zone of vegetation between their operations and bordering waterways, while ATV operators signed that they would not drive across streams, thus preventing damage to the banks and all-important gravel beds.

"It is not enough to restore the fish habitat," says Thériault. "It is also important to involve the people in the community to ensure that the habitat is respected and preserved.

"Hopefully, the combination of our remediation work and our ongoing efforts to raise public awareness will pay off with a brighter future for wild Atlantic salmon in the Small Tracadie River watershed."

2014 Project Profiles • NS

The good news from Pictou County.

There's good news in Pictou County when it comes to wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat. For one thing, the preliminary results of a recent water quality study show no signs of dangerous pollutants, no detrimental effects of runoff from farmland and no excess nutrients that could impair conditions for resident salmon and trout.

"We collected 21 water samples from seven rivers and streams over July, August and September and analysed each sample for 25 parameters," reports Roy Parker, treasurer of the Pictou County Rivers Association (PCRA). "We didn't find any contaminants of concern, and the dissolved oxygen, pH, and conductivity levels of the water were quite good. This is encouraging, when you consider the extent of farming, forestry and coal mining in this area over the years."

That said, PCRA's 2014 program, which received $8500 in support from ASCF, did call for some remediation work, habitat improvement and fish passage assessment.

One area of concern was a stretch of river bank along the West River, which had eroded and become damaged after flooding resulting from the September, 2012 tropical storm.

"We brought in about 350 tons of armour stone to shore up some 65 metres of the riverbank," says Parker. The summer students working on the project then planted grass, and would have planted a 25-foot wide buffer of trees had the fall weather conditions not forced them to defer that plan until next spring.

Other activities included the installation of 45 structures (digger logs, deflectors, bank supports, etc.) in Six-Mile Brook, West Branch River John and Marshy Hope Brook, the removal of a debris jam in the West Branch River John, and a survey of culverts with an eye to improving fish passage in the West River and Barney's River watersheds.

> "We collected 21 water samples from seven rivers & streams... We didn't find any contaminants of concern... This is encouraging, when you consider the extent of farming, forestry& coal mining in this area over the years."
>
> Roy Parker, Treasurer
> Pictou County Rivers Associations

"A preliminary survey of the West River Falls was also conducted by our volunteer consultant, Charles MacInnis, assisted by PCRA volunteers," Parker adds. "It was concluded that a project to improve fish passage over the falls would be very complicated, labour intensive, costly and dangerous, so it was recommended that the PCRA not consider undertaking that a project at this time."

Fortunately, salmon in Pictou County's rivers probably won't need whatever habitat may lie beyond those falls, thanks largely to the work PCRA has been doing over the last 20 years.

"Pictou County rivers do support reasonably healthy stocks of Atlantic salmon," Roy Parker admits. "But the fish are still under constant threats from habitat loss and destruction, damage to our streams through severe storms, threats to water quality and illegal fishing activities," he cautions.

That warning goes a long way in explaining why the retired biologist and his fellow PCRA members are so passionate about the numerous activities they organize, from "Fish Friends," which involves all the elementary schools in the area and last June resulted in the release of over 9000 salmon fry in the West River, to their annual remediation and research programs that not only engage and educate many volunteers, but also allow high school, college and university students to literally "get their feet wet" in the field of conservation.

2014 Project Profiles • PEI

On PEI, back to basics hard work improved habitat in Mill River watershed.

Some of the projects funded by ASCF are pretty complicated, involving sample collection and lab analysis, or engineering challenges and heavy equipment. Others, no less important, are the back to the basics, roll up your sleeves and "get `er done" kinds of jobs.

"This time (year two)... we worked on the Diversion Road & the Shaw Road branches of Caruthers's stream... last year, we moved to the Cain's stream & did the same kind of thing. This work has opened up a lot of habitat for salmon in those streams."

Dale Cameron,
Trout Unlimited Canada Prince County Chapter

A three-year project just completed by the Trout Unlimited Canada Prince County Chapter (TUCPCC) is one of the latter. Simply entitled "The Mill River Salmon Enhancement Project," the aim was to improve Atlantic salmon habitat in both Caruthers's and Cain's streams by addressing sediment collection and correcting fish passage issues caused by debris pile-up and beaver impoundments.

"These streams are the two main systems in the Mill River watershed," says Dale Cameron of TUCPCC. "They have some of the densest Atlantic salmon populations found on P.E.I., and are very popular recreational angling locations.

"Initial assessments carried by TUCPCC staff showed that while there are substantial wild salmon runs and good habitat in the Mill River watershed, there are issues in various areas which need to be addressed if this wild stock is to be sustained and improved. That's what we set out to do."

The first year of the project, which received a total of $53,603 in funding from ASCF over the three years, entailed selective debris removal and brush mat installation on the upper reaches of the main branch of Caruthers's stream.

"The reach was badly choked by alders, which were holding silt," Cameron explains. "We removed some of those alders and then used what we cut to construct brush mats to contain the sediment on point bars on the stream."

The team, which included students and seasonal workers, also mapped out the location of beaver dams in the reach and cut trails to the colony sites to facilitate removal of the beavers during the fall trapping season.

"Year two of the project was pretty well the same as year one, except that this time we worked on the Diversion Road and the Shaw Road branches of Caruthers's stream," Cameron reports. "During this last year, 2014, we moved to the Cain's stream and did the same kind of thing.

"This work has opened up a lot of habitat for salmon in those streams," says Cameron. There are still three stream crossings on Cain's that need attention, but they'll have to wait for another time, when funding is available."

Meanwhile, the last three years of remediation work appears to have made a difference. Redd counts for 2012 and 2013 showed improvement, "especially in 2013, which was a really big year."

Unfortunately, the 2014 redd count was interrupted by a torrential rain storm in September, which caused severe flooding, washing out 12 highway bridges and carrying a lot of silt downstream.

"We can only hope that we won't find any extensive damage in the areas that we have been working on," says Cameron.

If they do, it will likely be "back to basics" again at some point, when workers and volunteers dedicated to conservation of the Island's salmon stocks will once more roll up their sleeves and apply the "elbow grease" needed to "get `er done"!

2014 Project Profiles • Interprovincial

Radiating information and making connections with the "Salmon Hub".

Conservation projects for wild Atlantic salmon usually involve hands-on fieldwork in streams or watersheds or on the banks of rivers. Usually. But in the case of one project funded by ASCF this year, all of the work was completed in a small office in the Canadian Rivers Institute (CRI) building at the University of New Brunswick Saint John.

The project entailed building a fully searchable, web-based tool, "The Salmon Hub," that lists best research and practices for conserving wild Atlantic salmon.

"We have discovered that while the many community groups looking to help conserve wild Atlantic salmon lack nothing in terms of enthusiasm, energy and ingenuity, by their own admission they sometimes need guidance in terms of what to do and how to do it to be successful," Stephen Chase, executive director of ASCF, explains.

"The information they're looking for is all out there – research findings, discoveries and experience gathered by the 211 projects ASCF has funded over the past seven years and by projects completed by the other salmon organizations in Atlantic Canada, Quebec and elsewhere," says Chase. "It's a huge amount of knowledge, and knowledge that those community-based organizations would dearly love to access."

That's where CRI's Michelle Gray, grad student Krystal Binns and that small office come in. Binns, who is pursuing a Master's degree in Environmental Management, spent a four-month term of her program as Dr. Gray's research assistant, compiling content for and designing the new "Salmon Hub" portal on the ASCF's website.

