

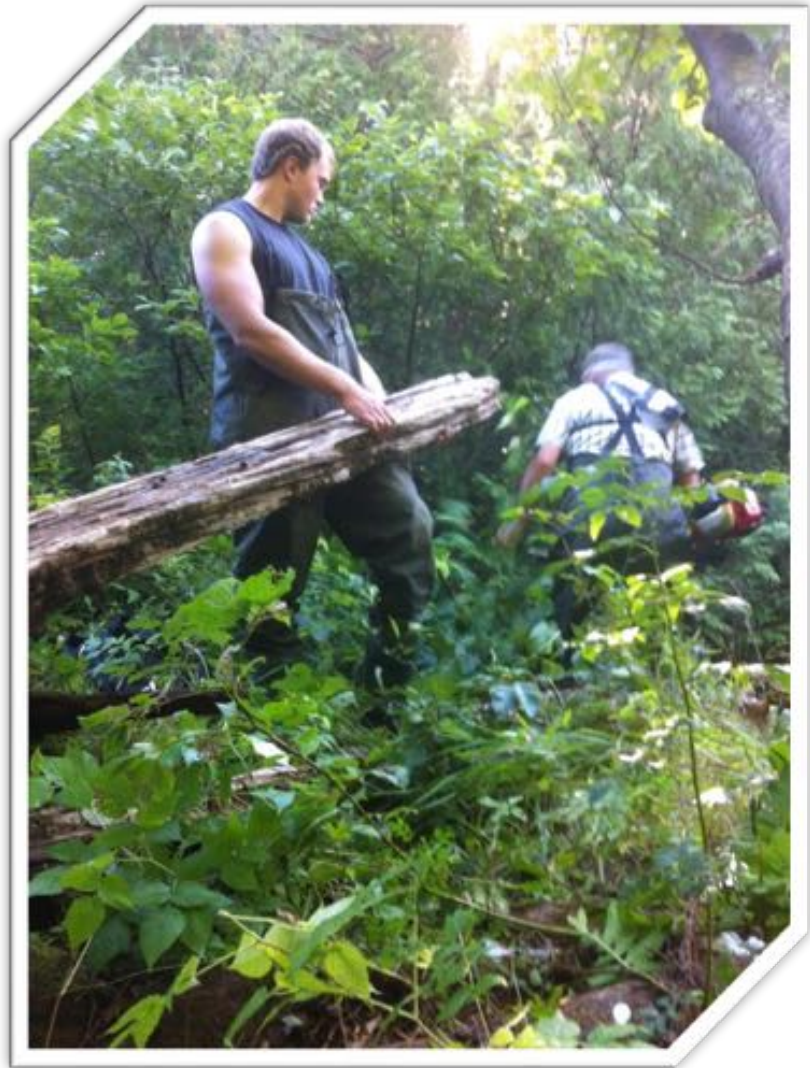
Lot 11 & Area Watershed Management Group, Inc. Annual Report: FY 2016-2017

Submitted to:

Kate MacQuarrie,
Department of Communities, Land
and Environment, Forest Fish &
Wildlife Division.

Acknowledgements

We thank all of our staff, volunteers,
WMF, EDA, Greening Spaces,
Service Canada, our neighbouring
groups, the PEI Watershed
Alliance, the Lot 11 & Area CC, our
MLAs, and the provincial
departments of: Communities/Land
and Environment (CLE), Forestry,
Fish & Wildlife,
Transportation/Infrastructure/
Energy (TIE) and Mi'kmaq
Confederacy of PEI
for making our year a success and
our future possible.



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Executive Summary

The following report represents our year's accomplishments and explicitly demonstrates the consistency between our actions and the strategies mandated by our community-ratified watershed management plan.

Our organization will provide details to our board of directors as laid out in our by-laws, and the sectors they represent within our watershed boundaries. Staff details will also be laid out in this section. We will also provide information on the location and hours of our community based watershed office / youth camp facilities. The map and boundary details of our managed area.

The report will give detail to our communications and outreach activities undertaken in the 2016/2017 contract year. Community engagement, building alliances, providing community information, and exchanging ideas is most important, and we feel that an engaged and informed community is central to consensus-based watershed management. Also included are highlights of our watershed camp fundraising event held in May of 2016.

