

REPORT

Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle Site

2023 Annual Monitoring Report

Submitted to:

Blue Triton Brands

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Submitted by:

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Key Facts for 2023 Operations at Aberfoyle

Key facts for the 2023 operations at Aberfoyle are summarized below.

1) Blue Triton Brands (Blue Triton) continued to operate under the terms of Permit to Take Water (PTTW) 3133-C5BUH9 for well TW3-80.

- 2) Blue Triton has complied with all the conditions in the PTTW for the Aberfoyle well TW3-80 in 2023.
- 3) A comprehensive annual monitoring report for the Aberfoyle well (TW3-80) has been prepared under the conditions of the PTTW.
- 4) No complaints arising from the taking of water authorized under the PTTW were received in 2023.
- 5) The Grand River Low Water Response Team declared a Level 2 Low Water Condition for the entire Grand River Watershed, including Mill Creek, on July 21, 2022 which remained in effect until it was reduced to a Level 1 Low Water Condition on January 12, 2024 and removed on September 13, 2023. The Grand River Low Water Response Team declared a Level 1 Low Water Condition for the entire Grand River Watershed again on December 20, 2023. The Level 1 Low Water Condition was in effect for the remainder of 2023. Blue Triton committed to limit water takings to 90% of their monthly maximum permitted volume during the Level 1 Condition and 80% of their monthly maximum permitted volume during the Level 2 Condition.
- 6) TW3-80 pumps water from the Lower Bedrock Aquifer which is overlain by a Middle Bedrock Aquitard, an Upper Bedrock Aquifer and an overburden aquifer/aquitard.
- 7) The total volume of water taken in 2023 from TW3-80 was 638,962,293 L, approximately 49% of the permitted annual volume assuming continuous well operation.
- 8) The daily water takings at TW3-80 ranged from 0 L to 2,684,259 L. The average daily water taking was 1,750,582 L. The maximum daily taking corresponded to approximately 75% of the permitted maximum daily taking and, on most days, was substantially less than the maximum permitted daily taking.
- 9) The variations in water levels in TW3-80 continue to be due mainly to short-term changes in the pumping rate and during 2023 were within the historical ranges of observed water levels. Ongoing pumping from TW3-80 has not led to a long-term water level decline in the well.
- 10) Water levels in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer around the property continue to be influenced mainly by pumping of TW3-80, over both the short-term and long-term. The effects of long-term variability in pumping are observed more in the wells closer to TW3-80 where mean annual water levels correlate with total annual water takings (i.e., increased water takings result in lower water levels). The influence of pumping decreases with distance from the pumping well. Water levels recover when pumping rates are reduced, an indication that the water taking is sustainable. There is also some influence on the water levels from recharge and external influences, to varying degrees. Water levels measured within the Lower Bedrock Aquifer in 2023 are generally similar to the water levels measured since mid-2020 with the exception of the lower levels during the second half of 2022 which was marked by drought conditions and the reduced recharge to the Lower Bedrock Aquifer.



11) Water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer around the property are partly influenced by pumping from TW3-80 (i.e., there is hydraulic connection between the Upper Bedrock and Lower Bedrock Aquifers); however, the connection is limited (i.e., there is less response than in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer). The magnitude of influence varies based on distance from TW3-80 and existing hydrogeologic conditions, reflecting complexity in the subsurface. While there is an influence on water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer from pumping TW3-80, there are also seasonal and long-term trends in the Upper Bedrock water levels that are reflective of recharge trends (i.e., lower water levels during years of below-average precipitation and higher water levels during years of above-average precipitation). This is reflected in 2023 by an increase in water levels compared to those observed in the second half of 2022 during the extended period of below-average precipitation.

- 12) Water levels in the overburden are affected both by natural factors (recharge) and to a much lesser degree from pumping at TW3-80. The response to pumping in the overburden is observed only in the immediate vicinity of the pumping well. Water levels in the overburden wells during in 2023 were similar to the water levels observed in 2021.
- 13) The water levels in the mini-piezometers generally increase in the spring, decline through the summer, and then increase in the fall. In addition to the seasonal trend, short-term changes ("spikes") in water level in the shallow groundwater are influenced by individual precipitation events. Overall, the water levels are influenced primarily by precipitation events, which overwhelm any changes due to pumping from TW3-80. Water levels measured in the mini-piezometers in 2023 were within the historical ranges.
- 14) Surface water levels in Aberfoyle Creek and Mill Creek fluctuate in response to natural processes (i.e., precipitation, snow melt and evapotranspiration) with no measurable effects from changes in pumping from TW3-80. In general, surface water levels are higher in the winter/spring and lower in the summer and then increase slightly into the fall. "Spikes" in the water levels are related to precipitation events or spring melt. Summer stream flows at SW1 and SW2 in 2023 were within the historical ranges. The effects of pumping TW3-80 could not be detected in the surface water flows observed at SW1 and SW2 in 2023.



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Permit to Take Water Number 3133-C5BUH9

APPENDIX B

TW3-80 Borehole Log

APPENDIX C

TW3-80 Water Taking

APPENDIX D

Groundwater Level Monitoring

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Technical Memoranda: Analysis of Potential Recharge at the Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle Facility SWB Model 2023 Update and TW3-80 Drawdown Analysis



1.0 INTRODUCTION

Blue Triton Brands (Blue Triton), formerly Nestlé Waters Canada (Nestlé), has retained WSP Canada Inc. (WSP) to conduct the annual monitoring program and report preparation for the Blue Triton Aberfoyle Site as required by Permit To Take Water (PTTW) Number 3133-C5BUH9 issued by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) on November 15, 2021. The PTTW is provided in Appendix A.

The location of the Aberfoyle Spring/Plant (Site) is shown on Figure 1.1. The PTTW authorizes water taking from one on-Site bedrock well located on Lot 23, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Puslinch, Wellington County, Ontario. Water from TW3-80 is taken for the purpose of bottling water.

The Aberfoyle bottling facility is located on a 46.75 hectare parcel owned by Blue Triton, approximately 5 km southeast of Guelph and 12 km northeast of Cambridge (Figure 1.1). The Aberfoyle facility consists of a bottling plant, warehouse, paved parking and access drives, ponds, and open fields, and is bordered by wooded areas, wetlands and aggregate operations.

A summary of the PTTW Conditions and where the information can be found in this report are outlined in Table 1:

Table 1: Permit To Take Water Conditions

Condition Number	Condition Description	Report Section
3.2	Identifies use, rates, time and total takings allowed.	3.1.1, 4.1, Appendix C
3.3	Low Water Response Plan	4.1
4.1	Maintain a daily record of all water takings including date, volume of water taken and rate at which it was taken.	Appendix C
4.2, 4.3, 4.5	Establish the specified groundwater and surface water monitoring programs including monitoring requirements and monitoring timing.	3.1.2, 3.1.3
4.4	Undertake wetland monitoring and redd surveys and submit results to Director.	Appendix H
4.6	Notify the Director of monitoring locations that become inaccessible or abandoned and provide a recommendation for replacement.	3.1.2.1, 3.1.3.1, 3.1.4
4.7	Prepare and submit an annual monitoring report to the Director, which presents and interprets the data collected under the conditions of the PTTW.	This report
4.8	Submit details of the bottling operations to the Director.	4.1
4.9.1, 4.9.2, 4.9.3	Establish a publicly accessible website and have select technical data available for download. [https://bluetriton.ca/long-term-monitoring]	Not reported on; updated annually prior to March 31
4.10	Host an annual stakeholder meeting.	Not reported on; completed annually prior to September 30
5.1	Notify the local District Office of any complaint arising from the taking of water and proposed action to rectify the complaint.	4.1
5.2	Supply water to anyone with a water supply (in effect prior to this taking) that has been negatively impacted.	Not applicable

Golder Associates Ltd. (now WSP) began monitoring at the Site in May 2014 on behalf of Nestlé and continues to monitor the site on behalf of Blue Triton. Prior to 2014, monitoring was performed by Conestoga Rovers and Associates (CRA) and Nestlé. The MECP has requested that the reporting follow the same outline and format as previous reports. The reporting of the geologic characterization has been updated to be consistent with the updated interpretation developed by the Ontario Geological Survey (Brunton, 2008, 2009; Brunton and Brintnell, 2011) rather than the previous geologic nomenclature. At some well locations there were insufficient data (i.e., core log, geophysical logs, detailed stratigraphic logging) to update to the new nomenclature. The bedrock has been divided into three units based on both the old and new nomenclature: Upper Bedrock Aquifer, Middle Bedrock Aquifard and Lower Bedrock Aquifer (as described in detail below).

The report is structured as follows:

- Section 1.0: Introduction including site location, history, and construction details for supply well TW3-80;
- **Section 2.0**: Regional setting including a description of topography, drainage, ecology, physiography, geology and hydrogeology;
- Section 3.0: Summary of 2023 field program including a description of field activities conducted in 2023;
- Section 4.0: Monitoring program results including a summary and analysis of the data collected in 2023;
- Section 5.0: Conclusions from the 2023 monitoring program; and
- **Section 6.0**: Recommendations from the 2023 monitoring program.

1.1 Historical Summary

TW3-80 was constructed in April 1980 for an aquaculture (fish farming) operation. In December 2000, the Perrier Group of America, a Nestlé Company, purchased the property. Nestlé has now been purchased by Blue Triton. Including the current PTTW, seven consecutive PTTWs have been issued for TW3-80 since Nestlé acquired the property, allowing for water takings for bottling water purposes. Additional investigations have been conducted over the years to determine if there have been any negative impacts on the natural environment and ensure that the water taking by Blue Triton is sustainable. These additional investigations have been requirements of previous permits and have been completed to the satisfaction of the MECP. Other than the on-going conditions of the PTTW, no additional studies were required in 2023.

1.2 Construction Details for Supply Well TW3-80

The borehole log for TW3-80 is provided in Appendix B. The glacial overburden at the well is 14.6 m thick and consists of a silt till to a depth of 12.2 m below grade, and 2.4 m of fine-to-medium sand overlying bedrock. Any coarse-grain sediments at surface may have been removed in the past.

The well was originally completed to a depth of 42.4 m below grade, 27.8 m into the bedrock. Conestoga Rovers and Associates (CRA, 2014) interpreted the bedrock through which TW3-80 was drilled as consisting of the Guelph Formation dolostone (14.6 to 16.8 m) and the Amabel Formation (Eramosa Member and underlying Unsubdivided Member) (16.8 to 42.4 m). Changes to the bedrock nomenclature have been made by the Ontario Geological Survey (OGS) (i.e., Brunton, 2008, 2009: Brunton and Brintnell, 2011). Based on the revised nomenclature, TW3-80 is interpreted to have been drilled through the Guelph, Eramosa, and Goat Island Formations and possibly into the Gasport Formation. The stratigraphy at TW3-80 is consistent with that of other wells in the area.

When TW3-80 was initially constructed in 1980; a 305 mm diameter steel casing was installed through the overburden and approximately 0.6 m into the top of rock, to a depth of 15.2 m, and cemented in place (CRA, 2014). The remainder of the well was completed as a 305 mm diameter open hole.

In 1999, the bottom 11.3 m of TW3-80 was sealed with gravel, bentonite grout, and a cement cap so that the well would pump water with more favourable natural water quality from within the Guelph to Goat Island/Gasport Formations. The revised finished depth is 31.1 m below grade.

To comply with Nestlé (now Blue Triton) water well construction standards, a liner was installed in the well in 2002. A 250 mm diameter stainless steel liner was installed inside the 305 mm steel casing and grouted in place, to a depth of 28.4 m. The revised open interval of TW3-80 is now 28.4 m to 31.1 m below grade and only allows pumping from the Goat Island/Gasport Formations. A schematic of the well construction is included on Figure 1.2.

2.0 REGIONAL SETTING

The following sections provide a summary of the regional and local topography, drainage, physiography, and overburden and bedrock geology/hydrogeology for the Site.

2.1 Topography and Drainage

Regional topography is characterized by northeast-southwest trending bands of hummocky terrain (Chapman and Putnam, 1984). Locally, the Blue Triton property is located in a relatively flat area between the Paris and Galt Moraines. Surface topography is shown on Figure 2.1. Within a 1 km radius of the Blue Triton property, ground surface elevations typically range from 310 to 330 masl (metres above sea level) with the lows occurring along Aberfoyle Creek and Mill Creek. The streambed elevation of the portion of Aberfoyle Creek that traverses Blue Triton's property is approximately 310.5 masl (+/- 1 m).

The Site is located within the Mill Creek Subwatershed (Figure 2.1) which forms part of the larger Grand River Watershed. Part of Mill Creek is located north of the Blue Triton property and generally flows in a southwesterly direction within the study area. A tributary of Mill Creek, referred to as Aberfoyle Creek, flows through the Site, also in a southwesterly direction, and confluences with Mill Creek west of the Blue Triton property. Aberfoyle Creek is located approximately 150 m to the northwest of TW3-80 at its nearest point. Mill Creek and Aberfoyle Creek are shown on Figure 2.1 along with other surface water and wetland features, which are described below.

As shown on Figure 2.1 several ponds exist, both natural and man-made, within a 1 km radius of the Blue Triton property. One such pond, referred to as the Aberfoyle Mill Pond, located east of and upstream from the Site, is created by a dam across Aberfoyle Creek. Most of the other ponds in the area appear to be man-made and are off-line ponds (i.e., not connected to streams). Some of the ponds are the result of aggregate extraction below the water table. Some small on-Site ponds exist on the Blue Triton property.

In addition to the ponds, several wetland areas are also present within a 1 km radius of the Blue Triton property (Figure 2.1). Most of these wetlands are part of the Mill Creek Puslinch Wetland Complex and are considered provincially significant. Wetlands are present within the northwest part of the Blue Triton property.

2.2 Ecological Setting

The northwestern half of the Blue Triton property is in a natural condition and supports a diversity of forest and wetland habitats as well as a watercourse and fish habitat. Most of these habitats are relatively undisturbed and support a diverse range of flora and fauna, including some that are locally significant.

The wetland habitats along Aberfoyle Creek form part of the provincially significant Mill Creek Puslinch Wetland Complex.

Collectively, these natural features comprise part of an extensive natural heritage system of the headwaters of the Mill Creek watershed. This natural heritage system is recognized for its provincial, regional and local significance.

Aberfoyle Creek is a branch of Mill Creek that traverses the Blue Triton property. Its confluence with Mill Creek is immediately downstream from the Blue Triton property. Upstream of the Blue Triton property, Aberfoyle Creek flows through a 10 hectare pond, created by a dam constructed in the 1860's to power a grist mill. Outflows from the pond are controlled by a series of weirs. Upstream of mill pond, Aberfoyle Creek is a cold-water stream that contains both Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) and Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*). However, during the summer the water is warmed in the Mill Pond so that downstream from the pond, through the Blue Triton property, the water temperature frequently exceeds the lethal temperature for these trout species. The most abundant fish species through the Blue Triton property are common cool-water species for which the water temperatures are suitable. Like the upper reaches of Aberfoyle Creek, Mill Creek is a cold-water stream that supports Brook Trout and Brown Trout.

2.3 Physiography

Chapman and Putnam (1984) define the physiographic region within which the Blue Triton property lies as the eastern limb of the Horseshoe Moraines. The existing landforms and most of the surficial soils in the area were created/deposited during the most recent glacial period, specifically the recession of the Lake Ontario ice lobe. During the recession of the Lake Ontario ice lobe, three distinct end moraines were formed in the area: the Paris Moraine, the Galt Moraine, and the Moffat Moraine (Karrow, 1987). The Paris Moraine is situated to the north of the property and the Galt Moraine is situated to the south of the property. These moraines are primarily composed of silty to sandy till and form the major drainage divides for the Mill Creek subwatershed. The Blue Triton property is situated mainly within an outwash gravel plain situated between the two moraines (Figure 2.2). The outwash gravel plain was likely formed by glacial meltwater associated with a halt in the ice retreat during the formation of the Galt Moraine.

2.4 Geology and Hydrogeology

The following sections provide a summary of the regional and local geology and hydrogeology. The regional interpretation is based on published mapping and information contained in the Mill Creek Subwatershed Study (CH2M Gore & Storrie, 1996). Detailed geologic information has also been obtained from logging of the stratigraphy by CRA at locations where monitoring wells were installed as part of previous field investigations. The bedrock interpretation has been updated to follow the revised nomenclature of the OGS (Brunton, 2008 and 2009, Brunton and Brintnell, 2011).

2.4.1 Overburden Geology

The overburden ranges in thickness from 15 m in low-lying areas of the subwatershed near Mill Creek and Aberfoyle Creek to 35 m along the crests of the Paris and Galt Moraines (Drift Thickness Map P.535, M.A., Vos, 1968; CH2M Gore & Storrie, 1996).

The surficial overburden geology, as mapped by the OGS is shown on Figure 2.2. The surficial overburden of the area is characterized by the following units:

- Outwash gravel;
- Ice-contact gravel: kames and eskers; and



Stoney, sandy silt till (Wentworth Till).

Regionally, the Paris and Galt Moraines, located north and south of the property, respectively, consist of Wentworth Till. Karrow (1987) describes the till as a buff-coloured, stony, sandy silt till. Located between the moraines are younger outwash gravel deposits and ice-contact gravel deposits. Deposits along parts of Aberfoyle Creek and Mill Creek are mapped as peat and muck (organic deposits). There are no bedrock outcrops within the study area.

The coarse-grained deposits between the moraines generally overlie the Wentworth Till. In some areas, particularly the central part of the Mill Creek subwatershed, the till is not present, and the coarse-grained deposits are continuous to bedrock. The surficial coarse-grained deposits are thinner and separated from the bedrock by the underlying till in the upper and lower reaches of the Mill Creek subwatershed. The site is located within the upper half of the watershed. Occasional coarse-grained deposits exist at various depths as lenses or discontinuous layers within or between till units (CH2M Gore & Storrie, 1996). A gravel layer is also present immediately above the bedrock in some locations, including at TW3-80.

Locally, within a 1 km radius of the property, the overburden is typically 10 m to 30 m thick and consists mainly of outwash gravel or ice-contact gravel deposits. As previously discussed, these coarse-grained deposits are situated between the moraines and are elongated in a southwest to northeast direction. The Wentworth Till is mapped as the surficial deposit along the moraines to the southeast (approximately 500 m) and northwest (approximately 2 to 2.5 km) of TW3-80.

2.4.2 Bedrock Geology

The bedrock surface is somewhat irregular, but generally dips to the southwest. The bedrock elevation in the vicinity of the Blue Triton property declines from approximately 306 masl northeast of the property (MW10-09) to 293 masl south of the property (MW16-12).

The regional bedrock geology is shown on Figure 2.3. As noted above, the bedrock nomenclature shown on Figure 2.3 has since been revised based on work by the OGS (Brunton, 2008 and 2009, Brunton and Brintnell, 2011). In summary, the previous Guelph Formation is now divided into the Guelph Formation and the Eramosa Formation (Stone Road Member and Reformatory Quarry Member); the previous Eramosa Member of the Amabel Formation is now the Vinemount Member of the Eramosa Formation; and the previous Unsubdivided Member of the Amabel Formation is now divided into the Goat Island, Gasport and Irondequoit Formations. The bedrock hydrogeologic units underlying the property, which are relevant to the Blue Triton water taking, are composed of limestone, dolostone and shale sequences and are described as follows (from oldest to youngest).

- Cabot Head Formation: The Cabot Head Formation, readily distinguished by its grey-green colour, is a non-calcareous shale with thin interbeds of sandstone and limestone. Due to its low hydraulic conductivity, the top of the Cabot Head Formation is interpreted to be the base of the active groundwater flow system;
- Merritton Formation: The Merritton Formation consists of a pinkish-brown, finely crystalline dolostone unit with dark shaley partings. This unit is relatively thin where present in the area;
- Rockway Formation: The Rockway Formation is a greenish-grey fine crystalline argillaceous dolostone with shaley partings (Brunton, 2008). The thickness of the Formation is fairly consistent and typically less than 2 m;
- Irondequoit Formation: This Formation is a thickly to medium-bedded crinoidal grainstone (Brunton, 2008). The unit has a fairly consistent thickness of approximately 3 m throughout the area; and



Gasport Formation: The Gasport Formation is a cross-bedded crinoidal grainstone-packstone with sequences of reef mound and coquina (shell bed) lithofacies. This unit has commonly been referred to as the Amabel Formation (Unsubdivided Member) in previous studies in the area (Turner, 1978). Wells in the vicinity of the Blue Triton property are generally not drilled through the entire sequence. In and around the City of Guelph, the Formation varies in thickness from about 25 to over 70 m, and the upper sections of the reef mounds, the crinoidal grainstones and the coquina shell beds make this formation highly transmissive, where they are present (Golder, 2011).

- Goat Island Formation: The Goat Island Formation consists of two members; the lower Niagara Falls Member and the upper Ancaster Member. Based on the boreholes completed in the area, the Goat Island Formation is estimated to range in thickness from approximately 2 m to 15 m:
 - Goat Island Formation Niagara Falls Member: The Niagara Falls Member is a finely crystalline and cross laminated crinoidal grainstone with small reef mounds; and
 - Goat Island Formation Ancaster Member: The Ancaster Member is a chert-rich, finely crystalline dolostone that is medium to ash grey in colour.
- Eramosa Formation: The Eramosa Formation consists of three members including, from oldest to youngest, the Vinemount Member, the Reformatory Quarry Member and the Stone Road Member:
 - Eramosa Formation Vinemount Member: The Vinemount Member consists of thinly bedded, fine crystalline dolostone with shaley beds that give off a distinctive petroliferous odour when broken (Brunton, 2008). This dark grey to black dolostone unit was commonly identified in water well records as 'black shale' and mapped in previous studies in the City of Guelph as the Eramosa Member of the Amabel Formation. The shaley beds of this Formation significantly reduce the vertical permeability across this unit relative to the other Formations. The Vinemount Member ranges in thickness from approximately 4 m to 12 m in the area of the property;
 - Eramosa Formation Reformatory Quarry Member: The Reformatory Quarry Member, is described by Brunton (2008) as light brown to cream coloured, pseudonodular, thickly bedded and coarsely crystalline dolostone. This unit is susceptible to karstification due to its uniform fine dolomite crystallinity (Brunton, 2008). This unit also often contains mud-rich and microbial mat-bearing lithofacies that may act as aguitard materials, reducing the vertical permeability across this unit; and
 - Eramosa Formation Stone Road Member: This cream coloured coarsely crystalline Upper Eramosa
 unit is not present in most of the area and can be difficult to distinguish from the Guelph Formation.
- Guelph Formation: The Guelph Formation is the upper bedrock unit in the study area and consists of medium to thickly bedded crinoidal grainstones and wackestones and reefal complexes (Brunton, 2008). The Guelph Formation is cream coloured and fossiliferous. The upper 0.3 m to 0.6 m is noted to be highly fractured and weathered. Based on data from borehole drilling, the Guelph Formation is typically less than 5 m thick in the vicinity of the property, which is thin relative to the regional scale thickness.

2.4.3 Hydrogeology

The interpretation and nomenclature for the bedrock formations has been revised (as indicated above); however, the interpretation of the hydrostratigraphy at the property and surrounding area has remained consistent. The hydrostratigraphy consists of the following from surface down:

- Overburden Aquifer/Aquitard;
- Upper Bedrock Aquifer (Guelph Formation, Reformatory Quarry Member of the Eramosa Formation);
- Middle Bedrock Aquitard (Vinemount Member of the Eramosa Formation and sometimes parts of the Reformatory Quarry Member of the Eramosa Formation and the Goat Island Formation); and
- Lower Bedrock Aquifer (Goat Island Formation and Gasport Formation).

The designations of aquifers and aquitards is a simplification of the hydrostratigraphy for conceptual purposes. In reality, the hydraulic properties of the bedrock are variable and at some locations the hydraulic conductivity may be sufficiently small that locally a bedrock stratum act as an aquitard.

Two hydrostratigraphic cross-sections (A-A' and B-B') through the property are included on Figures 2.4 and 2.5 with the locations shown on Figure 2.2. Cross-section A-A' is oriented southwest to northeast roughly along Aberfoyle Creek and cross-section B-B' is oriented north to south through the property, crossing Aberfoyle Creek and including supply well TW3-80.

Based on the hydrostratigraphic interpretation around the property, the thickness of the hydrostratigraphic units is as follows: Overburden Aquifer/Aquitard – 7 to 35 m; Upper Bedrock Aquifer – 2 to 14 m; Middle Bedrock Aquitard – 4 to 12 m; and Lower Bedrock Aquifer – 46 to 58 m. As shown in cross-section A-A', TW3-80 is completed in the upper part of the Lower Bedrock Aquifer.

2.4.4 Groundwater Flow Under Non-Pumping Conditions

Non-pumping conditions have been observed prior to the start of pumping tests. In addition to the pumping tests, there are sometimes brief shutdowns during which water levels in the aquifers evolve towards non-pumping conditions. One such shutdown occurred in October 2010 for 3.4 days. CRA (2014) provided an interpretation of the non-pumping conditions in the overburden and bedrock groundwater levels measured on October 12, 2010, as discussed below and also compared to shutdowns that occurred in October 2004 and November 2006.

- The overburden water table interpretation is presented on Figure 2.6, which indicates that the direction of groundwater flow in the overburden is generally to the southwest, with local components of flow to the west and south toward Aberfoyle Creek. CRA (2014) indicates that this flow configuration was similar to the pattern observed for October 2004 and November 2006 shutdowns;
- The Upper Bedrock Aquifer interpretation is shown on Figure 2.7 with the groundwater flow direction identified in a southwest, south, and southeast direction, which is reported to be similar to the pattern observed for October 2004 and November 2006 shutdowns; and
- The Lower Bedrock Aquifer interpretation is shown on Figure 2.8 with the groundwater flow direction to the southwest in the vicinity of supply well TW3-80, which is reported to be similar to the pattern observed for October 2004 and November 2006 shutdowns.

Groundwater in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer flows generally south in the direction of TW3-80. The Aberfoyle aquifer is interpreted to be recharged primarily within the northern portion of the Mill Creek subwatershed and the capture zone for TW3-80 is inferred to extend to the north-northeast of the well. The Lower Bedrock Aquifer extends beyond Aberfoyle to the southwest, and groundwater is inferred to discharge to the Grand River in the vicinity of Cambridge.



2.5 Source Water Protection

Since the passing of the Clean Water Act (2006), municipalities in Ontario have been required to develop source protection plans to protect their municipal sources of drinking water. These plans identify both water quality and water quantity risks to local drinking water sources and develop strategies to reduce or eliminate these risks. Potential and existing risks for a municipal source are identified within wellhead protection areas (WHPA). A WHPA is an area projected to ground surface that delineates the zone in an aquifer where groundwater is flowing to a municipal drinking water source (pumping well). These areas are defined to protect water quality. The Blue Triton Aberfoyle property and well TW3-80 are located more than 2.6 km from the closest WHPAs, which include the City of Guelph WHPA to the northwest and the Freelton WHPA to the southeast and east in the Lake Ontario Basin. The closest City of Guelph wells are the Burke Well, which is located approximately 7 km away from TW3-80, and the Downey Well, which is more than 8 km away from TW3-80. The Freelton Wells are more than 10 km from TW3-80.

In addition to protecting water quality, water quantity is also a concern and is considered under Water Quantity Protection Plans, A Water Quantity Risk Assessment is completed to ensure that future water needs of a community can be met. It identifies existing and potential water quantity threats and future activities that may limit municipal water supplies. This is important because when more water is taken from an area than can be naturally replenished, water supplies are threatened, and water shortages are possible. The Aberfoyle property falls within a Water Quantity Protection Zone (WHPA-Q) for the City of Guelph municipal wells. The WHPA-Q zone for the City of Guelph has been assigned a significant risk level (Matrix Solutions, 2017). The Tier 3 Assessment scenarios predicted that the City's municipal wells can meet current needs. However, the assessment predicted that the City's Queensdale municipal well would be unable to meet projected increased future demands under normal climate conditions and during prolonged drought (Matrix Solutions, 2017). The Queensdale municipal well is located approximately 12 km northwest of TW3-80. The Tier 3 Assessment also assigned a high level of uncertainty to the results of the analyses for the City's Arkell Well 1, which is located approximately 10 km north of TW3-80. It is for these reasons that the City's WHPA-Q has been assigned a significant risk level with respect to water quantity. The Source Protection Committee reviewed all existing water takings within the WHPA-Q to evaluate their contribution to water quantity stress in the area. The study showed that municipal wells have the greatest impact on themselves (i.e., pumping at a municipal well influences the water levels in other municipal wells). TW3-80 was not found to interfere with the municipal wells' ability to supply water (Matrix Solutions, 2018). TW3-80 is estimated to be responsible for 1% of the drawdown at the closest municipal well (Burke Well located approximately 7 km north-northeast of TW3-80) (Matrix Solutions, 2018). With a drawdown in the order of approximately 10.8 m at the Burke Well, pumping from TW3-80 is estimated to be responsible for approximately 0.1 m of the drawdown observed at the Burke Well.

An assessment of the potential cumulative impacts that could be caused by the bottled water takings at the Blue Triton facilities at Aberfoyle was also conducted as part to the Interim Procedural and Technical Guidance Document for Bottled Water Renewals: Permit to Take Water Applications and Hydrogeological Study Requirements (Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change Operations Division, April 2017). Matrix Solutions (2019) ran modelling scenarios to estimate the potential additional drawdown caused by an increase in the TW3-80 pumping from the current average to the maximum permitted rate. The additional drawdown at the City of Guelph Burke Well was predicted to be less than 0.02 m, well below the 2 m threshold to account for the natural seasonal variability beyond the effects of municipal pumping. As such, the groundwater withdrawal from TW3-80 has been assessed to not significantly interfere with existing municipal uses in the City of Guelph.



Matrix Solutions (2019) also analyzed how water levels would change if Blue Triton increased its pumping and there was a reoccurrence of the period of sustained below-average precipitation that was observed in the early to mid-1960s. The analysis showed that the effects of the increased pumping are predicted to be negligible.