"This is a joint venture between CRI and ASCF," says Dr. Gray, who explains that the goal of the project is to create a "go to" resource on everything related to wild Atlantic salmon, from how to assess a stream or restore habitat to the latest in scientific research.

"My work involved several aspects," says Binns. "One part was identifying relevant scientific research that has been done in this region and compiling an easily searchable database. Another part involved identifying best practices for the various techniques used to assess, monitor and restore fish habitats and populations. I also had to come up with a way to present all the information on the ASCF website in a way that could be easily understood and navigated by anyone who accessed it."

> "My work involved… identifying relevant scientific research… compiling an easily searchable database… identifying best practices for the various techniques used… I also had to come up with a way to present all the information on the ASCF website in a way that could be easily understood and navigated by anyone who accessed it."
>
> Krystal Binns, Research Assistant
> Canadian Rivers Institute

The result will be unveiled this spring and in April will be the topic of one of ASCF's popular webinars.

"The Hub will be resident on the ASCF website," says Binns. "There will be a link to it on the CRI's webpage, of course, and we're also asking the many other groups working in salmon and watershed conservation in the region and across the country to include a link to the Hub on their webpages in an effort to make it as accessible to as many people as possible."

As a student in environmental management, Binns recognizes the potential for the Hub and is proud to have been part of its development.

"Wild Atlantic salmon are incredible creatures. With the news that their stocks declined significantly in 2014, we should see a lot more research and many more conservation projects being developed in the near future. Hopefully the Salmon Hub will turn out to be a valuable resource that will help researchers and conservationists turn this trend around."

Future plans are to continue to expand the range of research conservation techniques and salmon conservation information gleaned from sources in Canada and internationally.

Grants & Status

2014 Project Grants

Interprovincial

Project Number: IN-2014-01
Project Recipient: Atlantic Salmon Federation
Project Title: ASF Tracking Research – 2014 Season
Approved Grant Amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $7,500
Summary: The primary goal of this project is to determine the location, timing, and causes of mortality in the freshwater and marine environment. In 2014, ASF is beginning to focus in on estuary zones where high mortalities are occurring. Smolt and kelt from the Miramichi, Restigouche, St. Jean and Grand Cascapedia Rivers will be captured and sonically tagged.

Project Number: IN-2014-02
Project Recipient: Canadian Rivers Institute/University of New Brunswick
Project Title: ASCF FISH GAPS – Fish in Sustainable Habitats - Guidance & Project Support
Approved Grant Amount: $17,000
Funding provided to date: $12,750
Summary: CRI is developing an electronic compendium of best practices and a database of scientific research on Atlantic salmon and its habitat. The ASCF Salmon Hub web portal will summarize scientific research and provide users with a "go-to" web location to find technical guidance and frameworks that have been established and successful in terms of monitoring and restoring fish habitats and populations.

Project Number: IN-2014-03
Project Recipient: Institut national de la recherche scientifique
Project Title: Building a water temperature monitoring network in Canadian Atlantic salmon rivers
Approved Grant Amount: $25,000 *(year 1 of 3)*
Funding provided to date: $18,750
Summary: Atlantic salmon tolerates a relatively narrow range of temperatures. Although temperature is monitored in some rivers, Eastern Canada does not have a structured river water temperature network. This project will establish a network of water temperature monitoring stations with centralized data management relevant for fishery management.

Project Number: IN-2014-04
Project Recipient: Restigouche River Watershed Management Council
Project Title: Characterization of piscivorous birds predation in Restigouche River estuary using bioenergy analysis approach
Approved Grant Amount: $22,000 *(year 1 of 2)*
Funding provided to date: $16,500
Summary: The goal of this project is to characterize smolt's mortality rate in the Restigouche River estuary caused by piscivorous bird predation during spring migration, more particularly

the cormorants of Rock Bonamy colony, by using a bioenergy model approach. This approach makes it possible to define the Atlantic salmon proportion in the cormorants' diet during the smolt's downstream migration.

Project Number: IN-2014-05
Project Recipient: Gespe'gewaq Mi'gmaq Resource Council
Project Title: Fostering Fish Friends
Approved Grant Amount: $11,400
Funding provided to date: $10,729
Summary: Fish Friends is a hands-on, educational program. With the assistance of volunteers, GMRC delivered an educational component to three schools. Students have an opportunity to nurture Atlantic salmon in an aquarium setting from eyed eggs to fry, while also learning about the animal's habitat, lifecycle, freshwater ecology, in addition to stewardship practices. Fry are released into their native waters, the Nepisiguit River.

New Brunswick

Project Number: NB-2014-01
Project Recipient: Association of Grande and Petite Rivière Tracadie Watersheds
Project Title: Evaluation & strategic planning in Petite rivière Tracadie watershed
Approved Grant Amount: $11,300 for 2014 *(year 1 of 3)*
Funding provided to date: $11,300
Summary: This project evaluated watercourses to develop a management plan. As sedimentation has been a significant limiting factor for salmon, the main focus of the plan is the reduction of sediments. Other problem factors in the area were also characterized and a priority list has been developed to control, reduce or eliminate them.

Grants & Status

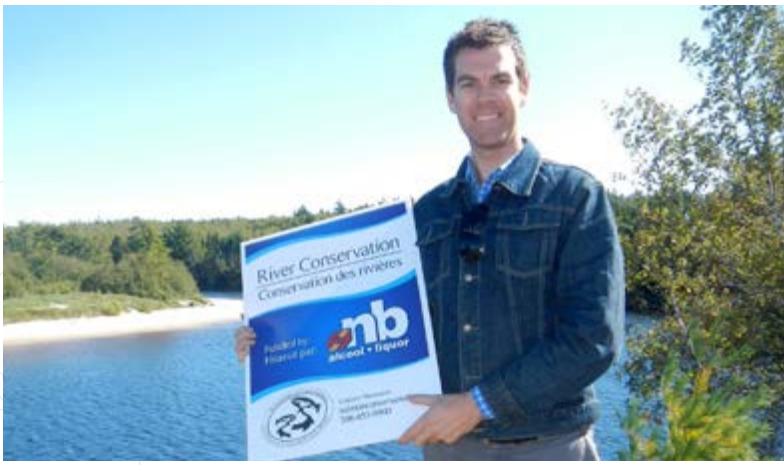
2014 Project Grants

Project Number: NB-2014-02
Project Recipient: Atlantic Salmon Federation
Project Title: Salmon Smolt & Striped Bass Predator/Prey Dynamics
Approved Grant Amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $11,250
Summary: Increased abundance of striped bass, in the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence since the mid 2000s has raised concerns. The project is quantifying spatial and temporal overlap between striped bass and salmon smolt using acoustically tagged fish.

Project Number: NB-2014-03
Project Recipient: Groupe des Bassins Versants de la Baie des Chaleurs
Project Title: Jacquet River Watershed Management Plan
Approved Grant Amount: $17,500
Funding provided to date: $13,125
Summary: This project is focused on the design of a management plan for Jacquet River. Based on studies and on existing reports, the current condition are being assessed and the priorities concerning fish habitat with regards to environmental impacts will be identified. The awareness and education components are being carried on simultaneously with other activities.

Project Number: NB-2014-04
Project Recipient: Restigouche River Watershed Management Council
Project Title: Reduction of the sediment load coming from potato fields in Restigouche River
Approved Grant Amount: $18,000
Funding provided to date: $13,500
Summary: This project is focused on the reduction of the sediment load from potato fields located in the Five Fingers Brook watershed by approximately 150 tons a year. By restoring drainage and ensuring revegetation, the sediment load entering the tributary most severely affected by agriculture in the Restigouche River watershed will be reduced.

