

November 18, 2016

Hullcar Aquifer Inter-Ministry Working Group Updates

Integrated Monitoring Study

Core Ministry Team Members:

Director Lead:
Christa Zacharias-Homer
Ministry of Environment
Deputy Director, Regional
Operations Branch

Technical Team Lead:
Orlando Schmidt
Ministry of Agriculture
Regional Manager, Coast
and Interior

Goals of the Inter-Ministry Working Group:

- * To ensure safe drinking water for the residents of Hullcar Aquifer and Steele Springs Water District
- * To build public trust and demonstrate collaboration among Ministries
- * To determine possible sources of nitrate in the Hullcar Aquifer
- * To foster sustainable economic development for the local agrifood sector

The Integrated Monitoring Study –Phase II includes conducting groundwater sampling and deep soil sampling. Landowner permission was obtained and the boreholes were drilled at six locations on the east side of the aquifer. Deep soil samples were taken from all six boreholes and sent to ALS labs in Saskatoon for analysis. Groundwater monitoring wells were installed in two of the six boreholes, and Golder Associates will be sampling the monitoring wells the week of November 21.



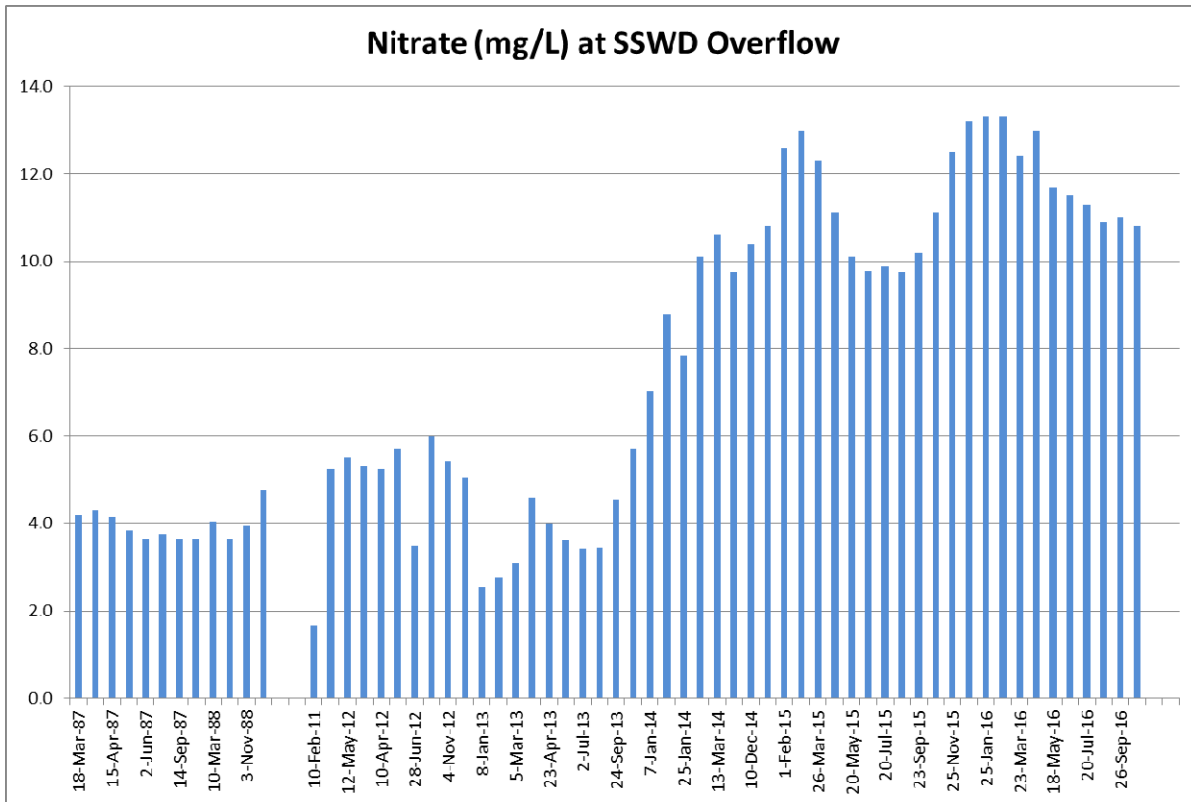
Do you receive your drinking water from a private well?

If you get your drinking water from a private well, spring, or domestic water license, you should get your water tested to see if it is safe to drink and suitable for use in your home. Follow the link below for more information provided by Interior Health.

<https://www.interiorhealth.ca/YourEnvironment/DrinkingWater/Documents/HP-WQ-9009%20-%20Should%20I%20Get%20My%20Water%20Tested.pdf>

Steele Springs Nitrate Sampling

The Ministry of Environment sampled the SSDW overflow on November 17. The Ministry's result for the October 17 sample was 10.8 mg/L. Below is a graph depicting the changes of nitrate over time for Steele Springs. Please note that there is a data gap between November 1988 until February 2011.



Upcoming dates of interest:

Nov/Dec	Environmental Impact Assessments due for three area farms	November 28	Inter-Ministry Working Group Meeting
December 1	Post-Harvest Nitrate Study Update	January (TBD)	Public Meeting (details to come)

More info can be found at:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/air-land-water/site-permitting-compliance/hullcar-aquifer>



**BRITISH
COLUMBIA**