The Annapolis Royal Marsh was developed through a partnership with Ducks Unlimited and the town of Annapolis Royal. This constructed freshwater wetland/marsh was completed in 2002 and is primarily used to treat the community's wastewater before it enters the Annapolis River. However, it also provides habitat for a wide variety of wetland species, such as frogs and muskrats, and serves as an important breeding ground for waterfowl. Great blue heron, sandpipers, black duck, blue and green-winged teal, grebes, sora rails, red-winged blackbirds, song sparrows and yellow warblers have been spotted in this marsh.

A recreational trail, French Basin Trail, surrounds the marsh. Interpretative panels are located at various spots along the trail during the summer season and enable visitors to explore the marsh and learn about the importance of wetland conservation. The constructed wetland has become a major attraction in the community and has made nature very accessible to residents and visitors. The local schools are also starting to incorporate field trips to the wetland into their program of study.

Nearby, on the causeway over the Annapolis River, you can also find the Annapolis Royal Power Generating Station (N 44° 45.222 W 065° 30.687). Opened in 1984, the generating station was initially designed as a pilot project to determine the viability of larger tidal generation on the Bay of Fundy. This 20 MW tidal power station is currently the only modern tidal generating station in North America and it harnesses the tidal difference created by the large tidal range. While effectively generating enough ‘clean’ electricity to power over 4000 homes, increased river bank erosion has been experienced both upstream and downstream and there have been two notable cases of impacts on marine life.

Learn more about this area:
www.annapolisriver.ca/frenchbasintrail.php

Thank you to: pharma-geologist (cache owner), Ashley Sprague (NS Dept. of Fisheries and Aquaculture)

Passport Question:
- According to the panel “The French Basin Trail”, what ship visited Port Royal in 1636?

*Please note: To log this Earthcache, please visit Geocaching.com for additional tasks or questions to be completed.