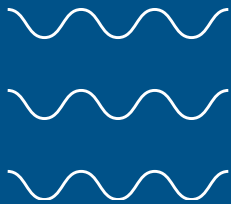
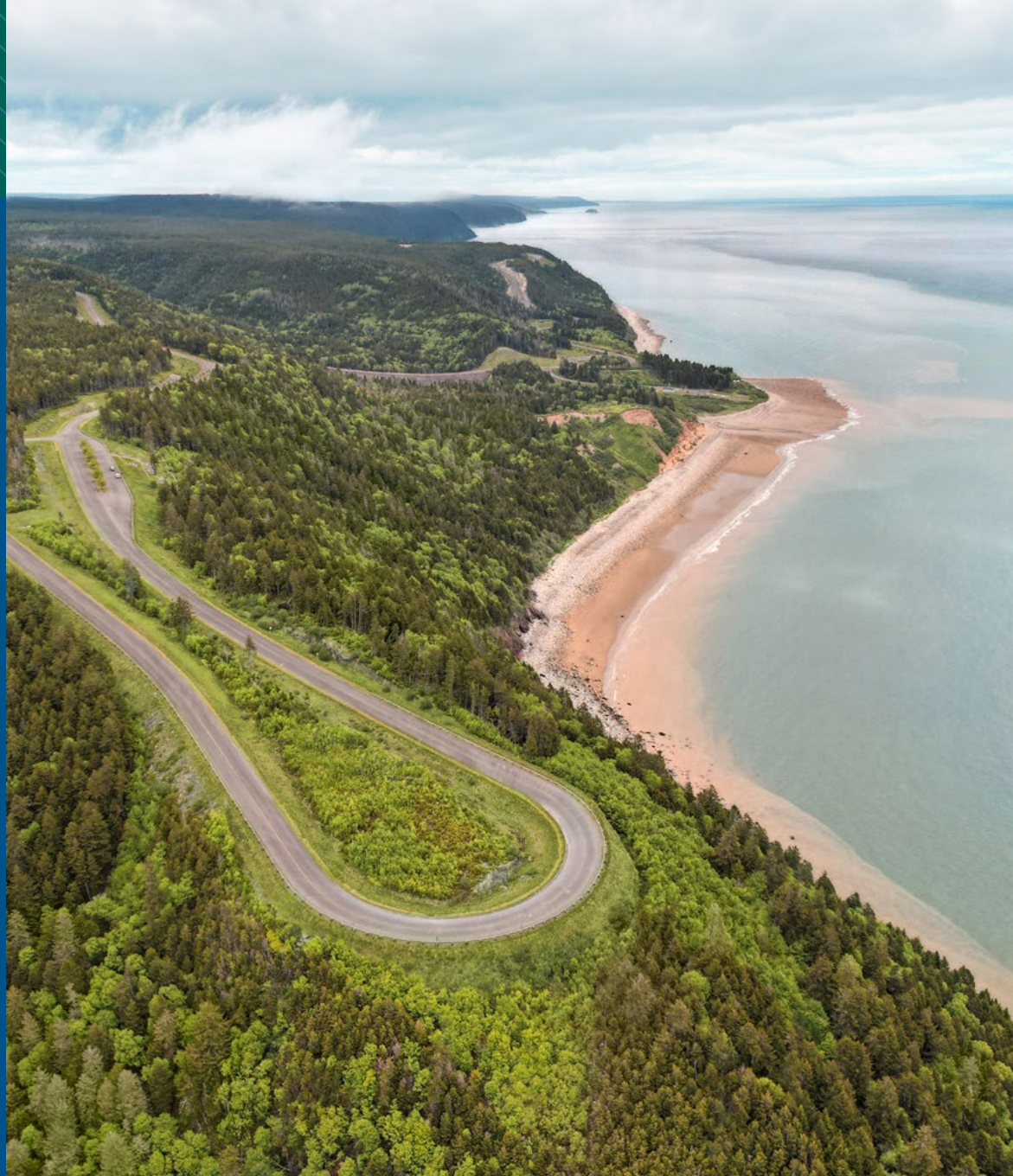


