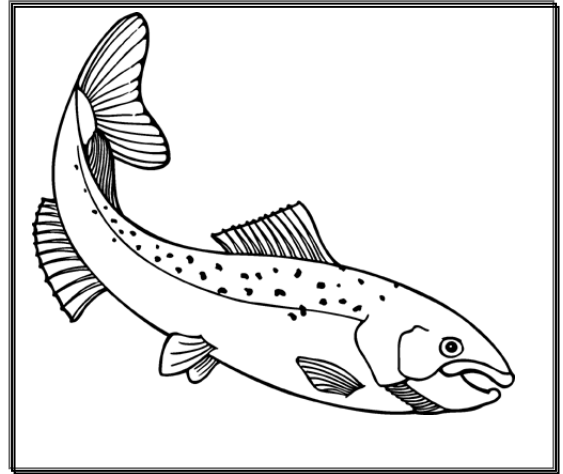


Fisheries and Aquaculture

The fishing industry is an important economic and cultural component of New Brunswick and its coastal communities. Changing ocean temperatures could affect the health of fish populations, species distribution and sustainable harvests. Populations may rise and fall depending on how temperature change may affect ocean circulation, nutrients, estuarine productivity, and pollution from changes in run-off. Freshwater fish might be affected by changing temperatures as well as lake and river water levels. New Brunswick's growing aquaculture industry also needs to be aware of how climate change may affect tidal 'flushing' and shellfish habitats, or the potential damage of extreme events (i.e., storm surge).



The **New Brunswick Climate Change Hub** operates as a clearinghouse for information on climate change. Through education and outreach, the Hub can help inform groups and communities about the effects that climate change can have on fishing and coastal communities. The Hub can also provide a forum for fishing and aquaculture groups to discuss and evaluate potential climate problems and solutions.

Conservation and management groups need to be informed and watchful for the effects of climate change. Scientists are continually working to improve our understanding of fish behaviour within their marine environment. Climate change presents a new challenge for an already fragile fishing industry. Many researchers suggest a robust management approach that makes sense regardless of predictions and outcomes, which can include:

- *Ecosystem Conservation and Management* – reduce existing environmental stress
- *Emphasize Small Scales* – tailor approaches to meet local needs and environments
- *Diversify* – avoid reliance on particular species or markets

To learn more about climate change, how it can affect the fishing industry, and conservation and sustainable marine resources, visit the Department of Fisheries and Oceans website at <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca>.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.nbhub.org

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