

*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 MSA conservation updates, Miramichi Watershed Information, upcoming MSA Events and much much more.*

Visit our Website

Be sure to stay up to date with videos and photos by liking us on Facebook on Twitter:



**Vol. 11 Special Early Summer Edition 2017**

## **MSA's 8th Annual First Cast**



It was another great year at the MSA's 8th Annual First Cast held June 24th & 25th. Led by MSA Directors Paul Valeri, Jim McQuaid and Vince Swazey, more than 20 participants showed up for the two day event to not only try their hand at fly casting and salmon fishing, but also to learn about the life cycle of the salmon and the important role conservation plays in helping to protect and sustain our salmon populations. Special thanks to the Atlantic Salmon Museum (in Doaktown, NB) for hosting this year's event. (Photo Credit: Jim McQuaid)

## Nola's River Report

### Barrier and Trap Reports

**The Northwest Barrier went in on June 2nd and initial activity was slow. As of July 2nd grilse numbers are down compared to the same time last year while salmon numbers are a little better.**

**The Dungarvon Barrier was installed May 30th/31st and is also showing fewer grilse than the same time last year but comparable salmon numbers.**

The Cassilis and Millerton traps both showed an increase in grilse numbers yesterday as compared to the weekend (9 grilse in each trap) so we will watch the traps in the coming weeks to see if those grilse numbers go up.

Northwest Barrier - Total to Date - July 2nd, 2017

	Grilse (to 63 cm)	Small Salmon (64-84 cm)	Large Salmon (>84 cm)	Total Small & Large	All Atlantic Salmon	Brook Trout
2017 to Date	12	25	18	43	55	608
Previous Year to Date	35	26	5	31	66	260

Dungarvon Barrier - Total to Date - July 2nd, 2017

	Grilse (to 63 cm)	Small Salmon (64-84 cm)	Large Salmon (>84 cm)	Total Small & Large	All Atlantic Salmon	Brook Trout
2017 to Date	8	5	30	35	43	10
Previous Year to Date	28	8	29	37	65	14

## Bruno Bobak Memorial Art Contest

The MSA's Annual Art Contest, named for one of Canada's most important artists and avid salmon fisherman, has named its 2017 overall winner: Dreyia Cameron who is a 4th grade student at North and South Esk Elementary. Each year the MSA receives hundreds of submissions to its Art Contest, as well as to its annual writing and printing contests, from classes all along the Miramichi Watershed. The overall Art Contest winner is chosen by a

member of the Bobak Family, who then generously donates a framed Bruno Bobak art print to the overall winner's school. For a full list of contest winners please [click here](#).



Photo: Features Overall winner Dreya Cameron receiving the Bruno Bobak Print to be hung at North and South Esk Elementary. Back Row: Dreya's parents Shannon Lukiv-Cameron & Allan Lukiv-Cameron, and MSA Biologist Clay MacLean. Photo Credit - The Miramichi Leader

## MSA Cold Water Pool Restoration

During periods of prolonged summer heat, both adult and juvenile Atlantic salmon seek out cold-water refuges to escape the unhealthy and lethal conditions created by low warm water. Responding to this critical need, in 2014 the MSA initiated a 5+ year strategic initiative to restore and improve cold-



water refuge habitat throughout the watershed. To date, the MSA has completed 6 cold-water projects with plans to possibly restore another 1 or 2 more later this year. But we're already looking ahead to next year, so if you know of a cold-water refuge site that is in need of restoration work, please let the MSA know by sending the name and location of the site, along with any photos and/or a brief description of the site to; [info@miramchisalmon.ca](mailto:info@miramchisalmon.ca).

[Click Here to Submit](#)

**MSA Field Program Update**

by MSA Biologist  
Clay MacLean

It has been a busy but exciting past two weeks as our first-feeding fry are now being released into their natal rivers. A first-feeding fry is a recently hatched salmon which has absorbed its yolk sac and has just begun to eat solid foods. The MSA's trucks have been covering lots of ground delivering the fry to their new wild homes in areas of the Northwest, Little Southwest, Sevogle, Cains and Juniper. Though they may be quite small now, some of these fry will grow into the big fish we know and love.



[There is a great video on our Facebook page of these salmon fry feeling the rush of a natural river for the first time as they are released into the wild, click here to check it out!](#)

Just under 40 sites have been stocked with fry already and we will be wrapping up our releases with remaining fish from the Sevogle and Cains during this first week of July. Additionally, we have delivered salmon fry to satellite rearing tanks managed by the Miramichi Headwaters Salmon Federation and JD Irving Ltd. in Juniper where those fish will be released as fall fingerling in the Juniper and Clearwater areas.

