

# MEDWAY RIVER SALMON ASSOCIATION

Queens County  
Nova Scotia

## LATEST NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

The association President keeps the membership up to date through this web site and other communications, many of which are [archived here](#) on this web site. Between times, though, things can happen quickly. This page is a good place to keep up with the very latest developments, be they with the Medway River Salmon Association activities or with other events that affect our interests. Here then is the latest.

**Posted February 29, 2016**

Due to circumstances MRSa Executive had to make the decision to change the date of the Annual Fundraising Dinner from May 1, 2016, to late summer/early fall. The new date will be discussed and set during the May 31, 2016, meeting. See you there.

Jo-Ann Holden

**Posted February 3, 2016**

The draft minutes of the general meeting held on [January 26, 2016](#), are now posted on our [Membership page](#).

**Posted January 13, 2016**

There will be a General Meeting of the Medway River Salmon Association

**When:** 26 January 2016

**Where:** Charleston Fire Hall

**Time:** 7:00 pm

**Election of Officers**

**Bring a friend!**

**Posted December 24, 2015**

The [minutes of our November 3, 2015, general meeting](#) are now posted on our [Membership page](#).

**Posted December 11, 2015**

A Sustainable Blue Article "[Meal Time](#)" that is in the latest issue of the Atlantic Salmon Journal is posted on our [Archives page](#). Thanks to the author, Martin Silverstone, for giving permission to share this with you and to Larry Shortt of the ASF for forwarding it.

**Posted October 21, 2015**

There will be a general meeting on Tuesday 3 November 2015, at 7:00pm at Charleston Fire Hall.

**Posted October 6, 2015**

Due to unforeseen circumstances the meeting for Tuesday, 13 October, has been cancelled. I will email another date once scheduled. Please pass the word. The meeting notice is to be posted in this weeks Advance and time doesn't allow a correction notice. Sorry for the inconvenience.

Jo-Ann Holden, Secretary

**Posted October 2, 2015**

There will be a general meeting of the membership at Charleston Fire Hall on Tuesday 13 October 2015 at 7:00pm. Bring a friend. Minutes of the last general membership meeting [can be read here](#).

Also, on a bright Sunday morning in June eleven members from the Medway River Salmon Association (MRSa) met early to participate in a road side clean up from Charleston to (near) Bangs Falls, approximately 16 km's. Read a full report about their exploits [by clicking here](#).

**Posted August 1, 2015**

The following media release by Fisheries and Oceans Canada is posted here for your information.

Ministerial Advisory Committee on Atlantic Salmon  
A Special Report on Wild Atlantic Salmon in Eastern Canada

July 31, 2015

OTTAWA – The Honourable Gail Shea, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, today issued the following statement:

I'm pleased to announce that the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Atlantic Salmon has completed its work and submitted its final report, A Special Report on Wild Atlantic Salmon in Eastern Canada. The report outlines the Committee's findings and recommendations to protect, conserve and rebuild Atlantic salmon stocks across eastern Canada.

The Government of Canada is strongly committed to the conservation and protection of Atlantic salmon. This valuable resource has been an important part of Canada's social heritage for more than 150 years. In the mid-70s, there was an abundance of wild salmon in the waters of Atlantic Canada. Today, these stocks have declined significantly. Over the years we have carried out several measures and made a number of investments to support conservation and stock rebuilding. Despite these efforts, annual counts of Atlantic salmon reached some of the lowest returns in recent years.

Our Government is open to looking into what more can be done, or how we can do things better and differently, which is why I established the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Atlantic Salmon.

Today represents an important milestone. Our Government has clearly heard the concerns about low Atlantic salmon returns and is determined to work with its partners to review current approaches to science, management, habitat restoration and international issues.

I'm pleased to report that our Government has already adopted the Committee's interim recommendations for the Atlantic salmon and the striped bass recreational fisheries in the Gulf, which were implemented this season. I look forward to reviewing the recommendations put forth by the Committee and the role my department can play in helping to protect and conserve wild Atlantic salmon for future generations.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Greg Roach for his leadership as Chair of the Committee, Bill Taylor as the Vice-Chair, and all the members for their expertise and dedication to this issue as well as the valuable contributions of the many stakeholders who share this devotion.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Reference: <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-en.do?mthd=tp&ctr.page=1&nid=1014279>

**Posted July 22, 2015**

Bluenose Coastal Action has partnered with the Whale Stewardship Project to help promote the upcoming public presentation regarding the lone beluga whale that has recently shown up in Liverpool. The presentation is scheduled for Tuesday, July 28 at 7:00 PM at the Aster Theatre in Liverpool. Please see attached poster for more information. It is extremely important for those who use the waters in and around the Liverpool area to understand the implications and risks associated with this whale showing up. I would encourage anyone who has an interest in whale research and stewardship as well as those who are out on the water, either professionally or recreationally, to attend to learn more about the situation and the species. [Click here for details](#) of this valuable learning opportunity.

