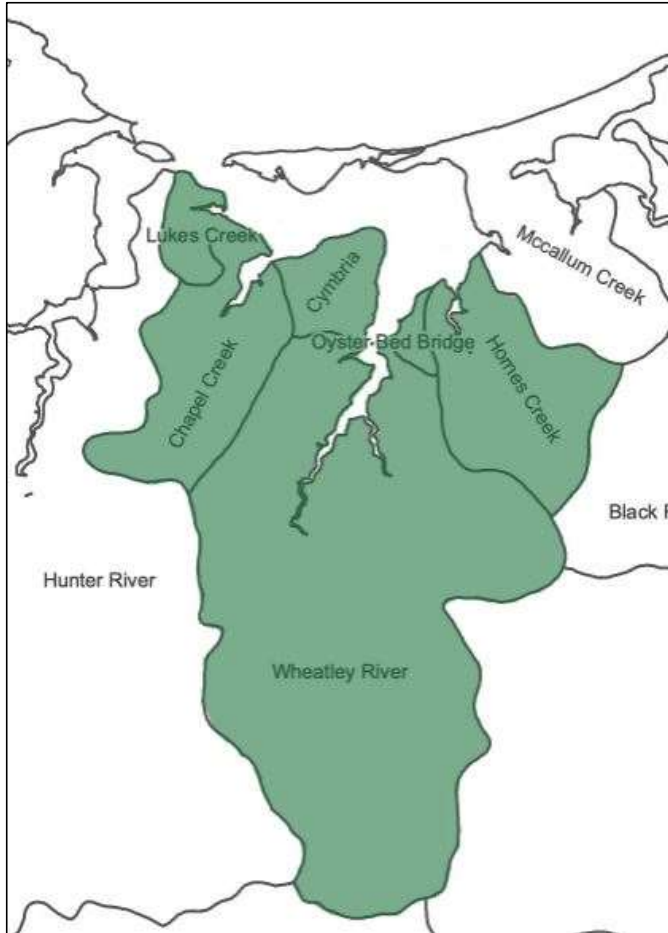


2022-2023 Summary

WATERSHED MANAGER'S REPORT



WRIG 2022-2023 Goals



1. **Improve** brook trout habitat with guidance from WRIG's sediment management plan
2. **Improve** surface water quality
3. **Increase** aquatic connectivity for migrating fish
4. **Improve** upland wildlife habitat
5. **Provide** opportunities for environmental education
6. **Encourage** public engagement and connection to the watershed



Year In Review

2022 Summer Field Crew

- Robyn Caseley – Field Supervisor
- Ella Boyes – PS Watershed Tech
- Marika Dykstra – HS Watershed Tech
- Daphne Gallant – HS Watershed Tech

