

SPRING BULLETIN

2024



PABINEAU EDUCATION AND CAREER FAIR

Staff from Anqotum Resource Management attended the Pabineau First Nation Education and Career Fair on February 9th. We had a great time talking with community members about what we do and what opportunities are available in our field. We value being able to encourage our people to pursue environmental and resource management work.



AMERICAN EEL HARVEST

On February 22nd, Anqotum Senior Field Technician Nelson Cloud joined Mi'kmaq fishermen in Natoaganeg as they harvested American Eel from the frozen Miramichi River. Mi'kmaq community members ensure that harvests are as productive as possible.

More than just harvesting for sustenance, the Natoaganeg ice fishing team took this opportunity to pass down cultural knowledge about American eel fishing to children in the community. As well, all viscera from the harvest was given to Anqotum to test for nematode parasites in the swim bladders of the eels. Information collected from the viscera will help us monitor and conserve this species at risk.

CEBP WORKSHOP

On March 4th and 5th, Anqotum Field Technician Joe Augustine attended the 2024 Coastal Environmental Baseline Program (CEBP) workshop in Saint John. The CEBP provides funding for scientific activities that help us learn more about the current state of Canada's coastal ecosystems. Through this program, Anqotum Resource Management will be using isotopic analysis to gather ecological data on marine sediment and a variety of other aquatic organisms. The workshop was a chance for CEBP groups to share project details and lessons learned with each other, and with Fisheries and Oceans Canada. By working together to gather marine data, we can help to direct successful coastal management initiatives.

PLANNED LIFELONG LEARNING

Between February 20th-22nd, Anqotum staff visited with students in the First Nations of Elsipogtog, Natoaganeg, and Metepenagiag for our Promoting Lifelong Learning: 2024 Winter Workshops. Through



with other environmental groups to share lessons learned and ideas on how to expand ghost gear mitigation and removal efforts.

AUTHENTIC ART WORKS

Anqotum Senior Field Technician Nelson Cloud is the lead on the North Shore Mi'kmaq Tribal Council (NS-MTC) Cultural Identity Preservation Project: Authentic Art Works. This is an archival project aimed at capturing and preserving the vibrant essence of Mi'kmaq culture through art, photography, and storytelling. On February 29th, Nelson presented NSMTC Member Nation Chiefs with some beautiful prints from Authentic Art Works. To learn more about this project, visit: authenticartworks.ca.

classroom sessions, we were able to teach grade 4 students at First Nation-operated schools about conservation and stewardship, with a focus on culturally-specific species at risk.

This project is made possible with funding from the Government of Canada. We would also like to extend thanks to our collaborator, The Gaia Project for engaging in this year's winter workshops.

GHOST GEAR WORKSHOP

On March 13th, Anqotum Resource Management participated in Nature NB's Ghost Gear Symposium as part of the Healthy Coast NB Project (Wele'k Pem-jajika'q Sikniqt). Ghost gear refers to discarded, lost, or abandoned gear in marine fishing environments. This gear can trap or entangle marine life, smother habitat, and be hazardous for those navigating open water. The symposium took place in Moncton, NB and highlighted work being done by Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations to retrieve this gear. We valued this chance to meet

AAROM SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

The Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management (AAROM) program provides funding to First Nations organizations to develop administrative, scientific, and technical expertise related to aquatic resource and oceans management. Each year, the AAR-

OM programs hosts a science symposium so that participating organizations can present on current projects and share knowledge with other AAROM bodies.

This year's AAROM Science Symposium was hosted by NunatuKavut in Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Newfoundland from March 18th-21st. Anqotum Field Technicians Katie Patles, Taylor Colford, and Joe Augustine attended on behalf of the North Shore Mi'kmaq Tribal Council to present on our recent and ongoing work.



Photo credit: Nelson Cloud

Pg. 1: Natoaganeg First Nation youth holding an American eel (top); Felicia Mae Galbraith and Nelson Cloud at the Pabineau Education and Career Fair (bottom). Pg. 2: Joe Augustine teaching kids at Natoaganeg School about species at risk (top); Taylor Colford, Joe Augustine, and Katie Patles at the AAROM Science Symposium (bottom).