3.0 SUMMARY OF 2023 FIELD PROGRAM

This section describes the field activities performed in 2023 associated with PTTW 3133-C5BUH9 for TW3-80.

3.1 Groundwater and Surface Water Monitoring Program

Groundwater and surface water monitoring was initiated in 2000 and has evolved over the years with the objectives to 1) characterize the existing hydrogeologic setting, and 2) document potential long-term changes to the groundwater and surface water resources in the area. The monitoring program includes measurement and record-keeping of water takings, groundwater levels, mini-piezometer levels, surface water levels, surface water flows and surface water temperatures. The monitoring program for PTTW 3133-C5BUH9 includes the following instrumentation, with the locations shown on Figures 3.1 through 3.3:

- Groundwater levels and pumping volumes in 1 production well;
- Groundwater levels in 43 monitoring wells at 18 sites (16 consisting of multiple monitoring intervals) with monitors in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer, Upper Bedrock Aquifer, and overburden;
- Groundwater levels in 2 private wells;
- Shallow groundwater levels in 8 mini-piezometers with a total of 16 monitors;
- Surface water levels at 5 stations;
- Stream flow at 2 locations; and
- Stream temperature at 6 locations.

3.1.1 Water Taking

Water taking from TW3-80 in 2023 was measured using a Krohne magnetic flow meter wired to an Allen Bradley industrial Programmable Logic Controller. The instantaneous flow and cumulative volume pumped are recorded every minute. The flow meter was calibrated on November 11, 2023 by Endress+Hauser.

The daily volumes taken from supply well TW3-80 in 2023 are provided in Appendix C.

3.1.2 Groundwater Monitoring Program

Groundwater levels have been measured at various locations for varying periods of time on-Site and off-Site since December 1980. Following the purchase of the Site by the Perrier Group of America, a monitoring program was initiated in December 2000. Modifications to the monitoring program have been made over time as a result of PTTW requirements, well abandonments, physical inaccessibility to wells, and changes in property ownership. During the 2023 monitoring period, none of the wells required as part of the monitoring program became inaccessible. All the existing monitoring locations and the decommissioned or unused wells are shown on Figure 3.4.

The monitoring locations for the 2023 groundwater monitoring program are shown on Figures 3.1 and 3.2 and are summarized below.

Overburden Monitors

MW2D-07, MW2E-07, MW4C-07, MW10A-09, TW1-93, MW-S, PCC-S, PCC-I.

Bedrock Monitors

Upper Bedrock Aquifer Monitors

MW2C-07, MW4B-07, MW6B-08, MW7B-08, MW8B-08, MW10B-09, MW14B-11, MW14C-11, MW15B-12, MW16B-12, MW17B-12, MW19-18-7, MW20-19-7, MW21-18-4, MW-D, MW-I, PCC-D, Private Well "Y".

Lower Bedrock Aquifer Monitors

TW3-80 (Production Well), TW2-11, MW2A-07, MW2B-07, MW4A-07, MW6A-08, MW7A-08, MW8A-08, MW10C-09, MW10D-09, MW14A-11, MW15A-12, MW16A-12, MW17A-12, MW18A-12, MW19-18-4, MW20-19-5, MW21-18-3, PW5.

Water levels were measured at all locations quarterly under PTTW 3133-C5BUH9. Where required by the PTTW, dataloggers are used to record water levels at 60-minute intervals and downloaded quarterly. The groundwater levels measured in 2023 are presented in Appendix D.

3.1.2.1 Missing Data

The following table provides a list and description of missing data from the 2023 groundwater monitoring. All of the issues were related to transducer failures. Where necessary the transducers have been replaced. The issues were temporary and have been resolved.

Table 2: Missing Groundwater Data from the 2023 Monitoring

Monitoring Location	Missing Data	Comments
MW2A-07	MW2A-07 Transducer data for mid-June to mid-July and two days in September	
MW2B-07	Transducer data for part of June	Transducer failure
MW2C-07	Transducer data for mid-June to mid-July and two days in September	Transducer failure
MW2E-07	Transducer data for mid-June to mid-July and two days in September	Transducer failure
MW19-18-7	Transducer data for late November through December	Transducer failure

3.1.3 Surface Water Monitoring Program

The monitoring locations for the 2023 surface water monitoring program are shown on Figure 3.3 and are summarized below.

Surface Water Levels

Measurement of surface water levels was initiated in December 2001 as part of the Nestlé (now Blue Triton) monthly monitoring program. In 2023, surface water levels were measured at the following locations:

- Aberfoyle Creek:
 - SW1 located within the upstream part of the Blue Triton property;
 - SW2 located within the downstream part of the Blue Triton property; and



SW3 - located at Gilmour Road, upstream of the Blue Triton property.

- Mill Creek:
 - SW4 located on Mill Creek at Maple Leaf Lane, upstream of the confluence with Aberfoyle Creek; and
 - SW5 located on Mill Creek at McLean Road, downstream of the Blue Triton property.

Water levels are measured at all locations during the third week of each month using a water level meter. At SW1 and SW2, dataloggers are used to record water levels at 60-minute intervals, which are also downloaded once a month. The surface water levels for 2023 are presented in Appendix E.

Stream Flow

Measurement of stream flow was initiated in December 2001 as part of the Nestlé (now Blue Triton) monthly monitoring program. Stream flow is measured at SW1 (upstream part of Blue Triton property) and SW2 (downstream part of Blue Triton property) in Aberfoyle Creek during the third week of each month. Despite the proximity of these onsite stations to one another, and the small difference in contributing drainage area between them, stream flows are measured at SW1 and SW2 to monitor for changes that could potentially be attributed to pumping at TW3-80. In 2023, stream flow velocities were measured using a Hach electromagnetic flow meter and the stream flows were calculated using the cross-sectional area-velocity method. The stream flow calculations for 2023 are presented in Appendix F.

In addition to the monthly stream flow measurements, water levels at SW1 and SW2 are logged continuously (hourly). The monthly surface water elevations ("stage") and stream flow measurements ("discharge") collected in 2023 are used to update and/or re-establish the stage-discharge relationships (rating curves) at SW1 and SW2. The rating curves are then used to infer continuous records of stream flow from the continuous water level measurements at SW1 and SW2. It should be noted that since the conditions of the stream channels at SW1 and SW2 change through time, updated rating curves are generally required for each year (note that in 2023 the rating curve for SW1 was the same as the previous year while the rating curve for SW2 changed slightly).

Mini-Piezometers

Mini-piezometers were initially installed in 2004 with additional mini-piezometers being installed since that time. In 2023, water levels were measured in mini-piezometers at eight locations, each containing a shallow and a deep monitor (see locations on Figure 3.3). The mini-piezometer nests are located along Aberfoyle Creek upstream of the Blue Triton property to Mill Creek downstream of the confluence of the two creeks as follows.

- MP1-16S/D;
- MP16S/D-08;
- MP6S-08/D-04;
- MP12S/D-04;
- MP14S/D-07;
- MP8S/D-04;
- MP17S/D-11; and
- MP18S/D-11.



Water levels were measured at all locations quarterly under PTTW 3133-C5BUH9. Where required by the PTTW, dataloggers are used to record water levels at 60-minute intervals and downloaded quarterly. The water levels measured in 2023 are presented in Appendix E.

Temperature

Measurement of surface water temperature began in 2005. In 2023, surface water temperature was measured at six locations along Aberfoyle Creek. The most upstream location is situated at Brock Road with the remainder of the sites located on the Blue Triton property downstream of Brock Road. Beginning upstream and moving downstream, the stream temperature sites are as follows (see locations on Figure 3.3).

- ST6-08;
- ST1-05;
- ST2-05;
- ST3-05;
- ST4-05; and
- ST5-05.

The dataloggers are located at the sediment-water interface with temperature data measured and logged at 30-minute intervals using HOBO Tidbit MX dataloggers. Two dataloggers are installed at each site. Air temperature is also measured in a shaded area at ST1-05 at 30-minute intervals.

C. Portt and Associates Ltd. (2011) conducted a review of the appropriateness of the methodology for the temperature monitoring program. The report was approved by the MECP in October 2011 and recommendations from the report were implemented by CRA at that time and continued by Golder Associates Ltd. (now WSP) since May 2014. The temperature data are analyzed by C. Portt and Associates using ThermoStat software. A report on the surface water temperature is included as Appendix G.

3.1.3.1 Missing Data

The following table provides a list and description of missing data from the 2023 surface water monitoring. The missing data are technically not missing but rather were affected by winter conditions. The water levels in the mini-piezometers are close to surface and can become frozen in the winter. Slow moving water in the creeks can also become frozen in the winter. The water level is not necessarily representative of the actual water level under these frozen winter conditions. The issues were temporary and have been resolved.

Table 3: Missing Surface Water Data from the 2023 Monitoring

Monitoring Location	Missing Data	Comments
MP14D-07	Frozen	Frozen in December

3.1.4 Notification Regarding Locations Which Become Inaccessible

None of the monitoring locations required in PTTW 3133-C5BUH9 have become inaccessible or removed from the monitoring program.



3.2 Biological Monitoring

Biological monitoring undertaken on the Blue Triton Aberfoyle property in 2023 was completed in accordance with the requirements of the PTTW for the site and under the guidance of recommendations provided in the 2022 Biological Monitoring Report (Beacon Environmental, 2023). Monitoring of terrestrial resources (vegetation and wildlife) was completed by Beacon Environmental and monitoring of aquatic resources (salmonid redd survey reaches of Aberfoyle Creek) was completed by C. Portt and Associates. The findings of the 2023 Biological Monitoring Program are presented in the 2023 Biological Monitoring Program Report (Beacon Environmental, 2024) which is included in Appendix H.

3.3 Surveying

No surveying needed to be conducted in 2023.

3.4 Precipitation

Precipitation data were obtained from the Grand River Conservation Authority for the Shades Mill Station and are used in this report. The same data were used for the analysis of the potential recharge presented in Appendix I.

The following table provides a summary of the annual precipitation. The annual 20-year average (2001-2020) precipitation from the Shades Mill Station is 943.7 mm. The total precipitation measured in 2023 was 987.8 mm, which is approximately 5% above the average. This is the close to average annual precipitation which is an increase over 2022 when the lowest annual precipitation was recorded over the past 23 years. Annual precipitation is also shown graphically on Figure 3.5 along with the 20-year average.

Table 4: Annual Precipitation

Year	Precipitation (mm)	% Difference from Average
2001	829.5	-12.1
2002	727.3	-22.9
2003	911.9	-3.4
2004	840.5	-10.9
2005	854.8	-9.4
2006	1180.5	25.1
2007	726.3	-23.0
2008	1200.8	27.2
2009	1011.0	7.1
2010	921.5	-2.4
2011	1023.9	8.5
2012	807.1	-14.5
2013	1108.1	17.4
2014	898.7	-4.8
2015	839.4	-11.1
2016	937.8	-0.6
2017	1091.8	15.7



Year	Precipitation (mm)	% Difference from Average
2018	1048.6	11.1
2019	1058.9	12.2
2020	856.45	-9.2
2021	1022.8	8.4
2022	682.3	-27.7
2023	987.8	4.7
Average (2001-2020)	943.7	

The monthly precipitation for 2023 is included in Table 5. Below average precipitation was recorded during six months of the year including three consecutive months from September through November. Above average precipitation was recorded in January, March, April, July, August and December with most of the precipitation coming in July.

Table 5: Monthly Precipitation 2023

Month	Precipitation (mm)	Average from 2001-2020 (mm)	% Difference from Average
January	76.6	71.4	7.3
February	45.2	63.3	-28.6
March	80.9	64.6	25.2
April	121.0	81.0	49.4
May	61.6	81.4	-24.3
June	81.1	82.2	-1.3
July	203.2	95.3	113.2
August	116.5	77.4	50.5
September	22.1	81.6	-72.9
October	61.0	93.2	-34.5
November	41.7	75.8	-45.0
December	76.9	76.5	0.5

It is recognized that there are differences between the amounts of precipitation recorded at the different stations. It is impossible to obtain a perfectly representative estimate of the annual precipitation over the full extent of the area of contribution for the Blue Triton Aberfoyle well. What is most important is that adopting a consistent approach from year to year allows an assessment of the differences with respect to long-term average conditions. An analysis of precipitation trends was conducted to see if there is a correlation with water level trends. We note that the actual influence on water levels (groundwater) would be due to recharge and not total precipitation, and that recharge is controlled by more than just precipitation. However, in the absence of detailed recharge data in the area, the use of precipitation totals allows for some comparison of long-term trends in water levels, particularly in the shallow monitors (overburden and mini piezometers).

An independent soil water balance analysis was conducted by S.S. Papadopulos & Associates to estimate annual average rates of potential recharge over the region surrounding TW3-80. The SWB code of the United States Geological Survey was applied (Westenbroek et al., 2010) with the records of precipitation data compiled since 2008. The results of the analysis suggested that the annual average potential recharge is about 17% of the annual precipitation. The estimated annual potential recharge for 2023 is 189 mm with an annual precipitation of 988 mm (recharge is approximately 19% of the annual precipitation). The estimated annual potential recharge is consistent with the trends inferred from the previous analyses. The updated analyses are documented in a technical memorandum included in Appendix I.

4.0 MONITORING PROGRAM RESULTS

4.1 Water Taking for TW3-80

Water taking at the Blue Triton Aberfoyle Site in 2023 continues to be governed by PTTW 3133-C5BUH9, which permits water to be taken from one well as outlined in Table 6.

Table 6: Permitted Water Takings at Aberfoyle

Source	Maximum Rate	Maximum Number of Hours of Water Taking per Day	Maximum Daily Water Taking	Maximum Number of Days of Water Taking per Year
TW3-80	2,500 L/min	24	3,600,000 L	365

The daily water takings for 2023 are tabulated in Table C1 in Appendix C. The daily water taking at TW3-80 ranged from 0 L to 2,684,259 L; the latter is 75% of the permitted taking. The average daily taking was 1,750,582 L. During 2023, the instantaneous flow rates and the daily takings were always below the limits of the PTTW (i.e., less than 2,500 L/min and 3,600,000 L, respectively).

The total volume of water taken each year from 2001 to 2023 is presented on Figure 4.1. The total volume of water taken in 2023 from TW3-80 was 638,962,293 L. In 2023, the total volume taken was approximately 49% of the permitted volume. The total pumping from TW3-80 in 2023 was less than the total annual water taking in 2022 and within the historical range that has been taken from the well. Since 2002, the groundwater taking has ranged from approximately 43% to 67% of the permitted taking.

The monthly water takings for the past 5 years are presented on Figure 4.2. The monthly water takings in 2023 from TW3-80 ranged from 32,121,112 L in October to 66,458,070 L in July. In 2023, the monthly water takings generally increased during the first half of the year (from February to July), with the peak water taking in July, and then varied during the last five months of the year.

The Grand River Low Water Response Team declared a Level 2 Low Water Condition for the entire Grand River Watershed, including Mill Creek, on July 21, 2022 which remained in effect until it was reduced to a Level 1 Low Water Condition on January 12, 2023 and removed on September 13, 2023. The Grand River Low Water Response Team declared a Level 1 Low Water Condition for the entire Grand River Watershed again on December 20, 2023. The Level 1 Low Water Condition was in effect for the remainder of 2023. Blue Triton committed to limit water takings to 90% of their monthly maximum permitted volume during the Level 1 Condition and 80% of their monthly maximum permitted volume during the Level 2 Condition. Blue Triton's monthly water takings were below 61% of the permitted monthly amount during the entire year and the daily water takings were below 75% of the permitted daily amount. In addition, as per Condition 3.3, Blue Triton's Low Water Response

Program was implemented, which included an increase in monitoring and review of data from MW2-07 from quarterly to monthly.

Condition 4.8 of the PTTW requires details of the bottling operations such as location and name of facilities where water is delivered in bulk containers, if bulk water is containerized at the receiving location, the size of the containers into which the water is transferred, and total volume of water transported in bulk to each remote facility. Blue Triton has indicated that no water was shipped in bulk (container greater than 20 litres) in 2023.

As per Condition 5.1, Blue Triton has indicated that no complaints arising from the taking of water authorized under this PTTW were received in 2023.

4.2 Groundwater Monitoring Program

The groundwater levels measured manually in 2023 at the monitoring wells are tabulated in Table D1 in Appendix D. Hydrographs with the manual or transducer water level data are also included in Appendix D. In addition to the water levels, the hydrographs include the daily pumping volumes at TW3-80 and daily precipitation as recorded at the Shades Mill meteorological station. It should be noted that two short-term (7-day) aquifer tests were conducted in 2023 to gain a better understanding of the aquifer; one at TW2-11 at the Aberfoyle Plant property from October 17 to 24 and one at TW1-10 at the Gilmour Road property from November 1 to 8. The influence on locally surrounding monitoring wells from pumping these wells is evident on some of the hydrographs, however, an analysis of the data or comment on these responses is not included in this annual monitoring report.

4.2.1 TW3-80

Water levels and average daily pumping rates for TW3-80, along with daily precipitation, from 2019 through 2023 are shown on Figure D1a (Appendix D).

Water levels measured in 2023 at TW3-80 range from approximately 298.2 to 312.7 masl (or approximately 18.2 to 3.7 m below ground surface) under pumping and non-pumping conditions, respectively. These variations in water levels are mainly due to changes in the pumping rate and are within the historical ranges of water levels observed at TW3-80. An analysis of monthly average water levels at TW3-80 versus average pumping at TW3-80 was undertaken to assess how pumping water levels are related to pumping rates. A linear regression of the data indicates that pumping rate accounts for approximately 89% of the variation in water levels in TW3-80. A technical memorandum on the analysis is included in Appendix I.

Operation records of TW3-80 indicate that the well is seldom shut-down for significant periods of time and, consequently, there are few fully recovered non-pumping water levels available. Based on previous shutdowns, CRA (2014) indicates that the non-pumping water levels are approximately 311 to 313 masl or 5.4 to 3.4 m below ground surface. The estimated non-pumping water levels (partially recovered conditions following shutdown of the pump) measured in 2023 range from approximately 307 to 313 masl. The non-pumping water levels have been similar over the past six years (2018 through 2023 although slightly lower in the last two years due to the below normal precipitation in 2022) and higher than the previous three years (2015 through 2017) when the water takings were higher. It should be noted that non-pumping water levels do not represent "true" conditions that would be observed if there was no pumping at TW3-80 for an extended period. Instead, they represent partially recovered conditions, with the amount of recovery dependent on the average pumping rate before the pumping stopped, how much time has elapsed before pumping resumes and whether there is a background (seasonal) trend in the water levels. The results of the analysis presented in Appendix I suggest that the fully recovered non-pumping level in TW3-80 is about 313 m.



The pumping water levels in 2023 range from approximately 299 to 308 masl. Based on a static water level of 313 masl, the estimated drawdown at the well in 2023 ranged from approximately 5 to 14 m. The total available drawdown to the top of the pump intake is about 20.7 m (based on a static water elevation of 313 masl and a top of pump intake elevation of 292.3 masl). Referring to Figure 1.2, the top of the Lower Bedrock Aquifer is at an elevation of approximately 292.3 masl. The pumping levels in 2023 ranged from about 7 to 16 m above the top of the aquifer; confirming that the aquifer remained under confined conditions throughout 2023.

The records of average monthly water levels, monthly withdrawals and monthly precipitation between 2006 and 2023 are shown on the hydrograph for TW3-80 (Figure D1b). The hydrograph extends back to 2006 to include the period of increased pumping up to 2008. The data provide important insights into the performance of the well and the long-term sustainability of pumping. The water levels and pumping volumes can be categorized into four periods with a year of transition between each period as follows: 2006 through 2007 when pumping rates were higher and water levels were lower; 2009 through 2013 when pumping rates were lower and water levels were higher; 2015 through 2017, when pumping rates were higher and water levels were lower; and 2019 through 2021, when pumping rates have been lower and water levels higher. In 2022 and 2023, the pumping and trends are similar to the transition years (e.g., 2014 and 2018). In general, the water level changes in TW3-80 correspond to the changes in the overall water taking from the well (i.e., lower water levels during periods of higher water takings (e.g., 2007) and higher water levels during periods of lower water takings (e.g., 2011)). Overall, the water levels respond to pumping as expected and the on-going groundwater taking at TW3-80 has not led to a long-term declining trend in the TW3-80 water levels. The capacity of the well has not changed through time.

4.2.2 Lower Bedrock Aquifer

The regional groundwater potentiometric surface in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer is shown on Figure 4.3. The potentiometric surface was prepared based on the water levels measured on September 18, 2023. This represents a time when higher pumping volumes were recorded at TW3-80 and monthly precipitation was below average. A review of the potentiometric surface on September 18, 2023, indicates groundwater flow toward TW3-80 from the northeast, north and northwest. The greater hydraulic connection with the area toward MW7-08 is evident in the potentiometric surface under pumping conditions. It is estimated that the water elevation contours return to the regional mean southerly flow pattern approximately 1.5 km south of the Site.

Hydrographs for wells completed in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer are included on Figures D2 through D17 in Appendix D.

The findings from a review of the hydrographs of wells completed in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer are summarized below.

- Water levels measured within this aquifer in 2023 are generally similar to the water levels measured since mid-2020 with the exception of the lower water levels during the second half of 2022 and into the beginning of 2023. Water levels in these wells are partially influenced by the pumping at TW3-80 and also by the lack of recharge during most of 2022. In 2023 the water levels increased through the winter, declined through the spring, increased through the summer and early fall and then declined in the late fall. This trend in water levels follows the inverse trend in the volume pumped from TW3-80 indicating the strong correlation between pumping and water levels in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer;
- Water levels in portions of the Lower Bedrock Aquifer near TW3-80 are influenced by short-term fluctuations in TW3-80 pumping. The short-term pumping effects are evident with the water levels fluctuating in response to daily changes in pumping rates and are observed in monitoring wells closest to TW3-80 (e.g., MW2A-07)



and MW4A-07). In comparison, wells located further away (upgradient – MW6A-08, MW8A-08, MW10C-09 and MW10D-09; downgradient – MW15A-12, MW16A-12 and MW17A-12) show only minor differences between the daily high and low water levels;

- Water levels in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer are also influenced by longer term trends in the TW3-80 pumping. The long-term pumping effects are evident in the wells closer to TW3-80 where water level changes from year to year correlate with overall annual water takings (i.e., increased annual water takings result in lower average water levels). During periods of reduced pumping, the water levels recover with no long-term increasing or decreasing trends. These effects of variations in total annual pumping decrease with distance from TW3-80, as can be seen by comparing the hydrographs for MW2A-07 against hydrographs for wells further from TW3-80 (e.g., MW8A-08). This is evident with the observed higher water levels in 2019, which correlates with the lower annual pumping in that year compared to the lower water levels in 2022, which correlates with the increased pumping in that year:
- As in previous years there appears to be a stronger hydraulic connection with TW3-80 at MW7A-08 (located approximately 1,050 m north of TW3-80) compared to the connection between TW3-80 and MW14A-11 (located approximately 750 m northwest of TW3-80) and TW3-80 and MW18A-12 (located approximately 750 m southwest of TW3-80). The response at MW7A-08 suggests that the zone of influence extends further upgradient toward MW7-08, as opposed to downgradient toward MW18-12. This interpreted hydraulic connection is consistent with previous years; and
- These trends are less evident at MW10C/D-09 (located approximately 1,230 m north east of TW3-80) and at MW16A-12 (located approximately 1,650 m south of TW3-80), where less fluctuation during the year is evident. This is consistent with previous years and indicates that these wells are on the periphery of the zone of influence.

In summary, the water levels in the onsite monitoring wells in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer are influenced primarily by pumping at TW3-80. The effects of pumping at TW3-80 diminish with distance from the well, and beyond about a kilometre water levels are predominantly affected by other influences. In addition, water levels recover when pumping rates are reduced, as was observed in 2022 and decrease when pumping rates are increased, as has been observed in 2020 and 2022. No long-term trends in the water levels due to pumping TW3-80 have been observed over the last five years.

4.2.3 Middle Bedrock Aquitard

Hydrographs for wells completed in the Middle Bedrock Aquitard are included on Figure D18 in Appendix D. One well is monitored within this unit (MW2B-07), which is sealed within the Middle Bedrock Aquitard but close to the top of the Lower Bedrock Aquifer.

The results of a review of the hydrograph of MW2B-07 completed in the Middle Bedrock Aquitard are summarized below:

- Water levels measured within this aquitard in 2023 are similar to the water levels measured in 2022 and lower than the water levels observed during the previous three years (2019 through 2021). The water levels are within the historical ranges measured at this well; and
- The water levels in MW2B-07 follow a similar trend as the water levels in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer from year to year and respond to pumping at TW3-80. However, the response to pumping is less compared to the response in the lower bedrock aquifer. This is consistent with the interpretation that the bottom of the screen is only 2 m above the contact between the Middle Bedrock Aquitard and the Lower Bedrock Aquifer.



4.2.4 Upper Bedrock Aquifer

The regional groundwater potentiometric surface in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer is shown on Figure 4.4. The potentiometric surface was prepared based on the water levels measured on September 18, 2023. This represents a time in 2023 when higher pumping volumes were recorded at TW3-80 and monthly precipitation was below average. A review of the potentiometric surface on September 18, 2023, indicates groundwater flow toward TW3-80 from the northeast, north and northwest. The greater hydraulic connection with the area toward MW7-08 is evident in the potentiometric surface under pumping conditions.

Hydrographs for wells completed in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer are included on Figures D19 through D31 in Appendix D.

The findings from a review of the hydrographs of wells completed in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer are summarized below:

- Water levels measured in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer are within the historical ranges measured at the wells and similar to those observed in 2021 when the annual pumping and precipitation were similar. Following the below-average precipitation that occurred for most of 2022, the water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer increased through the winter, declined through the spring, increased through July and August, declined through the remainder of summer and then either continued to decline through the fall or stabilized. At some wells the timing of the increases or decreases is delayed but the overall trends are similar with the exception of some of the downgradient wells (MW16B-12, MW17B-12 and MW18B-12) where a decline in water levels during the spring was not observed. The above-average precipitation in July and August caused the water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer to rise during this time:
- Water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer around the Site show some effects of pumping at TW3-80 (i.e., there is hydraulic connection between the Lower Bedrock and Upper Bedrock Aquifers); however, the connection is limited (i.e., less response than in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer). The extent of influence varies based on distance from TW3-80 and existing hydrogeologic conditions (i.e., complexity in the subsurface geologic structure and properties);
- Although not as evident over the past five years, when annual pumping has been somewhat similar, the relationship between the long-term average pumping rates and water levels (i.e., higher water levels during periods of decreased pumping and lower water levels during periods of increased pumping) has been observed in the monitoring wells on the property (e.g., MW2C-07 and MWI/D) and MW7B-08 (upgradient);
- Typically, wells further away from TW3-80 show less effect from pumping, although this is not always the case. The greatest influence from pumping is observed at MW2C-07 and MW7B-08. There appears to be a stronger hydraulic connection between TW3-80 and MW7B-08 (located approximately 1,050 m north of TW3-80) compared to the connection between TW3-80 and MW4B-07 (located approximately 330 m northwest of TW3-80). This is also consistent with previous years and points to complexity in the subsurface;
- While there is an influence on water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer from pumping TW3-80, there are also long-term water level fluctuations that are reflective of variations in recharge (i.e., lower water levels during years of below-average precipitation (such as 2022) and higher water levels during years of aboveaverage precipitation);
- There are also seasonal influences observed in the water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer. For example, melt events and significant precipitation events influence the water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer. Recharge to the aquifer has more of an effect than pumping during these events (i.e., the changes in water)



level are more reflective of the wet spring/dry summer and fall compared to the total pumping). This was evident with the rise in water levels occurring in July and August when above-average precipitation was recorded (typically during a time of lower water levels); and

■ The overall trend in water levels at MW15B-12 (located west of TW3-80) is different compared to the other monitoring wells as the water levels in the well are higher in 2022 and 2023 compared to the previous three years. This may be related to the nearby aggregate operations.

In summary, the water levels in the onsite monitoring wells in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer are influenced by pumping at TW3-80 but to a lesser degree than water levels in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer due to a lower permeability bedrock layer that exists between the two aquifers. There is also an influence on water levels reflective of trends in recharge. This is reflected in 2023 by the increase in water levels during a time of above-average precipitation in July and August. The long-term monitoring data, which show that water levels recover when pumping rates are reduced, are consistent with the interpretation that the water taking is sustainable.

4.2.5 Overburden

The potentiometric surface of the overburden plotted in Figure 4.5 is also based on water levels measured on September 18, 2023. This represents a time in 2023 when higher pumping volumes were recorded at TW3-80 and monthly precipitation was below average. A review of the potentiometric surface on September 18, 2023, indicates that groundwater flow is generally in a southerly direction with potentially some flow towards Aberfoyle Creek. We note that there is both lateral and vertical flow in the overburden. An interpretation of the lateral flow in the overburden is shown in Figure 4.5, while vertical gradients in the shallow overburden along the creek are discussed below. Shallow groundwater flow directions are more variable locally than the deeper bedrock flow systems as they are more influenced by topography and interactions with surface features.

Hydrographs for wells completed in the overburden are included on Figures D32 through D36 in Appendix D. The intermediate and deep overburden wells are installed in the till, in sand and gravel within or below the till, or deep within the surficial sand and gravel aquifer. Shallow overburden wells are typically installed in the upper portion of the surficial sand gravel.

