

**HBMI Natural Resources Department  
Natural Resources Department**



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*Toqaqiw  
(It is Autumn)*

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Susan Young - Editor

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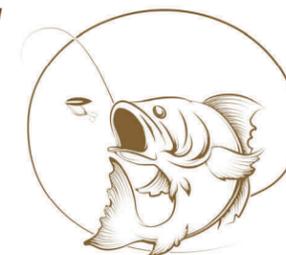
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**HBMI Natural Resources Department**



**Maine Sustenance Fishing Law Signed**

As many of you may know, in 2016, Maine sued the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in federal court over EPA's disapproval of some of Maine's water quality standards. EPA's decision was based in part by their determination that Maine's standards did not adequately protect human health, especially for those who eat a lot of fish. EPA also adopted stronger water quality standards for tribal trust waters in Maine to protect tribal members who practice sustenance fishing and thus eat more fish than the general population. HBMI and Penobscot Nation joined the court proceedings as intervenors to protect tribal interests in the case. In 2017, EPA asked the court for the opportunity to reconsider those stronger standards in response to Maine's lawsuit. This led to many consultations amongst the parties to try to resolve these issues out of court.



Fast forward to 2019, our recently-elected governor, Janet Mills began to work to improve tribal-state relations. One outcome of her efforts; a new state law protecting the health of those who practice sustenance fishing in water bodies identified as particularly important to tribal people in Maine. This law, LD 1775, was approved by the Maine Legislature and Governor Mills signed the bill on June 21, 2019 as shown below. This new law protects all the waters of the Meduxnekeag Watershed. This is a huge step in our journey to protect tribal sustenance fishing rights in Maine.

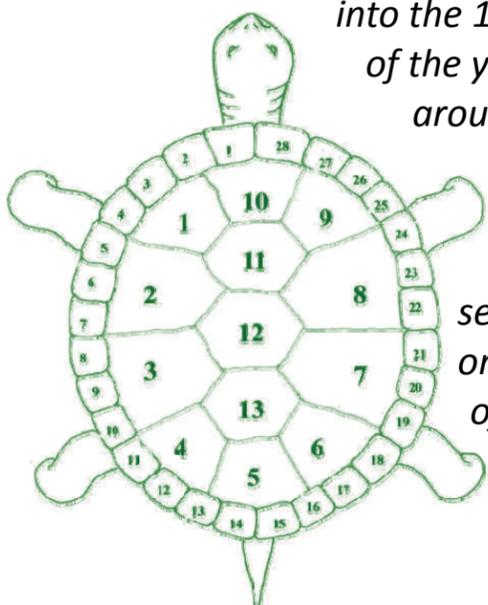


"LD 1775 establishes a new designated use of sustenance fishing in Maine's Water Classification Law and the most protective fish consumption rate in the country for select waters in Maine. The law will take effect 90 days after the adjournment of the Legislature."

<https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-signs-law-her-bill-protect-sustenance-fishing-maine-tribes-2019-06-21>

**Did You Know?**

The shell on a turtle's back is divided into the 13 moons of the year and around the rim there are 28 segments on for each of the 28 days of each moon.



**Word Search Answers**

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



### EPA Tribal Leaders Summit and Tribal Environmental Conference

This year's Leaders Summit and Tribal Environmental Conference was co-hosted by HBMI and Mohegan Tribe and held at the Mohegan Sun Casino September 4 through 6.

This annual gathering is a great time for tribal leaders to sit down with EPA and discuss what is and isn't working for tribes in Region 1 (New England). These sessions offer both sides an opportunity to talk openly and honestly about environmental programs and projects most important to tribes and how changes in EPA funding and procedures impact the great work being done by tribes in this region.



Tribal leaders attending the summit (l to r) James Gessener, Acting Tribal Chairman Mohegan Tribe, Chief Lynn Malerba, Mohegan Tribe, Dennis Deziel EPA Regional Director, Chief William Nicholas Passamaquoddy Tribe - Indian Township, Deb Szaro EPA Deputy Regional Administrator, Chief Clarissa Sabattis HBMI, Chairwoman Cheryl Maltais-Andrews Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah), Cassius Spears Jr., Councilor Narragansett Tribe and Scott Mason EPA AIEO Executive Director

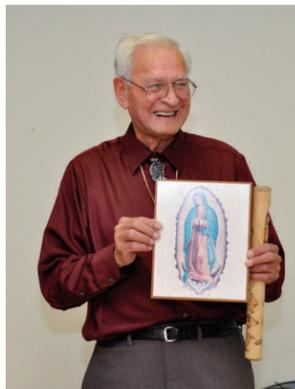
Dennis Deziel, newly appointed EPA Regional Director, attended the summit on his second day in office. Many of the EPA's tribal coordinators and program liaisons attended the environmental conference on the 2 days following the summit. There were presentations on toxins in fish tissue, GIS showcase, Elders panel, ocean planning, climate adaptation planning for archaeological sites, USGS continuing government to government relationships and more.



