

December 19, 2016



Hullcar Aquifer Inter-Ministry Working Group Updates

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

Upcoming Public Information Sessions

Over the last few months, a significant number of scientific studies and analysis have been conducted to better understand the source, movement and persistence of nitrates in the Hullcar Aquifer 103. These results will be presented in an interactive format in the Hullcar Valley in the new year. Dates and location will be determined soon.

Stay tuned for
more information
regarding Public
Information
Sessions in the
new year.

Nitrate contamination in Ontario — Lessons to be learned for Hullcar?

Nitrate contamination of groundwater in agricultural communities has become a common story throughout Canada and indeed throughout areas of the United States. Communities relying on these groundwater sources have put tremendous resources into mapping out the issues and finding ways to solve them. The complexities are enormous and each situation is unique in scope, resources and tools available to tackle the issues. Below is a link to an article about one researcher from the University of Waterloo who is taking a closer look at Best Management Practices and their effectiveness in reducing nitrates in a Municipal water supply in Southern Ontario. Ingenuity, creativity and problem solving are at the heart of this article.

Agriculture and Nitrates: A research project reveals a powerful message

Written by Rachel Beavins Tracy in *Groundwater Canada*, April 30, 2014

<http://www.groundwatercanada.com/contamination/agriculture-and-nitrates-2358>



Hullcar Valley Time Lapse Story

Ever wondered how the Hullcar Valley has changed over the years? The folks at Google have put together an imagery tool, piecing together vast numbers of satellite imagery over 3 decades. Click on the link below and type in Hullcar, BC (in the, “explore the world” box) and watch the valley change over the years.

<http://world.time.com/timelapse/>



Environmental Impact Assessments Update

The Inter-Ministry working group members are currently reviewing the Grace-Mar and Jansen Environmental Impact Assessments. The Regehr Report is due imminently. Once the reviews have been completed, all reports will be posted to the Hullcar Aquifer web page.

The next installment of the Hullcar Aquifer newsletter will be released on January 16, 2017.

Upcoming dates of interest:

December	Environmental Impact Assessments being reviewed by Inter-Ministry Working Group
January TBD	Technical Communications Working Group Meeting
Early 2017	Public Information Sessions

More info can be found at:

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



BRITISH COLUMBIA