



South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region

Agenda

Source Protection Committee Meeting SPC-02-2026

Thursday, June 11, 2026

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

To be held virtually by Zoom video

Members

Peter Dance, Acting Chair

Municipal

Tom Bradley, Jennifer Best, Michelle Flaherty, Chris Gerrits, Jeff Hamelin, Michelle Jakobi, Katie Thompson

Economic/Development

Samantha Archibald, Colin Elliott, John Hemsted, Jessica Neto, Rick Newlove, David Ritchie

Public Sector

Geoff Allen, Ian Chadwick, David Ketcheson, Karen Koornneef, Cate Root

First Nations

Chad McRae

Liaisons

Karen Kivilahti, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU)
Don Goodyear, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA)
Julie Cayley, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)
Jennifer Vincent, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)
Bilal Kidwai, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

Staff

Bill Thompson, LSRCA
Mystaya Touw, LSRCA
Chloe Zhang, LSRCA
Kathy Hillis, LSRCA (minutes)
Ian Ockenden, NVCA
Sheri Steiginga, NVCA
Melissa Carruthers, SSEA

Guests

Christina Wieder, York Region Public Health Branch
Shelly Cuddy, Durham Region
Jenee Wallace, SMDHU
Emily Goncalves, York Region
Sarah Lavoie-Bernstein, Kawartha Conservation
Rebecca Raymond, Tiny Township
Devin Hannan, SLR Consulting
Patty Meyer, Aqua Insight Inc.
Jae Park, York Region
Eric Daechsel, LSRCA

Regrets

Stephanie Hobbs, Public Sector - Proxy to Cate Root

Sarah Kurtz, Economic Sector – Proxy to Samantha Archibald

1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory**
4. **Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest**
5. **Approval of the Agenda**

Pages 1-6

Recommended: **That** the agenda for the Thursday, June 11, 2026 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as presented.

6. **Adoption of Minutes**

Pages 7-14

Recommended: **That** the minutes of the Thursday, April 2, 2026 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as circulated.

7. **Announcements**

a) Chair

8. **Deputations**

There are none

9. **Presentations**

a) A presentation from Patty Meyer. Aqua Insight Inc regarding staff report SPC2.1 - Updated Assessment of Wellhead Protection Area and Drinking Water Threats – Mono Wells within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area.

Recommended: **That** presentation a) and Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding Updated Assessment of Wellhead Protection Area and Drinking Water Threats – Mono Wells within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area be received for information.

b) A presentation by Sheri Steiging, NVCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.2 - Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Mono.

Recommended: **That** presentation b) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Mono be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments

to the Town of Mono chapter of the Assessment Report is advisable.

- c) A presentation by Devin Hannan, Golder & Associates regarding Staff Report SPC2.3 - Amendment to the Lafontaine Drinking Water System – Technical Report prepared by SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. on behalf of the Township of Tiny, September 2, 2025.

Recommended: That presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding an amendment to the Lafontaine Drinking Water System – Technical Report prepared by SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. on behalf of the Township of Tiny, September 2, 2025, be received for information.

- d) A presentation by Melissa Carruthers, SSEA regarding Staff Report SPC2.4 - Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Areas within the Township of Tiny.

Recommended: That presentation d) and Staff Report SPC2.4 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Areas within the Township of Tiny be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Tiny chapter of the Assessment Report is advisable.

- e) A presentation by Mystaya Touw, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.5 - Section 36 Pre-Consultation Comments Received.

Recommended: That presentation e) and Staff Report SPC2.5 regarding Section 36 Pre-Consultation Comments Received be received for information.

- f) A presentation by Mystaya Touw, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.6 - Environmental Registry of Ontario Postings 026-0302: “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements”

Recommended: That presentation f) and Staff Report SPC2.6 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario Postings 026-0302: “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements” be received for information.

- g) A presentation by Bill Thompson, LSRCA regarding Source Protection Region Update.

Recommended: That presentation g) regarding Source Protection Region Update be received for information.

10. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

(Reference Agenda Items on pages 5-6 of the Agenda)

11. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

Recommended: That the recommendations as set forth in the items not requiring separate discussion be approved, and staff be authorized to take all necessary actions to affect those recommendations.

12. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

13. Other Business

14. Closed Session

15. Next Meeting and Adjournment

The next meeting of the Source Protection Committee to be scheduled.

Agenda Items

1. Correspondence

SPC1.1 – A letter dated May 8, 2026 from Conservation Ontario regarding Conservation Ontario’s comments on “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements” (ERO#026-0302)

Pages 15-17

2. Staff Reports

SPC2.1 - Updated Assessment of Wellhead Protection Area and Drinking Water Threats – Mono Wells within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area

Pages 18-26

That presentation a) and Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding Updated Assessment of Wellhead Protection Area and Drinking Water Threats – Mono Wells within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area be received for information.

SPC2.2 - Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Mono
Pages 27-31

That presentation b) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Mono be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Town of Mono chapter of the Assessment Report is advisable.

SPC2.3 - Amendment to the Lafontaine Drinking Water System – Technical Report prepared by SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. on behalf of the Township of Tiny, September 2, 2025

Pages 32-42

That presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding an amendment to the Lafontaine Drinking Water System – Technical Report prepared by SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. on behalf of the Township of Tiny, September 2, 2025, be received for information.

SPC2.4 - Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Areas within the Township of Tiny

Pages 43-47

That presentation d) and Staff Report SPC2.4 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Areas within the Township of Tiny be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Tiny chapter of the Assessment Report is advisable.

**SPC2.5 - Section 36 Pre-Consultation Comments Received
Pages 48-54**

That presentation e) and Staff Report SPC2.5 regarding Section 36 Pre-Consultation Comments Received be received for information.

**SPC2.6 - Environmental Registry of Ontario Postings 026-0302: “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements”
Pages 55-57**

That presentation f) and Staff Report SPC2.6 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario Postings 026-0302: “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements” be received for information.



South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region

Source Protection Committee (SPC)

Minutes of Meeting SPC-01-2026

April 2, 2026

The Acting Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

Members Present:

Peter Dance, Acting Chair

Municipal

Jeff Hamelin, Jennifer Best, Michelle Flaherty, Katie Thompson

Economic/Development

John Hemsted, Samantha Archibald, Sarah Kurtz

Public Sector

Cate Root, David Ketcheson, Geoff Allen, Ian Chadwick, Karen Koornneef, Stephanie Hobbs

First Nations

Chad McRae

Liaisons

Don Goodyear, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA)

Julie Cayley, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA)

Jennifer Vincent, Liaison, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA)

Jeneé Wallace, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU)

Staff Present

Bill Thompson, LSRCA

Ian Ockenden, NVCA

Mystaya Touw, LSRCA

Sheri Steinginga, NVCA

Kathy Hillis, LSRCA (minutes)

Melissa Carruthers, SSEA

Guests

Jae Park, York Region Public Health Branch

Emily Goncalves, York Region

Shelly Cuddy, Durham Region

Joanna Miron, York Region

Sarah Lavoie-Bernstein, Kawartha Conservation

Regrets:

David Ritchie, Economic/Development – Proxy to John Hemsted

Michelle Jakobi, Municipal – Proxy to Katie Thompson

Tom Bradley, Municipal – Proxy to Jennifer Best

Chris Gerrits, Municipal
Colin Elliott, Economic/Development
Rick Newlove, Economic/Development
Jessica Neto, Economic/Development

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks

- a) Thank you to Lynn Dollin for her contributions during her years as Chair of the Source Protection Committee from 2007-2025.
- b) Introduction of new Members: Samantha Archibald, Sarah Kurtz, Ian Chadwick and Chad McRae.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Chair recited the Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory.

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

None declared.

4. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: John Hemsted

Seconded by: Ian Chadwick

SPC-01-26 **Resolved That** the agenda for the April 2, 2026 meeting of the Source Protection Committee (SPC) be approved as presented. **Carried**

5. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by: Geoff Allen

Seconded by: Stephanie Hobbs

SPC-02-26 **Resolved That** the minutes of the December 11, 2025 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be approved as circulated. **Carried**

6. Announcements

- a) Lynn Dollin has not been reappointed as Chair with no indication as to why, and this also happened with two other Chairs. Four of the 17 source protection committees (SPC) have had Chair's appointed. There is a rule that all appointments must happen within six months of the position being posted, and that did not happen, so they will all be posted on the [Public Appointments Secretariat's webpage](#). If anyone is interested, submit an application. Peter Dance has offered to stay on in the interim, but if anyone else is interested please advise Bill Thompson. Two committees have had vacancies for four years, so this could take some time.

7. Deputations

There were none.

8. Presentations

- a) A presentation by Mystaya Touw regarding Staff Report SPC2.1 – Annual Report on Plan Implementation (to December 31, 2025).

Link to the presentation – [Annual Report to the Ministry -Progress Made in Protecting Sources of Drinking Water](#)

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Ian Chadwick: When they need to have some remedial work done on septic tanks, is that made public and are neighbours alerted of a condition that they should be made aware of as well?

Some of the Official Plans (OP) have been in the works for a long time and as there is a five-year timeline for review, why are some updates still ongoing? Are Upper Tier municipalities in the same boat?

Bill Thompson responded that we are not advised of the results of septic inspections and we have not heard of any neighbours being advised. Jennifer Best confirmed that it is a letter between the municipal building department and the landowner.

Jennifer Best advised that some Official Plan updates are outstanding due to the number of provincial Bills that have delayed a number of OPs. Often when progress is made more changes are made by the province requiring staff to go back to the drawing board. Peter Dance advised sometimes the upper tier OPs are changed or delayed which results in delays for the lower tier municipalities.

David Ketcheson: How many Risk Management Plans (RMP) did we have when we started? How many are still to be completed?

Mystaya Touw confirmed that the number to be completed changes because when Threats are investigated it is often found they are not doing that activity, but there was well over 300 at the start. There are 286 RMPs active right now, in that the plan is in place, signed off and completed. The number to be completed changes every time there is a section 34 amendment, but it is approximately 15-20. There are only two from when the source protection plan was originally approved that are outstanding. One is due to a change in the Livestock Policy under section 36 but technically that is not a Risk Management Plan policy until the section 36 change is approved, so this will be an RMP in future. The second one is an abandoned property that the Risk Management

Official (RMO) does not have access to. None of the other outstanding ones are from 2016.

Moved by: Cate Root
Seconded by: John Hemsted

SPC-03-26 **Resolved That** presentation a) and Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding Annual Report on Plan Implementation (to December 31, 2025) be received for information; and

Further That Source Protection Authority staff be directed to rate progress as “Progressing Well/On Target”; and

Further That the Source Protection Committee utilize section II of the Annual Report to comment on the progress made to date, as described in the Issues section. **Carried**

b) A presentation by Joanna Miron and Emily Goncalves, York Region, regarding Navigating the World of Risk Management Plan Inspections.

Link to the presentation – [Navigating the World of Risk Management Plan Inspections](#)

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

John Hemsted: How many other regions within the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region have an Incentive funding program?

Bill Thompson advised that no others provide funding. Peter Dance acknowledged that this confirms a best practice which perhaps we can spread the word about?

Geoff Allen: How is the funding broken down? Is there a maximum funding for a business or a farm?

Joanna Miron responded that \$1,300 and below is 100% covered, and \$1,300 – \$10,000 is 80% covered. Most have been 100% funded from the municipal funding.

Jeff Hamelin: How do you deal with the leased properties?

Joanna Miron advised that they usually deal with the farmer, but sometimes the owner.

Don Goodyear: How much are you spending on the funding program? The number is much smaller than you might assume so it may be helpful to provide this number to municipalities that are shying away from the program.

Joanna Miron responded that she is not sure of the exact number, but it is much smaller than was anticipated when the program started, and it has gone down over time. The number can be provided to Members as it is reported out annually.

Moved by: Jennifer Best
Seconded by: David Ketcheson

SPC-04-26 **Resolved That** presentation b) regarding Navigating the World of Risk Management Plan Inspections be received for information. **Carried**

c) A presentation by Bill Thompson, LSRCA regarding Staff Report SPC2.2 –Opportunity to comment on draft Environmental Activity and Sector Registry monitoring policy be received for information.

Link to the presentation – [Opportunity to comment on draft Environmental Activity and Sector Registry policy](#)

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Ian Chadwick: The province advised they are making changes with the hopes of speeding up the development process. Is the SPC collaborating on any of that or is the province dictating it? Is there anything you are aware of that is collateral to this that affects the kind of work that we do? Bill 56 and Bill 60 are both up for review and they both involve changes in how water facilities are managed. Ian requests a report on how these changes will affect the work of this Committee.

Bill Thompson advised that the next presentation on the *Clean Water Act* will outline some collateral situations. We are seeing a government that is very interested in refining some of the policies that affect land use planning so we will likely see more changes. This government is not as collaborative as other governments and a lot of these decisions are being made by Cabinet or Minister, and we are tasked with responding. The changes are posted on the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry for comment and there have been a number of times when the SPC has provided comments on the Registry. This particular case is unique where Ministry and source protection staff worked together to write the policy.

Katie Thompson: Has the province provided clarification on how we are getting updated Threat counts in the table? We should make it clear that the municipalities should not be held responsible for keeping track of these Threats.

Bill Thompson believes it is the Monitoring policy that allows us to keep track of these Threats. Without that the only other option would be to direct staff or RMOs to monitor. Bill agrees that municipalities should not be held responsible.

Peter Dance: Is this something we need to consider as a Committee or has it been managed?

Bill Thompson responded that both the policies that we have as draft and the policy that the province has as draft requires the Minister to report to the Source Protection

Authority, who would then report to the Committee and the RMOs. If the Committee wishes to send a general comment back to the Ministry that this should be a responsibility of the Ministry and the source protection authority, rather than being downloaded to RMOs, that is something the SPC can do.