Project Number: NB-2014-05
Project Recipient: Restigouche River Watershed Management Council
Project Title: Salmon stocks restoration & education on Little Main Restigouche
Approved Grant Amount: $12,500 for 2014 *(year 1 of 2)*
Funding provided to date: $12,500
Summary: This project will implement a management plan for the Little Main Restigouche watershed. The main goals will include temporary dismantling of targeted beaver dams, reduction of forest roads negative impacts from sedimentation and development of an interpretation trail of Atlantic salmon along Hailes Brook.



Project Number: NB-2014-06
Project Recipient: Eastern Charlotte Waterways Inc.
Project Title: Riparian Restoration on the Magaguadavic River
Approved Grant Amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $3,750
Summary: This project is focusing on the improvement of the ecological function of the lower Magaguadavic River, while increasing the community's freshwater stewardship capacity through an in-class education program. Following an education program, high school students are contributing to tree planting in degraded riparian zones.

Project Number: NB-2014-07
Project Recipient: Eel River Bar First Nation
Project Title: Eel River Recovery Project
Approved Grant Amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $11,250
Summary: The project is focusing on the implementation of the recovery plan for the Eel River and, with the support of the local communities and partners, restoring access of wild Atlantic salmon, releasing fry from the Fish Friends Program, conducting a series of public information meetings and planting trees along the Eel River to restore riparian habitat.

Project Number: NB-2014-08
Project Recipient: Fort Folly First Nation
Project Title: Inner Bay of Fundy Atlantic salmon Recovery & Monitoring on the Pollett and Little Rivers, Petitcodiac River watershed
Approved Grant Amount: $20,000
Funding provided to date: $15,000
Summary: This project is focusing on the restocking and monitoring of inner Bay of Fundy Atlantic salmon within the Little and Pollett Rivers of the Petitcodiac River watershed. Juvenile salmon smolt captured in a rotary screw trap are being reared to adulthood as part of development of a live gene bank.

Grants & Status

2014 Project Grants

Project Number: NB-2014-09
Project Recipient: Friends of the Kouchibouguacis
Project Title: Kouchibouguacis River: 2014-Conservation, restoration &education towards the recovery of the wild Atlantic salmon habitat
Approved Grant Amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $15,000
Summary: This project restored vegetation in riparian areas by planting native trees, shrubs and plants along the main branch of the Kouchibouguacis River. Kiosk sessions were set up to target residents from the surrounding communities and in-class and on-site presentations have been held at the local high school.

Project Number: NB-2014-10
Project Recipient: Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
Project Title: Reducing sediment inputs to improve salmon habitat on Trout Creek
Approved Grant Amount: $12,500
Funding provided to date: $12,500
Summary: A severely eroding bank along Trout Creek was stabilized using a combination of soft and hard armouring techniques. This will reduce stream sedimentation and re-vegetate the bank, providing overhead cover and shade for salmonid species. Follow up and monitoring will consist of regular site visits by KWRC staff.

Project Number: NB-2014-11
Project Recipient: Meduxnekeag River Association Inc.
Project Title: Meduxnekeag Watershed Salmon Habitat Restoration Plan
Approved Grant Amount: $10,000 for 2014 *(year 1 of 2)*
Funding provided to date: $7,500
Summary: MRA is participating in the development of a trans-border salmon habitat restoration plan for the Meduxnekeag watershed, a process being facilitated through a partnership between the US Army Corps of Engineers and the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians. MRA's involvement and support is integral to the long-term potential completing this planning process in other portions of the St. John River Watershed.

Project Number: NB-2014-12
Project Recipient: Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee
Project Title: Bartibog River Salmon Enhancement & Shoreline Stabilization Project
Approved Grant Amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $11,250
Summary: MREAC with the support of the Bartibogue Fish and Game Association is completing fish habitat assessments on the river. We are also allowing headwater access to spawning fish in the fall by breaching a series of inactive beaver dams. A long term solution to a major sedimentation issue on the Kenna Road is also being implemented.

Project Number: NB-2014-13
Project Recipient: Miramichi Salmon Association Inc.
Project Title: Atlantic salmon kelt movement & temperature preferences from the Miramichi River through the Gulf of St. Lawrence using satellite tag technology
Approved Grant Amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000
Summary: The satellite tagging project will reveal movement patterns and mortality locations of kelt. MSA's work has previously demonstrated a high mortality rate in the gulf and the information gained from satellite tags will allow us to accurately locate these areas. Satellite tags also record temperature and depth profiles and can be used to determine how salmon cope with warm water temperatures in the Miramichi River and estuary.

Project Number: NB-2014-14
Project Recipient: Nepisiguit Salmon Association
Project Title: Nepisiguit Salmon Assessment & Enhancement
Approved Grant Amount: $12,000
Funding provided to date: $12,000
Summary: Electroseining, water quality surveys, along with predator and environmental surveys were carried out throughout the project. Minor obstructions to fish passage were removed. Stream survey and spawning surveys to determine egg deposition were carried out in the fall.

Project Number: NB-2014-15
Project Recipient: Partnership for the Integrated Management of Caraquet Bay Watershed
Project Title: Evaluation of watercourses in the watershed
Approved Grant Amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $7,500
Summary: The project is identifying the state of watercourses in the Bay of Caraquet watershed by evaluating the main rivers and brooks. A management plan is being developed to determine the priority watercourses for management and the work that must be accomplished in the coming years.

Project Number: NB-2014-16
Project Recipient: Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance
Project Title: Monitoring & Restoration activities in the Petitcodiac River Watershed
Approved Grant Amount: $20,000 for 2014 *(year 1 of 3)*
Funding provided to date: $15,000
Summary: PWA is monitoring, restoring and enhancing salmon habitat and numbers. The assessment of potential fish passage barriers in the watershed is also being completed. Aquatic connectivity assessments are focusing on culverts on fish bearing streams within the watershed. Restoration plans are being created and some rehabilitation is occuring to restore fish passage

Grants & Status

2014 Project Grants

Project Number: NB-2014-17
Project Recipient: Southeastern Anglers Association Inc.
Project Title: Connect & improve fish habitat restored sites that were established in the Mill Creek & Black River 15 years ago
Approved Grant Amount: $7,500
Funding provided to date: $5,625
Summary: SAA is working to address habitat restoration work on the Mill Creek and Black River. New restoration techniques are helping SAA to improve fish habitat. The principal objective is to link together previous restored sites and create longer sections of healthy fish habitat.

Newfoundland & Labrador

Project Number: NL-2014-01
Project Recipient: Environmental Resources Management Association
Project Title: Exploits River Tributaries Restoration – 2014
Approved Grant Amount: $7,994
Funding provided to date: $7,994
Summary: The remains of old wooden structures and drowned pulpwood have been removed from the streams and placed above the high water mark to prevent re-entry into the streams. Restoration work completed with similar projects has proven that fish populations will utilize this newly restored Habitat. Previous work sites have been be inspected to ensure that conditions are still favourable.

Project Number: NL-2014-02
Project Recipient: Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Project Title: Moccasin Pond Brook enhancement project
Approved Grant Amount: $18,090
Funding provided to date: $13,567
Summary: This project is improving the overall health of the brook, enabling salmon to once again access the headwaters of Moccasin Pond Lake. Blockages have been removed and erosion and velocity control mitigations have been installed. The stream bank is now stabilized with vegetation and rock to control erosion and deepen the stream bed.

