



## **MEDIA ADVISORY: Officials will celebrate the return of alewives at Grand Falls**

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**WHO:** Federal officials from the Passamaquoddy and other tribes and environmental agencies, supported by the broad partnership for alewife restoration in the St. Croix River watershed.

**WHAT:** Celebrate the homecoming of alewives to Grand Falls dam and the re-opening of the fishway allowing them access to high-quality lakes upstream for the first time in about two decades. Officials will be given a ceremonial tribal welcome at Grand Falls dam, where speakers will highlight efforts for alewife restoration and pledge support for restoring the migratory fish of St. Croix.

**WHEN/WHERE:** June 5, 2013 at 10 a.m. at Grand Falls dam. Directions follow.

**WHY:** The St. Croix River, which forms the border between Maine and New Brunswick, may once again become the largest alewife run in the U.S. A new law, LD 72, An Act to Open the St. Croix River to River Herring, was passed by the Maine Legislature this session to reopen the river by removing obstacles to alewives. Opening the watershed to alewives, a native Maine river herring, will benefit the Passamaquoddy people, Maine's commercial fishing industry, and fish and wildlife throughout the Gulf of Maine. For more information on this collaborative effort please visit our webpage:

<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/stories/2013/StCroixPartnership.html>

### **SCHEDULED SPEAKERS** (alphabetical order)

- Consul for Foreign Policy and Diplomacy Service, Aaron Annable, Canadian Consulate, Boston
- Northeast Regional Administrator John Bullard, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Fisheries

- Chief Brenda Commander, Houlton Bands of Maliseets
- Regional Director Franklin Keel, Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Chief Kirk Francis, Penobscot Nation
- Deputy Commissioner Meredith Mendelson, Maine Department of Marine Resources
- Chief Edward Peter Paul, Aroostook Band of Micmacs
- Regional Administrator H. Curtis Spalding, Environmental Protection Agency
- Northeast Regional Director Wendi Weber, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Directions to Grand Falls dam:**

Grand Falls dam is located about 17 river miles north of Calais. To reach the dam from Calais proceed north on US Route 1. About 5 miles north of the city, Route 9 will intersect from the west. From the intersection of Routes 1 and 9 proceed an additional 7 miles north on Route 1 until you reach Grand Falls Road on your right. Continue on Grand Falls Road for about 7½ miles to the dam.

Coming from the north on US Route 1 you will enter Princeton. From the bridge at Princeton travel south on Route 1 for about 1¼ miles when you will reach the Eastern Cut Off Road on your left. Travel on that road for about 3 miles when you will come to an intersection. At that intersection take Grand Falls Road north for another 3 miles to the dam.