

Budget kills wild Atlantic Salmon recovery

The talking heads of the "Harper" government direct ones attention to the few crumbs tossed out to elicit support during the election campaign. What is not talked about, or even mentioned, is the cutbacks to government departments and the negative impact they will have. Take for example the \$84.8 million cuts to Fisheries and Oceans over the next three years.

DFO is currently under funded, especially in science, and these cuts will further decimate this area. This is at a time when Wild Atlantic Salmon on the Southern Uplands of Nova Scotia (Canso to Digby) have been declared endangered.

The current Federal Hatchery in Southwest Nova, Mersey Biodiversity Facility in Milton, has been reduced to 30% operational capacity. Will these budget cuts terminate the facility and

associated jobs?

The Medway River Salmon Association has advocated, for the past four years, for financial support for liming initiatives for the Medway Watershed to tackle Acid Rain. Both DFO and the Department of Environment have been unable to help due to previous budget cuts. With these additional budget cuts to DFO what help can we expect from the Federal Government to enhance salmon populations in the Southern Uplands?

Has the Federal Government given up on Wild Atlantic Salmon in favour of Fish Farms?

How will you vote?

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