

Bear River First Nation

"NETUKULIMK"

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Our Vision for a food and livelihood fishery is based on a long historical relationship to the natural world premised on respect and self-sufficiency to avoid hunger and sickness for all people. This relationship known in the Mi'kmaq language as "NETUKULIMK" reflects the interconnectedness of fishery, forestry, hunting and other traditional practices.

WHO WE ARE

The Bear River First Nation (BRFN) is known in the Mi'kmaq language as *L'setkuk* or *L's tkuk*, "flowing along high rocks" and/or "water that cuts through" and is centrally located in one of the seven traditional hunting and fishing districts of the Mi'kmaq Nation known as *Kespukwitk* (Lands End). The BRFN is a member of the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq

FOOD FISHERY



COMMUNAL HUNTING



Moving Forward Through Netukulimk

- Species are disappearing including those that were once part of our diet
- There is still hope for the future through our connection with the land
- Land is connected to local governance and decision making
- Treaty and aboriginal rights are interrelated to environmental issues
- Recognition of knowledge sources and understanding values of the community
- There are teachers in our community (inter-generational learning)
- Understanding the importance of ecosystems and species e.g. clean water
- Re-introducing traditional food awareness in our community
- Communal hunting and fishing - importance of subsistence and livelihoods
- Fishing activities to understand the importance of habitat restoration
- Planting trees for future generations, learning about wild foods
- Creating alternatives (Environmental Movement, Treaty and Aboriginal Rights)

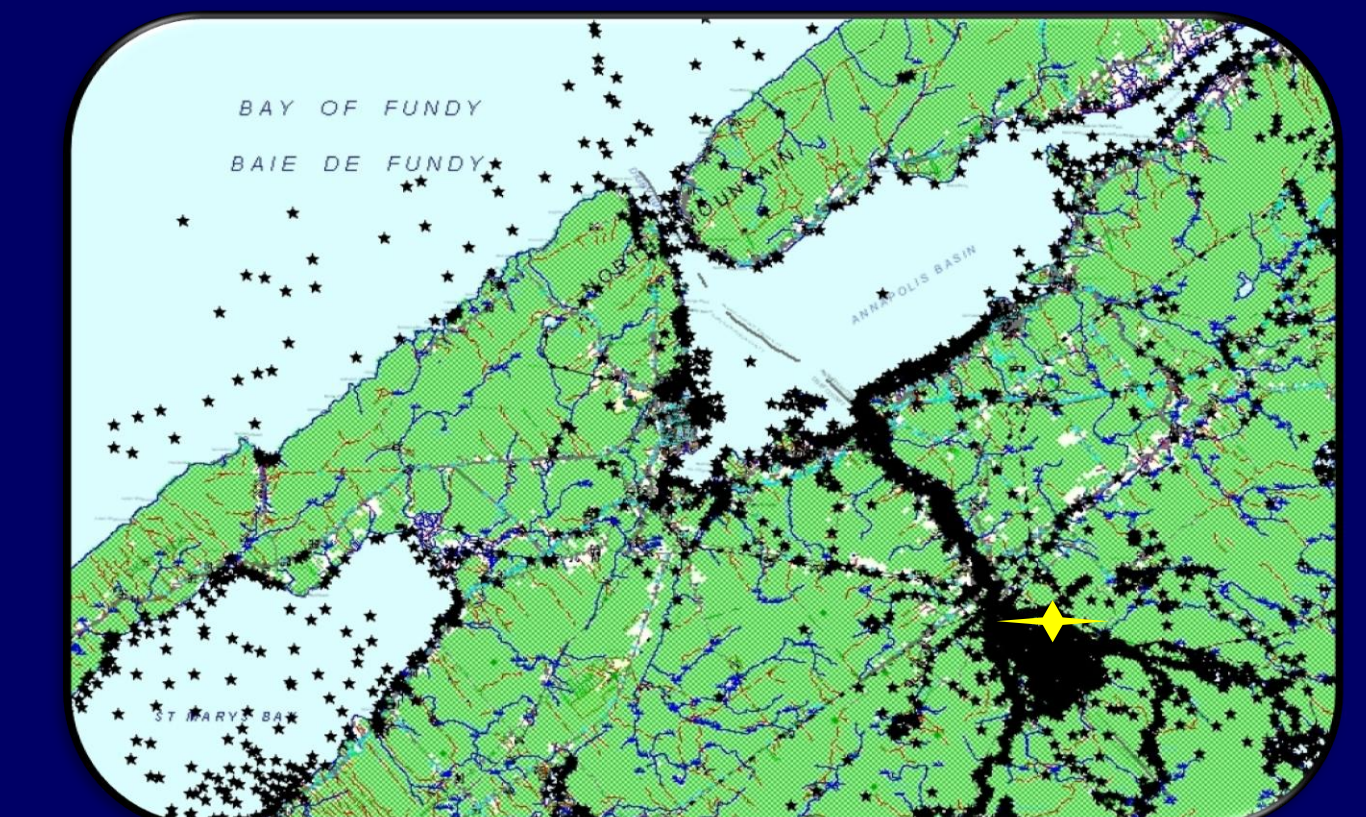
"A Living and Evolving History and Culture"



