

Ne'tawe'k Ikiikum

Voice of the Ocean

MAARS Quarterly Communiqué

Vol. 2 Issue 1, June 2006

The first quarter of fiscal 2006-2007 flowed by quickly. While April, May, and June are fairly low key months for “fishing industry meetings”, these months are loaded with other activities for MAARS.

MAARS has been very involved in the Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) Initiative. The draft Plan is finalized, and this summer stakeholders will take the Plan out to their respective communities. In August and September, MAARS will take the Plan to several Native Council Community Zones situated within the Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management boundaries. Once the Plan is finalized by all interests, it will be presented to the Minister by the Regional Committee on Oceans Management (RCOM) for approval.

Work on an Ecosystem Overview Assessment Report (EOAR) is progressing on the Northumberland Strait.

There is more movement on public engagement for the Bay of Fundy. The Bay of Fundy is a more

involved and complex system. Work is already in progress through many Gulf of Maine activities and existing Bay of Fundy partnerships.

There were several policy matters which MAARS undertook in the last quarter. The lobster transfer and ports transfer freeze request criteria in the Gulf Region was drafted without Aboriginal involvement. The criteria is deficient and flows against DFO policies and efforts for increasing the participation of Aboriginal Peoples in the fisheries.

The Aboriginal Communal Commercial Fisheries Entities of our Native Council Communities continuing on traditional ancestral homelands in the Maritimes are facing difficult barriers and challenges in becoming viable and sustainable community economic development enterprises. Depleting fishery resources in the nearshore and offshore Atlantic is a real concern to all communities. We already lack access to a significant share of more viable fisheries such as “snow crab, lobster, scallop, and swordfish longline” to name a few lucrative fisheries.

Fishers and decision makers have to find lasting solutions together.



MAARS Ocean Day Contest was a success! We received many entries, from young and old alike, telling us why a healthy ocean is important to them. The answers were as varied as the writers, and it was interesting to see the ocean from so many different perspectives. MAARS thanks everyone who participated. We hope everyone had a wonderful World Ocean Day on June 8 and that you wore your Ocean Day t-shirt!

A healthy ocean to me is an ocean that is filled with life.

The Ocean

A place to play
Or have a nice swim
A place to say
"Look at the mighty dorsal fin"

When we walk by the bay
With water so blue
It should make you say
"I'll take good care of you"

It is very smart
To have cleaner water
When we all do our part
To not let our oceans get hotter

If we keep our fish living
In a chemical-free place
We'll keep them alive by giving
Them their true rightful place

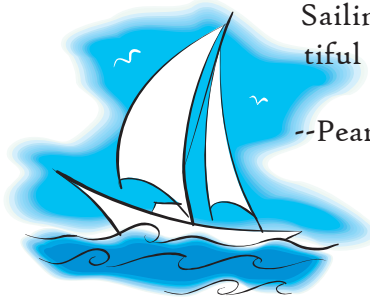
When you want to go fishing
Or whatever it may be
I bet you'll be wishing
You had done more to save the sea

Keep our beaches clean
And our oceans too
Not only for me,
But for our children too!

--Jonathan Toole, N.S.

A healthy ocean to me is an ocean that provides a good living for people.

--Lenny Thomas, P.E.I.



Sailing. It's beautiful. It has beautiful fish and animals. Everything is beautiful.

--Pearl Petrash, N.S.

TO ME, SEEING THE OCEAN MEANS I AM HOME..

--ALBERT CONRAD, N.S.



I like a healthy ocean because it is part of a healthy eco-system.

--Betty Ann Lavallee, N.B.

The ocean is beautiful to look at and to listen to, walking along the shoreline is awesome, the best part is picking up stones and shells, building sand castles along the way. The kids enjoy swimming too, listening to the sea gulls, enjoying the wildlife. Ebony Larkin loves swimming and building. Parker Larkin also loves swimming and picking up anything that washes ashore.

--Lorna Larkin, P.E.I.



Morgan Logan, N.S.



Donna Logan, N.S.



The ocean means a place of tranquility and peace to me.

--Jennifer Sappier, NB

I like to swim in the ocean. The ocean can heal bad cuts. It did mine.

--Melissa Rodgerson, age 14, N.S.

The Ocean is a great source of food and recreation. Please keep it clean. --Randy Harquail, N.B.

A healthy ocean means:

- A good place for fish to live.
--A good place to swim and for healing.
--It is good for fishing.
--It is good for boating.
--You can travel to New Brunswick by the Ocean.
--A healthy ocean is not polluted.
--Birds can swim and eat there.

A healthy ocean is a good thing.

--Stephen Doucette, N.S.

To myself, a healthy ocean means a body of water that is safe enough and healthy and sanitary enough to be able to jump into and swim for the day and enjoy the natural splendour of the ocean. --Brandy Googoo, P.E.I.

The ocean is the mother of all life. It completes the circle of creation.

--Leary Hebert, N.B.

The ocean is the sum and the beginning of all life. --Paul Marr, N.S.

