

Muin & 7 Hunters – Mi'kmaq Story of the Night Sky

The goal of the project was to engage the Mi'kmaq community by monitoring for the presence of 3 species from the 7 hunters night sky story, within the Wildcat community. With assistance from the *Listening Together Project*, we would accomplish our goals from a Two-Eyed Seeing perspective.

Mi'kmaq students from North Queens High School would gather one day per week from January 27th, 2021 to March 31st, 2021 to program, deploy, retrieve, re-deploy AudioMoth acoustic recording devices in multiple locations. Time would also be allotted to analyze portions of the data, with guidance from John Kearney.

Along the way, an opportunity arose to accompany the Confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq (CMM) as they monitored for American Marten presence in Kespukwitk



Although other species of the 7 Hunters have been identified, none of the target species (Saw-Whet Owl, Barred Owl, Canada Jay) have yet been detected. However, data analysis is on-going.

We are hoping to conclude the project with a small community celebration on March 31st, 2021.

The interest/benefits generated for the SAR program, and overall Kespukwitk Ecology Project, are not quite possible to be ascertained (yet) as we didn't attempt to collect linear data. However, a commitment on the part of participants for continued engagement does indicate a good measure of success.

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