The Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Annual Report 2023

In Memoriam

Message from the Chairman 1

Message from the Executive Director 2

Introduction to 2023 Annual Report 3

Mission Statement & Goals 4

Foundation Objectives 5

Project Profiles

Newfoundland & Labrador 8

Québec 9

New Brunswick 10

Nova Scotia 11

Prince Edward Island 12

Science 13

Grants & Status 14

Summary of Project Audits 21

Reports & Statements

Auditors' Report 22

2023 Financial Statements 23

FCAS Volunteers & Personnel

Officers, Directors & Board Committees 25

Advisory Committees 26

Volunteer Profiles 2023 27

FCAS Structural Model 30

Conservation Partners 31

IN MEMORIAM

Peter Joseph Cronin

(1952-2023)

A long-term member of the Scientific Advisory Committee, Peter worked for nearly 38 years with the Province of New Brunswick, most of it as a Fisheries Biologist. He enjoyed working on the rivers, lakes and streams of the province managing the resident fish species and their habitats including developing and enhancing the coldwater and warm water recreational fisheries that they supported. He has been a voice for Atlantic Salmon for many years by contributing to NASCO, FCAS, NBSC and others.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Together, we will continue to champion the cause of wild Atlantic salmon conservation

As we reflect on the Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon's journey (FCAS) throughout 2023, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the progress we have achieved in our ongoing mission to preserve the wild Atlantic salmon species and protect precious Canadian watersheds. We are pleased to have continued our work with community groups, Indigenous organizations, researchers and other dedicated individuals in order to do so.

2023 concluded the second year of our strategic vision, Transformational Growth, during which we built upon the solid foundation laid in previous years by focusing on meeting the ever-growing need for watershed conservation efforts in the regions we support. Our commitment to improvement has driven us to enhance our communication strategies, ensuring proactive information sharing and education through initiatives such as inter-provincial partnership symposiums and our newsletter, The River. Furthermore, we have expanded our strategic relationships and partnerships, recognizing that collaboration is paramount in achieving our conservation goals. By increasing our presence at meetings and actively engaging with stakeholders, we have strengthened our network and continue to work to amplify our impact across the region.

In 2023, we were proud to once again allocate significant funds towards supporting conservation efforts undertaken by our recipient-partners. This funding has been instrumental in addressing the urgent need for conservation actions, as we continue to navigate the challenge of ensuring the survival of the Atlantic Salmon, a species of immense cultural and economic importance to Atlantic Canada, Québec and Indigenous communities. Thanks to the success of our long-term financial plan, we were able to grant a total of $1.7 million to our dedicated and inspiring recipient-partners, without whom our work would be impossible.

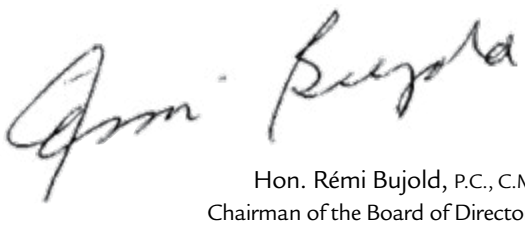
As we celebrate seventeen years of operation, it is clear that the FCAS model is effective in driving positive change. However, the stark reality remains that the conservation needs of wild Atlantic salmon continues to exceed our financial capacity, with demands exceeding what we can provide in each passing year. While this presents a significant challenge, it also serves as a catalyst for innovation and determination.

Moving forward, we are committed to exploring solutions to bridge this gap, whether through increased government support, strategic sponsorships or other innovative funding mechanisms. It remains a top priority that we protect our endowment fund while striving to meet the pressing conservation needs of our region. Our hope is that, as we progress further with our strategic vision, program awareness and funding capacity will grow to meet wild Atlantic salmon conservation efforts across the five provinces.

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

In closing, I extend my deepest gratitude to our dedicated team, our valued partners and our passionate supporters. Together, we will continue to champion the cause of wild Atlantic salmon conservation, ensuring a brighter, more sustainable future for generations to come.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our shared vision.



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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Continuing to build on seventeen years of successful Atlantic salmon conservation efforts.

To conclude the Foundation's seventeenth year of operation, I am pleased to present to you the FCAS 2023 Annual Report, which serves as a testament to the dedication to the conservation of wild Atlantic salmon that remains strong throughout Atlantic Canada and Québec. As we enter a new organizational year, we find ourselves at a pivotal juncture, positioned to reflect on our achievements, confront our challenges and chart a course for continued growth.

We were proud to have $1.7 million in available funds in 2023 – $1.5 million in new funds supplemented by an additional $200,000 in deferred funds. These resources have been allocated to support the vital work of our recipient-partners, who are at the forefront of wild Atlantic salmon conservation efforts. This year, funding was granted to a total of seventy-six conservation and scientific projects being run by Indigenous groups, educational institutions, community and conservation associations, among others. This brings our cumulative distribution of funds from 2008 to 2023 to an impressive $14.2 million, with almost $70 million leveraged from other sources for an impressive ratio of 5:1.

Alongside supporting the conservation efforts of our recipient-partners, FCAS made large strides in 2023, advancing further along the path laid out by our strategic vision. This vision has served as our guide since its launch in 2022, propelling us forward with renewed purpose and vigor. Central to our endeavors this year has been a steadfast commitment to meeting the escalating demand for conservation efforts across our region. Through strategic alliances and deepened partnerships, we have worked to expand our impact by inviting new dialogue, disseminating knowledge and fostering a culture of shared responsibility within our circles.

The advancement of our work, through our commitment to continued learning and partnership, allows us to remain diligent in ensuring that the projects we fund are those that are designed to effectively tackle the most pressing issues facing wild Atlantic salmon. As the Foundation's reach and the need for funding continues to increase across the five provinces we serve, our commitment to fair and effective application review and project approval does not waver - consistency and transparency in our grant selection processes remains a priority.

At this moment, I would like to once again thank all of those who continue to apply for funding, for their unrelenting commitment to our shared goal of conserving this important species. Despite our best efforts, the conservation needs of our region far outstrip our current financial resources. It is the passion of our partners that drives our efforts to find solutions that will increase our funding capacity and allow us to support more important projects each year.

Charline McCoy
Executive Director

I extend gratitude to each and every one of FCAS' partners, sponsors, staff and supporters for the unwavering dedication to this cause. Together, we are not merely stewards of wild Atlantic salmon; we are protecting a way of life, a cultural legacy and a shared future. I look forward to continuing this work together with determination, resilience and unwavering resolve.

Charline McCoy
Executive Director

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

An Effective and Permanent Supporter of Wild Atlantic Salmon Conservation!

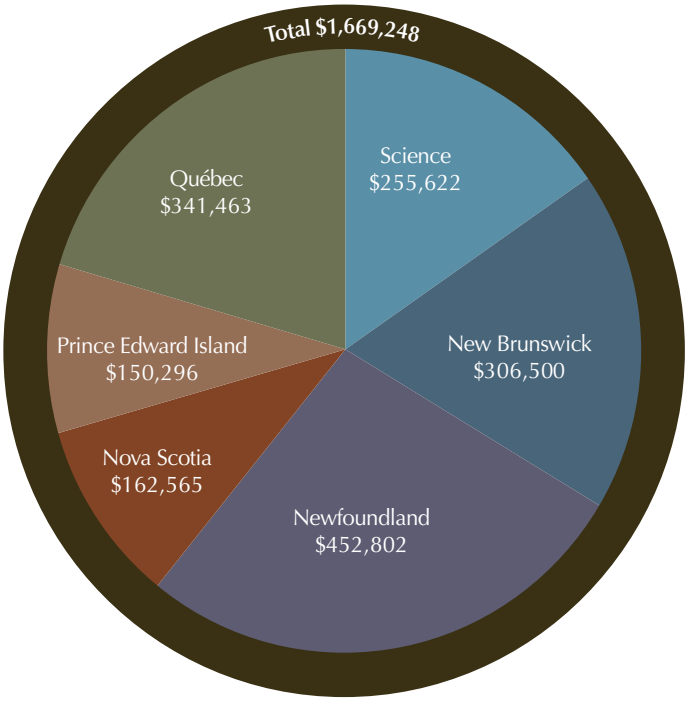
Introduction

The Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon is a permanent source of funding and conservation advice supporting community groups, Indigenous communities, researchers and other organizations across five provinces. With 16 years of experience in granting conservation project funding, the Foundation is a mature, reliable and facilitative factor in helping improve conservation of wild Atlantic salmon in the Atlantic provinces and Québec.

We understand the many challenges affecting salmon conservation and fully subscribe to long-term goal of achieving abundant wild salmon populations. That is 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 business-like and user-friendly approach.

The Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon is a non-profit, charitable organization dedicated to improving and strengthening the conservation of wild Atlantic salmon and its habitat in perpetuity. The Foundation is a volunteer-based organization that opened our doors in February 2007. The Board of Directors of the Foundation are volunteers, along with all of the volunteer experts on our six advisory committees who have come together to ensure the wise use of the trust fund for the conservation purposes for which it was designed.

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 on a permanent, go-forward basis.



Grants Amounts Approved in 2023

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

This annual report reflects the Foundation's seventeenth year of operation. In 2023, the Foundation continued to build on the successful operational structure it created in 2007, to support and extend salmon conservation initiatives. This year also witnessed completion of the Foundation's sixteenth round of grants in support of community salmon conservation projects, as well as the 2024 call for funding proposals, which closed in November 2023.

Background

The Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon 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, offering 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, Indigenous 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 interest raised on the principal amount; and
6. Facilitate partnership with the provinces, Indigenous 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 FCAS operates in the large and complex geographic, political and stock status environment of Atlantic Canada and Québec. To address these complexities, the Foundation relies completely on inclusive,

expert advisory committees that are unique in opening all processes to broad and meaningful involvement as well as full transparency.