Man has already done enough to damage today's oceans. It is time to take responsibility for our actions and continue working to build and maintain healthy oceans.

--Nancy MacLean, P.E.I.

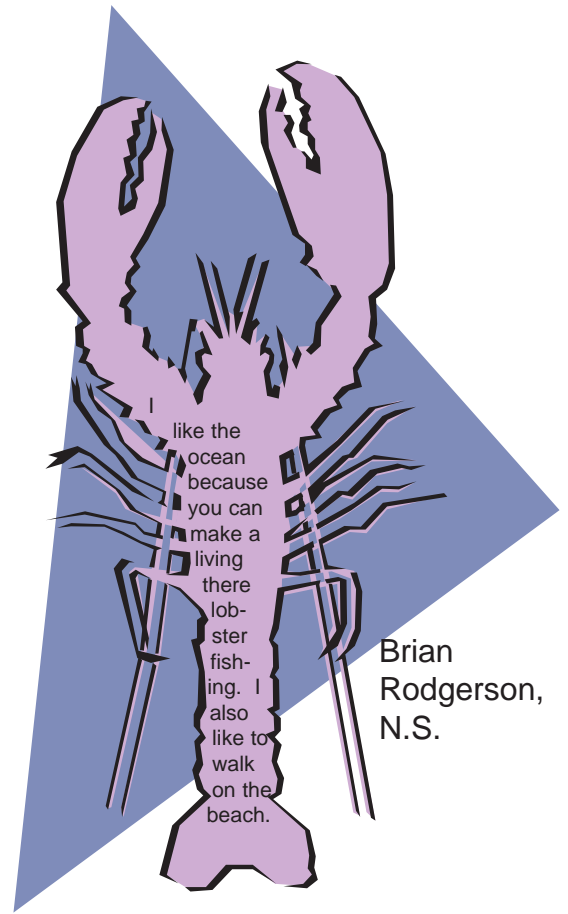
I like the ocean because of the sea creatures that live there and you can see them.

--Jeff Gallant, P.E.I.

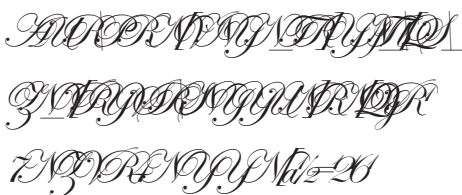


I love the ocean because you can take your family there for the day and it doesn't cost a lot of money.

--Janet Gallant, P.E.I.



Brian Rodgerson, N.S.



The ocean is a place of tranquility and content but also of fear and dismay. The peaceful sounds of the waves, the screaming of the gulls, and the heartache of tragedy.

--Pat Bernard, N.B.



On June 21, Aboriginal communities from across Canada celebrated National Aboriginal Day. For the Native Council of Nova Scotia Community of Traditional Ancestral Homeland Aboriginal Peoples, it was a day for meeting friends, joining in song, and feast as part of the Annual Aboriginal Day Barbeque held at the Native Council main office in Truro Heights.



Franz Kesick and David Paul at the National Aboriginal Day celebrations.



The young, men, women, and elders all joined the celebrations as one family.



Twin Hyslop of Zone 3 and Keptin Frank Nevin at the Native Council of Nova Scotia National Aboriginal Day Barbeque.

Welcome Amanda

Amanda Facey joins MAARS as the Oceans and Aquatic Resources Biologist (OARB). Amanda is from Westville, Nova Scotia and has recently returned from Alberta where she worked for an environmental consulting company in Grande Prairie. Amanda has worked for the Fishermen & Scientists Research Society (FSRS) at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. While at the FSRS, Amanda interacted directly with fishermen, accompanying them on their boats and documenting and collecting catch data. Amanda is experienced with lobster, crab and groundfish species and has had the opportunity to work with several Fisheries and Oceans Canada scientists on various projects.



Amanda is a graduate of Dalhousie University with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Graduate in Ecosystem Restoration from Niagara College of Applied Arts and Technology in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario.

Amanda is very happy to be back in Nova Scotia and looks forward to contributing to MAARS and its Native Council Partners. Welcome to the MAARS team, Amanda!



Neil Bellefontaine, Regional Director General Scotia-Fundy Region, made a special trip on April 24, 2006 to meet and tour MAPC's Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate staff and regional offices located in Truro. Mr. Bellefontaine, second from the left, is pictured with Roger Hunka, MAARS Director, Ian Marshall, Area Director South West NS, Tim Martin, Manager of Mime'j Seafoods, Leslie Burke, Regional Director of Scotia Fundy Fisheries, Grace Conrad, Chief of the Native Council of Nova Scotia, and Kathi Stewart, Regional Manager of Aboriginal Fisheries. Mr. Bellefontaine retired on May 10 and is a special advisor to the Minister. The Native Council of Nova Scotia has had a long relationship with Neil Bellefontaine since 1985. We will miss your support and your guidance, but our friendship with you will remain always.



