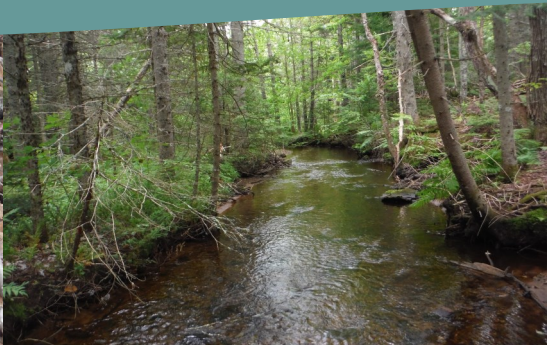
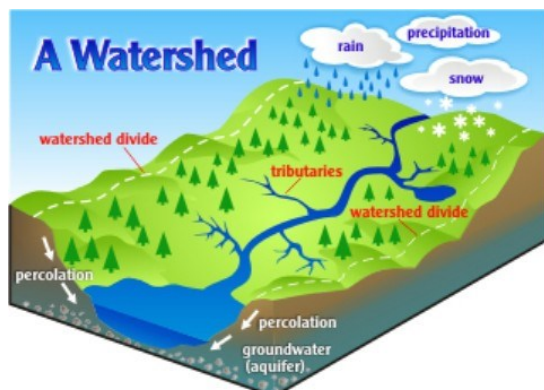


Sturgeon River and Area Watershed



A watershed is an area of land that drains into a particular river, lake or other body of water. In the Southeast Environmental Association (SEA) region there are six main watershed areas, made up of 26 sub-watersheds, covering 731.6km². One of the main watershed areas is the Sturgeon River Watershed . It is made up of six sub-watersheds.



Simple diagram explaining how a watershed works.

Sturgeon River and Area

Sub-watersheds:

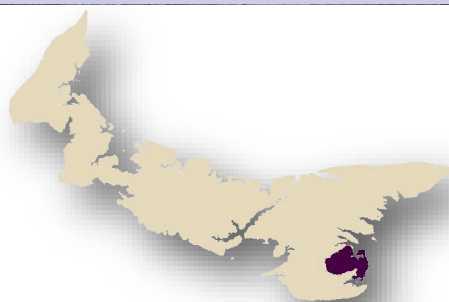
Sturgeon River
Thompson Creek
Albion
Llewellyn's Creek
Wight Point
Gasparaux Shore

Total length of streams: 114.7 km

Total area: 12,882ha (128.8km²)

Basin Name: St. Mary's Bay

Largest Land Use: Forest (62.5%)



Map of Prince Edward Island with the Sturgeon River and Area watershed highlighted in purple.

Location

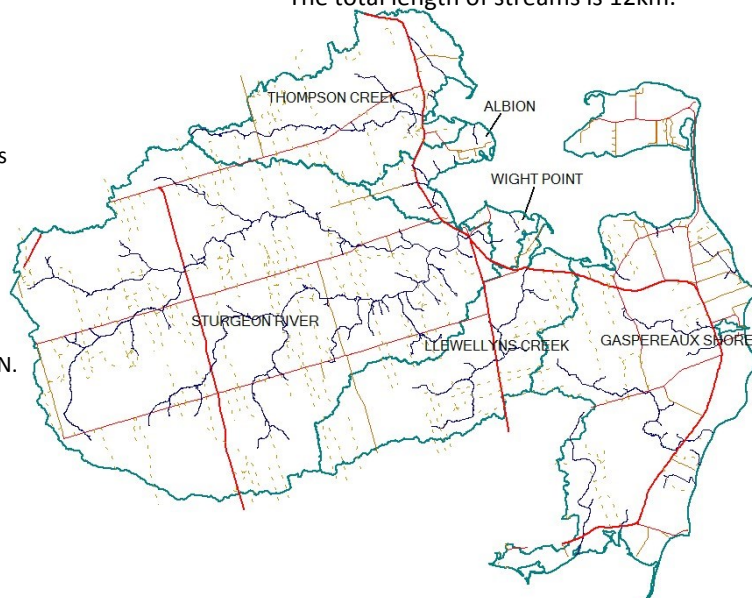
The Sturgeon River and Area watershed is located in southeastern Kings County and includes all areas that drain into the St. Mary's Bay, Stewart's Pond and Clark's Bay. This includes:

Albion
Alma
Brooklyn
Cambridge
Commercial Cross
Gasparaux
Glenmartin
Kilmuir
Lower Montague
Milltown Cross
Murray Harbour N.
Panmure Island
Pembroke
Peter's Road
St. Mary's Road
Sturgeon
Whim Road

Physical Description

Sturgeon River watershed drains into St. Mary's Bay which flows into the Cardigan Bay and then into Northumberland Strait. The watershed covers an area of 63km². The headwaters of the Sturgeon River are located in Brooklyn , Glenmartin and St. Mary's Road. The total length of streams in this watershed is 66km.

