OUR MISSION

The Fisheries Department aims to develop a structure for a Mi'gmaq rights-based fishery that will be governed according to Mi'gmaq laws, principles, and values. This structure will be based on input received from Mi'gmaq fishers and community members through summits, meetings, and community consultation sessions.

ENGAGE

We play a pivotal role in engaging our communities on matters concerning fish species, fish habitat, Marine Protected areas, and various other fisheries-related concerns.

CONSULT

We consult with federal and provincial governments to advance the implementation of a rights-based fishery.

PROTECT

Aimed at ensuring the responsible stewardship of aquatic ecosystems in Mi'gma'gi.

OUR RESPONSIBILITIES:

- PROTECT TREATY RIGHTS
- PROTECT ABORIGINAL RIGHTS
- CONSULTATION & ACCOMMODATION
- INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE RESEARCH

WHAT WE DON'T DO:

- HARVEST FISH
- COMMERCIAL FISHERY
- WESTERN FISHERIES SCIENCE

ABORIGINAL RIGHT

- Inherent (as a Mi'gmaq person person you are born with this right)
- Usually collective
- Applies to all Mi'gmaq peopl
- Ex: Food, Social, and Ceremonial Fishing

TREATY RIGHT

- Agreements between Nations
- Creates binding obligations
- **Ex:** Peace & Friendship Treaties (and 1999 Marshall decision)

Rights Implementation & Mawi Anqotemenej Nimejuaqneminu Fishery Plans

- Collect information from communities to develop and implement our own treaty based fishery using a grassroots approach
- Based on Mi'kmaq concepts and principles collected through community engagements

Mawi Anqotemenej Nimejuaqneminu Fishery Plans and Traditional Governance Research

Treaty History & Law:	Unravel treaties and modern case law.
Mi'kmaq Values & Principles:	In-depth research on history, values, and principles.
Two-Eyed Seeing:	Combine traditional & Western knowledge.
Collaboration:	Work with Mi'kmaq partners.
Sustainable Harvesting:	Engage communities for best practices.