MAARS Director Attends NBAPC Annual Assembly

The New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council (NBAPC), one of the MAARS Aboriginal Peoples Community Partners, held its Annual General Assembly (AGA) on May 27 at the Fredericton Inn. The AGA focused on a large amount of business matters. The AGA scheduled and received an update report about the accomplishments and challenges of MAARS over the last fifteen months. Immediately following the Assembly, the first annual meeting of Aboriginal Seafoods Network Inc. (ASN) was scheduled. ASN is New Brunswick's Aboriginal Communal Commercial Fishery.



MAARS Director, Roger Hunka, and Stephanie Bolger



MAARS NS CARDA Franz Kesick and MAARS PEI CARDA Tim Hainer proudly display their certificates for "Advocacy and Citizen Engagement". Franz and Tim attended a three week program on the Jack and Mary Martin Bursary at the COADY Institute of St. FX University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. This accomplishment is an excellent example of capacity development through predictable multi-stakeholder relationships--MAPC MAARS and the Coady International Institute.





What the Ocean Means to Me:

- *Food on my table
 - *My livelihood
 - *A place to swim with sandy beaches
 - *A nice cool breeze on a hot summer's day
 - *And when I smell the salty twang in the air I know I'm home.
- Patrica Lowe, N.S.

A healthy ocean is free from pollution by man.

--Rikki Schock, P.E.I.

What does a healthy ocean mean to me? It's simple. A future for all.
 --Sharon A. Ross--
 MacAusland, P.E.I.

What the ocean means to me:
 The root of humanity.
 --Shannon Hebert
 N.B.

The ocean is a swimmer's paradise.
 --Grace Conrad, N.S.



The Ocean

The ocean is deep-
 With an abundance of beauty
 Which we treat with respect-
 That is our duty.

The ocean always changes-
 The temperature, cold then warms.
 When it does that
 It can produce major storms.



The ocean is blue-
 Reflections of the sky.
 Alive with movement-
 Resources to live by.

The ocean is abundant-
 From the top to the bottom.
 Whales, sharks, fish, and more
 Just look, it's got 'em.
 --Freda Harper, N.B.

The ocean is what binds us all together. It is the lifeblood of all things. It represents life, energy and spirit-also fun. It's childhood memories. We need it to survive. The ocean is what keeps our planet alive and beautiful with all of its colourful biodiversity.
 --Lorena Hebert, N.B.

The ocean is a place of peace and tranquility that also can leave one with a sense of dread and fear.
 (Beauty, blue, big, bountiful, bloody, and battered-some key words associated with the ocean.)
 --Beth LaBillois, N.B.

The ocean is a beautiful creation by God. It is meant to be clean. Fish will not survive if it is polluted.

--Jack Bernard, N.B.



The ocean to me is life. Our past, our present, and our future.
 --Dale McLenaghan, N.B.

I love the ocean because it's a wonderful way to spend the day with my family. Swimming, watching the waves, etc.
 --Jayne Tremere, P.E.I.



I like the ocean because it provides an income for lots of families.

--Kris Gratto, N.S.

It's the food source of the world, and if we don't take care of it, we are in trouble.

--John Petrash, N.S.

My idea of a healthy ocean is: The ocean should receive "one hundred percent respect" from everyone who lives on this planet. If we don't start respecting the ocean now, generations will suffer.

My idea of a healthy ocean is not having to worry if the fish, lobster, shellfish, salmon, tuna, and other ocean food is safe to eat, also not having to worry if the ocean is safe to swim in.

--Nora Richard, P.E.I.

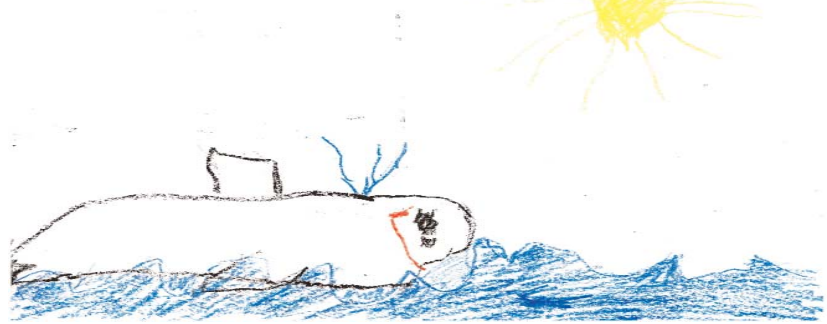
What oceans mean to me...conservation....yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

Christina Paul, N.S.



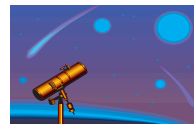
A healthy ocean means a place that has sustainable life amongst the vast population of oceanic life.
--Trevor Conrad, N.S.

Whales need a home.



OCEANS, TO ME, REPRESENT THE VAST UNKNOWN WHICH EXISTS IN ALL AREAS AND ON ALL SCALES OF THE EARTH WE LIVE ON AND EVERYTHING OUTSIDE OF IT-FROM THE TANGLED INNER WORKINGS OF A SINGLE HUMAN LIFE TO THE POSSIBLE LIFE ON UNKNOWN "EARTHS" IN A GALAXY WE'LL NEVER KNOW.

