

# Healthy watersheds

Experts, including Dr. Fred Whoriskey Jr., Director Ocean Tracking Network at Dalhousie University, claim that “whole watershed liming” will resolve the Acid Rain problem in Queens County and the rest of the Southern Uplands. The results of such a liming initiative will result in improved pH, trees will grow faster, carbon will be reduced, in fact, carbon credits will be possible in future years. The pH improvements in the rivers, lakes and streams will benefit aquatic and plant life and greatly support the work of salmon associations in their quest to re-establish Wild Atlantic Salmon populations.

The suggested approach would be to start with one watershed and then expand the initiative to bordering watersheds until the Southern Uplands is complete. Abitibi-Bowater, Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute, Atlantic Salmon Federation, Nova Scotia

Salmon Association and the Medway River Salmon Association have selected a 20.4 hectare site at Twin Bridges to do a research project. The area will be “pelletized limed” and pre and post results will be measured. Liming a selected site such as Twin Bridges will give a 25 year benefit to the soil and water. Liming the whole Medway Watershed will give a 100 year benefit.

To date the Provincial Government has indicated support for the project and a funding commitment. The Federal Conservative Government has made no such commitment. It is unfortunate that the Harper Government has such little respect for the environment and Wild Atlantic Salmon.

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