



NORTH SHORE Mi'kmaq Tribal Council

ANQOTUM RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

WINTER BULLETIN 2025

PLAMU CONSERVATION

This past season, we have been working with our plamu (Atlantic salmon) conservation partners on some key projects. We assisted the Miramichi Salmon Association with spawning plamu to produce fry that will help restock areas of the Miramichi River. We also supported Fort Folly Habitat Recovery's Kelt Tagging Program, which plays a crucial role in tracking the endangered plamu leaving the inner Bay of Fundy. These partnerships are vital to protecting plamu and their habitats, and we are proud to contribute to this important work. We are currently planning out our 2025 field season which will include plamu smolt tagging, tracking, and transport.

MACROINVERTEBRATE IDENTIFICATION

Did you know macroinvertebrates can tell us a lot about the health of freshwater ecosystems? Macroinvertebrates are small organisms (like bugs) that have no internal skeletal system and live part or all of their lives in water. Each fall, our team collects these tiny aquatic insects from the Little Southwest Miramichi River, near Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation. This ongoing monitoring began after 2017, when we reconstructed the site's north riverbank to address erosion. In previous years, we have also sampled other parts of the river system. Throughout the winter, we'll carefully identify and catalogue our macroinvertebrate samples, helping us track the ecosystem's diversity and health.



FALL CONFERENCES

Fall is conference season! In October, the NSMTC's Anqotum Resource Management team partnered with the Wolastoqey Tribal Council and the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq to host the 2024 Atlantic Emergency Management Conference. With speakers from the Atlantic region and international perspectives, the conference celebrated existing Emergency Management capacity in Atlantic Canada and explored pathways forward under the theme "Capacity Matters."



Our team also attended various other conferences and events this season, including the Foundation for the Conservation of Atlantic Salmon's Inter-Provincial Atlantic Salmon Partnership Symposium, the Assembly of First Nations' 3rd National Climate Gathering, and Transport Canada's inaugural National Regulatory Roundtable.



YOUTH OUTREACH

We value every opportunity to engage the next generation of environmental stewards! On October 23rd, students from Miramichi Valley High School visited our office for Take It Outside – Career Exploration Day. On November 15th, our team visited Nukumi House in Metepenagiag Mi'kmaq Nation to teach kids about aquatic and terrestrial species at risk, including mikijjk (wood turtles) and komkutamu (Atlantic sturgeon).

FISHING GEAR INITIATIVE

We are excited to announce that we have signed agreements with the Fishing Gear Coalition of Atlantic Canada (FGCAC) to support the safe collection and disposal of end-of-life, abandoned, lost, and discarded fishing gear and related plastic waste. Community members can dispose of items like lobster traps, steel crab pots, oyster cages, and maritime plastic rope and netting free of charge at FGCAC-approved sites. This initiative will not only help to manage waste but will also provide valuable data on landfilling, recycling, and waste-to-energy opportunities. Additionally, we will be working with the FGCAC to share knowledge, host workshops on sustainable fishing gear technology, and post informative signage about species at risk



at community wharfs. Through these efforts, we hope to teach youth about aquatic resource monitoring and foster community stewardship.

Photo credit: Nelson Cloud

Pg. 1: Macroinvertebrates under a microscope (header and lower left); Anqotum Field Technicians Nelson Cloud and Joe Augustine presenting at the 2024 Atlantic Emergency Management Conference.

Pg. 2: Students from Miramichi Valley High School outside of the Anqotum Resource Management office (top); Discarded fishing gear collected as part of our previous Ghost Gear Retrieval project.