Project Number: NL-2014-03
Project Recipient: Memorial University
Project Title: Implementation & evaluation of habitat improvement structures on tributaries of the Salmon River Watershed, Main Brook Newfoundland & Labrador
Approved Grant Amount: $10,625
Funding provided to date: $7,969
Summary: This project is implementing planned restorations procedures for major tributaries of the Salmon River Watershed. The original restoration and monitoring sites are being assessed to determine how long any observed increase in fish abundance is sustained, to determine whether habitat manipulation is cost-effective.

Project Number: NL-2014-04
Project Recipient: Miawpukek First Nation
Project Title: Miawpukek Aquaculture Escapee Monitoring
Approved Grant Amount: $45,691
Funding provided to date: $34,269
Summary: MFN have sampled all salmon that enter Little River to determine if they are of aquaculture origin or are carrying any disease. All salmon of aquaculture origin were immediately removed from the system. Wild salmon have been fin clipped, tagged, and are being used by MFN as part of its continued efforts to enhance the river.

Project Number: NB-2014-05
Project Recipient: Norris Arm & Area Economic Development Committee
Project Title: Rattling Brook Salmon Restoration Project
Approved Grant Amount: $33,000 for 2014 *(year 1 of 2)*
Funding provided to date: $16,500
Summary: This project involves building a fish passage and restoring adult salmon to the Rattling Brook watershed. A total of 800 fish are being transferred in 2014 and 2015. Construction is completed on a downstream fish pass and the upstream fish pass is expected to be completed in time for the upstream migration of grilse and adult salmon in 2014.

Project Number: NL-2014-06
Project Recipient: Nunatsiavut Government
Project Title: Determination of the genetic structure & natal rivers of Atlantic salmon in Lake Melville (Labrador)
Approved Grant Amount: $30,000
Funding provided to date: 22,500
Summary: This project is determining whether salmon in Lake Melville are genetically distinct and if its fishery represent a single stock or mixed stock harvest, identifying important rivers contributing to salmon production, creating training opportunities for NG beneficiaries, and educating the public about the importance of conservation of wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat.

Project Number: NL-2014-07
Project Recipient: Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
Project Title: Rennies River Watershed management Survey & salmon spawning bed enhancement
Approved Grant Amount: $13,250
Funding provided to date: $6,625
Summary: This project is focusing on the restoration of a section of the Rennies River, St. John's adjacent to the Avalon Mall by installing 5 lowhead barriers. Each chamber will be filled with coarse spawning stone. Topsoil is being added and natural grasses and shrubs are being planted to stabilize the banks and stop sediment influx.

Grants & Status

2014 Project Grants

Nova Scotia

Project Number: NS-2014-01
Project Recipient: Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation
Project Title: LaHave River Watershed Project 2014 – Continuation of Management Plan (Year 3 – North Branch, LaHave) & Fish Habitat Restoration Project (West River, LaHave) Watershed
Approved Grant Amount: $12,000
Funding provided to date: $9,000
Summary: The Management Plan is focusing efforts on the North Branch sub-watershed and setting priorities for restoration efforts, identifying degraded habitats, and directing future conservation initiatives. The second component of the project is restoring fish habitat on the West River sub-watershed by installing digger logs and stabilizing banks to improve fish habitat.

Project Number: NS-2014-02
Project Recipient: Cheticamp River Salmon Association
Project Title: Improving fish passage on the lower reach of the Cheticamp River
Approved Grant Amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000
Summary: A series of riffles and runs above and below the Cabot Trail bridge that have become severely over-widened and were creating significant problems for migrating salmon. This project improved fish passage and restored crucial access by installing a series of rock retarding walls intended to narrow and deepen (to pre-impact era) the channel in the over-widened areas.

Project Number: NS-2014-03
Project Recipient: Cobequid Salmon Association
Project Title: Little River Restoration Project
Approved Grant Amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $3,750
Summary: This project is continuing in-stream restoration activities (including construction and repair of structures), mitigating habitat obstructions, planting native trees and grasses, and preparing and delivering presentations and guided walks aimed at local residents and students.

Project Number: NS-2014-04
Project Recipient: Dalhousie University
Project Title: The Gold River Watershed Acid Rain Mitigation Plan: Development of a sub-plan to address the aluminum problem
Approved Grant Amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000
Summary: Ionic aluminium is toxic to Atlantic salmon and is known to be a key cause of population declines. Increases in ionic aluminium are a direct result of acid rain pollution. This project is creating a preliminary map of areas of toxic aluminum and a list of sites that should be avoided for liming within the Gold River Watershed.

Project Number: NS-2014-05
Project Recipient: Habitat Unlimited
Project Title: Continued enhancement of habitat & accessibility in Pomquet West and Right's River watersheds in Antigonish County
Approved Grant Amount: $7,500
Funding provided to date: $3,750
Summary: This project is continuing restoration efforts within three watersheds in Antigonish County. To address issues such as erosion, loss of riparian habitat and debris jams causing poor habitat and obstructions to fish passage, in-stream structures have been installed and debris jams that were obstructions to fish passage were being removed.

Project Number: NS-2014-06
Project Recipient: Pictou County Rivers Association
Project Title: Salmon conservation & stewardship program for Pictou County
Approved Grant Amount: $8,500
Funding provided to date: $6,375
Summary: PCRA is carrying out fish habitat restoration projects in several streams. Fish habitat is being enhanced through the construction of in-stream structures. Water quality is being monitored and two sections of the West River damaged in past floods will be repaired. Fish passage issues at four specific problem locations are also being assessed.

Project Number: NS-2014-07
Project Recipient: St. Mary's River Association
Project Title: Salmon Habitat Enhancement
Approved Grant Amount: $25,000
Funding provided to date: $18,750
Summary: This project is addressing issues identified in the Salmon Recovery Strategy completed in 2013. Years of erosion have caused sections of the main river stems to become wide and shallow. This project is tackling the design work including sites to be addressed, type and design of structure required, and implementation on one or two small sections of the river.

Prince Edward Island

Project Number: PEI-2012-01
Project Recipient: Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Project Title: Restoration of Spawning & Rearing Habitat Including Accessibility for Atlantic Salmon in the West (Eliot) River Watershed
Approved Grant Amount: $19,000 for 2014 *(year 3 of 3)*
Funding provided to date: $14,250
Summary: CQWF is taking a multi-pronged approach to watershed management. They are engaging in regional planning, community involvement, riparian reforestation and stream restoration work. These activities have shown direct positive results on Atlantic salmon habitat based on redd survey data.

Grants & Status

2014 Project Grants

Project Number: PEI-2012-02
Project Recipient: Morell River Management Coop
Project Title: Restoration of the Atlantic Salmon Population of the watersheds of Kings County, PEI
Approved Grant Amount: $6,000 for 2014 *(year 3 of 3)*
Funding provided to date: $4,500
Summary: MRMC is working to protect water quality, restore and enhance trout and salmon habitat, enhance habitat conditions for spawning salmon and improve the population base of the existing salmon population. The support and cooperative of partners such as landowners, governments and non-government organizations is contributing to the realization of these objectives.