Findings from a review of the hydrographs of wells completed in the overburden are summarized below:

- Similar to the water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer, the water levels in the overburden increased through the winter, declined through the spring, increased through July and August, declined through the remainder of summer and then either increased or were stable through the fall (with the exception of MW4C-07 which continued to decrease through the fall);
- Water levels in the overburden increased compared to the lower water levels observed during the second half of 2022 due to the below average precipitation. Water levels in 2023 were within the ranges of water levels observed at the wells and similar to water levels measured in 2021. There is no significant overall increasing or decreasing trend; and

Water levels in the overburden are affected by natural factors (recharge), and to a lesser degree by pumping at TW3-80. The response to pumping in the overburden is muted compared to the response in Upper and Lower Bedrock Aquifers but for monitoring wells immediately adjacent to TW3-80 there is a correlation with long-term variations in pumping. In summary, the water levels in the overburden are influenced by weather events and to a lesser degree, pumping at TW3-80. The influence of pumping on water levels in the overburden is less than the influence of pumping on water levels in both the Upper and Lower Bedrock Aquifers. There are no long-term



declining trends in the overburden water levels. The fact that water levels recover when pumping rates are reduced and there are no long-term declining trends is a line of evidence that the water taking is sustainable.

4.2.6 Vertical Gradients

Vertical gradients between the Lower Bedrock Aquifer and the Upper Bedrock Aquifer are plotted on Figures D37 through D50 in Appendix D; the gradients are inferred from multi-level monitoring wells completed in both units.

Note that a positive gradient is calculated when the water level in the upper aquifer exceeds the level in the lower aquifer. Under these conditions, the mean direction of vertical groundwater flow is downwards.

In general, based on a review of the graphs for the multi-level monitoring well locations, a dampened response in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer relative to the response in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer is evident. At locations where the positive gradient increases when pumping increases, this is due to the fact that water levels in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer respond more to pumping than do the water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer.

A description of the gradients at the Site is as follows:

- MW2A/C-07 positive gradient (potential downward flow) that increases with increased pumping. There are brief periods in 2023 and other years when the gradient is reversed, coinciding with reduced pumping. Seasonal changes in vertical gradient are evident and correspond to the seasonal changes in pumping (i.e., higher pumping during the summer months). Daily changes in the vertical gradient are greater than at wells further away from TW3-80;
- MW4A/C-07 positive gradient (potential downward flow) that increases with increased pumping. The seasonal changes in vertical gradient are also evident and similar to those observed at MW2-07. The daily changes in the vertical gradient are less than at MW2-07;
- MW6A/B-08 positive gradient (potential downward flow) that has been relatively consistent over the past five years with the overall trend correlating with the annual volume pumped from TW3-80;
- MW7A/B-08 positive gradient (potential downward flow) that increases with increased pumping. There is a daily fluctuation in the positive gradient that relates to the daily pumping at TW3-80. Seasonal changes in vertical gradient are evident and correspond to the seasonal changes in pumping (i.e., higher pumping during the summer months);
- MW8A/B-08 negative gradient (potential upward flow) that reverses to a positive gradient (potential downward flow) mainly during the summer when pumping from TW3-80 is higher. Similar to MW6-08 the gradient has been relatively consistent over the past five years with the overall trend correlating with the annual volume pumped from TW3-80;
- MW10B/C-09 positive gradient (potential downward flow) that does not change with seasonal pumping fluctuations. The gradient has been consistent over the past five years;
- MW14A/C-11 positive gradient (potential downward flow) that increases with increased pumping and correlates with the long-term pumping trend. Seasonal changes in vertical gradient are also evident and correspond to the seasonal changes in pumping;
- MW15A/B-12 negative gradient (potential upward flow) that does not change with increased pumping.
 There has been a slight decrease in the vertical gradient over the past five years that correlates with the long-term pumping trend at TW3-80;



 MW16A/B-12 – positive gradient (potential downward flow) with minor changes related to seasonal changes in pumping;

- MW17A/B-12 positive gradient (potential downward flow) that reverses to a negative gradient (potential upward flow) during times of decreased pumping. Seasonal changes in vertical gradient are also evident and correspond to the seasonal changes in pumping;
- MW18A/B-12 negative gradient (potential upward flow) that reverses to a positive gradient (potential downward flow) during times of increased pumping. Seasonal changes in vertical gradient are also evident and correspond to the seasonal changes in pumping;
- MW19-18-4/7 positive gradient (potential downward flow) with minor change related to seasonal changes in pumping. There has also been a correlation with the vertical gradient and the pumping over the past three years (since monitoring began) that correlates with the long-term pumping trend at TW3-80;
- MW20-19-5/7 positive gradient (potential downward flow) that increases with increased pumping. Seasonal changes in vertical gradient are also evident and correspond to the seasonal changes in pumping. There has also been a correlation with the vertical gradient and the pumping over the past three years (since monitoring began) that correlates with the long-term pumping trend at TW3-80; and
- MW21-18-3/4 positive gradient (potential downward flow) that increases with increased pumping. Seasonal changes in vertical gradient are also evident and correspond to the seasonal changes in pumping.

Most of the area around TW3-80 is characterized by positive gradients (downward flow) in the bedrock. A negative gradient (upward flow) is present at wells further away from TW3-80 (i.e., at MW15-12 to the west and MW8-08 to the north). Over the past five years, a negative gradient (upward flow) is also present at MW2-07 (close to TW3-80), and MW17-12 and MW18-12 (to the south) when pumping at TW3-80 has been lower.

4.3 Surface Water Monitoring Program

The surface water monitoring program includes measurement of mini-piezometer and surface water levels, surface water flows and surface water temperatures. The surface water levels measured in 2023 are presented in Appendix E along with hydrographs of the water levels. Surface water flows are tabulated and graphed in Appendix F. The hydrographs also include the daily pumping volumes at TW3-80 and daily precipitation as recorded at the Shades Mill meteorological stations. Surface water temperatures are discussed in Section 4.3.4 and Appendix G.

4.3.1 Mini-Piezometer Water Levels

Hydrographs for the mini-piezometer locations are presented on Figures E1 through E8 in Appendix E with the "a" figures including data for the last 5 years (2019 through 2023) and the "b" figures including data for 2023 only.

The findings from a review of the hydrographs for the mini-piezometers are summarized below.

A mini-piezometer nest (MP1-16) was installed in Aberfoyle Creek at the Blue Triton Gilmour Road property in April 2016 to monitor background conditions upstream of the Site. For the 2023 analysis, MP1-16 is considered to represent background conditions. The variation in water levels at MP1-16 over 2023 was approximately 0.47 m in the deep piezometer and 0.58 m in the shallow piezometer with spikes related to precipitation and/or snowmelt events. The water levels in MP1-16S have been similar over the past five years compared to the water levels in MP1-16D which the lowest in 2022 (during drought conditions) and have recovered slightly in 2023. In 2023 the water levels rose in mid-March to a peak at the beginning of April and



then declined to mid-April during the spring freshet. There was also a significant spike in the water levels at the end of July due to above-average precipitation. With the exception of some other spikes due to precipitation events, the water levels were similar for the remainder of the year with a slight indication of increasing water levels in the spring, followed by declining water levels into summer, followed by an increase in water levels in the fall. These changes in water level are influenced by natural seasonal patterns. The potential for vertical flow at the MP1-16 nest is consistently upwards in 2023, similar to previous years (i.e., as shown in Figure E1a/b, water levels in MP1-16D exceed those in MP1-16S);

- There are five mini-piezometer nests situated on the Blue Triton Aberfoyle property (MP16, MP6, MP12, MP14, MP8) and two located downstream of the confluence of Aberfoyle Creek and Mill Creek (MP17, MP18). These mini-piezometer nests, located upgradient and downgradient of TW3-80, showed fluctuations of approximately 0.4 m to 0.7 m during 2023. The trends in water levels at the mini-piezometers were similar to those observed at MP1-16. The similarity in water level fluctuations indicates that changes in water levels correspond more with natural events rather than changes in pumping in TW3-80 and are mainly due to precipitation, snow melt and evaporation;
- Water levels measured in the mini-piezometers in 2023 are within the historical ranges;
- The water levels have generally increased in the spring, declined through the summer, and then increased in the fall; and
- In addition to the seasonal trends, short-term changes ("spikes") in water level in the shallow groundwater reflect the influence of precipitation.

Shallow gradients observed in the mini-piezometers are shown on Figures E9 through E11 in Appendix E with the "a" figures including data for the last 5 years (2019 through 2023) and the "b" figures including data for 2023 only. Beginning upstream and moving downstream, the vertical gradients are as follows:

- MP1-16 strong negative gradient (potential upward flow) in 2023 and over the past five years. The shortterm decreases in the negative gradient are caused by rapidly rising surface water elevations following precipitation events;
- MP16 no gradient measured in 2023 which is consistent with the previous five years. There is less "noise" in the data following the spring of 2019;
- MP6 weak negative gradient (potential upward flow) with the exception of the first two and a half months when there was not gradient. The is typically a weak negative gradient that occasionally reverses to a weak positive gradient (potential downward flow) in the summer. The gradient has been similar over the past five years;
- MP12 weak positive gradient (potential downward flow) for the first three months of the year then changed to a weak negative gradient (potential upward flow) for the remainder of the year with a few reversals throughout the year. From 2019 to 2022 (prior the below-average precipitation) the gradient was mostly negative;
- MP14 strong negative gradient (potential upward flow) in 2023 that was reduced in September . Historically the gradient is reduced during the summer but generally remains negative, which is what was also reflected in 2023;



MP8 – weak negative gradient (potential upward flow) that become stronger from mid-September to the end of the year. Historically there has been a weak negative gradient (potential upward flow) at this location. There is less "noise" in the data following the spring of 2019; and

MP17 and MP18 – near neutral gradient that switched between a weak positive gradient (potential downward flow) and a weak negative gradient (potential upward flow) during the year. Over the past five years, with the exception of 2021, there has generally been a weak negative gradient (potential upward flow) during the first half of the year and then a weak positive gradient (potential downward flow) during the second half of the year.

The water levels in the mini-piezometers on September 19, 2023 are plotted on Figure 4.6 which is during a month of higher pumping and below-average precipitation. Review of the water levels on September 19, 2023 indicates that there is a strong negative gradient (potential upward flow) at MP1-16 located upstream of Aberfoyle Mill Pond. There is essentially no gradient at the three piezometers (MP16, MP6, MP12) upgradient of TW3-80 and then a strong negative gradient at MP14 near the middle of the property. Further downstream before the confluence with Mill Creek, there is a weak negative gradient at MP8 and then after the confluence, essentially no gradient at MP17 and MP18. These gradients are similar to those observed in the past.

4.3.2 Surface Water Levels

Hydrographs for the surface water level monitoring locations are included on Figures E12 through E16 in Appendix E with the "a" figures including data for the last 5 years (2019 through 2023) and the "b" figures including data only for 2023.

A review of the hydrographs for the surface water level monitoring locations indicates the following:

- Surface water levels in the creeks fluctuate in response to precipitation, snow melt and evapotranspiration with no measurable effects from pumping at the current rates;
- In general, surface water levels have been higher in the winter/spring and lower in the summer and then have increased slightly into the fall. The trends were similar in 2023. In general, surface water levels at the off-Site stations (manual measurements at SW3, SW4 and SW5) were similar throughout the year, with a rise in water levels observed in February and March followed by a decline in water levels into the summer and fall. A rise in water levels was also observed in August during the above-average precipitation. In general, surface water levels at the on-Site stations (transducer data at SW1 and SW2) showed a similar trend to the water levels in the off-sites wells but in more detail including spikes in water levels during precipitation events;
- The water levels in 2023 were within the historical ranges recorded at the sites; and
- It should be noted that the measuring point at SW2 was resurveyed in February 2022. Following the correction, the water levels at SW2 appear to be higher than the previous five years. It appears that the change in the measuring point elevation may have occurred as far back as 2018 and may have been a slow change possibly due to slight heaving of the monitor each year.

The water levels at the surface water stations on September 19, 2023 are included on Figure 4.6, during a month of higher pumping and below-average precipitation. Review of the water levels on September 19, 2023 indicates that surface water features varied in elevation from approximately 317.35 masl at SW3 to 307.28 masl at SW5 with surface water levels across the Site ranging from 311.44 masl (SW1) to 310.41 masl (SW2).



It is important to note that the stream flow provides a more reliable data set for investigating the potential impacts of pumping compared to an analysis of stream water levels, which can be affected by channel geometry. An analysis of stream flow is presented in the following section.

4.3.3 Surface Water Flow

The monthly stream flow data collected in 2023 are summarized in Appendix F. Stream flow has been measured at SW1 and SW2 since December 2001. SW1 is located along Aberfoyle Creek near the upstream part of the property while SW2 is located along Aberfoyle Creek near the downstream part of the property.

Stage-discharge curves are developed for SW1 and SW2 which show the relationship between surface water elevation (stage) and stream flow (discharge). The stage-discharge relationship was used to convert the continuous measurements of stream stages to stream flows. Due to changing stream conditions, individual stagedischarge curves sometimes need to be created for individual years or a series of years. This is done because a review of the discrete flow and water level measurement results indicates that the hydraulic controls at the gauging stations have changed subtly. In 2023, the stage-discharge curves were reviewed/updated at both stations which resulted in no change to the curve for SW1 and a slight modification to the curve for SW2. The stream geometry appears to have changed slightly at SW2 resulting in the need for a new stage-discharge curve. These stage-discharge curves were developed to represent continuous flows in 2023 at SW1 and SW2. The new curve for SW2 provides a better fit to the 2023 data. Stage-discharge curves were developed by estimating the level at which zero flow would occur (i.e., y0) at each station. This was estimated using the available low-flow measurements collected over the monitoring period. Historical data were included for comparison and to include measured data over a larger range of stream discharge conditions. Power functions were used to develop a best fit curve for the measured data at each station. Data outliers were evaluated with a lower confidence due to suspected winter conditions or measurement error. The updated stage-discharge curves for SW1 and SW2 are presented on Figures F1 and F2, respectively. Flow data from previous years were estimated using historic stagedischarge curves that best fit the monitoring data collected during those years (as presented in previous reports).

Graphs of estimated stream flow at SW1 and SW2, along with pumping rates and precipitation, are presented on Figure F3 in Appendix F with the "a" figure including data for the last 5 years (2019 through 2023) and the "b" figure including data for 2023. The updated stage-discharge relationship was used to estimate stream flow from the continuous water level elevation data in 2023. It should be noted that historically there are a few occasions when flow was estimated at SW1 and SW2 for stream elevations outside of the observed stage-discharge curve relationship (typically flows do not exceed approximately 1,200 L/s).

Review of the flow data indicates the following:

- In 2023, stream flow measured in the field (during monthly monitoring) at SW1 ranged from 50 L/s (October) to 441 L/s (March) and at SW2 stream flow ranged from 59 L/s (October) to 473 L/s (March);
- The trends in surface water flow at SW1 and SW2 over the year are similar. This is consistent with previous years and as expected over the ~900 m reach of creek;
- In 2023, stream flow was higher in the spring following precipitation and melt events and then was lower through the summer before increasing in the fall. Stream flow increased in July during a time of aboveaverage precipitation;
- The 2023 summer stream flows at SW1 and SW2 were higher than those observed in 2022 during the time of below-average precipitation;



■ In 2023, the calculated flows, using the rating curves, indicate that flow at SW2 is similar during the periods of higher flow (spring and July) and are typically greater than the flow at SW1 during remainder of the year. It should be noted that the contributing drainage area between SW1 and SW2 is small in comparison to the total drainage area upstream of the site. This means that the expected increase in flow based on increase in drainage area will also be small and that stream flows at SW1 and SW2 will be similar and differences are likely to be within the margin of error for flow measurements in natural open channels; and

Apparent flow is sometimes slightly lower at SW2 compared to SW1. This can sometimes be due to manual flow measurement accuracy or changed hydraulic controls. With respect to stream conditions, the channel cross section at SW1 is relatively stable from year to year and has a silty bed composition. This type of channel is less prone to underestimating flow due to irregularities. In contrast, the channel cross section at SW2 is wide, very shallow during low flow, has a cobbly substrate and the bed is mobile, often changing from year to year. The presence of large cobbles in the bed at SW2 introduces flow irregularities that cause additional error to flow measurements, especially at low flow conditions. In addition, flow through the coarse substrate, known as gauge underflow, is likely occurring at SW2. The magnitude of gauge underflow and the error it introduces cannot be measured using standard stream flow measurement techniques, but the relative error is larger for shallow depths of flow (when the flow above the bed is small) and less significant for deeper flows (when the flow above the bed is large). For this reason, discrete measurements can significantly underestimate the flow at SW2 during low water conditions.

There have been no significant effects observed on Aberfoyle Creek adjacent to the site since 2008 (when continuous monitoring began), which included ten Low Water Advisories over that time.

It was noted in CRA (2014) that pumping tests conducted in 2004, 2007, and 2010 indicated that surface water flow at SW1 and SW2 was not measurably affected by pumping. The on-going monitoring confirms this conclusion and shows that the stream flows are influenced primarily by precipitation events and fluctuate seasonally.

4.3.4 Surface Water Temperature

Surface water temperature was monitored at six stations across the Blue Triton property.

The average daily water and air temperature data for 2019 through 2023 are shown on Figure G1a and for 2023 on Figure G1b. Review of the data indicates the following:

- The seasonal trend in stream temperature levels in 2023 is similar to previous years;
- Average daily ambient air temperature ranged from -14.7°C (2.9°C warmer than 2022) to 23.6°C (1.6°C colder than 2022) in 2023;
- Average daily surface water temperature ranged from 0.7°C to 26.9°C at the upstream end of the property (ST6-08) and from -0.1°C to 25.3°C at the downstream end of the property (ST5-05). Surface water temperatures generally decrease, across the Site, moving downstream; and
- Air temperature significantly influences stream temperature as seen by the strong correlation between the two. The correlation is not evident during the winter months when air temperature typically drops below 0°C and surface water temperature remains relatively constant around 0°C.

The surface water temperature data were provided to C. Portt and Associates, and the results were incorporated in their report, which is also included in Appendix G.



The mill pond on Aberfoyle Creek has a major influence on the temperature of the creek and its fish community. During the summer, the water in the mill pond, upstream from Brock Road, becomes warm and, as a consequence, the creek is warm through the Blue Triton property. In the C. Portt and Associates report it is concluded that:

In 2023, mean summer (June – August) air temperature was intermediate among those observed during the period 2007 – 2023. The overall pattern of water temperature suitability for the fish species found in the Aberfoyle Branch of Mill Creek from Brock Road downstream through the Blue Triton property in 2023 are consistent with previous years. Water temperatures during the June 1 – August 31 period are usually too warm for coldwater species such as brook trout and brown trout and too cold for warmwater species such as largemouth bass. The water temperatures during this period are most favorable for species such as common shiner which have intermediate thermal requirements. During the summer, the water in the mill pond upstream from Brock Road becomes warm and, although the creek temperature decreases with distance downstream, it frequently exceeds the ultimate upper incipient lethal temperature for brook trout and brown trout at the furthest downstream temperature monitoring site.

The 2023 stream temperatures were lower than predicted from the mean water temperature versus mean air temperature regression at all six sites. Mean stream flow during the June 1 - August 31 period was not exceptional in 2023 and the data do not demonstrate a relationship between flow and residuals of the water temperature versus air temperature relationship. The cause of the lower stream temperature in 2023 is unknown.

4.4 Biological Monitoring Program

In the 2023 Biological Monitoring Program Report for the Aberfoyle property (Beacon Environmental, 2024) it is concluded that:

In summary, the findings suggest that there have not been any significant changes to the various terrestrial and aquatic parameters being monitored on the Aberfoyle property. Species richness, abundance, and distribution are generally within the range expected and attributable to natural variation and succession. The subject property continues to support high quality terrestrial and wetland habitats that support a diverse range of native wildlife. The aquatic environment is strongly influenced by the thermal loading from the Aberfoyle Mill Pond.

The report also includes recommendations for continued biological monitoring in 2024. Details are included in the report which can be found in Appendix H.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions are provided based on the results of the 2023 monitoring program.

- 1) Blue Triton has complied with all the conditions in the existing permit for the Aberfoyle well TW3-80.
- 2) TW3-80 has been operated in accordance with the pumping limits outlined in the PTTW. The daily water taking at TW3-80 in 2023 ranged from 0 L to 2,684,259 L. The average daily taking in 2023 was 1,750,582 L. The total volume of water taken in 2023 from TW3-80 was 638,962,293 L or 49% of the permitted volume.

The interpreted non-pumping water levels in TW3-80, which obtains water from the Lower Bedrock Aquifer, ranged from approximately 307 to 313 masl in 2023 and the interpreted water levels under variable pumping conditions ranged from approximately 299 to 308 masl. The drawdown at the well ranged from approximately 14 m to 5 m in 2023. Historical and current records indicate that long-term water levels generally correlate with the monthly pumping volumes (i.e., higher water levels during months of lower pumping and lower water levels during months of higher pumping). At all times the water level in TW3-80 remained above the top of the Lower Bedrock Aquifer.

- 4) The trends of water level variations within the Lower Bedrock Aquifer are stable, with nearby monitoring wells in the Lower Bedrock Aquifer fluctuating in response to variations in pumping at TW3-80. Water levels measured within this aquifer in 2023 are generally similar to the water levels measured since mid-2020 with the exception of the lower levels during the second half of 2022 which was marked by drought conditions and the low amount of recharge to the Lower Bedrock Aquifer. Water levels in 2023 recovered from the below-average levels observed in 2022. The groundwater taking from TW3-80 has not led to a long-term declining trend in the aquifer water levels.
- 5) The muted responses at monitoring wells in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer relative to the Lower Bedrock Aquifer confirm that the Middle Bedrock Aquitard limits the effect of pumping on overlying units. The water levels in the Upper Bedrock Aquifer and overburden aquifer show seasonal trends that are reflective of spring melt and precipitation. In 2023 the water levels were higher compared to those observed in the second half of 2022 during the extended period of below-average precipitation. No unacceptable impacts (i.e., long-term declining trends) to the Upper Bedrock Aquifer and overburden aquifer have been observed.
- 6) Surface water levels fluctuate in response to precipitation, snow melt and evapotranspiration.
- 7) Long-term monitoring of terrestrial, wetland and aquatic ecosystems previously showed no evidence of the effects of water takings. Since the biological and aquatic monitoring is not part of the TW1-88 PTTW, it was discontinued at the end of 2022.
- 8) The water taking does not prevent other water users from continuing their established pattern of use. The groundwater withdrawals from TW3-80 do not interfere with existing municipal uses or private uses. There have been no well interference complaints at Aberfoyle due to the water taking from TW3-80.
- 9) There were no complaints from neighbouring properties in 2023 regarding either groundwater quantity or quality. This suggests that no irreversible impacts have been observed due to pumping of the aquifer or deterioration of groundwater quantity or quality on neighbouring properties.
- 10) Based on the monitoring data collected, the 2023 water takings from TW3-80 are sustainable.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

No changes to the existing monitoring program are recommended.

Signature Page

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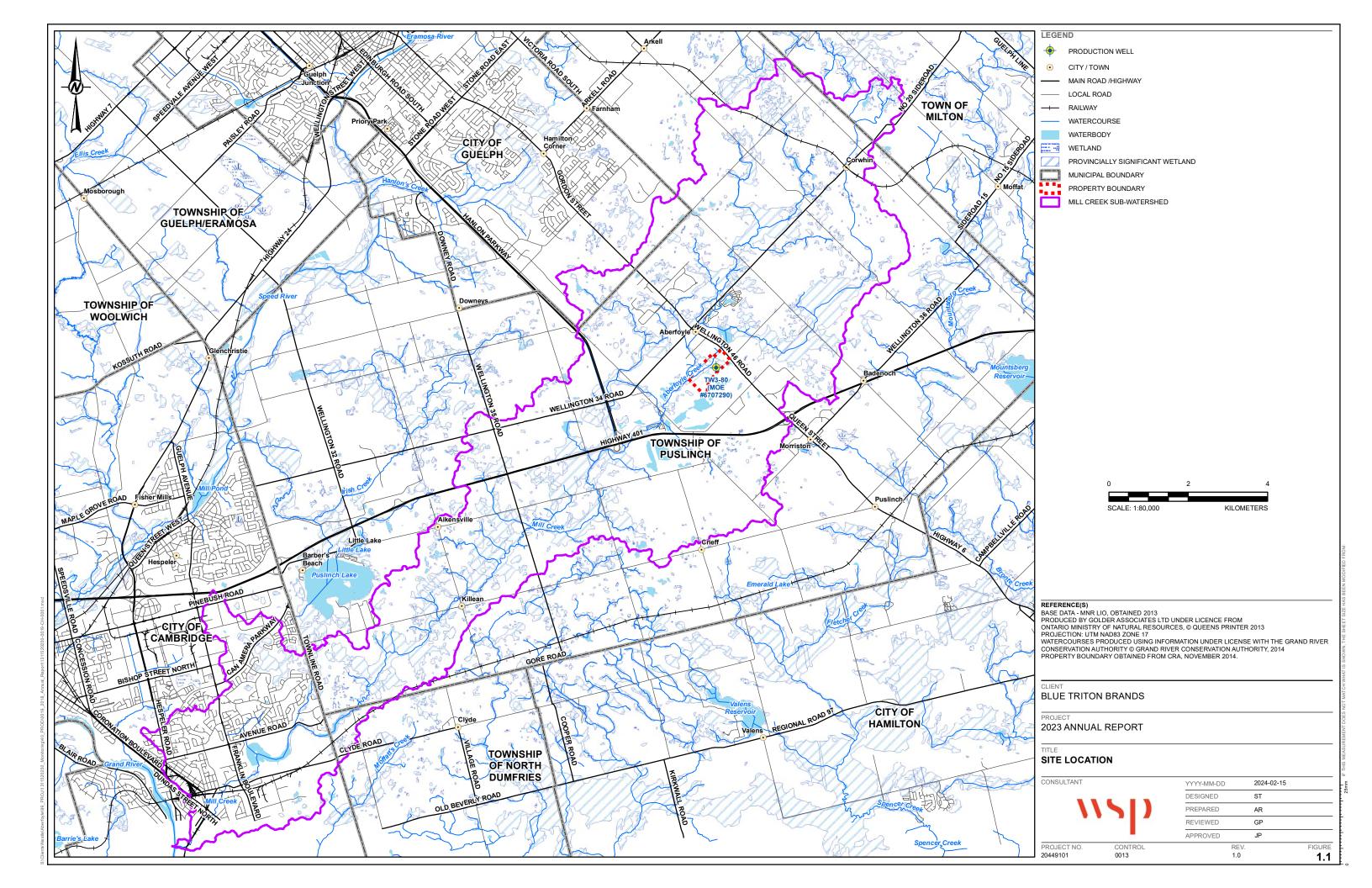
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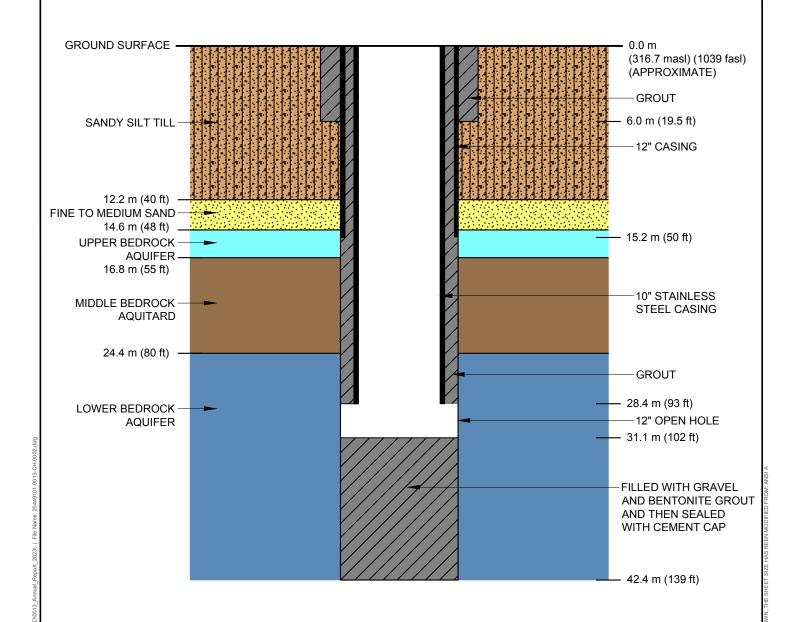
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FIGURES