Key projects for the 2016/2017 year include developing 3 pollinator gardens at Warburton Community Park, culvert rebuild on Freeland Creek, continued to conduct Community's Watershed Summer Day Camp Program, participated in the Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP) on the Enmore River, participated in Beach Sweep and Shoreline Clean Up, development of the Foxley River Demonstration Woodlot trails.

Beyond key projects, our report will show a substantial portion of our year's work was general stream improvement work at five major streams within our group's managed area. This included tree planting, blockage removal, bank reinforcement, litter/debris removal along stream banks, access trail development and maintenance. Our coordinator also continued to develop stream rehabilitation techniques by attending a two week course "Stream Rehabilitation" offered by Trout Unlimited Canada / Guelph University, and continues to serve as director on the PEI Watershed Alliance board.

And finally, a detailed financial report will be included outlining income from various sources and group expenses for the contract year 2016/2017.

Our Organization

The Lot 11 and Area Watershed Management Group, Inc. was formed in October 2008 and incorporated in 2011. It is a not-for-profit community group and has a seven member, volunteer board of directors who represent specific sectors within our community:

Karen Kelly (Chairperson), has served on our board of directors since 2008 and has acted as Chair for the past 3 years. Karen is a landowner of property that includes a substantial portion of the Foxley River stream system.

Susan Milligan (Treasurer), has served on our board of directors since 2011, Susan is also the Chair for the Lot 11 and Area Municipal Council and sits as our municipal representative on watershed issues. Susan also brings with her over 15 years of experience working in the shellfish industry with the PEI Shellfish Association.

Alycia Carr (Secretary), has served on our board as our non-consumptive member since 2013, she represents young families in our community and assists with bringing the educational component to our group by assisting with our watershed camp.

Peter Bulger (Director), has served on our board since 2008, Peter represents the farming sector and is well versed on farm management planning in our community. Peter is also a substantial landowner in our managed area.

Alfred Bridges (Director), has served on our board since 2008 and as an avid fisher, represents the recreational fishing community. Alfred is also the past Chair of the Lot 11 and Area Municipal Council.

Thelma Phillips (Director), has served on our board since 2014 and is a woodlot owner in the community. Thelma also brings experience in communications and web design. Thelma is a very active community member and serves on numerous boards on the Island.

Warren Gillis (Director), has served on our board since 2014 and is a property owner and avid recreational fisherman.

We have a 15+ member planning committee that, together with the board of directors, constitutes the formal membership of the group, however, we consider each resident of our watershed boundaries to be members of our group.

Our major funding partners include the provincial Watershed Management Fund (WMF), the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund (WCF), the provincial Employment Development Agency (EDA), the provincial Greening Spaces Program, Service Canada, and the Municipality of Lot 11 and Area.

Quick Facts

Location: Prince Edward Island, Canada

Geographic center: 63.99W, 46.64N

Municipal areas: Lot 11 & Area, Eilerslie- Bideford, Lady Slipper

Nine watersheds

- Ten primary streams
- 18 smaller streams

Area: 15,602 hectares

Our group's area of management includes nine geophysical watersheds: Black Banks, Foxley River, Freeland Creek, Brook's River, Cranberry Point, Josephine Shore, Bideford River, Conway Sand Hills, and Enmore River East. It has ten independent principal streams and ~18 smaller streams. The principal streams are: MacDonald's River, Canadian Creek, Foxley River, Gains Creek, Freeland Creek, Brook's River, Southwest Creek, Grant's Brook, Eilerslie Brook, and the Enmore River. The Conway Sand Hills watershed is entirely natural sand dune wetland.



Staff

Our Group Coordinator, Karen Rank, has served as our Watershed Coordinator since 2008 and has led our efforts to realize our mission. She has post-secondary training in Integrated Watershed Management (UPEI) and Stream Rehabilitation Training (Trout Unlimited Canada/Guelph University) and is safety and chain-saw certified. Her abilities in overall watershed management are exemplary on PEI. Additionally, she is an active Municipal Councillor and Emergency Operations Team Coordinator with the Lot 11 and Area Municipal Council and the Tyne Valley Joint EMO. Currently serving her second term with the PEI Watershed Alliance as a director. In January 2016 she completed a 3 year term on the WCF board as a director. Her broad-spectrum community involvement/participation has enabled our group to effectively and appropriately center our mission on community information and engagement.

