

May 2022 Update

We had a great time at the NB Sportsmen's Show in Moncton in April. Thanks to everyone who stopped by to chat, signed up for a membership, purchased swag, or learned more about our programs.

Fishing regulations were released from DFO on April 14th, the day before opening day. Despite advocating all year for necessary changes to the striped bass and Atlantic Salmon recreational fisheries, there were no changes announced for the 2022 fishing season. Regardless of our knowledge of more spawning grounds for striped bass, their movement further upriver, and their exploding population, there were no alterations. Like last year, anglers can retain up to 3 striped bass per day, and cannot have more than 3 striped bass in their possession at any time during the season, from April 15 to Oct 31.

The size window to retain striped bass is 50 cm to 65 cm. There will be a closure of the NW Miramichi River spawning grounds later this spring during spawning season, where the department releases a variation order for 5 days of closure. We will communicate any updates as they become available.

For Atlantic Salmon, the Minister of DFO has only announced the spring fishery regulations, which remain the same as last year. These include a max catch and release of 5 fish per day between April 15 and May 15.

We are hopeful that recreational angling for salmon will go back up to 4 fish per day for catch and release for the summer and fall season, instead of the 2 fish per day it has been at, but we have not heard any differently yet.

On a more positive note, we have loved seeing your spring fishing photos! While you're on the river this year, be sure to send along photos to our photo contest, sponsored by AV Group. Once again, there are cash prizes for 1st to 4th place, so get those photos in!

We are gearing up for our spring field programs, including our smolt estimate. We will soon be assembling smolt wheels on the NW and SW Miramichi Rivers. We will also soon be welcoming summer students.

Our Science Day is scheduled for Friday, May 6th at the Fredericton Inn and on Zoom. You can RSVP via our website, and also find more info there. Our AGM is scheduled for Saturday, May 7th, also at the Fredericton Inn and on Zoom.

Our Spring Online Auction will be launching on April 25, and running until May 8th. It's a great chance to get food, flies, and fishing trips. \

The New Brunswick Wildlife Trust Fund is celebrating 25 years! In this quarter-century, the Miramichi Salmon Association has received more than \$600,000 in funding for various conservation projects. We are pleased to work closely with the NB Wildlife Trust Fund, and congratulate them on this important milestone!

Have a safe season on the river this year, and happy angling!