Figures 1.1 to 4.6







CLIENT BLUE TRITON BRANDS

PROJECT

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

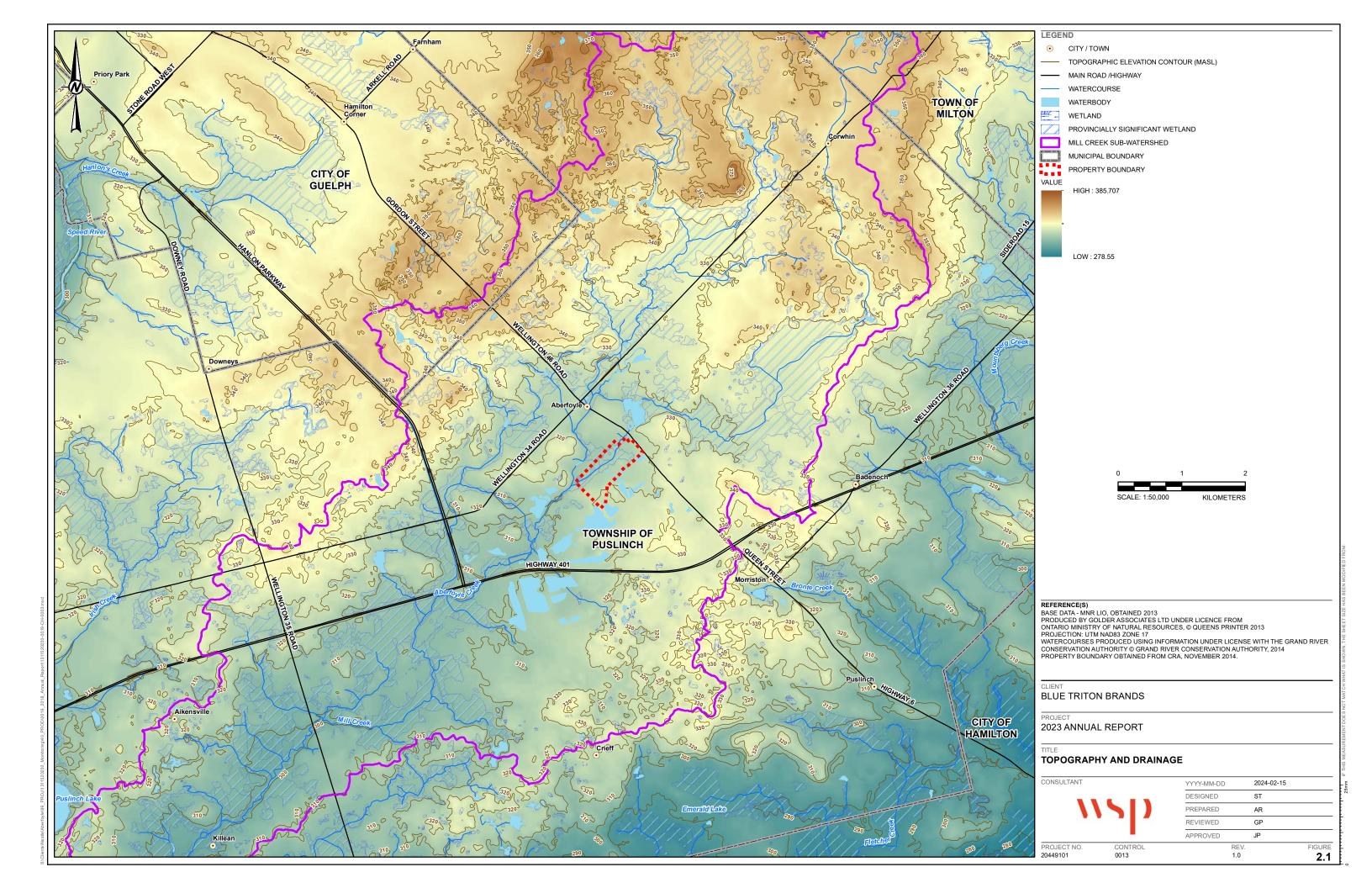
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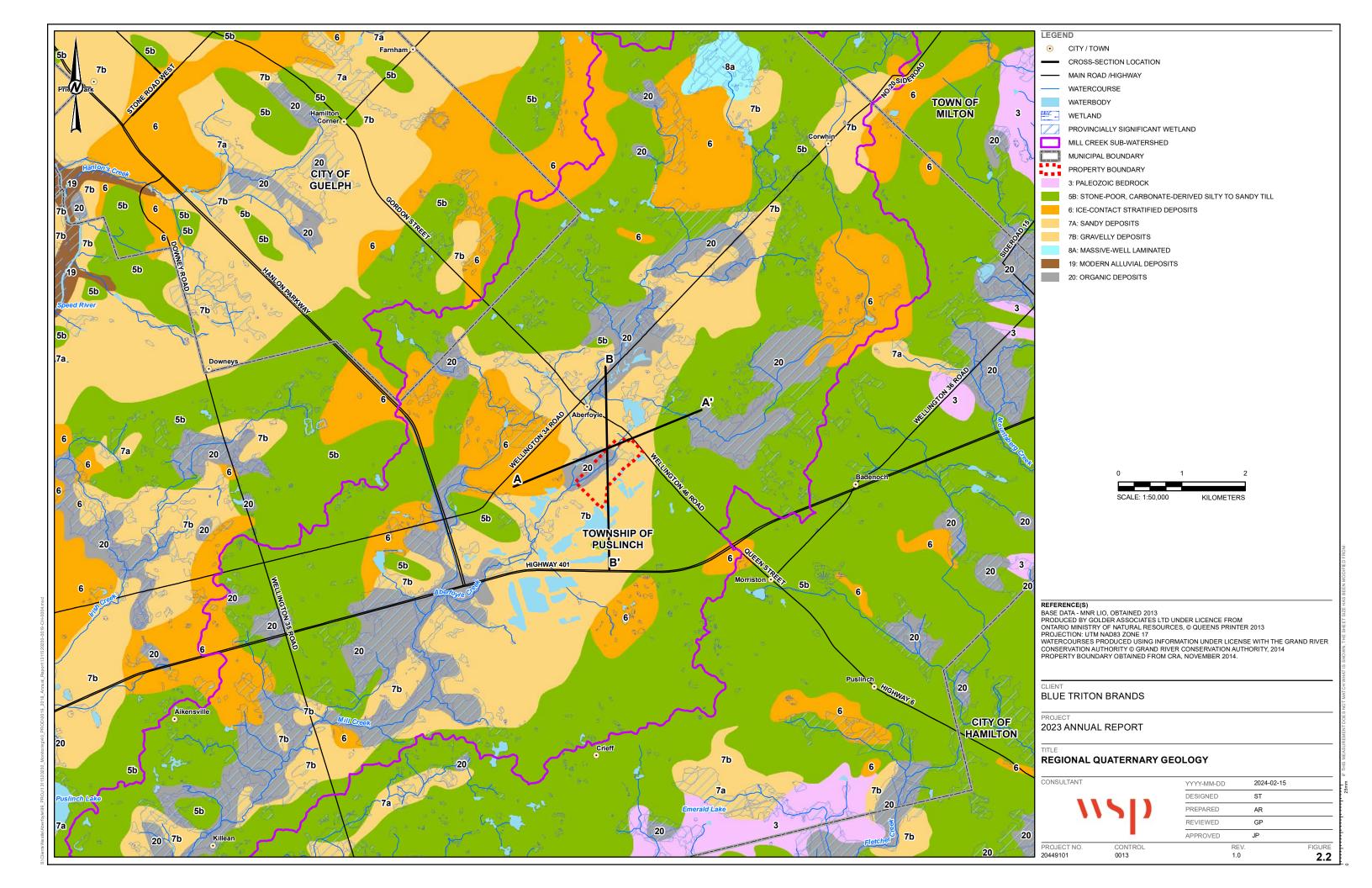


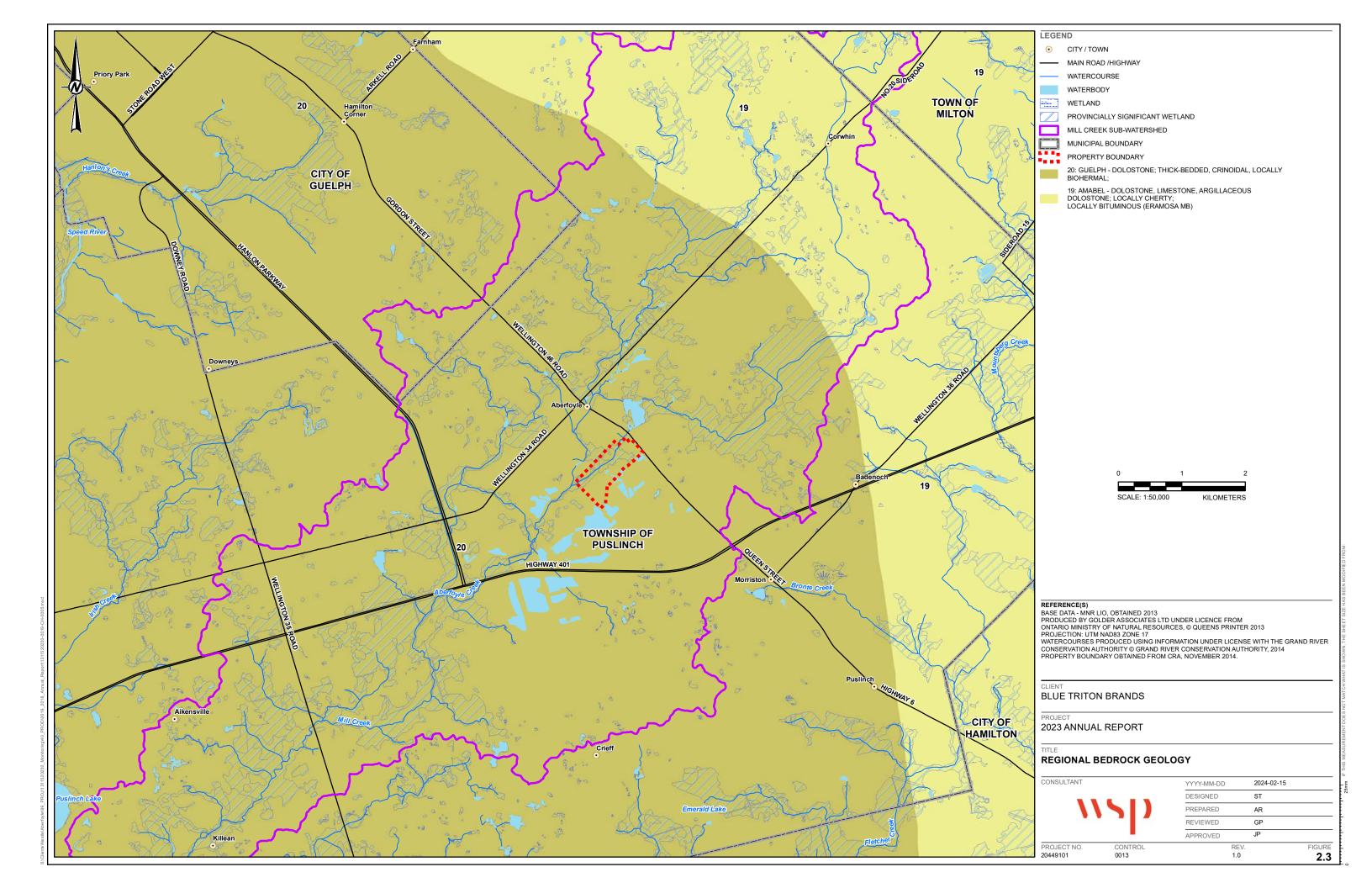
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APPROVED	GP

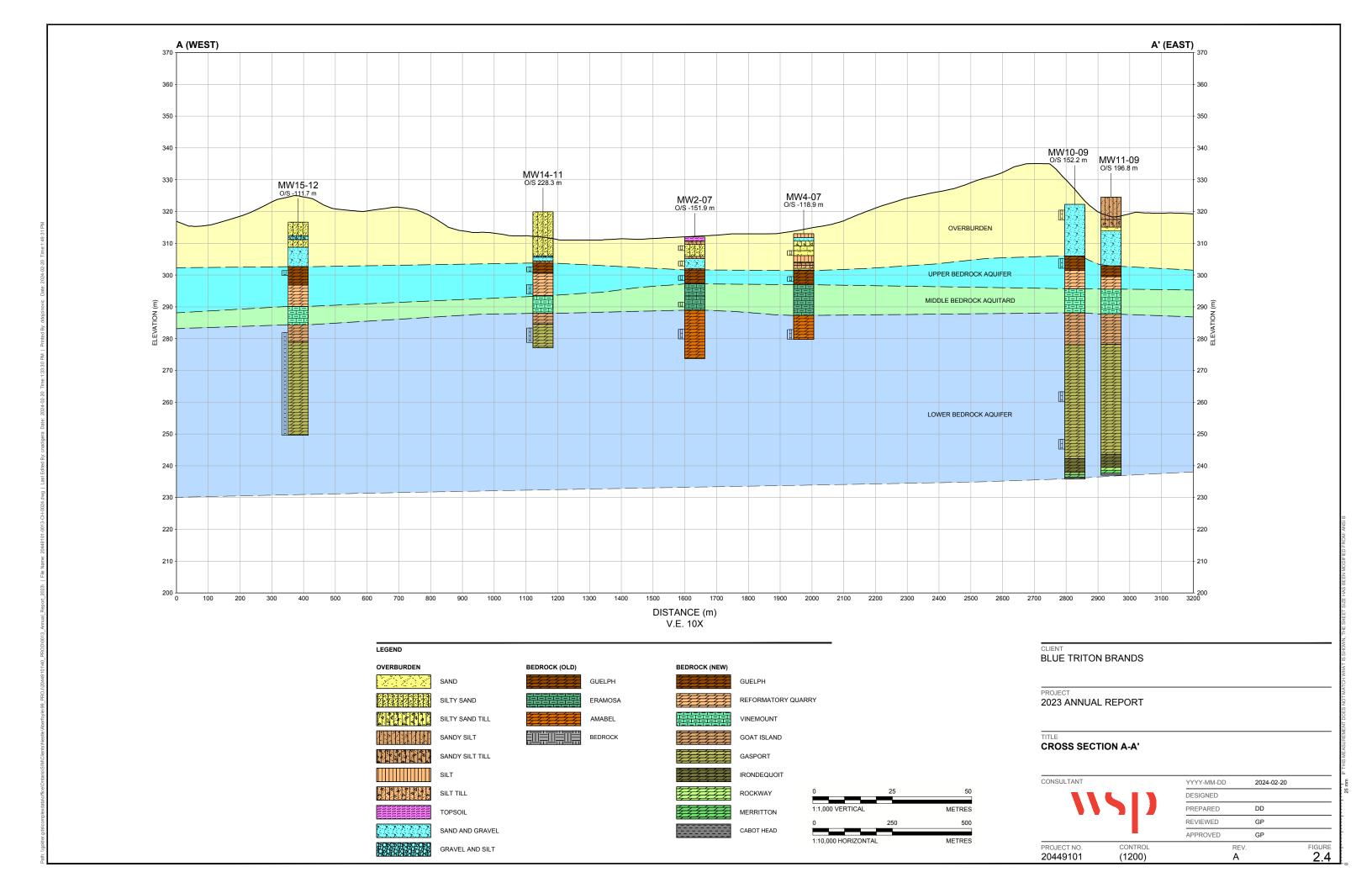
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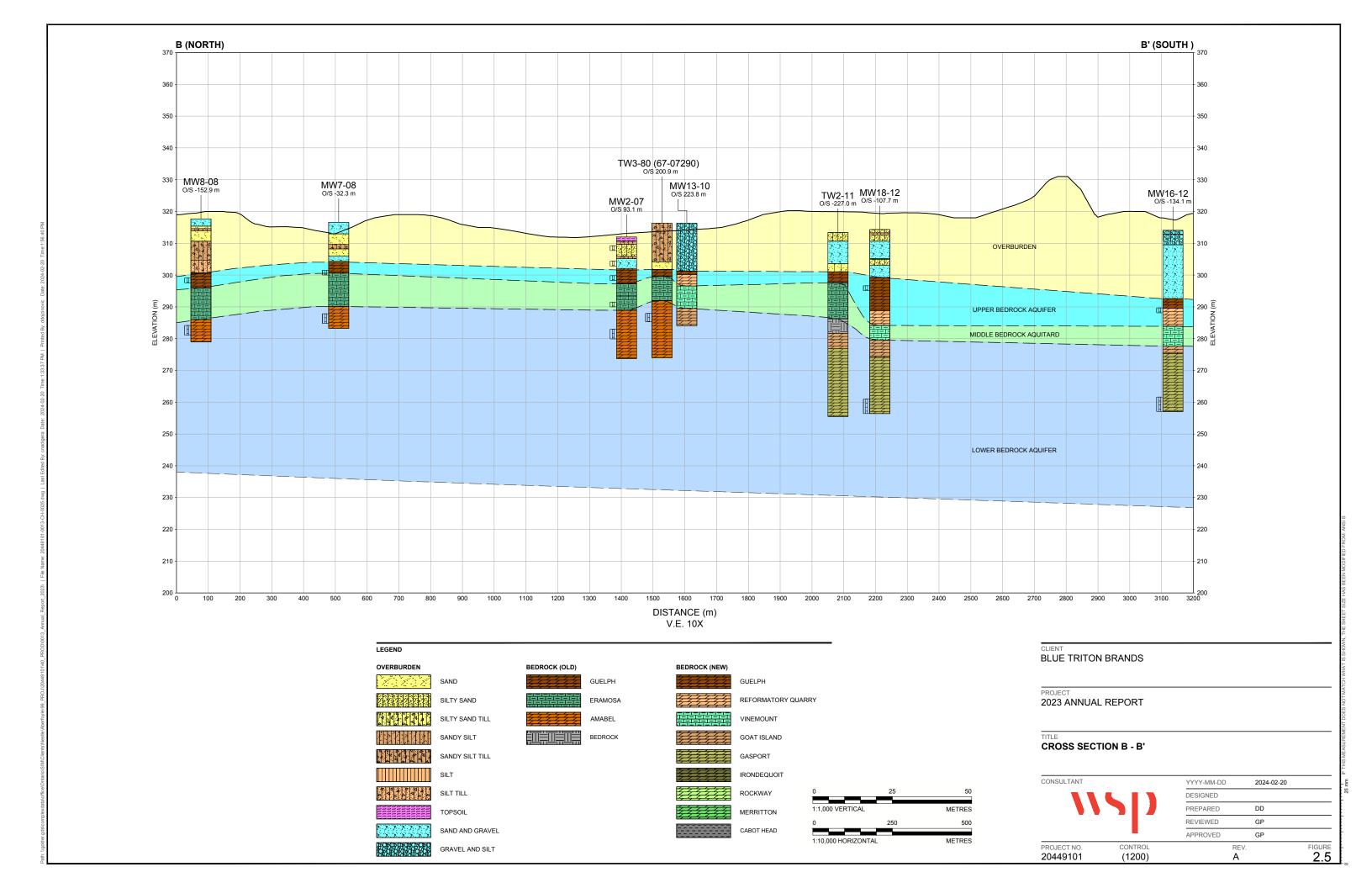
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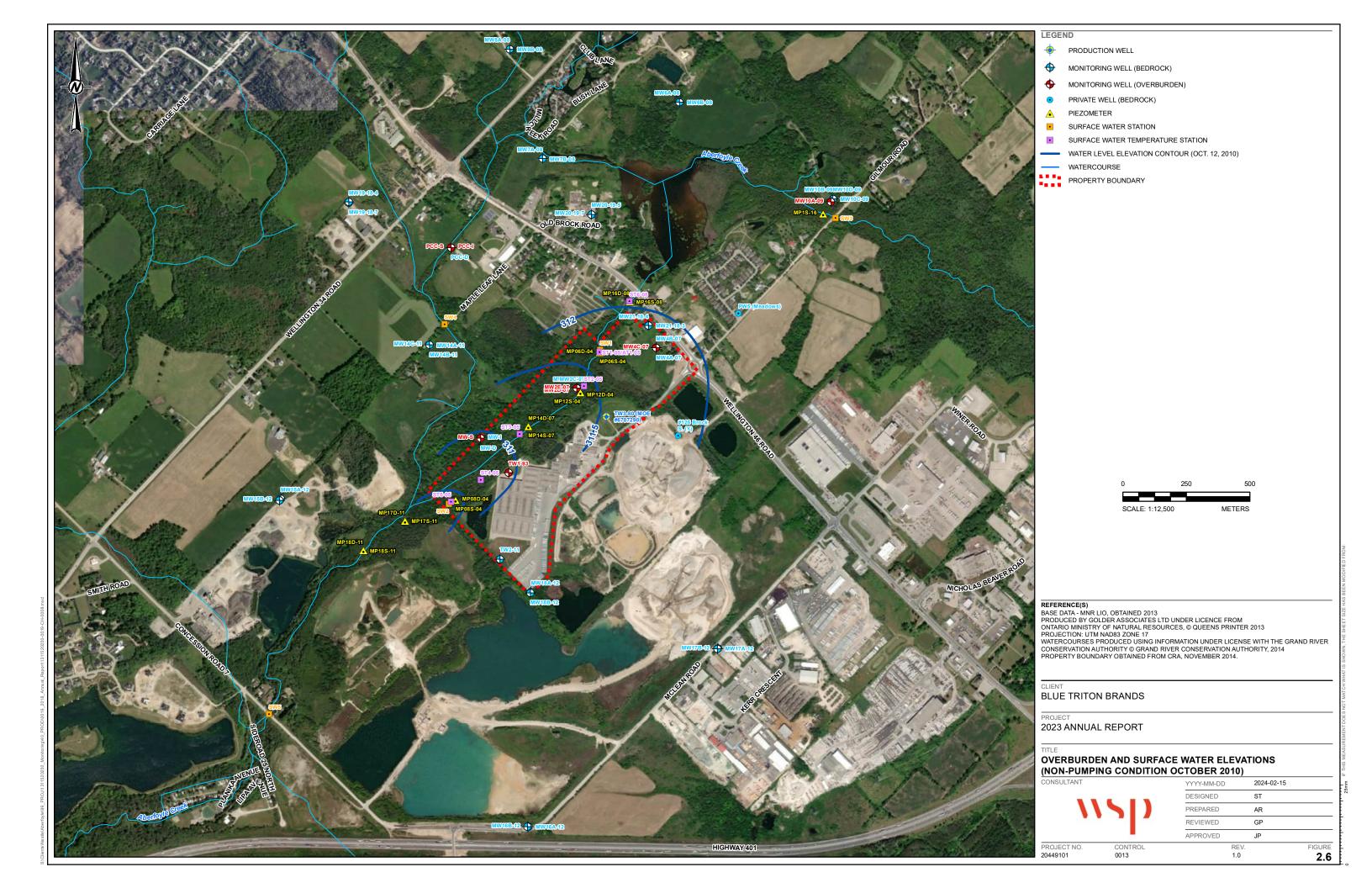


