The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Investing in a partnership of knowledge.

How time flies when good things are happening. The year we are reviewing, 2017, was our eleventh year in helping improve the conservation of wild Atlantic salmon. As in past years, it was another exceptional year with numerous community groups, First Nations, researchers and others achieving new gains in conservation across Atlantic Canada and Quebec.

We are proud of our record in helping facilitate and improve the conservation status of wild Atlantic salmon in Canada. To back this up, we listen carefully to our expert advisory committee and recipient groups to strengthen and improve our granting, information sharing and administrative processes. And, we are a unique in our open, transparent and effective approach to doing business leading to the best use of the limited conservation funding we are entrusted as a foundation to distribute to worthy initiatives.

2017 was the fourth year in which our Foundation made available over $1 million in grant funding. As I have said before, our goal from the outset was to grant $1 million dollars to salmon conservation initiatives, and this goal remains firmly grounded in our long-term financial plan. Fortunately, 2017 was accompanied by continued solid growth in our trust fund which we attribute to strong investment management and solid fiscal planning. We do, however, maintain the long-term goal of increasing the overall grant pool from both growth in the trust fund, and additional sources of funding that may become available to us. Our record over eleven years of progress guarantees a wise investment of conservation funding.

Throughout 2017 we continued to forge new partnerships, while elevating the standard of the projects we help support. It is very safe to say that, over time, since our first grants in 2008, the quality of funding submissions we receive has increased significantly. Raising the "quality bar" has helped improve conservation action, but it has also led to having to turn down many a worthy request for project funding.

We are proud to be a partnership-based conservation organization. The forging and nurturing of strong partnerships underpins the success in the conservation gains we help achieve. I wish to stress that we help achieve improved salmon conservation. We do this through our partner recipient groups, who are actually "moving the conservation markers" toward healthier salmon populations.

Partnership is central to our business approach, whereby the contribution of diverse individuals is brought together and focussed to help achieve greater conservation results. These are genuine joint ventures through which many individual contributions of First Nations, municipalities and community groups become focussed help increase the prospect of conservation success.

"The future depends on what you do today."
- Mahatma Ghandi

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

Most importantly, however, our greatest pool of partners is represented on the six expert advisory committees that guide the quality of projects we help support. We are fortunate to have the "best of the best" in the salmon world dedicate their time to this Foundation. So too, is the partnership among our highly skilled Board of Directors who guide the Foundation's policies and oversee the direction of the Foundation. Together, these 60 or more expert volunteers are the reason we are succeeding in our conservation mission.

I remain deeply appreciative of the exceptional work of our highly skilled staff. Our staff, Darla, Krystal, Allyson and Stephen provide the leadership and good management to the Foundation that allows our policy and program to grow and innovate. Above all they are the main for our strong relationships with so many stakeholders.

Together, we are a great team. Expert volunteers, good recipients, a competent staff, and corporate supporters, like the NB Liquor Corporation, working together to help fulfil our mutually-shared goal of conserving and enhancing wild Atlantic salmon in Canada.

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.

In 2017 the Foundation again experienced solid growth in the demand for salmon conservation project funding across each of the five provinces served by The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation. It's a very positive development that the number of project proposals, quality of those proposal and the demand for funding increased everywhere. The challenge, however, is how to meet this clear and very solid demand, or need, for project funding.

The Foundation and its recipient groups have come a long way since we opened our doors in 2007. The crash in world money markets that followed shortly after our launch severely limited the amount of funding the Foundation was able to distribute to conservation groups, First Nations and others. Early on, as well, it was easier to respond to the demand for project funding with significantly fewer funding proposals and only limited funds to dispense.

In the interim, however, the Foundation has become much better known as a reliable granting entity and true partner of conservation groups. Each day we actively pursue our mantra of "facilitating, not frustrating" the efforts of our conservation group partners. At the same time, we also pursue our work with a high degree of rigour in project approvals and in project oversight. I believe this way of managing this exceptional organization has contributed to the success of our project partner recipients and our success.

There are two factors I wish to stress as we manage the Foundation's grant funding program. First, it has become increasingly challenging to respond to the increased demand for project funding. On the plus side, we are fortunate to receive an increasing number of good quality submissions. On the down side, we also estimate that we are able to fund approximately 50 percent of those submissions.

Secondly, we know quite clearly that there are limited numbers of committed volunteers ready to pursue salmon conservation at the local level. This places a crucial limit on Canada's capacity to improve salmon conservation situation. It's especially evident in Newfoundland and Labrador where the community stewardship element has not taken hold as it has elsewhere. In 2017, we partnered with DFO to review stewardship capacity in Newfoundland and Labrador to learn how to bolster community stewardship.

Morell River Management Co-op

Now into its second decade of supporting conservation of wild Atlantic salmon, the ASCF is performing very well.

Stephen Chase
Executive Director ASCF

There are opportunities in this long-term effort.

The Foundation follows a fiscally prudent, long-term financial plan. 2017 saw our trust fund market value exceed $42 million. We granted a further $1.1 million in project funding with a record number of seventy-one grants; a balanced mix of one-year and multi-year conservation project grants. This brought our overall ten-year contribution to $5.8 million with 409 funded projects. By selecting the best funding proposals our leveraging (cash and in-kind) reached nearly $30 million; providing five to one leveraging. Importantly, ASCF project funding also helped sustain well over 1000 jobs, primarily among seasonal and student workers. These jobs are an important and significant contribution to rural economies, while student jobs help young people gain valuable work experience.

Now into its second decade of supporting conservation of wild Atlantic salmon, the ASCF is performing very well. This Foundation was created to fulfil its mandate in perpetuity. As one observer noted, the ASCF is an excellent example in which government can help create a self-sustaining funding source of funding to benefit the community *forever*. Please be assured that it's a rewarding role.

Stephen Chase
Executive Director ASCF

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Supporting Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation in Perpetuity!

Introduction

The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation was established to provide funding and other support to community groups, First Nations, researchers and other organizations in perpetuity. In other words, we intend to be a facilitative and supporting factor in improving the conservation of wild Atlantic salmon in the Atlantic provinces and Quebec as long as it takes to achieve abundant wild salmon populations. That's why we strive to facilitate conservation action though rigorous processes to help ensure both wise use of funding and the attainment of project outcomes. We are proud of our record in keeping our approach business-like while being 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. We are a volunteer-based organization that opened our doors ten years ago in February 2007. The Board of Directors of the Foundation are volunteers, along with all the volunteer experts on the six advisory committees 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 tenth year of operation. In 2017 the Foundation continued to build on the successful operational structure it created over the first ten 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 tenth round of grants in support of community salmon conservation projects as well as the 2018 call for funding proposals which closed in December.

Background

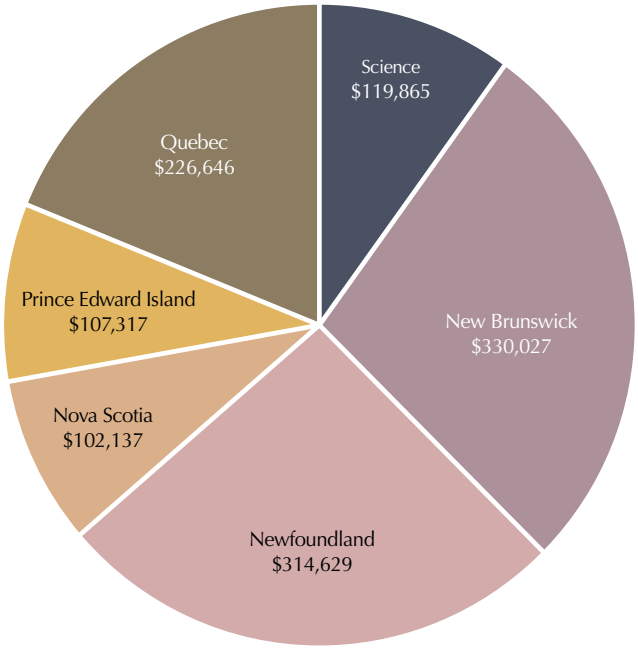
The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation (the Foundation) was formed by a group of volunteers who incorporated a non-profit organization in 2005 to prepare a proposal to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to accept responsibility for the Atlantic Salmon Endowment Fund (ASEF) Program. The ASEF was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



Grants Amounts Approved in 2017

In addition to the requirement to submit an annual report and an annual business plan to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Foundation is subject to periodic review of its performance by the Government of Canada. A value for money audit was carried-out in 2012 by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans based on performance measures identified in the funding agreement and several other factors associated with the Foundation's approach to business, management of its files and recipient group feedback. The audit found that the Foundation represents excellent value for money, is demonstrating measurable progress on several fronts, and its strongly supported by its broad range of recipients and others interested in salmon conservation.

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-November. 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.

Advisory Committees

The Foundation relies heavily on its volunteer 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 of the many interests in wild salmon conservation as well as partnership among them. Most importantly, our advisory committees ensure the Foundation receives excellent advice in recommending conservation projects that respond to the unique salmon conservation imperatives faced in each of the five provinces.

There are six advisory committees consisting of a Scientific Advisory Committee and five Provincial Advisory Committees. Each appointee to these committees is an expert volunteer identified in consultation with stakeholder groups and governments. Our advisory committees have proven to be a very successful way of including people in our decision-making processes and ensuring full transparency in the granting process.

The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) is the Foundation's newest innovation formed in 2015 as a natural evolution from the former Central Advisory Committee. Its key roles are to ensure wise investments in applied research scientific projects, as well as retaining a role in assisting the Board of Directors to develop and maintain effective policy, procedures and strategic direction. The SAC is comprised primarily of eminent scientists capable of guiding the Foundation as it moves to strategically target scientific projects that will make a difference in salmon conservation. 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.

FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES 2017

A report on objectives met, as stated in the 2017 Business Plan.

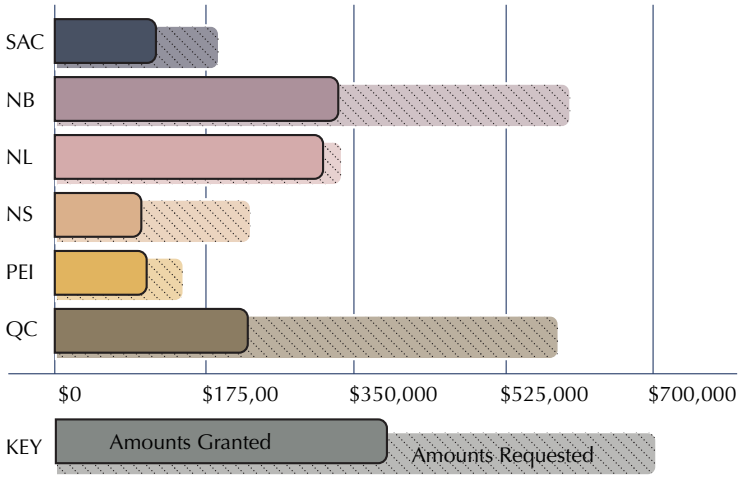
The following objectives were stated in the 2017 Business Plan. The following is a report on the extent to which those objectives were met:

Objective 1: To strengthen our prudent investment and financial strategy to maintain the Atlantic Salmon Endowment Fund at or above Funding Agreement requirements.

2017 Actions: The Foundation's investment portfolio is managed in accordance with a very prudent long-term investment and financial management plan overseen by the Investment Committee. This plan conforms to an Investment Policy and an Investment Strategy developed pursuant to the requirements of the Funding Agreement with the Government. This approach to investment and fiscal management enables the Foundation to ensure a minimum of $1 million dollars is available for project funding on a go-forward basis.

The long-term financial plan, the investment policy and the investment strategy are annually reviewed by the Board of Directors. They have been designed to maintain the investment fund to projected inflation adjusted value while also making provision for maintaining a projected annual distribution of project funding over the same period, taking into account financial market performance, and Funding Agreement requirements.

The Foundation was successful in 2017 in increasing the market value of the trust fund to exceed the inflation adjusted book value of the trust fund. This enables the Foundation to maintain the annual grant pool at $1 million, as well as to maintain a reserve fund that ensures the Foundation's ability to provide a minimum of $1 million in grant funding each year, into the future. In 2017 the financial markets demonstrated excellent growth, so much so that at year end the market value of the trust fund continued to exceed the inflation adjusted book value.



Amounts granted & amounts requested in 2017

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

2017 Actions: As at 31 December 2017 the market value of the fund was reported as just over $42 million. As noted above, this placed the market value of the trust fund above the projected 2017 year-end amount as projected in the long-term financial strategy.

The Foundation follows a funding allocation model, based on the early advice of the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), and 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 in accordance with a funding distribution formula that reflects individual provincial conservation variables. A review of the components of the funding formula was launched in 2017.

