



**Anqotum**  
Resource Management



# Statement from the Working Group on Smallmouth Bass Eradication in the Miramichi

August 10th, 2022

On August 9th at 3:30 p.m., hours before an Indigenous-led conservation project to eradicate illegally introduced smallmouth bass was set to begin, members of the Working Group received notice that the New Brunswick Court of Queen's Bench granted three Miramichi Lake cottage owners an emergency injunction Order.

The Order prohibits our project from proceeding as scheduled, which is a project aimed at eradicating an invasive aquatic species (smallmouth bass) through the application of rotenone. The project was developed over several years, was extensively reviewed, and has been authorized by the Government of New Brunswick and Government of Canada.

No members of our Working Group were aware that an emergency hearing was taking place and we were not able to present any arguments or evidence.

As a result, the Working Group was forced to dismiss more than 130 personnel from around the world who were staged in Fredericton, ready to complete our legal conservation project.

The project is led by the North Shore Micmac District Council, which is the named defendant in the Court action filed by the cottage owners. The Working Group stands by the project, because smallmouth bass threaten the native ecosystem of the Miramichi, including Atlantic salmon, as well as the cultural identity and economy of the region.

The Working Group intends to vigorously oppose the cottage owners request for the injunction to be extended at a hearing scheduled for August 17th.

## For more information contact

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