The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Investing in a partnership of knowledge.

When I look back to 2005, the year that six committed salmon conservationists founded the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation, I find surprising and rewarding to consider how far this Foundation has come. In those days we knew there was a large need for a permanent source of funding to help save the wild Atlantic salmon. Today, thirteen years later we have a much clearer idea how much conservation action is necessary if we are to save this iconic animal species.

In this annual report we are reviewing the year 2018, our twelfth year in operation. As in recent past years, 2018 was an exceptional year in helping so many community groups, First Nations, researchers and others to achieve new gains in conservation across Atlantic Canada and Québec.

This Foundation has a great record in helping facilitate and improve the conservation status of wild Atlantic salmon in Canada. The reasons are quite straightforward. First, we listen carefully to our expert advisory committees and to the recipient groups how we can strengthen and improve our granting, information sharing and administrative processes. Secondly, we implement those improvements to make our Foundation responsive and facilitative, while maintaining administrative rigour.

2018 was the fifth year in which our Foundation made available over $1 million in grant funding. Providing at least one million dollars a year to support salmon conservation projects was our goal from the beginning. It's a goal that's firmly rooted in our long-term financial plan. Even though financial markets in 2018 exhibited relatively flat, even declining, growth, our financial plan retains the fiscal prudence expected by our Funding Agreement with the Government. We have taken solid steps to ensure that our investment portfolio retains capacity to ensure $1 million in grant funding remain available, even in the event of a investment market slow down.

During 2018 we struck new partnerships and worked with our recipient partners to elevate the quality of the projects we help support. It's clear, that over our twelve years in operation 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 and 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. 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.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

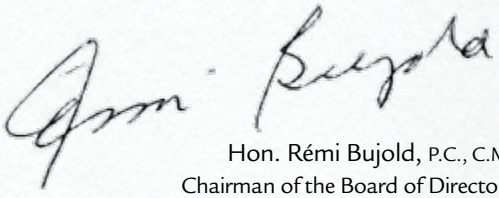
- Margaret Mead

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

There is no question, however, that our greatest pool of partners are the fifty committed volunteer experts serving on our six advisory committees. These advisory committee guide the quality of projects we help support. They are the "best of the best" in the salmon world and they freely dedicate their time and expertise to this Foundation to ensure we support the most effective conservation action. We are also indebted to our highly skilled Board of Directors who provide the oversight and ensure our policies maintain the Foundation as an effective force in salmon conservation.

I am deeply appreciative of the exceptional work of our talented staff; Darla, Allyson and Stephen provide the daily leadership and solid management to the Foundation that allows our policy and program to grow and innovate. Our staff are the main factor in building and maintaining the strong relationships with so many partners and stakeholders.

I am proud of our great team. The expert volunteers, hard working recipients, an excellent staff and visionary corporate supporters like Canadian National and the NB Liquor Corporation, all contributing to a 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.

It is rewarding to look back on twelve years of impressive growth in the demand for salmon conservation project funding in each of the provinces served by The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation. I have long been impressed with depth of effort exhibited by community groups and Indigenous organizations. Simply put, salmon conservation would not be advancing without their ongoing commitment at the grass roots level, river by river.

Growth in demand is a very positive development. Each year, the number of project proposals, the quality of those proposals and the clarity of need for funding has increased everywhere. It's a bittersweet situation, in which the volunteer resources need project funding, but the Foundation is stretched in its ability to deliver adequate funds. We estimate that we are able to fund approximately 50 percent of those good conservation project submissions.

We are proud of the reputation we have developed as a reliable granting entity and true partner to conservation groups. Every day we actively practice our mantra of "facilitating, not frustrating" the efforts of our conservation group partners. At the same time, we 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.

In managing the Foundation's grant funding program, I have come to understand that wild Atlantic salmon conservation is only possible if we encourage and sustain the committed volunteers who stand ready to pursue salmon conservation at the local level. Governments cannot save the salmon on their own. Therefore, it is imperative that the volunteer element remain engaged in salmon conservation action.

Corporation de gestion de la rivière Saint-Jean-du-Saguenay

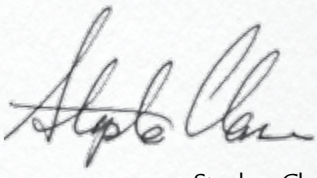
We are proud of the reputation we have developed as a reliable granting entity and true partner to conservation groups.

Stephen Chase
Executive Director ASCF

The Foundation follows a fiscally prudent, long-term financial plan. 2018 saw our trust fund market value hover around $42 million. We granted a further $1.1 million in project funding to sixty-five grants, representing a balanced mix of one-year and multi-year conservation project grants. This brought our overall ten-year contribution to $6.9 million with 475 funded projects. By selecting the best funding proposals, our leveraging (cash and in-kind) reached nearly $36 million, providing an impressive four to one ratio.

Importantly, ASCF project funding also helped sustain hundreds of jobs, primarily among seasonal and student workers in rural areas. These jobs are an important and significant contribution to rural economies, including improving opportunity to sustain eco-tourism.

The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation was created to fulfil its wild Atlantic salmon conservation mandate in perpetuity. It is a unique entity for its open, transparent and effective approach to funding worthy initiatives. Best of all, the ASCF is an excellent example of how government can help create a self-sustaining funding source of funding to benefit the community, forever.



Stephen Chase
Executive Director ASCF

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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 Québec 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 Québec. We are a volunteer-based organization that opened our doors twelve 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 Québec 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 twelfth year of operation. In 2018 the Foundation continued to build on the successful operational structure it created over the first eleven 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 eleventh round of grants in support of community salmon conservation projects as well as the 2019 call for funding proposals which closed in November.

Background

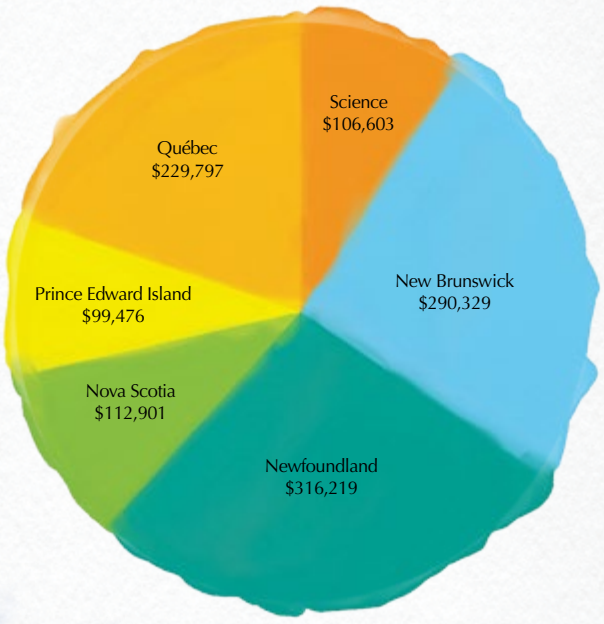
The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation (the Foundation) was formed by a group of volunteers who incorporated a non-profit organization in 2005 to prepare a proposal to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans to accept responsibility for the Atlantic Salmon Endowment Fund (ASEF) Program. The ASEF was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

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 2018

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Supporting Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation in Perpetuity!

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 Québec".

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 supervise and 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 2018

A report on objectives met, as stated in the 2018 Business Plan.

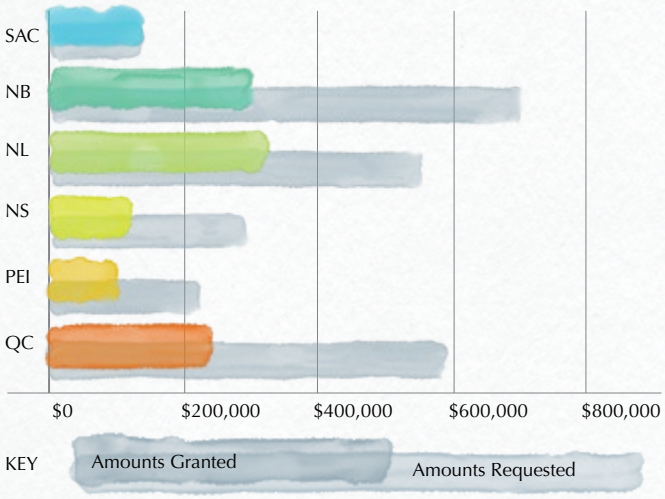
The following objectives were stated in the 2018 Business Plan. The following is a report on the extent to which those objectives were met:

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

2018 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 maintaining and slightly increasing the market value of the trust fund to exceed the inflation adjusted book value of the trust fund. This enabled the Foundation to increase the annual grant pool to $1,200,000 for 2019. The Board also maintains a reserve fund for the purpose of ensuring that the Foundation can preserve its ability to provide a minimum of $1 million in grant funding each year, into the future. In 2018 the financial markets demonstrated relatively flat growth, although by year end the market value of the trust fund continued to exceed the inflation adjusted book value.



Amounts granted & amounts requested in 2018

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

2018 Actions: As of 31 December 2018 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 2018 year-end amount as projected in the long-term financial strategy.

Up to and including 2018, the Foundation followed a funding allocation model developed by the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) and intended to ensure that "fair geographic distribution of funds required by the Funding Agreement. That formula was designed to optimize the Foundation's response to the respective conservation needs of each province with a basic fixed allocation to each province, supplemented with a funding distribution reflective of individual provincial conservation variables.

In addition, each year provincial conservation priorities are reviewed by each advisory committee to help direct funding where the optimum conservation 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.

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

2018 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 award 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.

The salmon modelling project reviewing conservation issues and causal factors affecting the survival of wild Atlantic salmon continued into its second year, with positive indication it will help lay the basis of wise and cost-effective investment in wild Atlantic salmon conservation initiatives. In addition, the SAC issued three new requests for proposals on priority applied research initiatives.

FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES 2018

The following objectives were stated in the 2018 Business Plan

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

2018 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 project 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 2018 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. In addition, the Foundation is building a new database reporting system to facilitate data access and reporting ability.

Up to and including 2018, 474 salmon conservation projects had been funded by the Foundation through a total investment of $6.9 million in grant funding. Overall, from inception, 758 funding proposals have been received by the Foundation, including those received in 2018 for the 2019 round of grants. The total value of the projects approved up to and including 2018, in both cash and in-kind contributions, was over $36 million. This resulted in an overall leveraging benefit of approximately four to one.