We employed nine motivated employees this year. Our field staff included two experienced watershed field technicians provided through the EDA SPP program. Grant Lynch our supervisor has multi-year experience with our group and is trained in safety, chainsaw operation, watershed management, and beaver management. Wayne Gamble is also chainsaw operation certified and has experience in equipment maintenance and repair. Summer Student Employees: one through EDA JFY, one

through the Service Canada Summer Jobs Program, and three in-kind students through Transportation Infrastructure and Energy. Additionally, we had the help of two youth workers provided in-kind by the Department of Communities Land & Environment. All of these students made a substantial contribution to our group's work and all had a meaningful summer job experience.



In Photo: top row left to right; Grant Lynch, Supervisor. Karen Rank, Coordinator. Minister Robert Mitchell, Department Communities, Land and Environment. Minister Robert Henderson, Department of Health and local MLA. Susan Milligan, Chair Lot 11 Municipal Council. Bottom row left to right; Josh Henderson, Wayne Gamble, Patrick Bernard, Dillon Hutchinson, Lance Hardy and Leroy Smallman.

Our group operates a seasonal office located at Warburton Memorial Park on Route 12, Foxley River. Our office space has additional space to hosts our weekly watershed camp for community youth. Our office hours are 8:00am -4:00pm Monday thru Friday (May-October). Our office grounds has a .5km wooded trail our group developed for the watershed campers to use for nature walks and scavenger hunts, while being in view of camp councillors at all times.

Communications & Outreach

Public Events

Our Annual General Meeting in May 2016 was well attended, in total there were 24 persons in attendance. As usual, an active question and answer session followed informative PowerPoint presentations from our Treasurer, Secretary, Coordinator, and Chairperson. Mary Finch, PEI Watershed Alliance was present at our AGM. Special speaker, the Hon. Robert Henderson, Minister of Health and District 25 MLA, congratulated our group and promised ongoing support for our future endeavours.

Our group also participated in a Joint Community Yard Sale on June 6, 2016, at Warburton Park offices. Alycia Carr, former business owner donated handmade jewellery, purses, scarves, dresses to the group to sell and raise funds for our watershed camp activities. In total our group raised \$325.00 in jewellery sales purchased by community residents. This event provided a wonderful opportunity for

shoppers to find out more about our group and the service we provide the community, such as watershed camp. It was estimated that over 50 shoppers stopped at our offices on the sale date with most making a purchase in support of our group.



Newsletters

A newsletter was developed in March 2017 and delivered by Canada Post to all residents and stakeholders within our watershed boundaries. This was a cooperative effort with the Lot 11 and Area Community Council. You may download it from the web at: <http://www.lot11andarea.org/wsPublications.php>

Web

Our group and the Municipality of Lot 11 and Area have a cooperative website at <http://www.lot11andarea.org>. It is rated by international peer review through the Web Of Trust as excellent for trustworthiness, privacy, and child safety. It is entirely W3C compliant for maximum accessibility and is designed, maintained, and hosted for less than \$100/yr. In 2016, our site was updated with a new fresh look, we added current group information and published reports.

Facebook

Our Facebook page is very popular and is viewed by many. We are dedicated to regular posting to keep our site fresh and informative. During summer months we post almost daily of the activities the group is working on or watershed camp information to parents.

Visible Signage

Our group finds it is important to have a substantial visible presence within our community. We developed and purchased new signage banners for use at events and our office. Separate signage was designed and purchased advertising our watershed camp days and hours and is set roadside during summer months.

