

Chairman's Report



As this is my final report I would first like to state that it has been an honour to be Chairman of the North Colchester River Restoration Association over the past two years. I have been fortunate to have been surrounded by quality committee members and to have very capable summer crews to perform our work in maintaining the excellent river habitat we have become accustomed to in the French and Waugh's Rivers.

In 2012 we had our first year with a new crew supervisor in a long time. Justin Lewis came to us from St. FX University and for the first time we provided daily crew transportation. This seemed risky at first as we (NCRRA) purchased a used van for crew to have for transportation. We supplied fuel and the appropriate insurance and when the summer was over, we were able to sell the vehicle.

We were fortunate as after the van was sold and our total operating expenses may have actually been less than in other years.

For 2013 we were very lucky again in being able to find and hire a very competent crew chief who came with his own vehicle that could transport the whole crew safely. In the past year our work plan in the watershed shifted somewhat to completing an audit on previously constructed devices such as deflectors and digger logs. As a result of this, it was decided that it was about time to re-build as many of these structures as we could during the summer and try to maintain the excellent fish habitat we had originally established on these rivers.

Most importantly we have been able to maintain an excellent rapport with the organizations that provide our financial support. As we move forward into the future I see this partnership continuing. We have also formed new partnerships with the Millbrook First Nations People and the Aquatic Program at St. Francis Xavier University. This will assist us in enhancing the quality of fish habitat and at the same time the quality of the water supply for the village of Tatamagouche.

Perry Swan

Summer Work Program

We had a very productive summer season. In past years we have focused on building new digger logs and deflectors in strategic sites on the rivers. This year we felt that after a dozen years of building structures it was time to undertake an audit of the condition of these structures.



There has been a lot of high water over the past decade and in some cases on Warwick Mountain we hadn't been on site for several years. The audit was done in early July and our 3 person Crew under supervision of our new Supervisor Gary Masters spent 5 weeks repairing or replacing structures where necessary.



Once again we planted more trees in the riparian zone. In addition to this we cleared paths to the rivers so that anglers would not disturb the saplings. Our Crew also designed and built a permanent site on the Waugh's River that will enable our volunteers to take visitors on a guided tour of the work that we do. This Information site is now one of three sites on the Waugh's River where the public can view examples of the valuable work that we do.

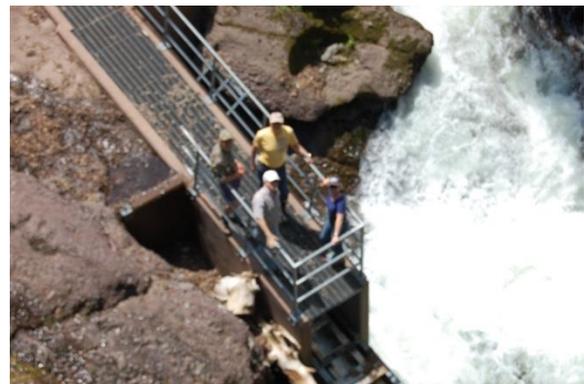
Public Information

Providing information to the general public is a very important component of our Annual Work Plan. We do this in several ways but the highlight of the year is always our Annual River Walk in mid-August.

This year our River Walk was an outstanding success. Held on a sunny Friday we attracted many of our project partners, parents of the crew and an enthusiastic group of local supporters of our work.



Committee Member Alison Doyle organized the event this year which was held at our new permanent site on the Waugh's River on the Edwin Cameron property near the Falls.



In addition to our River Walk we regularly provide briefings on our work throughout the year to anyone who requests more information. This year with the assistance of Derek Cameron from the IT Systems Management Program at NSCC Truro Campus we developed a valuable tool for our Web Page. I won't say more, just visit www.riverwork.ca and click on the Waugh's River Information section of our Top Banner. Google Earth will do the rest. Our WebPage continues to grow and we welcome your comments at any time.

Other Activities

Over the past twelve years our prime objective has remained the same. Enhancing habitat for migratory fish to successfully spawn remains our number one pursuit. We do this by engaging a summer crew and a supervisor each year to undertake a work plan that is guided by both levels of government fisheries departments, In addition to this we receive assistance and technical direction from Nova Scotia Salmon Association / Adopt a Stream .



We have become quite efficient in this work and because of these acquired skills we are often asked to assist in other activities. The Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP) is one important work that we do each summer. We monitor the health of our local watershed. Through monitoring methods established by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), community organizations such as our group conduct a science-based program to examine the health of bays and estuaries throughout our watershed.



Gary Masters and our Summer Crew



Gary Masters, Jarvis Mattatall, Nathan Martin and Jonathon Hunt

Earlier in this report it was stated that Habitat restoration was our primary mandate. While this is true it cannot be overstated that providing our summer crew with an opportunity to learn more about their environment is equally important. Our summer work activities provide a work environment that engages our youth in activities that allow them to take on leadership roles. It is not only the summer crew that benefits from our program but our community will reap these benefits as our youth take these new skills and mentor others on the importance of leadership within a community.



2013 Financial Report



December 2012 Balance Forward		\$ 1,492.61
Revenue		
• Sponsors	\$ 32,363.07	
• Rebate – 2012 HST	\$ 1,694.78	
Total 2013 Revenue		\$35,550.46
Expenses		
• Administration & Service Fees	\$ 341.05	
• Armor Rock	\$ 7,880.00	
• Education & Promotion	\$ 759.25	
• Fish Hatchery Expense	\$ 459.42	
• HST Paid in 2013	\$ 1,965.04	
• Insurance	\$ 700.00	
• Tree Planting	\$ 1,292.32	
• Supervision & Labor	\$ 16,194.29	
• Supplies	\$ 1,359.72	
Total 2013 Expenditures		\$30,951.09
Balance December 31, 2013		\$ 4,599.37