In addition to the requirement to submit an annual report and an annual business plan to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard, the Foundation is subject to periodic review of its performance by the Government of Canada. A value for money audit conducted by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans found that the Foundation represents excellent value for money, is demonstrating measurable progress on several fronts, while being strongly supported by its 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 originates:

- 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, Indigenous 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, to promote the most effective use of, and accountability for, project funds.

The Foundation holds one call for proposals each year. Proposals are submitted electronically 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 January to March.

Each advisory committee follows a standard proposal assessment and scoring procedures designed by the Scientific Advisory Committee. The proposals recommended by the advisory committees are reviewed and approved by the Board in early spring to enable all final approvals to be given and successful recipients notified well before the opening of the conservation field season. In addition, each unsuccessful project proponent is provided an explanation why it was unsuccessful both for information and to encourage future submissions.

Advisory Committees

The Foundation relies heavily on its expert volunteer advisory committee structure to make good decisions on the projects that should be funded. The advisory committee model is unique in the world of salmon conservation. It is a strategic direction that promotes inclusiveness of the many interests in wild salmon conservation and partnership among them. Most importantly, however, the advisory committees ensure that the Foundation continually receives excellent advice in the selection of 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. The advisory committees are a very successful way of including people in decision-making processes while also ensuring full transparency in the granting process.

The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) is the natural evolution from the former Central Advisory Committee. This committee is representative of world-class expertise in the salmon domain and carries the dual roles of ensuring wise investment in applied research scientific projects, as well as assisting the Board of Directors to develop and maintain effective policy, procedures and strategic direction.

Each of the five provincial advisory committees is responsible for identifying the salmon conservation priorities unique to their 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 2023

A report on objectives met, as stated in the 2023 Business Plan.

The following objectives were stated in the 2023 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.

2023 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 ensure the investment fund to an inflation adjusted value, while making provision to maintain an annual distribution of project funding over the same period, taking into account financial market performance and Funding Agreement requirements.

The Foundation's investment portfolio experienced an improvement in 2023 after a decline in 2022 due to the volatile market at that time. Fortunately, our prudent investment strategy was successful in protecting and keeping the trust fund above the adjusted book value as required by the Funding Agreement. Importantly, sufficient income was generated to maintain the annual grant pool at $1,500,000 for 2024.

As at 31 December 2023 the market value of the fund was reported as just over $44.6 million.

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

2023 Actions: The Foundation follows 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. The formula is 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.

The funding formula also provides ten percent of the overall grant pool to fund applied research and other scientific projects identified as conservation priority topics by the Scientific Advisory Committee.

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

2023 Actions: The Scientific Advisory Committee has identified a range of critical conservation issues affecting the survival and strengthening of wild Atlantic salmon populations in Canada. These conservation issues are reviewed annually and are designed to guide the allocation of funding to the most critical applied research initiatives being funded by the Foundation.

The prioritization of applied research funding represents an intelligent and proactive approach to awarding FCAS funding for applied scientific research. Funding is directed to specific applied research topics that are considered to have the greatest on-the-ground impact for salmon conservation.

A request for proposal was sent to potential respondents in 2022 with four applied research topics to choose from. These applied research questions were:

1. Are current management regulations and protocols effective in conserving and sustaining salmon populations?
2. What are the consequences of aquaculture on wild Atlantic salmon in eastern Canada?
3. How do freshwater ecosystems influence wild Atlantic salmon populations?
4. What are the consequences of climate change on wild Atlantic salmon?

The proposals were evaluated by the SAC and funding was awarded to four new projects in 2023.

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

2023 Actions: The Foundation conducts its business in accordance with its comprehensive Audit and Evaluation Strategy, as part of the annual Business Plan. All projects report their performance in a uniform manner, which facilitates population of 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 enables the Foundation to report clearly on its attainment of objectives and other performance criteria. Thus, the Foundation fulfils its commitment to being a results-based management organization.

During 2023, additional refinements were made to project report forms through feedback from grant recipients and advisory com-

FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES 2023

The following objectives were stated in the 2023 Business Plan

mittees to ensure that necessary data was reported but also to simplify required reporting. In addition, the Foundation implemented a new database reporting system to facilitate data access and reporting ability.

Since 2008, FCAS has granted $14.2 million to 808 projects from nearly 1200 grant requests, following a rigorous assessment process.

FCAS total funding distributed to the five provinces (all years) is as follows:

- New Brunswick $3.37 million
- Newfoundland & Labrador $3.48 million
- Nova Scotia $1.50 million
- Prince Edward Island $1.41 million
- Québec $2.67 million
- Scientific Advisory Committee $1.75 million

FCAS funds have leveraged more than $69.7 million in overall project valuation from other sources for an impressive leveraging ratio of 5:1 (to 2023).

FCAS funded projects have resulted in major conservation improvements (to 2022):

- **147 million** square meters of **habitat access** opened
- **5.13 million** square meters of **improved habitat**
- **10,037 volunteers** contributed **226,912 hours** of effort
- **166,643 individuals** involved in **education & awareness**
- **$1.75 million** contributed to **88 Indigenous organization projects**
- **$3.09 million** contributed to **141 applied scientific research grants,** aimed at improving the effectiveness of conservation effort
- **3,432 jobs sustained**, mostly in rural areas
- **Eco-tourism** opportunity improved: FCAS funded projects help strengthen an eco-tourism industry worth several hundred million dollars annually in 5 provinces

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

2023 Actions: The "*Salmon Hub*" is a "one stop" web-based source to facilitate access to salmon conservation information. This portal provides easy access to FCAS funded project reports, government and NGO created technical and scientific reports, and other sources of material related to salmon conservation. Information sharing is a major line of business for the Foundation and the Salmon Hub builds on the already significant Foundation website sharing of project reports and social media.

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

Fort Folly First Nation - NB

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

2023 Actions: Throughout 2023 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 posted several items on its website, as well as sending periodic 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

FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES 2023

The following objectives were stated in the 2023 Business Plan

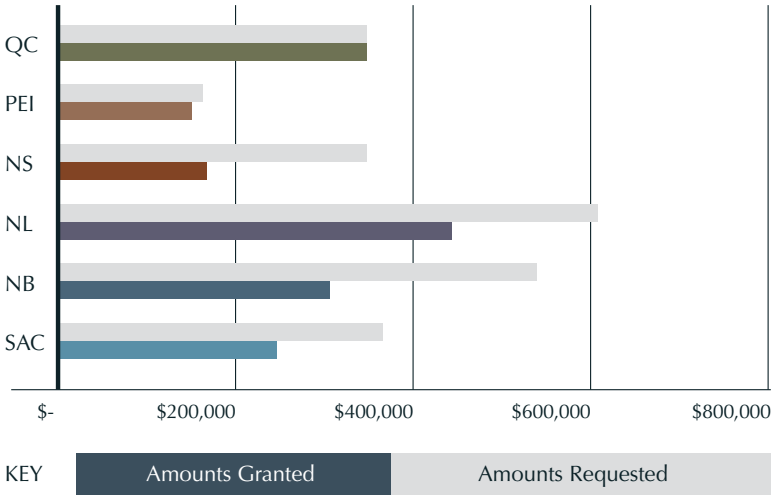
in 2023, the Foundation regularly updated to Facebook and Twitter to keep followers informed of developments. The number of followers on both social media increased significantly during the year.

In addition, a schedule of webinars featuring well-known speakers on a broad range of fish and freshwater issues was held. Several expert individuals from Canada and abroad were invited to present the topics and lead discussion on-line with regular attendance by representatives of Indigenous groups, NGOs, governments, academic institutions and businesses. The series has provided major new opportunities for information sharing and partnership building. In 2023, 9 webinars were hosted with a total of 665 participants.

Throughout 2023, the FCAS monthly newsletter, called "The River/ La rivière", was distributed to over 1,200 email addresses to share news and insights from the Foundation on our conservation and partnership efforts supporting wild Atlantic salmon.

Partnership Symposiums were also planned and executed in two more provinces in 2023 such as Nova Scotia and Québec. These are similar symposiums to the other ones held in the other three Atlantic provinces the year before. This was a starting point in establishing a much stronger provincial network and unifying voices focused on wild Atlantic salmon conservation. The plan moving forward is to complete the first Five Province Partnership Symposium in the Fall of 2024.

The Foundation's "Transformational Growth" strategy recognized the need for sustainable partnerships, collaboration and planning at the watershed level.



Amounts granted & amounts requested in 2023

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.

2023 Actions: By 2023, with sixteen 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 2023 was being met and that several very reasonable and strong conservation project proposals could not be funded.

The fiscally prudent business model followed by the Foundation, as 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. To meet the additional and demonstrated need for conservation project funding, the Board has determined that a larger trust fund is necessary. This was also identified in the renewed strategy with a goal to double the size of the FCAS's trust fund and the funds it distributes on an annual basis in support of Atlantic salmon conservation efforts in New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Québec, as well as applied science research. This matter was raised with the Minister.

The FCAS Strategic Plan identified two key related government objectives:

- Seek an increase to the FCAS trust fund to be able to fund more necessary conservation projects that currently cannot be funded.
- Build partnerships among governments, Indigenous organizations and conservation groups to improve conservation outcomes.

Over the last 3 years, DFO has pursued development of the Wild Atlantic Salmon Strategy (WASS) through extensive public consultations. The key goals of the WASS mirror much of what FCAS currently delivers, including support to salmon conservation initiatives, strengthening local stewardship and funding applied scientific research. FCAS has contributed to development of the WASS and has built excellent relationships with DFO as a WASS supporter.

The WASS process has built major expectations within the Atlantic salmon community and is understood to be the strategy through which DFO could deliver support to wild Atlantic salmon. Increasing the size of the FCAS endowment by any amount makes more interest income available for perpetual annual investments in conservation and this could assist the implementation of the WASS.

2023 PROJECT PROFILES • NL

Atlantic Salmon Habitat Restoration Project

2022 brought extreme weather events exacerbated by climate change to parts of Newfoundland including severe flooding. Due to these impacts, the Three Rivers Mi'kmaq Band saw a need to evaluate the condition of those same three rivers – the Middle Barachois River, River Brook and Robinsons River, as well as other waterways from Barachois to Grand Codroy – and to implement remedies where necessary.

