



Fall 2026 Newsletter

Big Changes

This year, Raena is heading off to complete her Masters in Forestry, due to this we have a new Coordinator. After three and a half years as Coordinator and seven years with the WRTBWA, Raena has left her mark on the watershed and will be missed dearly.



In Raena's place, we would like to welcome Meghan Lavoie as our new Coordinator. We look forward to seeing what is to come in future years. Anyone looking to reach out to Meghan can email her at: wrtb.watershed@gmail.com.



2025-2026 Fiscal Year Scorecard

	LAND			WATER QUALITY			WATER QUANTITY			COMMUNITY		
	Objectives			Objectives			Objectives			Objectives		
	Improve - Forest management - Planting, patch cuts, thinning, seed collection/monitoring - Watershed health indicators - Soil health testing - Wildlife habitat - Brush piles, amphibian boards, bird boxes Reduce - Soil erosion (roads & farms) - Survey with watershed farmers - Invasive species - Glossy Buckthorn & Japanese Knotweed			Improve/protect - Surface water quality - Brush mats, blockage removal - Groundwater quality - Bay, estuary & freshwater ecosystems - Estuary watch - Gather baseline data for ponds - Habitat connectivity - Reassess status of culverts			Reduce - Water extraction - Increase water conservation - Track Charlottetown pumping data Increase - Public policy influence - Gov of PEI, City of Charlottetown - Groundwater infiltration - Tree planting			- Increase watershed knowledge - Youth field trips (ex. shoreline cleanup) - Senior's College - Watershed workshop at schools - Social media posts, newsletters, etc. - Outdoor activities that promote watershed - Lady's Slipper & Winter hike events - Birds of Glenaladale events - Watershed property - Creating trail at WRTBWA owned land - Install septic & well		
	Goal		Done	Goal		Done	Goal		Done	Goal		Done
Metrics	Trees planted	1000	1421	Brush mats built	6	5	Meetings with Government	2	2	Events hosted	4	5
	Brush piles	20	26	Waste collected (kg)	300	590	Sites monitored	11	10	Media articles	2	2
	Total area improved (acres)	10	12.2	Stream Assessed (km)	20	25.09	Charlottetown Water Extraction vs PEI Gov policy Using Joose recommendations. % by wellfield (100% meets policy)	M: 90 S: 60 U: 100 B: 100	90 83 155 155	Social media posts	50	50
	Invasive species removed (kg)	450	660	Estuary Watch surveys	6	1	Start water conservation initiative with City of Charlottetown	1		Volunteer hours	75	93
	Cavity nester habitat structures	55	28	Hours spent enhancing WR	50	298.5				Youth involvement hours	150	294
Notes	Last updated: 2026-04-13 Goal achieved Goal not achieved Updated info Need data Full management plan available online at https://www.wintertracadi.ca/_files/ugd/ab3fa7_5124f862003f499999afe43da21016040.pdf											

Field Crew 2025



Thank you to our 2025 field crew: Alexa M., Cole M., Jehaan C., Maddy J., Nik N., Paige C., and Shane M. and coordinator Raena P.

Missing from this picture: Jehaan C., Nik N., and Paige C.

We want to thank our funding partners for their support of our work in 2025.

Canada

- Employment and Social Development Canada: Canada Summer Jobs
- Canada Water Agency: EcoAction Community Funding Program
- Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada: Youth Employment and Skills Program

Prince Edward Island
CANADA

- Skills PEI: Post Secondary Program
- Skills PEI: Graduate Mentorship Program
- Watershed Management Fund
- Youth on Board Program

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION FUND

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
WATERSHED
ALLIANCE

PEI invasive
species council

CHARLOTTETOWN
• Water and Sewer Utility

Projects for 2026/27



Invasive Goldfish Trapping

We have experienced an introduction of Goldfish into the Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed. To combat the presence of these invasives, we created z-traps intended to catch goldfish at Hardy Mill Pond and Officers Pond for the month of June. We have experimented with various baiting methods, however, due to the summer heat, we removed the traps and will set them again in the Fall to continue our trapping.

Invasive Plant Removal

Through our EcoAction project, we removed invasive plant species from the watershed with a heavy focus on glossy buckthorn around the Brackley branch of the Winter River. Following the removal of invasive species we will be counter-planting the areas with native plants to promote a healthier ecosystem. We successfully removed 320 kg of invasive plants this season!