Project Number: PEI-2012-03
Project Recipient: Souris & Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Project Title: Restoration of the Atlantic Salmon Population of Bristol Creek, Kings County PEI
Approved Grant Amount: $20,000 for 2014 *(year 3 of 3)*
Funding provided to date: $15,000
Summary: This project is working to restore wilderness rivers within local watersheds (particularly in the Naufrage and Hay Rivers), increase the amount of available habitat to facilitate spawning, rearing and foraging, determine parr densities by electrofishing and ensure unimpeded fish passage.

Project Number: PEI-2012-04
Project Recipient: Trout Unlimited Prince County Chapter
Project Title: Mill River Salmon Enhancement Project
Approved Grant Amount: $18,000 *(year 3 of 3)*
Funding provided to date: $13,500
Summary: TUCPCC is working to improve Atlantic salmon habitat in both Caruthers' and Cain's streams by addressing sediment issues and correcting fish passage issues caused by three inadequate stream crossings and beaver impoundments. Redd surveys are also being performed.

Project Number: PEI-2014-01
Project Recipient: Morell River Management Coop
Project Title: Morell Salmon Habitat Reclamation
Approved Grant Amount: $15,000 for 2014 *(year 1 of 2)*
Funding provided to date: $11,250
Summary: The main focus of this project is to reclaim and repair spawning habitat that has been lost due to habitat degradation from human and beaver activity. Habitat degradation has caused both physical and thermal barriers to migrating fish. Work is focusing on improving habitat to regain the spawning gravel and increasing the quantity of cold-water input.

Project Number: PEI-2014-02
Project Recipient: Richmond Bay Watershed Association
Project Title: Grassroots Conservation in Action Project "Phase Two"
Approved Grant Amount: $7,107
Funding provided to date: $7,107
Summary: Native tree species and shrubs were planted along stream banks and expanded buffer zones. In-stream restoration activities were carried out to improve in-stream habitats and habitat diversity. Restoration work includes construction of brush mat, maintenance of sediment basins, stream bank armouring, and the addition of in-stream rock groupings and woody structures.

Québec

Project Number: QC-2012-04
Project Recipient: Association des pêcheurs sportifs de la Bonaventure
Project Title: Operation of a summer camp for youth (12-15 years-old) on the Bonaventure River
Approved Grant Amount: $2,200 *(year 2 of 3)*
Funding provided to date: $2,200
Summary: The Association des pêcheurs sportifs de la Bonaventure (APSB) held a summer camp for youth in mid-August. The main goal of this project is to promote youth education through information and awareness on the importance of Atlantic salmon and its habitats through fly-fishing learning opportunities.

Project Number: QC-2014-01
Project Recipient: Agence Mamu Innu Kaikusseht
Project Title: Participatory management of Atlantic salmon by the North Shore Innu communities
Approved Grant Amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000
Summary: The project has four specific objectives:

i) facilitate the development and implementation of aboriginal management models for Atlantic salmon, to reduce threats related to fishing and habitat degradation

ii) encourage CTA integration

iii) create an aboriginal round table on Atlantic salmon; and

iv) provide expertise-sharing opportunities between communities.

Grants & Status

2014 Project Grants

Project Number: QC-2014-03
Project Recipient: Association de la rivière Petit-Saguenay
Project Title: Promote awareness of Atlantic salmon conservation by promoting the Atlantic salmon protection charter: Phase 2 of the ATSSA project
Approved Grant Amount: $6,000
Funding provided to date: $6,000
Summary: The ARPS is working toward the renewal of its ATSSA program. This program educates and increases the awareness of salmon fishermen about the appropriate release technique and implements an Atlantic salmon protection charter. To understand all the impacts of the Charter, data is being compiled. In addition, awareness initiatives for participants are necessary.

Project Number: QC-2014-04
Project Recipient: Association De Protection De La Rivière Moisie
Project Title: Katchapahun fish way enhancement project on Moisie River by increasing water input during minimum flow
Approved Grant Amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000
Summary: This project improved the fish way operational margin, increasing the duration of the structure operational period and increasing the number of spawners migrating upstream. It will ensure an optimal use of the best available spawning grounds and habitats in the upstream area thereby increasing salmon productivity in Moisie River.

Project Number: QC-2014-05
Project Recipient: Conseil des Innus de Pessamit
Project Title: Salmon conservation plan in Betsiamites River
Approved Grant Amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $3,750
Summary: The goal of this project is to develop an Atlantic salmon conservation plan for the Bestsiamites River. Resource users and managers are represented within the plan working group. The plan is addressing the values of all stakeholders, identify important habitats, assess the population durability based on demographic, ecological and genetic factors.

Project Number: QC-2014-06
Project Recipient: Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier
Project Title: Study on the monitoring of smolt downstream migration of Atlantic salmon populations (Salmo salar) in Jacques-Cartier River
Approved Grant Amount: $15,000 *(year 1 of 3)*
Funding provided to date: $11,250
Summary: The focus of this project is to study the downstream migration of smolt in Jacques-Cartier River. A count was conducted during smolt out-migration to determine how many used the bypass of the hydroelectric system. These data will be used to assess the climate change impacts on juvenile salmon survival rate.

Project Number: QC-2014-07
Project Recipient: Institut national de la recherche scientifique
Project Title: Inventory & prioritization of culverts to enhance the connectivity of salmon rivers habitat of Quebec
Approved Grant Amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $7,500
Summary: Some culverts can be hard to cross for young salmon, creating barriers to dispersal. This project is assessing culverts by inventorying them, developing a classification scheme specific to young salmon, and prioritizing them. The accessible upstream habitat can then be determined, allowing for the development of possible management options and cost/benefit analysis.

Project Number: QC-2014-08
Project Recipient: Saumon de la rivière Malbaie
Project Title: Inventory of salmon spawning areas
Approved Grant Amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000
Summary: This project is working to locate and characterize potential salmon reproduction sites in Malbaie River, collect GIS data and prepare a report. This information will contribute to the production of thematic maps and effective management of the resource including direct conservation actions or planned interventions to improve the river salmon productivity.

Project Number: QC-2014-09
Project Recipient: Société de gestion de la rivière Madeleine
Project Title: Implementation of structures to allow salmon migration on Madeleine River
Approved Grant Amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $11,250
Summary: The project focused on repairs to the last basin of the fish way, where salmon enter. The goal is to provide additional flow to make the total flow in the fish way more attractive for salmon. A break under the fishway had also created a ditch in the underground gravel under the fish way. This project is working to repair and maintain this fish way in good working order.

Project Number: QC-2014-10
Project Recipient: Société de gestion des rivières de Gaspé
Project Title: Demolishment of St-Jean River ice jam
Approved Grant Amount: $30,000
Funding provided to date: $15,000
Summary: The wood accumulation in the south channel of St-Jean River estuary has greatly affected the free circulation of Atlantic salmon during upstream migration. To provide Atlantic salmon access to its reproduction habitat and to maintain the St-Jean river population, the SGRG is working to remove high density jam segments.

Summary of Project Audits

Summary of Project Audits and Evaluations

In 2014 random audits of 14 projects were conducted. The audit process follows a structured method of assessing whether the project is being carried-out in accordance with the funding agreement entered into between the Foundation and the recipient, including site visits and an examination of minutes of meetings and accounting records. This supplements the assessment of performance completed by staff through review of the draft funding agreement, interim and final reports received from recipients.

Note: Project audits are not conducted on every project each year. This is due to limited staff resources being available or that the same recipient group had recently undergone a project audit.