"Last year we had Hurricane Fiona and there was significant damage to southwestern Newfoundland," said Three Rivers Mi'kmaq Band Chief Peggy White. "It was a big storm, so those rivers needed some excess debris removed. We're trying to improve the river health and make it as healthy an ecosystem, for the fish to repopulate, as possible."

At one time, those rivers were an incredibly fertile salmon ground that supported a thriving commercial fishery. The numbers of salmon in those rivers have dropped dramatically, making preserving and enhancing the habitats of the remaining salmon a high priority. So, in response to Fiona's impacts, the Three Rivers Mi'kmaq Band was invited to apply for an FCAS grant to evaluate obstructions in the rivers, to resurvey culverts and infrastructure, and to implement remedies to ensure maximum salmon population growth. They received $28,893 from the foundation.

"It took a little over a month, as river people – experienced people hired to do the work – walked up and down the river removing debris and securing banks by planting new trees where erosion was taking place and trees had been literally ripped out of their rooting," said Chief White. "Removing any obstructions was the biggest part of the job."

The work was largely performed by hand, with chainsaws. No heavy machinery was used, as equipment such as excavators are not allowed near the rivers. Chief White also emphasized that choosing exactly which debris to remove from the rivers was a judicious process.

"You cannot just strip the river of all debris and trees, because fish need somewhere to hide to take a little siesta," said Chief White. "You need to balance having a clear path for them to go upriver but making sure there's enough stuff left so there's places where they can rest."

As with any project of this type, it will be some time before the specific results of this effort can be measured. However, Chief White notes that there were other positive impacts.

"There's benefits to having people in the rivers during that migrational period," said Chief White. "It thwarts salmon poachers; it clears the pathway and it gives the best chance for salmon to repopulate. It's good to get people in the rivers doing this kind of work. When you live in such a rural area, it's education, for people who start working in the rivers, on how important species at risk are. It's educational, it's scientific, it's all those things wrapped into one. It's important work."

Chief White said they have other rivers in their area where similar work is necessary, and they will likely reapply for further funding for 2024.

Three Rivers Mi'kmaq Band

2023 PROJECT PROFILES • QC

Creation of an "awareness corridor" for the presence of Atlantic Salmon in the Jacques-Cartier River

The Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier (CBJC) does a wide variety of work to help bolster Atlantic salmon numbers in that waterbody. However, they have found that many residents of the communities that surround the river don't even know that there are Atlantic salmon in the river, let alone the challenges they face or why work to support them is important. Public support can be crucial to such efforts so, as CBJC Biologist Esther Carle-Pruneau explains, they saw the need for an awareness campaign surrounding their efforts.

"The CBJC does a lot of work to help support the restoration of the population of Atlantic salmon in the watershed," said Carle-Pruneau. "We need to make people aware and take action to ensure that they know what work is being done and why it's important."

Atlantic salmon numbers in the river have been declining for many years, particularly after the establishment of three dams which limited salmon's ability to travel the river. Carle-Pruneau says that the CBJC has been working to address those issues since 1979 through efforts such as releasing alevin into the rivers, constructing a migratory pass and transporting salmon to the more fertile spawning grounds when necessary.

"The public doesn't know the history of the population and why we transport the salmon," said Carle-Pruneau. "The population has increased over the years but we are still below the critical threshold for the population."

The current project aims to put Atlantic salmon into the minds and hearts of local residents – making them aware of the populations and the actions that have been implemented to rehabilitate and conserve them. They will accomplish that through an "awareness corridor", providing elements of awareness at different scales, such as informative placards along the river which will convey the history of management efforts in that sector. The CBJC are also creating three videos which will be released later in the year. They applied to the FCAS and received a $11,355 grant and also received funding through the Québec government's Programme affluent maritime.

"We want to reach a very large section of the public," said Carle-Pruneau. "With the videos that we are making right now, we hope that other people will get access to this information. We're also going to put some information on the sides of the trucks that we use to transport the salmon."

Carle-Pruneau says that the informative placards will also include QR codes, so interested residents can scan them and receive further information about the CBJC and the work they do. While the videos are expected to be released later this year, much of the works related to the "awareness corridor" will formally launch in 2024.

Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier

2023 PROJECT PROFILES • NB

Assessing barriers & restoring access to fish passage in the Belleisle watershed

Over the years, observers have reported seeing some fish getting stuck in pools and being unable to move past culverts in the upper parts of the Belleisle watershed in southern New Brunswick. At the same time, in the lower parts of the watershed, there was also a need to examine and assess potential barriers and to detail whether they were impacting fish movement. As such, the Belleisle Watershed Coalition (BWC) moved forward in 2023 with two simultaneous projects.

"This is the second year for the barrier assessment part of the project," said Colin Forsythe, executive director of the BWC. "I had noticed that the watershed had never in its history actually assessed any of the culverts anywhere in the watershed as barriers to fish passage. It's simply not been looked at. It seemed like a big gaping hole in our knowledge."

A barrier assessment was carried out successfully close to 300 kilometers of brooks and streams in the upper parts of the watershed in 2022, which identified 50 kilometres of Belleisle Creek and tributaries which had barriers on them. An assessment of the lower parts of the watershed was conducted this year.

"Some of the barriers, particularly ones where there's debris in the culverts that is providing the barrier, we're trying to get permission from the New Brunswick Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DTI) to go in and clean those culverts out and start to restore the fish passage," said Forsythe. "That's the impetus of the project – to improve the habitat, particularly for salmon. It's over the long run in Belleisle because nothing has ever been done like this in quite a few culverts in the watershed and it's long past time to start tackling them."

The BWC applied to the FCAS and was awarded a grant of $10,000, and also received funding support from the New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund and the New Brunswick Environmental Trust Fund. The assessment project is still ongoing and expected to be completed by the end of September. Watercourse mapping is used to generate GPS coordinates and then students working with the BWC are trained on how to utilize the group's rapid assessment procedures for culverts, bridges and beaver dams.

Work on restoring access in the upper parts of the watershed has been somewhat delayed by heavy rainfalls and coordination with DTI, but Forsythe hopes that they will be able to start tackling their first eight sites in August and September.

In addition to the assessment and restoration activities, the BWC's 2023 efforts also included identifying stakeholders interested in this issue and conducting educational outreach to raise awareness. To that end, the BWC formed partnerships with the Hammond River Angling Association, the Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance and formed an educational partnership with the Boys and Girls Club, which offers a summer camp where students can learn more about the watershed and its challenges.

Looking forward, the BWC will likely look at conducting more in depth fish monitoring in the watershed. Assessing access is extremely useful information to have, but pairing it with data on the actual health of fish populations in the watershed will be invaluable.

"It's promising," said Forsythe. "We see promising things, but we really need concrete data to nail down how these populations are doing. And how will they trend over time? They'll certainly trend better over time if they have access to more habitat."

Belleisle Watershed Coalition (BWC)

2023 PROJECT PROFILES • NS

Restoring connectivity for Atlantic salmon in the LaHave River Watershed

Since 2015 the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation (BCAF) has been assessing aquatic connectivity in the watershed in waves. This process involved venturing into the watershed, identifying high priority sites based on the amount of upstream habitat available, what species they expected to find, the overall importance of assessing barriers and moving forward with measures to improve fish passage. Improving conditions for Atlantic salmon has always been a particular focus.

"We try to increase the amount of habitat they can access, especially suitable habitat, which we sometimes assess through habitat suitability index assessments to see how much of the upstream habitat is suitable for salmon and exactly how suitable it is," said Sam Reeves, watersheds & water quality project coordinator for BCAF. "That way we can prioritize our efforts to make sure they're having the most impact for Atlantic salmon recovery."

That's only part of the work that the BCAF does in the watershed. They also add their aquatic connectivity info to databases and sub-watershed fish habitat restoration plans, updating those plans with fresh data as they work at sites to address fish passages and other issues. They also take care to map out locations where invasive species are found, such as smallmouth bass and chain pickerel, to ensure that they are not increasing access for those species. To support their efforts in 2023, the BCAF applied to the FCAS and received a grant for $12,300.

"We have three main activities for the summer," said Reeves. "The aquatic connectivity work, instream fish habitat improvement work and then we try to do as much education throughout the year as we can. Regarding the aquatic connectivity stuff, between all the fieldwork – like going out and checking on structure and assessing new structures and updating all the databases – we work on that periodically from April right until November. The actual installations are usually done in July, August and September."

Much of the BCAF's efforts are long-term ongoing projects – they have been working to address connectivity issues for Atlantic salmon for several years now and expect to continue the work for many more to come.

"We plan to continue to focus in on that key salmon habitat, and we make sure that's where most of our resources and funding is going," said Reeves. "We want to have the biggest impact on salmon that we can. And, for example, we've started to also focus in on single watercourses where we've identified the presence of salmon. The goal was to cover as big of an area as you can, versus just doing smaller improvement in multiple locations. We're really trying to focus on these key tributaries and watercourses and have the biggest impact we can there."

Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation

2023 PROJECT PROFILES • PEI

Hurricane Fiona mitigation

The impacts of Hurricane Fiona were felt across the Atlantic provinces. And while Prince County, PEI avoided the most devastating impacts of the storm, the effects of those impacts compounded over time as downed trees caught debris found in the Caruthers, Cain's and Trout Rivers, leading to more severe blockages.

"There were a lot of blowdowns," said Dale Cameron, project coordinator of the Prince County chapter of Trout Unlimited Canada. "The blowdowns themselves aren't necessarily the end of the world, but then they catch other things, like debris in the Spring. And if you've got a blockage, then water is trying to find away around and then you've got a bank washed out or having lost a fish passage. So we wanted to get things opened back up because we had pretty good conductivity prior to that."