2022-23 Intern

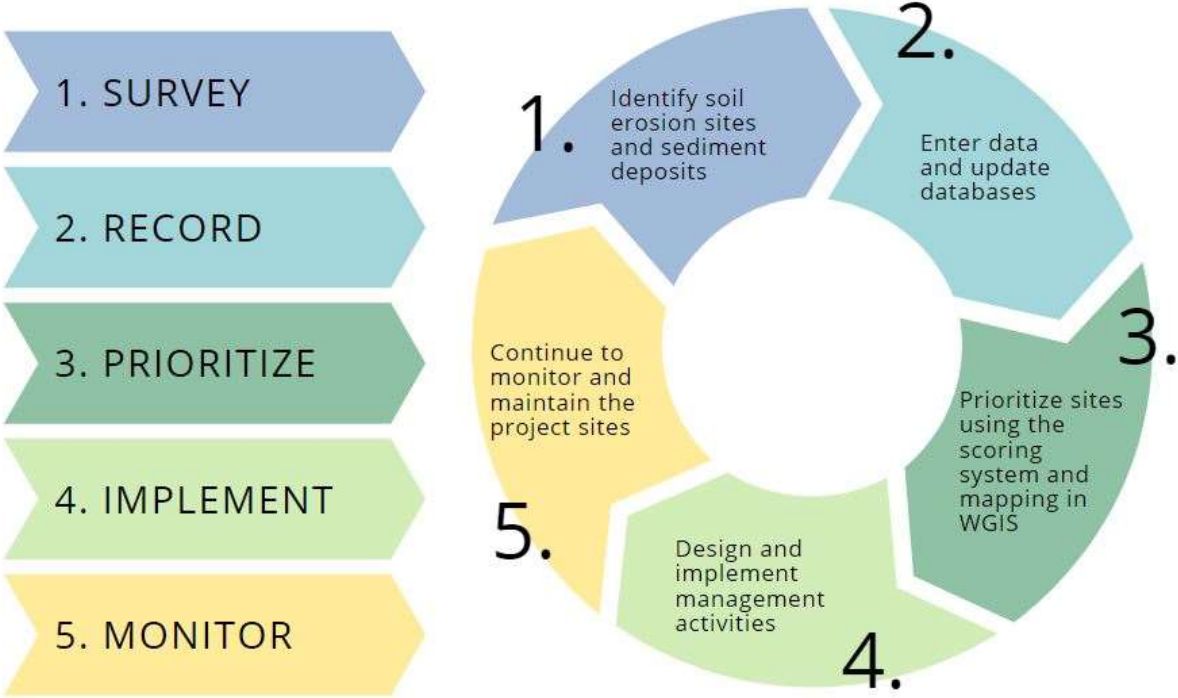
- Robyn Caseley – Project Lead



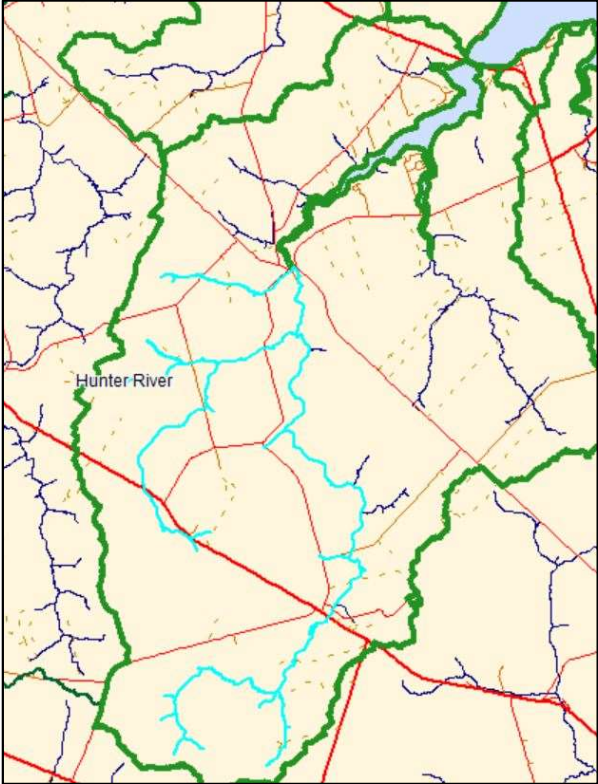
Training

- Woodland ecology workshop
- Watershed training workshop
- Electrofishing refresher course
- Rapid Geomorphic Assessment
- First aid training
- Chainsaw certification
- WGIS course

