

MEDWAY RIVER SALMON ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENTS FALL REPORT NOVEMBER, 2013

Members:

Over the past year, your Association has been working tirelessly on several important projects for the Medway River.

1. Mersey Bio-Diversity Facility

Mike Fralic has been involved in setting up the newly formed Mersey Bio-Diversity Facility Supporters Society with the mandate; “to collaborate with stakeholders to determine if there is sufficient interest in developing a process for the continued operation of the Mersey Bio-diversity Facility.”

Along with Mike, Bev Davison also developed a Power-Point presentation showing the potential of this world-renowned facility.

Please find attached a list of all the efforts Mike and Bev have made over the past 10 months in hopes of saving this facility.

2. Grant

Over the winter, we received a \$10,000 grant to develop a program to improve our understanding of the brooks and streams that flow into the Medway. Brian Delude agreed to be the Project Manager and we hired the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation to do the field work. Brian Delude and Jennifer Campbell completed the field work, along with the assistance of the MRSA volunteers, who guided and supported Ms. Campbell’s survey of selected brooks feeding into the Medway River.

Analysis of the field work results will be forthcoming in a report to be written during the fall by Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation (Lunenburg).

Hopefully with this written report, we can apply for more funding from the Recreation Fisheries Conservation Partnership Program for the coming 2014/2015 season.

3. Southern Uplands Recovery Program

In addition to helping Mike on the hatchery closure, Bev Davison agreed to attend meetings in Halifax regarding the Southern Upland Salmon Collaborative ventures. These meetings were being organized in response to the question, “What is DFO doing to examine its role in several group projects that are directed towards the recovery of Southern Upland Atlantic Salmon?”

4. **Twin Bridges**

Darrell Tingley is still in communication with Ms. Julie Towers of DNR, and the Medway Community Trust Co-operative regarding the 20-acre site at Twin Bridges.

5. **Fish Friends**

The Fish Friends program has four (4) sites in our area that will use sea trout eggs next year instead of the usual salmon eggs from the hatchery. Also, the First Nations in West Caledonia have asked Ron to assist them in setting up the site in the spring.

6. **Hatchery at Charleston**

Last Spring, Raymond, Del and several volunteers helped install the incubation boxes at our hatchery in Charleston, to receive 60,000 sea trout eggs, hatch and release them back into our brooks and streams.

In the fall, volunteers and the NSCC (Natural Resources Environment Tech) students were on hand to clip the adipose fin of the trout that were later released into the Medway River system.

Our priorities continue to be the fish stocks and habitation on the Medway River. Many people do not see the time and tireless efforts our volunteers spend at meetings, planning and completing these projects.

As President, I want to thank all members for their support over the past year; without their help there is no way we could move forward.

Thanks,

Horace MacPherson
President
Medway River Salmon Association