Chief Sabattis signing our updated ETEP with Reg. Administrator Deziel. Looking on from left to right - Deb Szaro, Deputy Regional Administrator, Administrator Deziel, Chief Sabattis, Sue Young, HBMI Natural Resources Director and Scott Mason, EPA AIEO

HBMI, along with 2 other tribes, signed new/updated EPA Tribal Environmental Plans (ETEPs). These tribally specific plans, provide an environmental framework for each tribe, identifying their issues of concern and describing plans to address these concerns. ETEPs help support guide the funding requests and projects undertaken by tribes. This is the second 3 year ETEP HBMI has completed and reflects a great deal of effort and input from natural resources department staff.

The family of Jim Sappier, Penobscot leader and former head of the EPA Indian Program in Region 1 were on hand for a special



Apc oc nitap!

tribute to Jim who passed away earlier this year. We are all blessed to have had Jim as such a strong advocate and friend, fighting for all that live and work in Indian country.

### First Light Learning Journey



Maine is home to about 90 land trusts and conservation groups that control over 2 million acres in the state. In 2017, a group of conservation groups formed First Light Learning Journey (First Light) to learn about the Wabanaki people and to help expand Wabanaki stewardship and access to lands they control.

First Light began by travelling to each community to learn about the tribes and their concerns regarding the inaccessibility of traditional and current gathering sites, black ash, etc. In June of 2019 representatives from all Maine tribes, members of First Light, and others met for 2 days at the New England Outdoor Education Center in Millinocket, Maine to further these discussions.

One topic of great discussion was the lack of trust between these entities. Tribes challenged that our leaders are once again asked to share all our information and insights to the group with no participation or commitment from the leaders of the conservation organizations. In order for this project to be truly successful, there needs to be open and honest discussions, and land trusts need to understand and respect tribal knowledge and

stewardship of resources.

We are slowly making progress as evidenced by a newly signed agreement with the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) allowing for harvest of black ash for basket making on their lands. The work of Steve Takto at AMC will hopefully help other organizations move forward in working with tribes in Maine.

In addition to tribal leadership, tribal historic preservation officers and natural resources directors of Maliseet, Micmac, Penobscot and Passamaquoddy tribes and the Appalachian Mountain Club, participants in First Light include representatives from:

- Brunswick Topsham Land Trust
- Conservation Collaborative
- The Conservation Fund
- Damariscotta Lakes Land Trust
- Downeast Coastal Conservancy
- Forest Society of Maine
- Friends of Baxter State Park
- Maine Coast Heritage Trust
- Maine Mountain Collaborative
- Maine Sea Grant
- Mid-Coast Conservancy
- The Nature Conservancy
- Quimby Family Foundation
- Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust
- Switzer Foundation

### More Photos from Skitkomiq 2019



### HBMI T-SCAN Station Installed

This summer, HBMI joined the National Water and Climate Center system of automated data collection sites that monitor soil climate across the US. The **Soil Climate Analysis Network (SCAN)** began as a soil moisture/soil temperature pilot project of the Natural Resources Conservation Service in 1991.

The system is designed to provide data to support natural resource assessments and conservation activities. The SCAN system focuses on agricultural areas of the U.S. and is composed of over 200 stations. A typical SCAN site monitors soil moisture content at several depths, air temperature, relative humidity, solar radiation, wind speed and direction, liquid precipitation, and barometric pressure. We'll keep you posted as data from our system becomes available.



For more about the SCAN network check out : <https://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/scan/>

### Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument

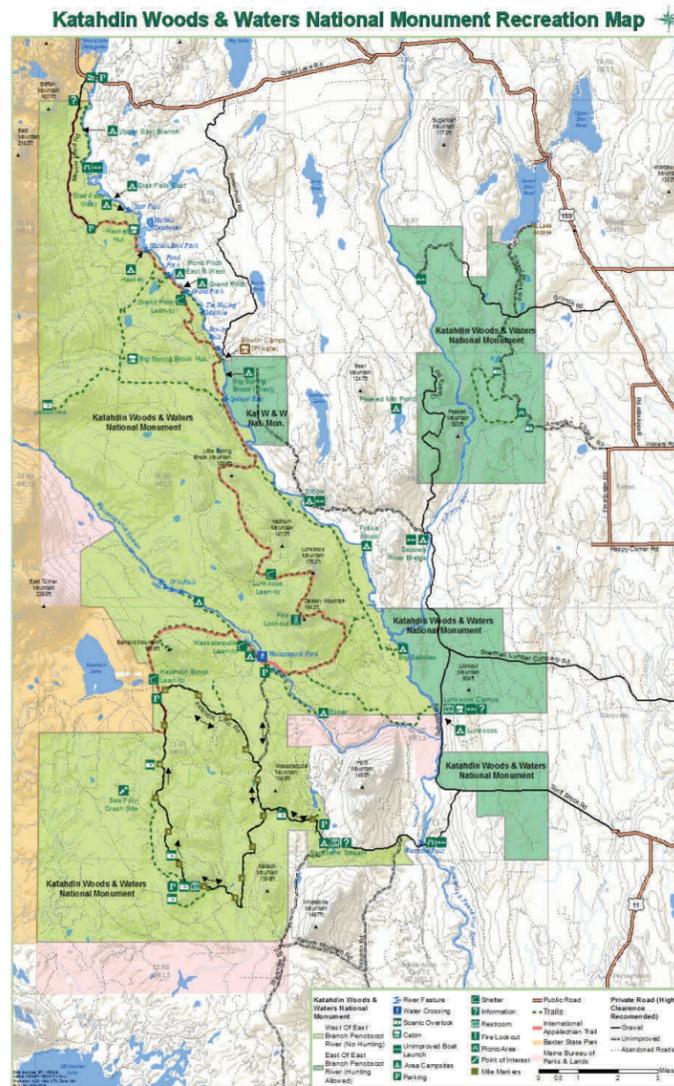


On August 24, 2016, President Obama issued a Presidential Proclamation establishing the approx. 87,500 acre Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument (KWW).

It has been called a "Gift to the Nation: Spread across a wildlandscape offering spectacular views of Mount Katahdin, Katahdin Woods and Waters invites discovery of its rivers, streams, woods, flora, fauna, geology and the night skies that have attracted humans for millennia." [www.nps.gov/kaww](http://www.nps.gov/kaww)

The 4 tribal historic preservation officers in Maine have been working with the National Park Service (NPS) on the foundation document that will guide management of the monument now and in the future. We are also tasked with working with NPS to create meaningful context regarding the historic and continued presence of Wabanaki people in and around the monument. This is a unique opportunity to impact the monument as it is being developed, not after the fact, and could serve as a model for the nation when dealing with tribes and the national park system.

For more info on the monument check out [www.nps.gov/kww](http://www.nps.gov/kww)



### Skitkomiq 2019

This year's Skitkomiq Culture and Science Camp took place August 12 - 15. The camp provided a good mix of cultural activities and environmental science, and some good old fun.

The camp opened with Danya Boyce, HBMI tribal elder and Elder Program Coordinator sharing smudging ceremony, drum teachings and songs. Ursula Bear from Tobique First Nation, taught about the 4 sacred medicines, and helped the kids make their own medicine bags. Chris Phillips, HBMI acting Economic Development Director, was back to teach canoe safety at Meduxnekeag Lake again this year. A big hit on a hot summer day!

Ben Naumen from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) came back for another year to talk about fish and Logan Sauer from the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) brought big game furs, tracks, and skulls.

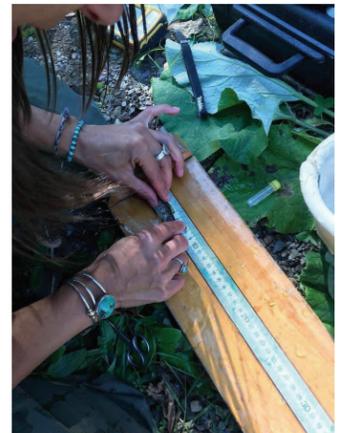
New this year was a field trip to the Passamaquoddy Museum at Indian Township with Donald Soctomah, Passamaquoddy tribal elder and tribal historic preservation officer (THPO). After a tour of the museum, they continued on to Machiasport to view coastal petroglyphs. Special thanks to Betty Joseph for driving the bus for this awesome field trip. These are just a few of the activities packed into this week of camp.

A teen sweat and fast took place on August 20 - 21 lead by Ramona Nicholas of Tobique First Nation. Other camp helpers included Tawoma and Wambli Martinez, Joe Sabatis and Shelby Sabatis, along with Dolores, Fraser, and Zeke Crofton-Macdonald. Thanks to Carolyn Anderson for the great photos.