Improve Brook Trout Habitat with Guidance from WRIG's Sediment Management Plan

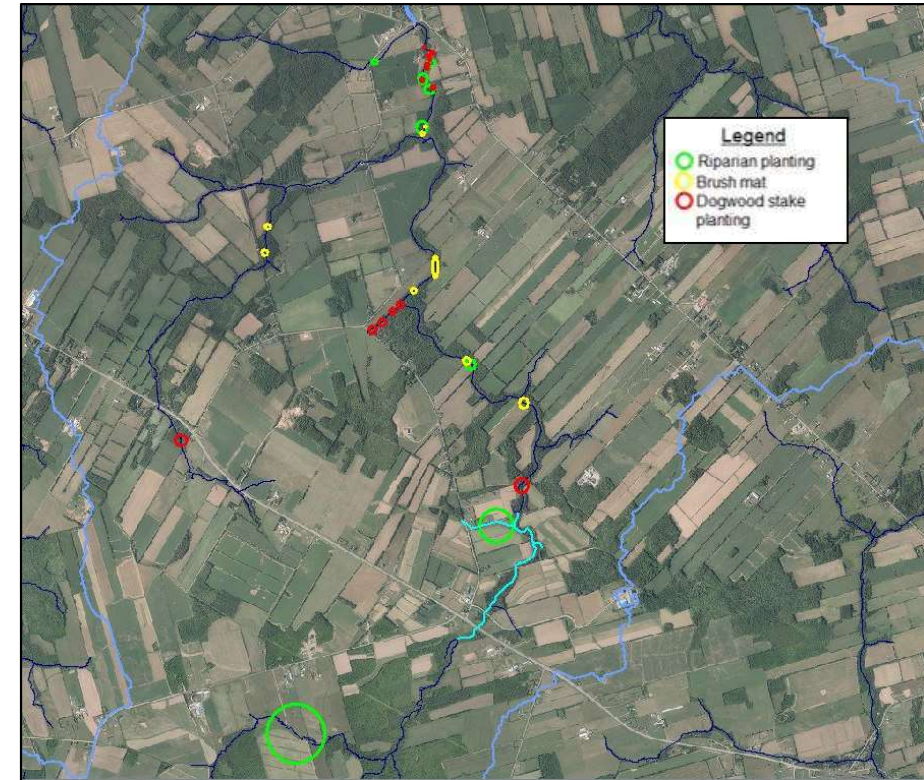


28.3 kms of stream surveyed in 2021



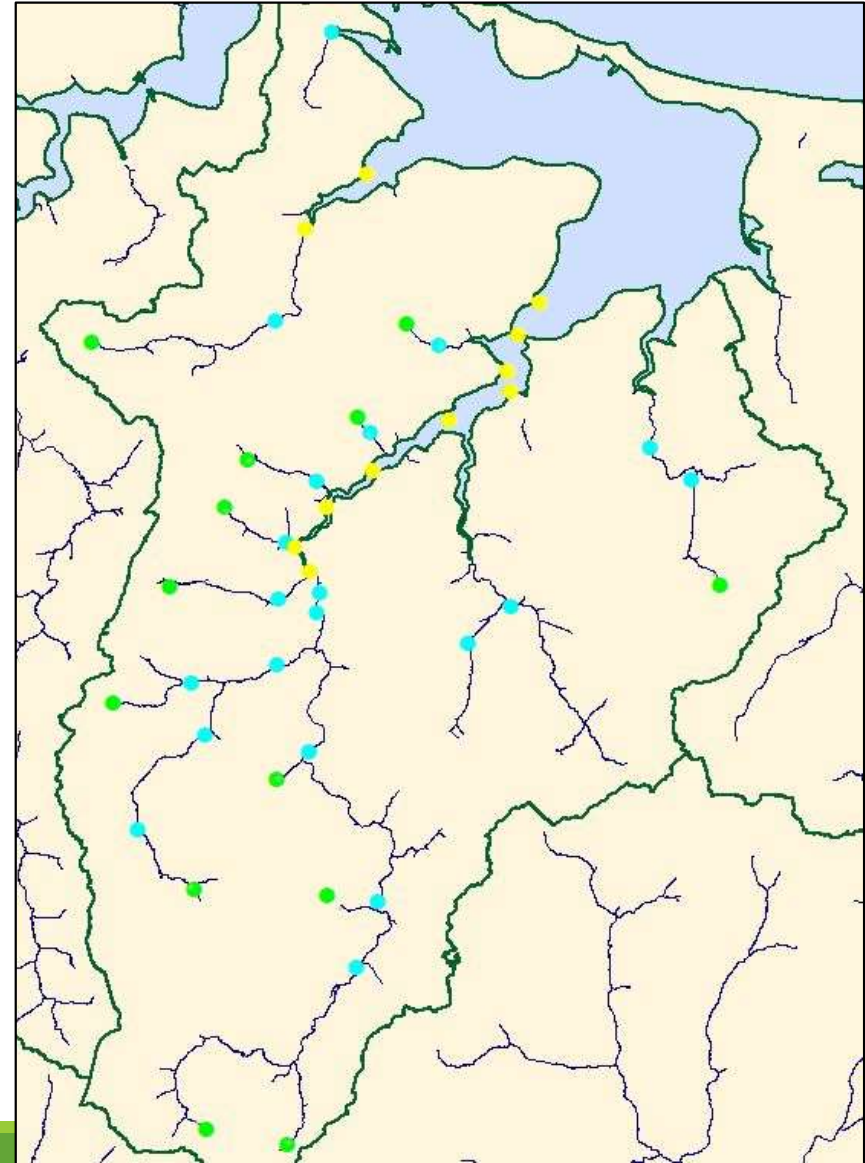
Improve Brook Trout Habitat

- 1. Mitigate sediment inputs**
 - 7 brush mats along 65 m riverbank
- 2. Stabilize the riverbanks**
 - 600 live stakes over 1120 m² riverbank area
- 3. Restore deep refuge pools**
 - 3 pools covering 1200 m² of riverbed area
- 4. Improve canopy cover**
 - 500 native trees/shrubs in buffer zones
- 5. Remove in-stream blockages**
 - stream clearing along 2.5 kms



