



SUMMARY REPORT

MOOSE DEER POINT FIRST NATION

Beach Road Creek, Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol September 2026

Introduction

This summer, the Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resource Center (A/OFRC) partnered with Moose Deer Point First Nation (MDPFN) to conduct a stream assessment on Beach Road Creek. In addition, on August 18th A/OFRC held a benthic macroinvertebrate workshop and demonstration of OSAP at a MDPFN community barbecue. Staff demonstrated some of the sampling techniques being used in the survey and answered community members' questions.

Methods

During the week of August 17th to 21st, A/OFRC collected data on Beach Road Creek, following the Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol (OSAP). The study sites were identified and marked for future assessments. The creek's channel morphology and physical processes were assessed using point-transect sampling methods. Benthic invertebrates were sampled using a stationary kick and sweep method and fish communities were assessed using an electrofishing backpack. All invertebrates and fish were released live back into the creek after data collection.



A/OFRC Fisheries Interns,
Bridget Juselius and Kruz
Kohoko, electrofishing
Beach Road Stream.



The A/OFRC is a not-for-profit organization that serves as an independent source of information for communities within the Anishinabek Nation. The Centre provides information and recommendations for sustainable fisheries management, reports of stock status, evaluates stresses on fish populations and habitats, and offers technical support.



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Findings

13 species of fish were caught while electrofishing, which included; pumpkinseed, brown bullhead, largemouth bass, yellow perch, white sucker, bowfin and a variety of minnow species. Many of these species are typically found in warm-water systems, which is consistent with the recorded water temperature of 22°C. A/OFCRC staff also saw an assortment of herpetofauna, including species at risk like the eastern massasauga rattlesnake.

14 different types of benthic invertebrates were recorded, with majority of the samples being aquatic sowbugs, scuds and aquatic mites. A low percentage of EPT (Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, Trichoptera - mayflies, stoneflies and caddisflies) may suggest a water quality issue/ habitat disturbance. Although, this may be influenced by the lack of flow in the creek due to water blockages, such as the noted beaver dam, or low water levels at the time of sampling. Staff also noticed some debris in the creek such as wooden pallets, plastic siding/roofing, which could influence habitat conditions.

A bowfin caught during the electrofishing survey.



Members of MDPFN watching an OSAP demonstration.



Conclusions

Due to a lack of documented assessments on this creek, this data can be used as a baseline for future monitoring studies or restoration activities. Potential activities could include clean-up to remove construction debris and garbage from the creek. The data collected from this study will be entered into the Flowing Waters Information System (FWIS) and analyzed by A/OFCRC biologists. A final report will be prepared for Moose Deer Point First Nation by spring 2027.

A brown bullhead caught during the electrofishing survey.



For questions or concerns, please contact:

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