It's hard to believe camp has come and gone already - keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates on next year's camp and other opportunities to explore science and culture!



Camp participants (left to right) front Cara, O'Donnell, Olivia Bonta, Salem Grimm Middle Cody Watson, Caden Stemplinski, Akerson twins (Jemma & Justina), Alexis Smith, Madeline Thibodeau, George Gaddis, Wambli Martinez Rear Zeke Crofton-Macdonald, Ursula Bear, Lauren Tucker, Devoe twins (Kenley & Kennedy), Georgia Sheaves, Lily Moulton, Damon Reynolds Photo by Carolyn Anderson



Photos clockwise above:

- Drum teachings with Elder Danya Boyce,
- Measuring a fish,
- Petroglyphs with Donald Socktomah,
- Canoe fun with Chris Phillips

Photos by Carolyn Anderson

### Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO) Designation Received



This summer, HBMI finally obtained official THPO status with the National Park Service, with Susan Young being named as the tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer. Now, all of the federally recognized tribes in Maine have this important status taking their place among 185 tribes nationwide, and protecting over 50 million acres of tribal lands across 30 states (NATHPO April 1, 2019).

So just what does Tribal Historic Preservation Officers or THPOs do? In a nutshell they work to manage, preserve, and protect tribal cultural resources and interests for their tribe with a variety of federal, state, and local governments and agencies. They also work to add properties to the national register of historic places, and review applications for these types

of properties. They also review and comment on applications for development that are federally funded or permitted that may negatively impact important cultural sites.

The THPO program was developed back in 1996 when 12 tribes were approved by the Secretary of the Interior to assume these responsibilities on tribal lands pursuant to Section 101(d) of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended. They also work within the guidelines of Section 106 of the National Historic Act.

We're still in the early stages of developing our THPO program, so stay tuned for more information in the coming months.



### Fishing in Mongolia by Sam St. John



This summer Sam St. John was chosen to participate in a group researching grayling and lenok in Mongolia through Rutgers University. For five weeks, the group caught, weighed, and measured fish to observe how water clarity affects the catch rate of these species.

In addition to that, a sociological project was undertaken where local families were interviewed to learn about how livestock impacted the grassland ecosystems they lived in.



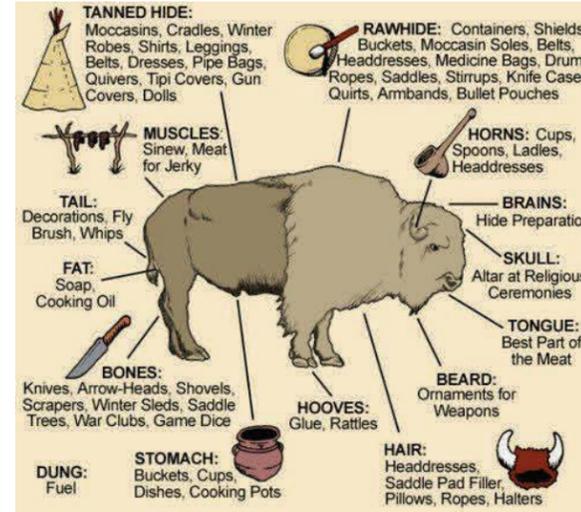
Sam in the field (above and right)



Sam holding a lenok, a salmonid fish native to the rivers and lakes of Mongolia

### Making the Most of the Hunt

Although buffalo aren't native to northern Maine, the diagram at below illustrates just how important each buffalo was to the community. Much of this holds true for the woodland animals hunted in our region.



### A Fond Farewell

Summer has come to a close and you know what that means . . . Our summer techs have left us to return to school.



Please join us in wishing Damon Reynolds (left) and Sabastian Walton (right) all the best for the coming school year.

### New Representatives MITSC



We're pleased to announce that Sam St. John and Zeke Crofton-Macdonald have joined Chief Clarissa Sabattis representing HBMI on the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission. It's great to have young voices at the table.

### Fall Harvest Word Search Puzzle



Find the Maliseet & English words in the Puzzle

- Ahawoli
- Cikoniyyik
- Eskucq
- Minossok
- Mociyehs
- Mus
- Muwin
- Otuhk
- Pisun
- Piyeskomon
- Pocetesol
- Sqasis
- Waptoq
- Duck
- Apples
- Pumpkin
- Berries
- Partridge
- Moose
- Bear
- Deer
- Medicine
- Corn
- Potatoes
- Squash
- Goose

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