2021 – 2022



► ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND

# Impact Report



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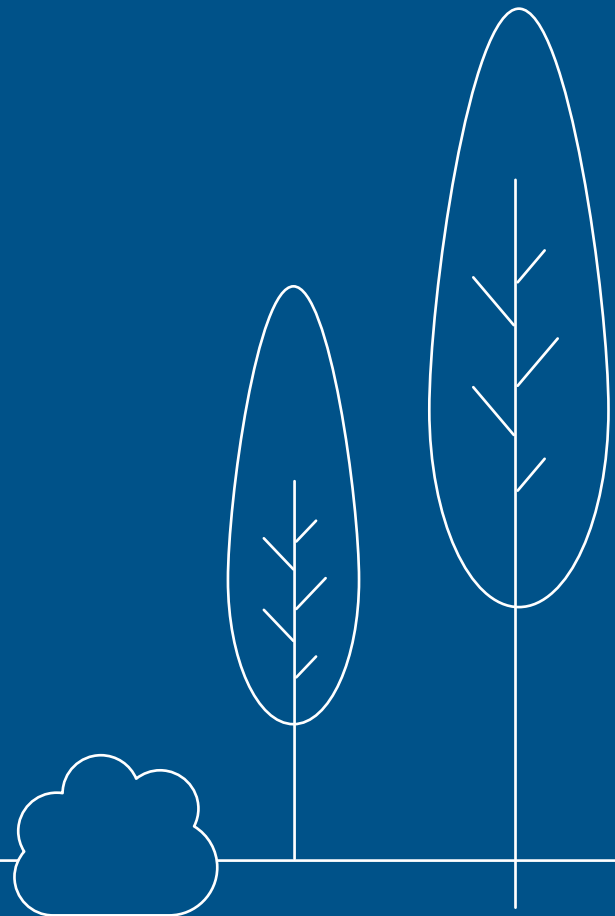
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# Message from the Minister

▶ **Hon. Gary Crossman**  
Minister of Environment and Climate Change



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**WE'RE SO FORTUNATE TO LIVE IN A PROVINCE THAT HAS DIVERSE NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS, BREATHTAKING COASTAL AND INLAND SCENERY, AND PEOPLE WHO WORK TIRELESSLY TO ENSURE IT CAN BE ENJOYED BY GENERATIONS TO COME.**

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As the minister of Environment and Climate Change, I have seen firsthand the positive and enduring impact of our Environmental Trust Fund. For more than three decades, this fund has fostered environmental awareness among residents of all ages.

It has brought people together to make important and sustainable differences in their lives, their communities and the entire province.

We know climate change is real and we're not only seeing it in the intensity of storms, but in the warming of our rivers, lakes and oceans.

The Memramcook-Tantramar region is one of the areas in the province that's most vulnerable to climate change and that's where we find EOS Eco-Energy. It's been developing and co-ordinating climate adaptation and resiliency efforts for 20 years.

On the education side, the Gaia Project has 60 educators in 50 schools, reaching 5,500 students. It's created climate change curriculum for New Brunswick students who are becoming our environmental advocates and will be our future leaders.

Gestion H2O, a non-profit organization based in Bertrand, has been operating a Beach Sweep program that has removed 207,485 pounds of debris from more than 12,000 kilometres of shoreline.

These are just a few examples of some of the projects we supported in 2021 – 22. Imagine the impact from 32 years of this important work!

I applaud everyone who has been involved and brought their projects from the idea stage to reality. Small steps really do lead to big changes.

I also wish to thank the staff at the Department of Environment and Local Government for working with proponents and ensuring they get the support they need to make their projects successful.

# The Environmental Trust Fund

The story of New Brunswick is shaped by networks of rivers and watersheds, lakes, wetlands, forests, and coastal landscapes. The people of the province are deeply connected to these natural spaces and understand their value. For more than three decades, the New Brunswick Environmental Trust Fund (ETF) has been supporting grassroots environmental restoration and protection by funding the work of community and conservation groups, First Nations, non-profit organizations, and local governments.



▶ IN 2021 – 2022

**263 projects**

Through this important  
funding program

**\$9.09 million**



*This report provides an overview of the range of the work supported by the ETF and offers snapshots of specific projects in the fund's priority areas. A full list of funded projects can be found on the ETF website.*



# Priority Areas

For the past three years, the ETF has focused its support for projects in five priority areas: protecting our environment, increasing environmental awareness, managing our waste, addressing climate change, and building sustainable communities. Each of these priority areas has been assigned specific measures to ensure that funded projects are action oriented with measurable impacts and outcomes.