Geoff Allen: Who does the audit or inspection after the fact, and do they have any enforcement power?

Bill Thompson confirmed that it is ministry staff who does the inspection and enforcement.

Peter Dance: We need to consider whether we want to request that our draft policy be amended to reflect the Lake Erie policy, whereby we get notification right away, and staff can then determine what needs to be brought to the Committee.

Cate Root: How open do you think the Ministry will be to the Lake Erie proposal? Would it be better to have a date that is clear rather than what they have now which can be loose?

Bill Thompson advised that Ministry staff wrote the wording, but by a different branch of the Ministry than does the inspections, so it may be considered a little loose. Bill Thompson believes they will approve it since the Ministry staff wrote it.

Moved by: Cate Root
Seconded by: Jeff Hamelin

SPC-05-26 **Resolved That** presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding Opportunity to comment on draft Environmental Activity and Sector Registry monitoring policy be received for information. **Carried**

d) A presentation by Bill Thompson, LSRCA regarding a Source Protection Region Update.

Link to the presentation – [Source Protection Region General Update](#)

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Ian Chadwick: Collingwood is not listed on the source protection plan, but there is a new plant and they are increasing the water intake, so has that work been done?

How will the local watershed councils be structured? How many watersheds are in this new expanded conservation authority? Ian is very concerned about the local input and how smaller municipalities can still have some sort of say. The counties cannot adequately provide full representation of the lower tier municipalities.

Bill Thompson advised the Collingwood work has been done.

Jennifer Vincent advised that we do not have any clear direction on what they mean by watershed councils, just that the minimum requirement is for their to be one for each

regional conservation authority. There is a meeting next week between the province and chief administrative officers of the 36 conservation authorities, where we hope to get clarity about what they are thinking. We do know that within 90-days of the budget passing, transition committees for each of the nine regional conservation authorities must be established. The board governance will be representation by population. The challenge for the new Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority is that the new population projections are such that east of Highway 400 is projected to over 1 million residents by 2040, but west of Highway 400 will be considerably less. There will be a jurisdiction where more than 50% of the representation, in theory, will represent less than 20% of the geography, so we are working with the province on this nuance for our regional conservation authority.

Peter Dance reminded that some of these conservation authority issues are outside of our mandate to provide input on.

Moved by: John Hemsted

Seconded by: Geoff Allen

SPC-06-26 **Resolved That** presentation d) regarding a Source Protection Region Update be received for information. **Carried**

9. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

No items were identified under items requiring separate discussion.

10. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

Items SPC1.1 – SPC1.4 were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

SPC1.1 – A letter dated December 4, 2025 from Leslie Rich, Manager of Source Water Protection, Conservation Ontario, regarding Conservation Ontario’s comments on the “Regulatory changes for accelerating and improving protections for Ontario’s drinking water sources” (ERO# 025-1104).

SPC1.2 – A letter dated December 22, 2025 from Bill Thompson, Project Manager, South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Program, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority regarding the Proposed boundaries for the regional consolidation of Ontario’s conservation authorities (ERO #025-1257).

SPC1.3 – Protecting Ontario’s Sources of Drinking Water Progress Summary (2017-2024).

SPC1.4 – 2024 Annual Progress Report Results Summary.

Moved by: Ian Chadwick

Seconded by: Stephanie Hobbs

SPC-07-26 **Resolved That** correspondence SPC1.1 – SPC1.4 as listed in the agenda be received for information. **Carried**

11. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

There were no items requiring separate discussion.

12. Other Business

a) If anyone wishes their bio or picture to be updated on the website, provide it to Kathy Hillis.

13. Closed Session

None.

14. Next Meeting and Adjournment

Moved by: Geoff Allen
Seconded by: John Hemsted

SPC-08-26 **Resolved That** the next meeting of the Source Protection Committee scheduled to be held on Thursday, June 11, 2026 from 1-4 pm, virtually via Zoom; and

Further that the April 2, 2026 meeting of the Source Protection Committee be adjourned at 2:38 pm. **Carried**



May 8, 2026

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Local Government Policy Branch
777 Bay St., 13th Flr.
Toronto, ON
M7A 2J3
Canada

Re: Conservation Ontario's comments on "Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements" (ERO#026-0302)

Conservation Ontario (CO) represents Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities (CAs), whose mandatory programs and services include drinking water source protection. CAs operate as Source Protection Authorities (SPAs) under the *Clean Water Act*, 2006. These comments are not intended to limit comments submitted individually by CAs on this proposal.

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) and the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) are proposing amendments to the *Municipal Act, 2001* and *Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002*, to **enable** the creation of non-municipal water and sewage public utilities through municipal consent and creating regulation-making authority that would **require** municipalities to grant consent to non-municipal water and sewage public utilities where prescribed criteria and conditions are met.

Conservation Ontario offers the following commentary on the proposed communal drinking water and wastewater system consent requirements. Non-municipal systems provide water in a variety of circumstances including year-round residential systems (e.g., apartments), systems serving designated facilities (e.g., schools or camps), seasonal residential systems (e.g., trailer parks), or systems serving public facilities (e.g., resorts). The 2025 Performance Audit of the Safety of Non-Municipal Drinking Water, a special report by the Office of the Auditor General of Ontario, identified several concerns related to: communal systems, including systems that were not properly identified, assessed, or

inspected as required; insufficient or incomplete water quality sampling; and gaps in oversight related to well construction and associated requirements.

While we acknowledge the province's objective to support development and provide servicing flexibility through communal systems, it is our position that **strong, explicit integration of source water protection planning must be a foundational requirement** within any regulatory framework that enables the establishment and operation of communal drinking water systems.

- Source protection planning under the *Clean Water Act* provides the primary mechanism for identifying and managing risks to municipal drinking water sources. Conservation Authorities, operating as Source Protection Authorities, possess specialized technical knowledge of the water resources within their watersheds.
- Conservation Ontario recommends that requirements under the *Clean Water Act* (i.e. following the s. 34 – Amendments Initiated by a Source Protection Authority process) be built into any conditions and criteria for the approval of communal systems, and particularly those systems which will be providing year-round drinking water. Early engagement with the Source Protection Authorities can help to expedite future approvals and assist municipalities with their requirement to protect all municipal drinking water supplies as per the Provincial Planning Statement. Providing Source Protection Authorities with a built-in opportunity to initiate amendments to source protection plans will further help ensure the long-term safety and protection of communal drinking water systems.
- Conservation Ontario does not support the proposal to obligate municipalities to provide consent to non-municipal water and sewage utilities, particularly in municipalities where significant investment has been made to provide these through municipal services.
- Under the *Safe Drinking Water Act* (s. 114) municipalities may be ordered to provide service in areas previously serviced by non-municipal drinking water systems when provincial requirements are not met. Municipal ownership of these systems will trigger a requirement to undertake source protection planning work after the system is in use and at the cost to the municipality. Potential challenges may arise if non-municipal systems are later transferred to municipal or public ownership, particularly where systems were approved under reduced or inconsistent protection standards.
- Conservation Ontario supports integrated water and wastewater planning to appropriately manage resources. Early involvement of source protection planning helps to protect existing and future sources of drinking water, which Ontarians rely

upon. When a communal drinking water system is proposed, it is often accompanied by a communal sewage system. As such, a planning approach similar to that used for municipal systems should be applied. This would include first identifying vulnerable areas and assessing vulnerability scores for the drinking water system and then ensuring that the associated sewage system is located in a location that avoids impacts to drinking water sources. Most source protection plans include policies that discourage sewage treatment facilities within the most vulnerable areas; therefore, a comparable precautionary approach should be strongly recommended for communal systems.

- The siting of proposed systems should explicitly account for existing and potential threats to drinking water sources, to avoid locating systems in areas where multiple or significant risks are present.
- Water budget and water quantity considerations should be required as part of the approval process, particularly in areas experiencing growth or existing supply pressures.

Conservation Ontario recognizes the province's efforts to expedite critical infrastructure approvals. The success of this framework will depend upon its ability to protect Ontario's drinking water sources over the long term and to ensure that variability in oversight and protection standards are not created or exacerbated.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide comments on "Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements" (ERO# 026-0302). We would be pleased to discuss these comments at your convenience.

Conservation Ontario

c.c: Conservation Authority CAOs/GMs

Item SPC2.1

Source Protection Committee Meeting SPC-04-2025

Staff Report Number: SPC2.1

To: South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee

From: Sheri Steinginga, Source Water Coordinator, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Date: June 11, 2026

Subject: Updated Assessment of Wellhead Protection Area and Drinking Water Threats – Mono Wells within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area

Recommendations:

That presentation a) and Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding Updated Assessment of Wellhead Protection Area and Drinking Water Threats – Mono Wells within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report:

The purpose of this staff report is to provide an overview of the technical report titled “*Orangeville and Mono Tier Three Water Budget and Local Area Risk Assessment Update*” prepared by Aqua Insight to document proposed updates to water budgets and wellhead protection areas in the Orangeville wellfield, with a focus on their implications for the Town of Mono within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area.

Background:

The Tier Two Water Budget and Subwatershed Stress Assessment originally completed for the Credit River Watershed (AquaResource, 2009) identified the Headwaters Subwatershed (Subwatershed 19) as having a moderate groundwater stress. The identification of stress led to the Orangeville, Mono and Amaranth Tier Three Assessment (AquaResource, 2011) as many of the municipal wells are located within this subwatershed. A Tier Three Water Budget and Local Area Risk Assessment for this subwatershed was completed in 2011, to evaluate the long-term sustainability of municipal supply wells in an area encompassing parts of the municipalities of East Garafraxa, Amaranth, Town of Mono, and Town of Orangeville. It identified the area as having moderate to significant potential for water quantity stress.

As a result of these identified stresses, policies in the three Source Protection Regions in the area (CTC, Lake Erie, and South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe) required the development of a Joint Municipal Water Management Agreement (the ‘Agreement’) to facilitate planning

Item SPC2.1

and management of the groundwater resource shared by the four municipalities. An update to the water budget was initiated in 2024, per requirements of the Agreement and drinking water source protection program, to account for the addition of a new municipal supply well (well 13) to the Orangeville drinking water system. The update reviewed all new data collected in the area since the previous study and evaluated any possible changes in the sustainability of the water supply wells in the area due to land use and population change. The technical work for the proposed amendment was overseen by a steering committee with representatives from the four Dufferin County municipalities, three Source Protection Regions, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, and the Oak Ridge's Moraine Groundwater Program.

Scope of Work:

The Tier Three Water Budget and Local Area Risk Assessment carried out for the Towns of Orangeville and Mono followed the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks's (The Ministry) Technical Rules (MECP, 2021). The scope of work included:

1. Refine the existing Conceptual Model of the hydrogeology of the area using new data in the Study Area.
2. Develop and calibrate a groundwater flow model to simulate groundwater flow at municipal wells and surface water features.
3. Develop a surface water model to simulate variable streamflow in the Study Area and estimate groundwater recharge rates.
4. Apply the calibrated hydrologic and groundwater flow models to assess the water budget elements in the Study Area.
5. Use the groundwater flow model to delineate vulnerable areas (i.e., WHPA-Q/ Local Areas) and conduct Risk Assessment scenarios specified in the Technical Rules (MECP, 2021) and identify the Risk Level for the vulnerable areas.
6. Identify and enumerate the water quantity threats (where appropriate).
7. Delineate the capture zones and wellhead protection areas, issue contributing areas, assess the vulnerability of the municipal supply aquifers, and identify the non-point source drinking water threats as specified in the Technical Rules (MECP, 2021) for all the municipal wells in the Towns of Orangeville and Mono, including the future supply Well 13.

Model Update and Vulnerable Area Delineation

A refined conceptual model was developed by reviewing available hydrogeologic and hydrologic data collected within the Study Area since the previous Tier Three Assessment project (AquaResource, 2011). This included review of lithologic and water level data in

Item SPC2.1

new wells, new municipal pumping test data, and climate, streamflow and baseflow data. Studies conducted by staff at the Ontario Geological Survey on the Orangeville Moraine, the bedrock topographic surfaces and nature of the Paleozoic bedrock helped inform updates to the conceptual model of the area.

Current and historic municipal water use was characterized for all of Orangeville and Mono's water supply wells. The average annual and average monthly pumping rates for each municipal supply well were calculated. In addition, permitted water takers in the study area were reviewed and their water use was estimated using the Ministry's permit to take water, the water taking and reporting system datasets, and consumptive water use factors.

A new groundwater model (Orangeville-Mono Groundwater Model 2025; O-M 2025 Model) was developed using the software code FEFLOW, and a new hydrologic model was developed using Raven. The groundwater flow model capitalized on the refined conceptual model and all the recent geological and hydrogeological data. The O-M 2025 model pulled input parameters and boundary conditions from the MODFLOW model developed in the previous Tier Three Assessment study (AquaResource, 2011) and was calibrated to average annual conditions (steady-state) and time-varying (transient) water levels collected during two municipal pumping tests.

The Raven model was developed and calibrated to available streamflow data, and the groundwater recharge rates generated by the calibrated model were used as input into the new groundwater flow model.

Four Local Areas were delineated around the municipal water supply wells:

- Local Area-A surrounds the Mono Cardinal Woods wells and all of the Town of Orangeville Wells except Well 10.
- Local Area-B surrounds the Mono Island Lake wells
- Local Area-C surrounds the Mono Coles Wells
- Local Area-D surrounds Orangeville Well 10.

These Local areas were delineated as the combined cones of influence for the wells and areas where reductions in future land development may affect the water level in the municipal wells, as outlined in Figure A.

