

Barrier report

The MSA was approached by the province of NB in the spring of 2020 to see if we would be interested in operating the provincial salmon barrier protection pools on the Dungarvon and NW Miramichi Rivers. The MSA has been a strong supporter of the protection pools where adult salmon are confined to an area and protected 24 hours a day until just before spawning time when they are released. The normal 400 to 500 salmon that are protected each year in a barrier pool is enough fish to completely seed the headwater areas and kept out of the hands of poachers. We agreed to take over the operation and there was a smooth transition with most of the same employees returning to work under a new shift schedule that worked quite well. We are not sure if the province will want us to continue in future years, but this is an import piece of the puzzle to maintain and restore salmon stocks on the Miramichi.