


Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
Natural Resources Department
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Niponiw - Summer 2017
 Clarissa Sabattis – Tribal Chief
 Susan Young - Editor

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International Statement of Cooperation Signed

The Maliseet Tribal/First Nations Leaders recall that, since time immemorial, the Maliseet people have maintained an inherent connection to the Wəlastəkw/Saint John River and the natural resources that it supported, and that this connection is foundational to Maliseet customs, language, and culture.



Left to right, Geoff Mercer - ECCC, Chief Patricia Bernard-Madawaska First Nation, Elder Maggie Paul, Councilor Pat Polchies - Kingsclear, Chief Clarissa Sabattis, Ken Moraff - EPA, Councilor Edwin Bernard - Tobique, Serge Doucet - DFO Canada,

Through this Statement of Cooperation, the Maliseet Tribal/First Nation Leaders call upon United States Federal Agencies and Canadian Federal Departments to uphold and renew their relationship with the Maliseet people and to focus on cultural and natural resource sustainability of the Wəlastəkw/Saint John River Watershed.

These words can be found in the 4th paragraph of a “Statement of Cooperation” among HBMI, 6 Maliseet First Nations, 5 US federal agencies, and 2 Canadian agencies who met on May 31st at our 3rd Cross-boundary Watershed Summit. Hosted by Madawaska First Nation, this summit included a signing ceremony for this historic document. Chief Clarissa Sabattis and Chief Patricia Bernard, Madawaska First Nation, were on hand to sign the Statement as were Councilors Patrick Polchies, Kingsclear First Nation and Edwin Bernard, Tobique First Nation; Acting Regional Deputy Director for the US Environmental Protection Agency, Ken Moraff; Regional Director General Serge Doucet, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada; and Regional Director General Geoffrey Mercer, Environment & Climate Change Canada.

Two years of collective conference calls and meetings, and internal discussions by all parties led to this international agreement to work together to restore the health of the Wəlastəkw/Saint John River. A primary focus of our cooperation will be the restoration of migratory fish and fish passage, including alewives (gaspereau), blueback herring, Atlantic salmon, American shad and American eel. Next steps for our work group include developing ways to share data, expertise, and other



Attention tribal youth in grades 5 to 8

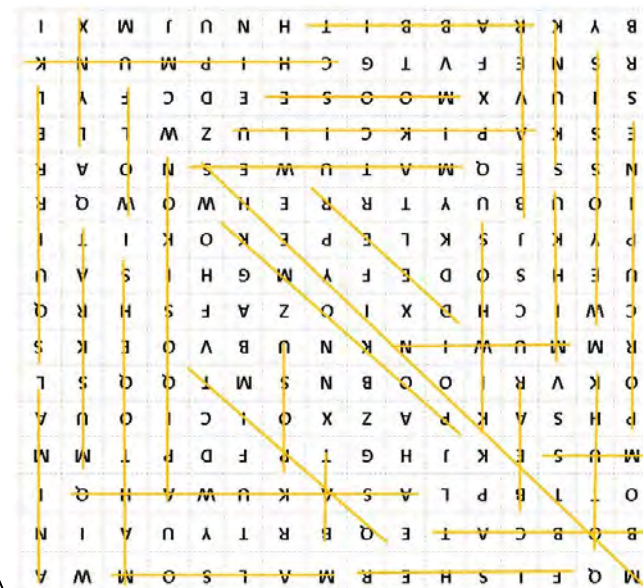


Now that summer is here it won't be long until it's time for Skitkomiq Culture in Science Camp. This year's camp will take place from August 16 to 19, 2017 and will once again include a teen fast lead by Imelda Perley.

We will be posting updates to the schedule via the Natural Resources Facebook page.

Anyone interested in attending the camp or volunteering their time are encouraged to contact Cara O'Donnell water@maliseets.com or Jenna Matthews jmatthews@maliseets.com.

Word Search Answers



Natural Resources Department
 (207)532-6883
 1-800-564-8524 (Maine only)
 1-800-545-8524
 Fax 207-532-6883
Environmental Planning
 Sharri Venno - ext. 215
Natural Resources
 Matthew Edberg - ext. 220
Water Resources
 Cara O'Donnell - ext. 212
 Sam St. John - ext. 216
Natural Resources - Real Estate
Director
 Sue Young - ext. 202



Agreement (continued)

resources across an international boundary; devising a governance model for decision-making that supports co-management of the Wəlastəkw/Saint John; and establishing priorities. HBMI has already obtained funds to support another Cross-boundary Watershed Summit in the coming year so stay tuned for more updates!



If you would like to follow our progress more closely please check out our website:

<http://www.cbuilding.org/sites/default/files/FieldStJohnSummaryDay1.pdf>

hosted by Consensus Building Institute, the entity facilitating our ongoing discussions.

Staff Updates/Summer Techs



Summer's here and that means one thing - the summer techs are here! In addition to welcoming the summer techs we are pleased to announce that Sam St. John has returned to the water resources program as a full time water resources technician.