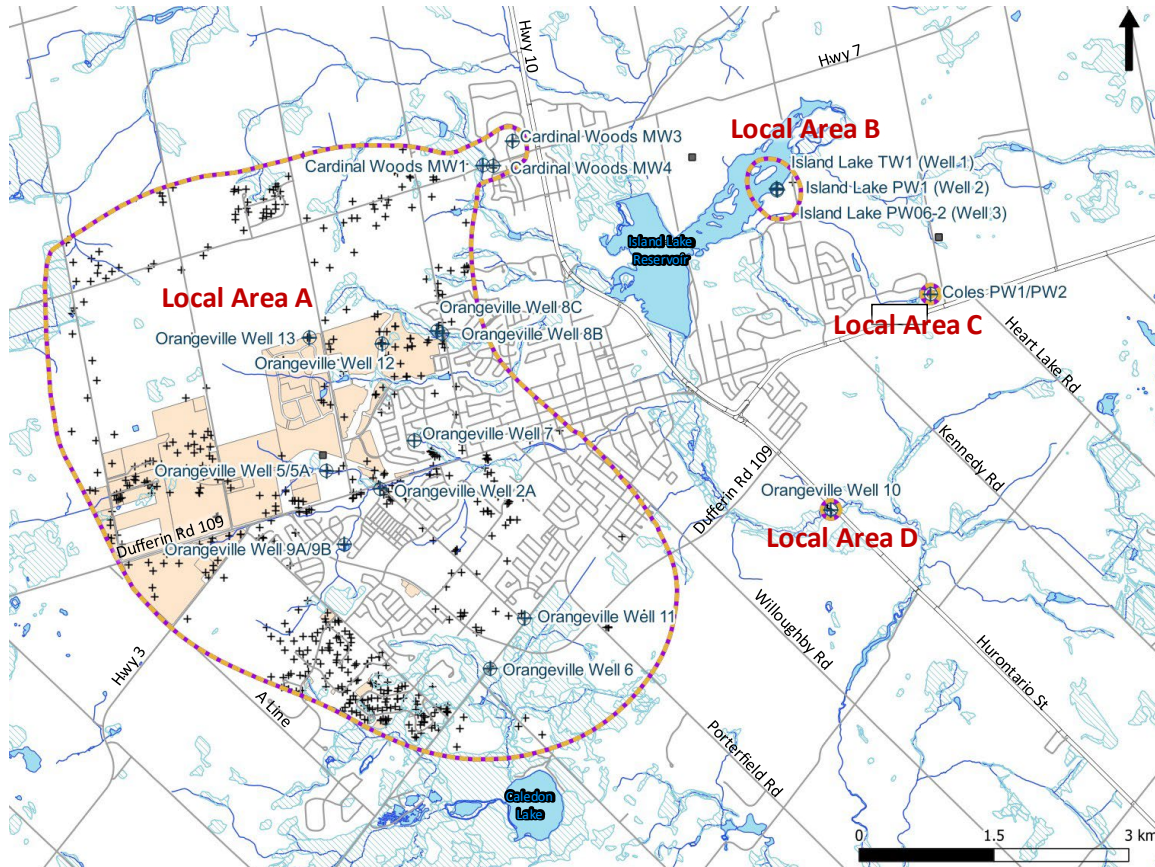


Figure 1 - Local Area A – D of the Orangeville-Mono municipal water supply wells

Risk Assessment & Threats Enumeration

A set of Risk Assessment scenarios were run in the O-M 2025 groundwater model that aimed to understand how changes in future pumping at the Existing, Allocated and Planned Rates, and changes in land use development outlined in the Official Plan, as well as historic drought conditions, may impact the water levels in the municipal wells in the future. The change in groundwater discharge to sensitive surface water features due to increases in municipal pumping was also evaluated.

Risk Assessment modelling results indicate that Local Area-A has a Significant Risk Level as several municipal wells were predicted to have water levels fall below safe levels when considering future municipal pumping, changes in land development and long-term drought conditions. Increased pumping at the Allocated Rates was also predicted to result in unacceptable reductions in groundwater discharge to Monora and Mill Creek that exceeded the Ministry thresholds. Local Area-B, -C and -D were classified as having a Low Risk Level.

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In Local Area-A, all consumptive water takings and all future development areas that may reduce groundwater recharge were classified as Significant Water Quantity Threats. These included municipal and non-municipal permitted water takers, non-permitted, domestic water takings where consumptive use contributes to cumulative impacts, and future development areas identified in municipal Official Plans where increased imperviousness will reduce groundwater recharge.

The improved mapping and development of new model resulted in all wellhead protection areas being re-delineated. The Cardinal Woods and Orangeville wellhead protection areas impact the Nottawasaga Source Protection area as before, with slight changes in their mapped locations, as seen in Attachment 1.

Summary:

Aqua Insight has prepared the technical report entitled “Orangeville and Mono Tier Three Water Budget and Local Area Risk Assessment Update” submitted to the Town of Orangeville in April 2026. This report describes an update to the Tier Three water budget to evaluate the impacts of future changes in groundwater pumping, reductions in groundwater recharge due to land development, and potential climatic changes western portion of the Town of Orangeville, and portions of Mono, Amaranth, East Garafraxa and Caledon.

Modelling results indicate that Significant Risk exists in Local Area-A due to projected future municipal pumping, changes in land development and simulated long-term drought conditions. Increased pumping at the Allocated Rates was also predicted to result in unacceptable reductions in groundwater discharge to Monora and Mill Creek that exceeded the MECP thresholds. The model also resulted in some slight differences to the footprint of the updated wellhead protection areas relative to the approved Wellhead Protection Area for the Town of Mono within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Authority, which will require amendments to the Source Protection Plan. However, no new significant drinking water threats identified.

Recommendations:

It Is Therefore Recommended That presentation a) and Staff Report SPC2.1 regarding Updated Assessment of Wellhead Protection Area and Drinking Water Threats – Mono Wells within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area be received for information.

Prepared by:

Sheri Steiging, Source Water Coordinator, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority

Item SPC2.1

Recommended by:

Bill Thompson, Project Manager, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

References:

Aqua Insight Inc., 2026. Orangeville and Mono Tier Three Water Budget and Risk Assessment Update, prepared for Town of Orangeville, April 2026.

Attachments: 1 – Figures

Attachment 1

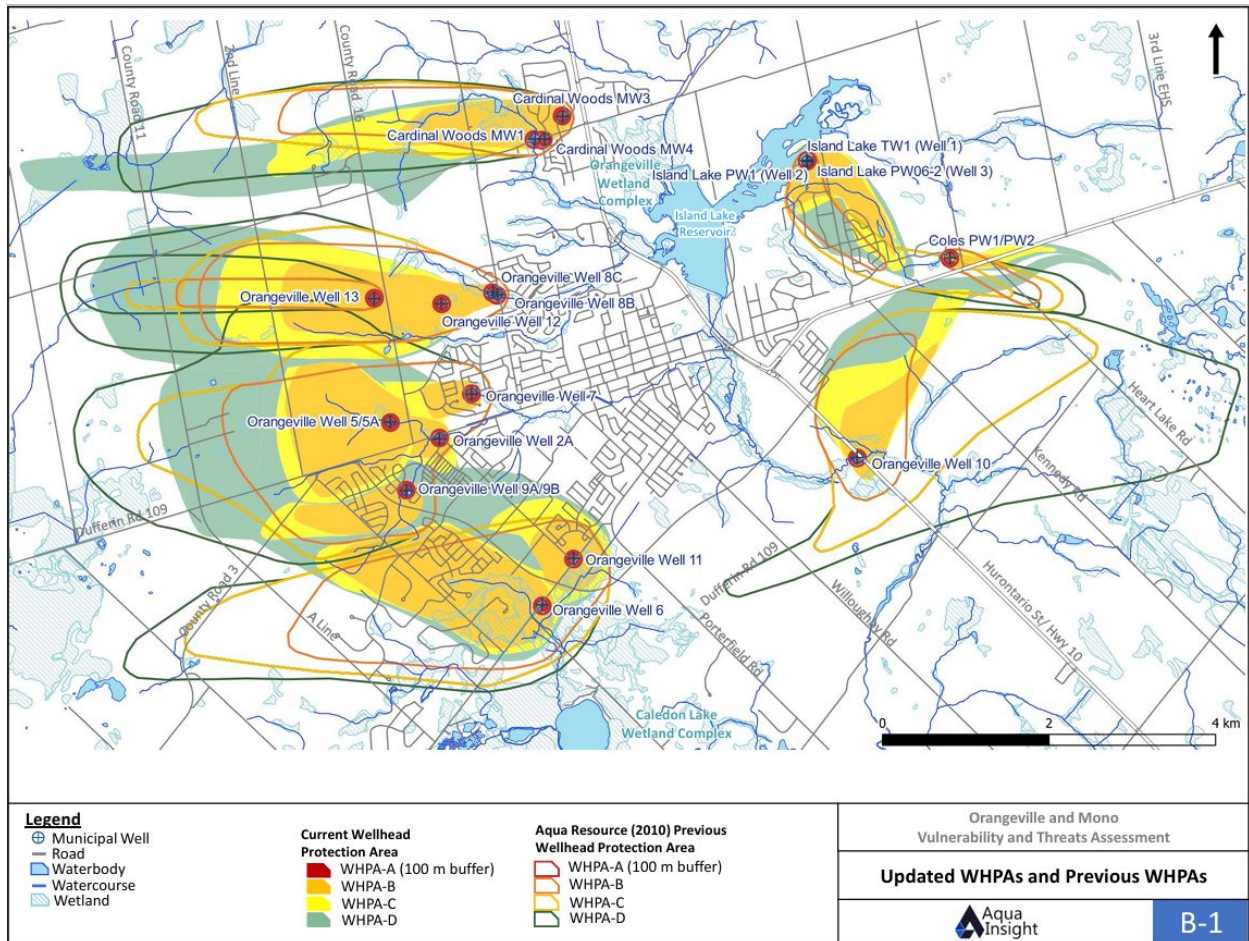


Figure B-1 - WHPA comparison – Previous (2010) and Updated (2026)

