



Hello !

Here comes another summer full of projects for PWMG. Since our last newsletter, the group has been working very hard to try to develop and implement projects that will improve water quality within the Petitcodiac and Memramcook watersheds. I am glad to announce that the Environmental Trust Fund has come through once again for our group. This means that PWMG will be able to continue it's on-going work with the NB Water Classification Program and to start some rehabilitation projects in some areas of the watershed.

Speaking of rehabilitation, PWMG in conjunction with Petitcodiac River Keeper (PRK) received money to start a Halls Creek rehabilitation project. The project will hopefully run for the next 3 years and will include public education; stream clean ups; implementing Best Management Practices throughout the watershed etc. A coordinator and 2 technicians will be hired to manage this joint project. Public meetings within the Halls Creek watershed will be held as soon as a coordinator is hired. For more information on this project contact either the PWMG or PRK.

In conclusion, have a great and safe summer from all of the staff at PWMG.

If you have any comments / suggestions or you would like to donate your time to the group's activities, contact us at 384-3369 or by e-mail at: pwmg@nbnet.nb.ca.

Eric R Arseneau, PWMG Coordinator

Atlantic Sturgeon Found in the Petitcodiac River



Photo provided by PWMG

This six foot Atlantic Sturgeon was found 50 feet above the causeway gates on the Petitcodiac River. Todd Matchim (left) and Andrew Steeves (right), fishery technicians for DFO saw the fish floating belly up when they were tending to the causeway fish trap. An autopsy was performed on the sturgeon and DFO scientists say the fish is a female and was full of eggs. In the next few weeks, scientists will be looking at the fish's DNA, at parasites and will do a stomach content analysis. The cause of death is thought to be due to a quick change in water temperature and salinity. After all the necessary tests are completed, the carcass will be donated to the NB museum where it will be preserved.

<http://www.pwmg.20m.com>

**Questions,
comments,
suggestions?**

P.O. Box 23046,
Moncton, N.B.

E1A 6S8

Ph: 384-3369

Fax: 854-4824

Email:

pwmg@nbnet.nb.ca





Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring Group

Groupe de surveillance du bassin de la Petitcodiac

Report on PWMG Annual Meeting

The Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring Group annual meeting was held on June 12, 2001 at the Riverview Superstore Community Room. A total of 15 people attended the meeting. Representatives from the federal and provincial governments, community groups, farmers and concerned citizens were present.

The topics of discussion were: 1- PWMG constitution; 2- charitable status for PWMG; 3- steering committee members; 4- patron for PWMG etc.. Emphasis was put on recruiting new steering committee members for PWMG. A few candidates expressed interest, but PWMG still needs more members to fill its board. If you are interested or know someone who would be, please contact us and we will be glad to explain the responsibilities (time commitment, work to be done etc.) that awaits a board member.

PWMG Meets with Soils and Crops

On June 7th 2001, PWMG met with the members of Soils and Crops. Also present at this meeting, where representatives of NBDOE and NB Agriculture. At this meeting PWMG got a chance to go out on the field with Soils and Crops members to look at an experimental crop field. A representative from Agriculture NB gave a presentation on the different types of hay produced in this field. After this presentation most of the members gathered at Winston Jones' farm. Being a member of both PWMG and Soils and Crops, Winston was the link between our two organizations. At this informal gathering, PWMG, government representatives and the members of Soils and Crops got a chance to discuss water quality issues that exist with agriculture and how a simple few changes can make a lot of difference in the long run (ex. cattle fencing). The members of Soils and Crops were very receptive on this subject and PWMG hopes to be able to someday work in partnership with it's members on projects relating to water quality preservation and improvement.

Water Sampling (NB Classification)

This year PWMG is starting it's 3rd and final year with the NB Classification Program. After the Action Plan Development Workshop this winter, it was evident that the Memramcook watershed could not be classified with only 2 sampling sites. After consultation with some community members and NBDELG personel, we identified 7 new sampling locations throughout the watershed. These sites will be sampled once a month from June to October. These additional sampling sites will help us better understand the water quality within this watershed. Volunteers in this area will be contacted shortly to help with sampling. If you are a resident of Memramcook and would like to volunteer your time to sample or you would be interested in having a presentation from PWMG on water quality, you can contact us by calling 384-3369 during the week.

General appreciation of water quality in the different water bodies of the Petitcodiac Watershed (Mean value 1997-2000)

codes: 1- average values all below *CWQG, no parameter in elevated concentrations compared to the regional values
2- one parameter above CWQG or above regional values
3- five or less parameters above CWQG or regional values
4- more than five parameters above the CWQG or regional values

Anagance River (2); Bennett Brook (2); Fox Creek (4); Halls Creek (2); Humphreys Brook (4); Jonathan Creek (2); Jones Lake (4); Little River (1); Memramcook River (4); Mill Creek (3); North Branch Halls Creek (1); North River (2); Petitcodiac River (2); Pollett River (1); Prosser Brook (1); Rabbit Brook (4); Turtle Creek (2); Weldon Creek (1); West Branch Halls Creek (3);

***Canadian Water Quality Guidelines (Aquatic Life Standards)**

For more information contact PWMG or visit our website at www.pwmg.20m.com.

Ref: St-Hilaire, A., B. Massicotte, A., B. Bobée, T. Ouarda, E. Arseneau, A. Chiasson. 2001. Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring: Summary of water quality analyses. Report produced by Roche Ltée, Groupe-conseil and INRS-Eau on behalf of the Petitcodiac Watershed Monitoring Group. 30 p. + appendices.

Upcoming activities:

- Halls Creek rehabilitation committee meeting to be announced (July-August)
- Volunteer training on water quality monitoring (July 25th, 2001)
- If you would like to have your event advertised in our next newsletter, please forward your article to the PWMG address.

