Meeting Notes from Electoral Area E Water Meeting

Nanoose Library Hall - Nov. 17, 2016

Presenters:

Randy Alexander, RDN General Manager of Regional and Community Utilities
Chris Midgley, RDN Manager Water Services & Asset Mgmt
Julie Pisani, RDN Drinking Water & Watershed Protection Coordinator
Gerald St Pierre, RDN Water Services Project Engineer
Mark Bolton, Consulting Hydrogeologist from Golder Associates

Attendees:

Thirteen Area E residents & Director Bob Rogers.

Participants were very engaged, asking lots of questions and offering comments throughout the session.

Summary:

Julie outlined the water monitoring that has taken place to date in the Parker Road area; recapped the "Help Shape our Water Future" Public Session of June 2016; and addressed the key elements that would be monitored, to collect local data for Phase 2 Water Budget analysis including Water Supply, Ecosystem Health and Water Demand.

Julie provided an overview of the Draft Area E Water Monitoring Plan, including a description of the aquifers in the area (which included watersheds adjacent to, but outside the mapped boundary of Area 'E'). She mentioned four main aquifers;

Mark went into great detail of their proposed Draft Water Monitoring Plan for Area E (*see map below. For a digital copy of the Final Report with a higher resolution version of the map, please contact waterprotection@rdn.bc.ca*):

- brief descriptions of aquifers, surface water bodies, climate
- where existing monitoring locations are
- primary proposed monitoring locations, to fill data gaps, track trends over time, understand connection between groundwater and surface water, monitor impacts from climate and development
- proposed three climate stations, three hydrometric stations {two on Nanoose Ck- upstream & one on Enos Lake}; and seven groundwater monitoring locations {in both bedrock and sand & gravel aquifers} which also include four in coastal aquifers to monitor saltwater intrusion

Time was given for participants to review the map with the existing and proposed monitoring locations to discuss and provide feedback.

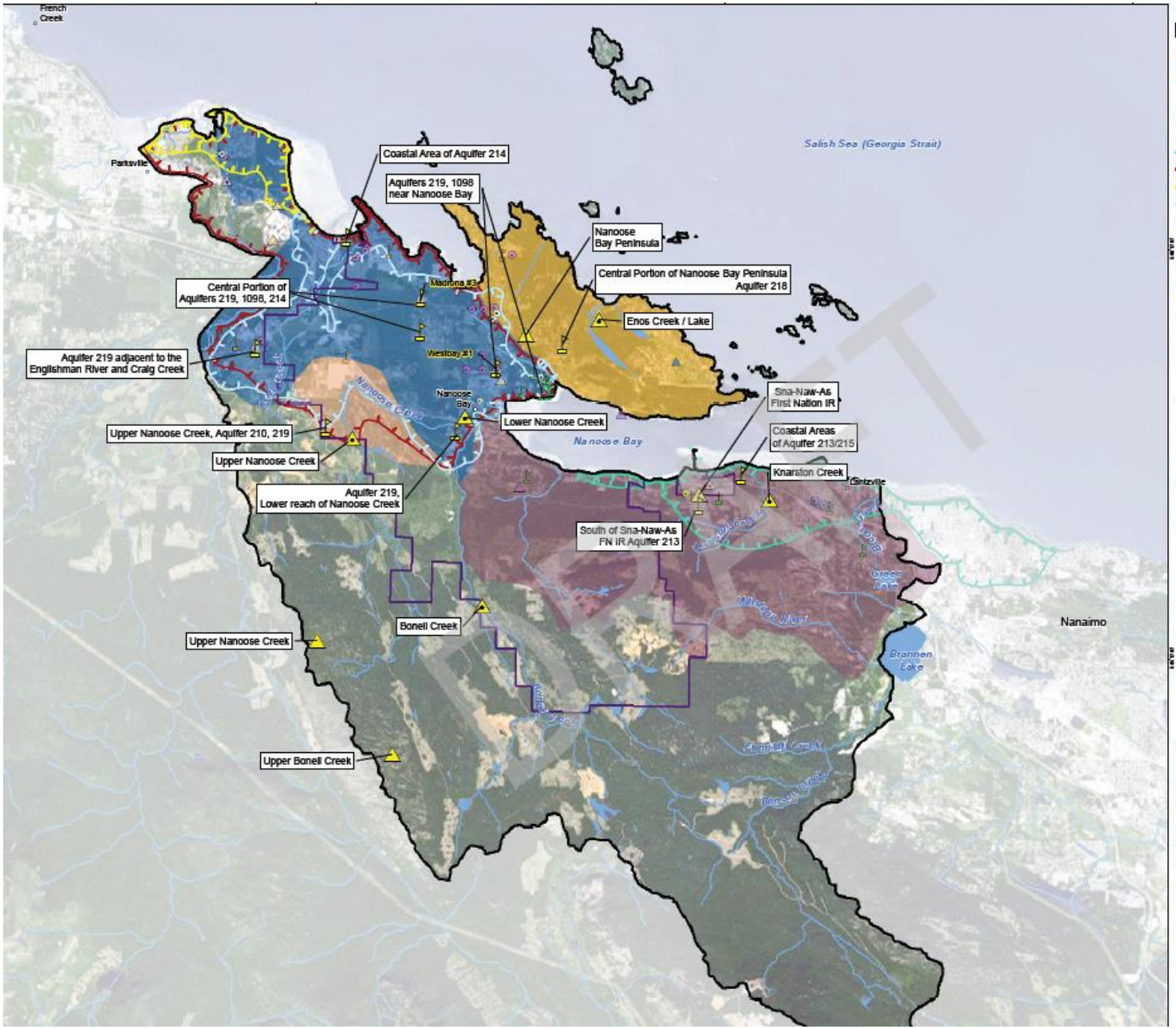
- There was general agreement that more monitoring in the upper elevations is necessary to understand supply – how / how much water is getting into the system and trying to better estimate groundwater recharge.
- There was support for working with volunteer private well owners to monitor groundwater levels in key areas and for looking for wells that were drilled by developers that are not in use that could be used for monitoring.
- There were comments that supported partnerships with Snaw-naw-as, the timber companies, the golf course and the university to collect the necessary data.
- There was a desire to learn more about water for habitat, not just community supply.
- One suggestion was to look at wetlands to see how they are contributing to groundwater recharge – response: this is underway via a research partnership the RDN DWWP program has with VIU.
- Residents were interested to know how the data would be used to support water management over the long term – response: climate change adaptation, informing water allocation decisions at the provincial level, guiding land-use decisions at the local level.