Item SPC2.1

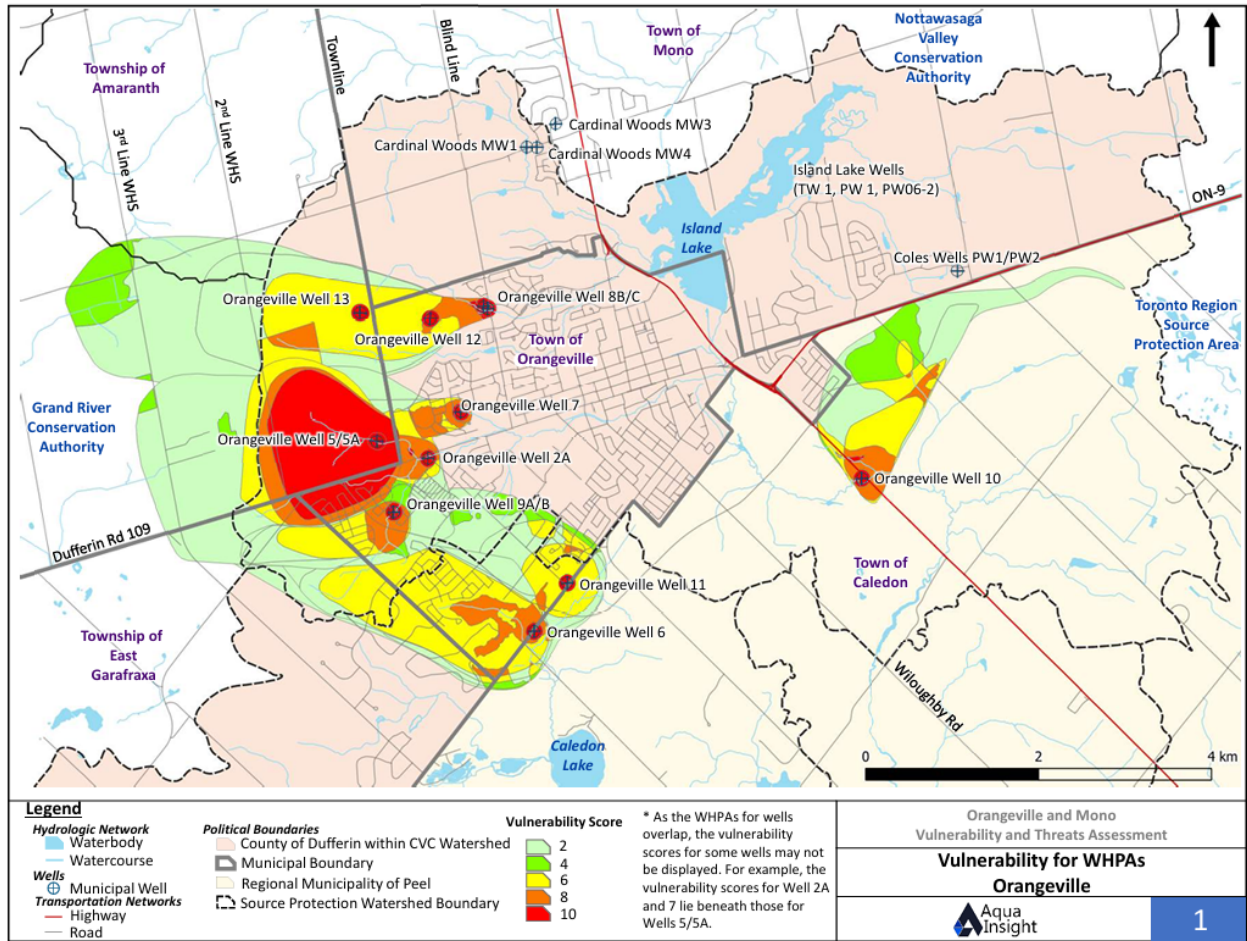


Figure 1 - Proposed Vulnerability Scores for Orangeville WHPAs

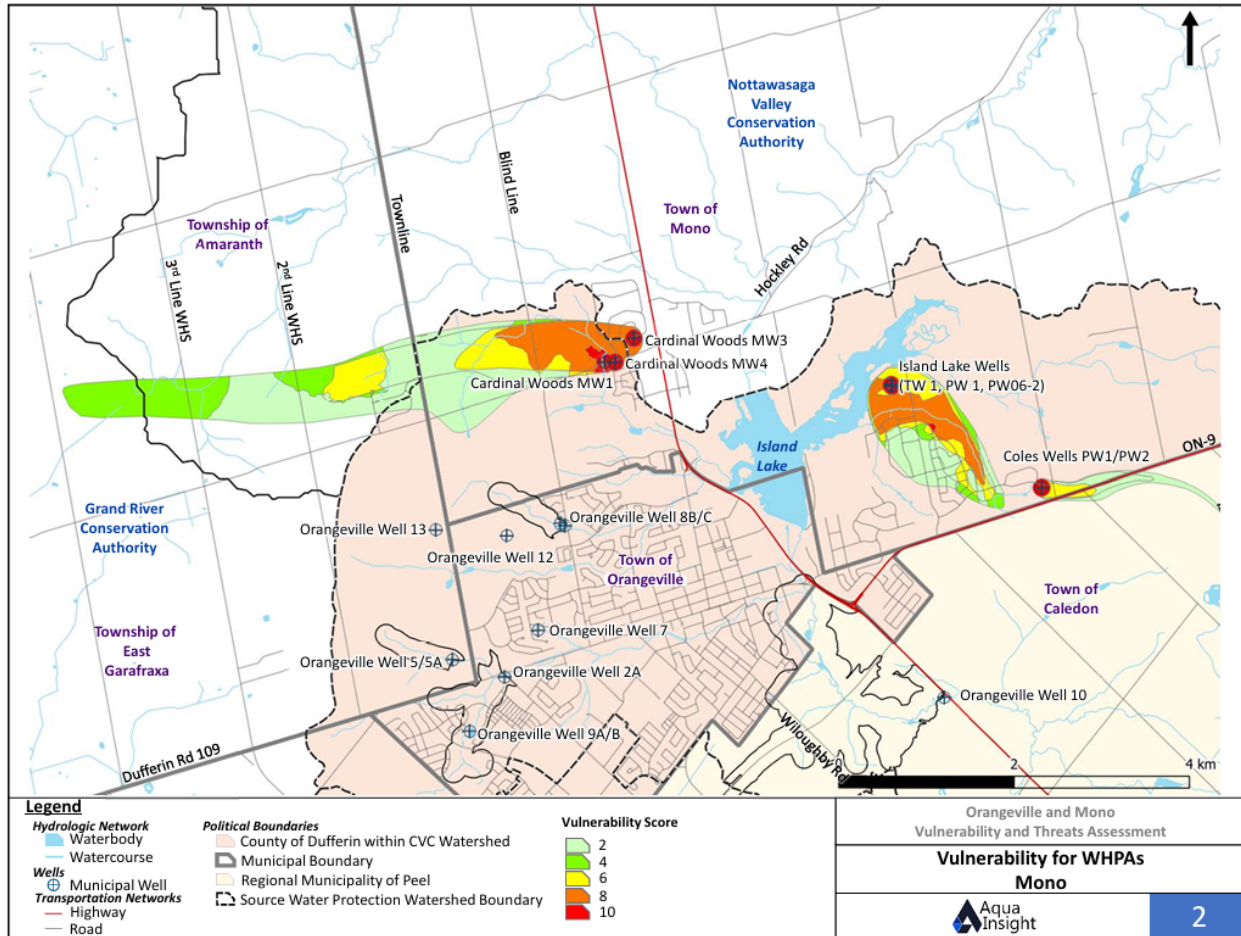


Figure 2 - Proposed Vulnerability Scores for Mono WHPAs

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Source Protection Committee Meeting SPC-02-2026

Staff Report Number: SPC2.2

To: South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee
From: Sheri Steinginga, Source Water Coordinator
Date: June 11, 2026
Subject: Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Mono

Recommendations:

That presentation b) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Mono be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Town of Mono chapter of the Assessment Report is advisable.

Purpose of Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report is to provide an overview of the work completed to update Orangeville-Mono Tier 3 water budget to support of the proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan and the Town of Mono Assessment Report chapter.

Background:

The Orangeville, Mono and Amaranth Tier Three Water Budget and Local Area Risk Assessment was initially completed in 2011, under the Credit Valley, Toronto Region and Central Lake Ontario (CTC) Drinking Water Source Protection Program. It evaluated the long-term sustainability of municipal supply wells in an area encompassing parts of lands within the municipalities of East Garafraxa, Amaranth, Town of Mono, and Town of Orangeville, and identified moderate to significant potential for water quantity stress.

The Joint Municipal Water Management Agreement (The agreement) was developed in response to policies from three Source Protection Regions in the area (CTC, Lake Erie, and South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe) to facilitate planning and management of the groundwater resource shared by the four municipalities. An update to the water budget was initiated in 2024, per requirements of the agreement and drinking water source protection program, to account for the addition of a new municipal supply well (well 13) to the Orangeville drinking water system. The project reviewed all new data collected in the area since the previous study and evaluated the sustainability of the water supply wells in

Item SPC2.2

the area due to land use and population change. The technical work for the proposed amendment was overseen by a steering committee with representatives from the four Dufferin County municipalities, three Source Protection Regions, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, and the Oak Ridge's Moraine Groundwater Program.

Although the new Well 13 has no impact on the Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area, the Tier 3 update does impact the Wellhead Protection Areas within its boundary. The South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe source protection plan and Town of Mono assessment report chapter will need to be amended under section 34 of the Clean Water Act, 2006, to reflect the results of this study. The Town of Orangeville has completed the required technical work which includes an updated water budget and risk assessment for quality and quantity, updated wellhead protection area delineation, and threat enumeration according to the 2021 Technical Rules.

The Assessment Report provides the technical foundation to the Source Protection Plan.

It evaluates the vulnerability of municipal drinking water systems to contamination and identifies potential significant drinking water threat activities to which policies in the Source Protection Plan will apply.

Issues:

The approval of any new wells and/or changes to pumping rates is provided by the Ministry of Environment Conservation and Parks through the Permit to Take Water, and Drinking Water Works License and Permit processes. It is the role of the Source Protection Committee and Source Protection Authority to ensure that vulnerable areas identified in the Assessment Report remain appropriate given the addition of new wells or change to pumping rates, and that Significant Drinking Water Threats remain addressed.

Aqua Insight Inc. concluded technical work for the proposed amendment in January 2026, in compliance with the requirements of 2021 Technical Rules. The proposed amendment includes updated Tier 3 water budget, updated water quality and quantity risk assessment, as well as re-delineated wellhead protection areas.

Due to the proposed change in the wellhead protection areas, additional activities that have the potential to be significant drinking water threats were identified. There are no new significant drinking water threats identified within the Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area.

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Next Steps:

The s.48 notice has been issued jointly by the Credit Valley Source Protection Authority, Grand River Source Protection Authority and Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Authority. Work on developing the amendment package has begun by each source protection authority according to timelines stated in and subject to limitations outlined in the notice.

Summary:

The *Safe Drinking Water Act* requires Source Protection Authorities to amend Source Protection Plans to ensure vulnerable areas around any such municipal drinking water systems are updated to address proposed changes including the addition of new wells or changes in pumping rates before proposed changes can be implemented. The technical work to delineate the revised wellhead protection areas for the Towns of Orangeville and Mono was completed by Aqua Insight in 2026. While the wellhead protection areas over the entire study area are changing significantly, the impacted area to Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Area is minimal and no new significant drinking water threats have been identified.

Recommendations:

It is Therefore Recommended That presentation b) and Staff Report SPC2.2 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Mono be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Town of Mono chapter of the Assessment Report is advisable.

Prepared by:

Sheri Steinginga, Source Water Coordinator, NVCA

Recommended by:

Bill Thompson, Project Manager, LSRCA

Attachments: 1 – Updated and Previous WHPA maps

Attachment 1

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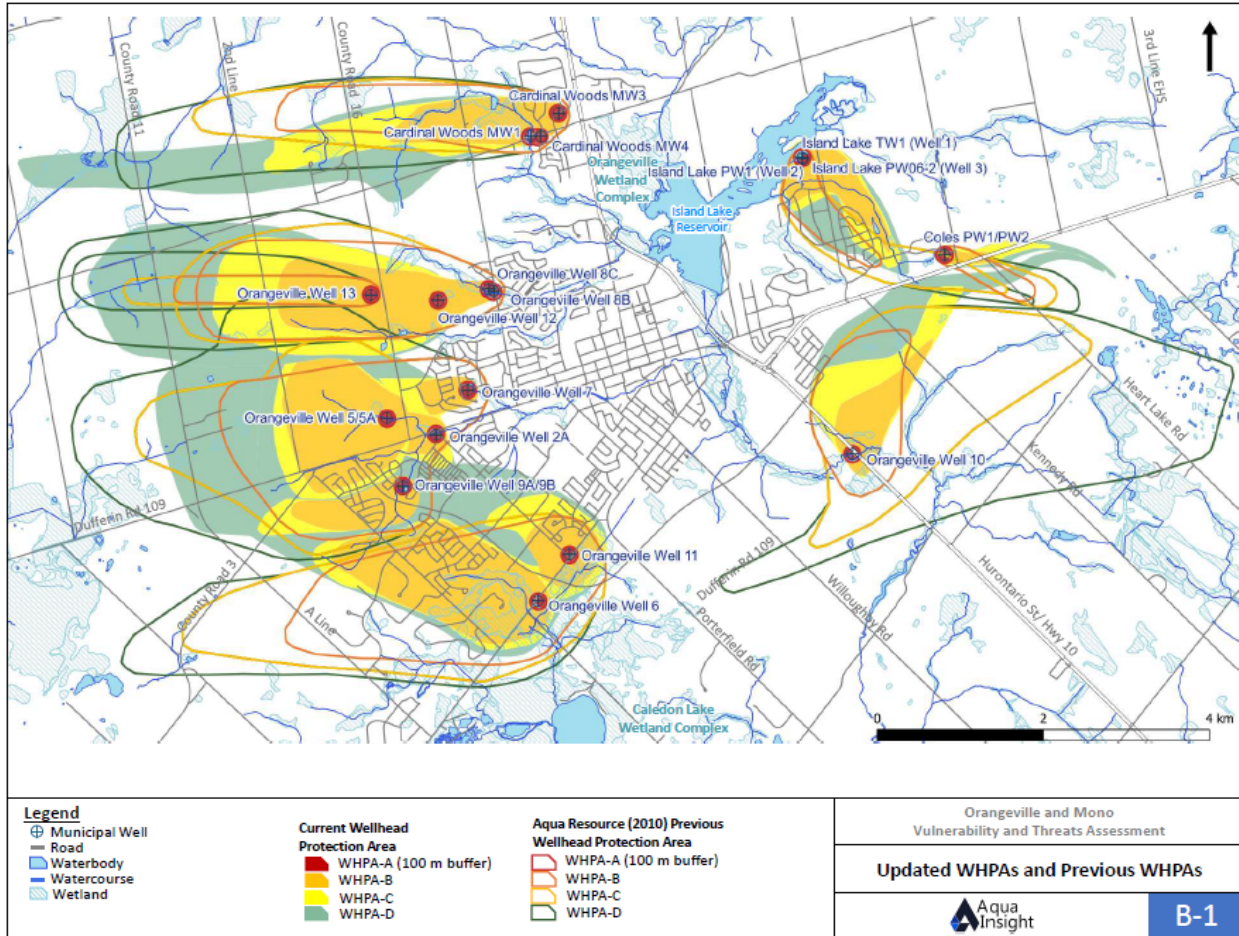


Figure B-1 - Existing and updated wellhead protection area, Orangeville and Mono

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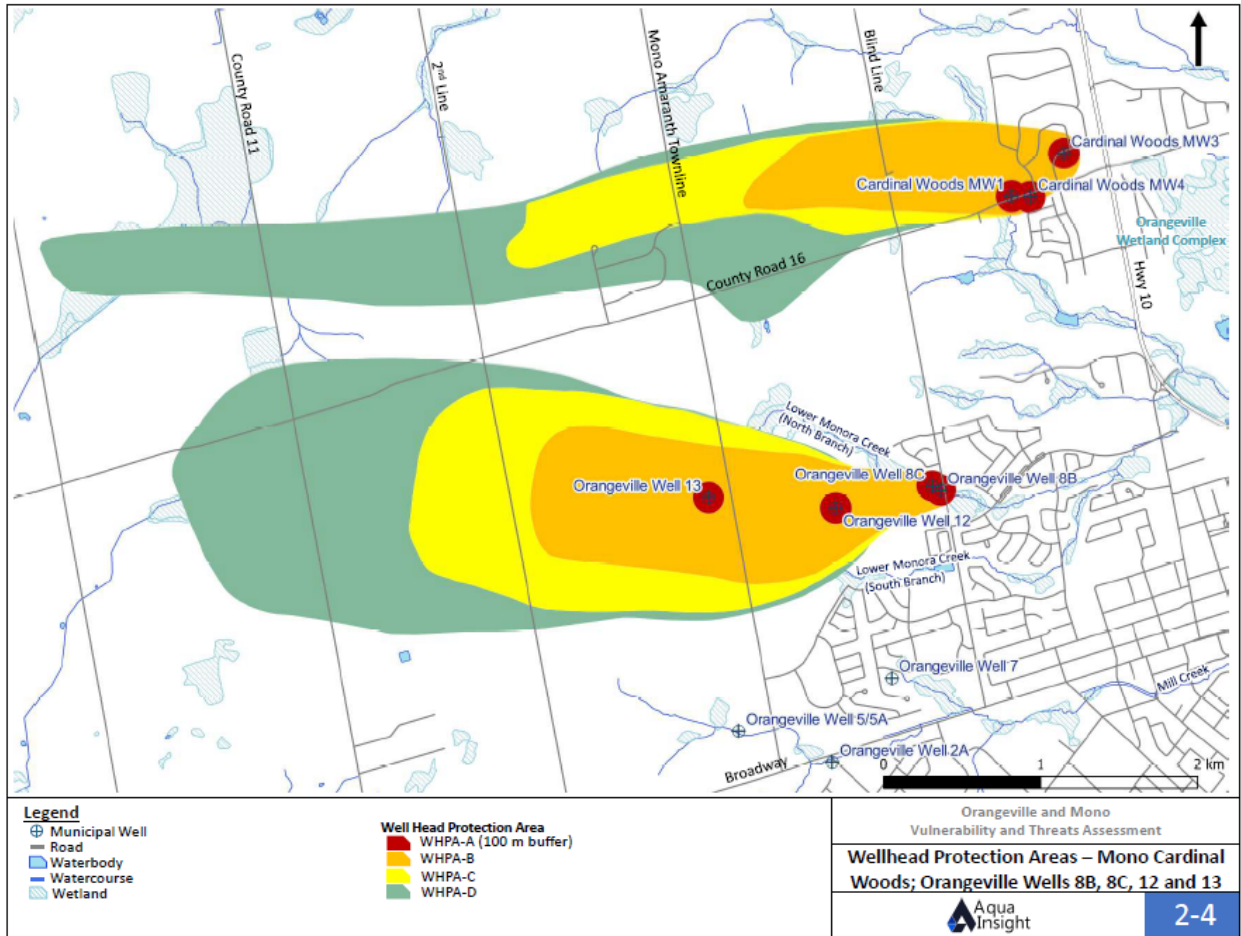