Each year, provincial conservation priorities are reviewed by each advisory committee to help ensure funding is directed where desired results may be obtained. The funding formula also provides ten percent of the overall grant pool to fund applied research and other scientific projects recommended by the Scientific Advisory Committee. In 2017, $100,000 was allocated in support of applied research projects overseen by the SAC.

Objective 3: To strategically allocate funding to key, priority applied research scientific projects.

2017 Actions: The Scientific Advisory Committee has identified a range of range of conservation issues affecting the survival and strengthening of wild Atlantic salmon populations in Canada. These conservation issues are reviewed annually and are designed to guide the allocation of funding to the most critical applied research initiatives being funded by the Foundation.

The prioritization of applied research funding represents an intelligent and proactive approach to awarding ASCF funding. Funding is directed to specific applied research topics that could are considered to have the greatest on-the-ground impact for salmon conservation through a Request for Proposal process. The RFP is sent to potential respondents with responses evaluated and funding awarded by the SAC.

In 2017 the SAC determined that a salmon modelling project be undertaken to review conservation issues and causal factors affecting the survival of wild Atlantic salmon. This is a pivotal project, led by Dr. Jeff Hutchings, will help lay the basis of wise and cost-effective investment in wild Atlantic salmon conservation initiatives into the future. This important project is being funded jointly with DFO on a 50/50 cost matched basis totaling $150,000 over 2 years.

FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES 2017

The following objectives were stated in the 2017 Business Plan

Objective 4: To maintain and strengthen a results-based management approach to funding Foundation projects.

2017 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 Scientific Advisory Committee.

The standard project report for each grant is designed to reflect the performance of each project and to enable cumulative reporting against the Foundation's performance measures as outlined in the Funding Agreement. The performance measures contribute to a database which has enabled the Foundation to report clearly on its attainment of objectives and other performance criteria. Thus, the Foundation is a results-based management organization. During 2017 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 2017, 409 salmon conservation projects had been funded by the Foundation through a total investment of $5.8 million in grant funding. Overall, from inception, 750 funding proposals have been received by the Foundation, including those received in 2017 for the 2018 round of grants. The total value of the projects approved up to and including 2017, in both cash and in-kind contributions, was over $30 million. This resulted in an overall leveraging benefit of approximately five to one.

Objective 5: To broadly share information through innovative methods such as the web-based "Salmon Hub" utility.

2017 Actions: The "*Salmon Hub*", launched in late 2015 as a "one stop" web based source to facilitate access to salmon conservation information. This portal provides easy access to ASCF funded project reports, government and NGO created technical and scientific reports and other sources of material related to salmon conservation. Information sharing is major line of business for the Foundation and the Salmon Hub builds on the already significant Foundation website sharing of project reports, monthly newsletters and social media.

The Salmon Hub has experienced significant access and has been widely acclaimed, nationally and internationally. Throughout the year staff and several subscribers added more new material to the Salmon Hub. Recruitment of new sources of information and links to build content is a priority initiative.

Objective 6: To strengthen the Foundation's relationships and communications with current and potential stakeholders/beneficiaries, the public, and potential supporters.

2017 Actions: Throughout 2017 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.

The Foundation issued various press releases and posted items on its website as well as sending monthly email messages to its constituents and interested stakeholders throughout the year. 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. Also in 2017, the Foundation regularly updated to Facebook and Twitter to keep followers informed of developments. The number of followers on both social media increased significantly during the year.

The Foundation also issued 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 continued to increase significantly throughout the year with over 500 individuals and organizations receiving the newsletter by year-end.

In addition, a schedule of webinars featuring a of well-known speakers on a broad range of fish and freshwater issues was held. Several expert individuals from Canada and abroad were invited to present the topics and lead on-line discussion 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 2017, 9 webinars were hosted with a total of 595 participants.

Several supportive communications were also made jointly with our primary corporate partner organization, Alcool New Brunswick Liquor, which sponsors the "Protect Our Rivers" sales event. This long-term partnership has been extremely important in helping advance to wild Atlantic salmon conservation in New Brunswick, through which 100 percent of funds are committed directly to river conservation projects in the province.

In 2017 ANBL held its sixth "Protect Our Rivers" sales event which raised $56,000, contributing to a six-year combined total of over $485,000 for river conservation in New Brunswick.

2017 PROJECT PROFILES • NL

Not too hot, and not too cold, but what is just right?

The Fisheries and Marine Institute of Memorial University is working on a project to find out what is desirable.

The project, entitled, "Salmon in a changing environment: developing a water temperature monitoring program in the Northern range of Atlantic salmon," began in May 2016 and continued until December 2017.

The project is being funded by a three-year grant of $50,000 awarded by the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation.

Marie Clément is a research scientist with the Centre for Fisheries Ecosystems Research, Fisheries and Marine Institute in partnership with the Labrador Institute, Memorial University of Newfoundland, and one of the leads on the project.

"The general objective of this project is to develop a water temperature monitoring network in salmon rivers in Labrador, Quebec's Lower North Shore, and northern rivers that show potential to be colonized," she said. "Salmon range is expected to shift northward as river water temperatures increase due to climate change. However, this overall trend may not apply to all regions."

Clément notes, for example, rivers draining into Lake Melville, a saline lake supporting important food, social and ceremonial fisheries for three aboriginal groups, may experience higher water temperatures than Labrador's coastal rivers.

"It is therefore important to understand water temperature variability and salmon distribution changes throughout the entire actual and potential distribution range."

In 2016, Clément and André St. Hilaire from the l'institut national de la recherche scientifique, teamed up with the Nunatsiavut Government, NunatuKavut Community Council, Labrador Hunting and Fishing Association, Torngat National Park, AMEC, Coaster Association, outfitters (St. Paul's Salmon Fishing Club, Napetipi River Outfitters and Pourvoirie Mecatina) and the Department of Environment and Climate Change to develop the water temperature monitoring network in the northern range of Atlantic salmon.

"In total, 23 people actively participated in the deployment and retrieval of thermographs and water temperature data that were successfully collected from 35 rivers located in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (13 rivers), Lake Melville (10 rivers), NunatuKavut (7 rivers), and Quebec Lower North Shore (5 rivers). The ultimate goal of this project is that the monitoring program becomes community-driven and produce a long-term water temperature time series for better predicting the effects of climate change on salmon populations."

Clément stresses none of the work being done would be possible without the cooperation of many partners.

Dean McLean, Conservation Officer, Nunatsiavut Government

2018 PROJECT PROFILES • QC

In order for any species to thrive, the area where it lives needs to be comfortable and safe.

Organisme de bassins versants de Kamouraska, L'Islet et Rivière du Loup (OBAKIR) recently completed a survey looking at the habitat in the Grande River, a major tributary of the Ouelle, to come up with a strategy to protect and restore the area and its most important habitats.

The Ouelle River spawning survey project – possible thanks to $10,000 in grant funding from the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation – is the result of a strategic plan for Atlantic salmon in the Ouelle River. The plan identifies key issues in the watershed and makes recommendations for conservation actions.

Since there is no counting fence in the Ouelle River, the number of redds, or spawning nests, are counted to provide an indication of the number of adult salmon. This type of salmon redd inventory was done in the 1990s by the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs, when the river benefited from a stocking program.

OBAKIR's 2016 project consisted of an assessment of the Grande River, which is known to have the most salmon spawning beds in the watershed. The survey was carried out on foot, from downstream to upstream. After careful analysis, the segments with favorable conditions for salmon reproduction were located.

During the survey, four beaver dams were discovered. Beaver dams can adversely affect salmon spawning, so it was decided that they would be breached. The gaps that were created allowed salmon to cross the areas and continue their migration to spawning sites. The flow of the river increased considerably as a result. The action was successful and salmon were observed in areas where they were previously absent.

For the redd inventory, 21 kilometres were surveyed, including 15.8 km in the Grande River and 5.2 km in the Ouelle River. The count was carried out by canoe, travelling from upstream to downstream. If necessary, in areas where the river was larger, the inventory was done on foot. Areas where redds were found were traveled twice.

Inventory reports from the 1990s were retrieved after the inventory was done in 2016. It was found that the methodology used was not the same and that the number of sectors inventoried was lower in 2016. The data collected in 2016, compared to that of 1990 and 1992, show that the Ouelle River is no longer as productive as it was at the time, although some areas were not visited.

It has therefore been recommended that the redd inventory be repeated in the same areas as in the 1990s, and on an annual or bi-annual basis, in order to have more than one year of recent data. Long-term monitoring will provide a better overview of the health of the resource.

The information gathered during the survey was mapped in a digital format (GIS) and will be transferred to Google Earth, to provide an interactive reference tool that will guide the protection and conservation he salmon spawning areas. It will also be used to create awareness among users and action plans with partners.

In 2017, OBAKIR continued their work on the Ouelle and Grande Rivers, thanks in part to a new grant of $14,000 from the ASCF. This new project focussed on the use of thermal refuges by parr and adult salmon. It also drew on the tool recently developed by FQSA, with the support of ASCF, to help protect critical habitats for Atlantic salmon.

OBAKIR

2017 PROJECT PROFILES • NB

Making sure that the watershed is a comfortable and welcoming environment for Atlantic salmon.

Not too hot, and not too cold. The Shediac Bay Watershed Association (SBWA) is doing whatever it can to make sure that the watershed is a comfortable and welcoming environment for Atlantic salmon.

From population assessments to fish habitat enhancement, the SBWA is working towards a goal of making the Shediac Bay an ecosystem thriving with Atlantic salmon. And they are proud to have the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation as a partner helping with its conservation initiatives.

Jolyne Hébert, an environmental technician with the SBWA, explains multiple studies are ongoing in the Shediac Bay watershed to help improve water quality and fish habitat.

"In 2017, stream assessments were done in the rivers to identify salmon spawning habitat, pollution sources, erosion causing sedimentation, blockages and problematic culverts causing habitat fragmentations and fish passage issues," she said.

"As water temperature is critical for salmon, a total of seven temperature loggers have been installed in various locations in salmon confirmed rivers to monitor temperature fluctuations. This temperature monitoring tool shows hot spots and cold zones within the watershed and will help guide restoration efforts, whether it's planting trees to enhance tree canopy coverage, or the protection of precious cold spots where salmon might migrate during periods of thermal stress."

Fish habitat restoration projects for 2017 - possible in part because of $10,000 in grant funding from the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation - included the restoration of a problematic area in the Scoudouc River, where all-terrain and other off-road vehicles have caused damage to the riverbanks near a salmon pool. The restoration will consist of the stabilization of the eroding riverbanks.

"In addition, the SBWA is in the process of cleaning and stabilizing the Cornwall Brook, a tributary of the Scoudouc River, which has severe alder overgrowth and debris jams, in addition to severe erosion and sedimentation issues."

Electrofishing is also done every year to better understand the population dynamics and distribution in the Shediac Bay watershed.

"In 2016, two new survey sites were selected based on the habitat characteristics that were expected to be favourable for salmon, led to exciting results. The new sites in the Weisner Brook and McQuade Brook, both tributaries of the Shediac River, contained 30 and 47 Atlantic salmon fry and parr respectively. Never had there previously been any surveys in our watershed that yielded as many juvenile salmon as this, creating joy and excitement for the SBWA team."

Electrofishing surveys continued in the fall of 2017. A new addition to the population assessment was redd count surveys, where the team walks along spawning habitats in search for salmon nests."

Hébert points out that by conducting habitat assessments and population surveys, the SBWA is working on its goal to eventually do salmon restocking within its watershed to bring back the population that once graced its waters.

"Even if our rivers are small, they are still important for the long-term survival of Atlantic salmon."

Shediac Bay Watershed Association

2017 PROJECT PROFILES • NS

Thanks to members of the SRA, the Sackville River Watershed is in good hands.

Thanks to the perseverance, dedication, and teamwork shown by the volunteer members of the Sackville Rivers Association (SRA) the Sackville River Watershed is in good hands.

The SRA has been working since 1988 to restore, protect and preserve the Sackville River Watershed. The restoration work not only involves the main Sackville River, but all its tributaries; the brooks that represent spawning habitat for the Atlantic salmon.

The latest river restoration project the group is working on will provide fish habitat restoration on three watercourses in the watershed – Sandy Lake Brook, Stoney Brook, and the Little Sackville River. The first is in the community of Hammonds Plains in the White Birch Hills subdivision and the Glen Arbour subdivision in the western part of the watershed, the second is in Middle Sackville in the central part of the watershed, and the third is in the heart of Lower Sackville in the central part of the watershed.

The project is possible in part because of $5,000 in grant funding from the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation.