As summer is now in full swing and warmer temperatures are upon us, we will soon be turning our attention to habitat work with our cold-water pool refuge projects. We will be revisiting our site at Parks Brook on the Little Southwest for post-work evaluation. Temperature profiles will be taken again now that the work has been completed and then compared to last year. This year we are heading to Salmon Brook on the Cains to complete our 7th cold-water pool project. We are going to do a pre-work temperature profile of the pool during the warmest period of the year prior to the actual work taking place later in the year. These cold-water pools are designed to give salmon a place where they can avoid thermal stress when water temperatures are at their warmest. [For a complete listing of all the cold water pool restoration projects we've completed click here.](#)

## Spotlight on Mervin Green, Camp Manager/Owner at Salmon Brook Camp

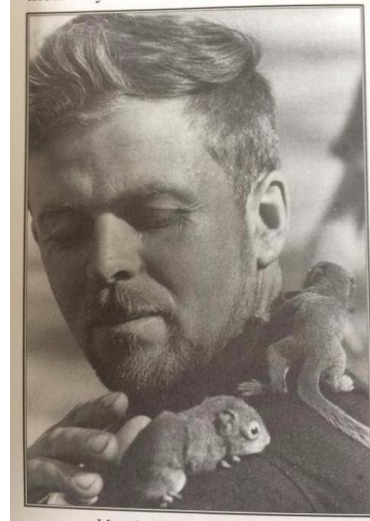
*The first of an ongoing series of interviews with the people and personalities that make the Miramichi River so special*

When first arriving at Mervin Green's home I was fully expecting to hear some great fishing tales about guiding on the Miramichi River. What I walked away with was 3 hours of stories about adventures across Canada, catching Atlantic Salmon in New Zealand and reasons why women are the best fisherman to guide.

Although born in Saskatchewan in 1934 Mervin's family moved back to the River when he was just two years old. Mervin quickly decided to forge his own path when he quit school to work on a farm in Ontario at the age of 15 and tried his hand at being a cowboy out-west at 16, only to find

himself hitchhiking all the way back to his family homestead in Hayesville, NB. As early as 1951, Mervin has been guiding the River for Salmon Brook Camp. This proved fruitful both professionally and personally for him as he actually ended up marrying the camp manager's daughter, Myrna Calhoun, in 1968 and then becoming Camp Manager himself in 1981.

This was back in the days when you fished with bamboo rods, most fishermen coming to the camps *"thought more of fishing gear than their wives"* and you only fished with traditional Hardy's fully dressed flies. [To read the rest of the interview with Mervin including his trek across Canada in boat race to celebrate the Centennial in 1967 click here!](#)



## Renew your Membership today!

Don't forget to renew your 2017

Membership with the MSA. If you haven't received your MSA Membership Card, Calendar, Annual Report and MSA Decal then you're missing out!

[CLICK HERE TO RENEW TODAY](#)



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## Upcoming MSA Events You Don't Want to Miss

[MSA's Annual Salmon Classic Weekend - Miramichi, NB Sunday July 9th - Wednesday July 12th, 2017](#)

[MSA's 22nd Annual Fredericton Conservation Dinner- Fredericton, NB Thursday September 21st, 2017](#)

# Miramichi Salmon Association's 2017 Photo Contest



2016 Best Overall Photo – © Humphrey Sheehan



©Andrew Clarke



©Zack Aube



©Sheryl Morris

## 2 Divisions

- MSA Members
- Non-MSA Members

## Subject Categories

1. **Angling & Conservation** – includes fly fishing, equipment, salmon flies, live release, underwater shots, camps & lodges, boats and canoes, conservation activities, etc.
2. **Miramichi Scenes** – capturing the Miramichi landscape including sunrises, sunsets, wildlife, birds, trees, flowers, the river in all four seasons, waterfalls, salmon pools, etc.
3. **Miramichi People** – includes guides, outfitters, anglers, famous visitors, fly tiers, etc.
4. **Kids on the Miramichi** – kids learning to fish, catching or netting a fish, boating, etc.

## Divisional Prizes (in each Subject Category)



Contest runs April 1, 2017 to July 31, 2017. Visit [www.miramichisalmon.ca](http://www.miramichisalmon.ca)

Sponsored By:



### Still not a member of the Miramichi Salmon Association?

Membership in the MSA is the perfect way to express your passion and support for the Miramichi River, for the Atlantic salmon who make it their home, and for the vital work being done by the MSA to protect and conserve both for today and tomorrow!

[Click here to sign up to day!](#)

If You're Not Already Receiving The Leaper Automatically Sign Up Here

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

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