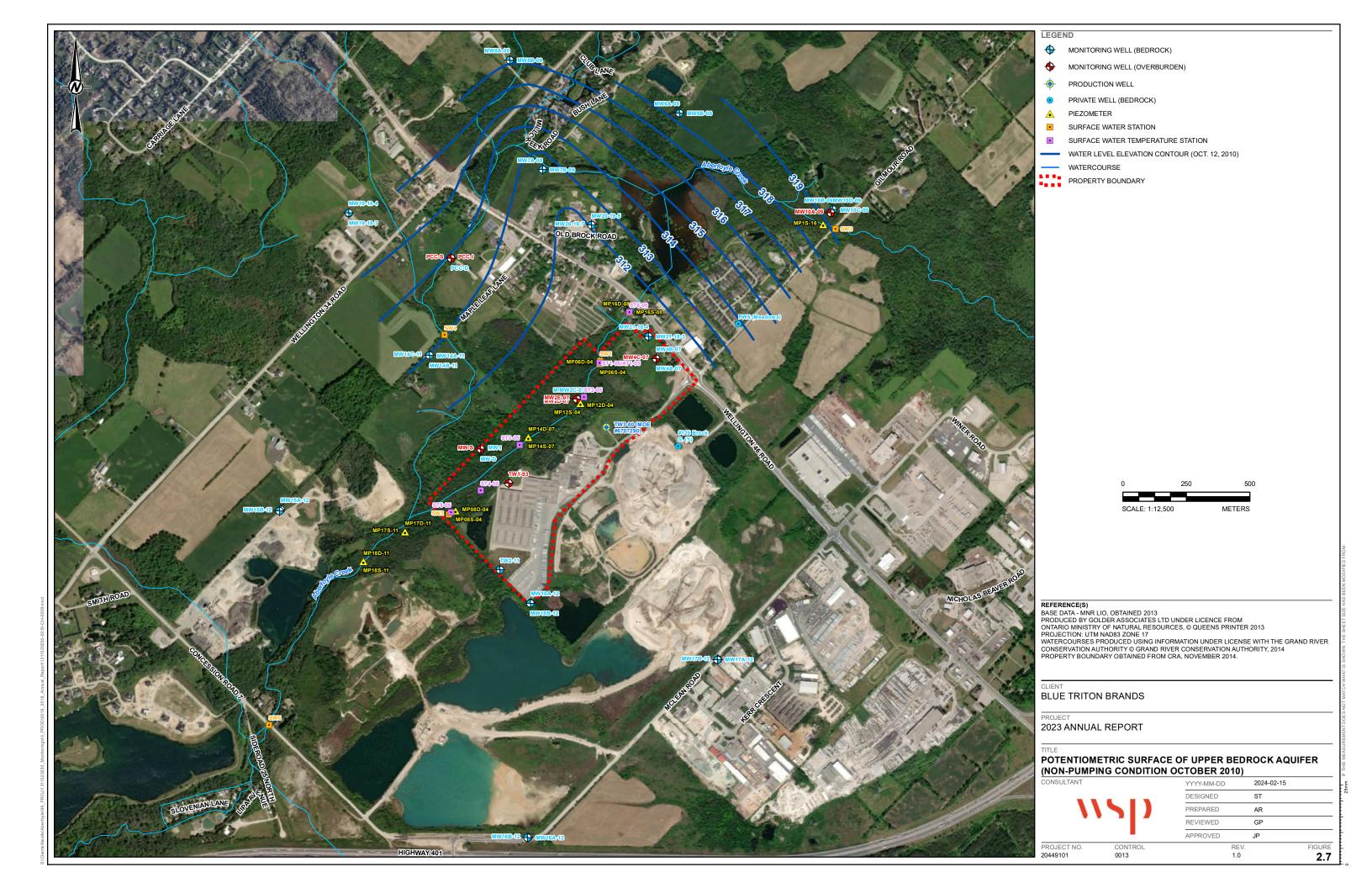


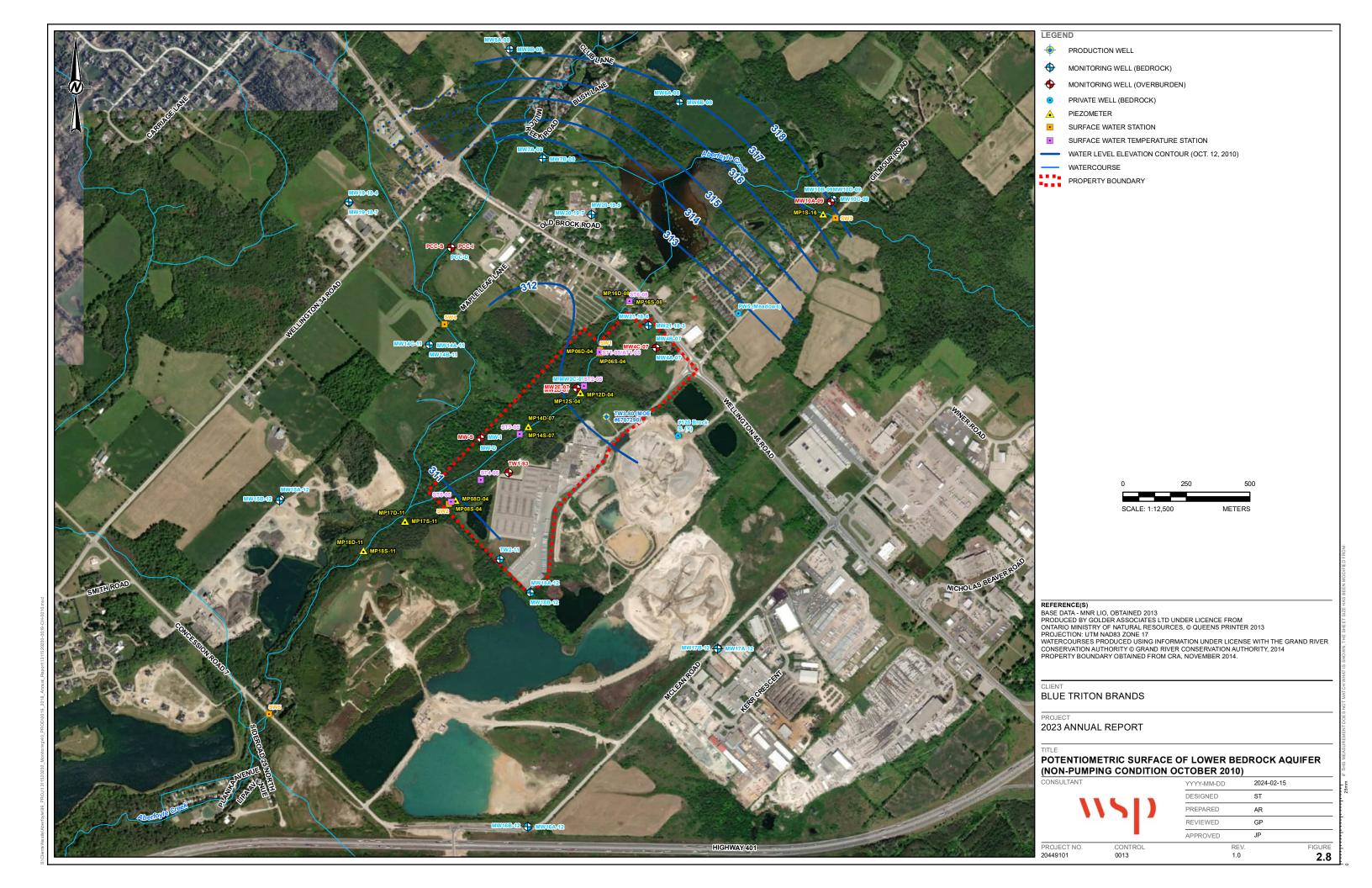


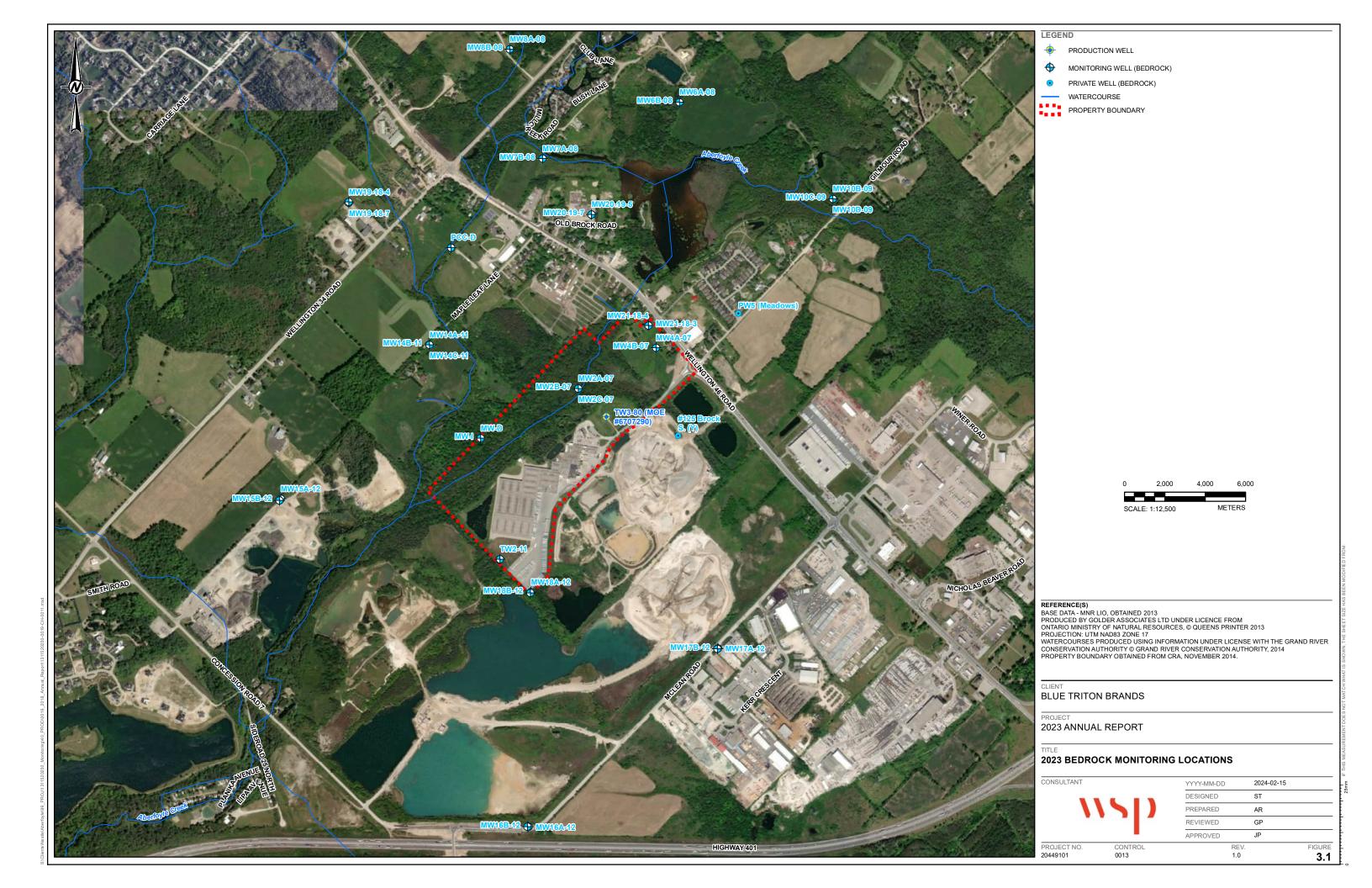


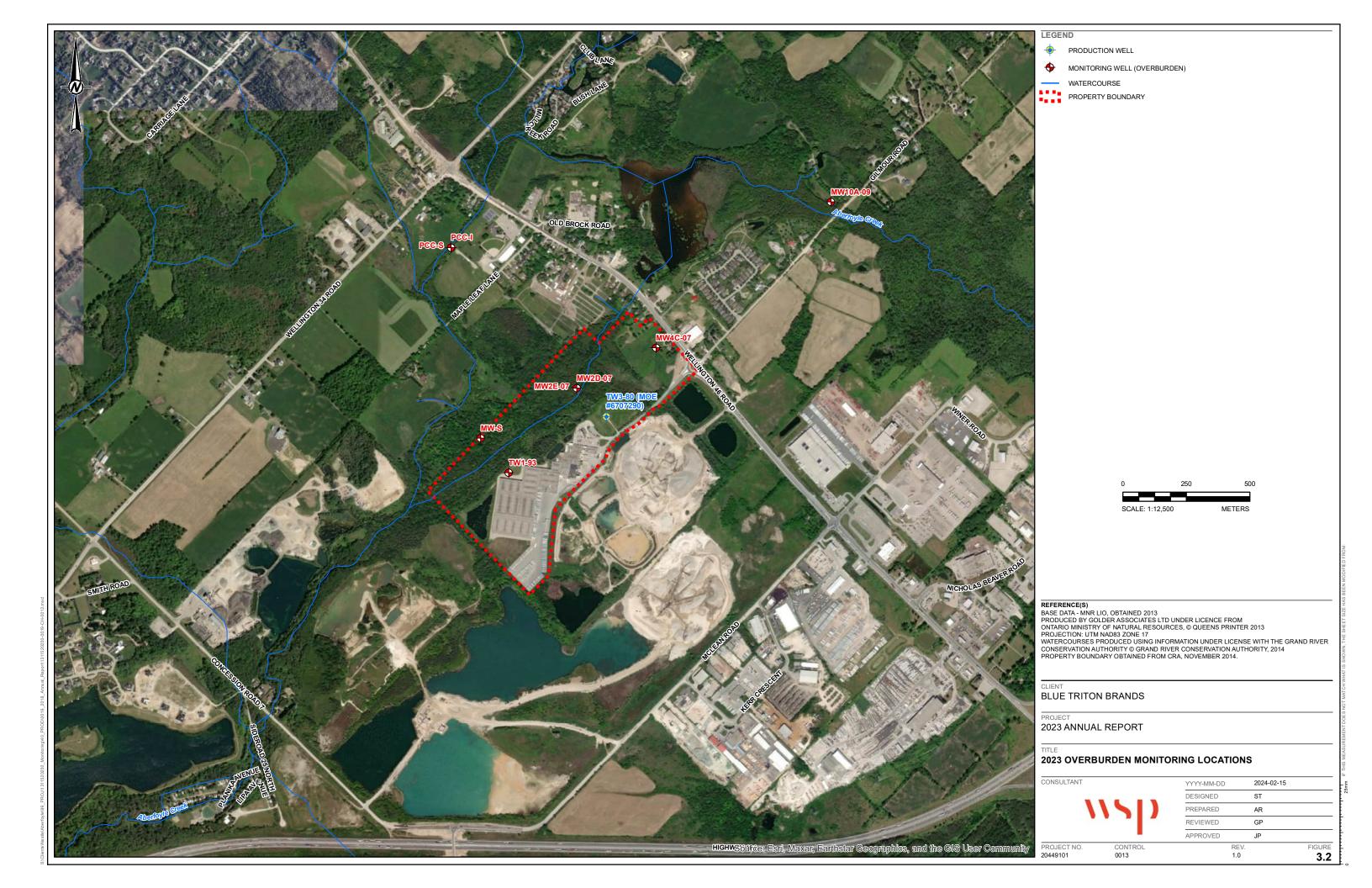


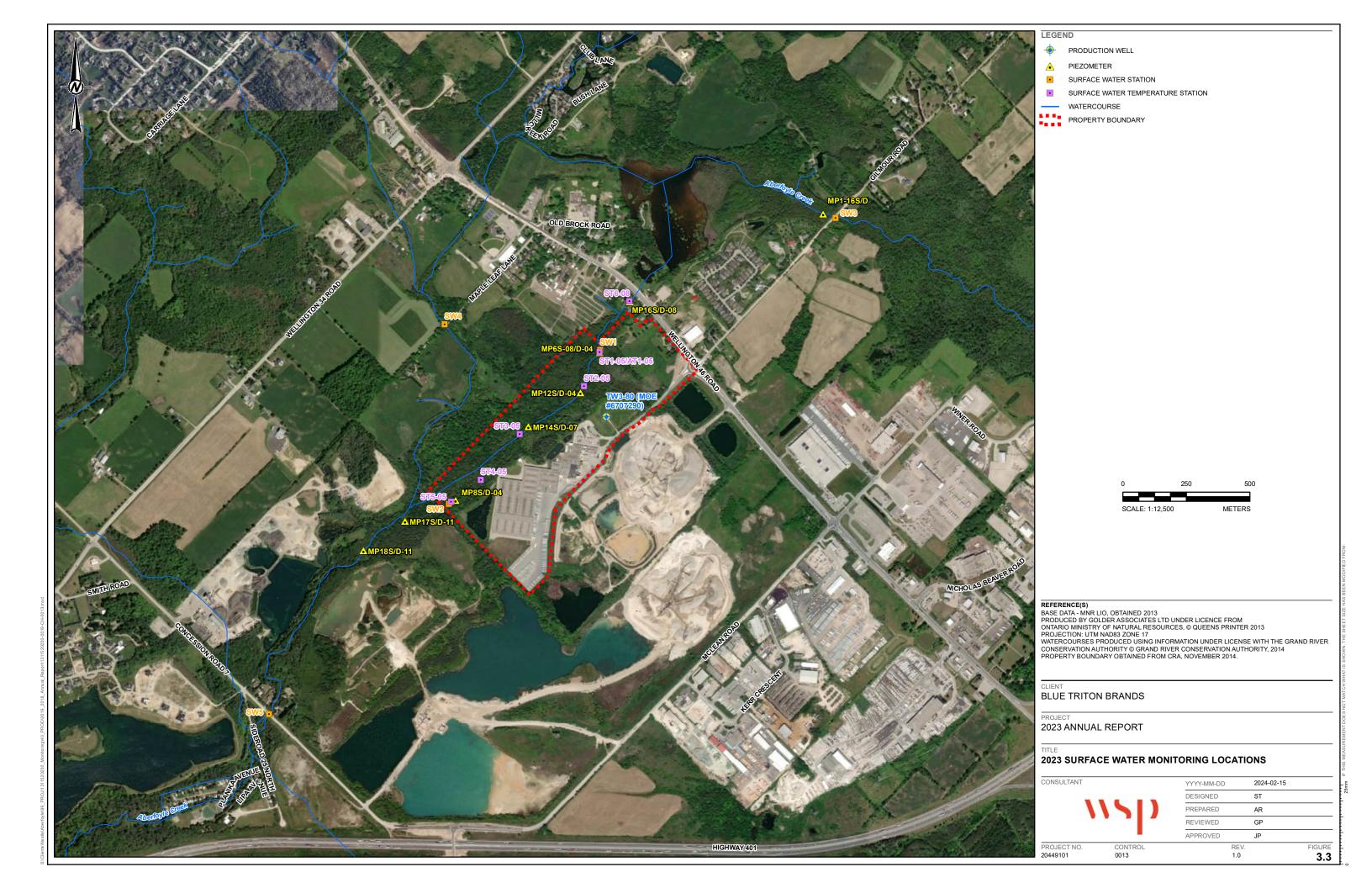


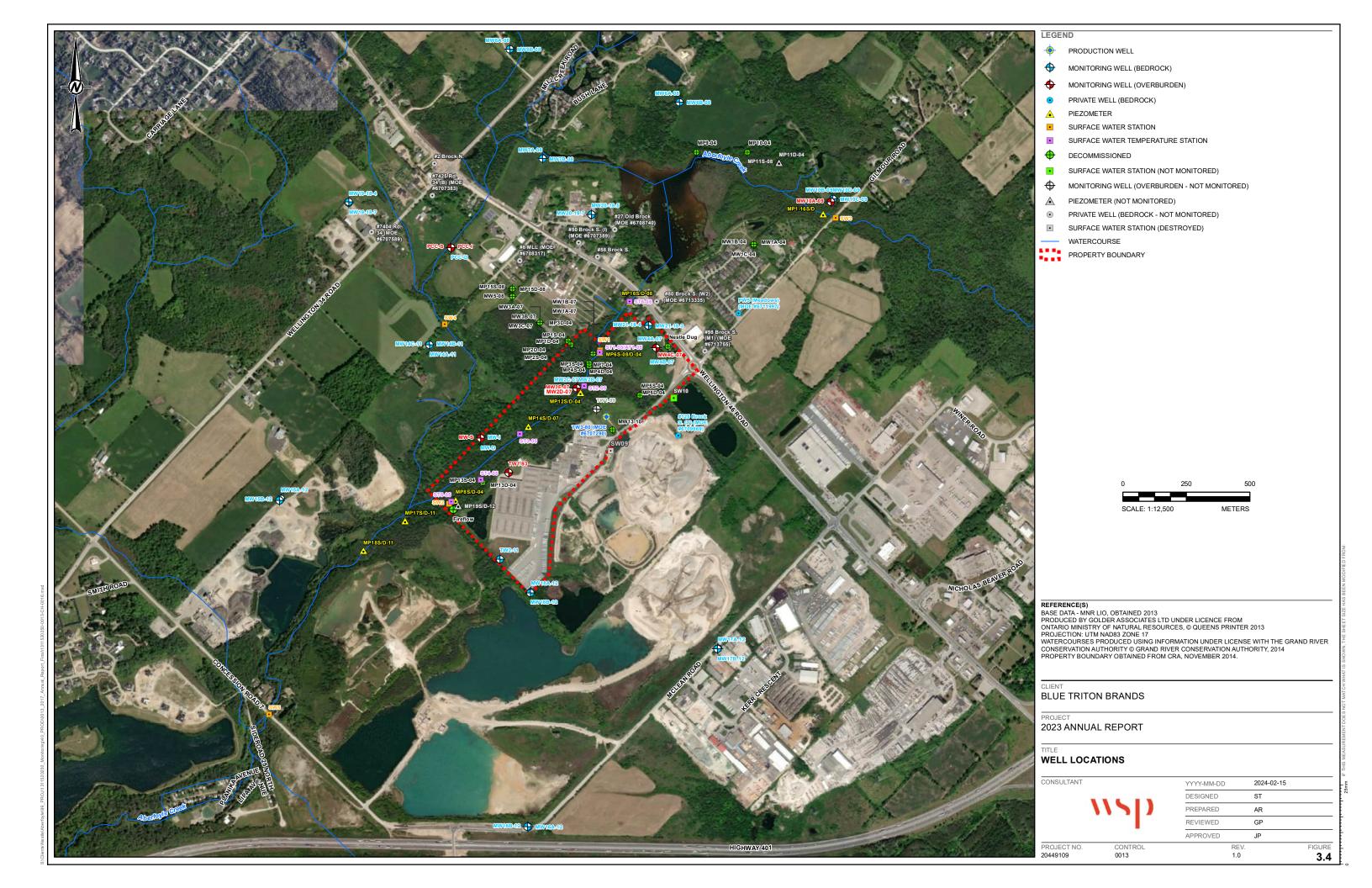


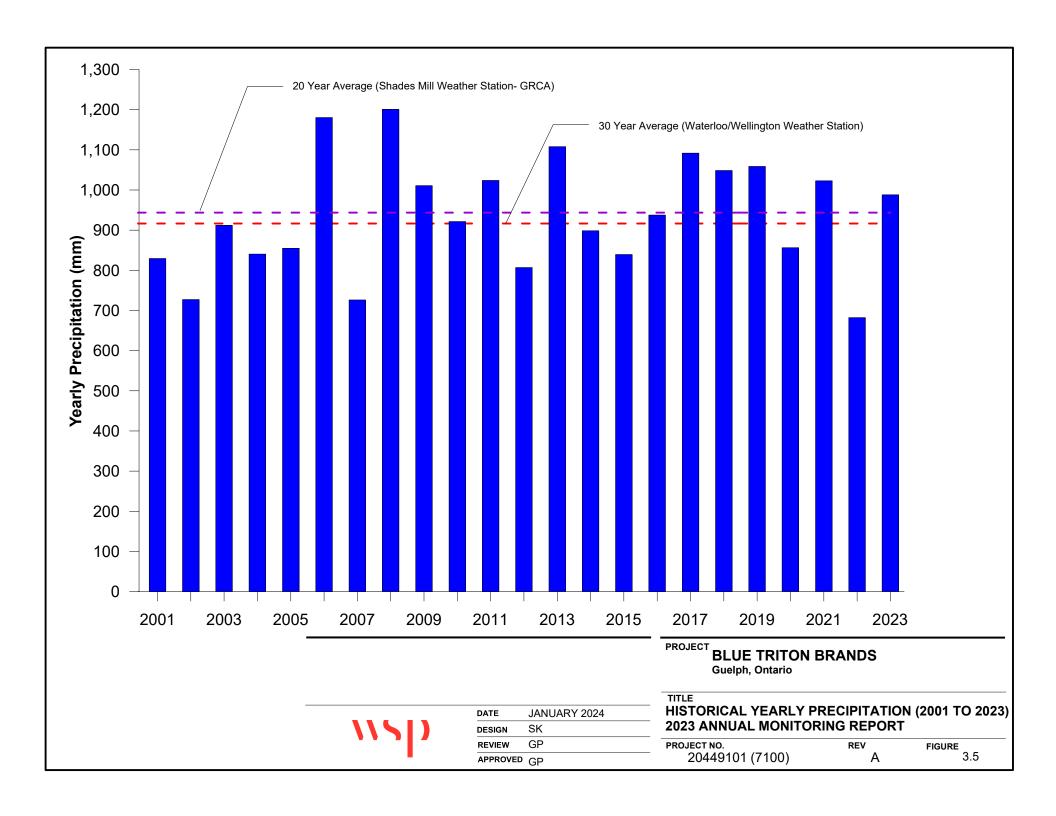


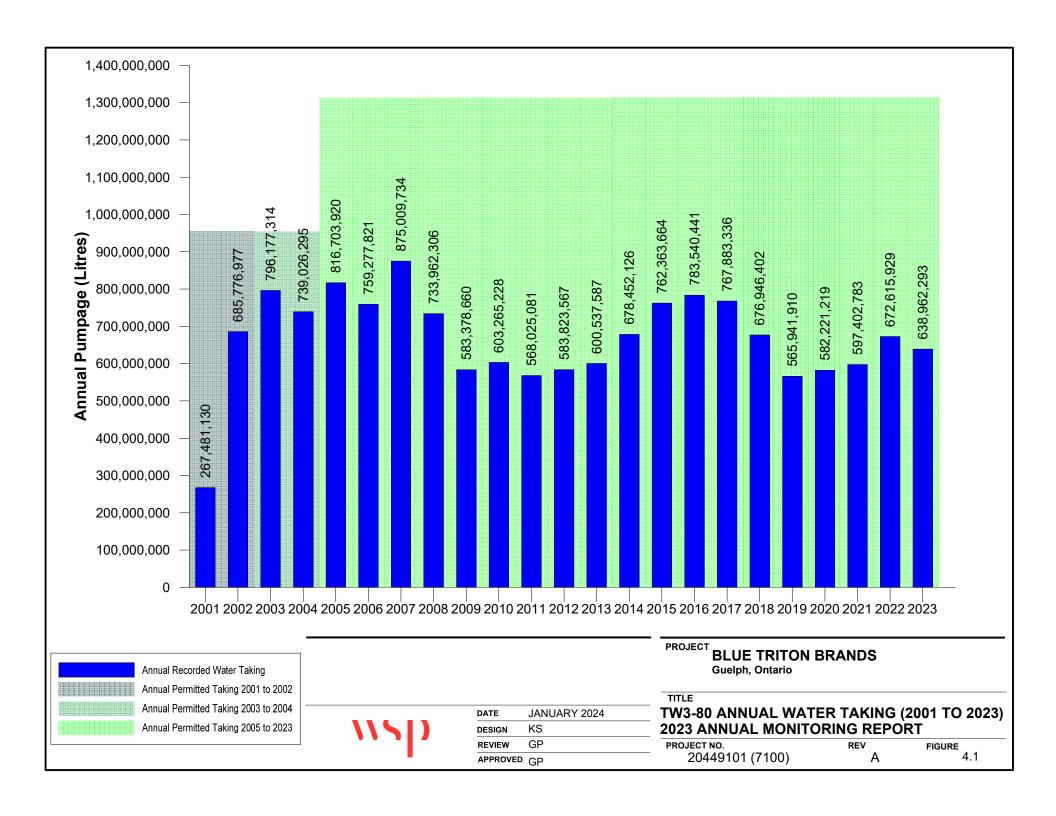


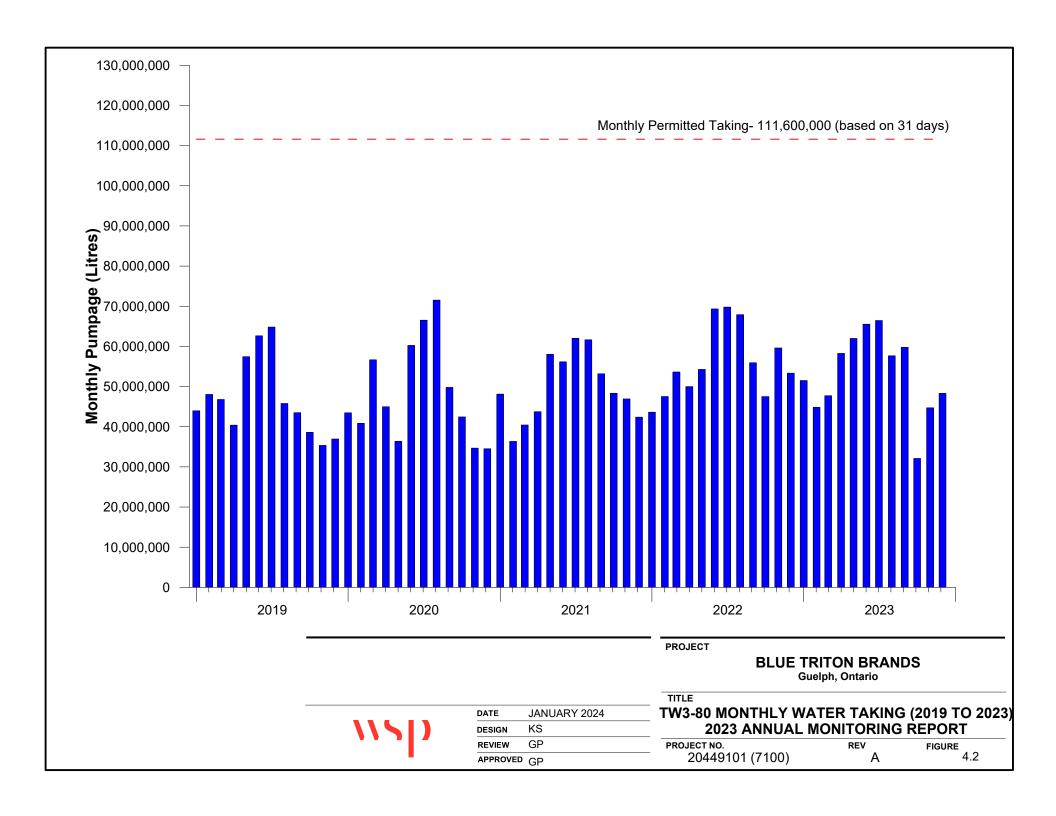


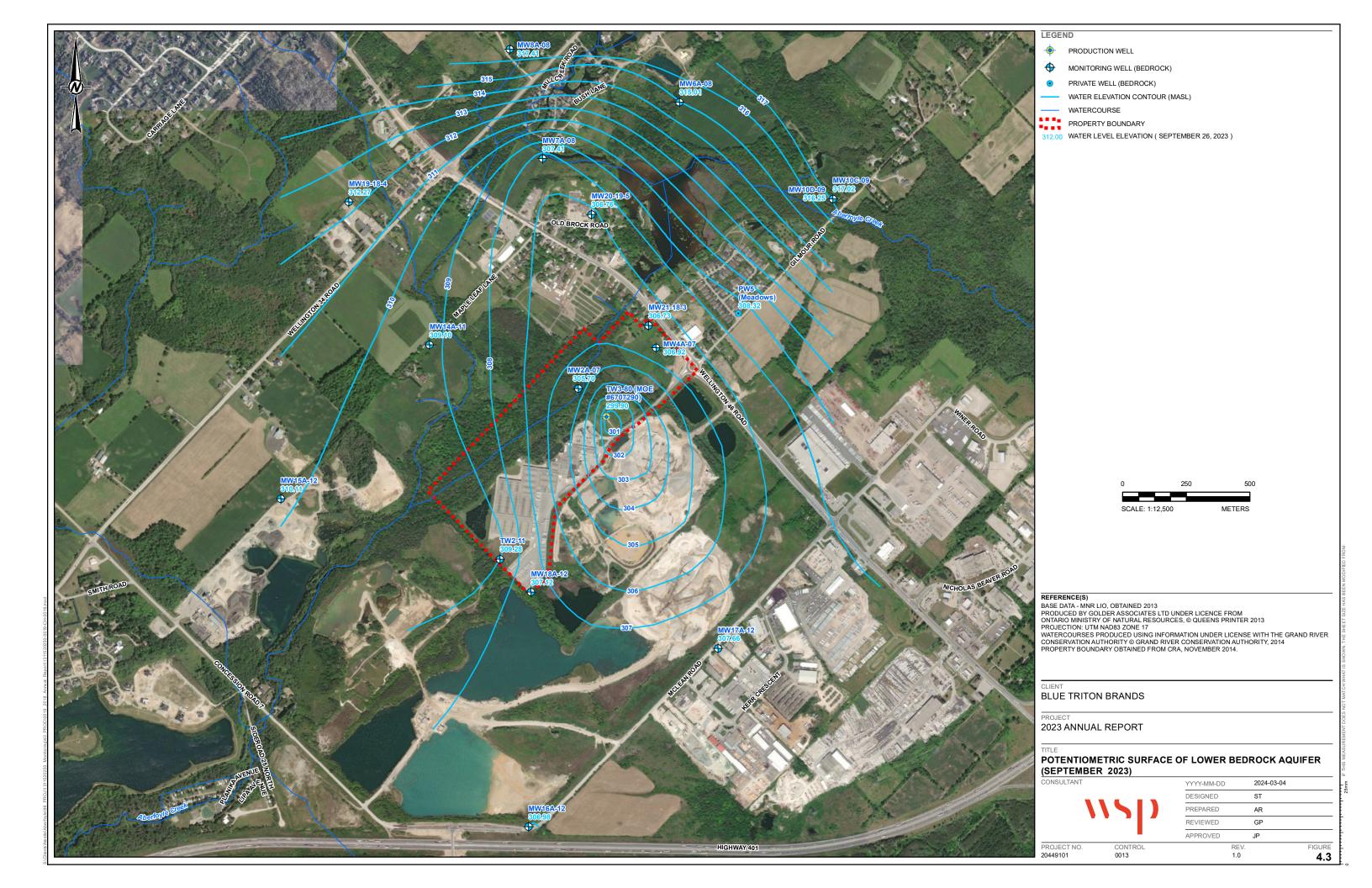


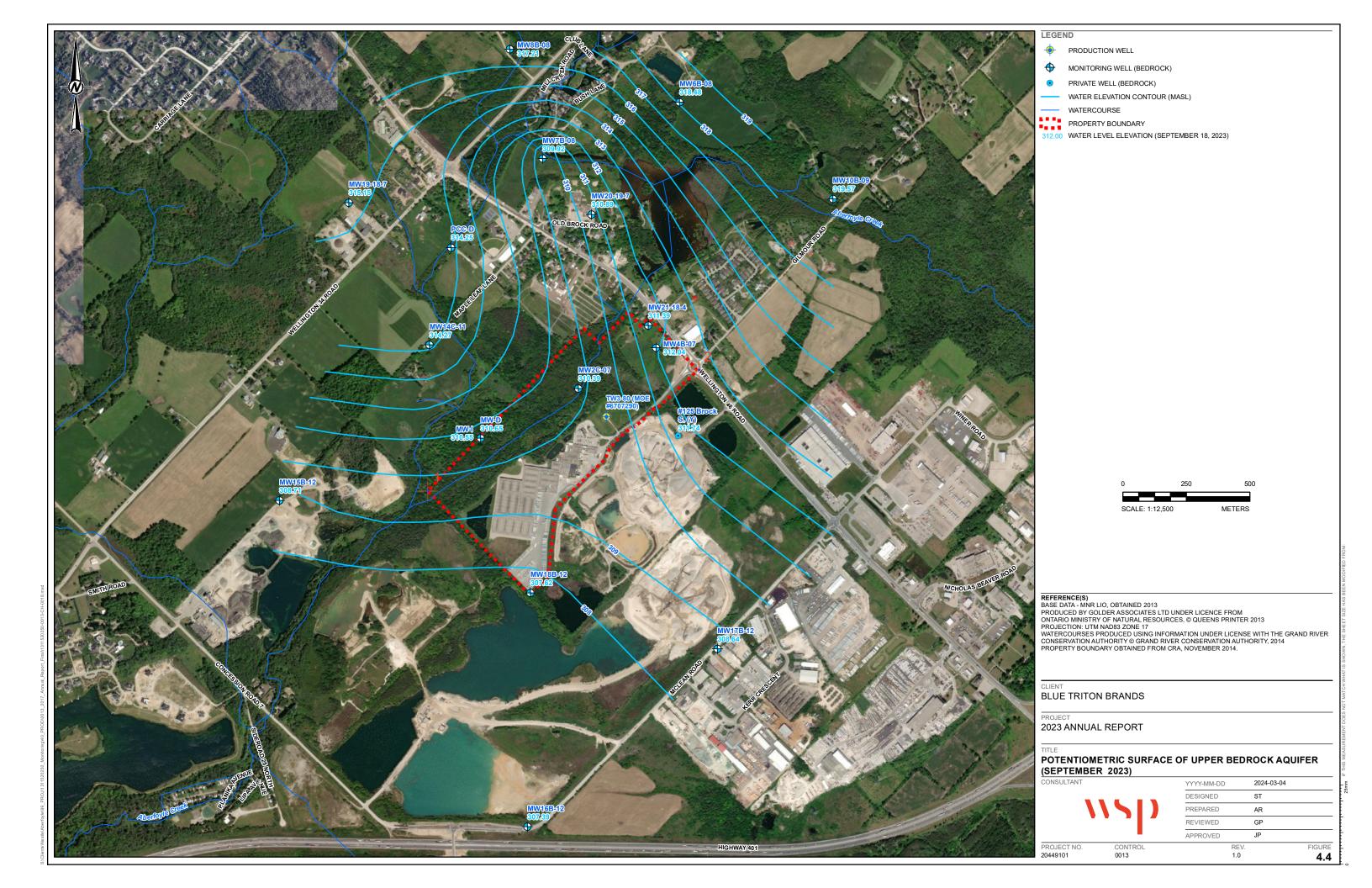


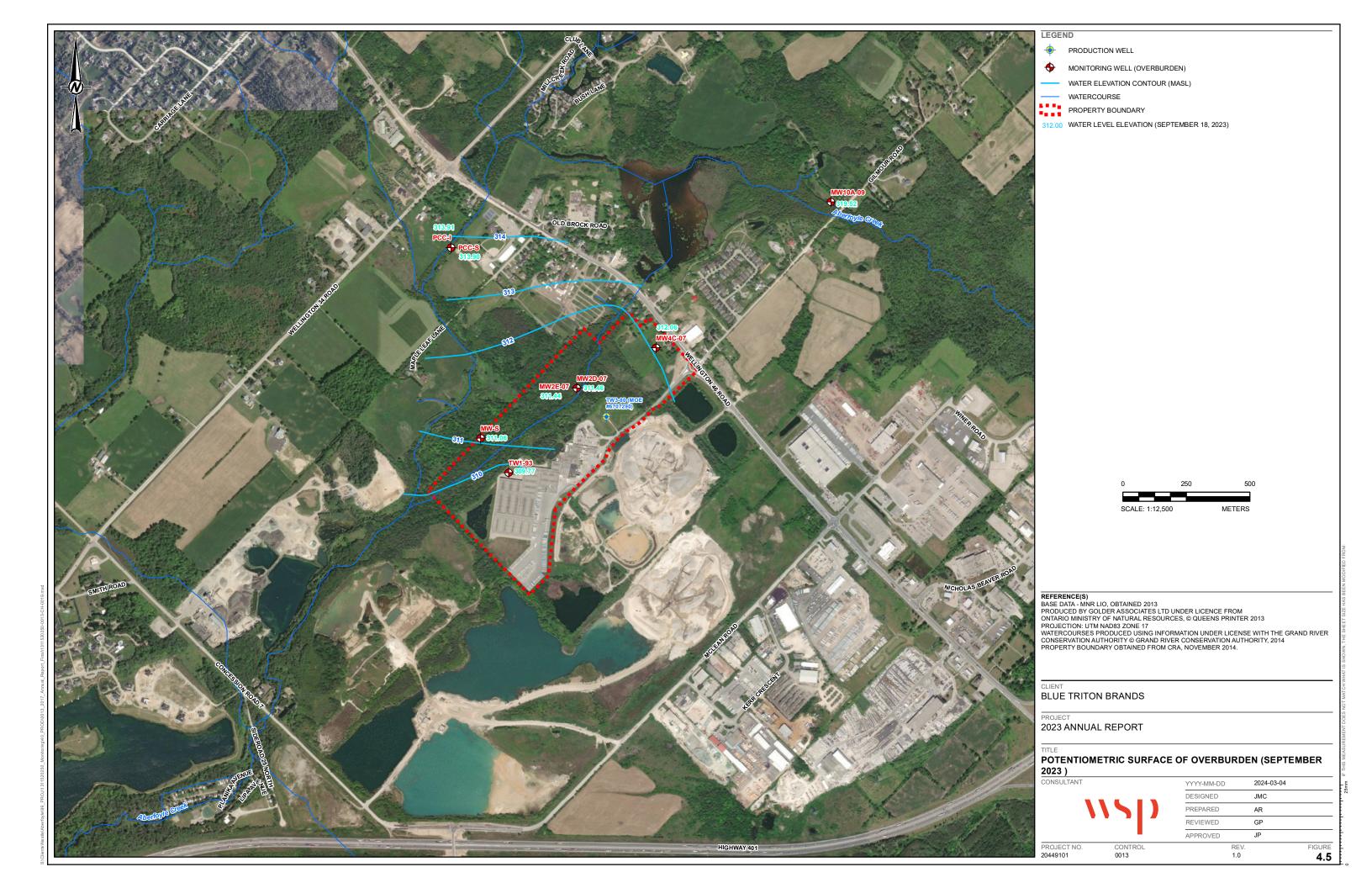


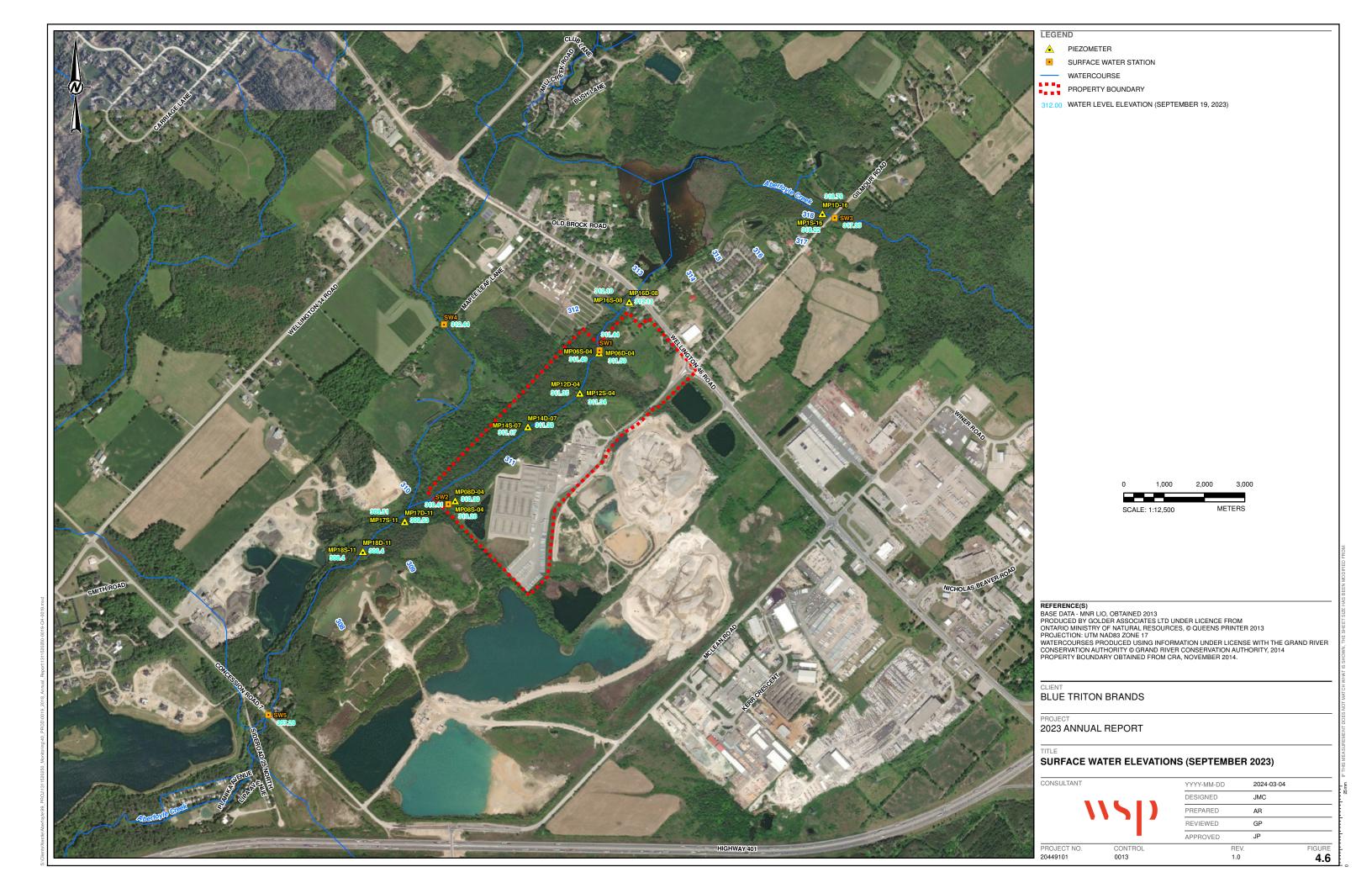












March 2024 20449101

APPENDIX A

Permit to Take Water Number 3133-C5BUH9

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

Environmental Assessment and Permissions Division Brownfields and Permit to Take Water Permit To Take Water Unit Floor 1, 135 St Clair Ave W Toronto, ON M4V 1P5 Tel: (289) 830-5867

Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et des Parcs

Division des évaluations et des permissions environnementales Réaménagement des friches contaminées et réglementation des prélèvements d'eau Unité de la réglementation des prélèvements d'eau 1er étage, 135 av St. Clair O Toronto, ON M4V 1P5 Tél:(289) 830-5867



November 15, 2021

Triton Water Canada Holdings, Inc. 101 Brock Rd S Puslinch, Ontario, N0B 2J0 Canada

Dear Andreanne Simard:

RE: Permit To Take Water No. 3133-C5BUH9 101 Brock Rd S, Puslinch, County of Wellington Reference Number 3572-A8XGCE

Please find attached a Permit to Take Water which authorizes the withdrawal of water in accordance with the application for this Permit to Take Water, dated April 1, 2016 and signed by Andreanne Simard.

This Permit expires on November 15, 2026. Authorized rates and amounts are indicated on Table A. This Permit cancels and replaces Permit Number 1381-95ATPY, issued on December 19, 2013

Section 9(3) of Ontario Regulation 387/04 (Water Taking and Transfer) requires all holders of a permit to report daily water taking amounts annually, in a manner and form approved by the Director (https://www.lrcsde.lrc.gov.on.ca/wtrs/). For the purpose of s. 9(3), such reports shall be submitted electronically to the Water Taking Reporting System (WTRS) electronic database or via hard copy, as described in the Technical Bulletin entitled "Permit to Take Water Program Monitoring and Reporting of Water Takings", dated November 2010, PIBs 6003e (https://archive.org/details/std01079790.ome/mode/2up).

If you have questions about reporting requirements, please call the WTRS Help Desk at 416-235-6322 (toll free: 1-877-344-2011) or by email, wtrs.help.desk.omega.. It is preferred that you submit your data directly and electronically to the WTRS. Where this is impracticable, please contact the WTRS Help Desk to arrange for written submission of your data.

Condition 1.4 specifically indicates that <u>this Permit is not transferable</u> to another party. Any queries regarding a change in owner/operator should be made to the Permit to Take Water Evaluator at the above address.

Take notice that in issuing this Permit, terms and conditions pertaining to the taking of water and to the results of the taking have been imposed. The terms and conditions have been designed to allow for the development of water resources, while providing reasonable protection to existing water uses and users.

Yours truly,

Gregory Meek

Supervisor (Acting), Permit To Take Water

Director, Section 34.1, Ontario Water Resources Act, R.S.O. 1990

Environmental Permissions Branch

File Storage Number: -



PERMIT TO TAKE WATER

Ground Water NUMBER 3133-C5BUH9

Pursuant to Section 34.1 of the Ontario Water Resources Act, R.S.O. 1990 this Permit To Take *Water is hereby issued to:*

> Triton Water Canada Holdings, Inc. 101 Brock Rd S Puslinch, Ontario N0B 2J0

For the water One Drilled Well (TW3-80)

taking from:

Located at: 101 Brock Rd S

Puslinch, County of Wellington

For the purposes of this Permit, and the terms and conditions specified below, the following definitions apply:

DEFINITIONS

- "Director" means any person appointed in writing as a Director pursuant to section 5 of the (a) OWRA for the purposes of section 34.1, OWRA.
- (b) "Provincial Officer" means any person designated in writing by the Minister as a Provincial Officer pursuant to section 5 of the OWRA.
- "Ministry" means Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. (c)
- (d) "District Office" means the Guelph District Office.
- (e) "Permit" means this Permit to Take Water No. 3133-C5BUH9 including its Schedules, if any, issued in accordance with Section 34.1 of the OWRA.
- (f) "Permit Holder" means Triton Water Canada Holdings, Inc..
- "OWRA" means the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O. 40, as amended. (g)

You are hereby notified that this Permit is issued subject to the terms and conditions outlined below:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Compliance with Permit

- 1.1 Except where modified by this Permit, the water taking shall be in accordance with the application for this Permit To Take Water, dated April 1, 2016 and signed by Andreanne Simard , and all Schedules included in this Permit.
- 1.2 The Permit Holder shall ensure that any person authorized by the Permit Holder to take water under this Permit is provided with a copy of this Permit and shall take all reasonable measures to ensure that any such person complies with the conditions of this Permit.
- 1.3 Any person authorized by the Permit Holder to take water under this Permit shall comply with the conditions of this Permit.
- 1.4 This Permit is not transferable to another person.
- 1.5 This Permit provides the Permit Holder with permission to take water in accordance with the conditions of this Permit, up to the date of the expiry of this Permit. This Permit does not constitute a legal right, vested or otherwise, to a water allocation, and the issuance of this Permit does not guarantee that, upon its expiry, it will be renewed.
- 1.6 The Permit Holder shall keep this Permit available at all times at or near the site of the taking, and shall produce this Permit immediately for inspection by a Provincial Officer upon his or her request.
- 1.7 The Permit Holder shall report any changes of address to the Director within thirty days of any such change. The Permit Holder shall report any change of ownership of the property for which this Permit is issued within thirty days of any such change. A change in ownership in the property shall cause this Permit to be cancelled.

2. General Conditions and Interpretation

2.1 Inspections

The Permit Holder must forthwith, upon presentation of credentials, permit a Provincial Officer to carry out any and all inspections authorized by the OWRA, the *Environmental Protection Act*, R.S.O. 1990, the *Pesticides Act*, R.S.O. 1990, or the *Safe Drinking Water Act*, S.O. 2002.

2.2 Other Approvals

The issuance of, and compliance with this Permit, does not:

(a) relieve the Permit Holder or any other person from any obligation to comply with any other applicable legal requirements, including the provisions of the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, and

the Environmental Protection Act, and any regulations made thereunder; or

(b) limit in any way any authority of the Ministry, a Director, or a Provincial Officer, including the authority to require certain steps be taken or to require the Permit Holder to furnish any further information related to this Permit.

2.3 Information

The receipt of any information by the Ministry, the failure of the Ministry to take any action or require any person to take any action in relation to the information, or the failure of a Provincial Officer to prosecute any person in relation to the information, shall not be construed as:

- (a) an approval, waiver or justification by the Ministry of any act or omission of any person that contravenes this Permit or other legal requirement; or
- (b) acceptance by the Ministry of the information's completeness or accuracy.

2.4 Rights of Action

The issuance of, and compliance with this Permit shall not be construed as precluding or limiting any legal claims or rights of action that any person, including the Crown in right of Ontario or any agency thereof, has or may have against the Permit Holder, its officers, employees, agents, and contractors.

2.5 Severability

The requirements of this Permit are severable. If any requirements of this Permit, or the application of any requirements of this Permit to any circumstance, is held invalid or unenforceable, the application of such requirements to other circumstances and the remainder of this Permit shall not be affected thereby.

2.6 Conflicts

Where there is a conflict between a provision of any submitted document referred to in this Permit, including its Schedules, and the conditions of this Permit, the conditions in this Permit shall take precedence.

3. Water Takings Authorized by This Permit

3.1 Expiry

This Permit expires on **November 15, 2026**. No water shall be taken under authority of this Permit after the expiry date.

3.2 Amounts of Taking Permitted

The Permit Holder shall only take water from the source, during the periods and at the rates and amounts of taking specified in Table A. Water takings are authorized only for the purposes specified in Table A.

Table A

	Source Name / Description:	Source: Type:	Taking Specific Purpose:	Taking Major Category:	Max. Taken per Minute (litres):	Max. Num. of Hrs Taken per Day:		Max. Num. of Days Taken per Year:	Zone/ Easting/ Northing:
1	TW3-80	Well Drilled	Bottled Water	Commercial	2,500	24	3,600,000	365	17 569053 4812797
				Total Taking:	3,600,000				

3.3 It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to keep advised of any Low Water Advisory within the jurisdiction of the Grand River Conservation Authority. For the purpose of this condition, Low Water Advisory means a Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 low water condition as defined by the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (MNDMNRF) in their Low Water Response Program, as may be amended from time to time by the MNDMNRF.

When a Low Water Advisory exists within the Grand River Conservation Authority watershed, the Permit Holder shall undertake measures outlined in the Low Water Response Plan, as described in **Item 6** of **Schedule A**.

4. Monitoring

- 4.1 Under section 9 of O. Reg. 387/04, and as authorized by subsection 34(6) of the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, the Permit Holder shall, on each day water is taken under the authorization of this Permit, record the date, the volume of water taken on that date and the rate at which it was taken. The daily volume of water taken shall be measured by a flow meter or calculated in accordance with the method described in the application for this Permit, or as otherwise accepted by the Director. The Permit Holder shall keep all records required by this condition current and available at or near the site of the taking and shall produce the records immediately for inspection by a Provincial Officer upon his or her request. The Permit Holder, unless otherwise required by the Director, shall submit, on or before March 31st in every year, the records required by this condition to the ministry's Water Taking Reporting System.
- 4.2 The Permit Holder shall establish the following groundwater monitoring program for the duration of the Permit:

Bedrock Wells

(i) Continuous monitoring of groundwater levels in the following bedrock and overburden monitoring wells:

Upper Bedrock

- MW2C-07
- MW4B-07

- MW-D
- PCC-D
- MW6B-08
- MW7B-08
- MW8B-08
- MW10B-09
- MW14B-11
- MW14C-11
- MW15B-12
- MW16B-12
- MW17B-12
- MW18B-12
- MW19-18-7
- MW20-19-7
- MW21-18-4
- Private well "Y" MOE WWR #67-09669 (continuous monitoring is subject to owner's concurrence)
- MW-I

Lower bedrock

- TW3-80 (67-07290)
- TW2-11
- MW2A-07
- MW2B-07
- MW4A-07
- MW6A-07
- MW7A-08
- MW8A-08
- MW10C-09
- MW-10D-09
- MW14A-11
- MW15A-12
- MW16A-12
- MW17A-12
- MW18A-12
- MW19-18-4
- MW20-19-5
- MW21-18-3
- PW5 (continuous monitoring is subject to owner's concurrence)

Overburden Wells

- TW1-93
- MW-S
- PCC-S
- PCC-I

- MW2D-07
- MW2E-07
- MW4C-07
- MW10A-09
- 4.3 The Permit Holder shall establish the following surface water monitoring program for the duration of the Permit:

Surface Water Levels

- (i) Continuous monitoring of water levels at the following locations:
 - SW1
 - SW2
- (ii) Monthly monitoring of water levels at the following locations:
 - SW3
 - SW4
 - SW5

Stream Flow

- (iii) Monthly monitoring of flow, encompassing a range of flow conditions, and the development of a stage-discharge curve at the following surface water locations:
 - SW1
 - SW2

Multi-level Piezometers

- (iv) Continuous monitoring of multi-level piezometers at the following locations:
 - MP16S/D-08
 - MP6S-08/D -04
 - MP12S/D-04