To support these efforts, trees were planted earlier in the year to replace some that were felled in the storm. Then, over the course of the summer, workers set about chopping up blockages and removing them. There were some logistic challenges – in some cases, access to the blockages was extremely limited and difficult, necessitating several hour walks to find access points. The work was largely carried out by hand with tools such as chainsaws.

"You get a pile of logs and debris that's 25 meters deep, you've got to block it all up with a chainsaw to a manageable size and get it up on the bank," said Cameron. "Sometimes we're lucky enough and one of the logs are at the correct angle, we can pile something behind it and make a deflector out of it."

Trout Unlimited Canada Prince County Chapter Inc. applied to the FCAS to support the effort and received $23,504, which was in addition to funding from a few other sources. Cameron has observed that these types of extreme weather patterns do seem to be happening more frequently in recent years. So, it seems like that the Prince County chapter will likely be reapplying to support similar clean up efforts in coming years.

"We had quite a mess after Dorian as well," said Cameron. "These big hurricanes that we're getting now definitely take their toll, both on the riparian zone and the mess to clean up in the stream afterwards. We always get a little bit of that stuff naturally anyway, but it certainly increases the amount and scale."

Before habitat clean-up

After habitat clean-up

Trout Unlimited Canada Prince County Chapter Inc.

2023 PROJECT PROFILES • SAC

A modelling tool investigating how freshwater ecosystems influence wild Atlantic salmon populations

Atlantic salmon abundance has decreased significantly over the past 30 years and mortalities at sea are known to be a contributing factor to that decline. But the causes of those mortalities may not solely lie in the sea. Adverse freshwater habitat conditions could carry-over and contribute to those poor survival numbers. As such, there was a need to develop tools to fully investigate.

"We're members of CIRSA, the Interuniversity Atlantic Salmon Research Center, a Québec-based group of researchers working on Atlantic salmon" said Dr. Andre St-Hilaire, speaking of himself and other professors of the Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS, University of Québec). "We have been discussing the need for greater information – broader in terms of number of rivers and longer in terms of time – on the main variables that influence Atlantic salmon while in freshwater, namely discharge and temperature."

St-Hilaire notes that measurements of river discharge and river temperature have been taken in some Atlantic salmon rivers, but not all of them, and they typically do not cover the last 30 years or more. So, INRS applied for a grant from the FCAS to develop modelling tools to generate this needed data. They received $47,884 in 2023, the final part of a three year project totaling $143,652.

"The game plan was to look at what modelling tools could be used to generate the data on, initially, a targeted number of Atlantic salmon rivers, but we will be able to do it for all of them," said St-Hilaire.

A Ph.D. student, Ilias Hani started with modelling tools which already existed at INRS, particularly one which simulated discharge and water temperatures based on meteorological inputs (the CEQUEAU model). Then they looked at statistical approaches. While the decisions about the most effective approaches are still ongoing and the tools are being tested for accuracy, St-Hilaire is happy with how they have developed.

"The model needs to be calibrated – there's a bunch of different parameters, you can imagine them like tuning buttons," said St-Hilaire. "We need to tune them for each river calibrated against observations where we can. That's being done on 19 Atlantic salmon rivers across the North American distribution."

To validate the model, Ilias pretends that one of the monitored river has no data and he uses the information from the 18 other rivers to transfer the discharge and temperature data. He then checked the results of the modelling tool against the actual data they have. Once the tools have been proven effective and have been fully calibrated, they can then be used to approximate information from rivers for which there is no data.

St-Hilaire says that the project is on track to be completed by the end of the year. At the end of a three year long effort, he is very excited to have an effective tool developed. In addition to generating historical data, he hopes that they could use the tools to look forward at the potential impacts of climate change.

"Now, we can generate a future scenario of discharge and temperature in the same rivers and have a look at what's probably going to happen by 2100," said St-Hilaire. "Are we going to have just hot soups everywhere? Are we going to be okay? Are there enough thermal refuges for Atlantic salmon to be able to survive the hot periods during the summer? Those are the questions that we hope to be answering down the road after this project is over. It's just going to be the starting point for that new initiative."

Institut national de la recherche scientifique

GRANTS & STATUS

2023 Project Grants - Project descriptions can be found on our site www.salmonconservation.ca/projects

Science Advisory Committee

Project Number: SAC-2021-01
Recipient: INRS (St-Hilaire)
Title: Development and implementation of a modelling tool to investigate how freshwater ecosystems (e.g., temperature, hydrology, land-use practices) influence wild Atlantic salmon populations
Approved amount: $47,884 (3 of 3 year project; total: $143,652)
Funding provided to date: $138,863.60

Project Number: SAC-2021-03
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (Curry & Samways)
Title: Lower trophic level subsidies for juvenile Atlantic Salmon production: Can primary and secondary production be linked to juvenile salmon production?
Approved amount: $3,247 (3 of 3 year project; total: $65,297)
Funding provided to date: $49,065

Project Number: SAC-2022-01
Recipient: Dalhousie University (Kurylyk)
Title: Designing, building and monitoring thermal refuges in an era of warming rivers
Approved amount: $43,312 (2 of 3 year project; total: $98,624)
Funding provided to date: $63,312

Project Number: SAC-2022-02
Recipient: Memorial University of Newfoundland & Labrador (Scott)
Title: Assessing and modeling within and among stream variability in insect drift availability of western Newfoundland streams
Approved amount: $36,917 (2 of 3 year project; total: $107,551)
Funding provided to date: $76,384

Project Number: SAC-2022-03
Recipient: University of New Brunswick Saint John (van Zyll de Jong)
Title: Climate change vulnerability assessment framework to support the conservation of Atlantic salmon in rivers
Approved amount: $16,000 (2 of 2 year project; total: $28,000)
Funding provided to date: $20,000

Project Number: SAC-2023-01
Recipient: Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique
Title: Importance of the height of riparian vegetation for thermal regimes of Atlantic salmon rivers to strategically inform restoration decisions
Approved amount: $24,876 (1 of 3 year project; total: $74,199)
Funding provided to date: $12,438

Project Number: SAC-2023-02
Recipient: Memorial University of Newfoundland (Fleming)
Title: Consequences of interbreeding between farmed and wild salmon under climate change: effects on thermal tolerance
Approved amount: $21,000 (1 of 3 year project; total: $87,084)
Funding provided to date: $21,000

Project Number: SAC-2023-03
Recipient: University of Prince Edward Island (Fast)
Title: Assessment of wild Atlantic salmon host variables associated with sea lice susceptibility in different environments with varying intensity of salmon aquaculture
Approved amount: $47,386 (1 of 2 year project; total: $97,342
Funding provided to date: $47,386

Project Number: SAC-2023-04
Recipient: Université du Québec à Rimouski (Chrétien)
Title: Assessment of thermal refuge enhancement success for Atlantic salmon
Approved amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $13,500

New Brunswick

Project Number: NB-2022-07
Recipient: Meduxnekeag River Association
Title: Assessing Atlantic salmon habitat suitability and presence in the Meduxnekeag River watershed
Approved amount: $6,000 (2 of 2 year project; total: $16,865)
Funding provided to date: Project cancelled (recovered grant funds of $14,655 were returned to the funding pool for future grants)

Project Number: NB-2022-18
Recipient: University of New Brunswick (O'Sullivan & Linnansaari)
Title: Establishing river by river, ecologically meaningful temperature triggers for behavioural thermoregulation in juvenile Atlantic salmon
Approved amount: $20,000 (2 of 2 year project; total: $51,600)
Funding provided to date: $51,600

Atlantic Coastal Action Program Saint John - NB

GRANTS & STATUS

2023 Project Grants

Project Number: NB-2023-01
Recipient: Atlantic Coastal Action Program (ACAP) Saint John Inc.
Title: Letting Rivers Run Wild: Broad Range Monitoring of iBoF Atlantic Salmon
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000

Project Number: NB-2023-02
Recipient: Belleisle Watershed Coalition Inc.
Title: Assessing Barriers (Lower) & restoring access (Upper) to Fish Passage in the Belleisle Watershed
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000

Project Number: NB-2023-03
Recipient: Conseil de Gestion du Bassin Versant de la Rivière Restigouche
Title: Reproductive breaching of beaver dams and logjam dismantling
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000

Nashwaak Watershed Association Inc. - NB

Project Number: NB-2023-04
Recipient: Conseil de Gestion du Bassin Versant de la Rivière Restigouche
Title: WATERSHADE Phase 1: Development of a policy and an implementation plan
Approved amount: $18,000
Funding provided to date: $18,000

Project Number: NB-2023-05
Recipient: Eel River Bar First Nation
Title: Eel River Bar Atlantic Salmon Habitat Recovery Project
Approved amount: $20,000
Funding provided to date: Project cancelled (recovered grant funds of $20,000 were returned to the funding pool for future grants)

Project Number: NB-2023-06
Recipient: Fort Folly First Nation
Title: Recovery of endangered Inner Bay of Fundy Atlantic salmon to the Petitcodiac Watershed.
Approved amount: $35,000
Funding provided to date: $35,000

Project Number: NB-2023-07
Recipient: Fundy Trail Parkway
Title: Salmon Interpretive Display
Approved amount: $8,500
Funding provided to date: Project cancelled (recovered grant funds of $8,500 were returned to the funding pool for future grants)

Project Number: NB-2023-08
Recipient: Hammond River Angling Association
Title: Getting Redd-y in the Wolastoq-Saint John River Watershed
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000

Project Number: NB-2023-09
Recipient: Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
Title: Healing Headwaters
Approved amount: $18,000
Funding provided to date: $18,000

Project Number: NB-2023-10
Recipient: Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee
Title: Atlantic Salmon Conservation Strategy – Richibucto River (Main Branch)
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000

GRANTS & STATUS

2023 Project Grants

Project Number: NB-2023-11
Recipient: Miramichi Salmon Association Inc.
Title: Atlantic Salmon Smolt Research on the Miramichi River 2023
Approved amount: $16,000
Funding provided to date: $16,000