In 2014 the following recipient groups were audited for performance:

New Brunswick Projects

NB-2014-01a	Association des Bassins Versants de la Grande et Petite Rivière Tracadie Inc.
NB-2014-03	Groupe des Bassins Versants de la Baie des Chaleurs
NB-2014-06	Eastern Charlotte Waterways Inc.
NB-2014-09	Les ami(e)s de la Kouchibouguacis
NB-2014-12	Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee
NB-2014-10	Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
NB-2014-16a	Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance
NB-2014-15	Partenariat pour la gestion intégrée du bassin versant de la baie de Caraquet Inc.

Nova Scotia Projects

NS-2014-03	Cobequid Salmon Association
NS-2014-04	Dalhousie University

Quebec Projects

QC-2014-03	Association de la rivière Petit-Saguenay
QC-2014-06a	Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier
QC-2014-07	Institut national de la recherche scientifique
QC-2014-08	Saumon de la rivière Malbaie

MacMillan Lawrence & Lawrence

Chartered Accountants

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements

To the Directors of The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation

The accompanying Summary financial statements, which comprise the Summary statement of financial position as at December 31, 2014, the Summary statements of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements of The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation for the year ended December 31, 2014. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated April 10, 2014.

The Summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the Summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of a Summary of the audited financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements".

Opinion

In our opinion, the Summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation for the year ended December 31, 2014 are a fair Summary of those financial statements, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Fredericton, NB
April 10, 2014

Chartered Accountants

Reports & Statements

Statement of Financial Position

	December 31, 2014	December 31, 2013
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 200,515	$ 140,667
Receivables	30,488	14,258
Inventory	-	1,116
Prepaids	852	852
	231,855	156,893
Investments, stated at value	35,704,624	31,361,992
	$ 35,936,479	$ 31,518,885
Liabilities		
Current		
Payables and accruals	$ 181,925	$ 207,429
Net Assets		
General Fund – Unrestricted	-	-
Reserve Fund – Internally Restricted	147,300	125,242
Endowment Fund – Externally Restricted	35,449,066	31,094,291
ANBL – Externally Restricted	136,588	71,377
PEILCC – Externally Restricted	21,600	20,546
	35,754,554	31,311,456
	$ 35,936,479	$ 31,518,885

Approved on behalf of the Board:

Director

Director

Reports & Statements

Statement of Operations and Change in Net Assets

Year ended December 31,	2014	2013
Revenue	$ 5,342,181	$ 3,106,457
Expenses		
Administration	322,775	269,007
Grants	410,070	329,600
Investment management fees	166,238	155,144
	899,083	753,751
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	$ 4,443,098	$ 2,352,706
Net assets, beginning of year	$ 31,311,456	$ 28,958,750
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	4,443,098	2,352,706
Net assets, end of year	$ 35,754,554	$ 31,311,456

Statement of Remuneration:

Statement of Remuneration: For the 2014 Fiscal Year total remuneration paid to one Foundation employee whose remuneration exceeds $100,000 per year was $145,426.84 consisting of the following: Salary = $117,658; fees = $0; travel expenses = $12,429.66; CPP = $2425.50; EI = $913.68, allowances $0; and, benefits = $12,000.00)

ASCF Volunteers & Personnel

Officers, Directors & Board Committees

Officers

Honourable Rémi Bujold, P.C., C.M. · *Chairman & President* · Québec QC
Robert Bishop, C.A. · *Vice-Chairman & Vice-President* · St. John's, NL
Paul D. Michael, Q.C. · *Secretary* · Stratford PEI
Joan Marie Aylward · *Treasurer* · St. John's, NL

Directors

James Lawley · Halifax, NS
John LeBoutillier · Montréal, QC
Denis Losier · Moncton, NB
Katharine Mott · Stewiacke, NS
Chief David Peter Paul · Pabineau First Nation, NB

L-R: Joan Marie Aylward; Robert Bishop; Denis Losier; Rémi Bujold; Jim Lawley; Katharine Mott; John LeBoutillier; Paul Michael.
Missing from photo: Chief David Peter-Paul.

Board Committees

Investment:
J. LeBoutillier
D. Losier
R. Bishop (Chair)

Audit & Finance:
J.M. Aylward (Chair)
R. Bishop
R. Bujold

Policy & Program:
P. Michael (Chair)
D. Losier
K. Mott

Development Committee
D. Losier
R. Bujold
J. Lawley
D. Peter-Paul

Staff

Stephen Chase, Executive Director
Darla Saunders, Conservation Program Coordinator

ASCF Volunteers

Advisory Committees

1. Central Advisory Committee

Dave Reddin, François Caron, Peter Cronin, John Bagnall, Jeff Hutchings & Larry Felt (Chair). *Missing from photo:* Victoria LaBillois

2. New Brunswick Advisory Committee

John Pugh, Fernand Savoie, Kathryn Collet, Michelle Gray, Tom Callaghan & Jim Marriner. *Missing from photo:* Robert Chiasson (Chair)

3. Nova Scotia Advisory Committee

Kris Hunter, Scott Cook (Chair), Alan McNeill, Jim Gourlay, Carl Purcell, Shane O'Neil & Charles MacInnes. *Missing from photo:* Kerry Prosper

4. Newfoundland & Labrador Advisory Committee

Robert Perry, Dr. Donald Downer, Thomas E. Bursey, Keith Piercey, Fred Parsons (Chair), Dave Reddin, Ross Hinks & Chief Calvin Francis.

5. Prince Edward Island Advisory Committee

Leaming Murphy, Chris Mills, Dale Cameron, Rosanne MacFarlane (Chair) & Walter McEwen. *Missing from photo:* Steve Cheverie, Allan Ledgerwood & Randy Angus.

6. Comité consultatif provincial du Québec

Patrick Plante, André St-Hilaire, Stan Georges (Chair), Jean Malec, René Lafond & Serge Tremblay. *Missing from photo:* Claude Théberge & Michel Damphousse.

2014 Volunteer Profiles

Meet a few of ASCF's stellar volunteers, who are crucial to realizing ASCF's work for Atlantic Salmon conservation.

Kathryn Collet

Meet Kathryn Collet, a member of the NB Advisory Committee.

Collet is a fisheries biologist with the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources. She started with the department in 1989 working on fish habitat improvement projects; much of her career to date has been focused on fish habitat protection and enhancement.

"From a personal perspective, I certainly enjoy the opportunity to do some local fishing with my husband and children," said Collet. "And I love New Brunswick's rivers. I have lived near the Saint John River my whole life; it's been a constant for me. And there is no better example of why we need to work so hard to understand and reverse the declines in Atlantic salmon populations."

Collet has been on the NB Technical Advisory Committee since the beginning.

"Over the years I've seen a lot of project successes and failures, restoration techniques fall in and out of favor, groups and volunteers come and go, government support given and taken away, monies well spent and not, and good intentions sometimes thwarted."

Collet's favorite expression in relation to the habitat business is 'random acts of restoration.'

"That's why I like the approach of the ASCF and NB's priorities because it requires that the actions on the ground fit within a greater objective and plan; that there is priority setting and meaningful and objective measures. It's important to understand the underlying cause(s) of a problem rather than simply treating random symptoms."

"The 2015 year should be particularly exciting with the significant increase in funds that will be available. For inspiration, people need only look at the website and see the projects that are on going and have already been undertaken across Atlantic Canada. I would also encourage groups to talk to each other, to synergize, and to share lessons learned."

Don Downer

Meet Don Downer, a member of the NL Advisory Committee.

Downer became involved with the ASCF roughly six years ago. He said he got involved because of his background in biology – a BSc with a biology major; a MSc in marine biology with research on inshore intertidal zone marine invertebrates.