This year Gage Lefay is retuning to work with us and we welcome Jenna Matthews.



Gage (above) is once again working with Matt as the natural resources summer tech while Jenna (left) joins Sam (above left) and Cara in the water resources program.

Rabies In Maine

From August 2 through 7, 2017 portions of Aroostook County will be seeded with Oral Rabies Vaccine (ORV) in an attempt to stem the spread of rabies in wildlife populations, especially raccoons, foxes and coyotes. As you can see from the map below, a portion of the project area is located near tribal lands. Since 1997, Wildlife Services (WS) a program within the US Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) has been working with local, state and federal governments to manage rabies in wild carnivore populations.

The baits, consist of a fishmeal coated sachet (about the size of a catsup package) or an uncoated sachet encased in a fishmeal bait. When the animal bites into the bait, the rabies vaccine comes into contact with the animal's mouth and throat, thereby administering the vaccine. As the number of vaccinated animals in the population increases the ability to spread rabies in the raccoon population decreases.



Wabanaki Day 2017

On Tuesday May 23, 2017 the tribe hosted its 3rd annual Wabanaki Day for 7th grade students from Houlton Jr. High School. The entire 7th grade class came to learn and understand more about Maliseet culture and programs.



Students learned about medicinal plants from Matthew Edberg, Natural Resources Specialist. Water Resources staff held a session by the river at Lowery Bridge and talked about the work they do on the Meduxnekeag. The kids learned about water quality monitoring, the USGS gage station, and were able to see the trees and rock structures in the river installed in 2014 as part of our fish habitat restoration project.

The students also participated in dancing and learned about ceremonies and listened to Maliseet stories.



7th graders learning about Water Resources Program



Find the English and Maliseet Animal words in the puzzle

Maliseet Word Search Puzzle

- Animal Weyoissis
- Bat Motekoniyeys
- Bear Muwin
- Beaver Qapit
- Bobcat Posu
- Chipmunk Asakuwahq
- Deer Otuhk
- Fisher Pokomk
- Lynx Apiqosikon
- Moose Mus
- Muskrat Kiwhos
- Porcupine Matuwes
- Rabbit Mahtoqehs
- Skunk Apikcilu
- Squirrel Mihku
- Wolf Malsom

M	Q	F	I	S	H	E	R	M	A	L	S	O	M	W	A
B	O	B	C	A	T	E	Q	B	R	T	Y	U	A	I	N
O	T	T	B	P	L	A	S	A	K	U	W	A	H	Q	I
M	U	S	E	K	J	H	G	T	P	F	D	P	T	M	M
P	H	S	A	K	P	A	Z	X	O	I	C	I	O	U	A
O	K	V	R	I	O	O	B	N	S	M	T	Q	Q	S	L
R	M	M	U	W	I	N	K	N	U	B	V	O	E	K	S
C	W	I	C	H	D	X	I	O	Z	A	F	S	H	R	Q
U	E	H	S	O	D	E	F	Y	M	G	H	I	S	A	U
P	Y	K	J	S	K	L	E	P	E	K	O	K	I	T	I
I	O	U	B	U	Y	T	R	R	E	H	W	O	W	Q	R
N	S	S	E	Q	M	A	T	U	W	E	S	N	O	A	R
E	S	K	A	P	I	K	C	I	L	U	Z	W	L	L	E
S	I	U	V	X	M	O	O	S	E	E	D	C	F	Y	L
R	S	N	E	F	V	T	G	C	H	I	P	M	U	N	K
B	Y	K	R	A	B	B	I	T	H	N	U	J	M	X	I

Maliseet Veterans Cemetery

Honoring Those Who Answered the Call



PERLEY, PIOUS J.
TOMAH, WALTER J.
SABATTIS CLAIR A.
LINDSAY, DAVID P.
HANNING GEORGE J.
HANEY, JOSEPH R.
TOMAH, MERLON L.
TOMAH, ANTHONY J.
DwyER, GAYLA
MASON, JOHN T.
RIDEOUT, MICHAEL T.
DEVOU, JR., ROBERT M.
TOMAH, ANDREW

PAGE, ANNE M. TOMAH
TREADWELL, BARBARA TOMAH
HANNING, BILLY W.
HANNING, CARL J.
FLEWELLING, CHARLES B.
JOSEPH, DAVID J.
TOMAH, DEAN R.
LEVASSEUR, DONALD J.
FLEWELLING, DOUGLAS A.
HANNING, ELMER F.
PERLEY, FREDERICK J.
McNINCH, GEORGE L.
TOMAH, GEORGE T.

SHANNON, JR., HAZEN
DEVOU, JOHN L.
HANNING, KENNETH J.
TOMAH, JR., LEROY P.
SABATTIS, PAUL
MORAN, ROBERT
WHITZELL, JR., ROBERT G.
POLCHIES, SR., RODNEY A.
TOMAH, RONALD J.
MORAN, SHERRY R.
FLEWELLING, THOMAS J.
MICHAUD, WILLIAM C.
TOMAH, PAUL E.