 - MP14S/D-07
 - MP8S/D-04
 - MP1-16S/D
 - MP17S/D-11
 - MP18S/D-11

Temperature

- (v) Continuous monitoring of temperature at the sediment-water interface at the following locations:
 - ST6-08
 - ST1-05/AT-01
 - ST2-05
 - ST3-05
 - ST4-05
 - ST5-05

- The Permit Holder shall undertake wetland monitoring and redd surveys as recommended in "2010 Biological Monitoring Program Final Report" by C. Portt and Associates dated January 28, 2011. Results from the wetland and redd surveys shall be submitted to the Director as a part of the annual monitoring report required under Condition 4.7.
- 4.5 Continuous monitoring shall be datalogged at 60 minute intervals and downloaded quarterly, however, the daily minimum water levels can be used to evaluate the water level variation with respect to pumping to improve the data handling and presentation.
 - Where monthly monitoring data is datalogged, this data shall also be downloaded on a quarterly basis.
- 4.6 The Permit Holder shall identify to the Director in writing, within 15 days of any monthly monitoring event, any monitoring locations identified in Conditions 4.2 and 4.3 which become permantly inaccessible and/or abandoned along with a recommendation for replacement monitoring locations. This shall exclude wells that become temporarily inaccessible, i.e., due to frozen conditions. Upon approval of the Director the monitoring program shall be appropriately modified.
- 4.7 The Permit Holder shall submit to the Director, an annual monitoring report which present and interprets the monitoring data to be collected under the Terms and Conditions of this Permit. This report shall be prepared, signed and stamped by a licensed professional geoscientist or a licensed professional engineer specializing in hydrogeology who shall take responsibility for its accuracy. Surface water impact assessment shall be conducted by a qualified surface water scientist who shall co-sign the report as responsibility for the accuracy of the surface water portion. The report shall be submitted to the Director by March 31 of each calendar year and include monitoring data for the 12 month period ending December 31 of the previous year.
- 4.8 The Permit Holder shall submit to the Director as part of the annual monitoring report, details of the bottling operations involved with water taking under this Permit to Take Water to indicate compliance with OWRA Section 34.3. These details shall include:
 - Location and name of the facilities to which water is delivered in bulk containers greater than 20 L from this source.
 - If the bulk water is containerized at the receiving location,
 - The size of container(s) into which the water is transferred at the receiving location, and
 - Total volume of the water transported in bulk in each calendar year to each remote facility.
- 4.9.1 Prior to December 31, 2021, the Permit Holder shall establish a publicly accessible internet Website, with no user, access or registration fees, and shall maintain the website for the duration of this permit. Following the establishment of the Website, the Permit Holder shall notify the Director in writing, of the Website URL address.
- 4.9.2 By December 31, 2021, the Permit Holder shall upload and make available for download the following information:

- all technical documentation submitted to support the Permit To Take Water application, items listed in Schedule A of this Permit;
- a plain language executive summary of the water taking activity; and,
- the well interference protocol.
- 4.9.3 By March 31 of each calendar year (until March 31, 2027) the Permit Holder shall upload and make available for download the following information to the Website:
 - the monitoring report required by Condition 4.7 for the 12-month period ending December 31 of the previous year.
 - The daily water taking records collected as required by Condition 4.1, uploaded in a suitable electronic format (e.g. Microsoft Excel) for the 12-month period ending December 31 of the previous year.
- 4.10 By September 30 of each calendar year (until September 30, 2027), the Permit Holder shall host an annual stakeholder meeting. The meeting will provide an opportunity for the Permit Holder to inform stakeholders of the Permit and the results of the annual monitoring report (for the 12-month period ending December 31 of the previous year), to receive submissions from stakeholders and the public, and to answer questions concerning the water taking.

The Permit Holder shall also directly notify the following stakeholders:

- The Director
- The City of Guelph
- The Grand River Conservation Authority
- Credit Valley Conservation Authority
- The Township of Puslinch
- The Six Nations of the Grand River
- The Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation
- The Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council (via the Haudenosaunee Development Institute)
- The Wellington Water Watchers
- Council of Canadians

The meeting may be held virtually and/or at suitable accessible and public venue within the County of Wellington.

A copy of the meeting invitations, agenda and minutes shall be submitted to the Director within 30 days of the meeting.

5. Impacts of the Water Taking

5.1 Notification

The Permit Holder shall immediately notify the local District Office of any complaint arising from the taking of water authorized under this Permit and shall report any action which has been taken or is proposed with regard to such complaint. The Permit Holder shall immediately notify the local District Office if the taking of water is observed to have any significant impact on the surrounding waters. After hours, calls shall be directed to the Ministry's Spills Action Centre at 1-800-268-6060.

5.2 For Groundwater Takings

If the taking of water is observed to cause any negative impact to other water supplies obtained from any adequate sources that were in use prior to initial issuance of a Permit for this water taking, the Permit Holder shall take such action necessary to make available to those affected, a supply of water equivalent in quantity and quality to their normal takings, or shall compensate such persons for their reasonable costs of so doing, or shall reduce the rate and amount of taking to prevent or alleviate the observed negative impact. Pending permanent restoration of the affected supplies, the Permit Holder shall provide, to those affected, temporary water supplies adequate to meet their normal requirements, or shall compensate such persons for their reasonable costs of doing so.

If permanent interference is caused by the water taking, the Permit Holder shall restore the water supplies of those permanently affected.

6. Director May Amend Permit

The Director may amend this Permit by letter requiring the Permit Holder to suspend or reduce the taking to an amount or threshold specified by the Director in the letter. The suspension or reduction in taking shall be effective immediately and may be revoked at any time upon notification by the Director. This condition does not affect your right to appeal the suspension or reduction in taking to the Environmental Review Tribunal under the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, Section 100 (4).

- 6.1 Subsection 4 (4) in the Water Taking and Transfer Regulation (Ontario Regulation 387/04) ("Regulation") sets out priorities of water use that the Director will take into account as a last resort to avoid or resolve conflict among water users in the event of a shortage of water resources in an area. The four priority of use categories set out in subsection 4 (2) of the regulation, are as follows:
 - Priority 1 Environment, drinking water, and Farm animal production;
 - Priority 2 Agricultural;
 - Priority 3 Industrial and commercial and other (including water bottling); and
 - Priority 4 Aesthetic

In the event of an urgent shortage of water resources in the Puslinch area, the Director may amend this Permit prioritize water takings in Priority categories 1 and 2.

The Director may also require the Permit Holder to investigate and resolve interferences that occur between existing water takings, working with the affected water users to identify potential solutions.

The reasons for the imposition of these terms and conditions are as follows:

- 1. Condition 1 is included to ensure that the conditions in this Permit are complied with and can be enforced.
- 2. Condition 2 is included to clarify the legal interpretation of aspects of this Permit.
- 3. Conditions 3 through 6 are included to protect the quality of the natural environment so as to safeguard the ecosystem and human health and foster efficient use and conservation of waters. These conditions allow for the beneficial use of waters while ensuring the fair sharing, conservation and sustainable use of the waters of Ontario. The conditions also specify the water takings that are authorized by this Permit and the scope of this Permit.

In accordance with Section 100 of the <u>Ontario Water Resources Act</u>, R.S.O. 1990, you may by written notice served upon me, the Environmental Review Tribunal and the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, within 15 days after receipt of this Notice, require a hearing by the Tribunal. The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will place notice of your appeal on the Environmental Registry. Section 101 of the <u>Ontario Water Resources Act</u>, as amended provides that the Notice requiring a hearing shall state:

- 1. The portions of the Permit or each term or condition in the Permit in respect of which the hearing is required, and;
- 2. The grounds on which you intend to rely at the hearing in relation to each portion appealed.

In addition to these legal requirements, the Notice should also include:

- a. The name of the appellant;
- b. The address of the appellant;
- c. The Permit to Take Water number;
- d. The date of the Permit to Take Water;
- e. The name of the Director:
- f. The municipality within which the works are located;

This notice must be served upon:

The Secretary
Environmental Review Tribunal
655 Bay Street, 15th Floor
Toronto ON
M5G 1E5
Fax: (416) 326-5370
Email:
ERTTribunalsecretary@ontario.ca

The Minister of the Environment,

AND Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7J 2J3

The Director, Section 34.1, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Floor 1, 135 St Clair Ave W Toronto, ON M4V 1P5

AND

Further information on the Environmental Review Tribunal's requirements for an appeal can be obtained directly from the Tribunal:

by Telephone at by Fax at by e-mail at (416) 212-6349 (416) 326-5370 www.ert.gov.on.ca Toll Free 1(866) 448-2248 Toll Free 1(844) 213-3474

This instrument is subject to Section 38 of the **Environmental Bill of Rights** that allows residents of Ontario to seek leave to appeal the decision on this instrument. Residents of Ontario may seek to appeal for 15 days from the date this decision is placed on the Environmental Registry. By accessing the Environmental Registry, you can determine when the leave to appeal period ends.

This Permit cancels and replaces Permit Number 1381-95ATPY, issued on 2013/12/19.

Dated at Toronto this 15th day of November, 2021.

Gregory Meek

Director, Section 34.1

 $Ontario\ Water\ Resources\ Act\ , R.S.O.\ 1990$

Schedule A

This Schedule "A" forms part of Permit To Take Water 3133-C5BUH9, dated November 15, 2021.

- 1. Report titled "Nestle Waters Canada Aberfoyle, Technical Study for Permit to Take Water Renewal Application", signed by Greg Padusenko, M.Sc., P.Eng., P.Geo. and John Piesol, M.Sc., P.Eng. of Golder Associates Ltd., Christopher J. Neville, M.Sc., P.Eng. of S.S. Papadopulos & Associates, Inc. and Ken Ursic, M.Sc. of Beacon Environmental, dated June 2019.
- 2. Report titled "Nestle Waters of Canada Aberfoyle Site, 2020 Annual Monitoring Report", signed by Greg Padusenko, M.Sc. P.Eng., P.Geo, and Kevin MacKenzie, P.Eng. and John Piersol, M.Sc. P.Geo. of Golder Associates Limited, dated March 2021.
- 3. Memo titled "Nestle Waters Canada Aberfoyle 2016 Annual Monitoring Report", prepared by Sarah Day, Surface Water Specialist, Technical Support Section, West Central Region, Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, dated September 18, 2017.
- 4. Report titled "Examination of the Temperature Suitability of Aberfoyle Creek for Resident Fish: 2006 to 2020:, signed by Cam Portt and Jim Reid of C. Portt & Associates, dated February 2021.
- 5. Report titled "2020 Biological Monitoring Program, Nestle Waters Canada, Aberfoyle Property", signed by Anna Cunningham, B. Sc, and Ken Ursic, M. Sc. of Beacon Environmental Limited, dated February 2021. Project No. 216114.
- 6. Technical Memorandum "Low Water Response Plan For Aberfoyle TW3-80" prepared by Greg Padusenko and John Piersol of Golder Associates Ltd., dated October 19, 2021, Project No. 20449101 (1000).

