



June 10, 2021

Statement from the Working Group on Smallmouth Bass eradication in the Miramichi

DFO authorization for use of rotenone

On Tuesday, June 8th, members of the Working Group on Smallmouth Bass Eradication in the Miramichi received signed authorization from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) to use an approved rotenone product in Miramichi Lake, Lake Brook, and approximately 15-kilometres of the Southwest Miramichi River to eradicate invasive smallmouth.

The authorization from DFO contains 33 conditions pertaining to aspects like safety, monitoring, and mitigation. This concludes a review process that began in April 2019 when an application to deposit rotenone in Miramichi Lake was submitted to DFO from the North Shore Micmac District Council in partnership with Working Group members. The application was modified in April 2020 following the capture in August 2019 of a smallmouth bass in the Southwest Miramichi River.

This authorization follows the release of the Miramichi smallmouth bass eradication project from further environmental assessment by the province of New Brunswick on May 11, 2021 and will allow the project to proceed as planned in August and September this year.

The Working Group on Smallmouth Bass Eradication in the Miramichi is comprised of the North Shore Micmac District Council, Anqotum Resource Management, the Atlantic Salmon Federation, Miramichi Salmon Association, Miramichi Watershed Management Committee, New Brunswick Salmon Council, and the New Brunswick Wildlife Federation.

To learn more about the plans to eradicate invasive smallmouth bass from the Miramichi watershed, please visit our project website: www.miramichismallmouth.com

On behalf of the Working Group,
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