"A small group of us started ACRE (Aquatic Centre for Research and Education) that focused on preserving the natural habitat of Atlantic salmon, restoring Hughes Brook here on the north shore of the Bay of Islands, and training and educating young local people in freshwater habitat and stock preservation and restoration."

Downer said at the time he was approached to join the efforts of the ASCF he was working as a professor at Sir Wilfred Grenfell College (Memorial University of Newfoundland) in Environmental Science. He also began, and ran, the Grenfell Research Office.

"I saw this as a continuation of my interests and an opportunity to make a contribution to the community at large. The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation is doing good work in funding Atlantic salmon and habitat projects that otherwise would not have been funded."

"This is not a particularly onerous volunteer service – it does not take a great amount of time and the returns are enormous. I would encourage anyone with an interest to get involved."

"The original federal contribution of $30 million was tax money well spent. Unfortunately, the first few years were doldrums financially in Canada and worldwide; we seem now to have weathered it and we are moving into being able to contribute significantly more money to worthy projects."

2014 Volunteer Profiles

Meet a few of ASCF's stellar volunteers, who are crucial to realizing ASCF's work for Atlantic Salmon conservation.

Jim Gourlay

Meet Jim Gourlay, a member of the NS Advisory Committee.

Gourlay is a career journalist with a background in both newspapers and magazines. He is currently president of Saltscapes Publishing Limited. Gourlay is also the former editor-in-chief of Atlantic Salmon Journal, past president of the Nova Scotia Salmon Association, and a recipient of the Nova Scotia Lieutenant-Governor's Salmon Conservation Award.

Gourlay first became involved with the ASCF three years ago after the executive director invited him to become a member.

"I have worked on behalf of wild Atlantic salmon conservation my whole adult life," said Gourlay.

"Sadly, to a large extent governments, both provincial and federal, have failed to mitigate the numerous threats and effectively manage wild Atlantic salmon. The ASCF funding represents one of the few areas of direct government initiative. The job of conservation and restoration has therefore fallen heavily to the private sector; in this instance volunteer groups. It's important work on behalf of an important species that is in very serious trouble."

René Lafond

Meet René Lafond, the new chair of the QC Advisory Committee.

Lafond is a biologist and retired as the Director of Wildlife for the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine Region in 2012.

"From a young age, I was fishing for speckled trout on a small river that ran past the house and I accompanied my father on his hunting activities," said Lafond. "When I had to choose a profession, biology had become a natural choice. Serving the Government of Quebec during my career as a biologist and then as a manager, I had the good fortune to finish it in the wonderful region of Gaspésie where the salmon is one of the main wildlife resources."

Lafond was appointed to the Quebec Advisory Committee shortly after the establishment of the ASCF.

"I enthusiastically agreed to continue my involvement as a volunteer at the time of my retirement. I consider my appointment as Chair as a sign of confidence on the part of committee members."

Lafond notes that in Quebec most salmon rivers are managed by local organizations.

"In my previous role as a wildlife manager, I saw firsthand the dedication of these organizations to play a proactive role in the conservation of this precious, but vulnerable, resource. The direct financial involvement of governments in supporting some aspects of wildlife management are constantly decreasing, the ASCF has proved to be an unexpected financial tool to help these organizations"

Lafond said it is important that the ASCF maintains its financial support to smaller organizations that are well established and well placed regionally, particularly in Quebec, to manage fisheries on salmon rivers.

"Commitment to the ASCF is a way to contribute personally to the preservation of the unique resource that is the Atlantic salmon and its habitat."

Denis Losier

Meet Denis Losier, a member of the ASCF board of directors.

Losier is currently enjoying retirement; he was involved in politics for eights years, then he ran Assumption Life for 19 years. Before that he was with the federal government and was posted in Paris at the Canadian Embassy.

He said his interest in salmon fishing started when he was in politics.

"I used to host people at the government lodge on the Restigouche," he said. "But I never got really into it then because I had to entertain more than fish. But after I left I decided that I would do much more fishing than hosting."

Losier became a board member not long after the creation of the ASCF.

"In conservation, looking at what was happening in terms of numbers of fish coming up the different rivers, I thought the foundation was a good way to help with the money that they had to promote conservation and help fund some of the projects that could help rehabilitate and clean up some of the rivers, and at the same time educate people how important some of these rivers are for the environment."

2014 Volunteer Profiles

Meet a few of ASCF's stellar volunteers, who are crucial to realizing ASCF's work for Atlantic Salmon conservation.

Losier said he's seen the ASCF make a difference over the years.

"In the number of projects, the number of communities involved, the number of partners we now have; we don't have to be the sole funder of these projects. We're always looking for partners. It's really interesting now that we have a little more money to disperse we're finding more and more partners all over the place. Some of the rivers that were counted as dead are now being considered for some of the projects because there is still some potential to increase the number of fish. It's interesting to see the enthusiasm of the all the volunteers involved in the different communities and different projects; it's quite exciting."

Walter McEwen

Meet Walter McEwen, a member of the PEI Advisory Committee.

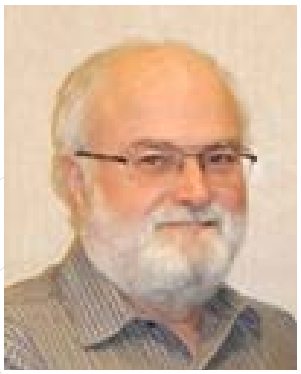
McEwen is retired from law after a 40-year career practicing in Summerside, PEI. During that time he served a term as president of the PEI Law Society.

"My past life included involvement in various community organizations and also politics," said McEwen. "I am a past president of the PEI Liberal Party and served as a MLA and cabinet minister under Premiers Ghiz and Callbeck."

McEwen got involved with the ASCF shortly after it was established.

"I was, and still am, a member of ASF and MSA. I have been a recreational fisher on PEI for most of my life, but only started pursuing Atlantic salmon the past 12 to 13 years. I have fished the SW Miramichi for the past several years. I was already involved in TUC and the PEI Rec. Fisheries Advisory Committee, so it was an easy jump to ASCF."

"I continue to be deeply concerned and interested in our environment, the health of our rivers and streams, trout and salmon. I believe healthy rivers, streams, and healthy fish populations are a sign of a healthy environment for all creatures. ASCF and community volunteers play a critical role in establishing and maintaining that healthy environment."



Dave Reddin

Meet Dave Reddin, a member of the Central Advisory Committee and NL Advisory Committee.

Reddin is a retired Fisheries & Oceans research scientist and is currently a Scientist Emeritus with Fisheries & Oceans. He lives in a small community just outside of St. John's. In addition to ASCF, Reddin does volunteer work for the St. John's Rod and Gun Club and the Mini-Aquarium in Petty Harbour. He also does consulting work on salmonids for the Nunatsiavut Government in Labrador.