Project Number: NB-2023-12
Recipient: Nepisiguit Salmon Association
Title: Nepisiguit Salmon Enhancement and Assessment
Approved amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $15,000

Project Number: NB-2023-13
Recipient: The Nashwaak Watershed Association Inc
Title: Volunteer Redd Survey of the Nashwaak River and Tributaries
Approved amount: $6,000
Funding provided to date: $6,000

Project Number: NB-2023-14
Recipient: The Nashwaak Watershed Association Inc.
Title: Post-removal monitoring of Campbell Creek Dam
Approved amount: $13,000
Funding provided to date: $13,000

Project Number: NB-2023-15
Recipient: The Nashwaak Watershed Association Inc.
Title: Assessing and Restoring Aquatic Connectivity in the Nashwaak Watershed
Approved amount: $18,000
Funding provided to date: $18,000

Project Number: NB-2023-16
Recipient: Oromocto River Watershed Association, Inc.
Title: Prioritization and Monitoring of Atlantic Salmon Populations
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000

Project Number: NB-2023-17
Recipient: Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance (PWA) Inc.
Title: Broken Brooks – Restoring Fish Passage and Habitat in the Petitcodiac Watershed
Approved amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $15,000

Project Number: NB-2023-18
Recipient: Shediac Bay Watershed Association
Title: Supporting Atlantic Salmon Population in the Shediac Bay Watershed Through Integrated Watershed Management Planning
Approved amount: $12,000
Funding provided to date: $12,000

Project Number: NB-2023-19
Recipient: Tabusintac Watershed Association
Title: Atlantic Salmon Conservation Strategy- Headwaters of the Tabusintac Watershed
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000

Project Number: NB-2023-20
Recipient: Friends of the Kouchibouguacis
Title: Wild Atlantic Salmon Population Enhancement and Monitoring – Kouchibouguac and Kouchibouguacis Rivers
Approved amount: $21,000
Funding provided to date: $21,000

Newfoundland & Labrador

Project Number: NL-2022-03
Recipient: Freshwater-Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation
Title: High resolution temperature monitoring for Atlantic salmon habitat on Terra Nova River
Approved amount: $38,340 (2 of 2 year project, total: $86,440)
Funding provided to date: $67,270

Project Number: NL-2022-08
Recipient: St. Anthony Basin Resources Inc.
Title: Salmonid counting fence on Parker's River Newfoundland and Labrador, year 2
Approved amount: $50,000 (2 of 2 year project, total: $100,000)
Funding provided to date: $100,000

Project Number: NL-2022-11
Recipient: Stewardship Association of Municipalities Inc.
Title: Municipal leadership in conservation of Atlantic salmon riparian habitat
Approved amount: $25,000 (2 of 3 year project, total: $75,000)
Funding provided to date: $50,000

Project Number: NL-2023-01
Recipient: Environment Resources Management Association
Title: Fish Friends revival continued
Approved amount: $10,511
Funding provided to date: $10,511

Project Number: NL-2023-02
Recipient: Environment Resources Management Association
Title: Hooking Atlantic salmon recreational anglers: Using MyCatch mobile app
Approved amount: $39,732
Funding provided to date: $39,732

Project Number: NL-2023-03
Recipient: Freshwater-Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation
Title: Connectivity restoration on Terra Nova River

GRANTS & STATUS

2023 Project Grants

Approved amount: $39,900
Funding provided to date: $29,925

Project Number: NL-2023-04
Recipient: Friends of Salmonier Nature Park
Title: Atlantic salmon education in Newfoundland & Labrador 2023
Approved amount: $10,000
Funding provided to date: $10,000

Project Number: NL-2023-05
Recipient: Humber Arm Environmental Association Inc.
Title: Freshwater management plan for Hare Bay, Great Northern Peninsula
Approved amount: $33,571
Funding provided to date: $33,571

Project Number: NL-2023-06
Recipient: Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Title: Bonavista North salmon river enhancement
Approved amount: $32,528
Funding provided to date: $32,528

Project Number: NL-2023-07
Recipient: Intervale Associates Inc
Title: Education to increase knowledge, best practices for salmon conservation
Approved amount: $27,365
Funding provided to date: $27,365

Project Number: NL-2023-08
Recipient: Memorial University of Newfoundland (Purchase & Laroux)
Title: Stream assessments for monitoring, watershed planning, and groundwork for future freshwater productivity improvement
Approved amount: $33,538 (1 of 3 year project; total: $133,012)
Funding provided to date: $33,538

Project Number: NL-2023-09
Recipient: Memorial University of Newfoundland
Title: Watershed assessing and planning in Charles Brook
Approved amount: $18,089 (1 of 2 year project; total: $25,679)
Funding provided to date: $18,089

Project Number: NL-2023-10
Recipient: NunatuKavut Community Council Inc (Purchase)
Title: Atlantic salmon conservation plan for Port Marnum Brook watershed
Approved amount: $45,335 (1 of 2 year project; total: $65,810)
Funding provided to date: $45,335

Project Number: NL-2023-11
Recipient: Salmon Preservation Association for Waters of Newfoundland

NunatuKavut Community Council Inc. - NL

Title: Casting & Conservation: Introducing Atlantic salmon conservation and fly fishing to the youth in Western & Eastern Newfoundland
Approved amount: $15,000
Funding provided to date: $15,000

Project Number: NL-2023-12
Recipient: Three Rivers Mi'kmaq Band
Title: Atlantic salmon restoration project
Approved amount: $28,893
Funding provided to date: $21,669.75

Project Number: NL-2023-13
Recipient: Town of Pasadena
Title: Improving salmon habitat, determining salmon abundance in South Brook, Pasadena
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: Project cancelled (recovered grant funds of $5,000 were re-allocated to another 2023 project)

GRANTS & STATUS

2023 Project Grants

Project Number: NL-2023-14
Recipient: Gander Bay Indian Band Council
Title: Salmon Brook fishway
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000

Nova Scotia

Project Number: NS-2023-01
Recipient: Antigonish Rivers Association
Title: Antigonish rivers aquatic restoration & monitoring
Approved amount: $32,800
Funding provided to date: $32,800

Project Number: NS-2023-02
Recipient: Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation (Coastal Action)
Title: Restoring connectivity for Atlantic salmon in the LaHave River watershed
Approved amount: $12,300
Funding provided to date: $12,300

Project Number: NS-2023-03
Recipient: Cheticamp River Salmon Association
Title: Key restoration, planning & education activities in the Cheticamp River watershed
Approved amount: $15,785
Funding provided to date: $15,785

Project Number: NS-2023-04
Recipient: Inverness South Anglers Association
Title: Mull River restoration project
Approved amount: $20,500
Funding provided to date: $20,500

Margaree Salmon Association - NS

Project Number: NS-2023-05
Recipient: Margaree Salmon Association
Title: Margaree River watershed in-stream restoration activity for 2023
Approved amount: $16,400
Funding provided to date: $16,400

Project Number: NS-2023-06
Recipient: Nova Scotia Salmon Association
Title: The West River acid mitigation project
Approved amount: $19,680
Funding provided to date: $19,680

Project Number: NS-2023-07
Recipient: Sackville Rivers Association
Title: River restoration 2023
Approved amount: $20,500
Funding provided to date: $20,500

Project Number: NS-2023-08
Recipient: St. Mary's River Association
Title: Black Brook bank stabilization
Approved amount: $24,600
Funding provided to date: $12,300

Prince Edward Island

Project Number: PEI-2023-01
Recipient: Abegweit Conservation Society
Title: Atlantic salmon/Plamu'k
Approved amount: $24,124
Funding provided to date: $18,093

Project Number: PEI-2023-02
Recipient: Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Title: Continuation of spawning habitat improvement and characterization on the West River
Approved amount: $17,690
Funding provided to date: $17,690

Project Number: PEI-2023-03
Recipient: Hillsborough River Association Inc
Title: Atlantic salmon habitat restoration & enhancement phase 5 + post-tropical storm Fiona recovery
Approved amount: $24,714
Funding provided to date: $24,714

Project Number: PEI-2023-04
Recipient: Morell River Management Cooperative
Title: Atlantic salmon habitat restoration in the St. Peter's Bay area drainage basin
Approved amount: $29,000
Funding provided to date: $29,000

GRANTS & STATUS

2023 Project Grants

Project Number: PEI-2023-05
Recipient: Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Title: Atlantic salmon population and habitat baseline watershed surveys for North Lake Creek and Cross River, phase 1
Approved amount: $31,264
Funding provided to date: $23,448

Project Number: PEI-2023-06
Recipient: Trout Unlimited Canada Prince County Chapter Inc
Title: Hurricane Fiona mitigation
Approved amount: $23,504
Funding provided to date: $23,504

Québec

Project Number: QC-2021-01
Recipient: Corporation de gestion de la rivière Saint-Jean Saguenay:
Title: Characterization of the dynamics of sediment transport in Saint-Jean River, Saguenay
Approved amount: $5,000 (3 of 3 year project; total: $30,000)
Funding provided to date: $18,344

Project Number: QC-2022-03
Recipient: Fédération québécoise pour le saumon atlantique
Title: Minimize the impact of culverts on Atlantic salmon habitat
Approved amount: $13,084 (2 of 2 year commitment; total of $25,070)
Funding provided to date: $25,070

Project Number: QC-2023-01
Recipient: Association de protection pour la rivière Moisie
Title: Atlantic salmon conservation and sport fishing enhancement plan for the Moisie Rivere
Approved amount: $20,650
Funding provided to date: $15,487.5

Project Number: QC-2023-02
Recipient: Association de protection de la rivière aux Rochers
Title: Atlantic salmon conservation and sport fishing enhancement plan for Rivière aux Rochers
Approved amount: $20,384
Funding provided to date: $15,288

Project Number: QC-2023-03
Recipient: Association de la rivière Petit-Saguenay
Title: Characterization of Atlantic salmon habitat in the Petit-Saguenay River
Approved amount: $30,145
Funding provided to date: $30,145