--Kimberly Brake N.S.



Meadow Baker, age 4, N.S.

It means peace, it means life...

--Vicki Thomas, N.B.

WHAT THE OCEAN MEANS TO ME:

- PEACE
- TRANQUILITY
- NATIVE SPIRITUALITY

--MARY ROSE WATTS, NS.

Ocean Blue-giver of life. Waves crashing against the shoreline, birds dashing to and fro to catch their prize. Wonders yet not known.

--Audrey Lucas, N.S.

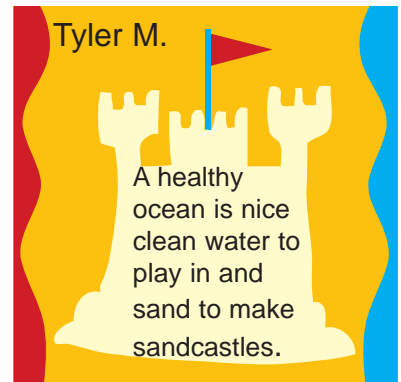


If the ocean was whiskey
And I was a duck
I'd swim to the bottom and never
come up

--Frank Nevin, N.S.

Tyler M.

A healthy ocean is nice clean water to play in and sand to make sandcastles.





Measurement Canada Fishing and Fish Products Trade Sector Review

On June 27, Gilles Poirier from Measurement Canada, an Agency of Industry Canada, met with the Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate (MAARS) team in Truro, Nova Scotia for a presentation on the "Fishing and Fish Products Trade Sector Review" (FFPTSR) currently under-way.

Measurement Canada, the official governing agency used to enforce weights and measures is responsible for ensuring accurate measurement in the marketplace.

Measurement Canada is conducting a Fishing and Fish Products Trade Sector Review to establish the appropriate level of Measurement Canada and stakeholder involvement to ensure accuracy in trade measurement. The FFPTSR will allow stakeholders the opportunity to express their views and have a hand in decision making concerning Measurement Canada's involvement. Director Roger Hunka, MAARS NB CARDA Barry LaBillois, MAARS NS CARDA Franz Kesick, MAARS PEI CARDA Tim Hainer, MAARS SCAA Mary Rose Watts, MAARS CDIL Angie Titus, and MAARS OARB Amanda Facey all participated in learning about this review. The CARDAs will bring this information back to the Aboriginal Communal Commercial Fishing Entity Managers who will, with the CARDAs, complete a questionnaire. MAARS will also complete a questionnaire and provide brief commentary on the review and process.



Inner Bay of Fundy Salmon Recovery Strategy Team

On April 27, 2006, MAARS Director Roger Hunka, MAARS NB CARDA Barry LaBillois, and Netukulimkewe'l Commissioner Tim Martin continued their involvement with the Inner Bay of Fundy (IBoF) Salmon Recovery Strategy Team in Amherst, Nova Scotia. The IBoF Recovery Strategy Team includes stakeholders from all sectors and includes topics for consideration, such as: monitoring, research, genetics, fish culture, public awareness, socio-economic issues, environmental issues, sports

fisheries, Aboriginal Food Fishery, and other topics from stakeholders who have an interest or input into a Recovery Strategy for the endangered IBoF Atlantic salmon. Presented at this working group session was an overview of the Bay of Fundy Biosphere Initiative, and a survey about Canadian views on saving the IBoF Atlantic salmon.





Lobster Licenses and Lobster Port Freeze Requests

For several decades, DFO Gulf Region has attempted to develop some procedural criteria to operationalize a standard for making decisions on lobster license transfer freeze and lobster ports of landing freeze requests.

In the fall of 2005, Gulf Region commissioned a discussion paper on the subject, which was released on January 31, 2006, with a request for comments to be provided to the Region by February 13, 2006.

On Friday, June 23, 2006, after correspondence, comments, and several requests by the Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate Director to meet on this important subject, DFO Gulf Region organized an Aboriginal Peoples and DFO meeting.

MAPC MAARS Director Roger Hunka, MAARS PEI CARDA Tim Hainer, PEI Mik'maq Fisheries Inc. Communal Commercial Fisheries Manager Jordan Crane, MAARS NB CARDA Barry LaBillois, and NBAPC Vice Chief Carol LaBillois-Slocum attended the meeting. For DFO, Rheel Vienneau, Regional Director, Resources, Monique Baker, Senior Advisor Shellfish, as well as Bernard Theriault, Acting Director Aboriginal Fisheries, and Jim Morriscey, Director of Small Craft Harbours, and several other senior Gulf DFO officials as well as a cadre of DFO Aboriginal liaison officers attended in Moncton.

A brief overview was presented as well as an opening presentation by the MAARS Director.

MAARS partners and MAPC Councils clearly stated that the criteria is deficient and contrary to the Policy Framework for the Management of Fisheries on Canada's Atlantic Coast. The criteria also ignores the recommendations and DFO response to the recommendations of the Independent Panel on Access Criteria.