Figure 2-4 - Wellhead Protection areas - Mono, Cardinal Woods

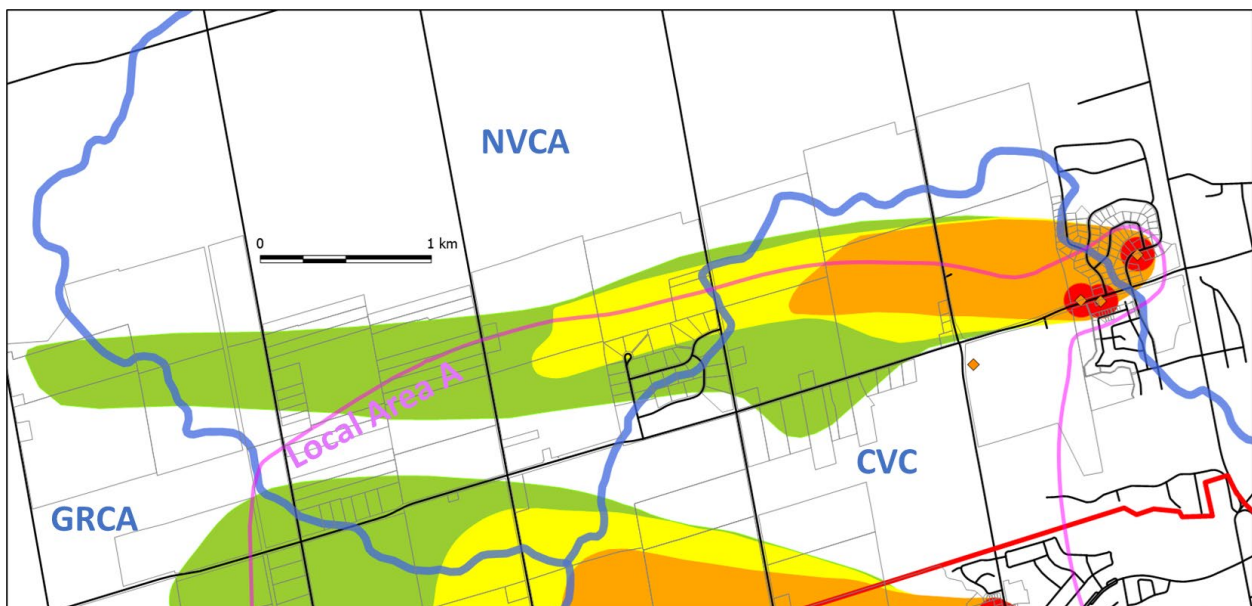


Figure 3 - Detail view of the impacted area within Nottawasaga Valley Source Protection Authority. Source Protection Authority border marked in blue

Source Protection Committee Meeting SPC-02-2026

Staff Report Number: SPC2.3

To: South Georgian Bay - Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee

From: Melissa Carruthers, Manager Source Water Protection, RMO/RMI, Severn Sound Environmental Association

Date: June 11, 2026

Subject: Amendment to the Lafontaine Drinking Water System – Technical Report prepared by SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. on behalf of the Township of Tiny, September 2, 2025

Recommendations:

That presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding an amendment to the Lafontaine Drinking Water System – Technical Report prepared by SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. on behalf of the Township of Tiny, September 2, 2025, be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report is to provide an overview of the technical report prepared by SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. to document proposed updates to the wellhead protection areas for the Lafontaine drinking water system in the Township of Tiny.

Background:

The Township of Tiny owns and operates the Lafontaine municipal drinking water supply, located in the northwest portion of the Township. Historically the Lafontaine system was two separate systems, Georgian Sands and Lafontaine but became one in 2013 as a means to treat the nitrate impacted water. Water between the two systems was blended to produce lower levels of nitrate that could be delivered through the distribution system.

The system consists of 6 wells, Wells 1-1, 2-1, Well 14-1 (historical Georgian Sands system) and Wells 23-1 and 23-4 (historical Lafontaine system). In December 2023, Well 14-2 was drilled to replace Well 1-1 due to ageing infrastructure.

Many iterations of groundwater flow modelling has been completed in this area, including:

- 2025 – North Simcoe Groundwater Study
- 2007 – Tiny West and Tiny East Models
- 2010 – South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Tier 2 Model

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- 2014 – Midland and Penetanguishene Tier 3 Model (MPT3-2014)
- 2016 – “cut-out” to the MPT3-2014 model to delineate the nitrate issue contributing area for Lafontaine and Georgian Sands

Updated WHPA modelling (attachment Figure 4) and vulnerability scoring (attachment Figure 7) undertaken by SLR in 2024 – 2025 was prompted as a result of the replacement municipal well at Georgian Sands (new Well 14-2 to replace old Well 1-1) and increasing water demand relative to previous source water protection modelling work.

Four separate model scenarios were run to consider current water use and future subdivision build-out, maximum allowable pumping rates, well capacity, and potential long-term nitrates concentrations (Table 1 below).

Modelled Pumping Rates (m ³ /day)							
Scenario Name	Well 1-1/Well 14-2	Well 2-1	Well 2-2	Well 14-1	Well 23-1	Well 23-4	TOTAL
2007-1	82	246	0	603	157	0	1,088
2024-1	328	700	400	603	54	62	2,147
2024-2	328	550	310	603	54	62	1,907
2024-3	328	400	400	400	54	62	1,644
PTTW ¹	328	982	524	1,310	648	393	4,186
Note 1: PTTW Maximum Allowable Daily Water Taking was not modelled and is listed for comparison only. PTTW rates rounded to the nearest whole number.							

Table 1: Pumping Scenarios

“Similar to previous WHPA modelling for the Township (SGBLS SPC 2015), the current simulations consider a long-term, steady-state condition. Capture zones for the Georgian Sands and Lafontaine wells are determined in FEFLOW by releasing a circular cluster of ‘particles’ within 20 metres (m) of the well nodes and ‘backward-tracking’ particle pathlines through the groundwater flow system to the two-year (“WHPA-B”), five-year (“WHPA-C”), and 25-year (“WHPA-D”) time of travel (ToT). Meanwhile, WHPA-A is a 100 m radius around each well.

The pathlines are ‘projected’ to ground surface and delineated with a polygon, thus creating a 2D capture zone shape. The overall capture zone shapes, including their width,

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length, and direction, are a function of multiple factors, including pumping rates, aquifer thickness, hydraulic conductivity, effective porosity, and simulated hydraulic gradients.

The capture zone delineations are considered relatively robust given the level of detail in model construction and prior calibration efforts. However, as with all groundwater models, there is inherently some uncertainty in hydrogeologic interpretation in areas where data quantity or quality is limited.

To account for such uncertainty, the modelled capture zone outputs are post-processed using two “shape factors” in a manner following that used to create the Approved Assessment Report WHPAs (SGBLS SPC 2018, Golder 2007):

- The first shape factor increases the overall area (width and length) of the capture zone by 20 percent. This shape factor is intended to account for uncertainties in hydraulic conductivity and porosity inputs.
- The second shape factor further increases the width of the capture zone by rotating it +/- 5 degrees from the approximate centrelines of the capture zone. This shape factor is intended to account for uncertainty in regional groundwater flow direction.

The resultant increase in WHPA size as a result of the shape factor approach is considered sufficient to encapsulate any moderate variability in hydraulic conductivity, porosity, and/or groundwater flow direction.” (SLR 2025)

“Similar to previous groundwater vulnerability assessments for the Township (SGBLS SPC 2015), the current work employs the Aquifer Vulnerability Index (AVI) mapping approach to quantify the relative susceptibility of Aquifer A2 to contamination.” (SLR 2025)

“Vulnerability scores are assigned within each WHPA zone in accordance with the following system (SGBLS SPC 2015):”

AVI Value	Intrinsic Vulnerability	WHPA-A Score	WHPA-B Score	WHPA-C Score	WHPA-D Score
<30	High	10	10	8	6
30-80	Medium	10	8	6	4
>80	Low	10	6	4	2

Table 2: WHPA Zone Vulnerability Scores

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Issues:

A summary of the four model scenarios, and how the output compares to the current approved WHPA's (attachment Figures 2 and 3) are as follows:

- Scenario 2007-1
 - “The WHPAs extend in a northeasterly direction, broadening in a quasi-fan shape with increased time of the travel. The WHPAs share a similar shape and direction to those in the Approved Assessment Report, with the Georgian Sands WHPA-B and WHPA-Cs being closely correspondent. However, the WHPA-Ds are significantly shorter in upgradient length compared to those in the Approved Assessment Report. There are several possible reasons for this, including refinements to hydraulic conductivity and recharge inputs in the MPT3-2014 model relative to previous modelling.” (SLR 2025)
- Scenario 2024-1
 - “The results are somewhat similar to Scenario 2007-1; again, the WHPAs generally extend in a northeasterly direction, broadening in a quasi-fan shape with increased travel time. However, the overall capture zone sizes for Georgian Sands Well 2-1 / 2-2 and Well 14-2 are larger owing to the increased pumping at these wells. Meanwhile, the overall capture zone size for the Lafontaine wellfield has decreased slightly owing to a reduction in total pumping.” (SLR 2025)
- Scenario 2024-2
 - “The WHPA's are similar to Scenario 2024-1; however, the overall capture zone size for Georgian Sands Wells 2-1 / 2-2 is smaller owing to the decreased total pumping at these two wells.” (SLR 2025)
- Scenario 2024-3
 - “The WHPA's are again similar to Scenario 2024-1 and 2024-2; however, the overall capture zone sizes for Georgian Sands Wells 2-1 / 2-2 and Well 14-1 are slightly smaller owing to the decreased total pumping at these wells.” (SLR 2025)

Summary:

SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. has prepared the technical report entitled “Georgian Sands and Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Area Modelling” on behalf of the Township of Tiny on September 2, 2025. This report was prepared in compliance with the 2021 Directors Technical Rules for Assessment Reports.

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Scenario 2024-1 was the preferred option for optimal flexibility in future pumping rate allotments. The WHPA shape is similar to its shape but shorter and slightly wider.

Vulnerability scores, primarily in the WHPA-B have decreased due to refinements to the model. The current approved vulnerability scores for the historic Georgian Sands system are shown in attachment Figure 5, historic Lafontaine system in attachment Figure 6, and the proposed scores in attachment Figure 4.

Recommendations:

It is therefore recommended that presentation c) and Staff Report SPC2.3 regarding an amendment to the Lafontaine Drinking Water System – Technical Report prepared by SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. on behalf of the Township of Tiny, September 2, 2025, be received for information.

