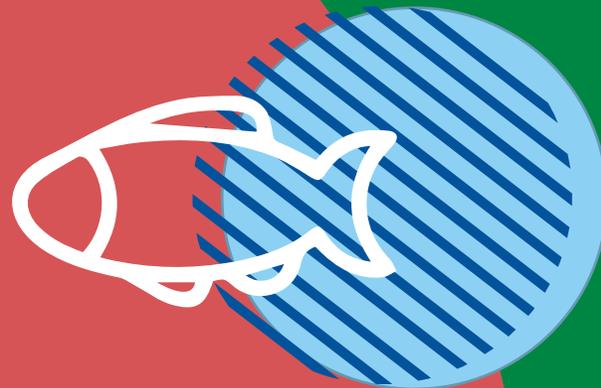




MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION  
ALL SEASON COMMUNITY ACCESS ROAD

# Surface Water, Fish and Fish Habitat Summer Field Program

Discussion Guide  
July 2021





## Surface Water, Fish and Fish Habitat Summer Field Program

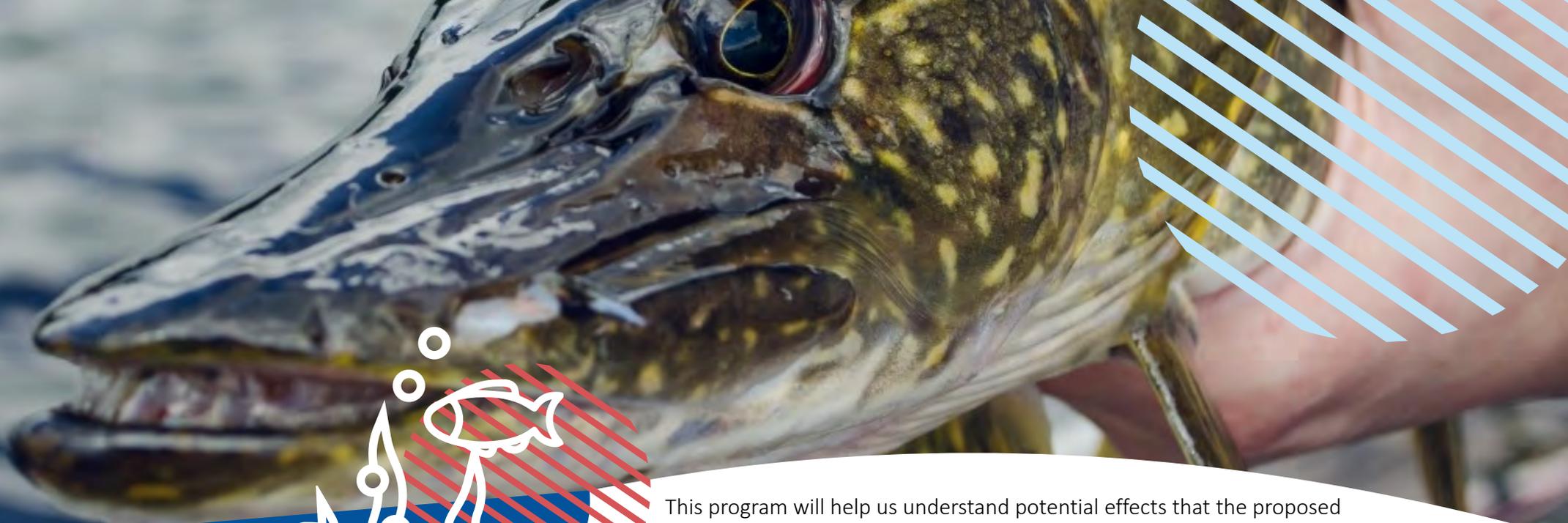
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The Surface Water, Fish and Fish Habitat Summer Field Program—to document and understand surface water, fish and fish habitat in the study area—is continuing for the federal Impact Assessment (IA) for Marten Falls First Nation’s proposed All-Season Community Access Road. The Terms of Reference (ToR), a framework to guide the provincial Environmental Assessment (EA), is currently with the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for review and decision. If the ToR is approved, this field program will also inform the provincial EA.

The purpose of this Discussion Guide is to provide an overview to this upcoming Field Program and receive your feedback on key questions. **Your insight will help shape the program.**

A field notice will be distributed once dates are confirmed.





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## What's Happening?



This program will help us understand potential effects that the proposed Community Access Road may have on surface water, fish and fish habitat. The program will collect information over multiple years, on surface water (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams) quantity and quality, sediment quality (e.g., sand, silt, clay), fish habitat and fish communities, and benthic invertebrates (organisms that live at the bottom of lakes, rivers and streams). This work will be taking place at approximately 50 to 60 water crossings along both of the route alternatives.

This summer's program builds on previous field studies that took place in 2019 and 2020. Field work done in 2019 and 2020, information gathered through desktop analysis, data collected from other projects in the area, Indigenous Knowledge, and the current field program will each inform our assessment of potential effects the Community Access Road may have.



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## When?

The work will be starting mid-August 2021 and will take approximately 12 days.  
In 2022, there will be an additional spring program.