Any criteria must have the principles of conservation, recognition of Aboriginal Peoples

Communal Commercial Fisheries, and Aboriginal rights including access towards viable fisheries.

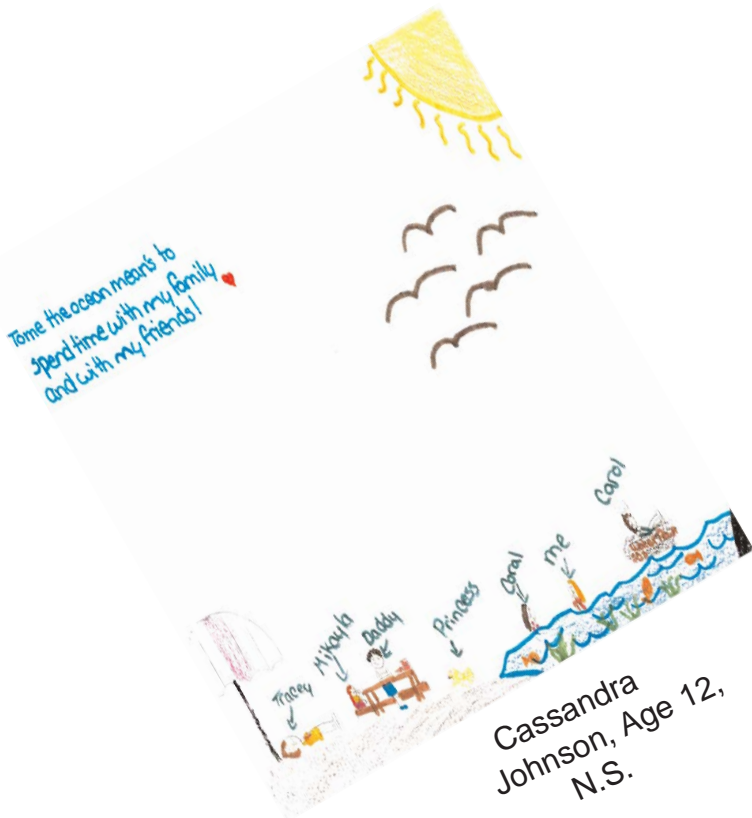
The criteria issued in May was developed in absence of any significant, substantial, or effective involvement of Aboriginal People. We declared the criteria as deficient. DFO acknowledged that "it missed the boat" as far as consultation with Aboriginal People on this subject. DFO agreed that it is necessary to deal with this matter to get it back on track.

The Traditional Ancestral Homelands Aboriginal People, represented by the Native Councils as MAARS Partners, required answers and we offered to work with DFO Gulf Region. Gulf Region promised that it would work with the MAPC/MAARS Aboriginal Community to develop a policy criteria that would recognize the fundamental principles and our Aboriginal Communal



Commercial Fisheries. The criteria should look at pragmatic solutions and should enhance rather than undermine or jeopardize resource access or reconciliation with Aboriginal Peoples, while clearly recognizing conservation, Aboriginal and treaty rights, and equity principles.

Aboriginal People's involvement in the Atlantic fishing industry is communal. Non-native interest is individual. For both interests, their survival, future, and progress depend on how the resource is shared, managed, used, and protected, now and into the future.



The Great Spirit has given us many things. A healthy ocean is truly a gift that can be enjoyed and shared. A gift that, with proper care, can keep giving and giving.

The Ocean, if kept clean, can help feed us for many years. We need to stop and think about the many fish and mammals that live in the ocean and depend on it for their survival. Garbage cans were made to hold garbage, and that's where it should be placed. Garbage and oil are things that pollute the oceans, making it difficult-if not impossible-for the fish to live. If everyone who used the ocean would bring their garbage home and throw it away, I'm sure the ocean would be a better place.

Fish is an important food that comes from the ocean. Keeping the ocean clean will help to supply food for years to come. Let's keep it clean; the ocean is one of our most important resources.

--Lavern Doucette, N.S.

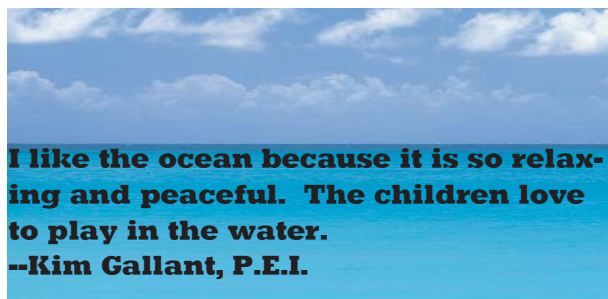
A healthy ocean means to me a clean blue ocean. This world would be great. No pollution. Clear and Clean. Good fishing for me and my family. We love the ocean. Digging quags, clams, oysters. Having campfires, enjoying our catch. Recreation on the water, we enjoy. We all enjoy swimming together. The ocean water is a healing process for us, especially in the month of August. A healthy ocean would be wonderful now and for future generations.