**Posted July 15, 2015**

The following message is just received and is posted here for your information.

To: NSSA Board; NSSA Members; NSSA Affiliates; Flies & Lies List

Hi Folks,  
Coburn the Liberals - NDP crangell

Cover the Liberals...Her Orange:  
Larry

#### [Ocean Trout Farms in Port Mouton gets controversial lease renewal](#)

A controversial fish farm in Queens County, Nova Scotia has been given a five year lease renewal in what some say was a test case for the Liberal government's commitment to clean up aquaculture in Nova Scotia.

The Ocean Trout Farms in Port Mouton was one of the first up for renewal since Nova Scotia promised to overhaul the way aquaculture is managed.

Long time opponent, Ruth Smith, says the site's shallow water and weak currents make for poor flushing and leads to persistent pollution problems.

Smith says that one condition would have disqualified it from renewal had the government followed the advice of an independent panel released last year.

"We were very deeply disappointed," she said. "It says our concerns have not been taken seriously."

On Tuesday, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture Minister Keith Colwell defended the renewal. (CBC)

The renewal was actually approved in April but disclosed late last week when a new government website went live as part of a commitment to transparency.

"The moratorium has not been lifted. This is an existing site," he said. "The sites are typically renewed unless there has been something desperately wrong which in this case they haven't done that. We are doing all sorts of research and monitoring around that."

Colwell says he is aware of vocal opposition to the site, which has been used as a fish farm under different owners for 20 years.

Good news for Ocean Trout Farms

He says eventually it will have to operate under new regulations.

"We've got to let business know that once we give them a site, unless they do something wrong, and our new regulations are really going to tie that down a whole lot more than they do today," he said.

"They are going to have to agree to renewal because they got order fish, they got to do financing."

Smith does not agree.

"Regulations that the government is going to introduce cannot make a site that is inherently unsuitable into a suitable site," she said.

The lease renewal is some good news for the Ontario owners of Ocean Trout Farms.

Last winter, the fish farm suffered a catastrophic fish kill after cold weather wiped out 99 per cent of the fish. The company said it will restock next spring.

Reference: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/nova-scotia/ocean-trout-farms-in-port-mouton-gets-controversial-lease-renewal-1.3152011?cmp=rss>

**Posted July 3, 2015**

**The following is the latest from the Atlantic Salmon Federation:**

ASF RIVERNOTES finds large salmon a theme in 2015

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Overall there is a theme of many large Atlantic salmon this year, and in the U.S. the Penobscot is having a good year. Read more in ASF RIVERNOTES.

<http://atlanticsalmonfederation.org/rivernotes/>

A Glimpse into Recent Ministerial Advisory Committee Meetings on Salmon

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The Atlantic Salmon Journal's Summer 2015 edition provides highlights and as a bonus, the two-page article can be downloaded from the page:

<http://asf.ca/asj-offers-glimpse-into-recent-mac-meetings-on-salmon.html>

Maine Conservationists Worried by Greenland Salmon Harvest

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Concerns for Maine's salmon recently made the news coast to coast in the U.S. Listen to a story on Maine Public Broadcasting and read more:

<http://asf.ca/maine-conservationists-worried-by-greenland-salmon-harvest.html>

Hook, Line, Sinker and Live Release

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A letter corrects some of the rampant misinformation being touted in Newfoundland media about live release and the need for Atlantic salmon conservation.

<http://asf.ca/hook-line-sinker-and-live-release.html>

Salmon Poaching Leads to Three Arrests and Seizures

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In Newfoundland more poachers found themselves in court, and losing trucks and gear.

<http://asf.ca/salmon-poaching-leads-to-three-arrests.html>

**Posted May 12, 2015**

**Just posted on our [Archives](#) page is a detailed report on the [Atlantic salmon status in Eastern Canada](#). In the words of Larry Short of the Nova Scotia Salmon Association, "The numbers are scary."**

**Posted May 1, 2015**

**Live release is now mandatory in the Maritimes for large salmon and grilse this Salmon Season. Click on the link below to get some excellent tips on how to properly handle the fish. Our salmon are to valuable. Treat them right and treat them with respect.**

<http://www.highlandfly.com/2014/06/live-release-of-atlantic-salmon-or-anything-else-for-that-matter/>

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