Damon Conrad, SRA coordinator, explains the project continued to restore feeders to of one of the four largest tributaries to the Sackville River – Thompson Run, through the installation of habitat restoration structures (such as diggerlogs, rocksills, and rock deflectors) and through improvement of low flow and creation of pools lost through past impacts on the watercourse.

"We also be installed structure on the most important tributary to the main Sackville River, the Little Sackville River as well as a major tributary to the Little Sackville River, Stoney Brook," he said.

"This project will benefit the entire watershed by increasing its overall productivity. All the work was outlined in the SRA Sackville River Watershed Restoration Plan (SRWRP). The SRWRP is the SRA's current guiding plan for restoration work on tributaries on the Sackville River Watershed in the context of salmonid habitat and what can be done to create/improve/restore said habitat."

Conrad said all three watercourses involved are continuations of past projects – Sandy Lake Brook is a feeder to Thompson Run (2010 and 2015 projects), Stoney Brook is a continuation of restoration from 2013 and 2014 and the Little Sackville River is a continuation of a 2016 project and has been the concentration of SRA's since 1988.

"All three of these watercourses have either been surveyed (electrofishing) and have been proven to contain salmon, or are part of a system that has been surveyed and has been proven to contain salmon. All of the projects involved above have been funded by ASCF in the past and all are continued efforts in different reaches of these watercourse and/or systems to restore/enhance/create salmon habitat."

The purpose of this project is to support directly the population of the Atlantic salmon - and indirectly the other 12 species in the watershed - which on Nova Scotia's Atlantic coast (Southern Uplands) is a species considered endangered, through restoration of its habitat.

"At this point every salmon is crucial, as is every square meter of habitat. Due to this, SRA strives to restore and protect every watercourse known to carry Atlantic salmon currently in the Sackville River watershed, as well as those which would have carried salmon in the past before development and other land use had impacted this critical habitat.

Conrad said this project strives to increase habitat, improve fish passage, and increase the flow of water through channel definition, flow consolidation, and debris dam removal.

"These activities will assist in the recovery of the Atlantic salmon, while also indirectly supporting populations of speckled trout and gaspereau. The success of the project will be determined through inspections by the Adopt-a-Stream program (permit holders) and the continued success of the structures will be measured by annual inspection and maintenance by SRA."

"This project is very important for the various communities of the watershed as it will show how suburban and urban streams, if restored and protected, can be healthy and can support viable populations of Atlantic salmon. This project can also prove to other communities that their suburban and urban streams can also be a healthy home to native fish of all kinds. Once you show people that these suburban streams can be more than the perceived drainage ditch, they are more likely to become stewards of their own local stream."

The Sackville River has recently been identified by DFO as one of the 13 Priority Rivers on the Southern Uplands with regards to Atlantic salmon populations.

"Because of this, projects such as this are important as ever in relation to protecting and rebuilding stocks of wild Atlantic salmon in Nova Scotia."

Sackville Watersheds Association

2017 PROJECT PROFILES • PEI

Working together we are completing a project with value and implications for the future of Atlantic salmon on PEI.

For the Abegweit Conservation Society the discovery of a unique Atlantic salmon population that may contain ancestral genetics of the original PEI Atlantic salmon is very exciting, especially given the cultural and ceremonial significance of Atlantic salmon to the Mi'kmaq people.

An arm of the Abegweit First Nation, the Abegweit Conservation Society is working on a project called "Foundation Knowledge Building for Future PEI Salmon", and has been granted $15,000 in funding from the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation.

The project is a product of an Atlantic salmon DNA study carried out by Laval University that analyzed 9,142 tissue samples from Atlantic salmon collected in 149 sampling locations of the eastern United States and Canada. In 2012, the provincial fish and wildlife office coordinated the collection of DNA samples from 5 PEI Rivers for the study. The preliminary results of the analysis were published in 2014 and it was revealed that while Atlantic salmon populations in the eastern Atlantic region are closely related and could be grouped into 29 regional strains there are however Atlantic salmon from two eastern PEI Rivers, North Lake Creek and Cross Creek, that stood out as a separate cluster and could be considered "unique".

"The overarching goal of this project is to monitor and collect essential information on the genetically distinct Atlantic salmon population with the intent of applying the information towards appropriate management, protection and conservation plans, guidelines, and recommendations," said Rebecca Hersom-Petersen, a project manager with Abegweit.

"It is also hoped that further explorations will be done into how this population could provide insight into the future survival of all Atlantic salmon on PEI. The project also has broad implications for other Atlantic salmon populations in the Maritimes as it will provide insight into Atlantic salmon life history."

One goal of particular importance to the Abegweit Conservation Society is the building of capacity within the aboriginal community in managing watersheds for Atlantic salmon conservation.

Hersom-Petersen said they are very encouraged by the progress made so far on this project.

"During the summer, the Abegweit field crew worked alongside the Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation on stream rehabilitation activities in North Lake and Cross Creek. During the fall months, the crew worked together with other watershed groups and the provincial government carrying out electrofishing surveys to collect the tissue samples. These activities provided mentorship and training to Abegweit members while helping to foster relationships that will aid in future Atlantic salmon conservation projects."

"Perhaps, one of the greatest things gained during this project is the importance of partnerships and working together. This is a grassroots project initiated by a First Nation group in conjunction with community watershed groups, by reaching out and working together we are completing a project with value and implications for the future of Atlantic salmon on PEI."

Abegweit Conservation Society

2017 PROJECT PROFILES • SCIENCE

Everyone can use a little help overcoming obstacles in their way, especially if their lives depend on it.

Fortunately, an interprovincial project lead by Memorial University of Newfoundland is looking at the impact of instream barriers and climate change on wild Atlantic salmon population persistence and production in forested boreal watersheds.

The project location is insular Newfoundland, and is possible as the result of $63,300 in grant funding from the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation.

Dr. Michael van Zyll de Jong, Adjunct Professor with the Environmental Policy Institute School of Science and Environment at Memorial University - Grenfell Campus, explains that stream crossings such as culverts can act as barriers to fish movement and reduce the accessibility and quantity of available suitable habitat.

"These barriers stop fish movement and prevent fish from accessing different habitats necessary for survival," he said. "In addition, stream habitat fragmentation alters fish assemblages, reduces population resilience to environmental disturbance and reduces genetic mixing. Considering the historical distribution and ongoing construction of forestry roads in the Newfoundland boreal forest, assessing the impacts of this habitat fragmentation from forestry stream crossings is critical to allow for future planning."

In Newfoundland, more than 15,000 potential barriers exist which could potentially be fragmenting thousands of kilometers of fish habitats. Compounding the impact of barriers is the effect of global warming in northern environments and is expected to intensify the vulnerability of northern fishes.

"As a consequence of these varied impacts, planners are being tasked with incorporating the cumulative effects of agents of change (i.e., forest road building practices and climate change) on ecological values (i.e., Atlantic salmon populations and their habitat) and then using these relationships to project future scenarios to aid in decision-making and policy development. Today, managers need tractable approaches to assess the vulnerability of populations and habitats and to guide implementation of road crossings and a mechanism to prioritize mitigation actions with limited management resources."

The purpose of this project is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the cumulative effect of road placement, in-stream barriers and climate change on wild Atlantic salmon population persistence and accessibility of suitable habitat. This knowledge will be used to develop an assessment methodology and decision-making framework to enable conservation authorities to assess the vulnerability of populations and habitats and to guide efficient implementation of barrier removal or mitigation strategies.

"In addition, the inclusion of climate change predictions in planning and assessment will allow resource management agencies to adopt effective climate change adaptation policies. The knowledge gained from these tools and approaches are easily transferable to the rest of Atlantic Canada."

The main project objectives are to: develop a geo-spatial data inventory of parameters describing the nature and impact of in-stream barriers, demonstrate current and predict cumulative ecological impacts of climate change and other interacting stressors (i.e., forestry and transport activities) on wild Atlantic salmon population persistence and stock production in boreal forest watersheds, and create an assessment and decision making framework and required analytical tools for predicting fish passability, dendritic connectivity, and prioritizing barrier removal and mitigation at the regional and watershed specific level.

"The tool will be designed to assess vulnerability and risk to fish species under varying change scenario and mitigation alternatives. Use of the tool will allow for the development of best adaptive responses and more innovative policy responses to key sectors in forestry and transport."

MaryAnn Brook, Exploits River watershed

GRANTS & STATUS

2017 Project Grants

Science Advisory Committee

Project Number: IN-2015-04
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Linnansaari)
Title: Migration and survival of smolt, post-spawning (kelt) and adult Atlantic salmon in hydropower regulated Saint John River, New Brunswick.
Approved amount: $26,500 for 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $118,500)*
Funding provided to date: $118,500
Summary: The project is examining the survival and success of migration of Atlantic salmon through 96 km long Mactaquac reservoir, situated upstream of the Mactaquac Generating Station in the Saint John River. The project is a part of larger research Mactaquac Aquatic Ecosystem Study consortium evaluating the options for the future of MGS that is nearing the end of its service life.

Project Number: SAC-2017-01
Recipient: Restigouche River Watershed Management Council: Watershed-scale connectivity analysis
Title: An applied GIS model towards the strategic management of barriers to Atlantic salmon migration.
Approved amount: $13,000 for 2017 *(1 of 2 years, total: $26,000)*
Funding provided to date: $9,750
Summary: The main objective of this applied research project is to develop a watershed-scale connectivity analysis using a GIS model. The results of this project will help to strategically manage issues impeding upstream migration of Atlantic salmon and to cost-effectively prioritize restoration efforts towards increasing access to productive upstream habitats.

Comité Sauvons Nos Rivières Neguac

Project Number: SAC-2017-02
Recipient: Memorial University (van Zyll de Jong)
Title: Assessing the impact of instream barriers and climate change on wild Atlantic salmon population persistence and production in forested boreal watersheds.
Approved amount: $16,700 for 2017 *(1 of 3 years, total: $63,300)*
Funding provided to date: $8,350
Summary: The purpose of this project is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the cumulative effect of road placement, instream barriers and climate change on wild Atlantic salmon population persistence and accessibility of suitable habitat. This knowledge will be used to develop a novel assessment methodology and decision-making framework.

Project Number: SAC-2017-03
Recipient: Dalhousie University (Hutchings)
Title: Life history modelling project for wild Atlantic salmon.
Approved amount: $37,500 for 2017 *(1 of 2 years, total: $75,000)*
Funding provided to date: $28,125
Summary: The objective of this project is to develop a stochastic, dynamic life history model that can be used to further explore the factors affecting the survival of Atlantic salmon. The work will involve analyses of per capita population growth, life-history elasticity, model sensitivity, and patterns of density dependence (including Allee effects) at different spatio-temporal scales. The model parameters will be based on a review of data throughout the geographic range of the species, updating one undertaken in 1998. The over-arching goal of the project is to apply the model to address fundamental questions pertaining to population viability of Atlantic salmon.

Project Number: SAC-2017-04
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Curry)
Title: A literature review of feeding behavior and prey preferences of Striped Bass with special attention to predation on Atlantic Salmon smolt.
Approved amount: $6,900
Funding provided to date: $5,175
Summary The project will consist of a comprehensive literature review clearly outlining the feeding ecology and prey selection of Striped Bass. The paper will also address knowledge gaps in available information and suggest studies required to fill these gaps as well as highlight both strengths and weaknesses of existing analyses.

Project Number: SAC-2017-05
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (O'Sullivan and Samways)
Title: Fishing with environmental DNA (*eDNA*): identifying the spatial-temporal interactions between Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) and Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*) and the distribution of Small Mouth Bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*) in the Miramichi River catchment, New Brunswick.
Approved amount: $19,265

GRANTS & STATUS

2017 Project Grants

Funding provided to date: $13,637.50
Summary This project will utilize environmental DNA (eDNA) to assess the spatial distribution of Striped Bass in the Miramichi River, temporal differences in these movements, the spatial-temporal distribution of Striped Bass and Atlantic Salmon and the presence of Small Mouth Bass in the watershed outside of Miramichi Lake.

New Brunswick

Project Number: NB-2015-03
Recipient: Restigouche River Watershed Management Council
Title: Fall count of brood salmon – Restigouche River
Approved amount: $10,400 for 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $31,200)*
Funding provided to date: $28,182.47 (unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)
Summary: This multi-year project used a fall count method in spawning areas of rivers and brooks within the watersheds of Upsalquitch, Kedgwick, Little Main Restigouche and Restigouche. This project also aimed to improve evaluation techniques of conservation by comparing with modern stock evaluation methods.

Project Number: NB-2015-16
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Samways)
Title: Restoring ecosystem health and increasing progeny fitness through marine reared native adult Atlantic salmon introductions.
Approved amount: $28,000 for 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $84,000)*
Funding provided to date: $84,000
Summary: This multiyear project worked to determine the effects of native adult salmon releases in Fundy National Park on ecosystem integrity and population fitness. This project assessed efficacy of introduced adult Atlantic salmon, quantified increases in freshwater productivity and food resources, and determined young-of-the-year (YOY) recruitment and distribution.