March 2024 20449101

APPENDIX B

TW3-80 Borehole Log



Attachment 2

Project Name: ABERFOYLE FISHERIES	
Job No. 979-653	Borehole No. TW3-80
Client: CUSTOM AGGREGATE	Date Completed April
Borehole Type: 12" Ø Cable Tool	Geologist/Engineer A.V
Location: Pit No. 1. Aberfoyle	Elevation 1040.90, to

	-	. Profile	Sample	Danakastisa	Biographic
Depth Elev.)	Stratigraphy	Description & Remarks	Number Type Blows/Foot	Penetration Test Blows/Foot	Piezometer or Standpipe Installation
96 (E)	Strat		Num T.	20 40 60 80	
0		(316.7 m amsl)	<u>. </u>		L ₁ []
(1039)		Brown clayey-silt till containing some sand and small gravel			<u>*</u> *
		o 86			
. <u>-</u>		(304.5 m amsl)		1	12" Ø steel.
40			1		rock
45 48	-	fine - medium sand (303.0 m ams1) fine sand matrix w/sand and gravel (3	02.1 m ams	1)	grouted to
-		Eramosa member of the Guelph formation * Black dolomite slightly crystalline solid			20' from surface 12" Ø Drive shoe seated into rock
80	<u> </u>	(292.3 m amsl)	1		
(959)		Saw Wiarton formation of the Amabel Group light - medium grey dolomite slightly crystalline fractured water bearing zone			12" Ø Open hole in rock
(1)	-	· ***			
	-	(274.3 m amsl)			
(900)	-	N.B. Static level, 11.42 ft. below top of casing on April 15/80 ELEV. = 1029.48	:		

FIGURE 2.3

^{*} Based on driller's log, Guelph Fm. interpreted to occur from El. 302.1 to 299.9 m amsl.
Eramosa from 299.9 to 292.3 m amsl.

Transfer Transfer

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APPENDIX C

TW3-80 Water Taking



		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Jan-23	183,922	128	696,218	483.5
02-Jan-23	530,963	369	2,009,914	1395.8
03-Jan-23	562,236	390	2,128,293	1478.0
04-Jan-23	614,354	427	2,325,583	1615.0
05-Jan-23	578,599	402	2,190,234	1521.0
06-Jan-23	566,886	394	2,145,897	1490.2
07-Jan-23	497,810	346	1,884,416	1308.6
08-Jan-23	422,937	294	1,600,988	1111.8
09-Jan-23	492,686	342	1,865,018	1295.2
10-Jan-23	256,600	178	971,338	674.5
11-Jan-23	435,669	303	1,649,185	1145.3
12-Jan-23	388,834	270	1,471,895	1022.1
13-Jan-23	396,401	275	1,500,540	1042.0
14-Jan-23	483,845	336	1,831,550	1271.9
15-Jan-23	452,293	314	1,712,116	1189.0
16-Jan-23	374,207	260	1,416,526	983.7
17-Jan-23	379,072	263	1,434,943	996.5
18-Jan-23	479,194	333	1,813,946	1259.7
19-Jan-23	597,247	415	2,260,823	1570.0
20-Jan-23	438,352	304	1,659,342	1152.3
21-Jan-23	480,682	334	1,819,580	1263.6
22-Jan-23	440,941	306	1,669,143	1159.1
23-Jan-23	363,546	252	1,376,172	955.7
24-Jan-23	377,296	262	1,428,219	991.8
25-Jan-23	249,938	174	946,118	657.0
26-Jan-23	458,396	318	1,735,217	1205.0
27-Jan-23	494,509	343	1,871,919	1299.9
28-Jan-23	422,073	293	1,597,720	1109.5
29-Jan-23	477,910	332	1,809,084	1256.3
30-Jan-23	356,009	247	1,347,639	935.9
31-Jan-23	358,751	249	1,358,019	943.1

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Feb-23	348,345	242	1,318,629	915.7
02-Feb-23	380,441	264	1,440,124	1000.1
03-Feb-23	407,828	283	1,543,797	1072.1
04-Feb-23	392,719	273	1,486,603	1032.4
05-Feb-23	444,108	308	1,681,130	1167.5
06-Feb-23	438,668	305	1,660,539	1153.2
07-Feb-23	368,223	256	1,393,875	968.0
08-Feb-23	412,313	286	1,560,774	1083.9
09-Feb-23	529,730	368	2,005,246	1392.5
10-Feb-23	642,745	446	2,433,054	1689.6
11-Feb-23	573,425	398	2,170,648	1507.4
12-Feb-23	463,470	322	1,754,422	1218.3
13-Feb-23	526,252	365	1,992,080	1383.4
14-Feb-23	516,740	359	1,956,072	1358.4
15-Feb-23	519,453	361	1,966,344	1365.5
16-Feb-23	447,422	311	1,693,674	1176.2
17-Feb-23	367,327	255	1,390,484	965.6
18-Feb-23	202,471	141	766,435	532.2
19-Feb-23	45,720	32	173,069	120.2
20-Feb-23	262,750	182	994,618	690.7
21-Feb-23	474,782	330	1,797,245	1248.1
22-Feb-23	505,764	351	1,914,522	1329.5
23-Feb-23	523,848	364	1,982,980	1377.1
24-Feb-23	434,198	302	1,643,618	1141.4
25-Feb-23	488,198	339	1,848,031	1283.4
26-Feb-23	459,752	319	1,740,349	1208.6
27-Feb-23	248,101	172	939,164	652.2
28-Feb-23	420,861	292	1,593,131	1106.3

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Mar-23	375,142	261	1,420,067	986.2
02-Mar-23	410,597	285	1,554,276	1079.4
03-Mar-23	496,213	345	1,878,368	1304.4
04-Mar-23	189,636	132	717,848	498.5
05-Mar-23	244,586	170	925,859	643.0
06-Mar-23	311,673	216	1,179,809	819.3
07-Mar-23	305,273	212	1,155,583	802.5
08-Mar-23	465,155	323	1,760,803	1222.8
09-Mar-23	539,592	375	2,042,577	1418.5
10-Mar-23	373,886	260	1,415,310	982.9
11-Mar-23	481,960	335	1,824,418	1267.0
12-Mar-23	417,310	290	1,579,690	1097.0
13-Mar-23	419,088	291	1,586,420	1101.7
14-Mar-23	529,846	368	2,005,685	1392.8
15-Mar-23	532,331	370	2,015,089	1399.4
16-Mar-23	477,681	332	1,808,220	1255.7
17-Mar-23	473,161	329	1,791,109	1243.8
18-Mar-23	473,161	329	1,791,109	1243.8
19-Mar-23	63,169	44	239,122	166.1
20-Mar-23	154,569	107	585,107	406.3
21-Mar-23	486,943	338	1,843,277	1280.1
22-Mar-23	479,229	333	1,814,078	1259.8
23-Mar-23	491,427	341	1,860,252	1291.8
24-Mar-23	520,385	361	1,969,870	1368.0
25-Mar-23	488,969	340	1,850,949	1285.4
26-Mar-23	546,144	379	2,067,379	1435.7
27-Mar-23	392,809	273	1,486,944	1032.6
28-Mar-23	384,914	267	1,457,058	1011.8
29-Mar-23	360,559	250	1,364,863	947.8
30-Mar-23	390,471	271	1,478,093	1026.5
31-Mar-23	336,268	234	1,272,912	884.0

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Apr-23	330,652	230	1,251,655	869.2
02-Apr-23	414,509	288	1,569,085	1089.6
03-Apr-23	336,573	234	1,274,065	884.8
04-Apr-23	410,350	285	1,553,342	1078.7
05-Apr-23	535,849	372	2,028,407	1408.6
06-Apr-23	425,425	295	1,610,409	1118.3
07-Apr-23	566,841	394	2,145,727	1490.1
08-Apr-23	554,219	385	2,097,946	1456.9
09-Apr-23	470,178	327	1,779,818	1236.0
10-Apr-23	515,777	358	1,952,429	1355.9
11-Apr-23	441,809	307	1,672,429	1161.4
12-Apr-23	517,701	360	1,959,712	1360.9
13-Apr-23	415,517	289	1,572,902	1092.3
14-Apr-23	394,828	274	1,494,587	1037.9
15-Apr-23	458,384	318	1,735,169	1205.0
16-Apr-23	546,335	379	2,068,102	1436.2
17-Apr-23	477,975	332	1,809,330	1256.5
18-Apr-23	441,460	307	1,671,105	1160.5
19-Apr-23	543,395	377	2,056,971	1428.5
20-Apr-23	400,636	278	1,516,572	1053.2
21-Apr-23	570,936	396	2,161,228	1500.9
22-Apr-23	592,026	411	2,241,060	1556.3
23-Apr-23	661,702	460	2,504,812	1739.5
24-Apr-23	597,464	415	2,261,648	1570.6
25-Apr-23	617,382	429	2,337,044	1622.9
26-Apr-23	650,598	452	2,462,779	1710.3
27-Apr-23	630,187	438	2,385,515	1656.6
28-Apr-23	631,339	438	2,389,877	1659.6
29-Apr-23	632,316	439	2,393,576	1662.2
30-Apr-23	610,800	424	2,312,127	1605.6

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-May-23	507,153	352	1,919,783	1333.2
02-May-23	547,235	380	2,071,510	1438.5
03-May-23	528,352	367	2,000,029	1388.9
04-May-23	601,314	418	2,276,219	1580.7
05-May-23	562,472	391	2,129,188	1478.6
06-May-23	574,915	399	2,176,288	1511.3
07-May-23	482,934	335	1,828,105	1269.5
08-May-23	530,327	368	2,007,506	1394.1
09-May-23	455,940	317	1,725,921	1198.6
10-May-23	587,608	408	2,224,339	1544.7
11-May-23	640,581	445	2,424,861	1683.9
12-May-23	582,718	405	2,205,825	1531.8
13-May-23	669,177	465	2,533,110	1759.1
14-May-23	667,243	463	2,525,789	1754.0
15-May-23	601,270	418	2,276,055	1580.6
16-May-23	533,572	371	2,019,790	1402.6
17-May-23	478,648	332	1,811,877	1258.2
18-May-23	368,751	256	1,395,874	969.4
19-May-23	317,915	221	1,203,439	835.7
20-May-23	527,841	367	1,998,095	1387.6
21-May-23	505,398	351	1,913,139	1328.6
22-May-23	473,391	329	1,791,977	1244.4
23-May-23	382,276	265	1,447,073	1004.9
24-May-23	376,869	262	1,426,604	990.7
25-May-23	593,722	412	2,247,482	1560.8
26-May-23	614,695	427	2,326,874	1615.9
27-May-23	571,378	397	2,162,901	1502.0
28-May-23	523,418	363	1,981,352	1375.9
29-May-23	628,828	437	2,380,373	1653.0
30-May-23	484,893	337	1,835,519	1274.7
31-May-23	456,098	317	1,726,518	1199.0

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Jun-23	439,182	305	1,662,484	1154.5
02-Jun-23	437,410	304	1,655,775	1149.8
03-Jun-23	276,222	192	1,045,612	726.1
04-Jun-23	479,465	333	1,814,973	1260.4
05-Jun-23	492,945	342	1,866,000	1295.8
06-Jun-23	504,223	350	1,908,692	1325.5
07-Jun-23	591,014	410	2,237,231	1553.6
08-Jun-23	530,230	368	2,007,139	1393.8
09-Jun-23	619,929	431	2,346,684	1629.6
10-Jun-23	658,355	457	2,492,145	1730.7
11-Jun-23	627,662	436	2,375,958	1650.0
12-Jun-23	347,021	241	1,313,615	912.2
13-Jun-23	683,014	474	2,585,486	1795.5
14-Jun-23	709,106	492	2,684,259	1864.1
15-Jun-23	709,106	492	2,684,259	1864.1
16-Jun-23	566,057	393	2,142,759	1488.0
17-Jun-23	668,740	464	2,531,457	1758.0
18-Jun-23	687,150	477	2,601,143	1806.3
19-Jun-23	687,610	478	2,602,887	1807.6
20-Jun-23	564,386	392	2,136,434	1483.6
21-Jun-23	604,522	420	2,288,364	1589.1
22-Jun-23	680,868	473	2,577,365	1789.8
23-Jun-23	690,935	480	2,615,471	1816.3
24-Jun-23	691,412	480	2,617,276	1817.6
25-Jun-23	593,886	412	2,248,102	1561.2
26-Jun-23	550,239	382	2,082,881	1446.4
27-Jun-23	555,240	386	2,101,812	1459.6
28-Jun-23	555,982	386	2,104,621	1461.5
29-Jun-23	555,632	386	2,103,294	1460.6
30-Jun-23	555,869	386	2,104,193	1461.2

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Jul-23	564,624	392	2,137,334	1484.3
02-Jul-23	564,958	392	2,138,596	1485.1
03-Jul-23	545,424	379	2,064,653	1433.8
04-Jul-23	545,991	379	2,066,799	1435.3
05-Jul-23	562,839	391	2,130,575	1479.6
06-Jul-23	607,242	422	2,298,659	1596.3
07-Jul-23	607,668	422	2,300,273	1597.4
08-Jul-23	625,590	434	2,368,115	1644.5
09-Jul-23	634,984	441	2,403,673	1669.2
10-Jul-23	635,399	441	2,405,244	1670.3
11-Jul-23	592,278	411	2,242,014	1557.0
12-Jul-23	600,854	417	2,274,480	1579.5
13-Jul-23	690,410	479	2,613,485	1814.9
14-Jul-23	691,339	480	2,617,003	1817.4
15-Jul-23	666,066	463	2,521,334	1750.9
16-Jul-23	447,025	310	1,692,174	1175.1
17-Jul-23	450,087	313	1,703,764	1183.2
18-Jul-23	502,920	349	1,903,760	1322.1
19-Jul-23	510,717	355	1,933,272	1342.5
20-Jul-23	595,549	414	2,254,398	1565.6
21-Jul-23	596,544	414	2,258,164	1568.2
22-Jul-23	561,147	390	2,124,171	1475.1
23-Jul-23	353,173	245	1,336,905	928.4
24-Jul-23	551,960	383	2,089,395	1451.0
25-Jul-23	552,617	384	2,091,882	1452.7
26-Jul-23	544,476	378	2,061,063	1431.3
27-Jul-23	533,980	371	2,021,335	1403.7
28-Jul-23	579,957	403	2,195,376	1524.6
29-Jul-23	581,347	404	2,200,638	1528.2
30-Jul-23	544,445	378	2,060,946	1431.2
31-Jul-23	514,763	357	1,948,591	1353.2

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Aug-23	527,966	367	1,998,568	1387.9
02-Aug-23	518,115	360	1,961,278	1362.0
03-Aug-23	517,948	360	1,960,646	1361.6
04-Aug-23	518,594	360	1,963,092	1363.3
05-Aug-23	437,004	303	1,654,240	1148.8
06-Aug-23	451,870	314	1,710,515	1187.9
07-Aug-23	479,332	333	1,814,469	1260.0
08-Aug-23	505,646	351	1,914,076	1329.2
09-Aug-23	495,064	344	1,874,020	1301.4
10-Aug-23	577,358	401	2,185,537	1517.7
11-Aug-23	586,352	407	2,219,581	1541.4
12-Aug-23	565,546	393	2,140,824	1486.7
13-Aug-23	611,306	425	2,314,042	1607.0
14-Aug-23	612,438	425	2,318,329	1610.0
15-Aug-23	458,123	318	1,734,184	1204.3
16-Aug-23	513,431	357	1,943,545	1349.7
17-Aug-23	514,700	357	1,948,349	1353.0
18-Aug-23	500,186	347	1,893,407	1314.9
19-Aug-23	447,175	311	1,692,739	1175.5
20-Aug-23	65,922	46	249,541	173.3
21-Aug-23	306,840	213	1,161,516	806.6
22-Aug-23	346,360	241	1,311,116	910.5
23-Aug-23	486,567	338	1,841,854	1279.1
24-Aug-23	529,785	368	2,005,452	1392.7
25-Aug-23	531,042	369	2,010,211	1396.0
26-Aug-23	520,442	361	1,970,085	1368.1
27-Aug-23	458,992	319	1,737,472	1206.6
28-Aug-23	519,049	360	1,964,811	1364.5
29-Aug-23	555,922	386	2,104,392	1461.4
30-Aug-23	557,430	387	2,110,102	1465.3
31-Aug-23	512,616	356	1,940,463	1347.5

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Sep-23	506,008	351	1,915,446	1330.2
02-Sep-23	507,401	352	1,920,720	1333.8
03-Sep-23	489,867	340	1,854,347	1287.7
04-Sep-23	491,365	341	1,860,018	1291.7
05-Sep-23	444,999	309	1,684,504	1169.8
06-Sep-23	466,459	324	1,765,737	1226.2
07-Sep-23	471,725	328	1,785,671	1240.0
08-Sep-23	472,994	328	1,790,474	1243.4
09-Sep-23	575,061	399	2,176,843	1511.7
10-Sep-23	608,423	423	2,303,131	1599.4
11-Sep-23	609,799	423	2,308,340	1603.0
12-Sep-23	576,961	401	2,184,034	1516.7
13-Sep-23	578,084	401	2,188,287	1519.6
14-Sep-23	639,739	444	2,421,674	1681.7
15-Sep-23	682,798	474	2,584,672	1794.9
16-Sep-23	684,340	475	2,590,507	1799.0
17-Sep-23	550,319	382	2,083,184	1446.7
18-Sep-23	653,391	454	2,473,353	1717.6
19-Sep-23	654,679	455	2,478,227	1721.0
20-Sep-23	458,098	318	1,734,087	1204.2
21-Sep-23	459,391	319	1,738,982	1207.6
22-Sep-23	429,133	298	1,624,443	1128.1
23-Sep-23	383,725	266	1,452,555	1008.7
24-Sep-23	497,039	345	1,881,496	1306.6
25-Sep-23	498,121	346	1,885,591	1309.4
26-Sep-23	510,266	354	1,931,566	1341.4
27-Sep-23	511,478	355	1,936,153	1344.6
28-Sep-23	366,085	254	1,385,782	962.3
29-Sep-23	480,216	333	1,817,813	1262.4
30-Sep-23	533,737	371	2,020,415	1403.1

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Oct-23	535,006	372	2,025,219	1406.4
02-Oct-23	509,052	354	1,926,972	1338.2
03-Oct-23	371,550	258	1,406,470	976.7
04-Oct-23	337,290	234	1,276,780	886.7
05-Oct-23	381,553	265	1,444,335	1003.0
06-Oct-23	398,093	276	1,506,946	1046.5
07-Oct-23	183,079	127	693,027	481.3
08-Oct-23	162,925	113	616,739	428.3
09-Oct-23	134,679	94	509,813	354.0
10-Oct-23	148,224	103	561,090	389.6
11-Oct-23	390,619	271	1,478,653	1026.8
12-Oct-23	412,833	287	1,562,741	1085.2
13-Oct-23	464,884	323	1,759,776	1222.1
14-Oct-23	475,176	330	1,798,738	1249.1
15-Oct-23	447,644	311	1,694,515	1176.7
16-Oct-23	447,644	311	1,694,515	1176.7
17-Oct-23	55,744	39	211,014	146.5
18-Oct-23	0	0	0	0.0
19-Oct-23	214,262	149	811,069	563.2
20-Oct-23	214,262	149	811,069	563.2
21-Oct-23	0	0	0	0.0
22-Oct-23	0	0	0	0.0
23-Oct-23	240,258	167	909,474	631.6
24-Oct-23	181,188	126	685,872	476.3
25-Oct-23	118,260	82	447,664	310.9
26-Oct-23	234,007	163	885,811	615.1
27-Oct-23	481,820	335	1,823,885	1266.6
28-Oct-23	373,262	259	1,412,950	981.2
29-Oct-23	242,041	168	916,224	636.3
30-Oct-23	151,378	105	573,027	397.9
31-Oct-23	178,771	124	676,721	469.9

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Nov-23	286,689	199	1,085,234	753.6
02-Nov-23	315,792	219	1,195,403	830.1
03-Nov-23	498,473	346	1,886,926	1310.4
04-Nov-23	512,929	356	1,941,647	1348.4
05-Nov-23	454,547	316	1,720,646	1194.9
06-Nov-23	456,154	317	1,726,729	1199.1
07-Nov-23	598,043	415	2,263,840	1572.1
08-Nov-23	380,324	264	1,439,680	999.8
09-Nov-23	440,312	306	1,666,762	1157.5
10-Nov-23	303,344	211	1,148,281	797.4
11-Nov-23	458,529	318	1,735,721	1205.4
12-Nov-23	529,287	368	2,003,568	1391.4
13-Nov-23	361,945	251	1,370,110	951.5
14-Nov-23	490,107	340	1,855,256	1288.4
15-Nov-23	502,206	349	1,901,054	1320.2
16-Nov-23	485,391	337	1,837,403	1276.0
17-Nov-23	361,267	251	1,367,545	949.7
18-Nov-23	340,896	237	1,290,433	896.1
19-Nov-23	442,186	307	1,673,855	1162.4
20-Nov-23	414,936	288	1,570,703	1090.8
21-Nov-23	333,448	232	1,262,237	876.6
22-Nov-23	374,214	260	1,416,555	983.7
23-Nov-23	288,723	201	1,092,936	759.0
24-Nov-23	328,826	228	1,244,740	864.4
25-Nov-23	336,508	234	1,273,822	884.6
26-Nov-23	268,638	187	1,016,904	706.2
27-Nov-23	334,348	232	1,265,644	878.9
28-Nov-23	406,637	282	1,539,289	1069.0
29-Nov-23	218,680	152	827,793	574.9
30-Nov-23	286,738	199	1,085,419	753.8

TABLE C1
TW3-80 DAILY WATER TAKING
BLUE TRITON BRANDS
ABERFOYLE, ONTARIO

		Average Flow		Average Flow
Date	Volume	Rate Over	Volume	Rate Over
		Time Taken		Time Taken
	(US gpd)	(US gpm)	(L/day)	(L/min)
01-Dec-23	307,193	213	1,162,850	807.5
02-Dec-23	504,192	350	1,908,575	1325.4
03-Dec-23	449,215	312	1,700,464	1180.9
04-Dec-23	495,334	344	1,875,043	1302.1
05-Dec-23	460,796	320	1,744,300	1211.3
06-Dec-23	497,097	345	1,881,715	1306.7
07-Dec-23	447,727	311	1,694,832	1177.0
08-Dec-23	538,307	374	2,037,714	1415.1
09-Dec-23	441,988	307	1,673,106	1161.9
10-Dec-23	410,010	285	1,552,054	1077.8
11-Dec-23	528,046	367	1,998,872	1388.1
12-Dec-23	514,523	357	1,947,680	1352.6
13-Dec-23	632,491	439	2,394,236	1662.7
14-Dec-23	582,333	404	2,204,368	1530.8
15-Dec-23	466,792	324	1,766,998	1227.1
16-Dec-23	589,342	409	2,230,901	1549.2
17-Dec-23	446,477	310	1,690,099	1173.7
18-Dec-23	423,576	294	1,603,407	1113.5
19-Dec-23	470,182	327	1,779,831	1236.0
20-Dec-23	509,350	354	1,928,099	1339.0
21-Dec-23	614,273	427	2,325,274	1614.8
22-Dec-23	387,057	269	1,465,170	1017.5
23-Dec-23	454,787	316	1,721,556	1195.5
24-Dec-23	88,354	61	334,457	232.3
25-Dec-23	80,150	56	303,399	210.7
26-Dec-23	77,780	54	294,428	204.5
27-Dec-23	224,590	156	850,165	590.4
28-Dec-23	235,474	164	891,366	619.0
29-Dec-23	347,370	241	1,314,938	913.2
30-Dec-23	339,497	236	1,285,135	892.5
31-Dec-23	205,481	143	777,830	540.2

Notes:

1. All volumes measured with a flow meter and recorded on a datalogger.

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APPENDIX D

Groundwater Level Monitoring

	Water Level (masl)										
Date	TW3-80	MW2A-07	MW2B-07	MW2C-07	MW2D-07	MW2E-07	MW4A-07	MW4B-07			
23/24-Mar-2023	303.48	307.50	308.51	310.99	311.76	311.76	308.51	311.69			
20/21-Jun-2023	301.58	306.29	307.53	310.59	311.48	311.43	307.95	311.99			
18/19-Sep-2023	304.24	307.05	308.11	310.73	311.53	311.46	308.54	312.07			
21/22-Dec-2023	301.25	306.73	307.87	310.70	311.53	311.52	310.01	311.76			

	Water Level (masl)										
Date	MW4C-07	MW6A-08	MW6B-08	MW7A-08	MW7B-08	MW8A-08	MW8B-08	MW10A-09			
23/24-Mar-2023	311.85	315.55	318.73	309.49	311.16	317.60	317.52	319.78			
20/21-Jun-2023	312.02	315.21	318.31	308.92	310.61	316.95	317.14	319.47			
18/19-Sep-2023	312.05	314.82	318.44	308.59	310.49	317.33	317.21	319.48			
21/22-Dec-2023	311.84	316.15	318.44	309.36	310.85	317.41	317.27	319.52			

	Water Level (masl)										
Date	MW10B-09	MW10C-09	MW10D-09	MW14A-11	MW14B-11	MW14C-11	MW15A-12	MW15B-12			
23/24-Mar-2023	319.78	316.87	316.19	310.01	314.07	314.54	310.48	308.68			
20/21-Jun-2023	319.58	316.76	316.05	309.49	313.58	314.36	309.86	308.65			
18/19-Sep-2023	319.57	316.95	316.14	309.07	313.58	314.26	310.07	308.73			
21/22-Dec-2023	319.57	318.16	317.66	309.75	313.59	314.16	310.08	308.70			

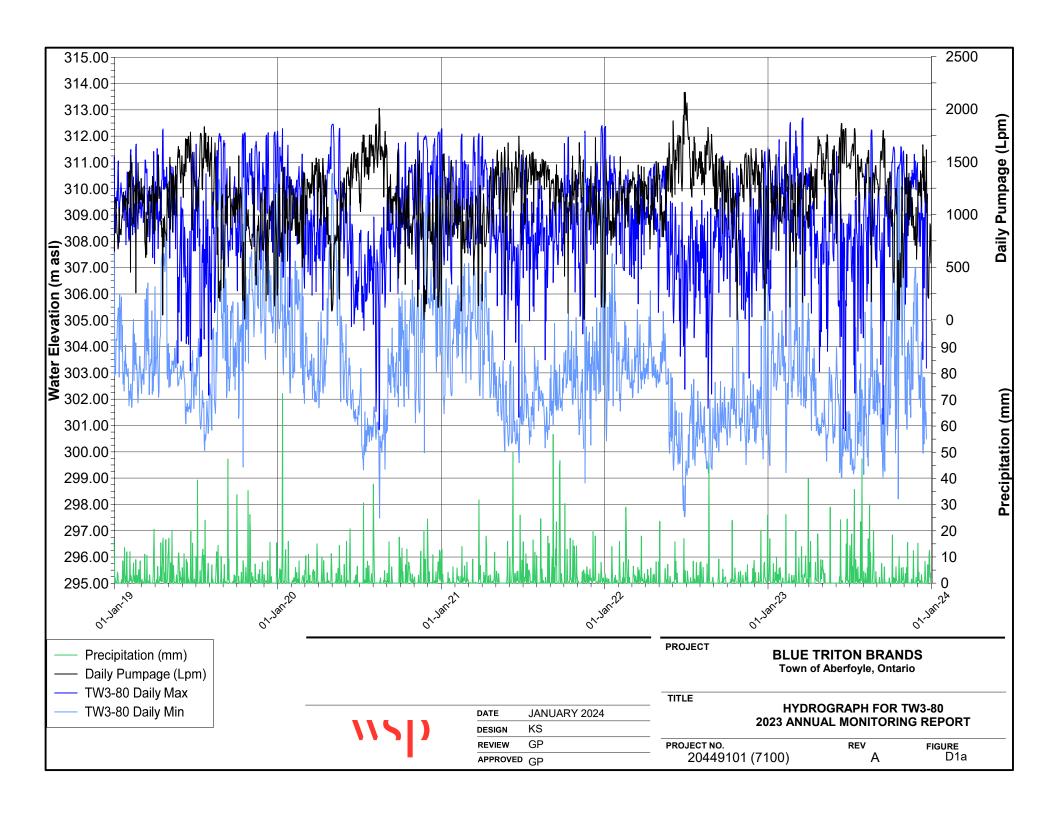
	Water Level (masl)										
Date	MW16A-12	MW16B-12	MW17A-12	MW17B-12	MW18A-12	MW18B-12	MW-D	MW-I			
23/24-Mar-2023	306.82	306.93	308.14	308.55	307.94	307.78	311.00	310.95			
20/21-Jun-2023	306.81	307.34	307.95	308.69	307.19	307.68	310.69	310.62			
18/19-Sep-2023	306.94	307.38	307.46	308.64	307.51	307.63	310.76	310.72			
21/22-Dec-2023	306.83	307.06	307.75	308.30	307.64	307.49	310.68	310.63			

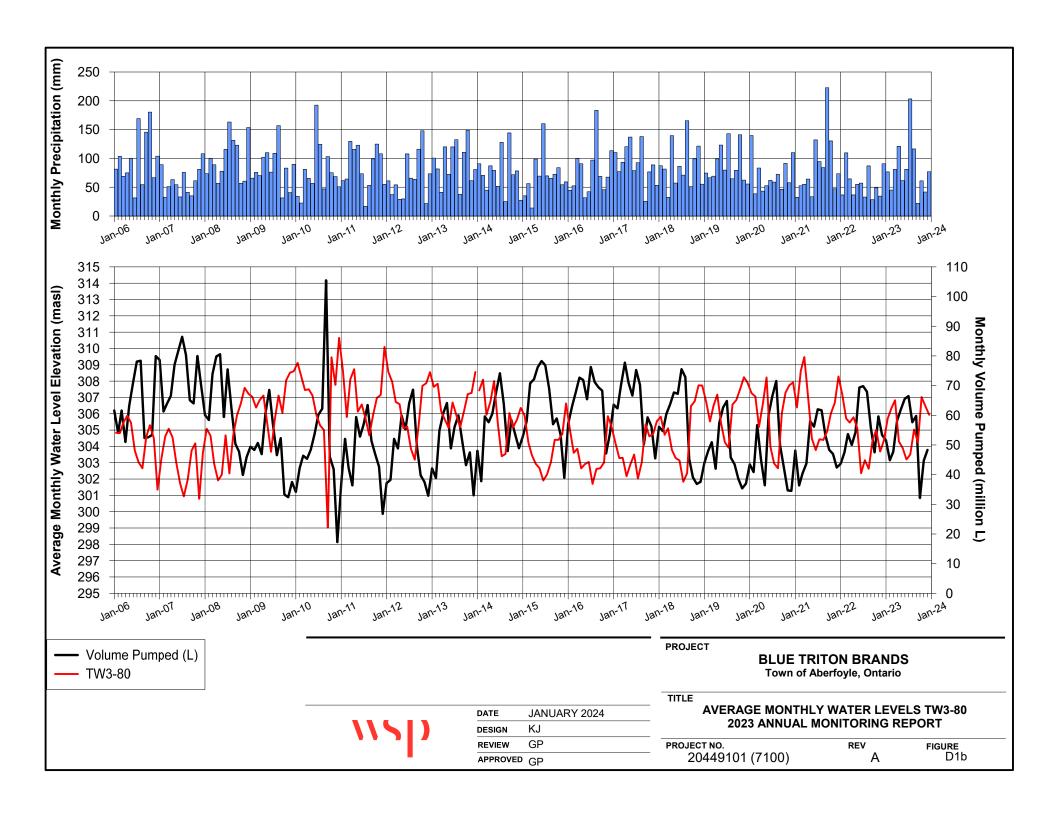
	Water Level (masl)									
Date	MW-S	PCC-D	PCC-I	PCC-S	TW1-93	TW2-11	PW5 Meadows of Aberfoyle	#125 Brock S. (Y Well)		
23/24-Mar-2023	311.50	314.87	314.61	314.63	309.98	309.58	309.32	311.36		
20/21-Jun-2023	311.04	314.15	313.86	313.85	309.77	308.99	308.82	311.73		
18/19-Sep-2023	310.80	314.23	313.90	313.89	309.63	309.25	308.43	311.76		
21/22-Dec-2023	311.19	314.36	314.05	314.10	309.70	309.21	310.31	311.50		