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

2018 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.

2018 Actions: Throughout 2018 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 2018, 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.

Restigouche River Watershed Management Council

FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES 2018

The following objectives were stated in the 2018 Business Plan

Humber Arm Environmental Association

In addition, a schedule of webinars featuring a of well-known speakers on a broad range fish and freshwater issues was held. Several expert individuals from Canada and abroad were invited to present the topics and lead discussion on-line with regular attendance by representatives of First Nations, NGOs, governments, academic institutions and businesses. The series has provided major new opportunities for information sharing and partnership building. In 2018, 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. The seventh, and final, "Protect Our Rivers" event in 2018 raised $69,000, contributing to a combined total of $524,000 for river conservation in New Brunswick.

The Foundation was also the recipient of a $60,000 grant from Canadian National Railway for allocation of $20,000 each year over three years to a salmon river conservation project located in a watershed with a CN river crossing in Québec, New Brunswick or Nova Scotia. In 2018 the allocation was made to a project in Québec. For 2019 the allocation will be made in Nova Scotia.

Objective 7: To seek new sources of funding to build the Foundation's trust fund in support of meeting increased and reasonable demand for conservation project funding.

2018 Actions: By 2018, with eleven years of experience in issuing project funding grants, the Foundation was in an excellent position to assess the degree to which available funding is meeting the actual need for conservation project funding. The number and the quality of funding proposals received by the Foundation has consistently increased over the years and, an analysis by the expert advisory committees indicated that approximately 50 percent of the demand for project funding in 2018 was being met and that several very reasonable, and strong, conservation project proposals could not be funded.

The Foundation fiscally prudent business model followed by the Foundation, and required by the Funding Agreement, places a limit on the annual allocation of grant funding at a level that will not erode the capital of the trust fund. In order to fund the additional, and demonstrated, need for conservation project funding the Board determined that a larger trust fund would be necessary.

Throughout 2018, various initiatives were taken to inform both Members of Parliament and DFO officials of the strong business model represented by the Foundation in facilitating community-based action, in perpetuity. Several conservation organizations, First Nations and others encouraged MPs to support increasing the principal of the Foundation's trust fund as early as 2019, the International Year of the Salmon.

Cheticamp River Salmon Association

2018 PROJECT PROFILES • NL

Everyone knows that before you can build anything you need a strong foundation.

There were likely some wet feet, but thanks to the muscle and dedication of some volunteers things are literally running a lot smoother because of a stream restoration project undertaken by the Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation.

The project, which received $5,366 in funding from the ASCF, removed barriers and installed in-stream structures in Jim's Steady within the Indian Bay Watershed Management Area.

The project was truly a group effort. IBEC's team of project staff worked with board members and other community volunteers to remove blockages to fish migration. This involved the removal of pulp wood, the installation of in-stream structures. These enhancements will help improve fish migration and spawning throughout the length of the brook by deepening the stream beds, removing barriers for fish migration and creating resting pools for salmon and trout populations.

Past events caused some serious issues for this stretch of the watershed area. Historic logging practices have caused many of the banks to be washed out. A large fire also destroyed the surrounding forest causing an issue with surface water runoff.

Overall, the project achieved some impressive results including improving 250 m2 of stream habitat. Five volunteers added their efforts to IBEC's team of project staff to meet their restoration goals.

Indian Bay Ecosystem Corperation

2018 PROJECT PROFILES • QC

"This will allow us to estimate the total migration more precisely in the future."

Organisme de bassins versants Manicouagan

Atlantic salmon in Québec's Godbout River are getting some much-needed help from the Organisme de bassins versants Manicouagan (OBVM). The group recently completed a major undertaking to improve a fishway on the Godbout River and ensure salmon have access to 70 km of river habitat. The ASCF contributed a grant of 14 918 $ to this project.

In 2018, with the help of $14,000 in funding from the ASCF, OBVM is developing an action plan for conservation and enhancement.

The group's director, Normand Bissonnette, explains that the project has two objectives.

"The first is to build a model of Atlantic salmon migration using data from the fishway and the counting fence over the last 20 years along with data on water temperature and rate of flow. This will allow us to estimate the total migration more precisely in the future."

He notes this kind of information is crucial for the management of salmon resources.

"The second objective, is to identify the problems concerning the Atlantic salmon in the Godbout River and to formulate recommendations to solve those problems."

Bissonnette said the research is almost complete, adding the work of locating the spawning grounds on the northern portion of the territory is complete. Drafting the action plan is the next step.

"The goal is to provide an accurate and complete picture of the past (records and documentation) and current status of the salmon population and its habitat. Based on a framework of issues and recommendations, this action plan is essential for setting guidelines and objectives for project implementation, but also to provide tools for the sustainable development of the territory."

OBVM worked in partnership with the Fédération québécoise pour le saumon atlantique (FQSA) on this project.

2018 PROJECT PROFILES • NB

Looking for the ecosystem balance between Striped Bass and Atlantic Salmon.

The University of New Brunswick's latest ASCF funded research project may not involve working out in nature and standing in cold rivers and streams, but it's still very important to the future of Atlantic Salmon.

The university has received $6900 in funding and is writing a scientific literature review describing the feeding behaviour and prey preferences of Striped Bass during its spawning period, with emphasis on salmonids.

Samuel Andrews is one of Dr. Allen Curry's PhD. students and is writing the literature review. He explains that within the review they are summarizing all available Striped Bass diet and smolt predation studies occurring within the native range of Atlantic Salmon.

"Through this review we are assessing Striped Bass feeding ecology in Atlantic Salmon supporting rivers, characterizing Striped Bass feeding behaviour during their pre-spawn, spawn, and post-spawn periods, describing the findings and discussing the methods of all studies having reported Striped Bass predation on Atlantic Salmon smolt and parr, and providing a method for accurate assessment of smolt predation by Striped Bass."

Andrews adds the goal is threefold.

"We are aiming to quantify the relative predation threat of Striped Bass to Atlantic Salmon, to summarize the research approaches and studies so far conducted to describe Striped Bass predatory interactions with Atlantic Salmon smolt, and to propose study designs and methods to better evaluate the interactions between Atlantic Salmon, Striped Bass, and the fisheries that they support."

He notes the research is important as Atlantic Salmon face numerous survival threats throughout their complex and charismatic life histories such as rising water temperatures, commercial fishing and habitat fragmentation such as that imposed by dams.

"Recovering Striped Bass populations are now also suspected to pose a threat to Atlantic salmon smolt during spring when the two species briefly overlap in river estuaries. The predator/prey relationship of Striped Bass and Atlantic Salmon however, remains poorly understood and greatly understudied."

Andrews said all such studies conducted to date contain numerous assumptions and inconsistencies leading to inaccurate estimates of smolt predation.

"Removing Striped Bass has been proposed as being an easier solution to address estuarine smolt mortality. Though, it remains unclear if Striped Bass pose a significant threat to smolt, if Striped Bass removal would help adult salmon returns, or what the ecosystem wide consequences of a Striped Bass removal would be. Prior to making such large ecosystem altering changes, researchers must first accurately describe the Striped Bass/smolt interaction and carefully measure smolt survival, both critical steps that have yet to be accomplished. Until these knowledge gaps are bridged there is no way of knowing if the easy solution is in fact the right solution, or even a viable solution at all."

The project is nearly complete and only requires final review and minor corrections, updates and clarifications prior to submission.

The ultimate goal?

"To better inform both our understanding of current smolt predation studies and the design of all future smolt predation studies. Through these clarifications, this review will allow for both accurate estimates of smolt loss and effective management to help mitigate smolt losses if Striped Bass predation is proven to have a significant effect."

University of New Brunswick

2018 PROJECT PROFILES • NS

Volunteers continue with salmon habitat enhancement on the West branch of the St. Mary's River.

Like many of the projects the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation funds, the most common end goal is restoring precious waterways to help make a more desirable environment for Atlantic salmon and other species.

The latest project undertaken by the St. Mary's River Association is no different as volunteers continue with salmon habitat enhancement on the West branch of the St. Mary's River in Nova Scotia.

With the help of $23,401 in grant funding from the ASCF in 2018, this project aims to implement the St. Mary's River Recovery Strategy (2013) and address habitat issues in the West Branch resulting from years of erosion - due to floods and ice - which has caused the channel to become very wide and shallow. The channel results in warm water temperatures in the summer and excessive ice production in the winter, which scours the channel further and destroys redds.

Specifically, this project allowed continued restoration work to be done in the upper section as set out in the 2014 Restoration of the West Branch of the St. Mary's River Report.

The SMRA West River (St. Mary's) Habitat Restoration Project is a multi-year project to restore and repair the river's habitat and to date almost twenty kilometers of the river has been completed. The restoration includes a variety of structures that are aimed at creating a narrower deeper channel with more pools.

Kenny Silver, president of the St. Mary's River Association, notes positive results are already being seen at the sites that have been restored in 2014, 2015 and 2016, including increased numbers and quality of holding pools, increased spawning, and improved habitat around cold water refuge areas which are being used by fish. Trees were also planted to stabilize river banks and are doing well, and debris was removed for stream bed making it better salmon spawning habitat.

He adds the restoration work is expensive and would not have been possible without the funding help of various partners.

The St. Mary's River, located in Nova Scotia's Eastern mainland, is one of the province's largest rivers with a drainage basin of over 1,300 sq. km. There has been a long history of log drives on the river to deliver timber from its headwaters to the estuary for shipment throughout the world. The river was also used to power sawmills, a transportation route for people, and providing an abundant source of food in the form of fish. By the mid 1800s the affect of exploitation on the river was apparent.

The St. Mary's River Association was formed in the late 1970s by a few individuals who were interested in the health of the river and in particular the long-term health of Atlantic Salmon stocks. The group continues its tireless work today.

St.Mary's River Association

2018 PROJECT PROFILES • PEI

Our partners undertake to help the Atlantic salmon involve working to restore habitat and improve conditions.

Many of the projects our partners undertake to help the Atlantic salmon involve working to restore habitat and improve conditions.

This hold true for the Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation (CQWF).

Thanks to grant funding of $21,750 in 2018, the group focused its efforts on the West and Clyde Rivers. The Clyde River is a sub-watershed of the West River. The project involves restoring degraded fish habitat and surrounding riparian area mainly by using intensive restoration techniques and encouraging good landowner stewardship in the upland areas of the watershed.