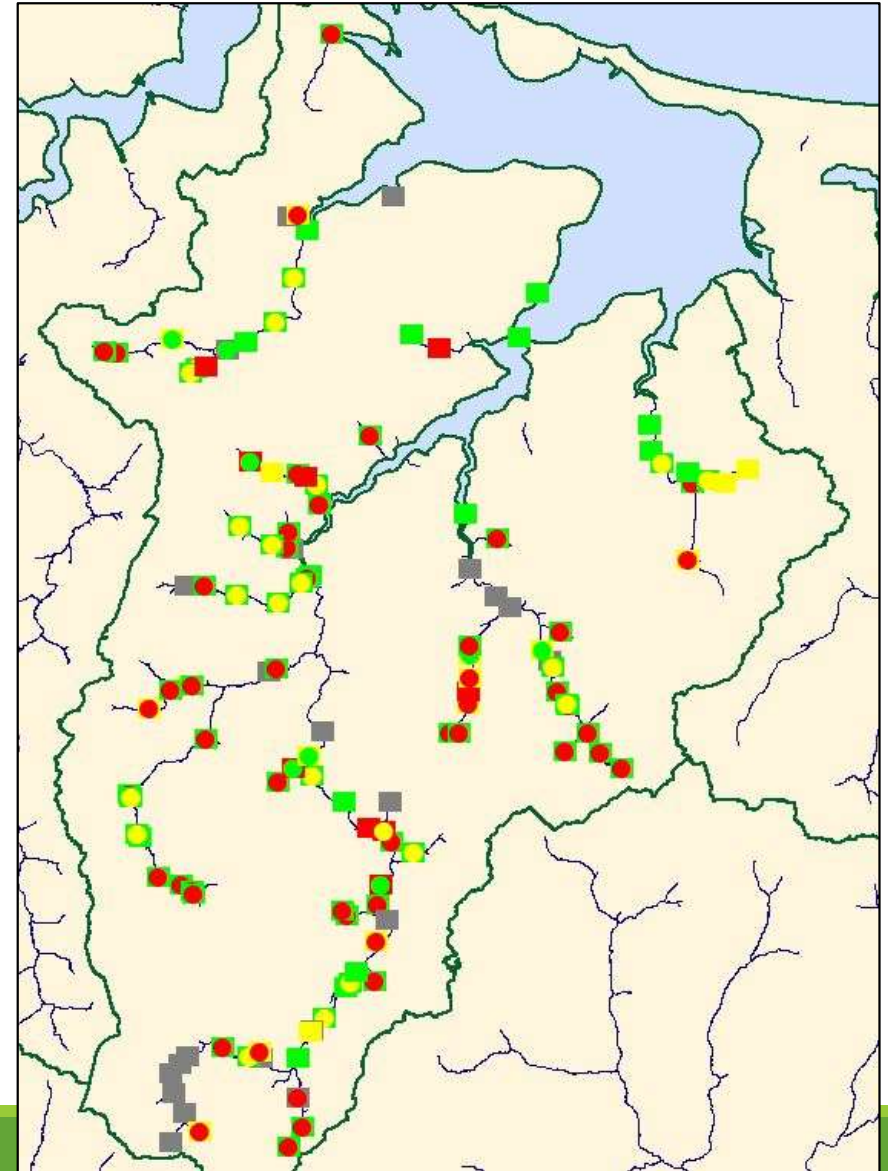
Improve Surface Water Quality

- Water quality monitoring was conducted at **20 sites** on a weekly basis in June, July & August
- Qualitative and quantitative surveys for signs of anoxia were conducted at **11 sites** in the OBB and Chapel Creek estuaries every 3 weeks
- Headwater surveys were conducted at **12 locations** in spring and fall
- Installed 1 DO and 3 temperature remote loggers



Increase Aquatic Connectivity

- **125** stream crossings were assessed and scored, based on:
 - Structural integrity
 - Fish passage
- Colour-coded and mapped for prioritization



Improve Upland Wildlife Habitat

A small number of trees/shrubs were planted on 3 upland parcels in the watershed to:

- Increase biodiversity
- Widen hedgerow
- Provide wind break
- Attract wildlife
- Prevent erosion

150 trees were given out to the community on Canada Day to be planted on upland properties



Nesting boxes were maintained & monitored:

- 25 Tree Swallow boxes
- 13 American Kestrel boxes
- 9 Wood Duck boxes

Environmental Education & Public Engagement



Rackham's Community Pond Improvements



2023 Summer Field Season

- Headwater surveys & Water quality monitoring
- Continue to implement the sediment management plan
- River floodplain reconnection project
- Improve fish passage at priority stream crossings
- Maintain & continue to improve Rackham's Pond area
- Community education and engagement events