**Protecting Our Environment**



**Increasing Environmental Awareness**



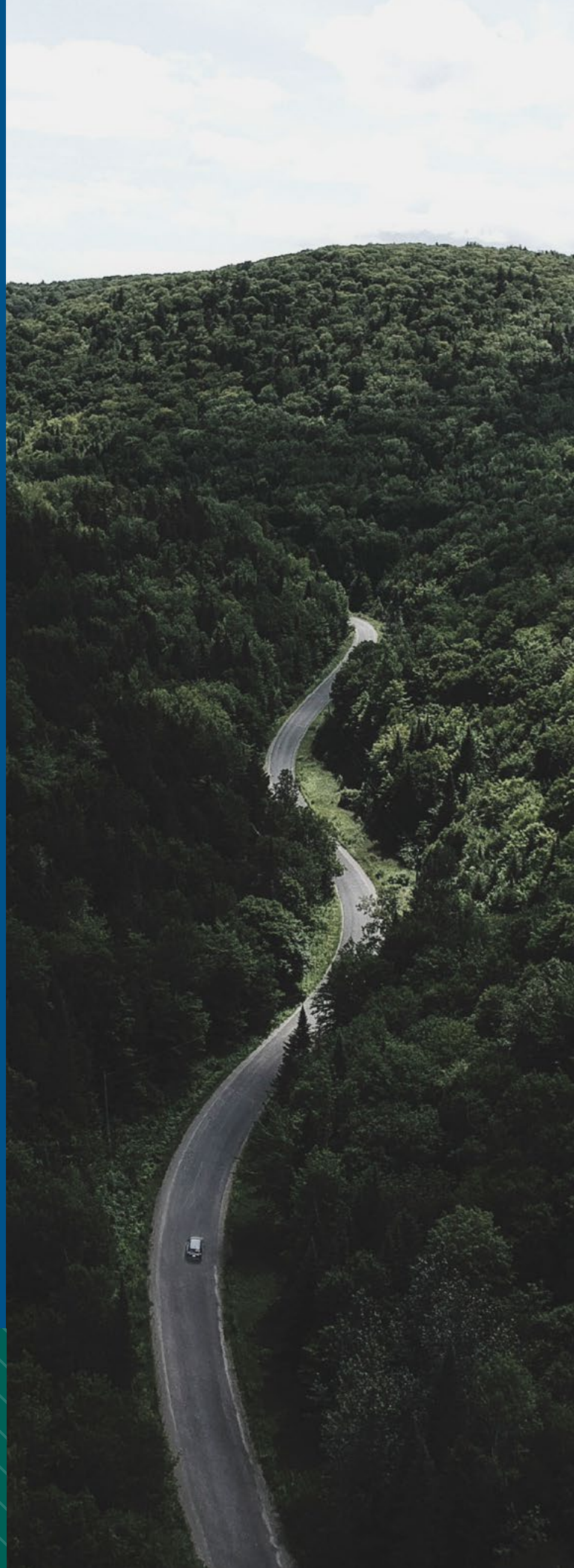
**Managing Our Waste**



**Addressing Climate Change**



**Building Sustainable Communities**



## PRIORITY AREA

# Protecting Our Environment

The largest group of projects supported by the ETF involved protection or restoration of air, water, coastlines, wetlands and land environments, and the conservation of ecosystem biodiversity. The ETF also supported projects that generate data to inform decisions about environmental protection, including the management of waterways, and the restoration and preservation of forests and biodiversity.



▶ IN 2021 – 2022

# 98 Projects

# \$3,209,040



## Water quality improvements

(e.g. water quality monitoring, benthic invertebrate sampling).

Number of management actions completed

# 92

Approved

# 90

Delivered

Number of projects with this measure

# 40



## Riparian zone restoration activities

(e.g. tree planting, bioengineering).

Square metres

# 156,389

Approved

# 243,283

Delivered

Number of projects with this measure

# 18



## Communications and awareness

(e.g. conferences, education materials).

Priority area measure formula	Approved	Delivered	Number of projects with this measure
Number of events/initiatives	<b>735</b>	<b>16,765</b>	<b>50</b>
Number of people reached by each event/initiative	<b>2,101,070</b>	<b>2,146,250</b>	



## Research - studies focusing on protecting our environment

(e.g. blue green algae, fecal indicators, etc.).