Project Number: QC-2023-04
Recipient: Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier

Morell River Management Cooperative - PEI

Title: 20th anniversary of the Atlantic salmon biology educational kit
Approved amount: $13,490
Funding provided to date: $13,490

Project Number: QC-2023-05
Recipient: Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier
Title: Creation of an awareness corridor on the presence of Atlantic salmon and its habitats in the Jacques-Cartier River.
Approved amount: $11,355
Funding provided to date: $11,355

Project Number: QC-2023-06
Recipient: La Société canadienne pour la conservation de la nature
Title: Management Framework and Knowledge Acquisition for the Conservation of Atlantic Salmon in the Malbaie River Nature Reserve in Gaspésie
Approved amount: $44,171
Funding provided to date: $44,171

Project Number: QC-2023-07
Recipient: Fédération québécoise pour le saumon atlantique
Title: Brief on aquaculture development in Québec
Approved amount: $5,000
Funding provided to date: $5,000

GRANTS & STATUS

2023 Project Grants

Project Number: QC-2023-08
Recipient: Fédération québécoise pour le saumon atlantique
Title: Atlantic salmon knowledge forum
Approved amount: $50,000
Funding provided to date: $50,000

Project Number: QC-2023-09
Recipient: Fédération québécoise pour le saumon atlantique
Title: Literature review: Environmental impacts of dams on the aquatic habitat of Atlantic salmon - preserving and restoring the free movement of fish
Approved amount: $12,800
Funding provided to date: $12,800

Project Number: QC-2023-10
Recipient: Fédération québécoise pour le saumon atlantique
Title: Literature Review: Natashquan River Conservation and Enhancement Plan
Approved amount: $18,500
Funding provided to date: $13,875

Project Number: QC-2023-11
Recipient: Société de gestion des rivières de Gaspé
Title: Atlantic Salmon Conservation and Sport Fishing Enhancement Plan for the Dartmouth River
Approved amount: $20,384
Funding provided to date: $20,384

Project Number: QC-2023-12
Recipient: Société de gestion de la rivière Matane
Title: Plan to conserve Atlantic salmon and enhance sport fishing on the Matane River
Approved amount: $26,500
Funding provided to date: $26,500

Project Number: QC-2023-13
Recipient: Société saumon de la rivière Romaine
Title: Romaine River salmon restoration
Approved amount: $50,000
Funding provided to date: $50,000

FCAS GRANTS' STATUS 2008 – 2022

Number of grants approved: 740
Completed: 697
In progress: 12
Cancelled: 30
FCAS grant amount: $12.3 million
Total project value: $64.8 million

Association de la Rivière Petit-Saguenay - QC

SUMMARY OF PROJECT AUDITS

Summary of 2023 Project Audits and Evaluations

In 2023 audits were conducted on 21 Foundation funded projects. 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 project photos 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 2023 the following recipient groups were audited for performance:

New Brunswick Projects

NB-2023-03 & 04	Restigouche River Watershed Management Council
NB-2023-09	Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
NB-2023-16	Oromocto River Watershed Association
NB-2023-18	Shediac Bay Watershed Association
NB-2023-19	Tabusintac Watershed Association

Newfoundland & Labrador Projects

NL-2022-11	Stewardship Association of Municipalities
NL-2023-03	Freshwater-Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation
NL-2023-06	Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
NL-2023-08	Memorial University (Purchase & Leroux)
NL-2023-10	NunatuKavut Community Council

Nova Scotia Projects

NS-2023-03	Cheticamp River Salmon Association
NS-2023-04	Inverness South Anglers Association
NS-2023-05	Margaree Salmon Association

Prince Edward Island Projects

PEI-2023-01	Abegweit Conservation Society
PEI-2023-03	Hillsborough River Association
PEI-2023-04	Morell River Management Cooperative
PEI-2023-05	Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation

Québec Projects

QC-2023-01	Moisie River Protection Association
QC-2023-02	The River aux Rochers Protection Association
QC-2023-12	Matane River Management Society

Scientific Projects

SAC-2022-03	University of New Brunswick – Saint John (van Zyll de Jong)

NunatuKavut Community Council - NL

MacMillan Lawrence & Lawrence
Chartered Professional Accountants

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements

To the Directors of The Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon

Opinion
The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023 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 Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon (FCAS) for the year ended December 31, 2023.

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 14, 2024.

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 14, 2024

MacMillan Lawrence & Lawrence

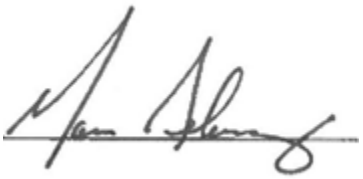
Chartered Accountants

REPORTS & STATEMENTS

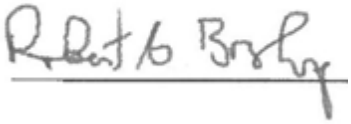
Summary Statement of Financial Position

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Assets		
Current		
Cash and cash equivalents	$ -	$ 22,651
Receivables	40,853	58,292
Prepaids	2,000	5,935
	42,853	86,878
Investments	44,641,092	42,914,743
	$ 44,683,945	$ 43,001,621
Liabilities		
Current		
Bank indebtedness	$ 43,708	$ -
Payables and accruals	609,251	826,280
	652,959	826,280
Net Assets		
Reserve Fund – Internally Restricted	357,339	332,798
Endowment Fund – Externally Restricted	43,673,647	41,842,543
	44,030,986	42,175,341
	$ 44,683,945	$ 43,001,621

Approved on behalf of the Board:



Director



Director

REPORTS & STATEMENTS

Statement of Operations and Change in Net Assets

Year ended December 31,	2023	2022
Revenue	$ 4,411,111	$ (2,013,764)
Expenses		
Administration	639,933	593,024
Grants	1,674,248	1,367,902
Investment management fees	241,285	261,453
	2,555,466	2,222,379
Excess of revenue over expenses	$ 1,855,645	$ (4,236,143)
Net assets, beginning of year	$ 42,175,341	$ 46,411,484
Excess of revenue over expenses	1,855,645	(4,236,143)
Net assets, end of year	$ 44,030,986	$ 42,175,341

For the 2023 Fiscal Year total remuneration paid to one Foundation employee whose remuneration exceeds $100,000 per year was $116,249.88 (salary and benefits).

FCAS VOLUNTEERS & PERSONNEL

Officers, Directors & Board Committees

Officers

Hon. Rémi Bujold, P.C., C.M.,
Chairman & President,
Québec, QC

Robert Bishop, C.A.,
Vice-Chairman & Vice-President,
St. John's, NL

Jim Jones
Secretary,
Moncton, NB

Mark Delaney, C.A.,
Treasurer,
Moncton, NB

Directors

Réné Aucoin
Chéticamp, NS

Fred Cheverie
Souris, PEI

Kastine Coleman
Corner Brook, NL

Raymond Lacroix
New Richmond, QC

James Lawley
Halifax, NS

David Peter Paul
Pabineau First
Nation, NB

Board Committees

Investment:
Robert Bishop (Chair)
James Burton
Marie-Hélène Lacroix
John LeBoutillier

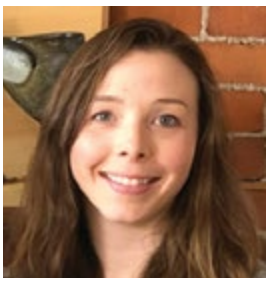
Audit & Finance:
Robert Bishop
Mark Delaney (Chair)
Raymond Lacroix
James Lawley
C. McClean

Policy & Program:
Réné Aucoin
Fred Cheverie
Kastine Coleman
Jacqueline Girouard
Jim Jones (Chair)
B. Ledgerwood
David Peter-Paul

Staff

Charline McCoy
Executive Director

Stephen Chase
VP of Government Affairs



Allyson Heustis
Conservation Program Coordinator

Gert Lawlor
Conservation Program Coordinator

Henri Mallet
Conservation Program Coordinator

FCAS VOLUNTEERS

Advisory Committees

New Brunswick Advisory Committee

Kathryn Collet (Chair), Richard Debow, Dr. Michelle Gray, Sara Richard, David Dunn, Todd Kennedy, Dr. Charles Sacobi.

Newfoundland & Labrador Advisory Committee

Fred Parsons (Chair), Brian Dempson, Graham Roome, Jim McCarthy, Carl McLean, Travis Van Leeuwen, Blair Adams, Victoria Neville.

Nova Scotia Advisory Committee

Michael Pollard (Chair), Jason LeBlanc, Darryl Murrant, Shane F. O'Neil, Pat Wall, David MacNeil, Jennifer MacDonald, Keith Christmas.

Prince Edward Island Advisory Committee

Mary Finch (Chair), Ottis McInnis, Rob Burnett, Shawn MacDougall, Todd Dupuis, Brad Ledgerwood, Ruby Sharp, Hannah Murnaghan.

Comité consultatif provincial du Québec

Richard Firth (Chair), Frédéric Lévesque, Jean-Pierre le Bel, Thomas Buffin-Bélanger, Charlène Lavallée, Sylvie Tremblay, Véronique Gilain.

Scientific Advisory Committee

David Reddin (Chair), François Caron, Dr. Rick Cunjak, Brian Dempson, Dr. Carole-Anne Gillis, Dr. Ian Bradbury, Dr. Shelley Denny.

Fort Folly First Nation - NB

2023 VOLUNTEER PROFILES

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

Meet Allyson Heustis, our former Conservation Program Coordinator.

Allyson Heustis

Born in Fredericton, but having grown up in St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Heustis remembers a childhood spent largely outdoors.

"My dad fished," said Heustis. "He used to take us out on weekends. So it set in at a young age to have an appreciation for the outdoors and different recreational activities."

That interest in the natural world led to an affinity for science classes throughout school. Heustis didn't know exactly what she wanted to do, but she knew it would be something to do with science.

"I figured taking a Bachelor of Science was a pretty good place to start," said Heustis.