Gerald gave a brief account of capital projects in the Nanoose Bay Water Service Area, as well as the overall operation of the system including general start and stop times for bulk water coming from Parksville.

- suggestion to have a policy to notify residents about potential water quality changes when sources change throughout the seasons

Randy gave a brief update on the Englishman River Water Service.

Julie provided a recap of regional rainfall and water demand for 2015 and 2016-to date.



LEGEND

- PROJECT AREA
- ELECTORAL AREA E
- WATERBODY
- WATERCOURSE
- CITY / TOWN

SAND AND GRAVEL AQUIFER

AQUIFER NUMBER

- 0215
- 0219
- 0221
- 1098

BEDROCK AQUIFER

AQUIFER NUMBER

- 0210
- 0213
- 0214
- 0218

EXISTING CLIMATE MONITORING STATION

ACTIVE CLIMATE MONITORING STATION

- MONITORING STATION - CITY OF PARKSVILLE
- MONITORING STATION - PRIVATE
- MONITORING STATION - SCHOOL-BASED

INACTIVE CLIMATE MONITORING STATION STATIONS

- MONITORING STATION - ENVIRONMENT CANADA

EXISTING HYDROMETRIC MONITORTING STATION

- HYDROMETRIC STATION - ACTIVE
- HYDROMETRIC STATION - DE-ACTIVATED

EXISTING MONITORING WELL

- BC MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT MONITORING WELL
- RDN VOLUNTEER (PRIVATE) MONITORIN WELL

EXISTING PRODUCTION WELL

- PRODUCTION WELL - Sna-Naw-As FIRST NATION INDIAN RESERVE
- PRODUCTION WELL - DISTRICT OF LANTZVILLE

ACTIVE RDN PRODUCTION WELL

- PRODUCTION WELL - RDN

UNUSED RDN PRODUCTION WELL

- PRODUCTION WELL - RDN

RECOMMENDATION FOR NEW CLIMATE MONITORING STATIONS

- CLIMATE STATION

RECOMMENDATION FOR NEW GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS

- GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL

RECOMMENDATION FOR NEW HYDROMETRIC STATIONS

- HYDROMETRIC STATION

DRAFT

0 2 4

1:100,000 KILOMETRES

REFERENCE(S)

1. AQUIFERS,WATERCOURSE, ELECTORAL AREA E, SURFACE WATER LICENSE OBTAINED FROM REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO.
2. AQUIFER 1098, HYDROMETRIC STATIONS, WATERBODIES, CITY AND TOWN DATA CONTAINS INFORMATION LICENSED UNDER THE OPEN GOVERNMENT LICENSE – BRITISH COLUMBIA.
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COORDINATE SYSTEM: NAD83 UTM ZONE 10.

CLIENT
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

PROJECT
ELECTORAL AREA E WATER MONITORING PROJECT

TITLE
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MONITORING LOCATIONS

CONSULTANT
Golder Associates

YYYY-MM-DD	2016-10-17
DESIGNED	MB
PREPARED	AD
REVIEWED	