Priority area measure formula	Approved	Delivered	Number of projects with this measure
Number of ETF-funded research projects	<b>31</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>

# Documenting Biodiversity in Protected Natural Areas

## ► BiotaNB, the New Brunswick Museum

When Dr. Alfredo Justo found the small, brown-lilac mushroom in the Kennedy Lakes Protected Natural Area (PNA) and turned to his mycology library to make an identification, he realized he had found something special. The mushroom, *Pseudobaeospora fuscolilacina*, had not been described in scientific literature since it was identified in New York State 135 years ago. Justo is the curator of Botany and Mycology at the New Brunswick Museum, and was taking part in BiotaNB, a biodiversity survey in the Kennedy Lakes (KL) PNA, funded by the ETF. BiotaNB was back in the field in the summer of 2022 after a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“That sort of thing happens every year we are out,” says Dr. Donald McAlpine, head of the Department of Natural History and curator of Zoology at the Museum. “We identify species that are, in some cases, new to science, that need to be described for the first time.”

Since 2009, the New Brunswick Museum’s BiotaNB program has been co-ordinating biodiversity studies focused on PNAs. “There is legislation in place that protects these PNAs and there is a need to develop management plans,” McAlpine says. “We feed data to the provincial Protected Natural Areas program within government, but also make the information available to others concerned with biodiversity. We need to know what species are present if we are going to protect them.”



Three keen students of lichenology join Dr. Stephen Clayden, New Brunswick Museum Curator Emeritus of Botany and Mycology, in examining an old growth cedar trunk for rare lichens in the Kennedy Lakes PNA.

The BiotaNB program is modelled after traditional biological surveys in scope, methodical approach, and scientific agenda. BiotaNB includes four components: biological inventory, student mentoring, an artist-in-residence program, and public stewardship. The BiotaNB project, with strong volunteer support, has been contributing significant new biodiversity information, both for New Brunswick and the growing network of PNAs that represent some of the province’s most important conservation lands.

To date more than 50 papers that draw on specimen material derived from the first decade of the project have been published in peer-reviewed literature. The data is used to develop management plans for specific PNAs and provides a baseline for monitoring biodiversity more generally throughout the province.

There is also a significant public awareness and education component in the program. Every year, the BiotaNB lab is opened to residents of the communities bordering the PNA under study. The number of visitors to the field lab has varied annually from 35 to 150 depending on the remoteness of the base camp. McAlpine says conversations at the BiotaNB lab among researchers, students, and local residents can help New Brunswickers appreciate the significance and importance of biodiversity they protect.



# Monitoring Lakes in the Miramichi River Watershed

## ▶ Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee

The Miramichi River and its sprawling watershed is one of the most storied and valued natural spaces in New Brunswick. In 2021-2022, the ETF supported a series of projects by the Miramichi River Environmental Assessment Committee (MREAC) focused on protecting habitat and tracking climate change. The MREAC is a community-based environmental monitoring organization based in Miramichi City that has been working in the watershed for more than two decades. In recent years, the MREAC has been collecting valuable environmental data from four Miramichi River watershed lakes. In 2021, MREAC staff and volunteers collected water quality and temperature data from Kennedy Lake for the eighth year, Mullin Stream Lake for a sixth year, Miramichi Lake for a fifth year and North Renous Lake for a third year.

Support from the ETF has allowed the MREAC to continue this work over a number of years. All the lakes are impacted by climate change, but it will take further years of monitoring to determine just how severe these changes and environmental challenges will be. "That's really the rationale behind it," says Harry Collins, the executive director of the MREAC. "In terms of the long-term monitoring program, it is of significant value."



*Tim Humes samples water in the Bartholomew River.*

Many lakes in New Brunswick are showing signs of environmental stress related to shoreline development and warming waters due to climate change. The lakes selected by the MREAC for monitoring are largely protected from development because of their remote locations. They have few camps or cottages along their shorelines, although three of the four lakes have extensive forest harvesting nearby. Due to its location within the Kennedy Lakes Protected Natural Area, Kennedy Lake is sheltered from future impacts from forest harvesting. Some recreational activities occur on each of the lakes, mostly fishing and hunting. The information gathered from these lakes provides a baseline data set that can be applied to research and environmental management decisions related to lakes throughout the province.

The MREAC has a volunteer board of directors and strong connections throughout the river community. It works with students in the Miramichi NBCC environmental technology program when it needs volunteers in the field. "If we need troops that's where we go," Collins says. "We are in it for the long haul, and we expect to be doing this long into the future."