Vanessa loves the ocean, especially swimming in it. Dana also loves the ocean.

--Robert Panchuck, P.E.I.

The ocean means a lot to me when I look out and see the water. Spend days and nights watching the tides turn and the many different types of fish, as well as the odd porpoise swim by, carelessly as they are pushed by the current. I could not live inland, away from the sea, as the ocean means that much to me.

--Rebecca Hunka, N.S.



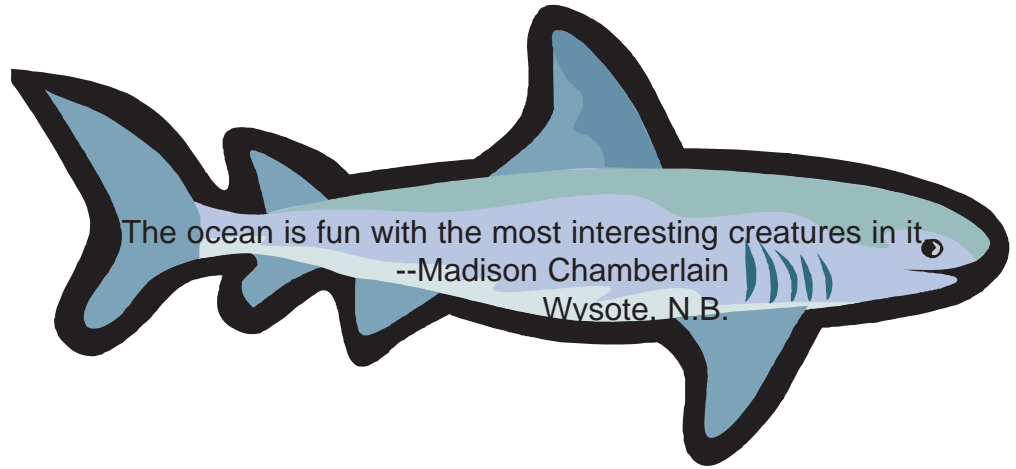
The Ocean is the final frontier.

--Dave Brickman, N.S.



A healthy ocean, in my opinion, means a healthy world. Preserving the wildlife of the ocean is important so future generations can have the opportunity that we have had to enjoy the beauty of it.

--Caityln Holder, N.B.



The ocean is fun with the most interesting creatures in it.

--Madison Chamberlain
Wysote, N.B.

The ocean of blue brings the big fish of beauty and anger. The ocean of blue gives us a peace of mind and the sea shells we listen to. The ocean of blue is a place to go and relax on a hot summer day.

--George LaBillois, N.B.

Oceans
our world sustain
order nourish
connect accept
embrace

--Diane Nickerson, N.S.

A healthy ocean means to me: An ocean which is not tainted by the wastes of man-kind; one in which the fish populations are healthy in every sense of the word; one in which all users are able to use all the ocean's common bounties in a dignified manner; one in which the temperatures and currents are not affected by other global atmospheric processes and one which can be held up as a positive legacy that we contribute to for the benefit of many future generations.

--Tim Hainer, P.E.I.

I like the ocean because you can go boating and swimming and it is so fun.

--Mike Gallant, P.E.I.

It is our future. If we don't take care of it, who will?

--Nathalie Wysote, N.B.

About a month ago, my four year old daughter Emily told her mother, "Don't fill up the tub too high because you're wasting the ocean water!" The fact that she said ocean water and not just water is what stuck in my mind. So the question, "What does a healthy ocean mean to me" is easy for me to answer. It means my future, my children's future, and my children's children's future and so on. If my four year old daughter, who also reminds us that she is not a litterbug when she remembers to put her garbage in the bin, is doing her part to take care of our ocean resources, then it is all the more reason to keep doing my part because it can and will make a difference.



--Tom Howe and his daughter Emily, N.S.



Atlantic Salmon Advisory Committee Meeting, Halifax, Nova Scotia

On May 17, 2006, The MAPC Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate (MAARS) Director and Regional MAARS CARDAs, along with the three Traditional Ancestral Homelands Aboriginal Communal Commercial Fisheries Entities Managers of the Native Council of Prince Edward Island, the New Brunswick Aboriginal Peoples Council, and the Native Council of Nova Scotia communities attended the Atlantic Salmon Advisory Committee meeting at the Citadel Inn in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Kevin Stringer, Director General, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Management, and International Affairs Directorate Director General, Guy Beaupré, convened the meeting of the Atlantic provinces stakeholders as well as senior scientists and biologists, including science from Quebec, as well as other Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal salmon interests.

DFO provided an extensive and succinct status report of the wild Atlantic salmon for each area throughout the entire region.

The format of presenting the science reports in a clear and transparent manner, with the opportunity for stakeholders to pose questions at the end of each presentation, was well accepted as a good format and process.

