

THE PETER GRAY



PARR PROJECT

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## Peter Gray Hatchery Update



Eyed Atlantic salmon eggs at DSF's [Peter Gray Hatchery](#) - 13 Willow St. East Machias, Maine 04630

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Good afternoon all! I apologize for my tardiness in getting this February [Peter Gray Parr Project hatchery update](#) to you. But have no fear, I haven't forgot about you.

We received the [eyed eggs](#) from our [PGPP](#) partner's at Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery for both our [Peter Gray Hatchery](#) in East Machias and our [Pleasant River Hatchery](#) in Columbia Falls. So for the next number of months there will be unfiltered, river water flowing over the eggs until they hatch! If you have been following us for awhile you are aware that these eggs are genetically distinct for each river. The eggs we have for the East Machias River are just a little different than the eggs we have in our [Pleasant River Hatchery](#) in Columbia Falls, Maine. Both of the facilities we operate are Atlantic salmon conservation hatcheries and both happen to be former hydroelectric facilities. We can't wait to shut down our hatcheries! Yes you read that right, our goal is to be so helpful and beneficial to restoring the salmon populations in Downeast Maine that they become self sustaining and the rivers don't need salmon stocked into them anymore - Atlantic salmon jumping everywhere! But we aren't there yet...and all of you are what is keeping this train moving forward. Author Jules Verne said it this way, "Trains, like time and tide, stop for no one."

We took a day this month and ventured into the upper parts of the Pleasant River. There we assisted [PGPP](#) partners Maine Department of Marine Resources Bureau of Sea Run Fisheries and Habitats - Jonesboro Office with some [egg planting](#). This process bores holes into spawning shoals with a water pump and eyed eggs are added directly to the gravel. A man-made salmon redd! For more information and videos on egg planting please click [here](#) and check out this article written by Sarah Craighead Dedmon who came out egg planting that day <http://www.fishermensvoice.com/202003ImprovingSalmonSeedingStrategyOnDowneastRivers.html>.

February is also a time of egg deliveries to local schools that are participating in the statewide [Fish Friends](#) program. During this program schools receive a couple hundred [eyed eggs](#) and raise them in their classroom until the spring, when they then stock them as [fry](#). It is an excellent way for kids, teachers, and community members to learn about the awesome salmon that live in the rivers all around them here in the great state of Maine. In 2020, DSF has ten schools ranging from Prospect Harbor to Eastport that we are mentoring. For more information on the Fish Friends program please visit the website <https://fishfriends.me/>.

If you are new to receiving these updates and would like to catch up on some you have missed, please visit our website [here](#). If there are any of your friends you think would enjoy this content please share with them or let us know their email address to add to the list!

If you like the work we are doing, please considering [donating](#) towards the continuation of the [Peter Gray Parr Project](#).

We hope this update finds you well and you enjoyed reading about the [Peter Gray Parr Project](#). Thank you for all you have done, and continue to do, in the pursuit of Atlantic salmon restoration!

Kind Regards,

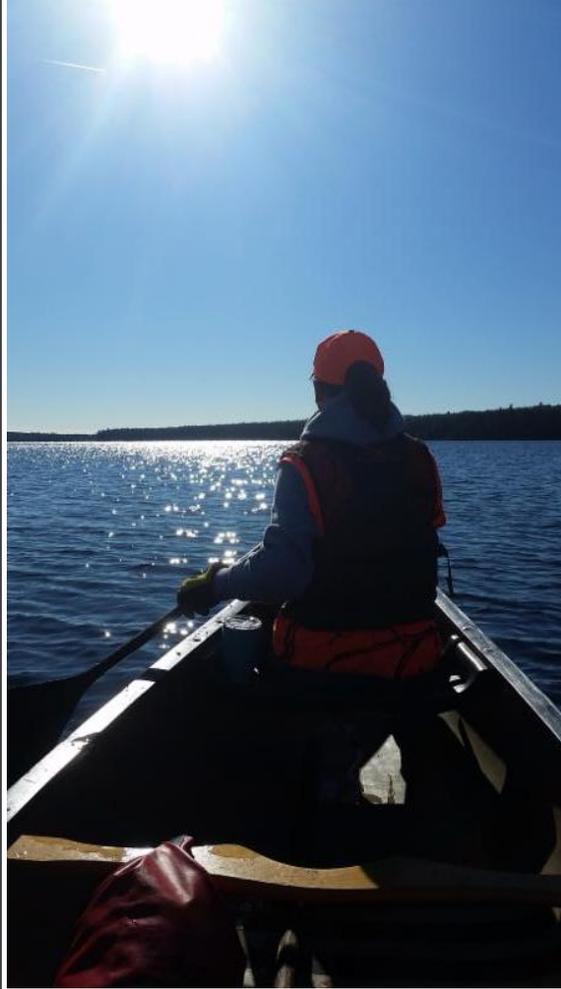
Zach

### **Farewell Rachel!**

After three years of performing excellently as the Assistant Hatchery Manager, and 4 years before that of volunteering and working part time for DSF, Rachel

has decided to move on. We appreciate her dedication and passion that she brought to the job and DSF along with the salmon of Downeast Maine thank her immensely. Best wishes to her in all of her future endeavors!





Thank you to Mike Van Buskirk on your generous donation of Bert (Big Red Truck)!



Thank you Bob Peinert for the donation of your Jeep. It will be put to good use at DSF!

**Are you interested in making a Contribution Pledge Commitment to DSF? Click here for the Downeast Salmon Federation Contribution Pledge Form. Thank you!**

You can also support the [Downeast Salmon Federation](#) by purchasing some swag! Hats, sweatshirts, and t-shirts can be found [HERE](#). Other ways to help are to become a [member](#)!



If you'd like to read more on the [Peter Gray Parr Project](#)'s beginnings and future please read our [Parr Project Booklet](#).

There is a short Parr Project video on our website [HERE](#).



The [Downeast Salmon Federation](#) a [North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization](#) accredited organization!



Thank you to the [Trout and Salmon Foundation](#) for your continued support of the [Peter Gray Parr Project](#)!

Thank you to the **Sarah K. de Coizart Article TENTH Perpetual Charitable Trust** for your support of the [Peter Gray Parr Project](#)!

### **DSF's East Machias Facility Home of the Peter Gray Hatchery**



Please support our work by [becoming a member](#) of the Downeast Salmon Federation. Together, we can restore sea-run fisheries in Maine.

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