# Sweeping Beaches from Campbellton to Cap-Pelé

## ► Gestion H2O

For 22 years, Gestion H2O, a non-profit organization based in Bertrand on Caraquet Bay in northeastern New Brunswick, has been operating a Beach Sweep program to remove garbage that has accumulated along the province's shorelines. The organization's mission is the sustainable development of the resources in Caraquet Bay. Over the years, Beach Sweep has removed 207,485 pounds of debris, 7,399 bags, from more than 12,000 kilometres of shoreline. In 2021 - 2022, with support from the ETF, the Gestion H2O Beach Sweep worked with 33 partners, the majority of which were schools.

"It is a program I really care about," says Janice Hébert, executive director of Gestion H2O. "Just the fact that it has been around for 22 years, and the schools continue to participate year after year whether in September, October, or June. It is truly an important activity that the schools enjoy very much."



*Students pose next to waste they have collected on a beach while participating in the Beach Sweep project.*

The Beach Sweep allow school groups to participate in direct environmental action in a setting that also promotes education and awareness. Classes can be held outdoors while young people collect debris along the shorelines and learn first-hand about the lifespan of waste in nature. Gestion H2O provides its partners with the materials they need to collect garbage, such as gloves and bags, and teachers with environmental education and awareness curriculum materials. Then Beach Sweep days provide the learning environment where the curriculum is combined with action.

Beach Sweep had a record year in 2021 with 1,498 volunteers participating (the program has averaged 951 volunteers annually since 2006), and 17,327 pounds of garbage were removed from shorelines.

**PRIORITY AREA**

# Increasing Environmental Awareness

The ETF supported projects involving the education of New Brunswickers about environmental issues with a view to how knowledge about the conservation of natural spaces leads to action in communities. These education and awareness projects resulted in New Brunswickers taking action to protect the environment in various ways, including addressing climate change, building sustainable communities, and managing waste. The ETF supports partnerships that are provincial in scope and delivered through schools, youth-based organizations, and community groups.



▶ IN 2021 – 2022

**62 Projects**

**\$2,002,700**



**This measure will track the number of participants in environmental education/awareness initiatives**

Priority area measure formula	Approved	Delivered	Number of projects with this measure
Number of participants	<b>70,974</b>	<b>128,157</b>	<b>62</b>
Type of activity: 1) Active learning (e.g. workshop, 'in the field', hands-on), or 2) Observing (e.g. presentation)	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	
Activity duration (number of hours)	<b>6,887</b>	<b>20,843</b>	

# Learning Outside Strengthens Connections to Nature

## ► New Brunswick Conservation Council

A decade ago, the Conservation Council of New Brunswick launched a program with a simple objective: take students outside and allow them to experience and learn from the natural world. Last year, with support from the ETF, the council's Learning Outside project reached 562 elementary and middle school students at six schools.

"Each year we take a different focus or expand the capacity of what we offer," says Nadine Ives, the council's hands-on project director. "Students love being outside. All the students are interested in nature. They all have stories to tell, and they have keen eyes." She says this is especially true of students at small rural schools. "They know their wildlife. They have this lovely knowledge of the animals in the woods. New Brunswick is fortunate because we have substantial natural areas adjacent to so many schools. We can and should and hopefully are becoming a real leader in teaching outdoors."



*Creating "micro-parks," Quispamsis Elementary School, April 2021.*

The council develops and delivers curriculum materials about New Brunswick plant and animal species, habitats, and organizes events in various seasons all aimed at youth health and happiness, improved learning outcomes, and fostering stewardship. The programming last year included nature walks to observe signs of spring, education about pollinators and the migration of monarch butterflies, and building microparks.

"I field phone calls and emails from teachers across the province asking for information about the project," says Ives. "I consider myself to be modelling how to do this for the teachers. I am passing on information about a learning process rather than transferring knowledge."



# Expanding Climate Change Education

## ▶ The Gaia Project

For the past four years, the Gaia Project has been developing an ambitious Climate Change Education Plan for New Brunswick schools. In 2021-2022, with support from the ETF, the Gaia Project expanded the program, reaching 5,500 students and 60 educators in 50 schools.

The program began in response to a recommendation from the New Brunswick Climate Change Action Plan for climate education in schools. The Gaia Project has a lead role in creating and implementing educational resources in schools. The plan's focus is on developing resources for teachers, professional learning, and engaging support in the community. The Gaia Project has also become the regional partner for EcoSchools Canada, a national non-profit that builds sustainable school communities.

