



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Downeast Salmon Federation celebrates 40 years with release of 250,000 Salmon into East Machias and Narraguagus Rivers

EAST MACHIAS, Maine – The Downeast Salmon Federation (DSF) will be releasing approximately 250,000 Atlantic juvenile salmon into Maine rivers this October. The release will count as DSF’s 11th season releasing into the East Machias River and their 2nd season stocking the Narraguagus River.

The Downeast Salmon Federation is a nonprofit working to restore an Atlantic salmon fishery in Maine. The organization removes dams, restores fish habitat, and operates two conservation hatcheries that release hundreds of thousands of juvenile salmon into the Pleasant, the East Machias, and the Narraguagus Rivers each year.

“Without hatcheries, the salmon would be extinct in Maine,” says Mitch Monini, DSF’s hatchery manager. “Our hatcheries are unique in the western hemisphere. They are designed to match the salmon’s natural environment as closely as possible—so our fish are well-adapted to the wild when we release them.”

Before being released, each fish going into the Narraguagus is marked by clipping its adipose fin—a process that welcomes community volunteers to cut down the three weeks generally required to complete.

As part of DSF’s celebrating its 40th year in operation, DSF is inviting the public to assist in their conservation efforts at the Peter Gray Hatchery on Community Fin Clipping Day, Friday September 30th from 10am – 1pm. Attendees will be taught how to handle and properly clip the adipose fin of the delicate salmon.

For more information, please contact DSF’s hatchery manager, Mitch Monini at 207-255-0676. DSF’s hatchery is located at 13 Willow Street, East Machias, ME
