## Out of the Vortex? - Preserving a Remnant Population of Endangered Atlantic Salmon (Salmo salar), Inner Bay of Fundy Population, in Fundy National Park of Canada

## H.R. Wissink<sup>1</sup> and A. Caissie<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Ecosystem Scientist, Fundy National Park of Canada, Alma, NB, Ph: 506-887-6098. <sup>2</sup>Conservation Biologist, Fundy National Park of Canada, Alma, NB, Ph: 506-887-6105

The Inner Bay of Fundy population of Atlantic Salmon (Salmo salar) was listed as endangered by COSEWIC in May 2001. This population, which inhabited 32 major river systems within the upper Bay of Fundy, including the Point Wolfe and Upper Salmon rivers in Fundy National Park, has declined 90% or more in abundance since 1989 and is at imminent risk of extinction in the wild. Since 2001, Fundy National Park has participated inthe National Recovery Strategy for this population and has initiated an ambitious recovery program with particular focus on the remnant population in the Upper Salmon River. After an initial two-year period of intensive assessment and population monitoring, the park recovery program has now entered an innovative phase of gene banking, captive rearing and breeding, and reintroduction of various life stages. Following the best-known principles of conservation biology, the program is managed adaptively from year to year using feedback from its genetic monitoring program.