

MILL RIVER (P.E.I.) CANADA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN



Land & Sea Environmental Consultants Ltd./OCL Group was retained to evaluate the problem of eutrophication in the Mill River estuary in northwestern Prince Edward Island. The eutrophication was due to a combination of agricultural land erosion, nutrients applied to a large golf resort and recent housing developments using on-site septic control. The eutrophication had resulted in extensive growth of sea lettuce (*Ulva lactuca*), with consequent problems of odour and nuisance to recreational users of the estuary.

Stage 1 involved a review of past sampling results, complaints and identification of federal, provincial and community requirements.

In Stage 2, the results of this review were used to persuade the provincial government to fund a modeling study, which would evaluate circulation and nutrient loading in the estuary.

Stage 3 involved working with the Watershed Improvement Committee to develop an Action Plan to restrict the loss of nutrient-rich soils from adjacent farmlands and to deal with sanitary sewage entering the estuary from various land-based sources, such as the Mill River Resort and cottage development.

Client: Mill River Watershed Committee