Prepared by:

Melissa Carruthers, Manager Source Water Protection, RMO/RMI

Recommended by:

Bill Thompson, Project Manager, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Attachments: 6

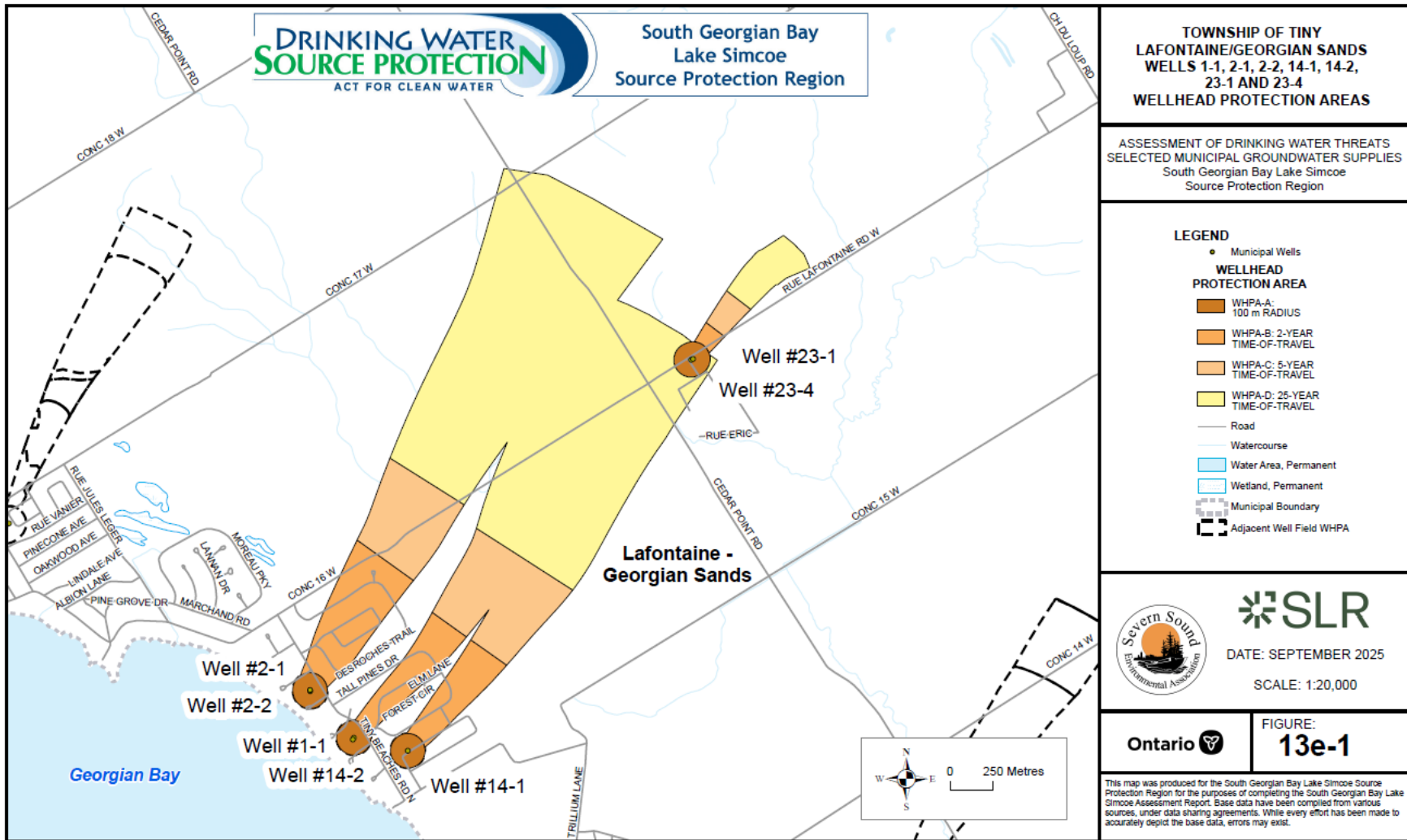


Figure 1: Proposed 2025 Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Areas

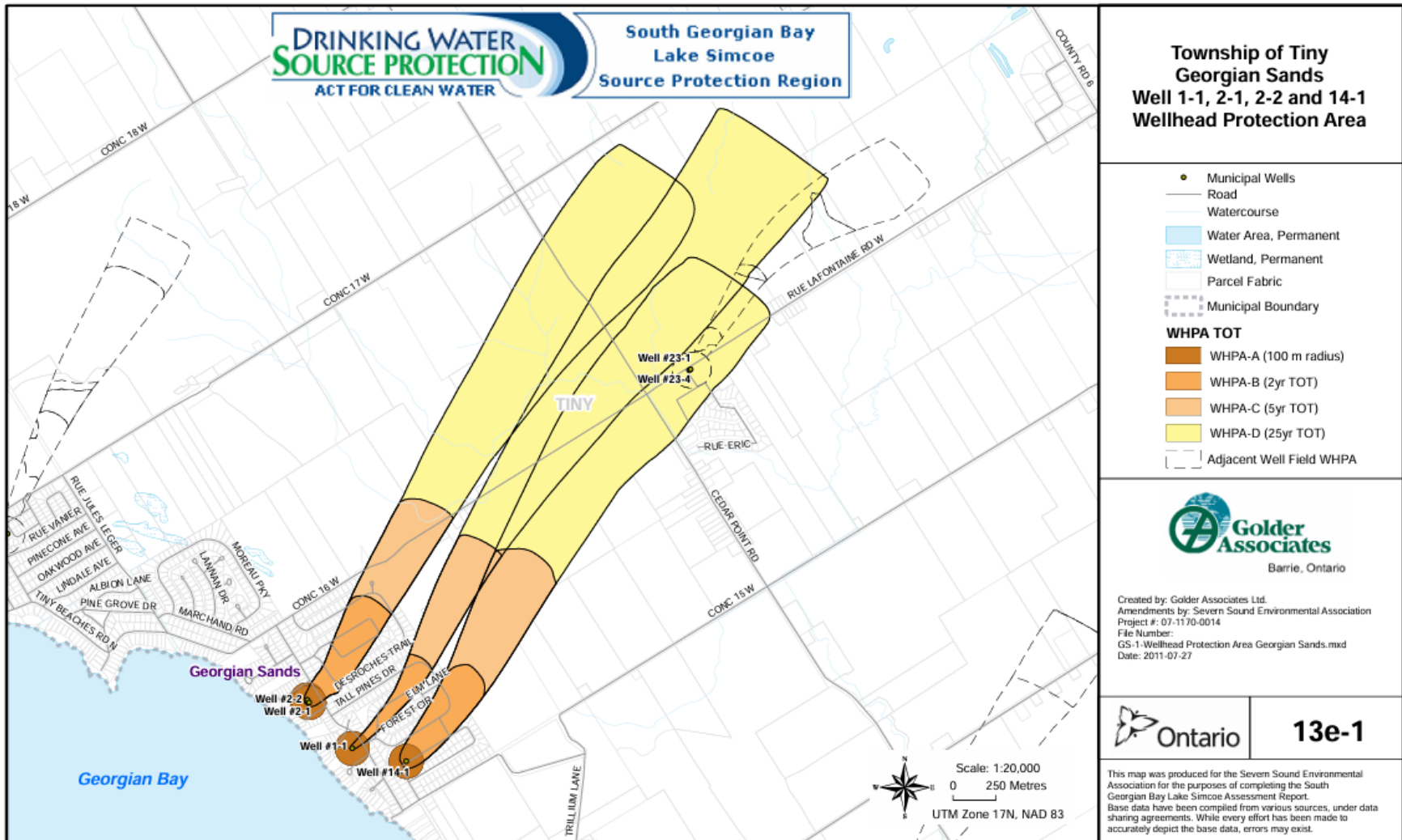


Figure 2: 2015 Approved Georgian Sands Wellhead Protection Areas

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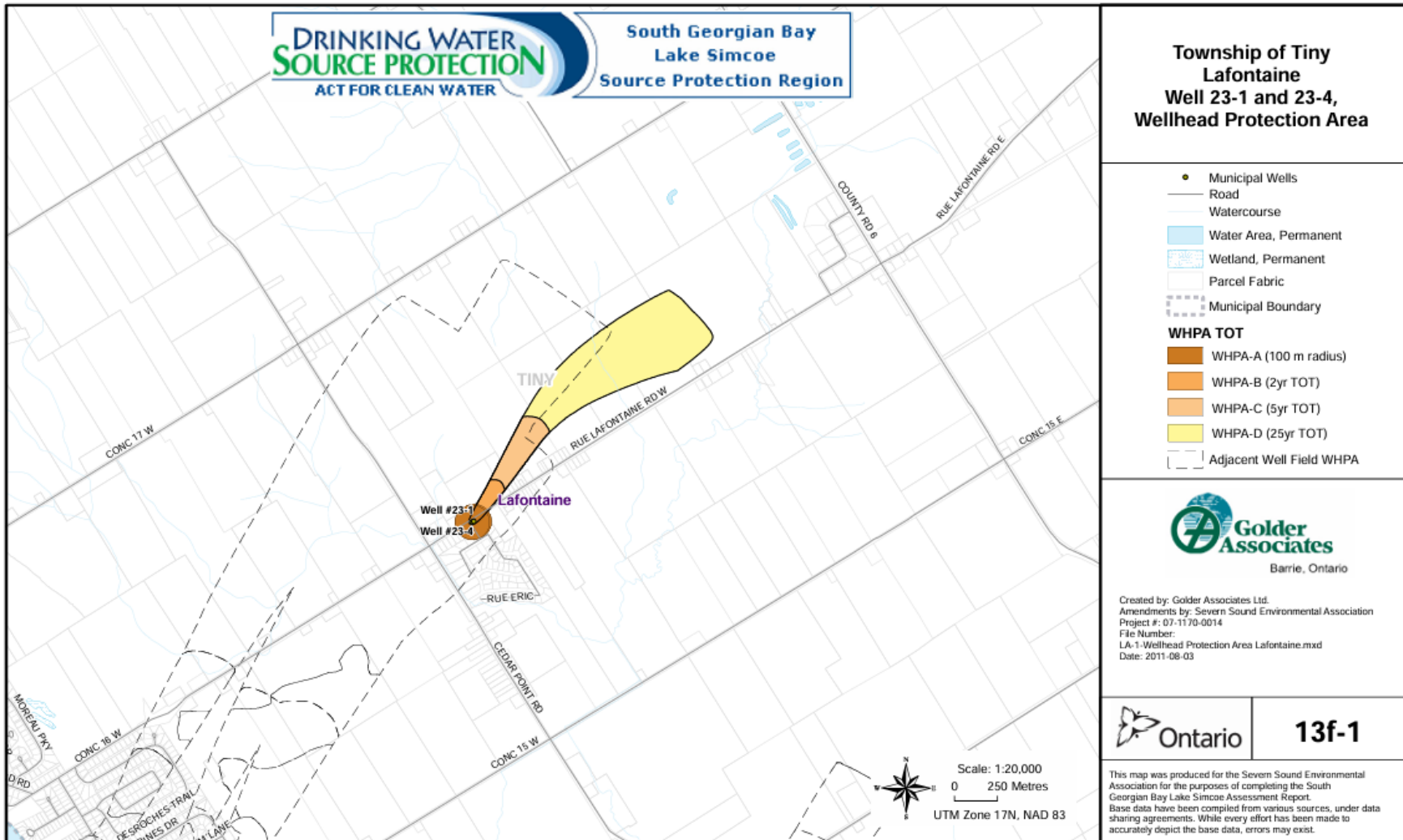


Figure 3: 2015 Approved Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Areas

