



## *The Three Rivers Fund / Le fonds des Trois Rivières: Coulonge - Dumoine - Noire*

### *Report to 2019 Members*

In 2019 CPAWS-OV created the Three Rivers Fund as a way for stakeholders in the Pontiac to get together to support and help direct conservation activities in the water basins of the Dumoine, Coulonge and Noire rivers.

You, the seven forward thinking companies and organizations receiving this report, accepted our invitation and took a chance on this new initiative. Together, you invested \$2,000, a modest but important sum to start us off. We are grateful to each one of you for your courage to step up and take action.

CPAWS-OV created a [web page](#) in support of the Three Rivers Fund. Where you will find your logo with a link to your web page.

### **Conservation Portion of the Funds**

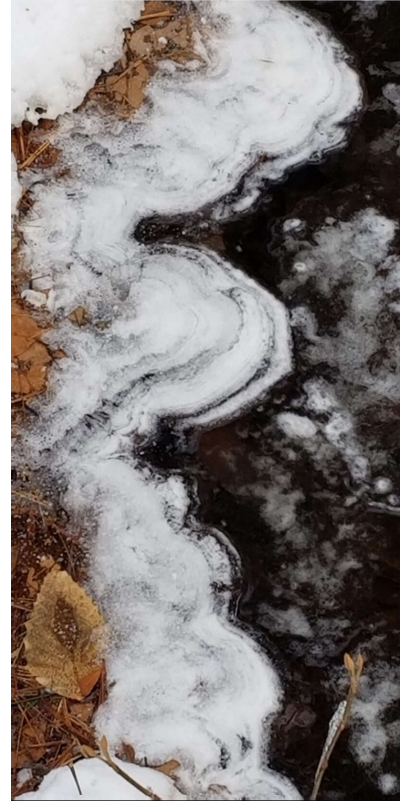
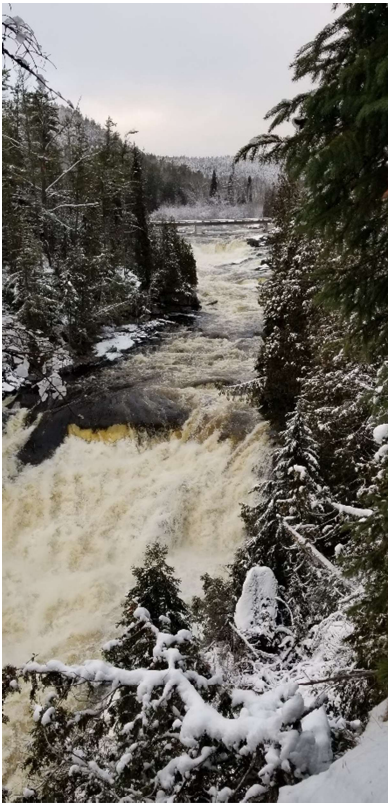
In 2019, your funds supported the following conservation advocacy activities.

- In 2019 our Conservation Coordinator attended 4 meetings of the [Table régionale de gestion intégrée des ressources et du territoire de l'Outaouais](#) which brings together all of the stakeholders involved in making decisions that apply to public land in the Outaouais. Here, we advocated for the conservation of biodiversity. We continued to build relations with forest industry stakeholders, motorized recreation groups, hunters, fishers, and other users. A specific presentation was made to the group about the need and plan for protection for the Noire and Coulonge watershed regions.
- The CPAWS-OV Executive Director met with MRC Pontiac Warden Jane Toller and key staff to discuss work on the protected area along Noire and Coulonge. CPAWS-OV also secured letter of support for a grant request to the federal government's Challenge Fund. **\*\*\* Please look for a big announcement coming out June 5<sup>th</sup> on these activities. \*\*\***

## Infrastructure Portion of the Funds

Late in 2019, members voted to use the on-site project portion of the funds to do an on-site clean up. We consulted with members as well as the MRC Pontiac to get suggestions on which site was most in need of a clean-up and staff with some volunteers headed up to the Dumoine on November 29<sup>th</sup>.

Unfortunately, that week had seen some of the first snow of the year and while our 4 wheel drive vehicles did make it a good ways in, with hundreds of stops to move snow laden branches out of the way, we were not able to reach our clean up site. This clean up will instead, take place in June 2020. Regardless, I am happy to share some lovely photos we were able to take while there.



## *New in 2020*

### No Financial Requirement in 2020

Given all that has happened since March with COVID 19, it is clear that many businesses and organizations operating in the Three Rivers region will be affected significantly. For this reason, we are suspending any financial requirement to participate in the Three Rivers Fund for 2020. Your membership has automatically been renewed for 2020. If all goes well with the recovery from COVID 19, we anticipate returning to a regular membership fee structure in 2021.

### Volunteer and Resource Donation Opportunities

We are continuing our conservation activities in the region in 2020. If you are in a position to do so, we would welcome any volunteer time or other physical resources towards these efforts you are able to offer. More details on how you can help will follow in the coming months on this.

### Welcome to the Three Rivers Region Video

We are also excited to announce that we have engaged a dynamic video production company who knows the Pontiac region well to create a three to five minute video that you will be able to share with your employees, members and customers to introduce them to the Three Rivers region and some of the unique environmental features that make the area so important for conservation. This is a video being produced specifically for Fund members. We anticipated that this video may be ready before the end of this summer depending on how distancing restrictions might affect the shooting schedule.

### Leveraging Your Involvement

We are also working on setting up a way for your customers and networks to contribute directly to the Three Rivers Fund that will be trackable to your organization or company. This way, you will be able to see how your involvement is having a compound effect.

For any questions, please contact:

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