Tree Swallow Monitoring

Tree swallows are facing population declines due to habitat loss, pesticide use, climate change, predation, and environmental pollution, making our conservation efforts increasingly important. We are proud to be active participants in the Cross-Watershed Tree Swallow Banding Initiative, supported by the Wildlife Conservation Fund and in collaboration with nine other groups across the island. Our team built, installed, and monitored 10 nesting boxes for tree swallows throughout the watershed. This effort led to the successful banding of 5 adult tree swallows and 24 chicks, contributing to long-term data on survival rates, site fidelity, and population trends for these declining aerial insectivores.



Community Pollinator Garden and Senior Friendly Workshops

This project is made possible through the Connecting Seniors to Nature Through Technology & Teaching Program (CSNTT), an initiative created and administered by the Southeast Environmental Association (SEA) and delivered in partnership with Island-based community organizations. Funding support is provided by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program. Thanks to this funding, staff began the initial stages of a community pollinator garden at Glenaladale School House this summer, with plans for expansion in the coming years. We also hosted three workshops: a tree swallow box-building workshop, a tree swallow banding event, and a Beekeeping 101 session. Additional workshops are planned throughout the year, and we encourage all seniors to express their interest and reach out to stay informed about upcoming free events.



Thank you Staff of 2026/27!



- **Meghan - Coordinator**
- **1st Season with WRTBWA**
- **BSc - Major in Marine Bio**
- **PG Certs in Ecosystem**
- **Restoration & Remote Sensing**



- **Alexa - Project Manager**
- **3rd Season with WRTBWA**
- **Bachelor in Environmental**
- **Studies at UPEI, Spec in**
- **Island Env and Sustainability**



- **Will - Supervisor**
- **3rd Season with WRTBWA**
- **BSc - Major in Bio and**
- **Minor in Chem. Honors in**
- **Bio**



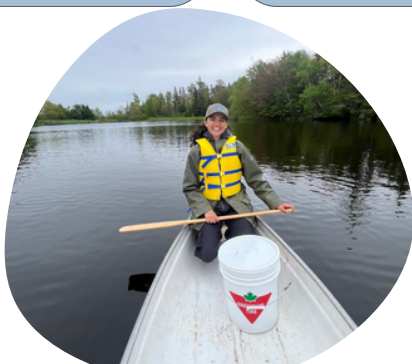
- **Lindsay - Supervisor**
- **1st Season with WRTBWA**
- **BSc - Major in Bio, Spec in**
- **Environmental Science**



- **Philippe - Field Technician**
- **1st Season with WRTBWA**
- **BBS - Spec in International**
- **Business, Masters in Coastal**
- **and Marine Management**



- **Madison - Field Technician**
- **1st Season with WRTBWA**
- **BSc - Major in Bio, year 2**
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- **Natasha - Field Technician**
- **1st Season with WRTBWA**
- **School of Climate Change**
- **and Adaptation**



- **Isabelle - Field Technician**
- **1st Season with WRTBWA**
- **BSc - Major in Bio, year 2**
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WINTER RIVER - TRACADIE BAY
WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

YOUR WATERSHED. YOUR VOICE. *OUR FUTURE.*

Dear Community Member,

The Winter River-Tracadie Bay watershed is an important part of our community. It supports clean water, healthy fish habitat, and opportunities to enjoy nature, whether you live nearby or simply care about this special place.

The Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed Association is updating our Watershed Management Plan, and we'd like your help.

We're inviting everyone with an interest in the watershed to join us in a community conversation to share ideas, identify priorities, and help shape the future of the watershed. Whether you've been involved for years or this is your first time attending, your perspective is valuable.

Community Conversations

Tracadie Community Centre
148 Station Rd, Mount Stewart
Saturday, Sept 12, 10am



North Shore Hall
2120 W Covehead Rd, West Covehead
Monday, Sept 21, 7pm



This is an opportunity to talk about what you value most about the watershed, the challenges you see, and the opportunities we should focus on over the coming years.

We hope you'll join us and be part of shaping the future of the Winter River-Tracadie Bay watershed. If you'd like to register for these events, please scan the QR Codes above. Registration is encouraged but not required.

Sincerely,
Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed Association

Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed Association's Annual General Meeting

Join us on October 21st at 7:00p.m. for our Annual General Meeting!

This year's AGM will be hosted at the Glenaladale Schoolhouse
(257 Blooming Point Road)

where we will go over the events of our 2025-26 field
season, reports from the Watershed Coordinator, the
Board of Directors, and the Treasurer

To kick things off, members of our team will present on native
plants and pollinator gardens providing valuable information
gathered on the job!

Contact Us:

Show your support by following our social media pages! Having more visible followers helps us get more grant funding

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