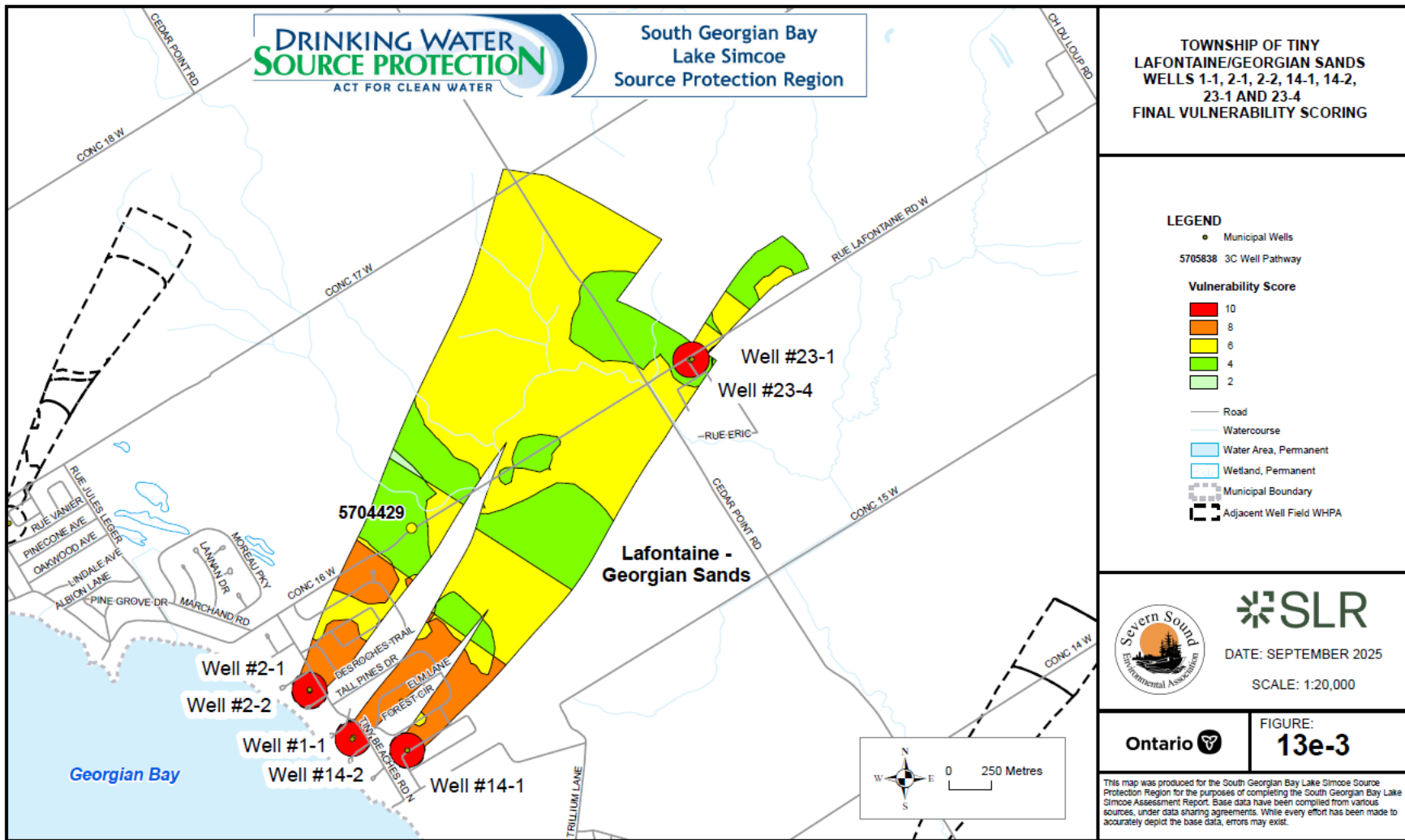


Figure 4: Proposed 2025 Lafontaine Vulnerability Scores

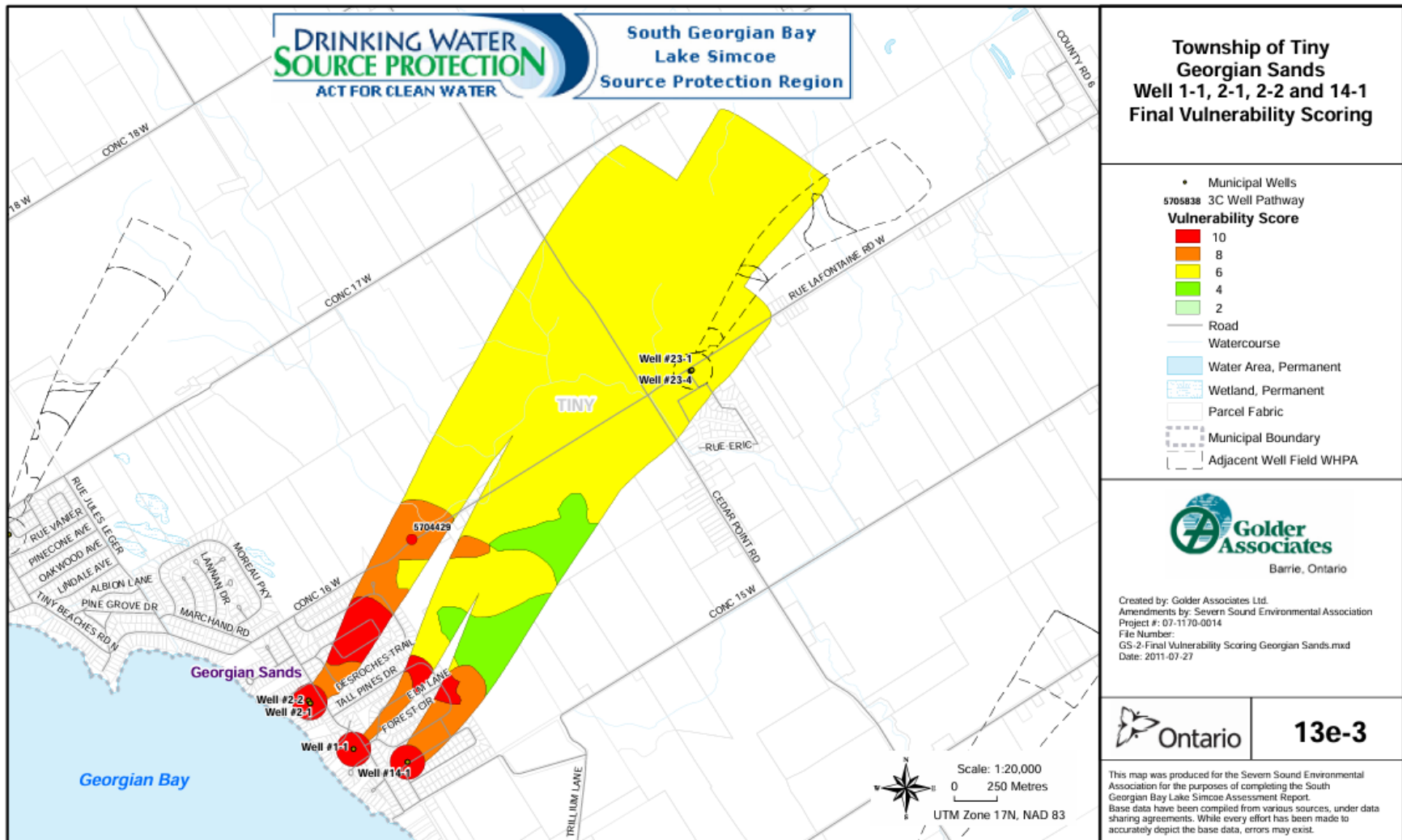


Figure 5: Approved 2015 Georgian Sands Vulnerability Scores

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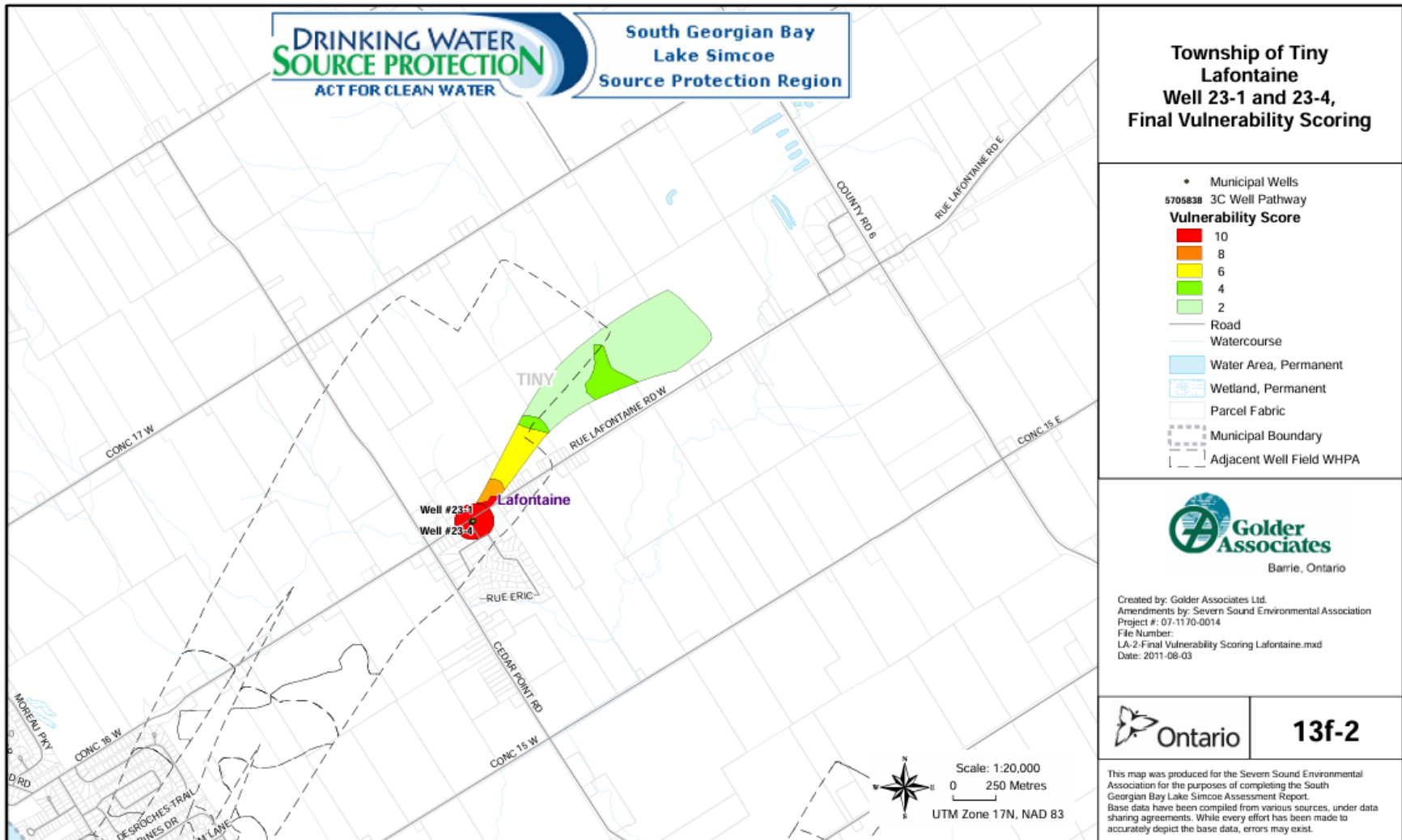


Figure 6: Approved 2015 Lafontaine Vulnerability Scores

Source Protection Committee Meeting SPC-02-2026

Staff Report Number: SPC2.4

To: South Georgian Bay - Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee

From: Melissa Carruthers, Manager Source Water Protection, RMO/RMI, Severn Sound Environmental Association

Date: June 11, 2026

Subject: Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Areas within the Township of Tiny

Recommendations:

That presentation d) and Staff Report SPC2.4 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Areas within the Township of Tiny be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Tiny chapter of the Assessment Report is advisable.

Purpose of Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report is to provide an overview of the proposed amendment to the Tiny Assessment Report Chapter to include an update to the Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Area, and to seek the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee’s agreement that the proposed amendments to the Source Protection Plan and Tiny Assessment Report chapters are advisable.

Background:

The Assessment Report provides the technical foundation to the Source Protection Plan. It evaluates the vulnerability of municipal drinking water systems to contamination and identifies potential significant drinking water threat activities to which policies in the Source Protection Plan will apply.

Regulation 205/18 under the *Safe Drinking Water Act* requires updates to Assessment Reports and Source Protection Plans prior to new, expanded, or altered municipal drinking water systems coming into use. As the source Protection Plan is a Ministerial-approved document, any amendments must similarly be approved by the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, prior to these new, expanded, or altered drinking water systems

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coming into use. Upon its approval, Source Protection Plan policies will apply in any newly identified vulnerable areas.

In December 2023, Well 14-2 was drilled to replace well 1-1, as part of the Lafontaine (historically Georgian Sands) system, in the Township of Tiny, do to ageing infrastructure. Technical work to delineate the revised wellhead protection areas and vulnerability scores were completed by SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. in 2025. The supplementary mapping of managed lands, livestock density, impervious surfaces, and threat assessment has been completed by the Severn Sound Environmental Association. Early engagement comments from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks were received on April 1, 2026, and May 8, 2026. Comments received were more clarifying in nature and around textual updates to be included in the assessment report; responses were proved to MECP on April 13, 2026. Following review of this amendment by the Source Protection Committee, pre-consultation with implementing bodies, municipal endorsement and consultation periods are to follow.

Issues:

As part of the amendment to the Tiny Assessment Report, managed lands, livestock density, impervious surface and threat assessments were completed.

Managed lands

There are no changes in percent managed lands within the WHPA-A and WHPA-D between the proposed and currently approved managed land maps. There are some changes within the WHPA-B (some areas increased from < 40% to > 40% and < 80%) and WHPA-C (increased from > 40% and < 80% to > 80%). However, it doesn't change where policies apply.

Livestock density

No changes to the Livestock Density calculations are proposed between the 2015 approved and the proposed amended 2025 values. The value is proposed to stay at <0.5 NU/Acre.

Impervious surface

Through changes to the Directors Technical Rules, additional categories have been added, however, none of the calculations went over 30%, therefore, the area where policies would apply would remain unchanged.

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Threat assessment

In 2015 a total of 415 activities were considered to be Significant Drinking Water Threats identified in association with 415 land parcels in the WHPA for the then Georgian Sands and Lafontaine water systems.

Due to a Nitrate Drinking Water Issue all Activities related to Nitrate were automatically increased to a Significant Threat regardless of the Vulnerability Score, resulting in higher-than-normal Significant Drinking Water Threats in the area.

The Significant Threats were related to the application of agricultural source material to land (7), storage of agricultural source material (1), storage of non-agricultural source material (1), application of commercial fertilizer to land (157), storage of fertilizer (1), handling and storage of fuel (3), handling and storage of DNAPLs (1), handling and storage of organic solvents (1), and the use of land as livestock grazing or pasturing land, an outdoor confinement area or a farm animal yard (1). 242 parcels are identified as having Significant Threat activities relating to residential land use via the use of private individual sewage disposal systems.

Through development of vacant lands to residential use and refinements by the local Risk Management Official, using the 2015 WHPA outline with 2025 local knowledge the significant threat numbers would change to; the application of agricultural source material to land 0 (removal of all 7), storage of agricultural source material 0 (removal of all), storage of non-agricultural source material (removal of all), application of commercial fertilizer to land 273 (addition of 116), storage of fertilizer (removal of all), handling and storage of fuel 1 (removal of 2), handling and storage of DNAPLs 1 (unchanged), handling and storage of organic solvents 1 (unchanged), and the use of land as livestock grazing or pasturing land, an outdoor confinement area or a farm animal yard 1 (unchanged). 259 (addition of 17) parcels are identified as having Significant Threat activities relating to residential land use via the use of private individual sewage disposal systems.

Using the proposed 2025 revised Wellhead Protection Area, an additional 30 properties would be subject to policies related to on-site sewage systems, and an additional 14 properties would be subject to policies governing fertilizer application.

As no new threat activities are proposed, it is recommended that no changes to policies in the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan are needed.

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Summary:

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires Source Protection Authorities to amend Source Protection Plans to ensure vulnerable areas around any such municipal drinking water systems are updated to address proposed changes including the addition of new wells or changes in pumping rates before proposed changes can be implemented. The technical work to delineate the revised wellhead protection areas for the Lafontaine Drinking Water Supply system, Township of Tiny was completed by SLR Consulting (Canada Ltd.) in 2025. The supplementary mapping of managed lands, livestock density, impervious surfaces, and threat assessment has been completed by the Severn Sound Environmental Association. An additional 30 properties would be subject to policies related to on-site sewage systems, and an additional 14 properties would be subject to policies governing fertilizer application. As no new threat activities are proposed, it is recommended that no changes to policies in the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan are needed.

Recommendations:

It Is Therefore Recommended That presentation d) and Staff Report SPC2.4 regarding Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report Update – Lafontaine Wellhead Protection Areas within the Township of Tiny be received for information; and

Further That the South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee agree that the proposed amendments to the Tiny chapter of the Assessment Report is advisable.

Prepared by:

Melissa Carruthers, Manager Source Water Protection, RMO/RMI, Severn Sound Environmental Association

Recommended by:

Bill Thompson, Project Manager, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Attachments: 1

Source Protection Committee Meeting SPC-02-2026

Staff Report Number: SPC2.5

To: South Georgian Bay - Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee

From: Mystaya Touw, Sourcewater Protection Specialist, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Date: June 11, 2026

Subject: **Section 36 Pre-Consultation Comments Received**

Recommendations:

That presentation e) and Staff Report SPC2.5 regarding Section 36 Pre-Consultation Comments Received be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report is to provide an update to the Committee on any comments received through the pre-consultation phase of the Section 36 Amendment to the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan.