BEAR, HENRY J.
JOSEPH, JR., JOHN L.
PEDERSEN, KARSTEN C.
DEVOU, SR., FLOYD L.
TRECARTIN, FRANKLIN L.
TOMAH, FREDERICK D.
FLEWELLING, GERALD E.
BOYCE, JEFFERY B.
TOMPKINS, JOSEPH L.
TOMPKINS, JR., JOSEPH L.
POLCHIES, LORIAN
FLEWELLING, NORMAN F.
BOWRING, JR., OWEN S.W.

PAUL, PETER A.
HANNING, JR., RODNEY T.
ANTHONY, SHEILA E.
DEVOE, THOMAS G.
POLCHIES, VALENTINO J.
KINNEY, ANDREW J.
MURPHY, BRANDY F.
SLAGGER, DAVID A.
FLEWELLING, PAUL R.
TOMAH, FREDERICK L.
VOISINE, JASON M.
BITHER, JEREMY W.
JELLISON, JERRY J.

KELLEY, PATRICK M.
FLEWELLING, PAUL R.
HANEY, TIMOTHY
JOSEPH, DAVID L.
JOSEPH, MICHAEL S.
JEWELL, ALLEN
DEVOU, SR., HAROLD M.
DEVOU, JAMES L.
BITHER, MICHAEL P.
BOYCE, SAMANTHA L.
BITHER, JUSTIN M.

Participating in the dedication ceremony:

The Maliseet Honor Guard:

Air Force Anthony Tomah
Army Barbara Treadwell
Army/National Guard David Lindsay
Coast Guard Henry Bear and John Joseph, Jr.
Marine Corps Jeffrey Boyce, Valentino Polchies and Joseph Tompkins
Navy Patrick Kelley and David Slagger.

The Maliseet Cemetery Commission:

Brenda Commander, Dolores Crofton-MacDonald, Douglas Sabattis, Margaret Sabatis, Rose Tomah, William Tomah (Chair).

Susanna Wright, Cemetery Superintendent; Heidi Kelley, Cemetery Records; Sue Young, VA Cemetery project manager.

Our drummers for the day:

From Tobique First Nation
Robin Lennon, Alex Moulton, Marina Moulton, Sharlene Paul.

From Houlton Band of Maliseets

Leona Alvarado, Francis Frederick, Amy Joseph, Shelby Sabattis, with Tawoma and Wambli Martinez

Thanks to Carolyn Anderson and Sue Young for the photographs and to all the helpers that made this day a true celebration.



Maliseet Veterans Cemetery

June 14, 2017 marks a special day in the history of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians. For on that day, the tribe officially dedicated their veterans monument and veterans cemetery. As you know, the tribe has been working on establishing a tribal cemetery for many years now. The road work and construction of the cemetery began in September 2015 and the first tribal burial took place in 2016.

In September 2016, we were awarded a \$250,000 grant from the US Veterans Administration, National Cemetery Program to create a tribal veterans cemetery.



Front of HBMI's Tribal Veterans Monument

Sam Coplon and Christopher Cannon of Coplon Associates of Bar Harbor, designed the veterans section within the existing cemetery design, and Atlantic Landscape Construction, Inc. of Ellsworth began work in Spring 2017 to make it a reality.



John Joseph Jr., US Coast Guard Retired, preparing to raise US flag

Our Dedication Ceremony began with our Maliseet Honor Guard posting the US, Canada, Maliseet and POW/MIA flags in front of the monument accompanied by the beat of the drum. Elder Imelda Perley with the help of Dolores Crofton-MacDonald and Amy Joseph offered an opening song and prayer. Three members of the honor guard stepped forward to raise US, Maliseet and POW/MIA flags to the top of solar flag poles located at the edge of the monument's assembly area. These three flags fly over the monument 24 hours a day in honor of tribal veterans. 5 cedar wreaths, made by elders Rose Tomah, Brenda Commander and Dolores Crofton-MacDonald, in honor of the 5 branches of US Armed Services (Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps and Navy), were placed upon the monument by the honor guard.



Maliseet Honor Guard following posting of colors



Chief Sabattis read aloud the Maliseet Honor Roll, honoring tribal members who served, and continue to serve in the armed forces in both the United States and Canada. Tribal veterans were presented with leather medicine pouches filled with traditional medicines grown on tribal lands.

George Eisenbach and Tom Paquelet of the US Veterans Administration National Cemetery Program were on hand for the dedication. During his address, Director Eisenbach talked about the National Cemetery Program. He noted that with the dedication the Maliseet Veterans Cemetery it became 10th Tribal Veterans Cemetery in the United States. Better yet, **HBMI's veterans cemetery is the FIRST tribal veterans cemetery east of the Mississippi!!**