The Gaia Project first introduced learning materials for elementary schools, and last year began to bring programming to middle schools. The program piloted a new Pocket Labs project in five schools. These labs allow students to collect data on air quality. The Gaia Project also expanded its EcoSchools Canada program to include more schools. "It is really a mix of all these various programs at play," says Geoff MacDonald, executive director of the Gaia Project and the lead developer of the Climate Change Education Plan.



*Students plan a community garden as part of the EcoSchools Canada program at Hampton High School.*

MacDonald says when he asked for feedback from elementary school teachers about the program and what they needed, he received a consistent demand for books. In response, the Gaia Project put together a list of sustainability focused books and in September 2021, launched a K-2 Sustainability Literacy Kit. Kits are available for French, English and French Immersion classes. Each kit includes about two dozen books with an emphasis on titles written by Indigenous authors.

"The teachers I met with were thrilled with having access to the books. They also had amazing suggestions for books we can include next," says MacDonald.

The Gaia Project has also developed its own book written in French in partnership with a production company in Moncton.

Momentum for the plan is growing, with increased enrolment in the francophone school districts and with Indigenous community schools, says MacDonald. "We are at a point now where we have too much demand from schools for our projects. More and more teachers are being encouraged to do project-based learning. Demand is increasing, and I only suspect it to become more in the next five years."

**PRIORITY AREA**

# Managing Our Waste

The ETF supported projects that protect the environment through proper solid waste disposal and diversion initiatives. These projects advance the responsible management of waste through innovative reduction, diversion, and management activities. The goal is to encourage and promote environmental stewardship through recycling, discouraging illegal dumping, and community-based clean-up initiatives.



▶ IN 2021 – 2022

**43 projects**

**\$1,602,300**



**This measure will track the tonnes of waste diverted from landfills as a result of the ETF-funded project**

Priority area measure formula	Approved	Delivered	Number of projects with this measure
Measured or estimated tonnes of waste diverted by ETF-funded projects	<b>2,564</b>	<b>2,675</b>	<b>18</b>

# Expanding the Range and Scope for a #DebrisFreeFundy

## ► Huntsman Marine Science Centre

Since 2016, the Huntsman Marine Science Centre has been engaging fishing associations, fish farmers, local governments, coastal businesses and concerned citizens in an ambitious program to reduce and remove marine debris, plastics, and other waste from the Bay of Fundy. The program began with outreach and shoreline cleanups. It expanded in 2018 with the placement of bins at four wharves in southwest New Brunswick to provide an accessible and responsible disposal option for unwanted rope. Each bin provided information about general recycling and waste disposal options. The program has grown each year since with support from the ETF.

Last year, the program added rope bins at three new locations, expanding to 27 bins at 24 locations that collected more than 10,000 pounds of rope waste. The program ran an outreach and education plan, focused on the issue of marine debris, the impact of plastics and waste on the marine environment through rope repurposing workshops, community and classroom education, and the use of the Huntsman Fundy Discovery Aquarium to reach more than 28,000 annual visitors.

The #DebrisFreeFundy program also organized three shoreline cleanups, involving 47 participants removing more than 40 bags of debris from the marine environment. "I think a lot of people are shocked by the things that wash up on the beach," says Courtney Piercy, the outreach and engagement specialist at the Huntsman Marine Science Centre. "It's a great conversation starter when you have people out on these shorelines. People may not be thinking about the impact they have on the environment and the ocean."



*Shoreline cleanup with schools on Campobello Island.*

The #DebrisFreeFundy program hosted nine rope repurposing workshops, with a total of 62 participants who repurposed more than 3,000 feet of discarded rope. All workshops provide an educational component focused on the #DebrisFreeFundy effort, sometimes including interaction with a local fisherman, while offering instructions on how to weave crafts and mats using repurposed rope. The program visited three classrooms in Charlotte County reaching more than 50 students, engaging them on the topic of eliminating marine debris.

Piercy says collaboration with government and industry has been critical for the success and growth of the program. These partners provide guidance to increase "buy in" from wharf users where the rope collection bins are located.

"We now have many partners across the region who help to maintain the expanding network of bins," Piercy says. "It's well supported not only by the public but also by the industry and fishers." She says evidence of this support is seen when rope in the bins is covered by algae and mud. "We see that they are finding rope out in the marine environment and putting it in the bins as well."

The Huntsman Marine Science Centre has begun engaging partners in the five jurisdictions bordering the Gulf of Maine to develop an international collaborative approach to addressing marine debris in coastal waters.