And she did just that, earning a Bachelor of Science from St. Francis Xavier University, followed by a Master of Science from the University of New Brunswick in 2017. Heustis worked briefly as a lab and field supervisor at the Hugh John Flemming Forestry Complex before joining the Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon as Conservation Program Coordinator in 2018.

"When I started in 2018, I was responsible for coordinating our funding program for Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island," said Heustis. "That entails preparing all the documentation for the funding applications, helping groups with their funding applications, creating their funding agreements that we follow with our program objectives, establishing performance measures and then ensuring that those are met at the end of the year when they get their funding, as well as final reports."

Heustis describes the role as being largely administrative, but one that she derived satisfaction from. She said that it was always enjoyable to see the great work that the different groups are doing through the funding that the FCAS provides. One particular project which stood out as near and dear to her was through the Stewardship Association of Municipalities in Newfoundland.

"They help municipalities around Newfoundland integrate salmon conservation into municipal plans," said Heustis. "We've funded them to now have a trifold positive influence on salmon conservation in Newfoundland. And so now that it is integrated into a few different municipal plans around the province, that will continue and go forward. That's really interesting to me – the municipalities don't necessarily know what needs to happen with salmon conservation. But they can go talk to the association, who has all the expertise and they can implement the plan."

Heustis had more recently taken charge over Scientific Advisory Committee projects and says that she still looks forward seeing the projects that come out of that program. The benefits that those projects can provide to a variety of watersheds and communities is why she took a great deal of pride in the work of the FCAS.

"It's a really great funding model," said Heustis. "The funding is at FCAS in perpetuity, the grants that they can give away, and they will be able to do that for as long as they have the trust fund. It was really exciting to be able to help groups year after year contribute to their own conservation work. I really enjoyed that I could help a lot of different people and not just one specific river or one specific project. It's almost 60 projects per year that we help fund."

Heustis lives in Fredericton with her husband Chris and two children and recently moved on from the Foundation to take the position of Executive Director for the Nashwaak Watershed Association in Fredericton.

Meet Chief David Peter-Paul, a member of our board of directors.

Chief David Peter-Paul

Though born in Bathurst, New Brunswick, Peter-Paul grew up in New Jersey, just a few minutes south of New York City. After that upbringing, he describes moving back to Bathurst at age 15 as being like moving to the 'wild, wild west.'

"Or the 'wild, wild east' anyway," Peter-Paul clarifies with a laugh. "After moving to Canada, we spent a lot of time on the Nepisiguit River, trying to chase down salmon. I learned how to paddle and pole a canoe, how to fish both salmon and trout, and even took up snorkeling to find and follow them underwater. As a result, we became very familiar with the river, it's many pools and tributaries."

With that came an awareness of the crucial importance of protecting these watersheds and the wildlife that use them as habitat. He became particularly concerned about the potential

2023 VOLUNTEER PROFILES

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

impacts that upriver mining operations could have on the Nepisiguit River system.

"An awareness began to grow inside of me around the possibility of losing something that was always and forever there, something my father, grandfather, and those before them knew like the back of their hands," said Peter-Paul.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of New Brunswick before working in a variety of capacities for First Nation communities in the Atlantic region. He worked for the Pabineau First Nation as a Community Development Worker and in 1984, at the age of 22, was elected as a Band Councillor and worked as a Band Manager for the next four years. After pursuing a degree at UNB, he worked as Post-Secondary Education Counselor/Director for the North Shore Micmac District Council.

In 2004, he was elected to serve as chief of the Pabineau First Nation. At that time, the community relied entirely on government support to manage its various programs, which gave the community little capacity to advance or thrive. Drawing from his business studies at UNB, Chief Peter-Paul helped the community establish several successful businesses, through which the Pabineau First Nation now generates most of their $13 million operating budget. He also oversaw a variety of community improvements, such as a wind farm, a community health center, and an upgraded water system, among many other accomplishments.

Chief Peter-Paul says that he was excited when the opportunity arose to join the Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon's board of directors – in fact, he wishes that he had gotten involved earlier. Considering the ongoing environmental issues associated with industrial development and the growing challenges of global climate change, he says it was integral to him in his role as Chief to become more involved in conservation.

"As we survey the past and present-day condition of fish and fish habitat throughout Atlantic Canada, our bays, harbours, rivers, brooks and streams, it is important that we all come to an understanding of what has happened here. It is important to commit our minds and hands to the work of 'conservation' and explore applications that contribute to the preservation of ecosystems that serve as habitat to fish and wildlife. Whether we realize it or not, the future of our planet and all of its inhabitants will ultimately depend upon the success of these important and ongoing conservation efforts. I am proud of the FCAS team's ongoing efforts, to not only understand the science, but to actively pursue projects focused on the preservation and restoration of salmon habitat and its day-by-day engagement in the overall conservation of Atlantic Salmon."

Since 2020, Peter-Paul has been enjoying his retirement and now spends much of his time in the great outdoors, gardening, hunting, fishing, gathering, raising family food and taking good care of his aging father, former Chief Benjamin Peter-Paul Sr.

Meet Sara Richard, a member of the New Brunswick Advisory Committee.

Richard was born in Lahr, Germany, where her father was stationed with the military at the time. In the coming years, she spent time in Ontario and Manitoba before her family settled more permanently near Greenwood, Nova Scotia.

"I consider myself a Maritimer," said Richard. "I come from Maritime stock, actually – I'm 13th generation on my Acadian side. But I did have a young childhood growing up everywhere, which I think helps you gain perspective by seeing different things and being interested in the wider world."

Sara Richard

After graduating from high school, she attended Acadia University and earned a double major in chemistry and biology and followed that up with an engineering degree specializing in water resources from the University of Guelph. Her interest in water resources reflects a long-standing passion for conservation and habitat issues. There wasn't any one pivotal moment that inspired her, she just always saw the importance of protecting habitats.

"I started working on fish habitat when I was a summer student at Fundy National Park in Alma, New Brunswick," said Richard. "I was working mostly on brook trout, but also with some salmon – looking at fish habitat and how the rivers had changed in the park because of logging in the past. So, I've always been interested more on the habitat side, rather than the species side. It's always been something that I've been interested in and I'm still very much an outdoors enthusiast."

After graduation, Richard returned to Parks Canada for another year before taking on a position with the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources in the Fish and Wildlife Branch. There she worked on the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, focusing largely on wetlands. She followed that up with five years

working with the Department of Environment and Local Government on drinking water protection and surface water issues. She moved to the federal government and spent several years in Alberta as the environmental officer at CFB Cold Lake, Canada's largest fighter jet base. After that a position with Transport Canada took her to Moncton. Transport Canada assigned her to work briefly with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and in 2016 she joined DFO full time and today serves as Senior Biologist with the Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program.

"I kind of see myself as doing a whole 360, towards the end of my career now from the beginning of my career," said Richard. "Coming back and working with people that I hadn't seen for 20 years or more, and then working with them through DFO. It's been this circular approach."

Because of her background working with contaminated sites, she works with the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan program, through which DFO provides expert advice to other departments. That led to her working with fisheries and habitat restoration programs. In 2017, a colleague of hers who had been working with the Foundation for Conservation of Atlantic Salmon was moving on and suggested Richard as a suitable replacement. It was a perfect fit.

"I like the FCAS because you are working with different groups and you want to see them succeed at their goals and not necessarily dictate what needs to be done for their watershed," said Richard. "They're the ones that know what's going on in their watershed and what the issues are, but we help to support them to accomplish their goals. So I really enjoy that aspect – working with like-minded individuals and helping them accomplish their goals within the area."

Richard lives in Riverview with her husband.

Cheticamp River Salmon Association - NS

FCAS STRUCTURAL MODEL

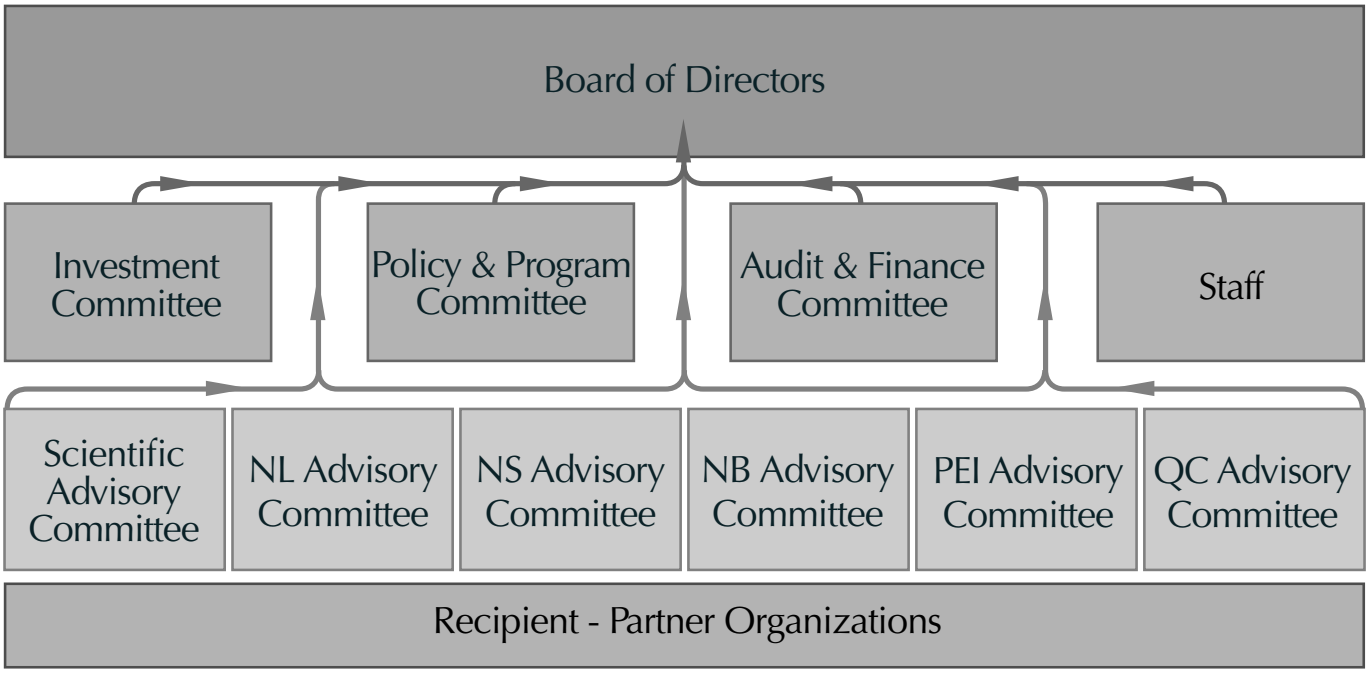
FCAS Structural Fact Sheet

Background

The structure of the FCAS is guided by the requirements of the Treasury Board approved Funding Agreement as well as by basic good governance of a non-profit organization. The Funding Agreement requires the FCAS to be duly incorporated as a non-profit organization to receive and act upon its custodianship of the Atlantic Salmon Endowment trust fund. In addition, the Funding Agreement specifies the creation and composition of an "Investment Committee" and the "Technical Advisory Committees".