Eel River Bar First Nation

Project Number: NB-2016-14
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Cunjak)
Title: Patterns in the abundance and distribution of Atlantic salmon in Maritime Rivers
Approved amount: $25,000 for 2017 *(2 of 2 years, total: $50,000)*
Funding provided to date: $50,000
Summary: This project is worked to develop statistical analyses and hierarchical (Bayesian) models to determine whether spawner estimates correlated with indices of juvenile salmon abundance. These juvenile estimates can help evaluate representativeness of electrofishing sites and develop stock-recruitment models.

Project Number: NB-2016-15
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Duffy)
Title: Identification of Ectoparasites infecting Outer Bay of Fundy Atlantic salmon
Approved amount: $17,500 for 2017 *(2 of 2 years, total: $35,000)*
Funding provided to date: $30,625
Summary: This project is addressing our knowledge gaps by identifying specifically the diversity of ectoparasitic lice found on migrating Outer Bay of Fundy salmon. Accurate identification of parasites and understanding their survival and transmission is essential to develop rational control measures, and to avoid inadvertent parasite introduction to pristine rivers by fish translocations.

Project Number: NB-2017-01
Recipient: Association des Bassins Versants de la Grande et Petite Rivière Tracadie
Title: Evaluation and strategic planning in the Grande Rivière Tracadie watershed.
Approved amount: $10,000 for 2017 *(1 of 3 years, total: $30,000)*
Funding provided to date: $10,000
Summary: The project assessed 4 watercourses to develop management plans. Sedimentation and other problematic factors were characterized, and a priority list was developed to control, reduce and eliminate those issues. The 2nd and 3rd year of the project will emphasize the implementation of an action plan developed during the 1st year.

Project Number: NB-2017-02
Recipient: Chaleur Bay Watershed Group
Title: Restoration of Atlantic salmon habitat in Jacquet River and tributaries.
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $9,944.32 47 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: The goal of this project is to improve Atlantic salmon habitat in Jacquet River watershed. Restoration activities, such as selective clearing of natural debris, complete clearing of artificial debris, alder thinning where fish passage is blocked, bank stabilization and addition of support structures or deflectors, were undertaken in several Jacquet River tributaries.

GRANTS & STATUS

2017 Project Grants

Project Number: NB-2017-03
Recipient: Comité Sauvons Nos Rivières Neguac
Title: Ecological restoration of degraded aquatic habitats in Godin Brook and McKnight Brook.
Approved amount: $8,452
Funding provided to date: $4,226
Summary: Ecological restoration in McKnight and Godin Brooks is the goal of this project. Activities to address sedimentation and restore Atlantic salmon habitat were undertaken such as clearing wastes and excessive organic debris, selective cutting of alders blocking fish passage, and installing and repairing ecological structures such as deflectors, bank stabilizers and digger logs.

Project number: NB-2017-04
Recipient: Restigouche River Watershed Management Council
Title: Reduction of sediments input from Five Fingers Brook 2017.
Approved amount: $9,500
Funding provided to date: $8,973.57 47 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: This project is designed to decrease sediment inputs from agricultural fields and roads located in Five Fingers Brook Watershed. The objective is to rectify field, ditches and road drainage in an identified section of Five Fingers Brook in the region of Saint-Quentin, NB. Work consisted in replacing one water crossing, in reconfiguring ditches and developing sediments traps.

Project number: NB-2017-05
Recipient: Eel River Bar First Nation
Title: Eel River Recovery Project 2017
Approved amount: $20,000
Funding provided to date: $20,000
Summary: The project continued implementation of the River management plan. The following activities were undertaken: tree planting, electrofishing surveys and redd counts, installing siltation boxes, restoring access to salmon habitat, outreach and education activities, and identifying and mapping erosion sources as well as assessing substrate embeddedness.

Project number: NB-2017-06
Recipient: Fort Folly First Nation
Title: Restoring iBoF Atlantic salmon to the Petitcodiac River through Live Gene Bank contributions and Fundy Salmon Recovery approach.
Approved amount: $30,500
Funding provided to date: $30,500
Summary: The project included inputs of juvenile salmon, collections and transport of wild smolt, releases of marine-reared adults, and releases of adult salmon. The project also assessed the status of salmon currently residing in the Pollett and Little Rivers and continued to evaluate and measure the success of various stocking strategies.

Project Number: NB-2017-07
Recipient: Friends of the Kouchibouguacis
Title: Atlantic Salmon-Kouchibouguacis watershed (education, egg incubation, restoration and monitoring) 2017.
Approved amount: $20,000
Funding provided to date: $20,000
Summary: This project engaged in a number of activities to benefit Atlantic salmon population and its habitat in the Kouchibouguacis River watershed including monitoring, use of in-stream incubation boxes, assessment of riparian habitat for future restoration, education and outreach with the local community, schools and partner organizations.

Project Number: NB-2017-08
Recipient: Hammond River Angling Association
Title: Hammond River Smolt Assessment 2017.
Approved amount: $7,000
Funding provided to date: $7,000
Summary: The objective of this project was to monitor smolt migration using a rotary screw trap, or smolt wheel, to collect smolt. Unfortunately, insufficient smolt were captured to permit a population estimate. Outreach and education activities were undertaken with students from local schools.

Project Number: NB-2017-09
Recipient: Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
Title: Closing Data and Restoration Gaps in the Kennebecasis.
Approved amount: $15,000 for 2017 *(1 of 2 years, total: $25,000)*
Funding provided to date: $15,000
Summary: Bioengineering approaches were used at Ward's Creek to stabilize the eroding site and improve fish passage through the reach. Work was also undertaken in partnership with the Department of Transportation to remove fish passage barriers. Electrofishing was used to assess Atlantic salmon numbers.

Project Number: NB-2017-10
Recipient: Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee
Title: Bartholomew River Atlantic Salmon Management Plan: Development & Implementation.
Approved amount: $12,000 *(1 of 2 years, total: $24,000)*
Funding provided to date: $12,000
Summary: MREAC developed an Atlantic salmon management plan for the Bartholomew River. The goal of this plan is to enhance awareness among fishers, landowners, and stakeholders and provide a basis for river management into future years. Implementation of plan recommendations will occur in the second year.

Project Number: NB-2017-11
Recipient: Miramichi Salmon Association
Title: Enhancing critically important wild Atlantic salmon habitat in the Miramichi River watershed.

GRANTS & STATUS

2017 Project Grants

Approved amount: $15,500
Funding provided to date: $15,500
Summary: This project enhanced cold-water refuges at two sites. At Salmon Brook and Hudson Brook, structures such as rock toes and deflectors were used to narrow the width of the brook to a more natural channel dimension, concentrate the flow and provide some natural scour.

Project Number: NB-2017-12
Recipient: Nashwaak Watershed Association
Title: Protecting and restoring MacPherson Brook, an important cold-water tributary to the Nashwaak River.
Approved amount: $10,500
Funding provided to date: $10,500
Summary: This project focused on bank stabilization and re-vegetation at the mouth of MacPherson Brook. The restoration activities included stabilizing the eroding bank and re-establishing native riparian vegetation. Restoration of this site will reduce sediment loading and enhanced a cold-water source to the Nashwaak River.

Project Number: NB-2017-13
Recipient: Nashwaak Watershed Association
Title: Assessing and Restoring Aquatic Connectivity in the Lower Nashwaak River.
Approved amount: $12,175 for 2017 *(1 of 2 years, total: $24,350)*
Funding provided to date: $12,175
Summary: This 2-year project is working to evaluate and improve fish passage within the Nashwaak Watershed. Preliminary field surveys of culverts in the lower watershed were completed and they were prioritized in terms of barriers to fish. Major debris blockages were removed from 11 culverts.

Project Number: NB-2017-14
Recipient: Nepisiquit Salmon Association
Title: Nepisiguit Salmon Assessment and Enhancement 2017.
Approved amount: $10,500
Funding provided to date: $10,500
Summary: Approximately 150,000 eyed salmon eggs were reared in streamside incubation boxes at Nepisiguit Falls and released as fry. Electrofishing surveys were completed as were water quality surveys, mainly temperature and pH, predator and environmental surveys. Minor obstructions to fish passage were removed as encountered.

Project Number: NB-2017-15
Recipient: Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance
Title: Broken Brooks: Assessing and Remediating Culverts in the Petitcodiac and Memramcook River Watersheds.
Approved amount: $16,500
Funding approved to date: $12,375
Summary: Through this project, culvert sites were remediated in the Petitcodiac watershed, culvert assessments were completed in the data deficient Memramcook watershed, and training was provided to groups wishing to conduct culvert assessment in their region, all contributing to improved habitat connectivity.

Project Number: NB-2017-16
Recipient: Shediac Bay Watershed Association
Title: Salmonid Habitat Remediation and Restoration.
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding approved to date: $10,000
Summary: Habitat improvements to reduce erosion in the Scoudouc River were addressed by SBWA in this project. Electrofishing surveys were conducted, and red count surveys were completed, and water temperature was monitored.

Project Number: NB-2017-17
Recipient: Southeastern Anglers Association
Title: Undertaking a Survey on Atlantic Salmon Population and Habitat in Bouctouche and Cocagne Watersheds.
Approved amount: $6,000
Funding provided to date: $6,000
Summary: Southeastern Anglers Association along with its partners surveyed the Atlantic salmon populations in the Bouctouche and Cocagne watersheds. The data obtained, along with DFO's past records, will allow identification of where salmon stocking is needed, and SAA's stewardship plan was updated, and priority actions identified.

Fort Folly First Nation Photo: Nick O'Hanley

GRANTS & STATUS

2017 Project Grants

Project Number: NB-2017-18
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Linnansaari)
Title: Monitoring returning Atlantic Salmon (Salmo salar) population size in Miramichi River using imaging sonar.
Approved amount: $25,500
Funding provided to date: $25,500
Summary: This project used Adaptive Resolution Imaging Sonar (ARIS) to count and measure the returning salmon in two monitoring sites in the Miramichi River. The project objective was to provide a daily in-season count and eventually, an estimate of the total spawning run of Atlantic salmon throughout the migrating season.

Newfoundland & Labrador

Project Number: NL-2016-04
Recipient: Memorial University (Clément)
Title: Salmon in a changing environment: Developing a water temperature monitoring program in the Northern range of Atlantic salmon
Approved amount: $15,000 for 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $50,000)*
Funding provided to date: $31,250
Summary: This project will develop a community-driven water temperature monitoring network as well as an observatory salmon network while building capacities in aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities. The data will be used to create simple water temperature models to provide thermal scenarios associated with predicted climate change.

Humber Arm Environmental Association Inc.

Project Number: NL-2016-05
Recipient: Memorial University (Purchase)
Title: Salmon gametes as a source for research, restocking and public engagement
Approved amount: $25,000 (3rd year of 3 year project, total: $110,000)
Funding provided to date: $45,000
Summary: This project will research egg and sperm quality from repeat vs virgin spawning salmon from the Exploits River while restocking the Rennies River and providing fertilized eggs to the Fish Friends Program in eastern Newfoundland.

Project Number: NL-2016-09
Recipient: Town of Holyrood
Title: Adaptations in Atlantic salmon juvenile behaviour and health related to long-term habitat alterations
Approved amount: $10,160 for 2017 *(2 of 2 years, total: $19,220)*
Funding provided to date: $14,140
Summary: The reaction of juvenile salmon to large fluctuations in habitat type will be researched through staple isotopes, passive integrated transponder (PIT) tags and radio telemetry in Holy Cross Park (Mahers River).

Project Number: NL-2017-01
Recipient: Environment Resources Management Association
Title: Exploits River Tributaries Restoration 2017
Approved amount: $16,103
Funding provided to date: $9,751
Summary: This project continued efforts of past years to address sites that were considered to be on the priority list for restoration on the Exploits River tributaries. The remains of old wooden structures and drowned pulpwood were removed from the streams and places above the high-water mark.

Project Number: NL-2017-02
Recipient: Gander Bay Indian Band Council
Title: Operate Salmon Fishway, Glenwood, NL
Approved amount: $32,836
Funding provided to date: $32,836
Summary: This project maintained and recorded daily returns of salmon to the fishway, recorded water levels and temperatures and maintained the facility to ensure project success.

Project Number: NL-2017-03
Recipient: Humber Arm Environmental Association Inc.
Title: Rebuilding Eelgrass Meadows to Restore Fish Habitat: Wild Cove Estuary, Western Newfoundland
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $2,500
Summary: A literature review will be done to investigate potential connections between Atlantic salmon and eelgrass. Beach seines will also be performed at existing eelgrass meadows to determine presence of Atlantic salmon.