**PRIORITY AREA**

# Addressing Climate Change

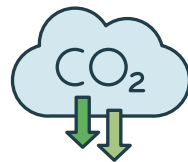
The ETF supported projects that increase New Brunswick's resilience to climate change. These projects involve reducing greenhouse gas emissions, building on existing resilience to the impacts of climate change, and co-ordinating actions to create safer, sustainable communities. The projects have been promoting new technologies and initiatives to reduce emissions through community-based transportation, carbon offset opportunities and renewable energy. The projects are also tracking and identifying risks and vulnerabilities caused by climate change, opportunities for adaptation, and environmental trends.



▶ IN 2021 - 2022

**54 projects**

**\$2,012,000**



**This measure will track the number of communities that have developed a GHG reduction plan**

Priority area measure formula	Approved	Delivered	Number of projects with this measure
Total number of communities with a greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction plan	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>





**This measure will track the number of people who have taken part in a climate change education/awareness initiative**

Priority area measure formula	Approved	Delivered	Number of projects with this measure
Number of participants	<b>23,967</b>	<b>83,189</b>	<b>29</b>
Type of activity: 1) Active learning (e.g. workshop, 'in the field', hands-on activity), or 2) Observing (e.g. presentation)	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	
Activity duration (number of hours)	<b>644</b>	<b>9,287</b>	

# Advancing Adaptation and Resiliency in the Memramcook- Tantramar Region

## ► EOS Eco-Energy

The region of Memramcook-Tantramar on the low-lying southeastern coast of New Brunswick is one of the areas in the province most vulnerable to climate change where rising sea levels and more frequent and intense storms can affect the economy, infrastructure, livelihoods, safety, and human health. The community-based charity EOS Eco-Energy, with funding from the ETF, has been developing and co-ordinating climate adaptation and resiliency efforts in the region. EOS Eco-Energy emerged two decades ago from a grassroots effort to create a community-owned wind farm in the Tantramar area. Out of that project, EOS Eco-Energy was formed with a mission to focus on energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable development, and climate change action. Many of the original members of EOS Eco-Energy are still involved today.

Amanda Marlin, executive director of EOS, said ETF funding in 2021 – 2022 helped finance a series of projects, including a range of work in the villages of Port Elgin and Dorchester to implement climate adaptation plans and organize public education activities. “We are always looking at raising awareness in new and innovative ways,” Marlin says. “We assisted the villages of Port Elgin and Dorchester to further implement their adaptation plans, planting trees, raising awareness, helping to apply for funding for larger projects, and reporting on progress made.”



*Students, staff and volunteers plant a food forest at Dorchester Consolidated School, spring 2021.*

EOS hosted a public education series on how nature can help communities adapt to climate change, using plants and soils for stormwater management, forests for climate resiliency, and salt marshes for shoreline protection. EOS also organized information sessions on natural solutions, such as rain gardens, green rooftops, and food forests. EOS coordinated the creation of food forests in Port Elgin and Dorchester at local schools planting edible trees, shrubs, flowers, and herbs, partnering with local experts to design the forests with input from students and staff. The school communities and volunteers prepared the sites, planted the forests, maintained, and harvested them.

“The projects had a positive impact on communities in the Memramcook-Tantramar region and helped to advance adaptation and enhance resiliency,” Marlin says. “We raised awareness about the benefits of natural infrastructure options and the ecosystem services they can provide as well as contributing to our region’s resiliency as we experience the impacts of climate change.”



# University Community Uses Engagement and Action to Address Climate Change

## ► Université de Moncton

For the past 15 years, with the support of the ETF, the Université de Moncton has been addressing climate change through a sustained series of projects focused on engagement and planning that leads to action.

The university has been engaging the community by raising awareness about this global issue through lectures and public events of interest to both academic and public audiences. These events and presentations in 2021 – 2022, held both on and off campus, were attended by more than 130 people. This awareness has been put into action through a variety of measures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and promote sustainable living.

“At the Université de Moncton, we are serious about embracing a climate action plan,” says Jean Philippe Sapinski, the project co-director.

The university has implemented a range of innovative measures to reduce GHG emissions and involve the campus community in this effort. The university provides financial support and expertise to student projects with environmental connections. These projects include a forest garden, a hydroponic greenhouse managed by the university’s food services branch, and activities to promote active transportation.

