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Lake Champlain Maritime Museum Receives CVNHP Grants to Explore Natural History of Salmon

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Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is offering two new education programs exploring the natural history of Lake Champlain's salmonid species as the Champlain Valley participates in the International Year of the Salmon, thanks to a Conservation and Community grant from the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership (CVNHP). A professional development course for outdoor educators, volunteers, and LCMM staff will enhance public interpretation during the International Year of the Salmon, while Watershed Science Apprenticeship sessions will focus on in-depth topics for High School students. "Wild Atlantic salmon disappeared from the waters of Lake Champlain nearly two centuries ago. Only with great effort in recent decades has the salmon population begun to recover," explains Elizabeth Lee, LCMM Education Director. "Both of these programs will explore and interpret the lake's natural history and management issues and provide opportunities for participants to engage in hands-on activities and on-water excursions."

"The story of salmon in our region is a great way to share the interconnected relationship between history, culture and the environment," says Lake Champlain Maritime Museum educator Matt Harrison. "CVNHP funding has enabled us to extend our partnership with US Fish and Wildlife staff to bring salmon programming into high school and elementary school classes in addition to our apprenticeship program." US Fish and Wildlife biologist Jadziah Hannon-Moonstone has been helping the Museum to lead programs and develop resources for salmon programming.



CAPTION: CVU Students in Lake Champlain Maritime Museum's Watershed Science Apprenticeship program record water quality data from the Winooski River using a dissolved oxygen and conductivity meter.

In 2019, countries and communities across the world are celebrating the International Year of the

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Salmon, an initiative between NGOs, national, state, and local entities. Scientific and educational programming will foster awareness and understanding of wild salmon and their importance to cultures and communities across the globe. The goal: to build resilience for salmon and people. “Lake Champlain Maritime Museum is delighted to take a lead role in partnering with communities and organizations throughout the region to participate in the International Year of the Salmon,” says Susan Evans McClure, Executive Director. “While these new education programs will deepen awareness of salmon among students and educators, the Museum’s replica schooner will bring messaging about the history, ecology, and conservation of landlocked salmon to people in ports around Lake Champlain. Thousands of people this year will have the opportunity to learn the stories of environmental change, human impacts, and the feats of ingenuity and cooperation underway to restore the "King of Fish" to these inland waters.”

About Lake Champlain Maritime Museum

Founded in 1985 to preserve and share the maritime heritage of the Champlain Valley, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum shares underwater discoveries and lake history with the public through engaging exhibits, dynamic hands-on learning opportunities, full-scale working replica vessels, and innovative on-water experiences. As a year-round educational service provider, Lake Champlain Maritime Museum connects with more than 2,500 Elementary and Middle School Students each year through valuable place-based learning, ecology and nautical archaeology experiences and other programming with museum educators. Lake Champlain Maritime Museum’s 4-acre lakeside campus at Basin Harbor is open daily from late May through mid-October. Perkins Pier in Burlington is homeport for LCMM’s canal schooner *Lois McClure*.



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