GRANTS & STATUS

2017 Project Grants

Project Number: NL-2017-04
Recipient: Humber Arm Environmental Association Inc.
Title: Fish Habitat Restoration: Stream Bank Stabilization to Reduce Siltation on South Brook, Pasadena, NL
Approved amount: $8,050
Funding provided to date: $4,025
Summary: This project will utilize rock rip rap and planted native vegetation to stabilize bank on South Brook. Water temperatures, turbidity and fish presence will be documented before, during and after stabilization. This project will also involve surveying streams for future Atlantic salmon habitat restoration initiatives.

Project Number: NL-2017-05
Recipient: Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Title: Wings Brook Enhancement Project
Approved amount: $17,494
Funding provided to date: $17,494
Summary: This project restored Atlantic salmon and brook trout habitat along Wings Brook by removing accumulations of pulpwood.

Project Number: NL-2017-06
Recipient: Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Title: Indian Bay Watershed Ecosystem Health Assessment: Benthic Biomonitoring, Water Quality and Salmon Stock Analysis
Approved amount: $16,000
Funding provided to date: $12,000
Summary: IBEC will collect count data regarding Atlantic salmon returns by using a camera system, evaluating the condition of the ecosystem using chemical and biological indicators and will partake in community events and meetings.

Project Number: NL-2017-07
Recipient: Main Brook Research and Development Corporation
Title: Salmon River Habitat Restoration Project
Approved amount: $29,304
Funding provided to date: $29,304
Summary: By creating several instream structures using boulders, this project resulted in remediated habitat in both Joe Farrell's and Scammel's Brooks.

Project Number: NL-2017-08
Recipient: Miawpukek First Nation
Title: Miawpukek Aquaculture Escapee Monitoring
Approved amount: $40,000
Funding provided to date: $20,000
Summary: Miawpukek will count and sample returning Atlantic salmon on Little River. They will also utilize ASCF funds to construct a new counting fence facility.

Project Number: NL-2017-09
Recipient: NunatuKavut Community Council Inc.
Title: Video Monitoring & Count of Spawning Salmonids in NunatuKavut
Approved amount: $7,500
Funding provided to date: $7,500
Summary: The NCC successfully built capacity in utilizing video monitoring as a means of assessing salmonid populations in NunatuKavut.

Project Number: NL-2017-10
Recipient: Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
Title: Salmon Conservation Public Education and Awareness
Approved amount: $6,600
Funding provided to date: $3,300
Summary: SAEN has been expanding their public education materials and the way they could deliver their numerous awareness initiatives surrounding Atlantic salmon conservation.

Project Number: NL-2017-11
Recipient: Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
Title: Smolt fence and adult counting to gauge success of ongoing egg planting in the Rennie's River
Approved amount: $23,335
Funding provided to date: $11,667.5
Summary: SAEN has been planting eggs in Rennie's River for 5 years. They continued to count the outgoing smolts and returning adults to gauge their stocking success.

Project Number: NL-2017-12
Recipient: Town of Holyrood
Title: Mahers River Fishway
Approved amount: $27,254
Funding provided to date: $8,975
Summary: This project will design a fishway that will allow migration of Atlantic salmon as well as resident and anadromous trout species to their natural habitat upstream of the swimming pool.

Project Number: NL-2017-13
Recipient: Nunatsiavut Government
Title: Improving knowledge of Lake Melville Atlantic salmon: Subsistence fisheries and population assessment
Approved amount: $34,993
Funding provided to date: $34,993
Summary: The Nunatsiavut Government conducted a mark-recapture project, collected biological samples from the fishery and collected harvest logs. Oral interviews to with fishers were also conducted to collect Traditional-Ecological-Knowledge.

Nova Scotia

Project Number: NS-2015-02
Recipient: Dalhousie University (Sterling)
Title: Acid rain mitigation plans for the 13-priority watershed for Southern Upland Salmon in Nova Scotia: development of a subplan to address the aluminium problem
Approved amount: $15,000 for 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $45,000)*

GRANTS & STATUS

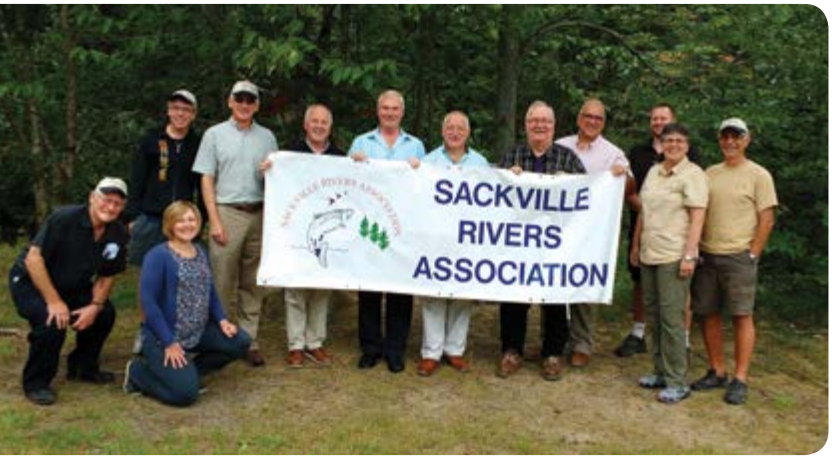
2017 Project Grants

Funding provided to date: $37,500
Summary: This project proposes to create a sub-plan for the Southern Upland Watershed Acid Rain Mitigation Plan that will address the aluminium problem. A student in Dr. Sterling's research group, Marley Geddes began this Southern Upland Watershed Acid Rain Mitigation plan in 2014, and it is planned to continue in 2015.

Project Number: NS-2017-01
Recipient: Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation
Title: LaHave River Watershed Project – Aquatic Connectivity Assessment and Restoration – 2017 and Invasive Species Research Project
Approved amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $11,250
Summary: This project will result in new aquatic connectivity assessments in North Branch Sub-watershed of the LaHave and the West Branch Sub-watershed. Connectivity restoration will be done in the Main River Sub-watershed. BCAF also undertook a research project on the impact of invasive species on Atlantic salmon.

Project Number: NS-2017-02
Recipient: Cheticamp River Salmon Association
Title: Fish passage improvements within the Cheticamp River watershed
Approved amount: $9,500
Funding provided to date: $9,500
Summary: This project resulted in the completion of instream work at two sites on the lower Cheticamp River, as well as fish passage restoration on smaller watercourses in the watershed.

Project Number: NS-2017-03
Recipient: Inverness South Anglers Association
Title: Southwest Mabou River Salmon Habitat Restoration Plan
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $3,750



Sackville Rivers Association

Summary: This project will result in a restoration plan template for the Southwest Mabou River as a first step in restoring the largest watershed within Mabou's jurisdiction.

Project Number: NS-2017-04
Recipient: Nova Scotia Salmon Association
Title: The West River Acid Mitigation Project 2017
Approved amount: $20,137
Funding provided to date: $15,102.75
Summary: The Nova Scotia Salmon Association will count Atlantic salmon smolts and returning adults on the West River in Nova Scotia.

Project Number: NS-2017-05
Recipient: Pictou County Rivers Association
Title: Restoration of Atlantic Salmon Habitat in the East River Watershed, Pictou County, Nova Scotia
Approved amount: $7,500
Funding provided to date: $7,500
Summary: Building from their previously developed Fish Habitat Based Watershed Management Plan for the East River Pictou County, the Pictou County Rivers Association started implementing the plan in 2017, which including installing in-stream structures, tree planting, debris removal and additional surveys.

Project Number: NS-2017-06
Recipient: Sackville Rivers Association
Title: River Restoration 2017
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000
Summary: This project resulted in fish habitat restoration on three watercourses in the Sackville River Watershed – Sandy Lake Brook, Stoney Brook, and the Little Sackville River.

Project Number: NS-2017-07
Recipient: St. Mary's River Association
Title: Salmon Habitat Enhancement (West River St. Mary's)
Approved amount: $25,000
Funding provided to date: $25,000
Summary: The St. Mary's River Association continued their restoration work in West River St. Mary's through utilization of a sand wand, installing deflectors, rock sills and groynes, and planting trees in riparian habitat.

Prince Edward Island

Project Number: PEI-2015-04
Recipient: Souris & Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Title: Perpetuation of Atlantic Salmon in Northeastern PEI
Approved amount: $26,500 for 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $79,500)*
Funding provided to date: $72,875
Summary: Much of this project aims to restore and further enhance existing Atlantic salmon habitat in North Lake, Priest Pond, Cross, Hay, Naufrage and Cow Rivers by installing brush mats and ensuring

fish passage by trimming alders and removing "blow-downs", natural blockages and any non-active beaver dams.

Project Number: PEI-2017-01
Recipient: Abegweit Conservation Society
Title: Midgell River Salmon Habitat Rehabilitation, Protection and Conservation Phase II
Approved amount: $12,475
Funding provided to date: $9,356.25
Summary: This project will focus on addressing habitat degradation in the Midgell Watershed. Abegweit also strives to establish control over the beaver populations and impacts of dams in the area.

Project Number: PEI-2017-02
Recipient: Abegweit Conservation Society
Title: PEI Genetically Distinct Salmon Population Evaluation, Habitat Assessment, Rehabilitation and Conservation
Approved amount: $29,000
Funding provided to date: $21,750
Summary: This project continues to investigate and record life history values for a genetically distinct PEI salmon population with a fish trap, tracking tags and electrofishing.

Project Number: PEI-2017-03
Recipient: Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Title: Restoration and Enhancement of Atlantic Salmon Habitat on the West and Clyde Rivers, PEI
Approved amount: $26,842
Funding provided to date: $20,131
Summary: The Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation aims to restore parts of Howell's Brook so it can continue to be a spawning area for salmon. They will update the fish habitat management plan to incorporate the Clyde River sub-watershed.

Project Number: PEI-2017-04
Recipient: Morell River Management Cooperative Limited
Title: Habitat Restoration and Management of Atlantic Salmon in the St. Peter's Bay Drainage Basins
Approved amount: $7,500
Funding provided to date: $5,625
Summary: Morell River Management Cooperative aims to identify, prioritize and addresses habitat issues impacting salmon and maintain existing structures and habitat quality.

Project Number: PEI-2017-05
Recipient: Richmond Bay Watershed Association Inc.
Title: Healthy Watersheds, A Sustainable Balance Year 2
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000
Summary: This project restored ecological health for Atlantic salmon on two watersheds in Central Prince County, PEI. Focus was also put on implementing a fish habitat management plan while building on past successes.

Quebec

Project Number: QC-2016-01
Recipient: Association des pêcheurs sportifs de la Bonaventure
Title: Operating a youth summer camp (12 - 15 years old) on Bonaventure River.
Approved amount: $4,000 in 2017 *(2 of 2 years, total: $8,000)*
Funding provided to date: $8,000
Summary: L'Association des pêcheurs sportifs de la Bonaventure operated a youth summer camp. The 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-2015-03
Recipient: Restigouche River Watershed Management Council
Title: Characterization of Matapedia River smolt outmigration within the integrated management structure of salmon resource in Restigouche River
Approved amount: $11,836 pour 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $59,658)*
Funding provided to date: $57,929.31 (unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)
Summary: By installing a rotary trap for three consecutive spring seasons, RRWMC estimated smolt productivity in the Matapedia. With this standardized approach, RRWMC will be able to compare outmigration on Matapedia River with outmigration on Kedgwick River. Time variability of smolt outmigration, density, physical condition and survival rate was investigated.

Project Number: QC-2015-09
Recipient: Institut national de la recherche scientifique (Bergeron)
Title: Fragmentation of juvenile salmon habitat caused by road and forest culverts.
Approved amount: $25,000 in 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $75,000)*
Funding provided to date: $62,500
Summary: Passive transponder technology is being used to complete a mark-recapture study for a number of culverts of variable features, allowing to determine variables and thresholds which limit juvenile migration. This filter can be applied to all culverts on salmon rivers and a GIS analysis will allow the calculation of habitat losses related to each insurmountable culvert.

Project Number: QC-2016-03
Recipient: Institut national de la recherche scientifique (Bergeron)
Title: Modelling potential production of Quebec salmon rivers with high resolution imaging.
Approved amount: $30,000 in 2017 *(2 of 2 years, total: $60,000)*
Funding provided to date: $45,000
Summary: This project is designed to develop a salmon habitat quality index (IQH). The approach is based on 1) modelling and large scale mapping of the bathymetry and run-off velocity on rivers and 2)

GRANTS & STATUS

2017 Project Grants

transfer of preference curves of micro-habitat scale to hydromorphological facies scale. Also, the calculation method of production area will be reviewed to consider the connectivity between habitats.