Direct exchange with community members/organizations

Our relationships with other community organizations (municipal community council, municipal emergency measures, trade associations, the Milligan's Wharf Harbor Authority, etc.) are a productive mechanism for communicating watershed values and promoting awareness to captive audiences. Kitchen table meetings and volunteer participation in assessments, planting projects, and work review are frequent activities for our group. We also hold a strong relationship with the Lennox Island Native Band and organize 3 separate beach/shoreline cleanups throughout the summer, providing 11-13 native youth a chance to work with our group in the beautification of our beaches and shorelines within our boundaries. This group has assisted with cleanups for the past 4 years.

Other Community Involvement

Watershed Summer Day Camp - Educating Our Youth

One of the most important mandates of our watershed management plan is to promote youth education and involvement. Since 2012, we have worked towards this goal through a summer recreation/education program. The Watershed Summer Day Camp continues to be a cooperative project with the Lot 11 and Area Municipal Council. Its purpose is to provide recreation to community kids while making them aware of watershed values. Activities included fieldtrips to the trail, craft making and trail activities at Warburton Memorial Park in Foxley River. A total of 16 watershed camp days were held between July and August of 2016. Attendance at Watershed Camp continued to be high last year with an average of 24-30 youth registered and participating on a regular basis.

Our theme at camp in 2016 was "Save the Bee". Campers were educated through, crafts, movies, nature walks, honey making, and the building of 3 pollinator gardens complete with "Bee Motels", on the importance of the life and work of the bee.

Two summer students provided through the Department of Communities/Land and Environment acted as camp councillors for the past two years. They maintained registration files and prepared crafts and activities throughout the summer for campers.





Pictured above:

Honey made by wildflowers children picked. Kim Curran of Ellerslie volunteered to cook and bottle honey for watershed campers.

Watershed campers learning where water comes from with an old fashioned hand pump installed in 2016 at offices. This was a great way to teach children that water comes from the ground. The children were eager each camp day to water their pollinator plants using this pump method.

Campers participating in craft time. Crafts are made each camp and are generally nature themed.

Watershed campers going on a nature walk on the trail at Warburton Memorial Park. This trail gives young children the sense of being deep in the woods, it is used for scavenger hunts, trail walks and general recreation.

Milligan’s Harbour Shore Cleanup Day

Maintaining a partnership with the Harbour Authority of Milligan’s Shore is important to our group. Harbour users make up a large portion of our communities economic makeup. Each year for the past four years, our group has partnered with Lennox Island Youth and the HA of Milligan’s Shore to organize and participate in a harbour shoreline cleanup. Cleanup day was held on July 5th 2016 with 13 youth participating. Participants were treated to lunch provided by Maggie’s Cove Dairy Bar located on harbour grounds, in appreciation for their efforts.



Special Projects

Freeland Creek Culvert Repair

Our group was informed at the beginning of the season of a culvert system that has been partially blown out by high water events. The culvert system consisted of three 1.5ft culverts with all rip-rap blown out, making it unusable to the landowner. As a result of the blow out, large boulders were displaced in the stream system causing issues with banks and substrate. Our crew repaired the culvert by retrieving the blown out rock from stream system and adding new rip-rap by hand for stabilizing culvert until a replacement culvert can be installed in the summer of 2017. Our group prepared request for culvert replacement size/ flow rate and forwarded to Ross Bernard and applied for funding of a new culvert system through WCF. Permit will be applied for in May of 2017.

Below are pictures of before and after culvert repair.



C.A.M.P. Community Aquatic Monitoring Program

This year marked our fourth year participating in Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP). In this work we collected important data that helps monitor the health of the Enmore estuary. The data collected will include aquatic species identification and counting. The effort will provide baseline information necessary for monitoring the health of this important environmental feature and shell fishing resource. This data is collected once per month over three months (June-August). Pictured below are crew members collecting data on the Enmore Estuary



Aquaculture 2016 Beach Sweep & Shoreline Clean Up

Our group participated in shoreline clean ups in various locations along the shorelines in the Lot 11 Community. We also partnered with Lennox Island who provided 9 student and a supervisor for 3 days to complete this clean up. A total of 21 persons participated in this important endeavour. Litter and debris is causing large issues in our estuaries and oceans across the Island. In 2016 our groups coordinator touched base with Small Craft Harbours specifically Ship to Shore Program educating fishers on the importance of returning waste to shore. They are looking to partner with local community groups to continue efforts of beach cleaning and education. Our group will be seeking to take part in a pilot project with this group to further educate fishers and the public of litter and debris issues we are facing today.