The Université de Moncton is creating a comprehensive inventory of its GHG emission sources and developing a timeline and budget for the various steps the university



*Université de Moncton's community garden in 2021.*

must take to achieve carbon neutrality. Students have been engaged in the planning process, helping to identify the list of emission sources both on campus and off campus, such as transportation to and from the university.

The project has been reducing energy consumed in heating. The university is currently evaluating carbon-neutral options for replacing its gas boiler on the Moncton campus.

The university has been installing LED lights and low water use toilets. Lights in many buildings are motion activated and turn off automatically whenever halls and rooms are unoccupied. Computerized systems have been programmed so that they do not turn on all at the same time during peak energy consumption hours.

The university is also working with the City of Moncton to develop a network of bicycle paths and improve public transportation to reduce the number of vehicles travelling to and from campus every day.

“We are not interested in greenwashing,” Sapinski says. “We genuinely want to reduce emissions and we are taking the necessary steps.”

**PRIORITY AREA**

# Building Sustainable Communities

The ETF supported projects that create capacity in communities to build resilience to various environmental challenges. These projects have increased community and regional resilience to climate change and supported community sustainability by advancing innovative land use and adaptation programs.



▶ IN 2021 - 2022

**6 Projects**

**\$265,500**



**This measure will track communities who have adopted an adaptation plan**

Priority area measure formula	Approved	Delivered	Number of projects with this measure
Total number of communities with an adaptation plan	9	9	10



# Collecting Data to Stop Overloading of Nutrients in the Ocean

## ► Town of Lamèque

The Town of Lamèque on the northeastern point of New Brunswick is surrounded by sand beaches and exquisite coastline landscapes. In recent years, at times, residents noticed more than the usual ocean smells along the shoreline. The air smelled like rotten eggs, and with support from the ETF, the town began an investigation and remediation project.

“Odour was clearly the problem,” says Dave Brown, Lamèque’s chief administrative officer. “We wanted to improve residents’ quality of life along the bay, and that’s what led to the various Environmental Trust Fund projects, and when we started working with Valorès.”

Valorès is a non-profit research and development institute that supports communities and businesses, and often works with municipalities facing environmental and sustainable development issues. With support from the ETF, Valorès launched a multi-year research project that discovered coastal waters adjacent to the town were experiencing eutrophication, or an abnormal concentration of nutrients. Eutrophication is a natural phenomenon when land-based and aquatic plants decompose, and the nutrients they leave behind collect in nearby waterways. When eutrophication becomes excessive, as was the case in Lamèque, nutrients may be coming from sources other than plants, for example leaking effluent.

“The project involves diagnosing the problem with a view to making recommendations to the municipality,” says Nadler Simon, a Valorès researcher. “What’s important to me is having data that I can present to the town so that the town can say, ‘there, we’re no longer just speculating, we’re no longer talking anecdotally. We have scientific information to help us make decisions.’”



*Sediment sampling in Lamèque Bay.*

The smell comes from a gas called hydrogen sulphide linked to eutrophication. When there are elevated phosphorus and nitrogen concentrations in water, excessive amounts of algae grow and then decompose. Bacteria that power the decomposition process deplete the oxygen in the water creating ideal conditions for hydrogen sulphide to be released into the air.

Through the ETF projects, Valorès has identified the most likely locations responsible for the unpleasant odour, and it is monitoring these sites in various conditions, measuring seasonal variations in precipitation, temperature, humidity, sunlight, and wind. This data will allow Valorès to make recommendations to the town about ways to reduce the risk of abnormal nutrient concentrations in the water.

Valorès is identifying a variety of solutions for the town. For example, one area was identified where water was stagnating because there wasn’t sufficient flow. “Renewing of the water is not happening and so one solution might be to see how we could improve the water flow, because if the concentrations get diluted into the ocean, this reduces the likelihood of algae growth,” says Simon. “So that’s one solution to consider.”

“These are experts,” Brown says. “They go with evidence-based data. They go directly on-site, and then they take the information from the previous year, and they make comparisons. And once you see the connections, if you can make a little progress every year, you’re likely to end up with a solution.”

# Conclusion

The success of the ETF program depends on the grassroots organizations that are making an impact in their communities by submitting proposals, receiving grants, and fulfilling their project objectives. These dedicated environmental leaders are restoring and protecting natural areas and helping to create sustainable communities in the time of climate change. Their work is also helping to educate all New Brunswickers about the importance of environment protection and preserving the natural spaces that are part of the story of the province. Their work is making a difference today, and the impacts of these projects will be seen in natural spaces long into the future.