Project Number: QC-2016-05
Recipient: Institut national de la recherche scientifique (St-Hilaire)
Title: Integrating water temperature in a general model of salmon habitat
Approved amount: $10,000 in 2017 *(2 of 3 years, total: $30,000)*
Funding provided to date: $17,500
Summary: This project contributes to the improvement of an Atlantic salmon habitat modelling method, in particular in relation to parr nurseries. This project develops a set of thermal preferences for parr. To achieve this goal, salmon experts' opinions is coded using fuzzy logic. Thermal preferences and the resulting model will be partially validated on two Québec rivers.

Project Number: QC-2017-01
Recipient: Agence Mamu Innu Kaikusseht (AMIK)
Title: Monitoring temperatures of 13 salmon rivers of the North Shore
Approved amount: $8,900 in 2017 *(1 of 2 years, total: $17,800)*
Funding provided to date: $7,761 (unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)
Summary: Innu communities observe a decreasing number of salmon and lack of knowledge of their rivers. This project will address that lack of information and the need to increase knowledge of the subject in communities. Thermographs, logistic support and a protocol will be transferred to Innu managers in each community to help them manage this monitoring on their own in the short term.

Institut national de recherche scientifique

Project Number: QC-2017-02
Recipient: Association de conservation de la vallée du Gouffre
Title: Atlantic salmon conservation plan for the Gouffre River.
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $7,500
Summary: Through this project an Atlantic salmon conservation plan for the Gouffre River is being developed by compiling and analyzing all studies, documents and notes on this river to draw an exact and complete picture of the salmon population and its habitat. This analysis identified problems, gaps that need to be filled and specific issues concerning the river for future action.

Project Number: QC-2017-03
Recipient: Association des pêcheurs sportifs de saumons de la rivière Rimouski. Title: Rehabilitation and protection of the spawning bed of Fosse de L`île (fosse 11).
Approved amount: $9,000
Funding provided to date: $6,750
Summary: During the exceptional floods of 2007 and 2008, the spawning area of the Island Pool (pool 11) was significantly altered. Restoration of this habitat will require rebuilding the island banks and depositing cobble stones. A hydrological and hydraulic analysis was undertaken to assess the situation and to develop a plan for rebuilding the island banks and depositing cobble stones.

Project Number: QC-2017-04
Recipient: Association de protection de la Rivière Saint-Jean
Title: Developing the habitats of Saint-Jean river salmon by developing the falls at PK 69,5.
Approved amount: $43,410
Funding provided to date: $21,705
Summary: This project will enhance salmon habitat on Saint-Jean river on the North shore by improving access to and use of spawning habitats, which will greatly improve the habitat and reduce poaching. The first phase of the fishway construction will be undertaken within this project.

Project Number: QC-2017-05
Recipient: Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier
Title: Telemetry study of spawning habitat use by salmon in the Jacques-Cartier River.
Approved amount: $13,410
Funding provided to date: $0
Summary: This project was cancelled as the group received insufficient match funding to proceed.

GRANTS & STATUS

2014–2016 Project Grants

Project Number: QC-2017-06
Recipient: Corporation de gestion de la rivière St-Jean Saguenay
Title: Atlantic Salmon Conservation Plan for the Saint-Jean-Saguenay River.
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $7,500
Summary: Through this project an Atlantic salmon conservation plan for the St-Jean Saguenay River is being developed by compiling and analyzing all studies, documents and notes on this river to draw an exact and complete picture of the salmon population and its habitat. This analysis identified problems, gaps that need to be filled and specific issues concerning the river for future action.

Project Number: QC-2017-07
Recipient: Fondation pour le saumon du grand Gaspé
Title: Characterization of three Gaspé Rivers: York, Dartmouth and St-Jean.
Approved amount: $8,000 in 2017 *(1 of 3 years, total:$24,000)*
Funding provided to date: $0 (Initial funding was deferred to 2018)
Summary: The goal of the project is to characterize salmon habitats on Dartmouth, York and St-Jean Rivers with high resolution aerial imaging to map habitat, identify potential spawning grounds, pools and thermal refuges. Project results will be used by managers to identify and protect the most productive areas as well as identify areas that can be developed to increase productivity.

Project Number: QC-2017-08
Recipient: Organisme de bassin versant Matapédia-Restigouche
Title: Development of an urban drainage area model by riparian municipality along a salmon river: Residential and municipal initiatives (Phase 2)
Approved amount: $35,000 in 2017 *(1 of 2 years, total: $44,000)*
Funding provided to date: $35,000
Summary: During spring melt and heavy rains, urban areas along Matapédia River create sediment plumes and deposit areas affecting salmon habitat by filling pools and clogging spawning areas. This project is working to reduce peak flows and sediment inputs from problem sectors. Joint action by residents and municipalities is a key component. Optimum storm water management starts at residences and is enhanced by municipal interception, catchment and filtration practices.

Project Number: QC-2017-09
Recipient: Organisme de bassins versants de Kamouraska, L'Islet et Rivière-du-Loup
Title: Biological monitoring of thermal refuges in the Ouelle River watershed.
Approved amount: $14,000
Funding provided to date: $10,500
Summary: For several years, researchers have completed studies on the location of thermal refuges, monitored them with thermographs and studied the type of thermal refuges. This project conducted biological monitoring to determine if these refuges are used by parr or adult salmon. Each site was characterized by integrating land use upstream. Conservation or restoration initiatives were integrated, and recommendations of the conservation plan were addressed.

Project Number: QC-2017-10 & QC-2016-08
Recipient: Organisme de bassins versants Manicouagan. Fishway Refurbishing and improvement on Godbout River Project.
Approved amount: $7,500 in 2017 and $7,418 in 2016
Funding provided to date: $11,188.50
Summary: This project will address issues at Molson Falls fishway. Some security barriers are damaged and can cause injury to salmon. It will also address access during low flow periods. Several corrective measures will be undertaken including installing a control gate, repairing the walls, building a cage and a secure working area, and adding a winter protection structure to protect the catchment cage.

ASCF Grants 2014 – 2016

Note: This statement reflects only those projects that were completed in 2017 or are ongoing. All other projects from previous years have been finalized.

Scientific Advisory Committee

Project Number: IN-2015-02
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Cunjak)
Title: Patterns in the abundance and distribution of Atlantic salmon in Maritime rivers
Approved amount: $40,000
Funding provided to date: $40,000
Summary: This project is analyzing DFO's electrofishing data and returning adult salmon numbers in the Miramichi and Restigouche Rivers to determine whether spawner estimates correlate with indices of juvenile (parr) abundance and freshwater production (smolts). River warming on juvenile population trends and representivity of DFO electrofishing sites were also investigated.

New Brunswick

Project Number: NB-2014-11
Recipient: Meduxnekeag River Association Inc.
Title: Meduxnekeag Watershed Salmon Habitat Restoration Plan
Approved amount: $15,000 *(2 of 2 years)*
Funding provided to date: $14,619.40 (unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)
Summary: MRA participated 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.

GRANTS & STATUS

2014–2016 Project Grants

Project Number: NB-2014-16
Recipient: Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance
Title: Broken Brooks: Monitoring and Restoration activities in the Petitcodiac River
Approved amount: $20,000 for 2016 *(3 of 3 years, total: $60,000)*
Funding provided to date: $60,000
Summary: PWA monitored, restored and enhanced salmon habitat and numbers. An assessment of potential fish passage barriers in the watershed was completed and rehabilitation activities were undertaken. Over the course of this 3-year project, access was restored to more than 105 km of stream habitat.

Project Number: NB-2015-15
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Gray)
Title: Thermal infrared remote sensing to identify critical thermal refuges in southern NB rivers.
Approved amount: $7,000 *(2 of 2 years, total: $27,000)*
Funding provided to date: $27,000
Summary: Using remote sensing, this project mapped the frequency and distribution of thermal refuges in Hammond, Kennebecasis, and Pollet Rivers. Airborne optical and thermal infrared imaging techniques were employed to identify thermal refuges and link to landscape-level GIS variables for the development of a long-term aquatic monitoring plan.

Project Number: NB-2016-03
Recipient: Conseil de gestion du bassin versant de la rivière Restigouche
Title: Kedgwick River Watershed Management Plan
Approved amount: $9,000
Funding provided to date: $6,750
Summary: This project is developing a management plan of Kedgwick River with concrete actions and priorities. The plan will characterize the present condition by analyzing reports, data and existing studies, complete inventories of habitat and salmon populations and characterize fishing effort. It is also intended to develop a dialogue with governments and local First Nations about fishing licenses.

Project Number: NB-2016-05
Recipient: Fort Folly First Nation
Title: Restoring endangered inner Bay of Fundy Atlantic salmon to the Petitcodiac River 2016
Approved amount: $30,000
Funding provided to date: $30,000
Summary: Monitoring the various life stages of salmon currently residing in the Petitcodiac contributed to the assessment of the effectiveness of the various restocking approaches. Public outreach targeted the Greater Moncton population. As a partner in the Conservation Sea Cage project, juvenile salmon smolt were collected and adults were returned to the Petitcodiac.

Newfoundland & Labrador

Project Number: NL-2015-04
Recipient: Memorial University (Dr. Craig Purchase)
Title: Incubation sensitivity to winter temperatures in four DU's of Atlantic salmon in Canada
Approved amount: $33,000 for 2016
Funding provided to date: $24,750 *(this project was scaled back to a single year of funding and unallocated funds were returned to the provincial pool)*
Summary: Official start time of this project was delayed until Spring 2016. This project aims to monitor the response of salmon to changes in temperature on their development. The differences from Exploits River salmon will be compared among 8 rivers from 4 DUs (Labrador, Northeast Newfoundland, South NL, Northwest NL).

Project Number: NL-2015-05
Recipient: Memorial University (Dr. Van zyll de Jong)
Title: Development of river restoration planning and analysis tool
Approved amount: $20,000 for 2016 *(2 of 2 years, total: $46,500)*
Funding provided to date: $41,500
Summary: This project aims to develop a river restoration planning and analysis tool for consistent and thorough planning and evaluation of the potential effects of proposed projects on river habitat and function, particularly for Atlantic salmon.

Project Number: NL-2015-07
Recipient: Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
Title: Salmon Tracking and Falls Remediation Plan
Approved amount: $17,552
Funding provided to date: $14,210.80 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*

Nunatsiavut Government

GRANTS & STATUS

2014–2016 Project Grants

Summary: With this project, SAEN commissioned a smolt fence, including a camera system to enumerate out-migrating smolts. They also transferred and tagged 20 adult salmon from the Exploits River to the Rennies River.

Project Number: NL-2016-01
Recipient: Freshwater Alexander-Bays Ecosystem Corporation
Title: Evaluation of habitat expansion outcomes on Upper Tera Nova River, Phase 2
Approved amount: $23,000
Funding provided to date: $23,000
Summary: This project monitored water flow and salmon migration through the Mollyguajeck Falls fishway on the Upper Terra Nova River.

Project Number: NL-2016-06
Recipient: Miawpukek First Nation
Title: Miawpukek Aquaculture Escapee Monitoring (MAEM) 2016
Approved amount: $34,873
Funding provided to date: $34,873
Summary: A counting fence on the Little River was used to sample all salmon that entered to determine if they were of aquaculture origin or were carrying any disease. Salmon were scale sampled and fin clipped. All farm fish species were recorded, sampled and removed from the system.

Project Number: NL-2016-07
Recipient: Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
Title: Smolt fence to gauge success of ongoing egg planting project in Rennies River
Approved amount: $14,780
Funding provided to date: $11,085
Summary: With this project, SAEN will commission a smolt fence, including a camera system to enumerate out-migrating smolts.

Project Number: NL-2016-08
Recipient: Salmonid Preservation Association for the Waters of Newfoundland
Title: Removal of obstructions to spawning salmonids throughout the river system
Approved amount: $17,240
Funding provided to date: $17,221 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: This project involved the removal of dams and other natural blockages by manned labour throughout Hughes Brook. Over hanging alders cause debris to build up – these were cleared as well.

Nova Scotia

Project Number: NS-2015-03
Recipient: Habitat Unlimited
Title: Initial South River watershed planning and restoration including the installation of a novel temperature reduction device.
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: This project has wrapped up by the recommendation of the provincial Advisory committee. The project aimed to begin substantive restoration in the South River in Antigonish County by developing a watershed strategy outlining potential restorative measures, conducting traditional restoration actions on existing salmon bearing streams, developing novel restoration actions to mitigate temperature issues, and continuing education initiatives.