Pictured below are crew members collecting garbage and debris from shorelines.



Foxley River Riparian Zone Stabilization

Early in 2016, it was evident that a small section of the riparian zone located on the Foxley River East system was becoming inundated with run off sediment from an agricultural field with high slope. The field had not been used for row crops for the past two years and a wheat crop was in, however sediment still found its way to the riparian zone. In an effort to trap sediment in place, our group planted 250 tree/shrubs in the affected section of riparian zone. We further seeded this area out in grasses in the hopes of stopping sediment from entering the stream system. Blockages were also removed along this section to allow for bedload sediment to move downstream into a

sediment trap excavated years prior. We did consult with the farmer and he was more than willing to work with our group to improve buffer zone conditions.

Pictured below are trees/shrubs planted.



Ongoing Stream/Watershed Improvement/Protection Work

Improvement Summary

Location	Brushmats Installed	Blockages Removed	Walking/Access Trails	Brushmats Repaired	Trees Planted
MacDonald's River	0	17	5km maintained	1 repaired 2 planted	0
Foxley River	4	13	4km maintained	0	250
Enmore River	0	10	2km maintained	0	
Freeland Creek	3	17	3km maintained	3 re-planted	
Brooks River	0	11	2km maintained	1 repaired	
Bideford River	0	0	0	0	
Grant's Brook	0	8	1km maintained	7 repaired 2 planted	
Totals	7 brushmats installed	76 blockages removed	15km maintained	7 planted 9 repaired	250 trees planted

Bank Stabilization

Two stream banks were stabilized at meander point bars with brushmats. Additionally, brushmats installed in previous years were maintained as required. Brushmats with accumulated sediment were planted with grasses to stabilize sediment and encourage the formation of resilient, natural river banks.

Migratory Channel Improvements

One important task in our stream work is protecting migratory access for anadromous and catadromous fish throughout our streams' primary channels. 76 Migratory obstacles were corrected with low-impact, debris-conservative methods.

Tree/shrub planting

A total of 250 trees and shrubs were planted in riparian zones on the Foxley River. Below is the list of native species we planted:

24 Eastern Cedar	24 Eastern Hemlock	24 Sugar Maple
34 Red Oak	48 White Pine	24 Mountain Holly
24 Wild Rose	24 Heart Leaf Willow	24 Winterberry

Alder Succession

Where appropriate, alders were patch harvested and replanted with appropriate trees/shrubs/grasses on the Foxley River.

Trail Development and Maintenance

15km of access trails were maintained to allow easy access for work crews and recreational anglers and hikers throughout the watershed boundaries. These trails are important to reduce in-stream travel and lessen the impact on substrate and banks. They also provide safe efficient access to stream systems for crew members and recreational fishers.

Work not completed based on application for funding

Our group was unable to go forward with the proposed removal of the temporary crossing with the replacement of permanent culvert system, due to the inability to raise \$9156.00 needed to complete the project. Therefore, our group did not sign our contract with WCF for their award of \$3,408.

Financials

See attachment: WMF Form C

Other Activities / Going Above and Beyond

Our crew worked on the redevelopment of a 3km section of the Foxley River Demo Woodlot in partnership with Trout Unlimited Prince County Chapter. The aim was to connect this section of overgrown trail in the demo woodlot with an existing trail already maintained for the walking enjoyment of the public. This trail development was a two week project for our crew. We are hoping to further develop this woodlot trail system in the future in partnership with Forestry, Fish and Wildlife. The redevelopment of sections of this trail system will provide hiking/walking opportunities and promote health and wellbeing to community residents and visitors.

Before and after pictures of the Foxley River Demo Woodlot Trail System We redeveloped 3km of this system linking it to a currently maintained trail system.



We also participated in the 4 day setup of “Rock the Boat” event in Tyne Valley for the second year in a row. Our crew members worked so well while on site, they all received free tickets and back stage passes to the event. Pictured below: Watershed Crew with organizer Jeff Noye.