The overall goal is to restore the river and surrounding environment back to a former state where a sustainable and an abundant population of Atlantic salmon and brook trout can thrive.

"We began working with the ASCF in 2011, and since then we've made incredible progress," said the group's Jordan Condon. "Since then, we've been actively working to remove large amounts of legacy sediment from critical habitat areas and the headwaters region. Identified salmon spawning areas is one critical habitat component. To enhance these areas we'll manually rake the gravel and cobble spawning substrate clean of silts and/or use brushmats and sediment traps to directly remove the sediments from the river."

Condon notes the sediment issue on the West River is their biggest limiting factor, so managing the legacy sediment, and upland point sources of sediment is vital to their watershed efforts.

"Our watershed group is just beginning to see encouraging fish stock returns over the past two years. Progress is being made, but there is still lots of work left to be done!" There has been lots of work completed at the three major tributaries - Quinn's, Howell's, and Skye Brook – and at the Brookvale headwaters region. "For future years, our efforts will be focused on the last remaining sections of river that have not received any restoration activities yet, maintenance on already cleared sections, expanding our efforts on critical hotspots components (spawning areas or juvenile habitat), working with the local residents/community to involve them in the process as much as possible, and also to encourage the young and old to get out angling."

Central Queens Branch PEI Wildlife Federation

2018 PROJECT PROFILES • SCIENCE

The ultimate goal of the project is to fill several knowledge gaps concerning salmon mortality at sea.

We've all heard the expression, it takes a village. In the case of the latest ASCF funded project lead by Dalhousie University, it takes a village – or team - of scientists to figure out why mortality rates of wild Atlantic salmon are so high at sea.

With the help of a total of $75,000 in funding over two years, the "Life history modelling project for wild Atlantic salmon," is centred in Halifax but involves collaborative work with scientists elsewhere, particularly in Newfoundland and Labrador, the Maritimes, and Québec.

Dr. Jeff Hutchings with Dalhousie University, notes that Atlantic salmon have declined considerably in parts of their Canadian range.

"Salmon are now experiencing higher mortality at sea than they experienced thirty or forty years ago," he said. "The causes of the higher mortality are unclear. It is also not known exactly when the higher mortality is occurring between the time that salmon first enter the ocean as smolts and when they return to spawn as adults. Although there are some mortality data for a few rivers, most have no such data at all."

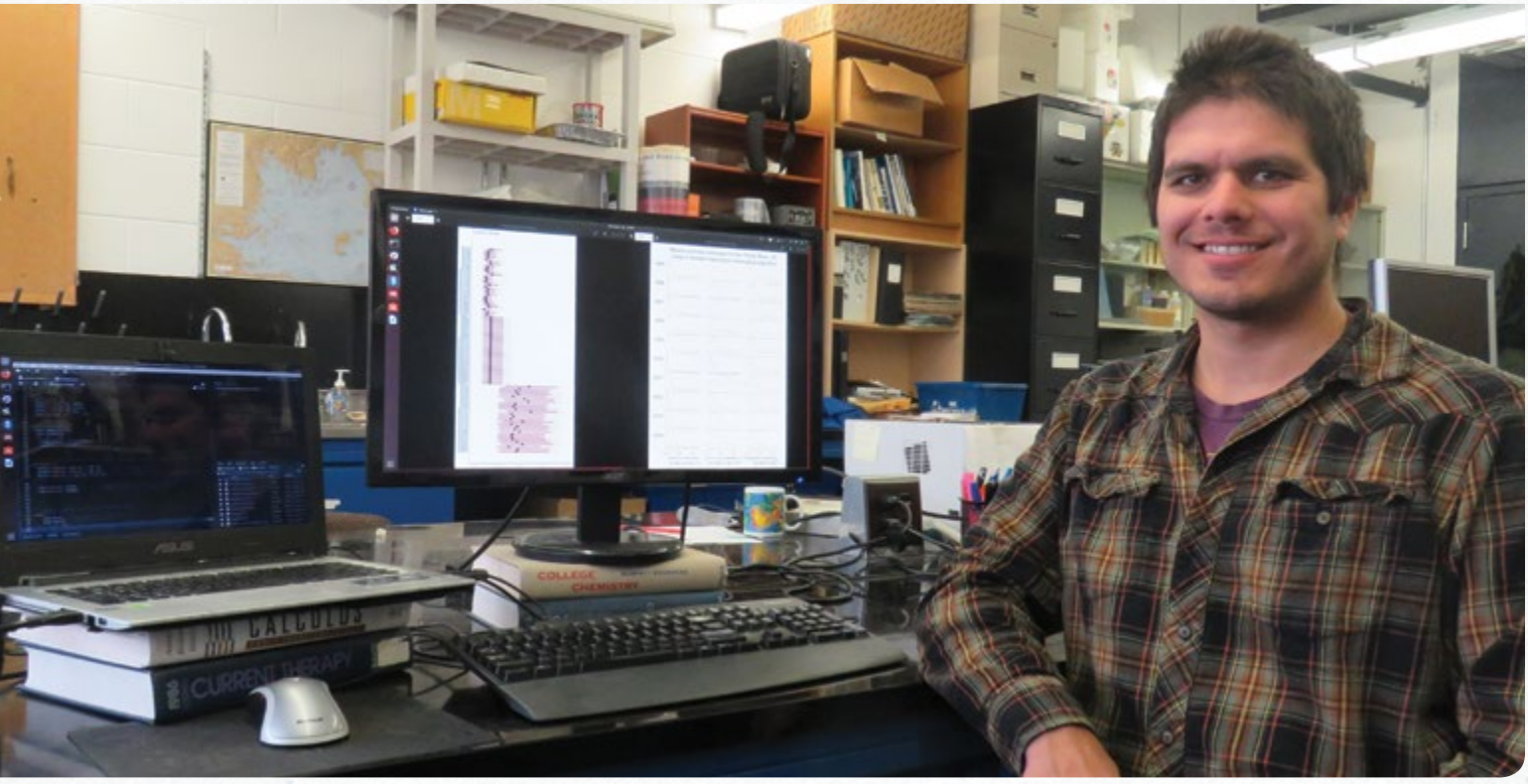
The ultimate goal of the project is to fill several knowledge gaps concerning salmon mortality at sea.

"Using recently developed mathematical modelling techniques, we are able to estimate the survival of salmon during their different life stages at sea. We begin by examining the number of small and large salmon returning annually to each river, over as long a time period as possible. Then, using the model, we re-construct the most probable life history of salmon - as represented by their survival at different life stages - that would have produced the observed returns of small and large salmon. We do this for each year for each population."

Hutchings explains the end result of this process is a series of estimates of survival - and their uncertainty or 'error structure' - for salmon during different stages at sea.

"Once we have these re-constructed estimates, we can then explore the extent to which salmon mortality might be influenced by things such as water temperature, predator abundance, and salmon life-history traits. This type of exploratory work will allow us to better understand the causes of the increased mortality that salmon are experiencing at sea."

The multi-year project began in July 2017 and it is anticipated is will be complete by summer 2019.



Sebastián Pardo, Dalhousie University

GRANTS & STATUS

2018 Project Grants

Science Advisory Committee

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 2018 *(2 of 2 years, total: $26,000)*
Funding provided to date: $22,750
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.

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: $23,300 for 2018 *(2 of 3 years, total: $63,300)*
Funding provided to date: $40,000
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 2018 *(2 of 2 years, total: $75,000)*
Funding provided to date: $65,625
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-2018-01
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Linnansaari & Curry)
Title: Effects of striped bass predation on Atlantic salmon smolts in the Miramichi River, NB.
Approved amount: $32,803 for 2018 *(1 of 2 years, total: $59,003)*

Indian Bay Ecosystem Corperation

Funding provided to date: $24,602.25
Summary: This project will build a smolt-threat based model that will estimate consumption of salmon smolts as a function of striped bass population numbers and size distribution (data from DFO collaboration), space (estuary / riverine spawning-grounds), time (relative to peak smolt migration; data from MSA and ASF), and environmental parameters such as water temperature, flows, and tides.

New Brunswick

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 2018 *(2 of 3 years, total: $30,000)*
Funding provided to date: $20,000
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 year of the project emphasized the implementation of an action plan developed during the 1st year for 2 watercourses.

Project Number: NB-2017-09
Recipient: Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
Title: Closing Data and Restoration Gaps in the Kennebecasis.
Approved amount: $10,000 for 2018 *(2 of 2 years, total: $25,000)*
Funding provided to date: $25,000

GRANTS & STATUS

2018 Project Grants

Summary: Bioengineering approaches were used to stabilize eroding sites. KWRC completed culvert assessment work on Moosehorn Creek. 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 for 2018 *(2 of 2 years, total: $24,000)*
Funding provided to date: $24,000
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. The 2nd year of the project emphasized the implementation of the plan's recommendations.

Tabusintac Wathershed Association

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 2018 *(2 of 2 years, total: $24,350)*
Funding provided to date: $24,350
Summary: This 2-year project worked to evaluate and improve fish passage within the Nashwaak Watershed. Field surveys of culverts were completed and prioritized in terms of barriers to fish. A fish ladder was installed on Mazer Brook and major debris blockages were removed from 15 culverts.

Project Number: NB-2018-01
Recipient: Restigouche River Watershed Management Council
Title: Habitat and recolonization - Little Main Restigouche River.
Approved amount: $11,000
Funding provided to date: $11,000
Summary: This project removed a series of barriers created by jams on Little Main Restigouche River to restore access to a good quality habitat for Atlantic salmon reproduction. To recolonize habitats left vacant by barriers, in stream incubation boxes were installed with salmon eggs.

Project Number: NB-2018-02
Recipient: Eel River Bar First Nation
Title: Eel River Atlantic salmon habitat recovery project 2018.
Approved amount: $18,000
Funding approved to date: $18,000
Summary: The project continued implementation of the River management plan. The following activities were undertaken: electrofishing surveys and redd counts, restoring access to salmon habitat, outreach and education activities, collecting brood stock and addressing erosion and siltation issues.