Project Number: NS-2016-01
Recipient: Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation
Title: LaHave River Watershed Project 2016 – Main Sub-watershed Aquatic Connectivity Assessment and Restoration
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000
Summary: The proposed project expanded on the existing North Branch Sub-Watershed Fish Habitat Restoration Plan (drafted in 2012) to include an assessment of aquatic connectivity. Two high priority crossings, determined to be barriers to fish passage, were identified and restored during the 2016 field season. This project also involved a fish habitat restoration project on Juniper Brook.

Project Number: NS-2016-03
Recipient: Nova Scotia Salmon Association
Title: West River Sheet Harbour Acid Mitigation, Counting Fence & Science
Approved amount: $20,000
Funding provided to date: $20,000
Summary: This project ensured that the upgrade, operation and maintenance of a seasonal Atlantic salmon counting fence and trap as part of the West River-Sheet Harbour Acid Mitigation Project.

Prince Edward Island

Project Number: PEI-2015-05
Recipient: Trout Unlimited Prince County Chapter
Title: North Branch of Caruther's Brook Restoration
Approved amount: $17,000
Funding provided to date: $12,750 *(unspent grant funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: This project aimed to improve habitat on the North Branch of Caruther's Brook in the Mill River watershed. This was done by removing debris and obstructions, installation of in-stream structures, removal of dams and by conducting redd surveys.

Project Number: PEI-2016-01
Recipient: Abegweit Conservation Society
Title: Foundation Knowledge Building for Future PEI Salmon
Approved amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $15,000

GRANTS & STATUS

2014–2016 Project Grants

Summary: This project investigated life history values for the North Lake Creek Atlantic salmon population with the implication that this unique genetic cluster could have differing life history values with regards to spawning schedules and migration patterns.

Project Number: PEI-2016-02
Recipient: Abegweit Conservation Society
Title: Midgell Salmon Habitat Reclamation
Approved amount: $9,858
Funding provided to date: $9,858
Summary: This project applied consistent and continuous restoration methods to address habitat degradation from impoundments, natural and manmade, on the entire Midgell Watershed.

Project Number: PEI-2016-04
Recipient: Prince Edward Island Trappers' Association
Title: Atlantic Salmon Habitat Restoration and Enhancement in Two PEI Watersheds
Approved amount: $8,100
Funding provided to date: $8,100
Summary: PEITA conducted aquatic connectivity assessments and restored fish habitat in the Pisquid and Vernon Rivers. They also performed population surveys and water quality monitoring.

Quebec

Project Number: QC-2015-05
Recipient: Conseil des Innus de Pessamit
Title: Hydraulic features assessment of a spawning area on Betsiamites River and Boucher River
Approved amount: $6,900
Funding provided to date: $3,450
Summary: This project is collecting reference data on 2 spawning sites in order to document the impact of Bersimis Dam-2 flow management on spawning site hydrodynamics. One spawning site is located above the dam, and thus strongly influenced by dam management, while the other is located at the mouth of Boucher River and serves as a control point.

Association des pêcheurs sportifs de saumons de la rivière Rimouski

SUMMARY OF PROJECT AUDITS

Summary of Project Audits and Evaluations

In 2017 random audits of 23 Foundation funded 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. The project audits supplement the assessment of performance completed by staff through review of the draft funding agreement, together with interim and final project 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 2017 the following recipient groups were audited for performance:

New Brunswick Projects

NB-2017-01	Association des bassins versants de la Grande et Petite Rivière Tracadie
NB-2017-03	Comité Sauvons Nos Rivières Neguac
NB-2017-05	Eel River Bar First Nation
NB-2017-12	Nashwaak Watershed Assocation Inc.
NB-2017-15	Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance
NB-2017-17	Southeastern Anglers Association

Nova Scotia Projects

NS-2015-02	Dalhousie University
NS-2017-02	Cheticamp River Salmon Association
NS-2017-03	Inverness South Anglers Association
NS-2017-06	Sackville Rivers Association

Prince Edward Island Projects

PEI-2017-03	Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation

Newfoundland & Labrador Projects

NL-2016-09	Town of Holyrood
NL-2017-01	Environment Resources Management Association
NL-2017-02	Gander Bay Indian Band Council
NL-2017-03	Humber Arm Environmental Association Inc.
NL-2017-04	Humber Arm Environmental Association Inc.
NL-2017-10	Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
NL-2017-11	Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
NL-2017-12	Town of Holyrood

Quebec Projects

QC-2016-05	Institut national de la recherche scientifique (St-Hilaire)
QC-2017-03	Association des pêcheurs sportifs de saumons de la rivière Rimouski
QC-2017-08	Organisme de bassin versant Matapédia-Restigouche
QC-2017-10	Organisme de bassins versants Manicouagan

Richmond Bay Watershed Association

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, 2017, 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, 2017. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated March 19, 2018.

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, 2017 are a fair summary of those financial statements, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Fredericton, NB
March 19, 2018

MacMillan Lawrence & Lawrence

Chartered Accountants

REPORTS & STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position

		December 31, 2017	December 31, 2016
Assets			
Current			
Cash and cash equivalents		$ 349,931	$ 603,643
Receivables		42,317	74,427
Prepaids		17,646	3,252
		409,894	681,322
Investments		42,869,372	40,148,099
		$ 43,279,266	$ 40,829,421
Liabilities			
Current			
Payables and accruals		$ 386,559	$ 305,625
Net Assets			
Reserve Fund – Internally Restricted		218,959	207,068
Endowment Fund – Externally Restricted		42,616,188	40,262,382
ANBL – Externally Restricted		57,560	54,346
		42,892,707	40,523,796
		$ 43,279,266	$ 40,829,421

Approved on behalf of the Board:

Director

Director

REPORTS & STATEMENTS

Statement of Operations and Change in Net Assets

Year ended December 31,	2017	2016
Revenue	$ 4,229,588	$ 4,667,923
Expenses		
Administration	442,026	436,975
Grants	1,216,101	1,078,904
Investment management fees	202,550	200,638
	1,860,677	1,716,517
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	$ 2,368,911	$ 2,951,406
Net assets, beginning of year	$ 40,523,796	$ 37,572,390
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	2,368,911	2,951,406
Net assets, end of year	$ 42,892,707	$ 40,523,796

Statement of Remuneration:

For the 2017 Fiscal Year total remuneration paid to one Foundation employee whose remuneration exceeds $100,000 per year was $152,483 consisting of the following: Salary = $117,980; fees = $0; travel expenses = $19,103; CPP = $2,564; EI = $836, 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
Jim Jones · Moncton, NB
John LeBoutillier · Montréal, QC
Denis Losier · Moncton, NB
Evelyne Meltzer · Halifax, NS
Chief David Peter Paul · Pabineau First Nation, NB

L-R: John LeBoutillier, Jim Lawley, Jim Jones, Katharine Mott, Hon. Remi Bujold (Chair), Joan Marie Aylward, Robert Bishop, Paul Michael. *Missing: Chief David Peter-Paul, Denis Losier, Evelyne Meltzer.*

Board Committees

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

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

Policy & Program:
J. Jones
P. Michael (Chair)
D. Losier
E. Meltzer

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

Staff

Stephen Chase, *Executive Director*
Darla Saunders, *Conservation Program Manager*
Krystal Binns, *Conservation Program Coordinator*
Allyson Heustis, *Conservation Program Coordinator*

L-R: Darla Saunders, Allyson Heustis, Krystal Binns and Stephen Chase

ASCF VOLUNTEERS

Advisory Committees

Scientific Advisory Committee

L-R: Yvon Coté, Brian Dempson, Peter Cronin, Stephen Chase (Executive Director), David Reddin (Chair), John Bagnall, Marsha Vicaire, Francois Caron. *Missing: Dr. Rick Cunjak.*

Newfoundland & Labrador Advisory Committee

L-R: Fred Parsons (Chair), Brian Dempson, Dr. Martha Robertson, Gregory Jeddore, Jim McCarthy, Chris Wessel and Rick Maddigan. *Missing: Calvin Francis.*

New Brunswick Advisory Committee

L-R: Jim Marriner, David Dunn, Todd Kennedy, Dr. Michelle Gray, Sara Richard, Kathryn Collet (Chair) and Patricia Saulis. *Missing: John Pugh.*

Prince Edward Island Advisory Committee

L-R: Mike Durant, Randy Angus, Allan Ledgerwood (Chair), Rob Burnett, Ottis McInnis and Rosanne MacFarlane. *Missing: Mary Finch and Joshua Lindsay.*

Nova Scotia Advisory Committee

L-R: Larry Shortt, Michael Pollard, Alex Levy, Shane O'Neil (Chair), Pat Wall, Jim Gourlay and Darryl Murrant. *Missing: Sana Kavanagh.*

Comité consultatif provincial du Québec

L-R: Sébastien Ross, André St-Hilaire, René Lafond (Chair), Sylvie Tremblay and Ronald Cormier. *Missing: Jean Malec, Jean Boudreault, and Pierre-Luc Desjardins.*

2017 VOLUNTEER PROFILES

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

Tom Callaghan

Meet Tom Callaghan, a member of our New Brunswick Advisory Committee.

Callaghan was born and raised in the Campbellton area and has always loved the outdoors.

"But I never had time to fish or run the river due to the fact that the business I was in did not allow much free time in the summer," he said. "When I sold my shares in the business, I was approached by the manager of the Restigouche Salmon Club to see if I would be interested in replacing him when he retired. I told him that I had no experience on the river, but he convinced me to meet some of the members of the club. To make a long story short, I agreed to give it a try."

In 2002, Callaghan became a founding member of the Restigouche River Watershed Management Committee (RRWMC) and still sits on the committee. The committee is heavily involved in habitat protection and rehabilitation.

"I became quite involved in many of the various projects. The success of many of the RRWMC projects must have caught someone's interest as I was approached to apply to become a volunteer with the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation. It is extremely interesting to review the various projects submitted to the ASCF and to see the number of dedicated volunteers who work to improve both habitat and stock."

Callaghan said he went from someone who knew nothing of the river or Atlantic salmon to one who now realizes there is so much more to learn and to do to ensure the survival of this amazing fish.

"Volunteering, whether with the ASCF or with the various groups that we fund, is both good for the soul and great for the salmon."

Meet Ronald Cormier, a member of our Québec Advisory Committee.

A business graduate of Université du Québec à Rimouski, Cormier has been the executive director of the Bonaventure Association of Sport Fishers since June of 1994. He is also involved in regional and community development.

Cormier has been a member of the Atlantic Salmon Conservation for one year. He notes he got involved because of the ASCF's commitment to Atlantic salmon and the work it does with numerous stakeholders.

"I stay involved because of my respect for Atlantic salmon," said Cormier. "I respect its resilience."

Whenever he can, Cormier spreads the word about the great work the ASCF does, especially with salmon river managers in his region.

Ronald Cormier

Meet Brian Dempson, a member of our Newfoundland & Labrador Advisory Committee and the Science Advisory Committee.

Brian Dempson

Dempson is a retired research scientist and currently maintains a scientist emeritus position with Fisheries and Oceans Canada in St. John's, NL. He spent more than 35 years investigating the ecology and population dynamics of Atlantic salmon and Arctic char, and is still actively involved with researchers and students at the University of Waterloo, as well as salmonid scientists in Scandinavia.

Dempson joined both ASCF committees in late 2015 and saw the opportunity as a logical extension of his work with DFO.

"I welcomed the opportunity to use my knowledge and experience to interact with others in reviewing and evaluating programs focused on salmon conservation initiatives," he said. "I have already gained a much greater appreciation for the work that various community organizations do in conserving and restoring salmon habitat."

"Atlantic salmon continue to face considerable challenges despite the closure of, or reduction in, most ocean fisheries for salmon in the Northwest Atlantic. Thus, the species still needs all the assistance it can get and the ASCF is doing an excellent job in helping to promote and fund important conservation programs. Being part of it is a rewarding experience."

2017 VOLUNTEER PROFILES

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

Meet Mary Finch, a member of the Prince Edward Island Advisory Committee.

Mary Finch

Finch was born and raised in the Yukon and her interest in all things aquatic was sparked by watching Yukon River Chinook Salmon.

"I was (and still am) amazed at these fish that travel over 3000 km upstream to reach their spawning grounds. So much drive!" said Finch.

"I attended post-secondary school and worked in Southern Ontario at which time I became acquainted with Lake Ontario Atlantic Salmon. I worked with local conservation groups in helping to re-establish this iconic species."

Finch became involved with the ASCF in the last couple of years shortly after she moved to PEI.

"I stay involved because as the mother of two young girls, I want there to be salmon for them to watch. I also am involved because having robust populations of Atlantic salmon means healthy ecosystems with clean freshwater and excellent habitat. Clean water benefits everyone!"

Finch said she is continually amazed by the great work that the ASCF completes in the region.

