Hullcar Aquifer Inter-Ministry Working Group
Update of Key Activities and Actions

Ministry of Environment Sample of the Steele Springs Drinking Water Overflow

The Ministry of Environment August 16, 2016 Nitrate sample from Steele Springs drinking water overflow was 10.9 mg/L. This is down from the July 20, 2016 Nitrate sample which was 11.3mg/L.

Ambient Hydrogeological Network Sampling and Surface Water Sampling:

The Hullcar Ambient Groundwater Quality Montoring Network was sampled by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations on Tuesday, August 16 and Wednesday, August 17, as well surface water sampling of several points along Deep Creek was conducted by Ministry of Environment the week of August 16-18. Both studies sampled for more than two dozen parameters (similar to parameters being sampled for at Steele Springs Drinking water overflow) and selectively for stable isotopes of oxygen, hydrogen and some for nitrogen-15. The lab analysis for stable isotopes has been completed and received by both ministries. The data is currently being reviewed for quality assurance/quality control. The results will be uploaded to the Environmental Monitoring System and incorporated into the Integrated Monitoring Study.

Tracking Post-Harvest Soil Nitrate in Agricultural Fields over the Hullcar Aquifer

Short title: Post-Harvest Nitrate Study

Ministry of Agriculture invited quotes for field assistance for a project that would evaluate post-harvest soil nutrients in up to 40 cropped fields over the Hullcar Aquifer. The project seeks to address 2 main questions: over the Hullcar Aquifer, 1) how many agricultural fields have elevated levels of soil nitrate following crop harvest, and 2) does nitrate leach through the 0-90 cm depth of soil between growing seasons?

The Invitation to Quote has closed and a qualified vendor has been selected. The Ministry of Agriculture is in the process of signing an agreement with this vendor.

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