

Federal funding ‘positive’

Projects involve conservation of fish habitat

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Six Prince Edward Island habitat conservation projects will receive up to \$342,217 in federal funding.

“Recreational fisheries are a big part of life in rural communities and contribute to local economies at various levels,” said Dale MacIssac, Morell River Management Co-operative Limited board chairman. The investments “will, without a doubt, have a positive impact on fish habitat and the long-term sustainability of recreational fisheries on P.E.I.”

The work includes a project by the Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association aimed at improving fish passage for both recreational and commercial fish species. The Souris & Area Branch of the P.E.I. Wildlife Federation project is to enhance recreational fisheries habitat for Hay, Cow, Souris and Fortune rivers as well as East Lake Creek and Mill Creek.

The Winter River-Tracadie Bay Watershed Association’s project aims to reduce water extraction from the Winter River watershed, enhance cold water springs and improve fish access.

The Morell River Management Co-operative project is for recreational fish species in the watersheds of Bristol Creek, Morell, Midgell and St. Peters rivers.

Work by the Central Queens Branch of the P.E.I. Wildlife Federation targets key habitat elements required by brook trout while the South Shore Watershed Association work is to restore fish passage at two locations of the South Shore River. The funding is coming through recreational fisheries conservation partnerships program.