"There are so many fantastic volunteers that work tirelessly to complete on-the-ground rehabilitation work. The sheer volume of work completed is phenomenal and having such a solid foundation as ASCF is a huge bonus as it can be leveraged into so much more!"

Finch recently started a new role as the Watershed Ecologist for the province of PEI and will be working with PEI Watershed Alliance providing support and assistance to the approximately 24 community based watershed groups in the province.

Meet Jim McCarthy, a member of our Newfoundland & Labrador Advisory Committee

McCarthy was born in Labrador but grew up for the most part in Pictou, Nova Scotia. He has been an associate biologist with an international company based in St. Johns, Newfoundland and Labrador for the last 20 years. He completed his MSc at Memorial University in 1996 on brook trout and forest harvesting buffer sizes.

Before attending Memorial University, McCarthy was a volunteer with the USFWS for two years in Alaska where he assisted with the assessment of seabird colony success following the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Jim McCarthy

"After volunteering in Alaska, I became overly enthusiastic about salmon fishing and conservation during resource development," he said. "I'm currently a part-time PhD student at the Canadian Rivers Institute at UNB (Fredericton) under the supervision of Dr. Allen Curry."

"I'm also currently the chair of the Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland's (SAEN) Project Committee and have been a member of the association for almost 20 years. I've called St. John's, Newfoundland my home since 1987 and have two beautiful children (Erin and Jesse). In addition to fly fishing, I enjoy building fly rods and swimming with the local club RockSwim."

McCarthy joined the ASCF's NL Advisory Committee last year but has been involved with ASCF through active funding opportunities with SAEN.

He notes he became involved with the ASCF because it offers opportunities for local community-based groups to receive funding for "hands on" applications of their conservation interests.

"That's a very exciting prospect for many non-profit organizations and it's something I find exciting and rewarding."

"ASCF is a great organization that practices what it preaches. It's a very helpful and resourceful team that helps community groups get conservation projects off the ground. They're keenly interested in all project types from elaborate research initiatives on conservation to local community-related education and Atlantic salmon enhancement opportunities."

2017 VOLUNTEER PROFILES

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

Michael Pollard

Meet Michael Pollard, a member of our Nova Scotia Advisory Committee.

Pollard said growing up on a farm he learned that there is always something that needs to be done and work is never really finished.

"But my mom taught me that if you really like/love doing something you will never really work a day, it is always a pleasure," he said. "I took to the outdoors and it has stuck with me. As a youngster, I was involved in Sea cadets learning survival skills, shooting, leadership, discipline, and a love for the outdoors. I got involved with the Halifax Wildlife Association and the NS Federation of Anglers and Hunters (NSFAH) and found that mentoring new fishers or hunters provided me the excuse to be outdoors while instilling the ethics I believe we need to be focused on sustainability. Exposure to the Canadian Wildlife Association just carried that drive into conservation."

Pollard became involved with the ASCF about three years ago.

"I was asked to assist on the evaluation of the funding applications for Nova Scotia. I had done a similar task with the NSFAH and wanted a better perspective on fishing, water, habitat, and species management/conservation/sustainability."

He said when he was asked to participate in the ASCF he was pleased to, as he could see the need for the organization.

"We need people who are willing to address the issues involved, take that with them into their daily lives, and transfer that to new leaders who can be cultured into future champions for habitat, wildlife, and conservation while still being consumers."

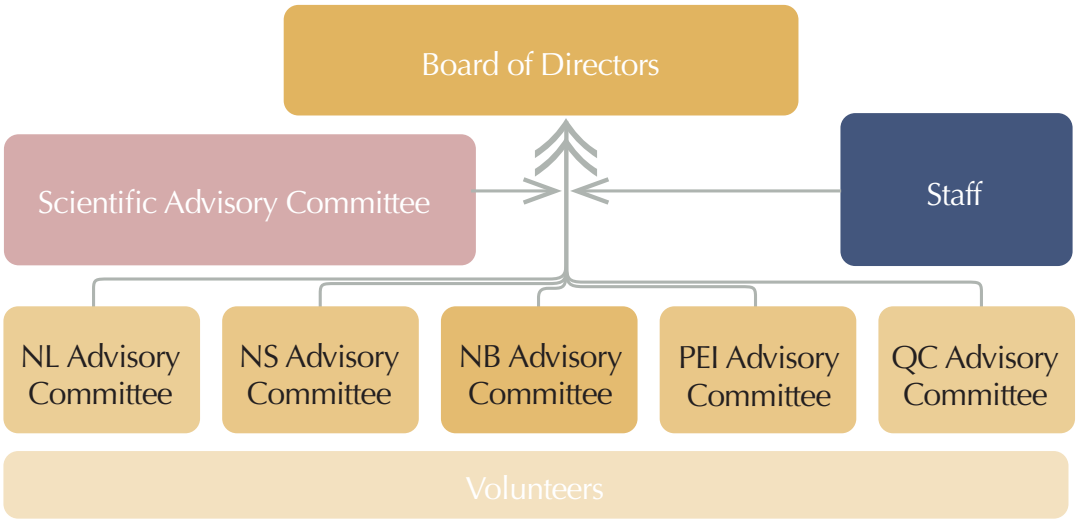
"It becomes part of your life and if you really get involved it will stay part of your life forever. However, the real reason is we also need people to help direct, balance and guide others on a wider basis to take the ethical path - help government, clubs, organizations, and individuals to understand we can make a difference."

Pollard encourages others to get involved with ASCF or similar groups.

"There is much good work being done by many organizations who often need all the help they can get. It will better your life and maybe the lives of others. It will enrich your daily and yearly existence and because of that I try to get others directly involved. Find the organization that needs you, take the time to understand the value principles, apply your own ethical code and help as much as possible. You will be a better person for it and we just might leave something valuable for our kids."

Inverness South Anglers Association

ASCF STRUCTURAL MODEL



CONSERVATION PARTNERS

The 2017 List of Our Conservation Partners

Abegweit Aboriginal Youth Environmental Services
Abegweit Conservation Society
Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk
Agence Mamu Innu Kaikusseth
Alcool NB Liquor
Amec Foster Wheeler
Anqotum Resource Management
Arpin Canot Restigouche
Association de conservation de la vallée du Gouffre
Association de la rivière Sainte-Marguerite
Association des bassins versants de la Grande et Petite Rivière Tracadie
Association des pêcheurs sportifs de la Bonaventure
Association des pêcheurs sportifs de saumons de la rivière Rimouski
Association de protection de la Rivière Saint-Jean
Atlantic Canada Fish Farmers Association
Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
Atlantic Salmon Federation
Belledune Regional Environmental Association
Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation
Buctouche First Nation
Boralex
Caisse Desjardins
Canadian National Railway Company
Canadian Rivers Institute
Canoe Kayak New Brunswick
Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Cheticamp River Salmon Association
Charlo Fish Hatchery
Clean Foundation
Coasters Association
Collaboration for Atlantic Salmon Tomorrow
Comité Sauvons Nos Rivières Neguac
Comité de développement touristique et économique de Godbout
Conseils de Bande Innus Essipit, Pessamit, Innu Takuaikan Uashat mak Mani-Utenam, Ekuanitshit, Nutashkuan, Unamen Shipu et Pakua Shipu
Conseil de Gestion du Bassin Versant de la rivière Restigouche
Conservation Corps Newfoundland and Labrador
Cooke Aquaculture
Corner Brook Port Corp
Corner Brook Stream Development Corporation
Corporation de gestion de la rivière St-Jean Saguenay
Corporation de gestion des rivières Matapédia-Patapédia
Craig Construction & Cabinet Making
Community Based Environmental Monitoring Network
Dalhousie University
Ducks Unlimited PEI
Eastern Shore Wildlife Association
EcoAction
École Marée Montante
École W. F. Boisvert
Eel River Bar First Nation
Elsipogtog First Nation
Employment and Social Development Canada - Emploi et développement social Canada
Énergie NB Power
Environment and Climate Change Canada - Environnement et Changement Climatique Canada
Environment Canada
Environment Resources Management Association
Fédération des véhicules tout-terrain de Nouveau-Brunswick
Fédération québécoise des municipalités
Fédération québécoise du saumon atlantique
Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Pêches et Océans Canada
Fondation de la Faune du Québec
Fondation pour le saumon du grand Gaspé
Fondation Saumon
Fort Folly First Nation
Friends of the Kouchibouguacis
Gander Bay Indian Band Council
Gespe'gewaq Mi'gmaq Resource Council
Glencore
Greening Spaces Program
Groupe des bassins versants de la Baie des Chaleurs
Hammond River Angling Association
Highland Ford
HILCON Limited
Humber Arm Environmental Association Inc.

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

The 2017 List of Our Conservation Partners

Hydro-Québec
Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Innu Nation
Institut national de recherche en sciences et technologies pour l'environnement et l'agriculture (France)
Institut national de recherche scientifique
Inverness South Anglers Association
Jean Charles Côté
JD Irving Ltd.
Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
Labrador Hunting and Fishing Association
L.E. Reinsborough School
LaHave River Salmon Association
Listuguj First Nation
Mabou River Inn
Main Brook Research and Development Corporation
Mecatina Outfitters
Memorial University
Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI
Miawpukek First Nation
Ministre du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques du Québec
Ministère des forêts, de la faune et des parcs du Québec
Ministre de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles du Québec
Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee
Miramichi Salmon Association
Mitacs
Morell River Management Coop
MRC Avignon
MRC de la Matapédia
Municipalité de Causapscal
Municipalité de Godbout
Municipalité de Matapédia
Municipalité de Neguac
Municipalité de Sainte-Florence
Municipalité de Tracadie-Sheila
Municipality of St-Louis-de-Kent
Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
Napetipi River Outfitters
Nashwaak Watershed Association Inc.
Nature Conservancy of Canada
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council - Conseil de recherches en sciences naturelles et en génie
Nepisiguit Salmon Association
New Brunswick Community College - Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick
New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries – Ministère d'Agriculture, aquaculture et pêches
New Brunswick Department of Transportation and Infrastructure – Ministère de transport et infrastructure
New Brunswick Department of Energy and Resource Development - Ministère du Développement de l'énergie et des ressources
New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government - Ministère de l'environnment et des gouvernements locaux du Nouveau-Brunswick
New Brunswick Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour - Ministère de l'éducation postsecondaire, de la formation et du travail de Nouveau-Brunswick
New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund - Fonds de fiducie de la faune du Nouveau-Brunswick
Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation
Newfoundland & Labrador Forestry and Agrifoods Agency
Nova Scotia Community College
Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
Nova Scotia Museums Grant
Nova Scotia Salmon Association
Nova Scotia Youth Conservation Corps
NSLC Adopt A Stream
Nunatsiavut Government
Nunatukavut Community Council
Ocean Tracking Network
Organisme de bassin versant Matapédia-Restigouche
Organisme de bassins versants de Kamouraska, L'Islet et Rivière-du-Loup
Organisme de bassins versants du Saguenay
Organisme de bassins versants Manicouagan
Pabineau First Nation
Matrix Solutions
Parks Canada - Parcs Canada
Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance
Pictou County Rivers Association
PotashCorp
Prince Edward Island Department of Communities, Land & Environment
Prince Edward Island Department of Transportation, Infrastructure & Energy
Prince Edward Island Employment Development Agency
Prince Edward Island Forest, Fish and Wildlife Division
Prince Edward Island Jobs For Youth Program
Prince Edward Island Post-Secondary Program
Prince Edward Island Watershed Management Fund
Prince Edward Island Watershed Alliance
Prince Edward Island Wildlife Conservation Fund
Programme de mise en valeur des habitats de la Côte-Nord
Qalipu Mikmaq First Nation
Quidi Vidi Rennie's River Development Foundation
Red Pine Sanitary Landfill
Richmond Bay Watershed Association
Ristigouche Salmon Club
Royal Bank of Canada Blue Water Fund
Sackville Rivers Association
Sage Environmental Fund
Salamander Foundation
Salmon Preservation Association for the Waters of Newfoundland
Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
Scoudouc ATV Club
Shediac Bay Watershed Association
Shell Environmental Fund
Société du Plan Nord
Société de gestion des rivières de Gaspé
Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability
Southeastern Anglers Association
Stantec
St. Mary's First Nation
St. Mary's River Association
St. Paul's Salmon Fishing Club
St-Ignace Golf Club
Sussex Fish and Game Association
TD Bank Friends of the Environment
The Greenhouse and Garden Store
Tobique First Nation
Tobique Salmon Club
Torngat National Park
Town of Holyrood
Town of Pasadena
Trent University
Université Laval
University of Hull
University of New Brunswick
University of Prince Edward Island
Village de Nigadoo
Watershed Technologies
White Bay Central Development Association
Woodmillers Inc.
World Wildlife Fund

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

Our 2017 Conservation Partners

Alcool NB Liquor

Canadian National Railway