

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF LAKE CHARLES TRAIL



The Dartmouth area of the Halifax Regional Municipality is blessed with over 30 lakes and waterways within the major urban area. The center point is the Shubenacadie lakes and river system, including Lake Banook, Lake MicMac, Lake Charles and Lake William with connecting rivers and smaller tributary lakes. In the mid-1800's, the system formed part of the historical Shubenacadie Canal.

OCL Group was retained to prepare environmental impact assessment reports for a new hiking trail along the western side of Lake Charles. Much of the area is undeveloped, but because of its proximity to the City, was used for limited access. It had not been subject to significant human development. Construction of the hiking trail provides connection to trails around Lakes Banook and MicMac and future connection to the Trans-Canada Trail system.



Project entailed preparing list of VEC's and evaluating construction and operational phases of the trail. Critical features were preservation of extensive wetland areas and minimization of impacts to adjacent waterways. The EA was prepared to meet the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.



Client: Shubenacadie Canal Commission