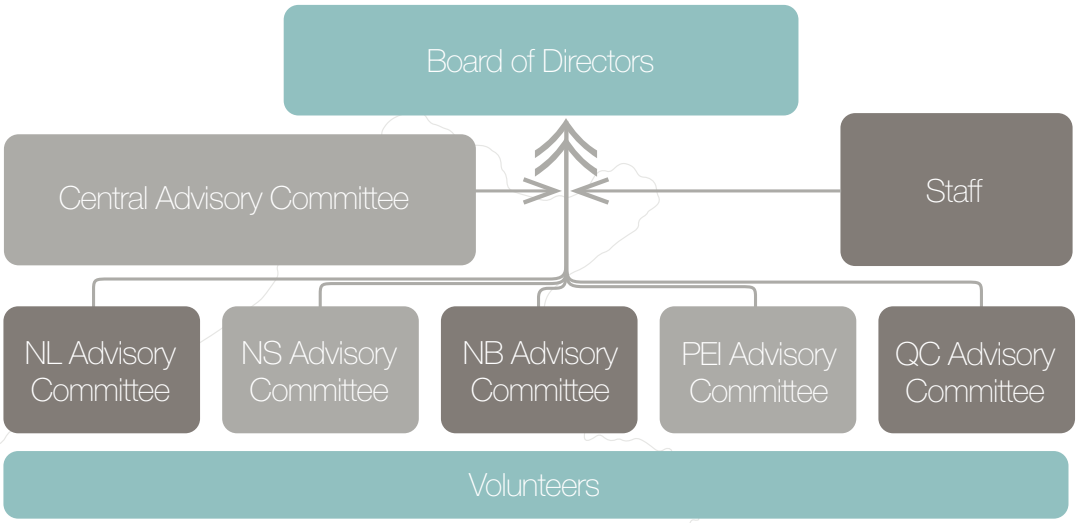
Reddin joined the NL Advisory Committee in 2008 and has been a member of the CAC for about four years.

"Since I spent 35 years studying Atlantic salmon for Fisheries & Oceans Canada, the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation seemed like a good fit for me," said Reddin. "I am interested in Atlantic salmon conservation and in working with local groups to increase habitat and salmon populations."

"There are lots of good reasons to stay involved with ASCF including intellectual stimulation, helping out to save a wonderful species, and working with others with similar interests. ASCF is the one organization that can provide funding for public groups to become involved in salmon conservation," said Reddin.

"For anyone interested in wildlife, the ASCF is doing important work towards preserving this stellar species for future generations. So why not get involved?"

ASCF Structural Model



Conservation Partners

The 2014 List of Our Conservation Partners

Agence Mamu Innu Kaikusseht
Alaqsite'w Gitpu School
Army Corps of Engineers
Association de la rivière Petit-Saguenay
Association de protection de la rivière Moisie
Association des Pêcheurs Sportifs de la Bonaventure
Association of Grande & Petite Rivière Tracadie Watersheds
Atlantic Canada Fish Farmers Association
Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
Atlantic Salmon Federation
Bartibog Fish & Game Association
Belledune Regional Environment Association
Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation
Caisse Populaire Quatre-Vents
Camp de la Haute Madeleine
Canadian Forestry Service
Canadian Rivers Institute
Cascapedia Society
CCNL Internship Program
Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Centre Interuniversitaire de Recherche sur le Saumon Atlantique
Centre local de développement de Québec
Charlo Salmonid Enhancement Centre
Cheticamp River Salmon Association
Clean Annapolis River Project
Cobequid Salmon Association
Collège de technologie forestière
Conseil de Gestion du Bassin Versant de la rivière Restigouche
Conseil de la nation Innu de Nutashkuan
Conseil des Innus d'Ekuanitshit
Conseil des Innus d'Essipit
Conseil des Innus d'Unamen Shipu
Conseil des Innus de Pakua Shipu
Conseil des Innus de Pessamit
Conseil Innu Takuaikan Uashat mak Mani-Utenam
Conservation Corps Newfoundland & Labrador
Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier
Craig Construction & Cabinet Making
Dalhousie University
Department of Fisheries & Oceans
Dhachaidh
Eastern Charlotte Waterways Inc.
Eel River Bar First Nation
Elsipogtog First Nation
Environment Canada
Environmental Resources Management Association
Fédération des gestionnaires de rivières à saumon du Québec
Fédération québécoise pour le saumon atlantique
Fondation de la faune du Québec
Fondation pour le saumon du grand Gaspé
Fort Folly First Nation
Friends of the Kouchibouguacis
Fundy High School
Fundy National Park

Conservation Partners

The 2014 List of Our Conservation Partners

Gesgapegiag First Nations
Gespe'gewaq Mi'gmaq Resource Council
Groupe des Bassins Versants de la Baie des Chaleurs
Habitat Unlimited
Houlton Band of Maliseets
Hydro-Québec
Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Institut du développement durable des Premières Nations du Québec et du Labrador
Institut national de la recherche scientifique
JD Irving Ltd.
Kedgwick Lodge
Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
Labrador Institute of Memorial University
LaHave River Salmon Association
Listuguj First Nations
Maine Department of Fish & Wildlife
Maliseet Nation Conservation Council
Meduxnekeag River Association Inc.
Memorial University
Metepenagiag First Nation
Mgr. Marcel-François Richard School
Miawpukek First Nation
Mi'kmaq Alsumk Mowimsikik Koqoey Association
Ministère du développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques
Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee
Miramichi Salmon Association Inc.
Morell Consolidated School
Morell River Management Coop
Morell Rural High School
Municipalité de Petit-Saguenay
Municipalité régionale de comté de La Côte-de-Gaspé
Municipality of the County of Colchester
Nalcor Energy
Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council
NB Department of Agriculture & Aquaculture
NB Department of Natural Resources
NB Department of Supply & Services
NB Dept. of Post-Secondary Education, Training & Labour (SEED)
NB Environmental Trust Fund
NB Wildlife Trust Fund
Nepisiguit Salmon Association
New Brunswick Community College
Newfoundland Aquaculture Industry Association
Newfoundland Power
NL Department of Department of Natural Resources
NL Department of Tourism, Culture & Recreation
Norris Arm & Area Economic Development Committee
North Shore Micmac District Council
Nova Scotia Power
NS Department of Environment
NS Youth Conservation Corps
NSLC Adopt-A-Stream Program
Nunatsiavut Government
Ocean Tracking Network
Organisme de bassins versants de la Haute-Côte-Nord
Pabineau First Nation
Parc nature de Pointe-aux-Outardes
Parish Geomorphic Ltd.
Parks Canada
Partenariat pour la gestion intégrée du bassin versant de la baie de Caraquet Inc.
PEI Department of Agriculture & Forestry
PEI Department of Environment, Labour & Justice
PEI Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture & Rural Development
PEI Department of Transportation & Infrastructure Renewal
Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance
Pictou County Rivers Association
Restigouche River Watershed Management Council
Richmond Bay Watershed Association
RSP Hydro
Sage Environmental Program
Salmonid Preservation Association of NL
Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
Saumon de la rivière Malbaie
Secrétariat aux affaires autochtones (QC)
Service Canada (Canada Summer Jobs)
Sir James Dunn Academy
Société de gestion de la rivière Madeleine
Société de gestion des rivières de Gaspé
Société de restauration du saumon de la rivière Betsiamites
Souris & Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Southeastern Anglers Association Inc.
St. Francis Xavier University
St. Mary's River Association
St. Stephen High School
Stantec Consulting
Sussex Fish & Game
TD Friends of the Environment
Terry Fox Elementary School
The Nature Conservancy
Torngat Secretariat
Town of Beresford
Town of Lunenburg
Trout Unlimited Prince County Chapter
Unité régionale loisir et du sport dans la région Gaspésie
Universal Helicopters Newfoundland
University of New Brunswick
Vale Inco
Village of Nigadoo
Village of Petitcodiac
Ville de Gaspé
Wambolt Video Production Team
White Bay Central Development Association
Wood Buffalo Environmental Association
Xstrata Zinc
YMCA