Project Number: NB-2018-03
Recipient: Fort Folly First Nation
Title: Rebuilding stocks, monitoring and public engagement benefiting endangered IBOF Atlantic salmon restoration to the Petitcodiac River system.
Approved amount: $30,053
Funding approved to date: $30,053
Summary: Working toward the long-term goal of salmon restoration in Petitcodiac River watershed, project activites included release of Live Gene Bank fry and adults, marine rearing of wild smolt, monitoring through PIT tagging, electrofishing, adult surveys, and outreach activities.

Project Number: NB-2018-04
Recipient: Friends of the Kouchibouguacis Inc.
Title: Atlantic salmon – Kouchibouguacis Watershed (education, egg incubation, restoration and monitoring) 2018.
Approved amount: $18,000
Funding provided to date: $18,000
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, habitat restoration and education and outreach with the local community, schools and partner organizations.

Project Number: NB-2018-05
Recipient: Miramichi Salmon Association
Title: Enhancing critically important cold-water Atlantic salmon habitat in the Miramichi River watershed 2018.
Approved amount: $18,000
Funding provided to date: $18,000

GRANTS & STATUS

2018 Project Grants

Summary: To enhance the cold-water flow at Burnt Land Brook, the width of the mouth was reduced to represent a more natural channel width and the channel was stabilized to ensure a strong and scouring discharge of brook water out into the main river channel and to reduce erosion.

Project Number: NB-2018-06
Recipient: Nashwaak Watershed Association Inc.
Title: Restoring access to, and improving habitat of, Campbell Creek for wild Atlantic salmon.
Approved amount: $9,645
Funding provided to date: $9,645
Summary: The Campbell Creek Dam has been impeding fish passage to a cold-water tributary for almost a century and is one of the worst barriers to fish passage in the Nashwaak watershed. NWAI explored options for providing fish passage into Campbell Creek by working the City of Fredericton, UNB and ASF.

Project Number: NB-2018-07
Recipient: Nepisiguit Salmon Association
Title: Nepisiguit salmon assessment & enhancement.
Approved amount: $12,000
Funding provided to date: $12,000
Summary: Approximately 220,000 eyed salmon eggs were reared in streamside incubation boxes at Nepisiguit Falls and released as fry. Electrofishing and water quality surveys were completed. Gordon Meadow Brook and Pabineau Brook were inventoried for blockages.

Project Number: NB-2018-08
Recipient: Pabineau First Nation
Title: Little River smolt survey 2018.
Approved amount: $9,982
Funding provided to date: $0
Summary: This project was cancelled as the group received insufficient match funding to proceed.

Project Number: NB-2018-09
Recipient: Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance Inc.
Title: Broken brooks: Increasing access to salmon habitat through diverse partnerships.
Approved amount: $18,000
Funding provided to date: $13,500
Summary: In this project, the PWA is working to remediate fish passage through barrier culverts by installing outflow chutes and rock weirs. The PWA also continued to collect aquatic connectivity data by assessing 30 culverts and is developing a citizen science culvert assessment protocol.

Project Number: NB-2018-10
Recipient: Shediac Bay Watershed Association Inc.
Title: Salmonid habitat evaluation, restoration and education for the Shediac Bay watersheds.
Approved amount: $9,000
Funding provided to date: $9,000
Summary: Remediation work was completed on habitats affected by sediment, erosion and fish passage issues. Habitat and culvert assessments, electrofishing surveys and temperature monitoring was also done. SBWA worked to further educate and engage the public in conservation efforts.

Project Number: NB-2018-11
Recipient: Southeastern Anglers Association Inc.
Title: Conservation and restoration of wild Atlantic salmon populations in the Bouctouche watershed with the use of river incubators.
Approved amount: $12,000
Funding provided to date: $9,000
Summary: Working toward the goal of restoring salmon populations in the Bouctouche River, SAA identified location for the use of in-stream Jordan-Scotty egg incubators. Adult salmon were captured from the target river, eggs were extracted and will be used in incubators installed at various sites in the spring.

Project Number: NB-2018-12
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Hayden et al.)
Title: Lost at sea: Identifying the marine foraging grounds and resources of inner Bay of Fundy salmon populations.
Approved amount: $24,000
Funding provided to date: $24,000
Summary: This monitoring program studied 'at sea' ecology of inner Bay of Fundy salmon to begin to identify the feeding grounds, prey and predators of adults returning to spawn. Stable isotopes, naturally occurring biomarkers, were used to identify trends in the marine feeding grounds.

Project Number: NB-2018-13
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Linnansaari)
Title: Monitoring returning Atlantic salmon population size in Miramichi River using imaging sonar 2018.
Approved amount: $25,000
Funding provided to date: $25,000
Summary: This project used Adaptive Resolution Imaging Sonar (ARIS) to count and measure the returning salmon at two monitoring sites in the Miramichi River. A daily in-season count and an estimate of the total spawning run of salmon throughout the migrating season was calculated.

Project Number: NB-2018-14
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Linnansaari)
Title: Identifying critical thermal refugia and response timing to high water temperature events for adult Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar).
Approved amount: $11,456
Funding provided to date: $11,456

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Summary: The project focused on identifying critical response thresholds to high temperature stress and critical thermal refugia, and their characteristics, of adult salmon in Little Southwest Miramichi River by tracking with tags and observing behavioural thermoregulation.

Project Number: NB-2018-15
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Samways)
Title: Back from the brink: An ecosystem approach to restoring native adult Atlantic salmon through conservation rearing.
Approved amount: $20,000
Funding provided to date: $20,000
Summary: This project examined how the state of freshwater ecosystems affects juvenile survival, size-at-age, and condition, assessed the effect of substrate/bedload on overwintering egg survival, and determined egg to smolt survival of offspring produced from Marine Conservation Farm released adult salmon.

Project Number: NB-2018-16
Recipient: Tabusintac Watershed Association
Title: Improving wild Atlantic Salmon stocks within the Tabusintac and Esgenoôpetitj watersheds
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $6,500
Summary: This project is assessing the use of incubation boxes for enhancing wild Atlantic Salmon populations in the Tabusintac and Esgenoôpetitj watersheds using historical data along with current water quality parameters and stream characteristics. Potential sites for incubation are also being identified and tested.

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 2018 *(3 of 3 years, total: $50,000)*
Funding provided to date: $50,000
Summary: This project developed 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.

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 *(3 of 3 years, total: $110,000)*
Funding provided to date: $99,200
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-2018-01
Recipient: Bay St. George South Area Development Association
Title: Evaluate the success of the 2004 watershed conservation strategies for Atlantic salmon in Bay St. George Rivers, and develop a new conservation strategy.
Approved amount: $20,000
Funding provided to date: $20,000
Summary: This project evaluated two conservation/improvement strategies for salmon stocks in Bay St. George rivers implemented in 2004. Snorkel surveys were completed in Middle Barachois Brook and Robinsons River and salmon populations were assessed in Little Barachois Brook.

Project Number: NL-2018-02
Recipient: Bay St. George South Area Development Association
Title: Develop habitat conservation plans and restoration for rivers in Bay St. George.
Approved amount: $25,000
Funding provided to date: $25,000
Summary: This project developed habitat conservation/improvement plans for three rivers in Bay St. George by assessing habitat and mapping natural and man-made barriers limiting salmon migration.

Project Number: NL-2018-03
Recipient: Freshwater-Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation
Title: Evaluation of the success of habitat expansion and enhancement on Upper Terra Nova River Atlantic, phase 3.

Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation

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Approved amount: $48,853
Funding provided to date: $48,853
Summary: This project evaluated the success of a fry stocking program in the Upper Terra Nova River; they monitored the number of passing fish through both Grant Falls Fishway and Mollyguajeck fishway and compared data between both fishways.

Project Number: NL-2018-04
Recipient: Gander Bay Indian Band Council
Title: Salmon brook fishway.
Approved amount: $25,000
Funding provided to date: $25,000
Summary: This project counted Atlantic salmon returns at Salmon Brook Fishway in Glenwood, Newfoundland. They also tracked water temperature and water levels throughout the summer.

Project Number: NL-2018-05
Recipient: Humber Arm Environmental Association
Title: Salmon habitat conservation: A comprehensive management plan for South Brook.
Approved amount: $12,000
Funding provided to date: $12,000
Summary: This project compiled and analyzed past research and conservation efforts and consulted regulators, the municipality, ENGO's, First Nations, anglers, and the public to develop an integrated Management Plan for South Brook. This management plan will facilitate efficient and effective conservation efforts to improve salmon habitat.

Project Number: NL-2018-06
Recipient: Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Title: Adurt Brook conservation and restoration project.
Approved amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $15,000
Summary: This project restored riparian habitat, and restored access to habitat by installing an in-stream structure at Adurt Brook. Meetings and community events were held to promote education and awareness to conserve wild Atlantic salmon and habitat. They built a new ATV bridge to facilitate brook crossings while leaving salmon habitat undisturbed.

Project Number: NL-2018-07
Recipient: Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Title: Jim's Steady restoration project.
Approved amount: $5,366
Funding provided to date: $5,366
Summary: This project restored access to wild Atlantic salmon habitat by removing barriers. Salmon habitat was restored by installing in-stream structures in Jim's Steady.

Project Number: NL-2018-08
Recipient: Intervale
Title: Education and awareness for the conservation of wild Atlantic salmon and salmon habitat in the Bay St. George area of Newfoundland.
Approved amount: $35,000
Funding provided to date: $35,000
Summary: This project focused on educating and creating awareness for conserving wild Atlantic salmon and habitat in the Bay St. George area. They gave presentations to community groups, hosted workshops for youth fly-tying, and educated the public.

Project Number: NL-2018-09
Recipient: Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
Title: Educational videos to inform and promote salmon conservation.
Approved amount: $25,000
Funding provided to date: $18,750
Summary: This project created and will promote educational videos about salmon conservation. The two videos and shorter clips will be promoted on Rogers TV, Youtube, Newfoundland Spot, and Facebook.

Project Number: NL-2018-10
Recipient: Town of Holyrood
Title: Fishway construction support, Mahers River.
Approved amount: $50,000
Funding provided to date: $36,169.25
Summary: The town of Holyrood is building a fishway at Mahers River to allow Atlantic salmon to return to the river.

Project Number: NL-2018-11
Recipient: White Bay Central Development Association
Title: Salmon River habitat restoration project.
Approved amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $15,000
Summary: This project removed pulpwood dams to restore access to salmon habitat and educated the public by hosting community meetings in the area.

