

Suggested Media Instructions: Please run at your discretion.

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As per the MCK Communications Protocol, all media requests must be arranged through the Public Relations / Communications Unit

Onkwe'tà:ke lakotokénhstha PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

KEPO Fish Monitoring in Suzanne River

(Kahnawake – 27, Onerahtohkó:wa 2024)

The Kahnawà:ke Environment Protection Office (KEPO) would like to inform the community that KEPO staff will be conducting fish and fish habitat monitoring in the Suzanne River and its tributaries (see map below) as a part of the Aquatic Stewardship Program from **May 28**th – **June 14**th.



KEPO staff will be using non-lethal sampling methods including minnow traps, hoop nets, electrofishing, and collection of water samples for eDNA analysis. All healthy native fish will be released back into the stream quickly after identification and measurement. Hoop nets will be deployed such that any air-breathing bycatch (beavers, turtles) will have access to the air. KEPO staff, equipment, and vehicles will be clearly marked.

Community members are being asked not to disturb deployed equipment. However, community members are encouraged to approach KEPO staff during the work to discuss the creeks, fish, and the Aquatic Stewardship Program.

Please call KEPO at 450-635-0600 or email at <u>environmentprotection@mck.ca</u> if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.