# We Need Your Input!

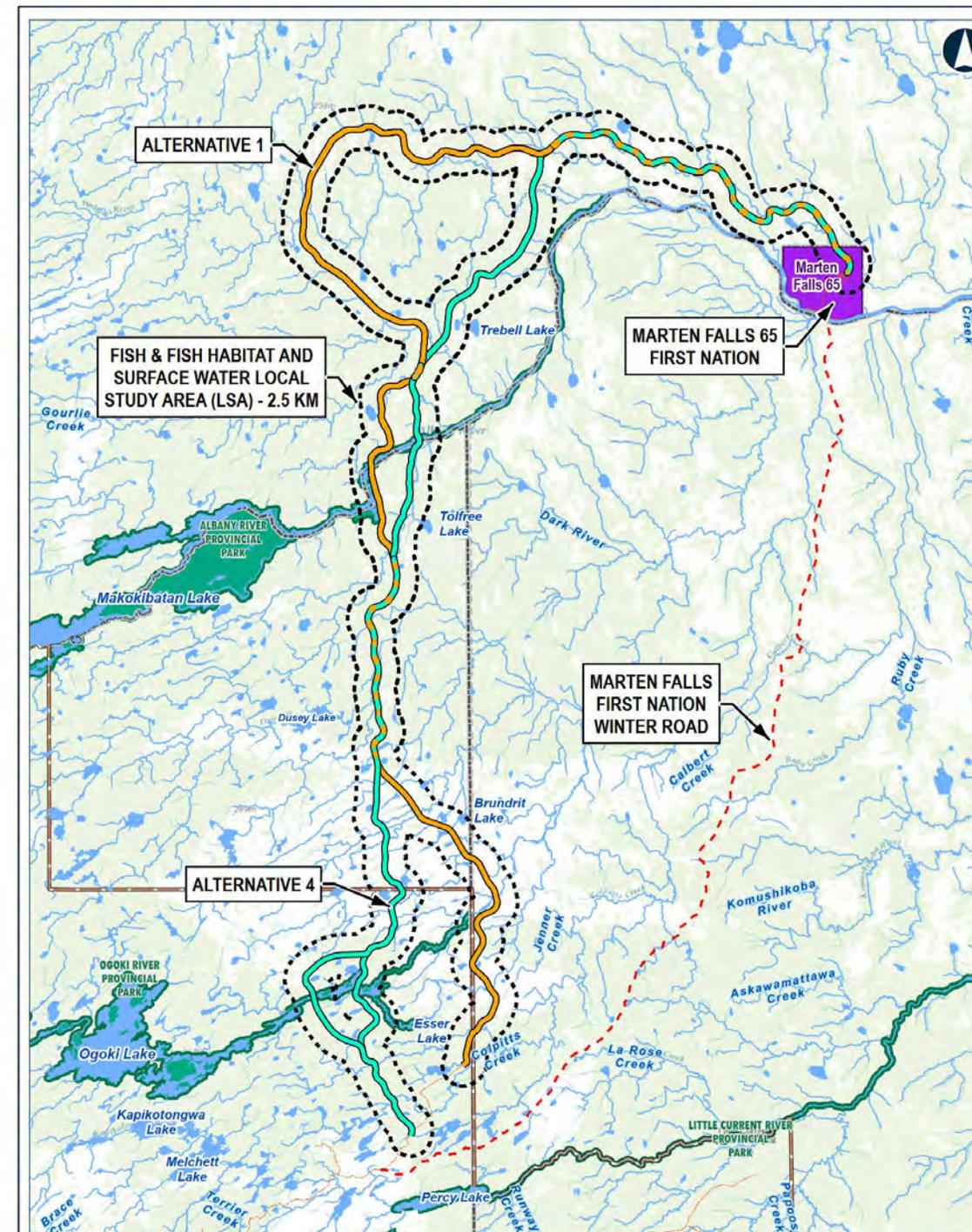
Your input is an important part of shaping this field program and will be considered before the program starts. Your input will also help us to avoid interrupting or impacting any fishing activities that may be taking place in the area by community members. If you have any feedback on the following questions, we want to hear from you.



# We Need Your Input!

- Are there any important water crossings in the study area that we should sample?
- Are there any important fishing sites in the study area that we should sample?
- Are there any locations in the study area that we should avoid during our sampling (e.g., areas of cultural significance, important fishing locations and gear used)? Information on the gear used for fishing will potentially be used to inform population surveys during out baseline field work should survey sites be located downstream of fishing activities.
- Do you know of any locations where Lake Sturgeon (Nameh), Brook Trout, Northern Pike (Nahwabe), Walleye (Okaas), Lake Whitefish (Atikameg), or Burbot spawn or overwinter?
- Do you know what time of year fish are spawning / reproducing in any rivers in the study area?
- Are there any locations in the study area that are springs, drinking water sources, or areas of water use? This could be for cultural or spiritual practices.

If you have any insights, please contact us by July 31, 2021. You can also fill out an online form at <http://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/surface-water-fish-and-fish-habitat-summer-field-program-discussion-guide-2021/>





If you have sensitive and confidential information that you would like to share through the Indigenous Knowledge Program to make sure it is protected, please let us know.

## Contact Information

You are welcome to contact the Project Team at any time with questions or comments

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**James McCutcheon**

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AECOM

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