Board and Committees

The FCAS Board is comprised of 10 Directors elected from the 24 Members of the Foundation. The Board has balanced and inclusive representation of all 5 provinces and Indigenous groups. It meets 4 times annually.



Investment Committee

The FCAS trust fund is actively managed by an expert investment committee which is supported by an investment management firm that monitors the individual performance of the investment firms (currently 4) and advises on investment policy and strategy. The Investment Committee recommends the annual project grant pool based on trust fund performance. *"The Investment Committee shall oversee all matters related to the investment and the management of the Fund. Members of the Investment Committee shall be financially literate and have broad knowledge of or experience in investment matters."*

Technical Advisory Committees

Technical advisory committees are mandated by the Funding Agreement. There are 6 advisory committees, one for each province, including a Scientific Advisory Committee, supporting the Board in its funds granting and management decisions. The

FCAS STRUCTURAL MODEL

FCAS Structural Fact Sheet

composition of these committee is also specified, with each committee comprised of respected, outstanding experts. *"The Foundation will establish a Technical Advisory Committee structure, made up of expert volunteer representatives of federal and provincial governments, Indigenous groups, universities and other stakeholders, appointed by the Board, to review and evaluate proposals for funding, make recommendations for funding to the Board, and monitor performance of the Ultimate Projects selected for funding".*

Recipient-Partners

The Foundation actively treats its recipient groups as true partners to delivering on the Foundation's mandate. While all funded projects are performance managed, staff work with recipients to help them be successful. There are numerous recipient-partners in each province covering the fair geographic representation specified in the Funding Agreement. As partners, these groups comprise an excellent network and basis of provincial planning and priority setting working in concert with the provincial advisory committee. As of 2023 there are approximately 200 recipient-partner organizations spread across 5 provinces.

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

The 2023 List of Our Conservation Partners

Abegweit Conservation Society
Agence Mamu Innu Kaikusseth
Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick
Anqotum Resource Management
Antigonish Rivers Association
Association de protection de la rivière Moisie
Association de protection de la rivière aux Rochers
Association de la rivière Petit-Saguenay
Association de gestion halieutique autochtone Mi'kmaq et Malécite
Atlantic Canada Fish Farmers Association
Atlantic Coastal Action Program Cape Breton
Atlantic Coastal Action Program Humber Arm Environmental Association Inc.
Atlantic Coastal Action Program Saint John
Atlantic Salmon Federation
Atlantic Water Network
Bay St. George South Area Development Association & Local Service District
Bay St. George South Ride for Ages Inc.
Belleisle Community Centre
Belleisle Watershed Coalition
Canada Games
Canada Summer Jobs
Canadian Heritage
Canadian Parks And Wilderness Society of Newfoundland and Labrador
Canadian Rivers Institute
Cape Breton Island Wildlife Association
Cape Breton University
Central Queens Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Centre interuniversitaire de recherche sur le saumon atlantique
Cheticamp River Salmon Association
Clean Foundation
Coastal Action
College of the North Atlantic
Community Forests International
Conseil de Gestion de l'eau Gaspésie Sud
Conseil de Gestion du Bassin Versant de la rivière Restigouche
Conseil de la Nation huronne-wendat
Conseil de l'Eau de la Gaspésie Sud
Cooke Aquaculture
Corner Brook Port Corporation
Cornwall and Area Watershed Group Inc.
Corporation de gestion de la rivière à saumon des Escoumins
Corporation de gestion des rivières Matapédia, Patapédia, Causapscal et réserve Dunière
Corporation de gestion de la rivière Saint-Jean Saguenay
Corporation de gestionnaire de territoires fauniques
Corporation du bassin de la Jacques-Cartier
Conservation Corps Newfoundland and Labrador
Contact Nature Rivière à Mars
Dalhousie University
Desjardins
Eastern Shore Wildlife Association
Eddy Out Depot
Eel River Bar First Nation
Employment and Social Development Canada
Énergie NB Power
Environment and Climate Change Canada
Environment and Natural Resources Canada
Environment Resources Management Association
Fédération québécoise du saumon atlantique
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Fly Fishers International
Fondation de la Faune du Québec
Fondation ECHO
Fondation Hydro-Québec pour l'environnement
Fondation pour le saumon du grand Gaspé
Fondation Saumon
Fonds d'action Saint-Laurent
Fort Folly First Nation
Freshwater-Alexander Bays Ecosystem Corporation
Friends of Salmonier Nature Park
Friends of the Kouchibouguacis
Fundy Trail Parkway
Gander Bay Indian Band Council
Gespe'gewa'gi Institute of Natural Understanding
Glencore

CONSERVATION PARTNERS

The 2023 List of Our Conservation Partners

Government of Canada
Graham and Susan Smith Foundation
Hatheway Group
Hamond River Angling Association
Hillsborough River Association Inc.
Holland College
Hydro-Québec
Indian Bay Ecosystem Corporation
Institut national de recherche scientifique
Intervale Associates Incorporated
Inverness South Anglers Association
J Frank Gaudet Tree Nursery
Keep Fish Wet
Kennebecasis Watershed Restoration Committee
Liber Ero
Living Lakes Canada
Mabou River Inn
Maliseet Nation Conservation Council
Margaree Salmon Association
McLean Foundation
Meduxnekeag River Association
Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador
Mi'kmaq Confederacy of Prince Edward Island
Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs du Québec
Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee
Miramichi Salmon Association
Mitacs
Morell River Management Cooperative
Mount Stewart Consolidated School
MRC de Portneuf
Municipalité de Saint-Louis
Nashwaak Watershed Association Inc.
Nature Conservancy Canada
Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
Nepisiguit Salmon Association
New Brunswick Community College
New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries
New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government
New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development
New Brunswick Department of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour
New Brunswick Salmon Council
New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund
Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Education, Training, and Skills Development
Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Consumer and Financial Services Division
Newfoundland & Labrador Department of Fisheries, Forestry, and Agriculture
Newfoundland & Labrador Outfitters Association
Newfoundland Power
North Shore MicMac District Council
Northeast Avalon Atlantic Coastal Action Program
Nova Scotia Community College
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
Nova Scotia Salmon Association
Nova Scotia Salmon Association Adopt-A-Stream
Nunatukavut Community Council
Organisme de bassin versant du Saguenay
Organisme de bassins versants de la Haute-Côte Nord
Oromocto First Nation
Oromocto River Watershed Association
Pabineau First Nation
Parks Canada
Pourvoirie Moisie Nipissis Inc.
Perennia Research Inc.
Petitcodiac Watershed Alliance Inc.
Port Hawkesbury Paper
Prince Edward Island Department of Environment, Energy and Climate Action
Prince Edward Island Department of Transportation, Infrastructure & Energy
Prince Edward Island Department of Forests, Fish and Wildlife
Prince Edward Island Department of Fisheries and Communities
Prince Edward Island Employment Development Agency
Prince Edward Island Jobs for Youth Program
Prince Edward Island Post Secondary Program
Prince Edward Island Watershed Alliance
Prince Edward Island Watershed Management Fund
Prince Edward Island Wildlife Conservation Fund
Programme de développement de la pêche sportive
Province of New Brunswick
Qalipu Mikmaq First Nation
Québec-Labrador Foundation
R A Currie Biological Consultant
Rattling Brook Salmon Restoration Committee
Regional Service Commission 8
Richibucto River Association
Sackville Rivers Association
Sage Environmental Fund
Salmonid Preservation Association for the Waters of Newfoundland
Service Canada
Shediac Bay Watershed Association
Société de gestion des rivières de Gaspé
Société de Restauration et de Gestion de la Nouvelle
Société de gestion de la rivière Matane
Société du saumon de la rivière Romaine
Société Hydro Donancona
Souris and Area Branch of the PEI Wildlife Federation
Sterling Hydrology Research Group
Stewardship Association of Municipalities
St. Anthony Basin Resources Inc.
St. Ignace Golf Club
St. Mary's First Nation
St. Mary's River Association
Sussex Fish and Game Association
Tabusintac Watershed Association
The Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq – Mikmaw Conservation Group
Three Rivers Mi'kmaq Band
Tobique First Nation
Tobique Watershed Association
Town of Grand Falls-Windsor
Trout Unlimited Canada Prince County Chapter
Tuckamore Lodge
Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources
United States Geological Survey
Université Laval
Université du Québec à Rimouski
Université du Québec à Chicoutimi
University of Hull
University of New Brunswick Fredericton
University of New Brunswick Saint John
University of Prince Edward Island
Ville de Cap-Santé
Vision H2O
Wild Salmon Unlimited
Willowbrook Watershed Services
Wolastoqey Nation in New Brunswick
Woodmillers Inc.
Wood PLC
World Wildlife Fund
WSP
Zec Saumon