Also at this meeting, Neil Bellefontaine, appointed as special advisor to the Minister, presented a preliminary overview of "A Policy Proposal for Conservation of Wild Atlantic Salmon". The need for a new policy was clearly evidenced from the fact that effective management of wild Atlantic salmon is a matter of public interest, public scrutiny, and public concern for the Atlantic salmon has intensified. The policy proposal will be subject to extensive consultation beginning late summer/early fall of this year.

Also at the meeting, the Director General of International Affairs, Guy Beaupré, provided an overview of the "Next Steps for NASCO-Implementation Plans". The North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO) parties include Canada, Denmark, European Union, Iceland, Norway, Russian Federation, and the United States.

Minutes of the January 13 - February 3, 2006 NASCO Task Force meeting on Next Steps, including appendices of the report, were reviewed and shared at this meeting.

Key elements include: application of the precautionary approach, a goal of protection and restoration, management of aquaculture, introductions and transfers and transgenics, threats to stocks and current management measures, the management approach, and reporting procedures.

Several stakeholders made constructive comments on the NASCO plan. Mr. Bud Bird, a member of the Canadian NASCO delegation, raised the issue of the SALSEA (Salmon at Sea) initiative.

Discussions were also held about the upcoming NASCO meeting in Finland.





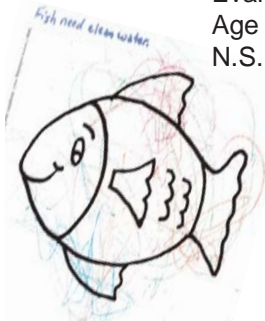
Oceans are both majestic and mysterious. Majestic because they are vast and deep and homes to whales the size of three school buses. Mysterious because we continue to find new species we never knew existed.

-Donna Hurlburt, N.S.

A healthy ocean is nice blue water, red sand, and lots of kids playing and swimming.

--Maureen Chaisson, P.E.I.

Evan Baker
Age 2 1/2,
N.S.



The ocean sustains humans and gives life to a unique ecosystem.

--Rachel McKinley, N.B.

I think the ocean is beautiful. You can go swimming there and walk on the beach. There is food in the ocean. Dolphins live in the ocean. They are my favourite. I love them.

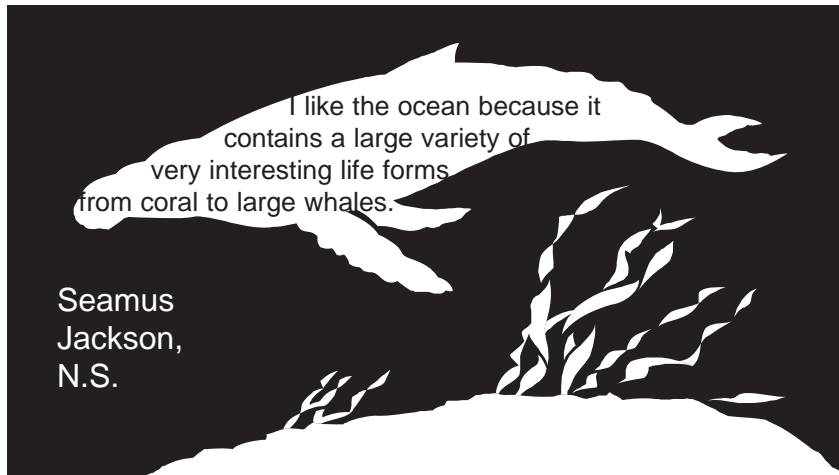
I like fish.
--Jimmy Roadknight
N.S.

--Tina
Rodgerson, N.S.



The ocean means relaxing sounds.

Kimberly
McLenaghan, N.B.



I like the ocean because it contains a large variety of very interesting life forms from coral to large whales.

Seamus
Jackson,
N.S.

I like the ocean because not only does it keep everyone and everything alive, but it is where life began on the planet Earth.
--Robert John Hunka, N.S.

Employment possibilities are endless.
--Jordan Crane,
P.E.I.

I love the ocean because I love to walk on the beach. You can also swim and fish in the ocean.
--Kim Boudreau, N.S.

Five Haiku Poems for the Ocean

Here on the sea shore
I contemplate the vast blue
Where all life began.

I, too, am the sea,
And so, too, the sea is me,
Its depth my soul's depth

Great and wide ocean,
Great and wide my heart should be
When all life needs care.

Blue, green, silver, white,
The colours of her beauty,
And the calm within.

Its churning expanse,
Sheltering the life within,
Is our salvation

M.J. Martin, N.S.



What a Healthy Ocean Means to me:

To me a healthy ocean would mean less fish would end up dying! And if the ocean was healthy, then there wouldn't be any pop can holders in the ocean, and the dolphins wouldn't get their noses caught inside of them! And maybe, just maybe, there wouldn't be any nets so that when the fishermen throw them in, they wouldn't catch the dolphins and other marine animals. If we had a healthy ocean, there definitely wouldn't be any ocean pollution. If we had a healthy ocean, I think that the people in Africa wouldn't be as sick, because that is half of the reason they are very ill! So, if we had a healthy ocean, then less people around the world would be dying as we speak! So, what a healthy ocean means to me is that it would save the animals that live in the ocean, and it would save the people all around the world! Peace to the ocean.

