

Each year, the FSRS organizes and hosts an annual conference that allows FSRS members, fishermen, scientists, industry workers, students and the general public to meet and discuss recent research and findings within the fishing industry.

This year was our 26th annual conference and AGM, held on March 7th at Best Western Hotel and Suites Dartmouth.

We'd like to give a huge THANK YOU to all that took part in our conference this year. Sponsors, presenters, student posters, and attendees - we couldn't have done it without you! We've received a wealth of positive feedback and look forward to planning next year's conference.

Take a look at our agenda for the day, where we heard about ghost gear, mapping technologies, ropeless gear initiatives, and more!

8:15-9:00 AM	Registration Open
9:00 AM	Opening & Welcome from FSRS President – Ken Snow
9:15 AM	Opening Remarks - The Honorable Keith Colwell, Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture and Agriculture
9:30 AM	Cassandra Hartery, Ocean Tracking Network
9:45 AM	Craig Brown, Integrated Ocean Mapping Technology, NSCC
10:00 AM	Nutrition Break & Poster Viewing
10:15 AM	FSRS Science Updates
10:30 AM	Emma Marotte, Acoustic Coastal Monitoring Project, DFO
10:45 AM	Panel Discussion – Marine Pollution
12:00 PM	Lunch (Provided) and Slideshow
13:00 PM	Community Group Discussion
14:15 PM	AGM
15:15 PM	Student Poster Session/Nutrition Break
16:00 PM	Closing Remarks/Awards
18:00 PM-20:00 PM	Evening Reception/ Auction

**Panelist:** Mr. Sean Casey, MP (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister Wilkinson, Fisheries, Oceans and Canadian Coast Guard), Alexa Goodman (Dalhousie University), Sonia Smith (Clean Foundation), and Aaron Stevenson (Ashored)

**Community Group Discussion:** Sana Kavanaugh (Mi'kmaw Conservation Group), Andrew Sherin (CIOOS-Atlantic), Meghan Borland & Jennifer Currie (Back to the Sea Society), and Daniel Lane (Université Sainte-Anne)

Here's the presentations from this year's conference:

- [Craig Brown \(NSCC\) - Integrated Ocean Mapping Technologies](#)

- [Emma Marotte \(DFO\) - Acoustic Coastal Monitoring Project](#)
- [Meghan Borland & Jennifer Currie \(Back to the Sea Society\) - Plogging Challenge](#)
- [Daniel Lane \(Université Sainte-Anne\) - Live Lobster Quality & The ALMQ Dataset](#)

Take a look at our scientific poster submissions this year:

**Scientific Poster Winner:** [Rachel Pomerleau - Quantification of Mercury in Striped Bass, \*Morone saxatilis\*, and American Eel, \*Anguilla rostrata\*, in Nova Scotian Coastal Waters](#)

- [Robert Blackmore - Enhancing Handline Catch Efficiency for Atlantic Cod: Two Studies of Short-Wavelength Modifications](#)
- [Judith Bjorndahl - Monitoring of American Eels: Evaluation of Trap Catches and Sampling Effort Simulations](#)
- [Emily Blacklock - Detection of Paralytic Shellfish Toxins in \*Homarus americanus\* Through Alternative Non-Destructive Spectral Methods](#)
- [Hillary Dort - Identification of Protein Biomarkers in Epidermal Mucus of Striped Bass \(\*Morone saxatilis\*\): Recreational Angling Stress](#)
- [Alexa Goodman - A Ghostly Issue: Managing abandoned, lost, and discarded lobster fishing gear in the Bay of Fundy](#)
- [Danni Harper - Sea Cucumber \(\*Cucumaria frondosa\*\) Population Dynamics for Improved Resource Management within Fishing Areas](#)
- [Madeleine Killacky - Aspects of American Eel, \*Anguilla rostrata\*, in the Avon Estuary: Movement Patterns, Otoliths, and Eel Demographics](#)
- [Jessie Lilly - Social network analysis of marine dyad formation of Atlantic Sturgeon \(\*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus\* Mitchell, 1815\)](#)
- [Curtis Martin - Using Interpersonal Communication Strategies to Encourage Conversations with Lay Audiences on Social Media](#)
- [Anna Murphy - Identification and characterization of protease activity and potential protein biomarkers of stress in the epidermal mucus of the Atlantic sturgeon \(\*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus\*\)](#)
- [Elizabetha Tsitrin - Assessing the feasibility of surgically implanting acoustic tags into sensitive \*Clupeid\* fishes: considerations for telemetry studies](#)
- [Lydia White - Can we use densities of American lobster settlers to predict future fisheries recruitment in Atlantic Canada?](#)