Nova Scotia

Project Number: NS-2018-01
Recipient: Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation
Title: LaHave River watershed project 2018 – Aquatic connectivity assessment, fish habitat restoration, and geo-database development.
Approved amount: $12,500
Funding provided to date: $12,500
Summary: This project assessed and mapped aquatic connectivity in the Main branch sub-watershed including stream crossings, culvert assessments, fish passage barriers and more. They also developed a Fish Habitat Restoration Plan for the Main Branch Sub-Watershed and developed a geo-database for aquatic connectivity and invasive species distribution data.

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Project Number: NS-2018-02
Recipient: Cheticamp River Salmon Association
Title: Fish passage improvements within the Cheticamp River watershed (phase II).
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000
Summary: This project improved riparian habitat and access to habitat by removing blockages and installing structures; fish passage was also restored by installing structures according to the restoration plan. This project also investigated water temperatures on the Cheticamp River and installed a counting fence to assess migrating Atlantic salmon in the spring and fall.

Sackville Rivers Association

Project Number: NS-2018-03
Recipient: Inverness South Anglers Association
Title: Southwest Mabou River restoration plan – Phase II.
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000
Summary: This project completed a stepwise comprehensive plan, the Southwest Mabou River Restoration Plan to be used in future years.

Project Number: NS-2018-04
Recipient: Margaree Salmon Association
Title: Margaree River watershed in-stream restoration and conservation activity for 2018.
Approved amount: $20,000
Funding provided to date: $20,000
Summary: This project improved salmon steam habitat in Ingram's Brook and Gallant's Brook by planting trees, installing in-stream structures, restoring riparian habitat, and holding meetings with the community to educate locals about Margaree River Watershed's efforts in wild Atlantic salmon conservation.

Project Number: NS-2018-05
Recipient: Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq
Title: East River tributary remediation and Atlantic salmon monitoring initiative.
Approved amount: $6,000
Funding provided to date: $6,000
Summary: This project improved Atlantic salmon habitat in the tributaries of the East River by installing in-stream structures. Pre- and post-restoration surveys were completed to compare the effects of the restoration efforts. Atlantic salmon populations were estimated by completing snorkel surveys and electrofishing.

Project Number: NS-2018-06
Recipient: Nova Scotia Salmon Association
Title: The West River acid mitigation project.
Approved amount: $26,000
Funding provided to date: $26,000
Summary: Nova Scotia Salmon Association operated a smolt trap and counted Atlantic salmon passing through the West River. Electrofishing surveys were also completed to assess salmon populations in the river.

Project Number: NS-2018-07
Recipient: Sackville Rivers Association
Title: River Restoration 2018.
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000
Summary: This project restored wild Atlantic salmon habitat on three watercourses in the Sackville River Watershed. In-stream structures were installed, blockages were removed, and populations were monitored by completing electrofishing surveys.

Project Number: NS-2018-08
Recipient: St. Mary's River Association
Title: Salmon Habitat Enhancement (West River St. Mary's)
Approved amount: $23,401
Funding provided to date: 23,401
Summary: Habitat was restored on the West Branch of the St. Mary's River by installing in-stream structures and planting trees. The West River bank width was reduced, and the channel was narrowed from the in-stream rock structures. Cold water refuge was created for adult and juvenile salmon.

Prince Edward Island

Project Number: PEI-2018-01
Recipient: Abegweit Conservation Society
Title: Midgell River salmon habitat rehabilitation, protection and conservation phase II.
Approved amount: $22,591

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2018 Project Grants

Souris & Area Branch of PEI WIldlife Federation

Funding provided to date: $16,943.25
Summary: This project aims to assess rehabilitation work implemented in the Midgell River by assessing water temperature, collecting CABIN samples, assessing geomorphical characteristics and how they changed over time. This project will also collect electrofishing data, redd surveys, and pit tags to use for long-term management plans. Midgell River river and riparian habitat will also be restored by installing in-stream structures, removing barriers or blockages.

Project Number: PEI-2018-02
Recipient: Central Queens Branch of the Prince Edward Island Wildlife Federation
Title: An assessment of Atlantic salmon populations in Prince Edward Island (Guignon).
Approved amount: $49,135
Funding provided to date: $36,851.25
Summary: This project will compile a document of the status of Atlantic salmon populations on PEI. Atlantic salmon populations will be estimated by electrofishing and surveying for redds. A summary document will be created identifying high risk land use areas, critical spawning habitat, and ecologically sensitive areas.

Project Number: PEI-2018-03
Recipient: Central Queens Branch of the Prince Edward Island Wildlife Federation
Title: Restoration of cold, freshwater habitat for Atlantic salmon on the West and Clyde Rivers, PEI.
Approved amount: $21,750 for 2018 *(1 of 2 years, total: $55,755)*
Funding provided to date: $21,750
Summary: This project reduced sediment in the West and Clyde Rivers to expose underlaying gravel and cobble for salmon spawning habitat. River habitat was also improved by removing barriers, installing in-stream structures such as brushmats, digger logs, and planted trees and shrubs. A Fish Habitat Management plan will be the final result of this project.

Project Number: PEI-2018-04
Recipient: Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Title: Atlantic salmon habitat restoration and monitoring in Northeastern PEI rivers.
Approved amount: $6,000
Funding provided to date: $6,000
Summary: Stream habitat was maintained, restored, and overall improved in North Lake Creek, Priest Pond Creek, Cross, Hay, Bear, Naufrage, and Cow Rivers. Natural blockages were removed, brush mattresses were installed to improve stream health, redds were counted and stream temperatures were recorded to assess the health of the wild Atlantic salmon habitat in this area.

Québec

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 2018 *(3 of 3 years, total: $30,000)*
Funding provided to date: $30,000
Summary: This project contributes to the improvement of an Atlantic salmon habitat modelling method, in particular in relation to parr nurseries. This project developed a set of thermal preferences for parr. To achieve this goal, salmon experts' opinions were coded using fuzzy logic. Thermal preferences and the resulting model were validated on 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: $5,000 in 2018 *(2 of 2 years, total: $12,761)*
Funding provided to date: $12,761
Summary: Innu communities observe a decreasing number of salmon and lack of knowledge of their rivers. This project will address information gaps and the need to increase knowledge of the subject in communities. Thermographs, logistic support and a protocol were transferred to Innu managers to help them manage this monitoring on their own in the short term.

Project Number: QC-2017-07
Recipient: Fondation pour le saumon du grand Gaspé
Title: Characterization of three Gaspé Rivers: York, Dartmouth and St-Jean.

GRANTS & STATUS

2018 Project Grants

Approved amount: $8,000 in 2018 *(2 of 3 years, total:$24,000)*
Funding provided to date: $16,000
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: $9,000 in 2018 *(2 of 2 years, total: $44,000)*
Funding provided to date: $44,000
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 worked to reduce peak flows and sediment inputs from problem sectors. Joint action by residents and municipalities was a key component. Optimum storm water management starts at residences and was enhanced by municipal interception, catchment and filtration practices.

Project Number: QC-2018-01
Recipient: Association des Pêcheurs Sportifs de Saumons de la Rivière Rimouski
Title: Rehabilitating and protecting Fosse de L'île spawning ground (pool 11) 2018.
Approved amount: $30,000
Funding provided to date: $30,000
Summary: The spawning ground of Fosse de l'île is located in the town of Rimouski. During exceptional past floods, the generated current erosive force greatly altered the site. This project restored the spawning ground and ensured its future sustainability.

Project Number: QC-2018-02
Recipient: Association des Pêcheurs Sportifs des Rivières
Title: Conservation and improvement plan of Atlantic salmon of Petite rivière Cascapédia
Approved amount: $6,000
Funding provided to date: $4,500
Summary: A conservation and improvement plan for Atlantic salmon of Petite rivière Cascapédia is being created. Using all available information, specific issues and problems are being identified and recommendations were made for future decision-making. This project will also help to further develop partnerships.

Project Number: QC-2018-03
Recipient: Contact Nature Rivière-à-Mars
Title: Retrofitting the fishway and pool 9 of Rivière-À-Mars.
Approved amount: $20,000
Funding provided to date: $20,000
Summary: When the water level of the river is very low, Atlantic salmon have difficulty passing a fishway and structure on the Rivière à Mars. Indications are that these barriers will become insurmountable for salmon. This project assessed the problem and identified the best intervention options.

Project Number: QC-2018-04
Recipient: Corporation de Gestion de la Rivière à Saumons des Escoumins
Title: Conservation plan of Atlantic salmon of Escoumins river
Approved amount: $6,000
Funding provided to date: $4,500
Summary: All information available for the Escoumins River is being compiled and analyzed to draw a picture of the status of salmon populations and habitat. Through the development of a conservation plan for Atlantic salmon, issues will be identified and recommendations will be made for future decisions making.

Project Number: QC-2018-05
Recipient: Corporation de Gestion de la Rivière Saint-Jean-du-Saguenay Inc.
Title: Restoring the connectivity between Saint-Jean river and an unnamed outlet stream of Bedaine Lake.
Approved amount: $25,000
Funding provided to date: $25,000
Summary: The outlet stream of Bedaine Lake, a tributary of Saint-Jean River, provides high quality habitat conducive to juvenile salmon rearing. The stream had become inaccessible to salmon due to issues with culverts. Through this project, access was restored to this valuable habitat.

Project Number: QC-2018-06
Recipient: Corporation de gestion des rivières Matapédia et Patapédia inc.
Title: Protecting salmon in Causapscal River: banks stabilization, fosse Les Marais.
Approved amount: $24,000
Funding provided to date: $18,000
Summary: The left bank (northeast) of the Les Marais pool is eroding and there is an excessive sediment deposit on the opposite bank. This project is working to stabilize the bank and to prevent a loss of habitat, which is essential for salmon protection.

Project Number: QC-2018-07
Recipient: Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier (CBJC).
Title: Telemetry study spawning habitat usage by salmon of Jacques-Cartier river.
Approved amount: $15,000

GRANTS & STATUS

2014–2017 Project Grants

Funding provided to date: $12,400 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: Through this project, spawning area and pools (resting areas used before spawning) of Atlantic salmon were surveyed in the Jacques-Cartier River. Ultimately, the study will also facilitate decision-making regarding the reintroduction and maintenance of the Atlantic salmon population.