--Laura Anne Buchanan, New Brunswick

Atlantic Salmon (Plamu): A Mi'kmaq perspective

Every nation, country, city or village has some type of industry near by to keep it sustainable: from oil, mining, forestry, or gas, etc.; these are the lifelines for the people in the area. Before the coming of the non-Aboriginal people to the Maritimes, the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, and Passamaquoddy people survived for thousands of years where over 90% of food intake came from the brooks, streams, rivers, and the ocean in and around their territory. We spent 9 to 10 months of the year harvesting numerous species around the river systems and outwards to the bays and into the nearshore and offshore ocean.

Preparation for the upcoming fisheries harvesting season involved the help of all community members. Birch bark canoes had to be repaired or new ones built and made ready for the long season ahead. Weirs and fish traps would have to be replaced or fixed as high water and ice would have damaged them over the winter months.

Continued on Page 15...



Some new items acquired by the Maritime Aboriginal Aquatic Resources Secretariate General and Technical Information Database and Research Library and Repository:

*Tyrell, M.C. 2005. *Gulf of Maine Marine Habitat Primer*. Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment.

*Belliveau, Marcel (et al.) *An Introduction to Fisheries Co-management*. Coastal Communities Network.

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*Munro, Ishbel. 2004. *Between the Land and the Sea*. Coastal Communities Network.

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The MAARS library would also like to thank Dalhousie University's Marine Affairs Program for their donation of to be discarded Aquatic Resources related periodicals.





“Atlantic Salmon”, continued from Page 14.

Flounder was the first fish to arrive along the coast as they could be found near the shore and easily speared, caught on lines, or trapped in weirs. Smelt and Gaspereau were the next species to come into the river systems while cod and herring were plentiful along the coast.

One of the main species that was harvested by the Aboriginal People was the salmon (plamu). Different methods were used to harvest salmon. At times the salmon seemed to be so numerous that “you could run across the river on the backs of the salmon and hardly get your moccasins wet.”

At the narrowest point of the river, a fence of wood or rock was shrewdly placed across the river to hinder the passage of the salmon. In the middle of the fence, an opening was left where a bag net made out of branches and roots was placed where the salmon could swim into it and not be able to back out. The bag nets could be hauled up several times a day with salmon in them.

Another harvesting method was to harpoon the salmon with a stick harpoon, which was fitted with an 8 to 10 inch pointed end made of bone or wood. This is fastened to the pole to make a harpoon dart. Harpoon fishing for salmon was done at night with the use of a canoe with two people taking part. One would hold the harpoon while the other would steer the canoe and hold a burning torch made of birch bark. The current of the river would move the canoe.

The salmon, seeing the light from the torch, would swim to the water surface where the harvester would spear the fish. Some nights 150 to 200 salmon would be caught.

This method of harpooning could also be used for sturgeon and sea trout. Much later in time, the use of hook and line was also used to harvest salmon.

Article by Barry LaBillois.

Picture from:

Rock Drawings of the Micmac Indians
by Marion Robertson, Nova Scotia
Museum, 1973



Fig. 17 (D12)



Throughout the months of April, May, and June, 2006, the MAARS CARDA's attended many Fishery Stakeholders Advisory Committee Meetings, Science Workshops, and Oceans Management Sessions. Listed is a very small sample of predictable stakeholder interfaces which occurred during the past three months:

1. LFA 34 Annual General Meeting, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia
2. Oceans Connections Conference, Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia
3. Eastern Scotian Shelf Integrated Management (ESSIM) SAC Meeting, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
4. Effects of Bottom-Contacting Mobile Gear on Benthic Habitats and Communities, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
5. Nearshore Temperature Experiments Meeting with Dr. Dave Brickman, Truro, Nova Scotia
6. 2006 29 West of 69 Degrees 30' W Scallop Fishery Meeting, Yarmouth, Nova Scotia
7. Bay of Fundy Stakeholders Coalition meeting, St. Andrews, New Brunswick
8. Gulf of Saint Lawrence Integrated Management (GOSLIM) meeting, Moncton, New Brunswick
9. Atlantic Salmon Advisory Committee Meeting, Halifax, Nova Scotia
10. Inner Bay of Fundy Salmon Recovery Strategy team meeting, Amherst, Nova Scotia
11. Lobster Licensing and Lobster Port Freeze meeting, Moncton, New Brunswick
12. FFPTSR presentation by Measurement Canada, Truro, Nova Scotia
13. Bluefin Tuna Stock Assessment Meeting, Canadian Inputs, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

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MAPC-MAARS

Box 8, 172 Truro Heights Road, RR#1 Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 5A9

Tel:(902)895-2982 Fax:(902) 895-3844 Email: maars@mapcorg.ca

<http://www.mapcmaars.ca>

Compiled by Angela Titus, MAARS CDIL.
atitus@mapcorg.ca

Ne'tawe'k IkJikum is also available online.