Background:

Section 36 of the Clean Water Act requires the Minister to set a date for Plan review and update when he or she approves the Source Protection Plan. Accordingly, when the original Source Protection Plan was approved by Minister Murray, in 2015, an Order to initiate a plan review in 2018 accompanied approval of the plan.

As required by that Order, Source Protection staff consulted with Risk Management Officials and other implementing bodies on the effectiveness of existing policies, compiled and assessed updated raw water quality data from municipal wells and intakes, and reviewed changes to provincial policy since Plan approval, which might require plan updates.

Additionally, the amendment will be used to bring the plan into compliance with the 2021 Technical Rules and other provincial changes that affect the source water program. Changes that impact potential Threat activities and/or policy impacts were brought before the Committee for review on an issue-by-issue basis.

A completed draft amendment was brought to the Committee in the fall of 2024 and subsequently submitted to the Ministry for early engagement. After early engagement comments were addressed, pre-consultation started in the fall of 2025 when Risk

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Management Officials and municipal staff were engaged and continued in spring 2026 with letters sent to implementing bodies and potentially affected property owners. The consultation period for the letters closed on May 1, 2026.

Issues:

Written comments were received from staff at multiple municipalities, an affected business owner, a shoreline property owner, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness. Some RMOs also provided revisions to threats enumeration estimates.

At time of writing, we are still waiting on pre-consultation comments from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Many of the municipal comments were short statements of support and understanding. We did receive constructive feedback from staff at the City of Barrie early on, some of which, like the wording of policy FUEL-4, we will follow up with Risk Management Officials and the Committee at a later date.

Comments received from Barrie Waste and Recycling Corp. (attached) discusses the complicated nature of overlapping regulatory requirements, such as requirements for stormwater works under one Act or Regulation, and then that same stormwater feature potentially being considered a significant Threat to drinking water under another. They also flagged that Highway 400 is not subject to road salt regulating policies, yet their property may be, despite being a much smaller potential source of salt.

While we are tasked with sending letters to potentially affected property owners, further investigation and conversations with Risk Management Officials or Ministry staff in the future will be required to confirm threats exist, and what risk management measures would be needed. Barrie Waste and Recycling Corp., in practice, may not meet the requirements for all of the potential threats included in their letter, and any risk management measure they are already voluntarily doing would be considered in any Risk Management Plan, or amendments to Environmental Compliance Approvals that may be required. It may be that impacts to the business are minimal even if a Risk Management Plan is required.

One property owner in an Intake Protection Zone who received a letter about septic inspections submitted a generally supportive comment, but they did not think their property was in a vulnerable area. Staff confirmed they are in a vulnerable area; however their municipality has already been doing voluntary septic inspections, so the impact is minimal.

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The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness submitted comments stating limitations in what they will review or require for Nutrient Management Strategies, as well as what they do not directly oversee (Nutrient Management Plans, Category 1 and 2 non-agricultural source material). This feedback isn't new and highlights some limitations in our nutrient management policies. One of the changes the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks recently proposed to the Clean Water Act Regulations, if approved, would allow Risk Management Officials to require Risk Management Plans if the current tools (ex. Nutrient Management Plan) is in their professional opinion inadequate in managing the Threat. If the Ministry's proposal is approved, this topic will be brought to the Committee for further consideration and potential policy changes.

Summary:

Pre-consultation feedback was received from Risk Management Officials, municipal staff, implementing bodies, and affected property owners. Pre-consultation comments from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks are still outstanding. Many of the comments received were general statements of support for the Amendment. Based on this feedback, future staff reports and presentation are expected to be brought to the Committee for further consideration on the following topics: fuel policies (FUEL-3 and FUEL-4), and nutrient management policies (those where the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness is listed as an implementing body).

Recommendations:

It Is Therefore Recommended That presentation e) and Staff Report SPC2.5 regarding Section 36 Pre-Consultation Comments Received be received for information.

Prepared by:

Mystaya Touw, Sourcewater Protection Specialist

Recommended by:

Bill Thompson, Project Manager

Attachments: 1



April 30, 2026

South Georgian Bay – Lake Simcoe Source Protection Region
c/o Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
120 Bayview Parkway
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 3W3

Attention: Mr. Bill Thompson
Project Manager

Re: **Proposed amendments to the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan**

Dear Sir:

Barrie Recycling and Waste Corp. (BRWC) is pleased to comment to the proposed amendments to the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe (SGBLS) Source Water Protection Plan. It is our understanding that changes to Provincial legislation are prompting this solicitation. In our situation, the proximity of our business to one of the City of Barrie’s municipal supply wells has the potential to require the implementation of new actions to mitigate “significant water quality” threat(s) as it pertains to the activities conducted at our place of business.

We are generally familiar with the requirements under the Clean Water Act. We are also aware that the Provincial government through legislation establishes these “threats”. The SGBLS Source Protection Project Team is tasked with addressing whether the risks and threats exist on the landscape and if so whether actions will be required to address the risk present.

It is also understood that each Source Protection Region has adopted different mechanisms to evaluate the risks and threats on the landscape. In many cases, the mechanisms are considered conservative in nature in order to be protective of the water resource under consideration. For example, the projection of the two-year time of travel envelope for the identified municipal well is commonly used to establish a wellhead protection area (WHPA). However, it is not clear whether the degree of conservatism that is afforded by the selected mechanism has been assessed. It is speculated in a layered aquifer complex where ground water flow is dominated by laterally bedded



granular systems that the projection of the two-year time of travel envelope up to the ground surface could grossly over-estimate the real extent of the time of travel at or near ground surface (*i.e.*, surface to aquifer advective transport [SAAT]).

At the outset of the Source Water Protection (SWP) evaluation, many assessment mechanisms were selected to provide both ease and conservatism (*ex.* two-year time of travel envelope projection). Our concern is whether there should be a commitment to assess these earlier decisions so that a more balanced and fair approach to SWP is rendered across the watershed. From our perspective there is significant difference between the protection of an unconfined aquifer being used as a water supply and municipal water extraction from a deep confined aquifer in a laterally bedded geologic setting. Thus, we would question how great of a risk our operations might be if a SAAT assessment were conducted as opposed to the current technique. We agree that water resources are worthy of protection; but it would be appreciated if the actual geologic setting and SAAT were assessed to determine the degree to which any surface activity may influence the resource.

WASTE MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Consider that waste transfer activities have existed at our site since 1974 or for over 50 years. To date, we are not aware of any evidence of our influence on the hydrogeologic environment even in the uppermost unconfined aquifer system. An environmental site assessment conducted in 2018 did not detect any significant influence on the environment from our operations.

Since that time, we have expended considerable monies to move all of our operations indoors. This was achieved in 2021 with the opening of our waste transfer building. All activities are conducted indoor as required by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), on a thick epoxy coated concrete slab. In addition, we have added to the protection of the environment by constructing a protective geomembrane barrier underneath the building envelope in order to prevent any vertical contaminant migration.

One has to question whether such protective measures self-imposed upon our operations have any bearing when assessing the real risk to the environment? Our concern is that SWP process can become a boiler-plate procedure owing to the Provincial requirements which can overlook protective measures already in place. It is our opinion that the evaluation of such subtleties within the current landscape warrant consideration. Those



who have expended monies to better protect the environment deserve the benefit of these efforts even though the Provincial legislation is silent on such possibilities.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

You have also asked us to comment on the stormwater system that we currently operate under a Provincial instrument. As you can surmise, this requirement was imposed upon us as a function of the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act*. A storm water treatment system was mandated to address the potential phosphate loading into the basin. A phosphate removal system was implemented in order to address the *Lake Simcoe Protection Act* even though we are treating water from our driveway / access road system.

Now you are suggesting that because one Act mandated treatment of rain water; that another Act will identify it as a risk because it exists under a Provincial instrument and this occurs because of the projection of the two-year time of travel envelope that exists in a deep aquifer system. We are already mandated to sample the system water quality semi-annually under the Provincial instrument. Once again, we have a scientific concern with the reality of this situation. We will acknowledge the mechanisms being used in this instance without believing the realities of the situation from a detailed scientific assessment of the SAAT. Furthermore, if the implementation of the system was to address phosphorus loading to the basin; then one has to question how this then evolves into a threat under the *Clean Water Act*. One hopes that over time, the refinement of the situation will alleviate undue constraints when they are not appropriate.

SNOW AND SALT CONSIDERATIONS

Recognizing the similar comments that could be expressed from above regarding the SAAT assessment, we offer the following comments on this issue. It is suggested that snow and salt applications on this Site are worthy of consideration despite the fact that you cannot mandate the potential largest source of road deicing for the City of Barrie being the Highway 400 corridor. It is difficult to subscribe to the potential constraints assigned to our Site when the Source Protection Plan cannot address the most significant salt input to this area being the deicing of a 400 series highway. This reality was enunciated to the Source Protection Committee in a presentation by Golders on road salt issues years ago. The inability to address the critical elements of the watershed “threat” for salt influences is disconcerting to those who are then constrained; but have no meaningful influence on the “condition”.

Simplistically, it would be most beneficial if the critical source of the ICI was addressed as opposed to constraining lesser contributors. One has to ask why the Provincial



government is immune from addressing the issue when it is imposed on the private sector. Our legal liability is no less than that of the Province; yet we are being asked to address an insignificant contribution to the condition while the major contributor to the issue is exempt from the solution.

We recognize that many of the comments provided above will not be easy to address under the current legislation. However, it does not mean that they are not any less important to a fair and just Source Protection Plan.

I trust these comments may assist you in the evaluative process since they identify key elements not normally addressed in the SWP. It is recognized that the Source Protection Plan is an evolving document. It is hoped that refinement of the SPP will address most if not all of the issues identified above over time. We thank you for this opportunity to provide comments to this process. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or comments.

Yours truly,
BARRIE RECYCLING AND WASTE CORP.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Reyad Hanna", is written over the printed name.

Reyad Hanna
President

Attach:

C:\Users\d k\My Documents\BRWC Documents\260325 - SWP Stormwater Notification\260427 - BRWC - Comment on SWP Policy Changes.docx

Source Protection Committee Meeting SPC-02-2026

Staff Report Number: SPC2.6

To: South Georgian Bay - Lake Simcoe Source Protection Committee

From: Mystaya Touw, Sourcewater Protection Specialist, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Date: June 11, 2026

Subject: Environmental Registry of Ontario Postings 026-0302: “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements”

Recommendations:

That presentation f) and Staff Report SPC2.6 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario Postings 026-0302: “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements” be received for information.

Purpose of Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report is to provide an overview of a recent posting on the Environmental Registry of Ontario 026-0302: “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements.” Amendments are proposed to the Municipal Act, 2001 and Safe Drinking Water Act, 2002, to enable regulations to set out requirements for municipal consent of non-municipal communal drinking water and wastewater systems and to require municipalities to consent if requirements are met.

Background:

Posting 026-0302 “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements,” deals with non-municipal infrastructure. It proposes to require proponents of communal water and/or wastewater systems to apply to the municipality for approval, and for the municipalities to have set approval guidelines in place and that any application that meets those requirements be approved. These types of systems operate, and are proposed to continue to operate, outside the bounds of source water protection, even if they supply drinking water.

The comment period for this posting closed on May 14, 2026. Source Protection Authority staff contributed comments through Conservation Ontario, as outlined in Correspondence SPC1.1 included with this agenda package.

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Issues:

Non-municipal systems provide water in a variety of circumstances including year-round residential systems (e.g., apartments), systems serving designated facilities (e.g., schools or camps), seasonal residential systems (e.g., trailer parks), or systems serving public facilities (e.g., resorts).

The 2025 Performance Audit of the Safety of Non-Municipal Drinking Water, a special report by the Office of the Auditor General of Ontario, identified several concerns related to communal systems, including systems that were not properly identified, assessed, or inspected as required; insufficient or incomplete water quality sampling; and gaps in oversight related to well construction and associated requirements. Over 30% non-municipal communal systems had not been inspected by the Ministry in the past 5 years, 9% had not been inspected in the last 7 years. Looking at 2012/2013 compared to 2023/2024, there has been over a 30% decrease in the number of inspections carried out by the Ministry, who cite staffing resource issues.

Seeking to increase non-municipal communal drinking water supplies, furthers a two-tiered approach to drinking water in Ontario – those that are protected through source water protection and those that are not. It is unlikely that the guidelines municipalities would have to develop for non-municipal communal systems could be comprehensive of the protections and technical studies required of municipal systems through the source water program. This may pose issues such as:

- sites being chosen without consideration of surrounding land uses and activities that could pose a threat to drinking water, and without considering better alternatives.
- any would-be threats, per the Technical Rules for source water, may not be addressed.
- significant cost, workload, and frustration being directed to the municipality if the system is later transferred to their ownership for any reason and they must bring the system into compliance with source water protection retroactively.
- these systems may cause problems in areas where water quantity is a concern if their water takings are sizeable and they are not proactively bound by the same water budget study and water quantity policies that a municipal system would be.

Summary:

The Environmental Registry of Ontario posting 026-0302 “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements,” would require municipalities develop requirements for proposed communal drinking water and wastewater systems,

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and that systems that meet those requirements be approved. This may result in more non-municipal drinking water supplies being built and operating outside of the source water protection landscape. This furthers the unequal protections for drinking water in Ontario highlighted by the 2025 Special Report from the Auditor General.

Source Protection staff submitted comments on this proposal through Conservation Ontario.

Recommendations:

It Is Therefore Recommended That presentation f) and Staff Report SPC2.6 regarding Environmental Registry of Ontario Postings 026-0302: “Communal drinking water and wastewater system municipal consent requirements” be received for information.

Prepared by:

Mystaya Touw, Sourcewater Protection Specialist

Recommended by:

Bill Thompson, Project Manager