Thompson Creek Watershed covers an area of 15km². Headwaters are located in three communities that make up this watershed: Albion, Lower Montague and Whim Road. Before reaching Cardigan Bay, waters from Thompson Creek flow through Stewarts Pond and Clarks Bay. The total length of streams is 12km.



Sturgeon River and Area watershed map showing the six watersheds, roads and streams. The total area is 129km² with 114.7km of stream.

Land Use	Sturgeon River (Hectares)	Thompson Creek (Hectares)	Albion (Hectares)	Wight Point (Hectares)	Gaspeaux Shore (Hectares)	Llewellyn's Creek (Hectares)	Total Area (Hectares)	%
Agriculture	6854	12.5	75.6	4.6	618.5	366.7	3047.9	23.7%
Developed	257.2	66.7	33.8	14.5	300.3	56.5	729.0	5.5%
Forest	4055.4	1027.6	163.3	92.7	1821.8	887.2	8048.1	62.5%
Wetland	137.4	62.7	5.2	12.5	424.9	1387.2	690.2	5.4%
Non-evident	125.9	36.3	23.7	5.4	146.2	29.3	366.8	2.9%

Breakdown of the land use for the six sub-watersheds in the Sturgeon Area.

Albion watershed is 3km² in area. It has 3.5km of stream draining into Clark's Bay and St. Mary's Bay.

Wight Point watershed is the smallest in the Sturgeon Area. It is 1.3km² in area and has 600m of stream. Wight Point drains into St. Mary's Bay.

Llewellyn's Creek watershed covers an area of 13.9km². The headwaters of the 10km stream are located in Alma. Llewellyn's Creek drains into St. Mary's Bay.

Gaspeaux Shore Watershed is the second largest in the Sturgeon Area. Unlike the other watersheds in this area, Gaspeaux Shore drains directly into the Northumberland Strait. The water may pass through Graham's Pond, Condon's Pond and Steele's Pond.

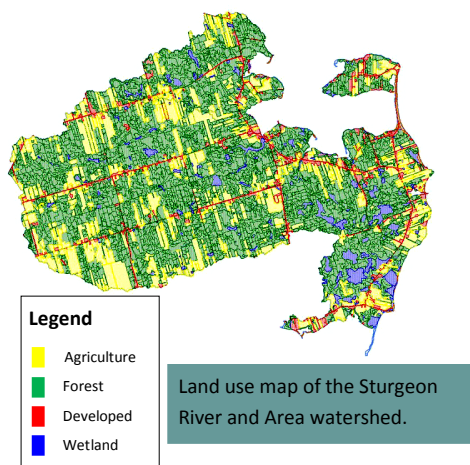
Did you know?

The two ponds at the Harvey Moore Wildlife Sanctuary are fed by streams that are part of the Sturgeon River. These ponds are perfect habitat wildlife, including Canada Geese, American Black Duck and North American Beaver.



Harvey Moore Wildlife Sanctuary is located at 7096 Commercial Road in Milltown Cross.

Watershed and Area Land Use



Based on land use data from 2010, forested areas dominate the land in the Sturgeon River and Area watershed, followed by agricultural land. Developed land includes commercial, industrial, institutional, recreational, residential, transportation and urban.

Conservation Issues

A riparian assessment of the Sturgeon River was started during the summer of 2015. A total of 16km of stream was surveyed. It was determined that the majority of the tributaries assessed were healthy but need work to restore them to full function. Some issues needing to be addressed include:

- Natural blockages
- Beaver activity
- Runoff
- Poor or damaged crossings

- Buffer zone violations
- Invasive species

These issues are a concern because they can lead to :

- Anoxic events/eutrophication
- Fish kills
- Fish passage impediment
- Loss of habitat



Multiflora Rose is an invasive plant that was found in a number of locations along the Sturgeon River.

With groundwater being the only source of drinking water in PEI. It is important that residents protect the environment which provides it.

Get Involved!

A management plan for the Sturgeon River and Area watershed needs to be developed. SEA requires public support and input for this to be successful. We urge you to get involved. Please contact us if you are interested in improving the watershed you live in.