Project Number: QC-2018-08
Recipient: Fédération québécoise pour le saumon atlantique.
Title: Overview of seal distribution in salmon rivers of the North Shore and impact study of their predatory activity on Atlantic salmon
Approved amount: $8,000
Funding provided to date: $6,000
Summary: Fishermen and managers having observed seals feeding at the mouth of salmon rivers on the North Shore and in their pools but this issue is not well-documented. This project is conducting an analysis with documentation research and developing a monitoring register for instream observations.

Project Number: QC-2018-09
Recipient: Organisme de bassins versants de Kamouraska, L'Islet et Rivière-du-Loup.
Title: Sustainability study of thermal refuges and count of spawning nests on Ouelle river
Approved amount: $7,000
Funding provided to date: $7,000
Summary: Findings from recent projects have demonstrated the importance data from thermal refuges. The permanency of thermal refuges was studied which will help direct future activities. In addition, a report on the current situation of the Ouelle River following the publication of the Strategic Plan for the Sustainable Development of the Ouelle River Atlantic Salmon Fishery was developed.

Project Number: QC-2018-10
Recipient: Organisme de bassin versant Matapédia Restigouche
Title: Education campaign on urban runoffs in salmon areas
Approved amount: $30,000
Funding provided to date: $22,500
Summary: An education campaign is being conducted using traditional and social media along with creative publicity to address sedimentation threatening Atlantic salmon habitat. The intended benefits are to facilitate urban participation and help elected officials make optimum decisions in salmon territory management.

Project Number: QC-2018-11
Recipient: Organisme de bassins versants Manicouagan.
Title: Action plan for Atlantic salmon conservation in Godbout river
Approved amount: $14,000
Funding provided to date: $10,500
Summary: This project will achieve 3 goals: i) development of an Atlantic salmon conservation and enhancement plan for the Godbout River, ii) modelling of salmon runs by analyzing fishway data and comparing them to MFFP counting fence data and hydraulic conditions of the river, and iii) redd count surveys.

Project Number: QC-2018-12
Recipient: Organisme des Bassins Versants de la Haute-Côte-Nord.
Title: Evaluating spawning grounds in Laval and Escoumins rivers: Watershed-scale Atlantic salmon conservation plan
Approved amount: $9,397
Funding provided to date: $9,397
Summary: This project characterized substrate and flow of the river. During the spawning period, snorkel surveys were conducted to count the number of redds and spawners. The data gathered will be used to help ensure protection and permanency of key spawning sites.

Project Number: QC-2018-13
Recipient: Association de conservation de la vallée du Gouffre.
Title: Atlantic salmon counting fence on the Gouffre river
Approved amount: $6,000
Funding provided to date: $6,000
Summary: Unfortunately, many salmon rivers are unable to measure their salmon populations due to insufficient means of monitoring. This project undertook the preliminary steps, in collaboration with MFFP and FQSA, to install a counting fence in the near future to permit salmon counts.

ASCF Grants 2014 – 2017

Note: This statement reflects only those projects that were completed in 2018 or are ongoing. All other projects from previous years have been finalized.

Scientific Advisory Committee

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: $6,900
Summary: The project consisted of a comprehensive literature review clearly outlining the feeding ecology and prey selection of Striped Bass. The paper also addressed knowledge gaps in available information and suggested studies required to fill these gaps as well as highlight both strengths and weaknesses of existing analyses.

GRANTS & STATUS

2014–2017 Project Grants

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
Funding provided to date: $19,265
Summary: This project utilized 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-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: $6,929.35 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: This project developed a management plan of Kedgwick River with concrete actions and priorities. The plan characterized the present condition by analyzing reports, data and existing studies, completing inventories of habitat and salmon populations and characterizing fishing efforts. It was also intended to develop a dialogue with governments and local First Nations about fishing licenses.

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: $35,000
Summary: This project addressed 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-2017-03
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: $8,452
Summary: Ecological restoration in McKnight and Godin Brooks was 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-2017-15
Recipient: Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance
Title: Broken Brooks: Assessing and Remediating Culverts in the Petitcodiac and Memramcook River Watersheds.
Approved amount: $16,500
Funding provided to date: $16,500
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.

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

Project Number: NL-2015-04
Recipient: Memorial University (Purchase)
Title: Incubation sensitivity to winter temperatures in four DU's of Atlantic salmon in Canada
Approved amount: $33,000
Funding provided to date: $$33,000
Summary: This project aimed to monitor the response of salmon to changes in temperature on their development in the Exploits River.

Project Number: NL-2015-05
Recipient: Memorial University (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-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 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: With this project, SAEN commissioned a smolt fence, including a camera system enumerating out-migrating smolts.

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)*

GRANTS & STATUS

2014–2017 Project Grants

Funding provided to date: $19,220
Summary: The reaction of juvenile salmon to large fluctuations in habitat type was researched through stable 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: $16,103
Summary: This project continued efforts of past years and addressed 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 placed above the high-water mark.

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: $5,000
Summary: A literature review was completed to investigate potential connections between Atlantic salmon and eelgrass. Beach seines were also performed at existing eelgrass meadows to determine presence of Atlantic salmon.

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: $8,050
Summary: This project utilized rock rip rap and planted native vegetation to stabilize bank on South Brook. Water temperatures, turbidity and fish presence were documented before, during and after stabilization. This project also involved surveying streams for future Atlantic salmon habitat restoration initiatives.

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: $16,000
Summary: IBEC collected count data regarding Atlantic salmon returns by using a camera system, evaluated the condition of the ecosystem using chemical and biological indicators and they participated in community events and meetings.

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

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: $6,600
Summary: SAEN expanded 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: $23,307 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
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: $19,838 (*unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: This project designed 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.

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 sub-plan to address the aluminium problem
Approved amount: $15,000 for 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $45,000)*
Funding provided to date: $45,000
Summary: This project proposed to create a sub-plan for the Southern Upland Watershed Acid Rain Mitigation Plan that will address the aluminium problem.

GRANTS & STATUS

2014–2017 Project Grants

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: $15,000
Summary: This project resulted in new aquatic connectivity assessments in North Branch Sub-watershed of the LaHave and the West Branch Sub-watershed. Connectivity restoration was 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-2017-03
Recipient: Inverness South Anglers Association
Title: Southwest Mabou River Salmon Habitat Restoration Plan
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000
Summary: This project resulted 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: $20,137
Summary: The Nova Scotia Salmon Association counted Atlantic salmon smolts and returning adults on the West River in Nova Scotia.

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: $79,500
Summary: Much of this project aimed 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: $12,475
Summary: This project focused on addressing habitat degradation in the Midgell Watershed. Abegweit also strived 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: $29,000
Summary: This project continued 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: $25,309.44 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
Summary: The Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation aimed to restore parts of Howell's Brook so it can continue to be a spawning area for salmon. They updated 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: $7,500
Summary: Morell River Management Cooperative aimed to identify, prioritize and addresses habitat issues impacting salmon and maintain existing structures and habitat quality.

Québec

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 *(unspent grants funds were returned to provincial pool for future grants)*
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.

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.

GRANTS & STATUS

2014–2017 Project Grants

Approved amount: $25,000 in 2017 *(3 of 3 years, total: $75,000)*
Funding provided to date: $75,000
Summary: Passive transponder technology was 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 allowed 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 Québec salmon rivers with high resolution imaging.
Approved amount: $30,000 in 2017 *(2 of 2 years; total: $60,000)*
Funding provided to date: $52,500
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) 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-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: $10,000
Summary: Through this project an Atlantic salmon conservation plan for the Gouffre River was 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: $9,000
Summary: During the exceptional floods of 2007 and 2008, the spawning area of the Island Pool (pool 11) was significantly altered. 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: $43,410
Summary: This project enhanced 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. Development of the fishway was undertaken within this project.

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: $10,000
Summary: Through this project an Atlantic salmon conservation plan for the St-Jean Saguenay River was 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-2017-09
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: $14,000
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.
Title: Fishway Refurbishing and improvement on Godbout River Project.
Approved amount: $7,500 in 2017 and $7,418 in 2016
Funding provided to date: $14,918
Summary: This project addressed issues at Molson Falls fishway. Some security barriers were damaged and can cause injury to salmon. It also addressed access during low flow periods. Several corrective measures were undertaken including installing a control gate and repairing the walls.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT AUDITS

Summary of Project Audits and Evaluations

In 2018 random audits of 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 2018 the following recipient groups were audited for performance:

New Brunswick Projects

NB-2018-04	Friends of the Kouchibouguacis
NB-2018-05	Miramichi Salmon Association
NB-2018-13	University of New Brunswick (Linnansaari)
NB-2018-14	University of New Brunswick (Linnansaari)
NB-2018-15	University of New Brunswick (Samways)
NB-2018-16	Tabusintac Watershed Association

Nova Scotia Projects

NS-2018-01	Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation
NS-2018-02	Cheticamp River Salmon Association
NS-2018-03	Inverness South Anglers Association
NS-2018-04	Margaree Salmon Association
NS-2018-05	MCG The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq

Organisme des bassins versants de la Haute-Côte-Nord

Newfoundland & Labrador Projects

NL-2018-01	Bay St. George South Area Development Association
NL-2018-02	Bay St. George South Area Development Association
NL-2018-03	Freshwater-Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation (FABEC)
NL-2018-06	Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation (IBEC)
NL-2018-07	Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation (IBEC)
NL-2018-08	Intervale
NL-2018-09	Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland (SAEN)
NL-2018-10	Town of Holyrood
NL-2018-11	White Bay Central Development Association

Québec Projects

QC-2018-03	Contact Nature Rivière-à-Mars
QC-2018-04	Corporation de gestion de la rivière à Saumons des Escoumins
QC-2018-05	Corporation de gestion de la rivière Saint-Jean-du-Saguenay inc.
QC-2018-12	Organisme des Bassins Versants de la Haute-Côte-Nord

REPORTS & STATEMENTS

Auditors' Report

MacMillan Lawrence & Lawrence

Chartered Professional Accountants

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements

To the Directors of The Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at December 31, 2018 and 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, 2018.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated March 26, 2019.

Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

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

Fredericton, NB
March 26, 2019

MacMillan Lawrence & Lawrence

Chartered Accountants

REPORTS & STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Position

	December 31, 2018	December 31, 2017
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 440,810	$ 349,931
Receivables	79,760	42,317
Prepaids	15,711	17,646
	536,281	409,894
Investments	39,525,075	42,869,372
	$ 40,061,356	$ 43,279,266
Liabilities		
Current		
Payables and accruals	$ 182,536	$ 386,559
Deferred contributions	40,000	
	222,536	$ 386,559
Net Assets		
Reserve Fund – Internally Restricted	231,135	218,959
Endowment Fund – Externally Restricted	39,538,253	42,616,188
ANBL – Externally Restricted	69,432	57,560
	39,838,820	42,892,707
	$ 40,061,356	$ 43,279,266

Approved on behalf of the Board:

Director

Director

REPORTS & STATEMENTS

Statement of Operations and Change in Net Assets

Year ended December 31,	2018	2017
Revenue	$ (1,266,538)	$ 4,229,588
Expenses		
Administration	432,939	442,026
Grants	1,157,926	1,216,101
Investment management fees	196,484	202,550
	1,787,349	1,860,677
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	$ (3,053,887)	$ 2,368,911
Net assets, beginning of year	$ 42,892,707	$ 40,523,796
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue)	(3,053,887)	2,368,911
Net assets, end of year	$ 39,838,820	$ 42,892,707

For the 2018 Fiscal Year total remuneration paid to one Foundation employee whose remuneration exceeds $100,000 per year was $151,283 consisting of the following: Salary = $119,726; fees = $0; travel expenses = $16,105; CPP = $2,594; EI = $858, 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, Chief David Peter-Paul, Joan Marie Aylward, Honorable Rémi Bujold (Chairman), Jim Jones, Robert Bishop and Jim Lawley. *Not pictured: Paul Michael, and Denis Losier.*

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

Staff

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

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

ASCF VOLUNTEERS

Advisory Committees

Scientific Advisory Committee

Francois Caron, Dr. Rick Cunjak, Dr. Jeff Hutchings, Dr. Carole-Anne Gillis, Peter Cronin. *Missing: Yvon Coté, David Reddin, Brian Dempson*.

Newfoundland & Labrador Advisory Committee

L-R: Fred Parsons (Chair), Brian Dempson, Martha Robertson, Gregory Jeddore, Jim McCarthy, Chris Wessel, 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 McInnes, Rosanne MacFarlane. *Missing: Mary Finch, and Joshua Lindsay.*

Nova Scotia Advisory Committee

L-R: Larry Shortt, Michael Pollard, Alex Levy, Shane F. O'Neil (Chair), Patrick Wall, Jim Gourlay, 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, Frédéric Lévesque, and Pierre-Luc Desjardins.*

2018 VOLUNTEER PROFILES

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

John Bagnall

Meet John Bagnall, a member of our Scientific Advisory Committee.

A biologist with the Environment and Infrastructure Division of AMEC Foster Wheeler, Bagnall specializes in all things fish.

"I became involved with the NB Salmon Council when I prepared a report on downstream passage on the upper St. John River salmon," said Bagnall. "I have been actively involved with St. John Basin Salmon Recovery Inc., a group that initially advocated for downstream passage at the Tobique Narrows dam. The group also has taken a stand supporting the removal of the Mactaquac dam. I am also a past-president of the NB Salmon Council."

"I am an enthusiastic salmon fisherman, and practical salmon fly tyer. My wife and I own a camp on the Northwest Miramichi River where we spend most weekends during salmon season."

Bagnall notes he is not a researcher, but he tries to keep quasi-current with the literature on salmon biology and management.

"I think that there are concepts published as well as practical fisheries-related concerns that should be considered when grants for salmon enhancement are being evaluated. I try to bring my knowledge of these concepts to evaluation of projects. I find it frustrating when projects are approved when they are not based on sound science and are therefore destined to produce insufficient tangible benefits."

Bagnall said he stays involved with the ASCF because he enjoys meeting and picking the brains of his committee members, many of whom are experts in the field of salmon biology and management.

"The ASCF genuinely wants to produce angling and FSC Indigenous benefits. It has the funding to successfully do so. Since I have become involved, I have noticed that the quality of the projects being proposed has improved dramatically, and this is a trend that everyone involved would like to see continue. Sometimes the plight of the Atlantic salmon and its management is frustrating to people who care about the fish and the fisheries for it. The ASCF provides an avenue to get beyond frustration and actually make a difference."

Rob Burnett

Meet Rob Burnett, a member of our Prince Edward Island Advisory Committee.

Burnett was born in PEI but spent his summer vacations on his grandparent's apple farm in the Annapolis Valley.

"The Round Hill River ran through the farm woodlot," he said. "When I was young the river was home to many Atlantic salmon, so I grew up listening to stories about the salmon and the river. Unfortunately, many salmon rivers, especially the Bay of Fundy rivers, have been adversely affected by various factors and that is a great loss. If there were ever any way of restoring those runs, what a wonderful victory that would be and I would love to be part of that effort."

"Through my friendship with Al Ledgerwood, chair of the PEI Committee - and an excellent angler - I have been fortunate to fish salmon in all parts of the Atlantic Provinces – Labrador, the west coast of Newfoundland, Cape Breton, mainland Nova Scotia, PEI, and New Brunswick. Two of my best memories are watching the salmon leaping at the Big Falls on the Humber River in Newfoundland, and salmon angling in downtown Inverness in Scotland – what a remarkable species and how worth our efforts to preserve it."

Burnett notes that while he does not have any particular scientific or technical expertise with regard to Atlantic salmon, the PEI Committee does have strong representation from the scientific community.

"I spent much of my career as a legal advisor with the Government of Canada in a field in which assessing scientific evidence was an important matter, and so I hope my particular perspective is useful to the committee. I was fortunate enough to have snorkeled down the Morell River in PEI on a couple of occasions as part of a scientific study to observe and count salmon, so I have gotten an up close look at the habitat and the work that must go into protecting it."

"I hope and think it is true that making the strongest possible efforts to protect individual species is a good way to protect the earth and to pass along to future generations as much of our natural legacy as possible. It has been an honour to serve on the ASCF's PEI Committee."

Burnett said he wishes that all of the applications that are received could be approved.

"Some very worthwhile work cannot be funded in any given year. It is important that we maintain the effort to acquire adequate funding for Atlantic salmon conservation. We must also be careful about the encroachment by various industries - including agriculture

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and forestry - into salmon habitat because there is little point in raising funds for scientific work in streams that are not adequately protected. It is particularly important that written regulations be followed up with consistent enforcement of the protective measures that have been enacted."

Dr. Michelle Gray

Meet Dr. Michelle Gray, a member of our New Brunswick Advisory Committee.

Gray is an Assistant Professor at the University of New Brunswick in the Faculty of Forestry and Environmental Management. She switched to this new exciting role from heading up the training program for the Canadian Rivers Institute for the past 10 years. Gray has called Fredericton home since moving here to attend school in 1999, but she is originally from Nova Scotia.

"I first became involved with ASCF in 2012 when my good friend and colleague Darla Saunders (ASCF Conservation Program Coordinator) contacted me with a fantastic idea to partner with the Canadian Rivers Institute to run a monthly webinar series," said Gray. "At the exact same time I had some funding to start a seminar series, but the idea of a webinar series was far more appealing since you can reach so many more people, and give people all over the map access to interesting speakers and subject experts that they perhaps would not have been able to travel to see and hear."

"I am an environmental scientist and researcher that focusses on environmental monitoring using fish and bugs as our indicators. The funds that ASCF provide across the region do a tremendous amount to put the management plans and projects in place that improve our aquatic systems. Conserving and protecting habitat for Atlantic salmon improves the system for all other biota present as well."

Gray said she stays involved with ASCF because of its people and the mission.

"The ASCF team of Stephen, Darla, and Allyson are each successful and genuine people that I believe and support, as well as the mission and the goals of the ASCF. I will continue to support them while I pursue my research and teaching goals as a new professor in Environmental Management, especially since they align so well. One of my roles at UNB will be to help teach the next wave of environmental practitioners that could be watershed managers, environmental consultants, researchers, or teachers. My involvement within the ASCF will help enrich that teaching and learning experience since I will be able to use and show real examples of local and regional projects that are serving to improve watersheds.

Gray played a big role in the Salmon Hub project that is scheduled to launch October 15th, 2015 by the Canadian Rivers Institute.

"The Salmon Hub is a great project that aims to be the 'go to' source for information about Atlantic salmon, methods for habitat improvement, and education and outreach materials," she said. "With the amount of information we have available at our fingertips sometimes it is nice to have it all in one convenient location. The content has been carefully collected to ensure that the best current practices are being highlighted as well as regional project successes. No one wants to reinvent any wheels, so being able to see when and where certain techniques and methods were used and how they have improved conditions is very much worth it when there are so many pieces of information to choose from."

Gray encourages others to get involved with ASCF.

"I would tell anyone that is interested in the future of our watersheds to contact ASCF and find a local project that might be looking for volunteers, or help with the regional fundraising. Each province's fundraising efforts help add to the pot of funds available for distribution, so it is a win-win-win situation."

Meet Gregory Jeddore, a member of the Newfoundland & Labrador Advisory Committee.

Gregory Jeddore

For the past 17 years, Jeddore has worked with the Miawpukek First Nation (MFN) Natural Resources Department as their manager. He got involved with the ASCF a little over a year ago.

"I'm an Indigenous person that comes from a very strong background in the aboriginal traditional way of life in protecting all Mother Earth's creations whether it is by land or sea," he said. "The ASCF has the same passion and interest as Indigenous people do in the protection of our species for future generations to come. That's why I became involved with the program; to help communities and institutes to come together in developing funding programs that would benefit our species' survival for generations to come."

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Jeddore said he stays involved with the program because it offers funding opportunities for the protection of species and increases awareness among communities and government on the importance of our wild stocks.

He adds he believes in what the ASCF stands for and that it is important to educate others and join in the fight in protecting the Atlantic salmon.

Paul Michael

Meet Paul Michael, a member of our Board of Directors

Michael is a lawyer with the firm of Campbell Lea in Charlottetown. He has been an avid sport fisher all of his life and cherishes the outdoor experience.

Michael has been an ASCF director representing PEI since 2007. Prior to joining the ASCF board, he was president of the PEI Council of the ASF and sat on the board of the ASF as the PEI representative.