INTER-GENERATIONAL LEARNING



HISTORICAL AREA FOR HUNTING, FISHING AND GATHERING

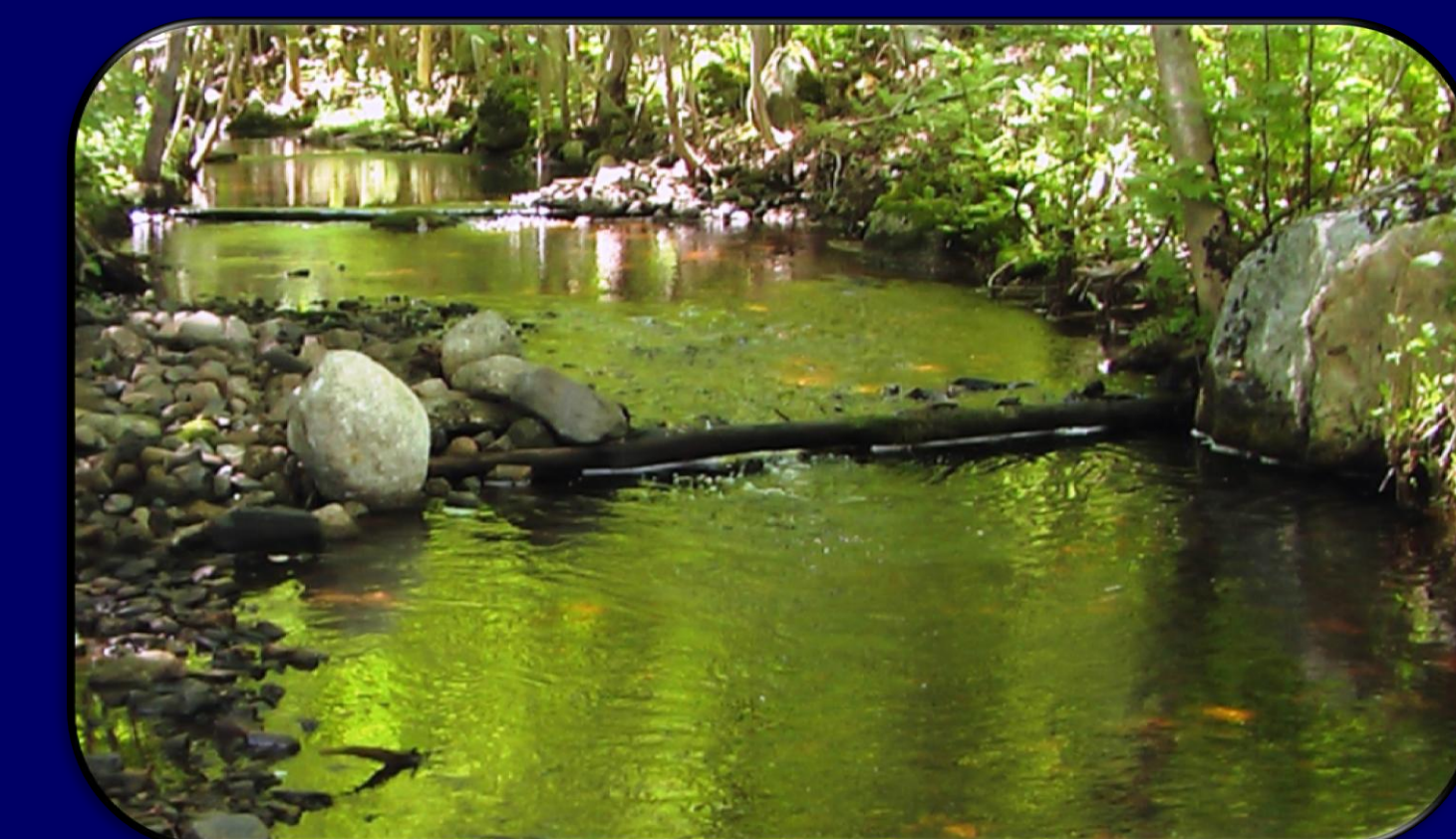


(Map source: BRFN Traditional Use Study: Treaty & Aboriginal Rights Research Centre, 2007).

Situated at the head of Bear River, traditionally the BRFN Mi'kmaq whole way of life was migratory and cyclical with seasons in which the Mi'kmaq hunted, fished and gathered food for subsistence. Today BRFN still continues to fish (food fishery), gather and hunt, (in a much smaller area) following and respecting the principles of Netukulimk.



HABITAT and STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT



Acknowledgements

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CoastalCURA
COMMUNITIES MANAGING COASTS TOGETHER