

*Since 1953 the Miramichi Salmon Association (MSA) has worked toward the preservation and enhancement of the wild Atlantic salmon. MSA continues to look to build its membership strength, so we encourage you, if not already a member, to please join our ranks. [Join us Now](#)*

**MIRAMICHI SALMON ASSOCIATION**  
*Leading River Conservation Since 1953*

***THE LEAPER***

***MSA'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER***



*Your monthly resource for upcoming MSA Events, MSA conservation updates, Miramichi Watershed Information, and much much more.*

Sign up for The Leaper

Visit our Website

**Vol.1 April 2016**

## **The Miramichi Salmon Association Launches *The Leaper* to kick off Fishing Season**

April 15th of 2016 doesn't just mark the start of fishing season but also the launch of The Leaper. The Miramichi Salmon Association would like to thank you all for being a part of the very first digital newsletter put out by the MSA. You can expect this newsletter to keep you up to date on salmon conservation activities, fisheries regulations, river conditions, places to fish, all of our exciting events, famous river people, special contests and draws and so much more. There will be opportunities for members to contribute and be sure to pass it along to friends and family.

*Yours in conservation MSA*



### **The 18th Annual NSPA/MSA Conservation Dinner Honours Guide and Educator Dewey Gillespie**

The NSPA/MSA Dinner was held at the Rodd Miramichi and hosted over 180 attendees. The Guest of honour, Constable Dewey

*Photo of MSA Chairman David Wilson, NSPA/MSA Friend of the River recipient Dewey Gillespie and Chairman Emeritus Bud Bird at the event on Tuesday, March 15th 2016.*

Gillespie, was recognized for his leadership role in teaching the youth about the sport of salmon fishing, fly tying and river stewardship. He joins Tilley Gordon- Oneill, Bonnie Wright, Mark Hambrook and many more as a recipient of the prestigious Friend of the River Award. Minister Bill Fraser, Local MP Pat Finnigan and local MLA Lisa Harris were all in attendance.



## **Catch and Release Remains in Effect for Atlantic salmon Recreational Fishing in the Gulf Region in 2016**

DFO announces fishing regulations for the Gulf stream area and that Catch and release will continue for the 2016 Atlantic Salmon.

## **DFO Publicly Releases Numbers**

At the March 15th MREAC Science Day, DFO Biologist Scott Douglas outlined DFO's estimates for the 2015 returns of Atlantic salmon to the Miramichi River. While the numbers were still below minimum conservation limits, they are cause for optimism.

### **Atlantic Salmon**

**NW Miramichi** 4,171 salmon 11,980 grilse  
82% of minimum conservation limit (up from 22% last year)

**SW Miramichi** 11,490 salmon 13,980 grilse  
92% of minimum conservation limit (up from 70% last year)

### **Striped bass**

301,000 - the largest number recorded to date

**Let's all remember that being at 100% minimum Conservation Limit is the point below which we should not befalling.**

"Atlantic salmon is an iconic species and part of the culture, economy and history of Atlantic Canada. As such, conservation of Atlantic salmon is paramount," said the Honourable Hunter Tootoo, Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard. "This decision, which rests on sound science, is another step in our efforts to further contribute to the conservation and rebuilding of Atlantic salmon stocks."

[Click Here to find out more...](#)



**MSA Welcomes Thibaut Bournonville from Belgium**



Photo of Thibaut in the hatchery on his second day at the Hatchery on South Esk

The MSA would like to extend a warm welcome to Thibaut Bournonville, a Master of Science student from the University of Namur in Belgium, who will be here for 4 months to help with our smolt tracking project.

We are excited to have him with us and to be able to offer him the opportunity to learn more about the beautiful Atlantic salmon in the Miramichi!

## The MSA wants you to share your best photographs !

You could win one of 20 prizes and/or have your photo included in the MSA's upcoming 2017 MSA Calendar. There will be multiple prizes in each of 5 subject categories:

- 1: Angling – includes fly fishing, equipment, salmon flies, underwater shots, camps etc.
  - 2: Conservation – live release, barbless hooks, river and/or fisheries conservation activities, promoting the MSA, etc.
  - 3: Miramichi Scenes – capturing the Miramichi landscape including sunrises, sunsets, wildlife, birds, trees, flowers, the river in all four seasons, waterfalls, salmon pools, etc.
  - 4: Miramichi People – includes guides, outfitters, anglers, famous visitors, fly tiers, etc.
  - 5: Kids on the Miramichi – kids fishing, catching or netting a fish, fly tying, boating, etc.
- [Click here for contest details!](#)

**Miramichi Salmon Association's  
2016 Photo Contest**  
April 1, 2016- July 31, 2016

**3 Divisions**

- MSA Members
- Non-MSA Members
- Professional Photographers

**Subject Categories**

- 1: Angling – includes fly fishing, equipment, salmon flies, underwater shots, camps and lodges, boats and canoes, etc.
- 2: Conservation – live release, barbless hooks, river and/or fisheries conservation activities, promoting the MSA, etc.
- 3: Miramichi Scenes – capturing the Miramichi landscape including sunrises, sunsets, wildlife, birds, trees, flowers, the river in all four seasons, waterfalls, salmon pools, etc.
- 4: Miramichi People – includes guides, outfitters, anglers, famous visitors, fly tiers, etc.
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**Divisional Prizes** (in each Subject Category)

Contest runs April 1, 2016 to July 31, 2016. Visit [www.miramichisalmon.ca](http://www.miramichisalmon.ca)

## MSA Events You Do Not Want to Miss

April 29th Science Day at the Boiestown Woodsmen Museum - [Get the info here!](#)

April 30th The 63rd Miramichi Salmon Association Annual General Meeting- [Get](#)

[the info here!](#)

April 30th The Miramichi Ice Breaker Dinner in Boiestown- [Get the info here!](#)

May 19th The Moncton MSA Conservation Dinner Recognizing Bryant Freeman - [Get the Info here!](#)

July 10th-13th The MSA Salmon Classic - [Get the Info here!](#)

Miramichi Salmon Association | 506-622-4000 | [www.miramichisalmon.ca](http://www.miramichisalmon.ca)

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