"My involvement with ASCF has been very rewarding," said Michael. "I think the organization does tremendous work assisting watershed groups, First Nations, and community organizations in their salmon conservation efforts. The board is a very efficient and enthusiastic working group with a great staff –all of whom are dedicated to the goals of the foundation."

"We have seen substantial progress in achieving the foundation's goals and look forward to continued success with our funding program. Thanks to the work of the foundation staff, we have established the Salmon Hub, a database of research and funded projects, and hold regular webinars on salmon related topics which has international appeal and participation. We encourage grass roots involvement and hope we can strengthen local groups with our programs."

André St.-Hilaire

Meet André St-Hilaire, a member of our Québec Advisory Committee.

St-Hilaire is a professor of environmental hydrology at INRS-ETE, a graduate school of the University of Québec network.

"My research focuses on various aspects of fish physical habitat, including water temperature and sediments," he said. "I was asked to join the Québec committee three years ago and was happy to do so. I was very curious to know more about the efforts underway to protect and improve salmon habitat and productivity on our rivers."

"Salmon populations are under numerous pressures, including habitat degradation and climate change. It behooves us to use every opportunity that we have to diminish this pressure."

Meet Patrick Wall, a member of our Nova Scotia Advisory Committee.

Patrick Wall

"I'm a retired radiation specialist from Nova Scotia," said Wall. "For over 40 years in my spare time, when not casting flies to illusive fish, I was also a freelance photographer and writer. My interest in Atlantic Salmon began at age six fishing the Salmonier and Colinet Rivers on Newfoundland's Avalon peninsula. Since then I've fished for the 'king of fish' throughout Atlantic Canada. My favourite angling destination now is Labrador, especially the Eagle River."

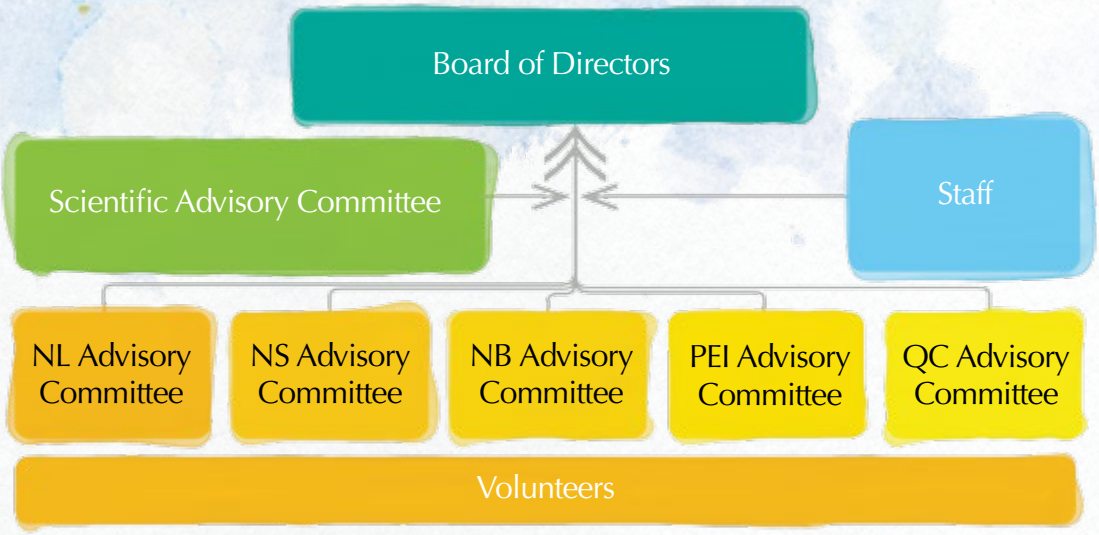
Wall joined the Nova Scotia Advisory Committee in 2017 and considers himself a novice.

"I agreed to join as I've had a keen interest in Atlantic salmon conservation for many years. Currently I belong to several Atlantic salmon conservation organizations and am the current president of Wild Salmon Unlimited based in Nova Scotia. What I've learned, and continue to learn, from the devoted people of those organizations I feel will help me help ASCF carry out its mandate."

Wall said he hopes that during his tenure he will make a difference, and in so doing provide an example to those who may follow.

"Today, the world of the Atlantic salmon is precarious and I encourage everyone to join with a conservation group like ASCF or become politically involved on their behalf to prevent their demise."

ASCF STRUCTURAL MODEL



CONSERVATION PARTNERS

The 2018 List of Our Conservation Partners

Abegweit Aboriginal Youth Environmental Services
Abegweit Conservation Society
Agence Mamu Innu Kaikusseth
Alcool NB Liquor
Anqotum Resource Management
Amec Foster Wheeler
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 saumons de la rivière Rimouski
Association des pêcheurs sportifs des rivières Casacapédia
Association de protection de la Rivière Saint-Jean
Atlantic Canada Fish Farmers Association
Atlantic Salmon Federation
Bay St. George South Area Development Association & Local Service District
Bay St. George Stewardship Group
Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation
Buctouche First Nation
Boralex
Caisse Desjardins
Canadian Army - Armée Canadienne (2nd Base de soutien Valcartier)
Canadian National Railway Company
Canadian Rivers Institute
Canoe Kayak New Brunswick
Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Centre Interuniversitaire de Recherche sur le Saumon Atlantique
Cheticamp River Salmon Association
Charlo Salmonid Enhancement Center
City of Fredericton
Clean Foundation
Club Hill Camp
Coasters Association Inc.
Collaboration for Atlantic Salmon Tomorrow
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
College of the North Atlantic
Cooke Aquaculture
Corner Brook Port Corporation
Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier
Corporation de gestion de la rivière à saumons des Escoumins
Corporation de gestion de la rivière St-Jean Saguenay
Corporation de gestion des rivières Matapédia-Patapédia
Contact Nature Rivière à Mars
Dalhousie University
Ducks Unlimited PEI
Eastern Shore Wildlife Association
Fondation Echo – Echo Foundation
École Mgr-Marcel-François-Richard
École Étoile de l'Acadie
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 Resources Management Association
Esgenoôpetitj First Nation
Esgenoopetitj Watershed Association
Fédération Canadienne des Municipalités
Fédération québécoise des municipalités
Fédération québécoise du saumon atlantique
Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Pêches et Océans Canada
Flat Bay Indian Band
Fondation de la Faune du Québec
Fondation pour le saumon du grand Gaspé
Fondation Saumon
Fort Folly First Nation
Freshwater Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation
Friends of the Kouchibouguacis
Gander Bay Indian Band Council
Gespe'gewaq Mi'gmaq Resource Council
Gestion du saumon du Restigouche et ses tributaires
Glencore

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

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Glenwood First Nation
Green Communities Canada
Hammond River Angling Association
Humber Arm Environmental Association Inc.
Hydro-Québec
Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Institut Maurice-Lamontagne
Institut national de recherche scientifique
Inverness South Anglers Association
Intervale Associates Incorporated
Island Nature Trust
Jardins verts l'avenir
JD Irving Ltd.
Journal L'Avant-Poste
Journal L'Écho de la Baie
Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
Killiam Trusts
Labrador Hunting and Fishing Association
L.E. Reinsborough School
Listuguj First Nation
Mabou River Inn
Malcité de Viger
Main Brook Research and Development Corporation
Matrix Solutions
McCain Foundation
McGill University
McLean Foundation
Mecatina Outfitters
Memorial University
Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI
Miawpukek First Nation
Ministère de l'Économie, de l'Innovation et des Exportations du Québec
Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs du Québec
Ministère des Transports du Québec
Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee
Miramichi Salmon Association
Mitacs
Morell River Management Cooperative
MRC Avignon
MRC de la Matapédia
Municipalité d'Amqui
Municipalité de Causapscal
Municipalité de Godbout
Municipalité de Matapédia
Municipalité de Sainte-Florence
Municipalité de Tracadie-Sheila
Municipalité de Sayabec
Municipalité de St-Louis-de-Kent
Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
Municipality of Pasadena
Municipality of Conception Bay South
Napetipi River Outfitters
Nashwaak Watershed Association Inc.
National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces - Défense nationale et Forces armées canadiennes
Nature Conservancy of Canada
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 Innovation Foundation
New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund - Fonds de fiducie de la faune du Nouveau-Brunswick
Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Fisheries and Land Resources
Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment
Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Tourism, Culture, Industry, and Innovation
Newfoundland Ride for Ages
Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education
Nova Scotia Salmon Association
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 de la Haute-Côte Nord
Organisme de bassins versants Manicouagan
Pabineau First Nation
Parks Canada - Parcs Canada
Parc national de la Jacques-Cartier
Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance
Pictou County Rivers Association
Pictou Landing First Nation
Pirates Haven Chalets & Adventures
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 Watershed Alliance
Prince Edward Island Wildlife Conservation Fund
Programme de mise en valeur des habitats de la Côte-Nord
Qalipu Mikmaq First Nation
Québec-Labrador Foundation
Regroupement des organismes de bassins versants du Québec
Rennie's River Development Corporation
Restigouche Camp Owners Association
Resource Innovations Inc.
Ristigouche Salmon Club
Rogers TV
Rouge FM
Royal Bank of Canada
Sackville Rivers Association
Sage Environmental Fund
Salmonid Association of Eastern Newfoundland
Scoudouc ATV Club
Shediac Bay Watershed Association
Société de gestion de la rivière Ouelle
Société du Plan Nord du Québec
Société de gestion des rivières de Gaspé
Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Southeastern Anglers Association
Stantec
St. Mary's First Nation
St. Mary's River Association
St. Paul's Salmon Fishing Club
St-Ignace Golf Club
Suncor Energy Fluvarium
Sussex Fish and Game Association
Tabusintac Club Ltd.
Tabusinctac Watershed Association
Torngat National Park
Torngat Secretariat
Town of Holyrood
Tourism Southwest
Tourism Prince Edward Island
Tuckamore Lodge
Université Laval
University of Hull
University of New Brunswick
University of Windsor
Vidcraft Productions
Ville de Saguenay
Vision H2O
Watershed Technologies
White Bay Central Development Association
Wood Group PLC
Woodlands Nursery Ltd.
Wood
World Wildlife Fund
ZEC de la rivière des Escoumins
ZEC de la rivière Laval

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