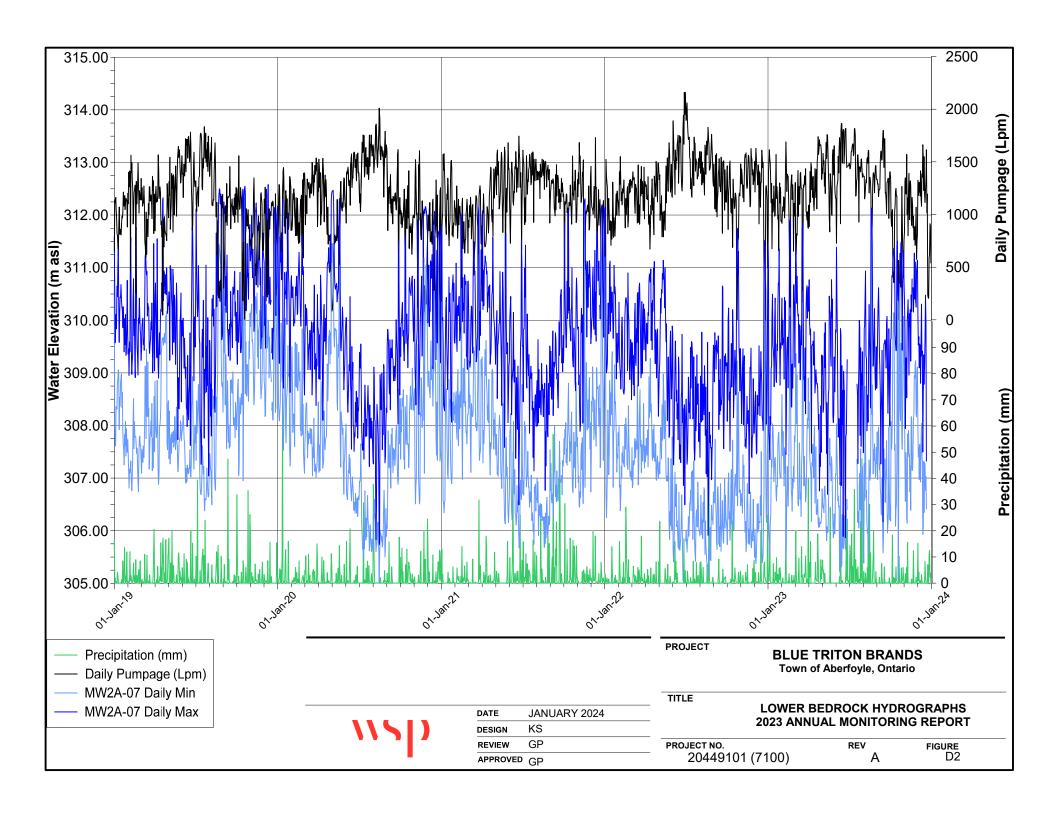
TABLE D1

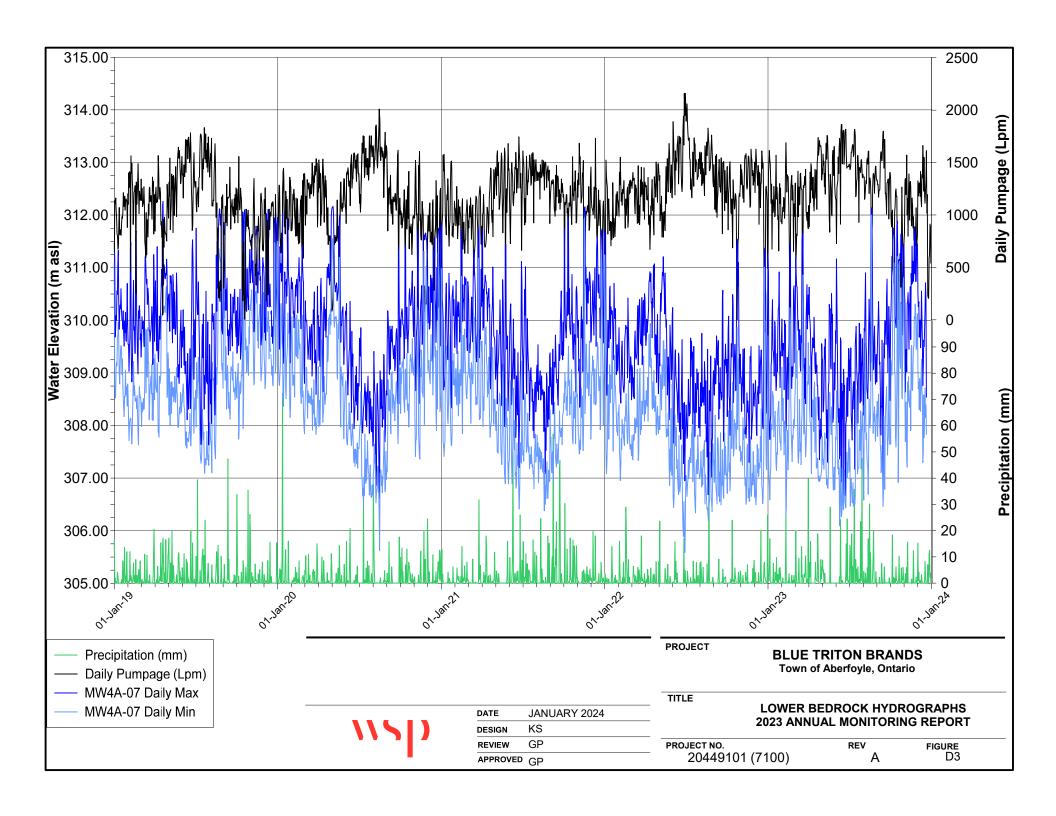
Manual Groundwater Elevations
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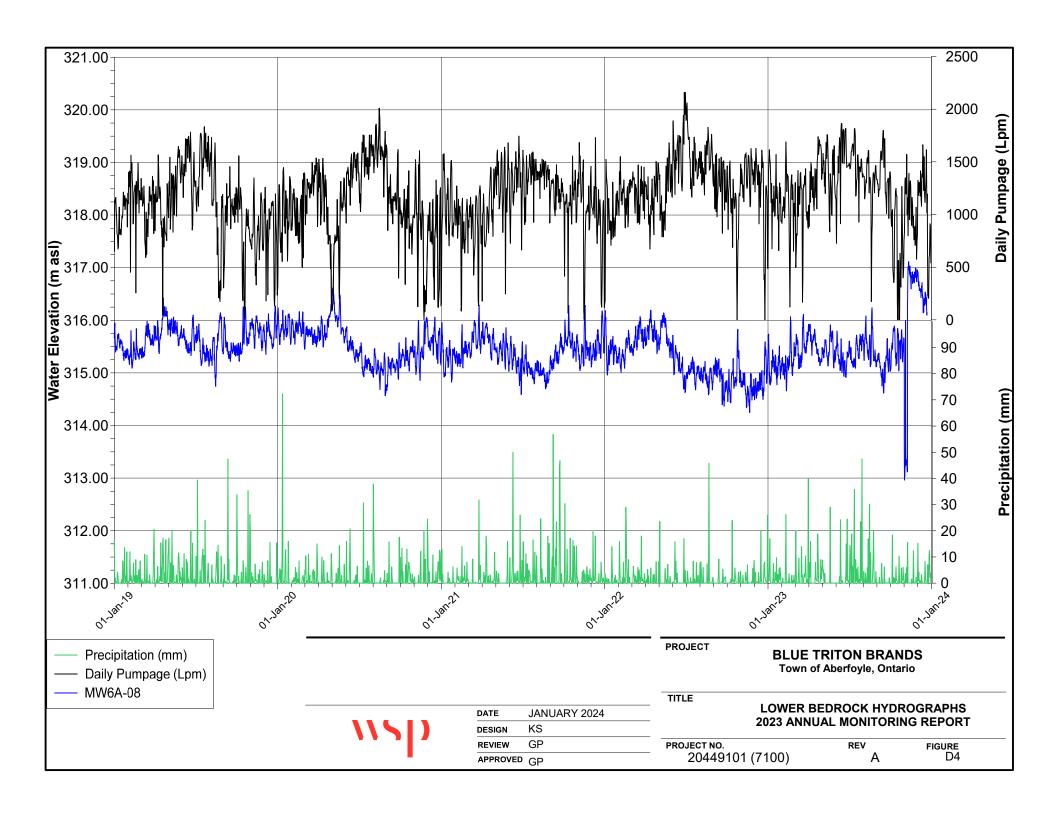
	Water Level (masl)										
Date	MW19-18-4	MW19-18-7	MW20-19-5	MW20-19-7	MW21-18-3	MW21-18-4					
23/24-Mar-2023	312.76	315.58	308.62	311.49	308.34	311.16					
20/21-Jun-2023	311.80	314.87	307.89	310.90	307.68	311.37					
18/19-Sep-2023	312.09	315.13	308.19	311.10	308.22	311.45					
21/22-Dec-2023	312.35	315.29	308.93	311.30	309.01	311.19					

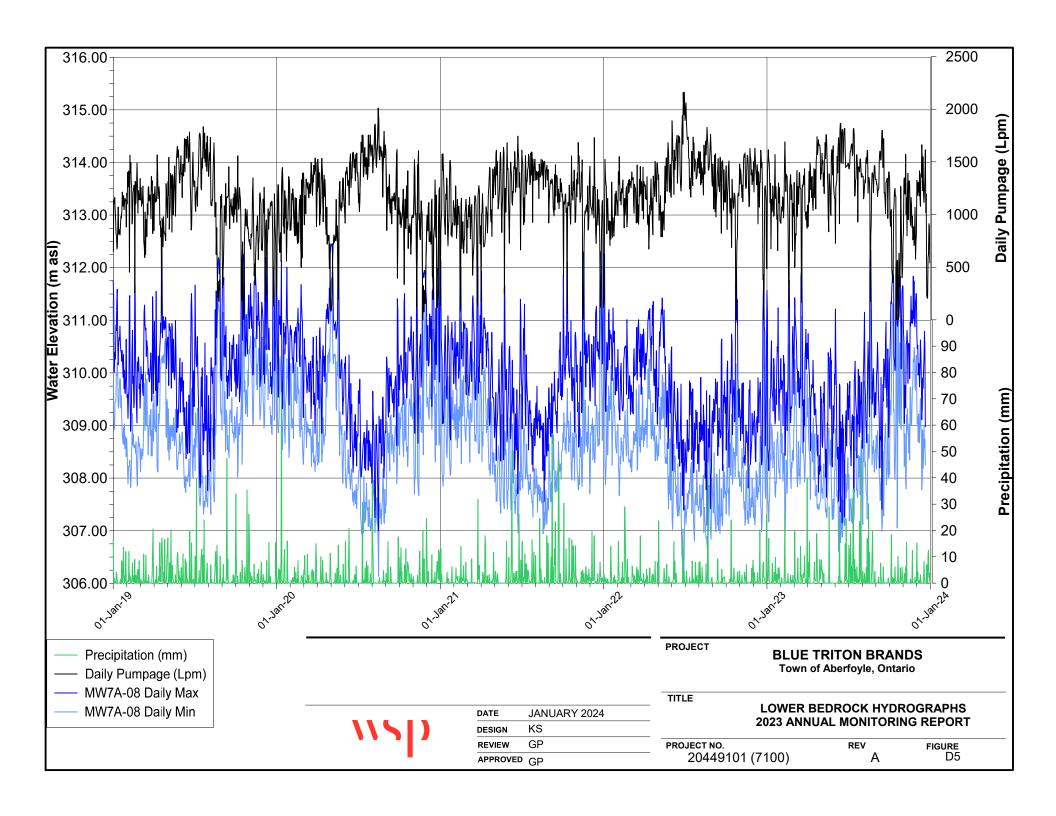


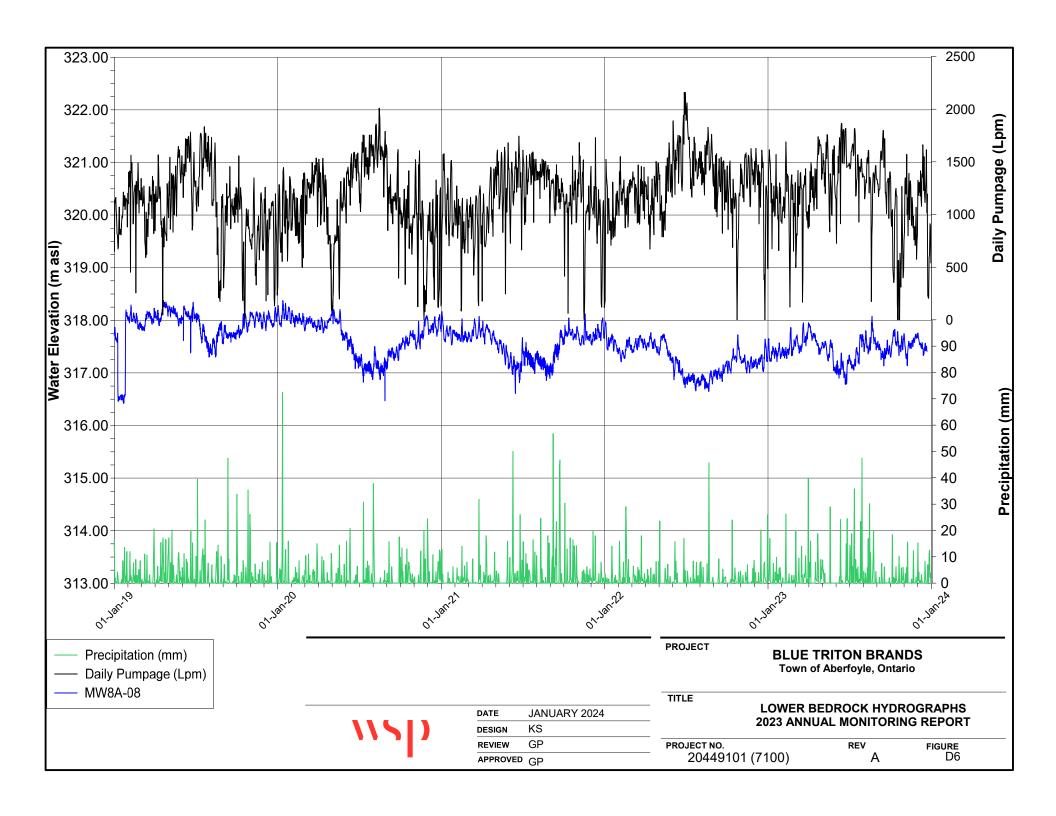


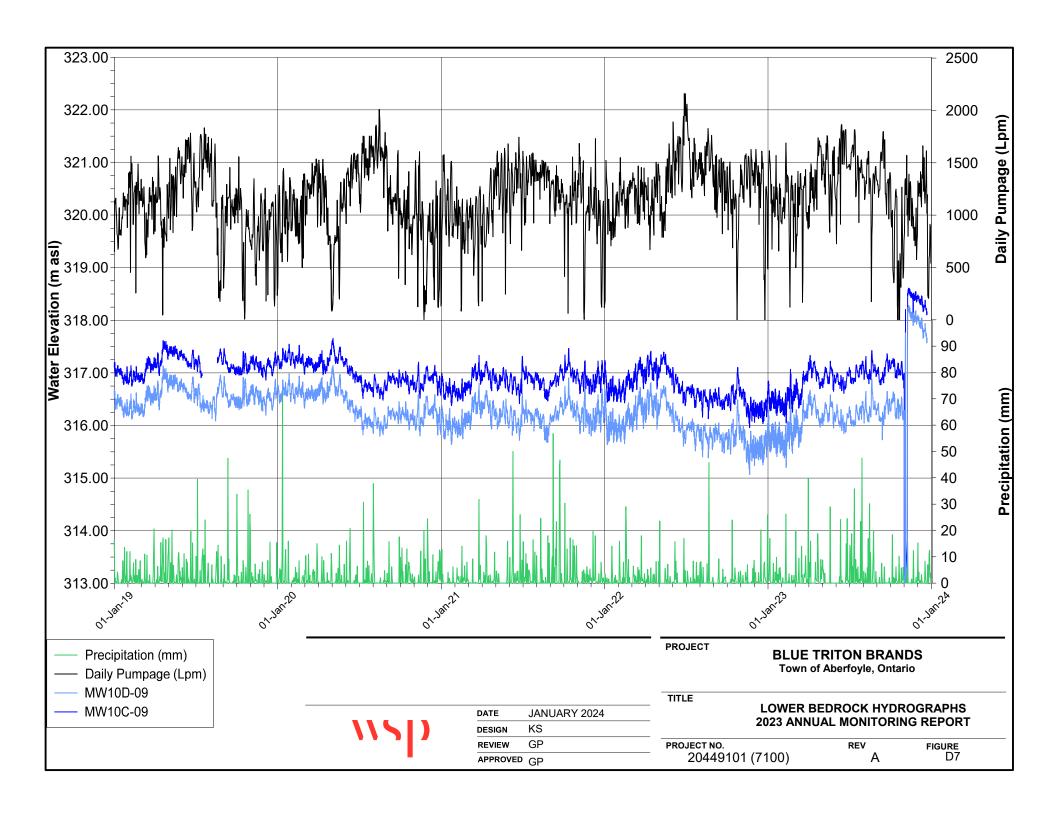


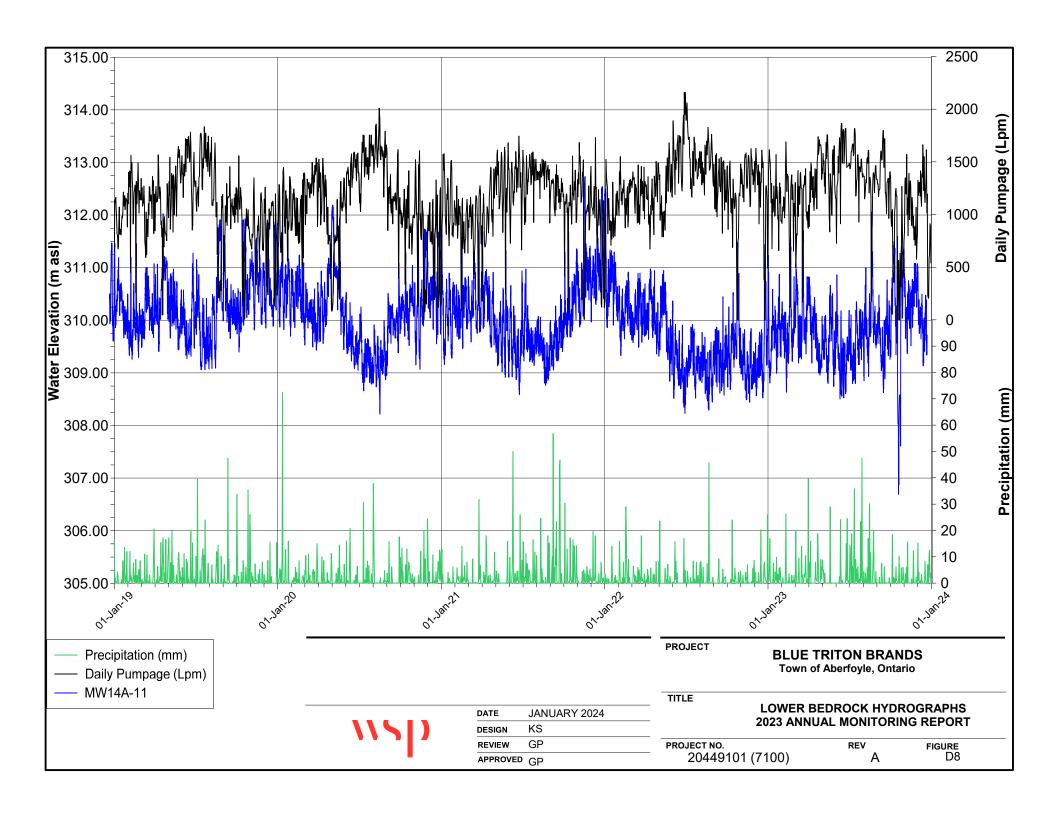


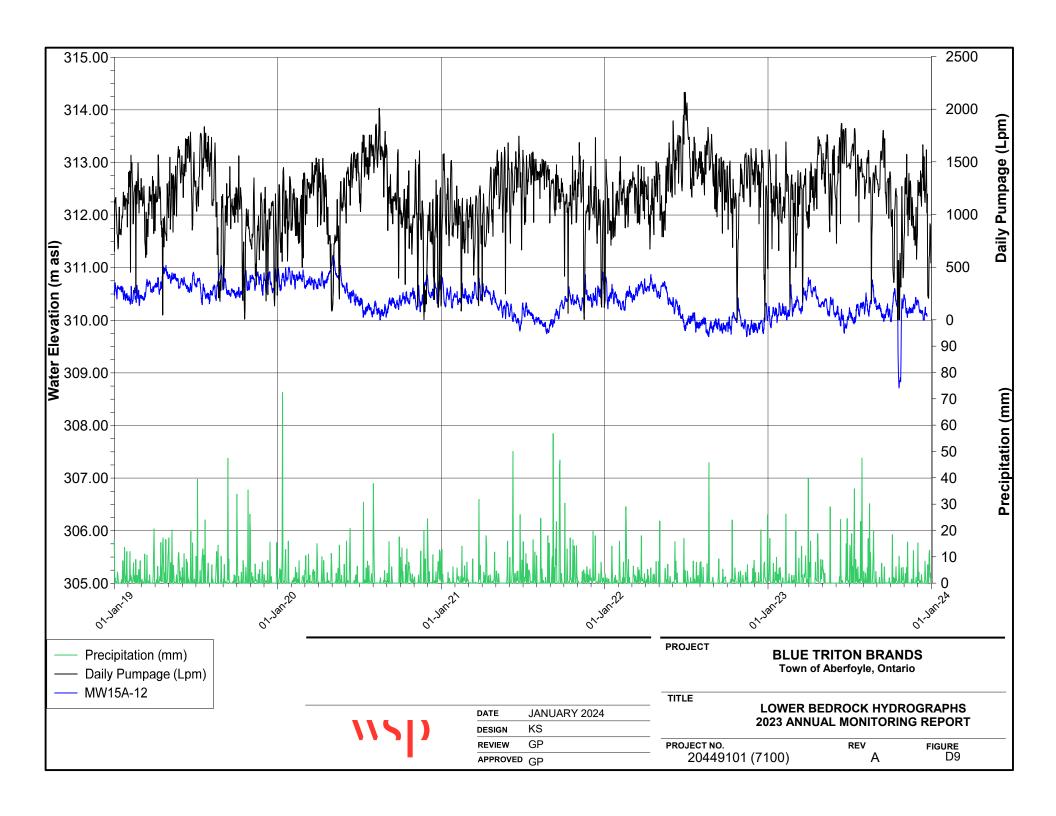


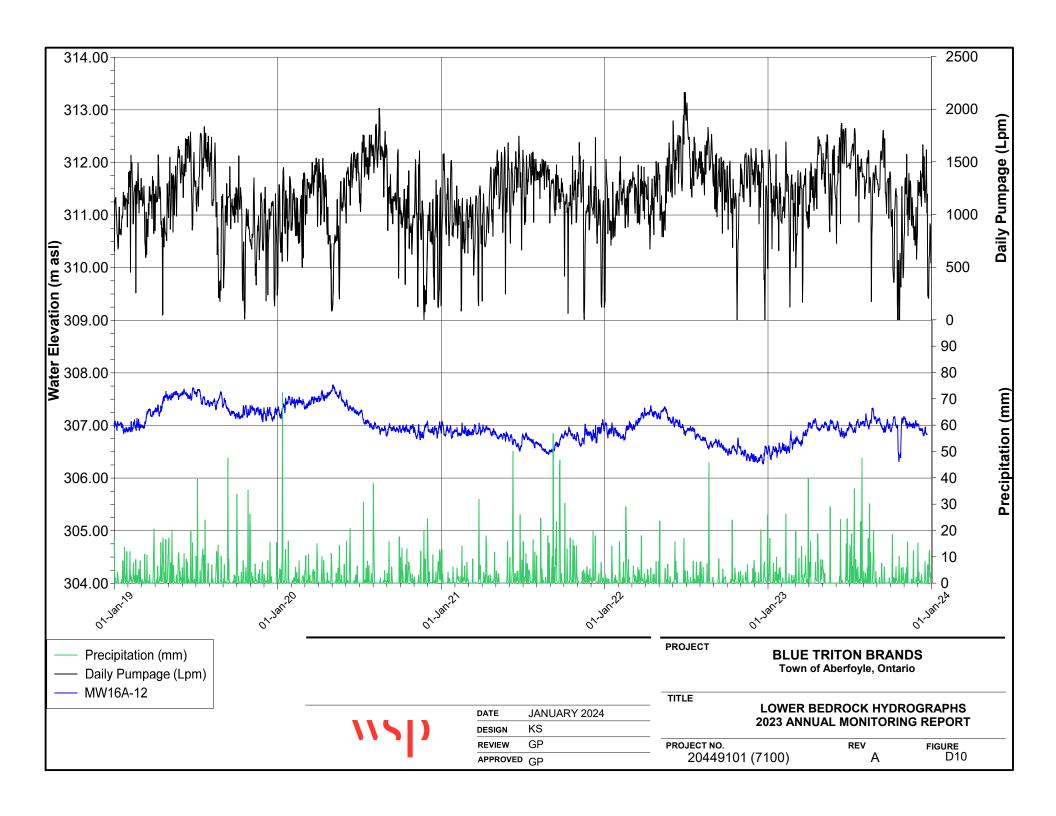


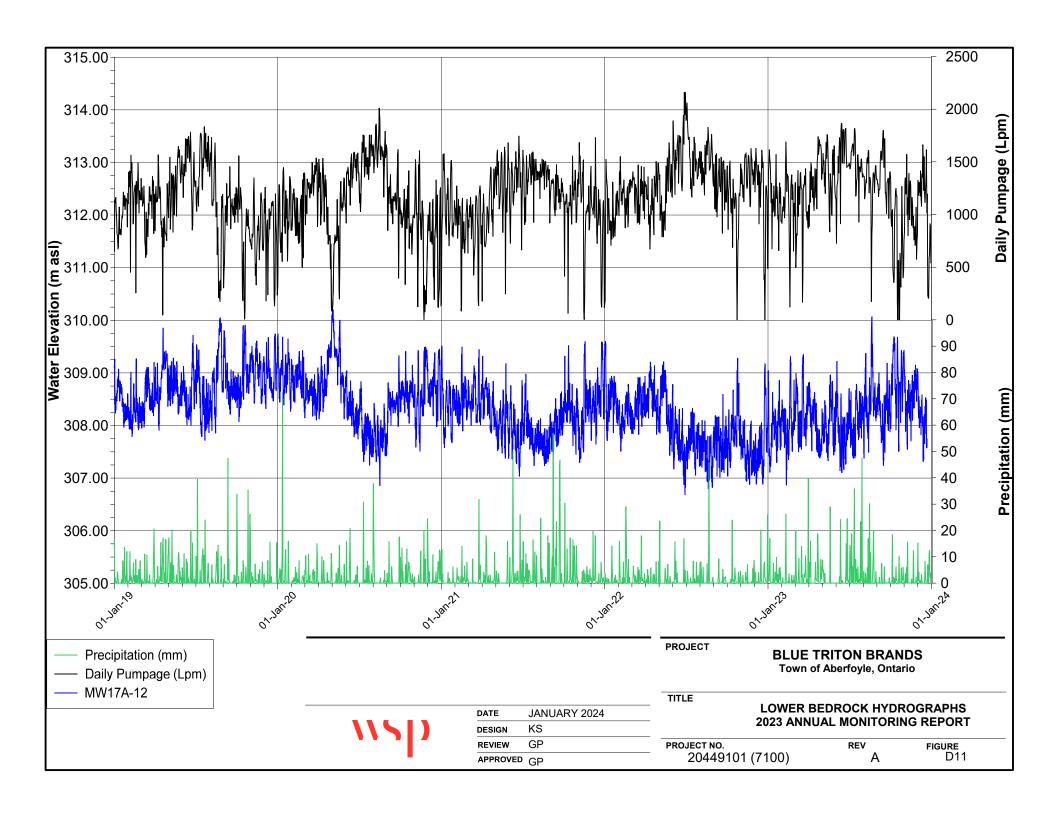


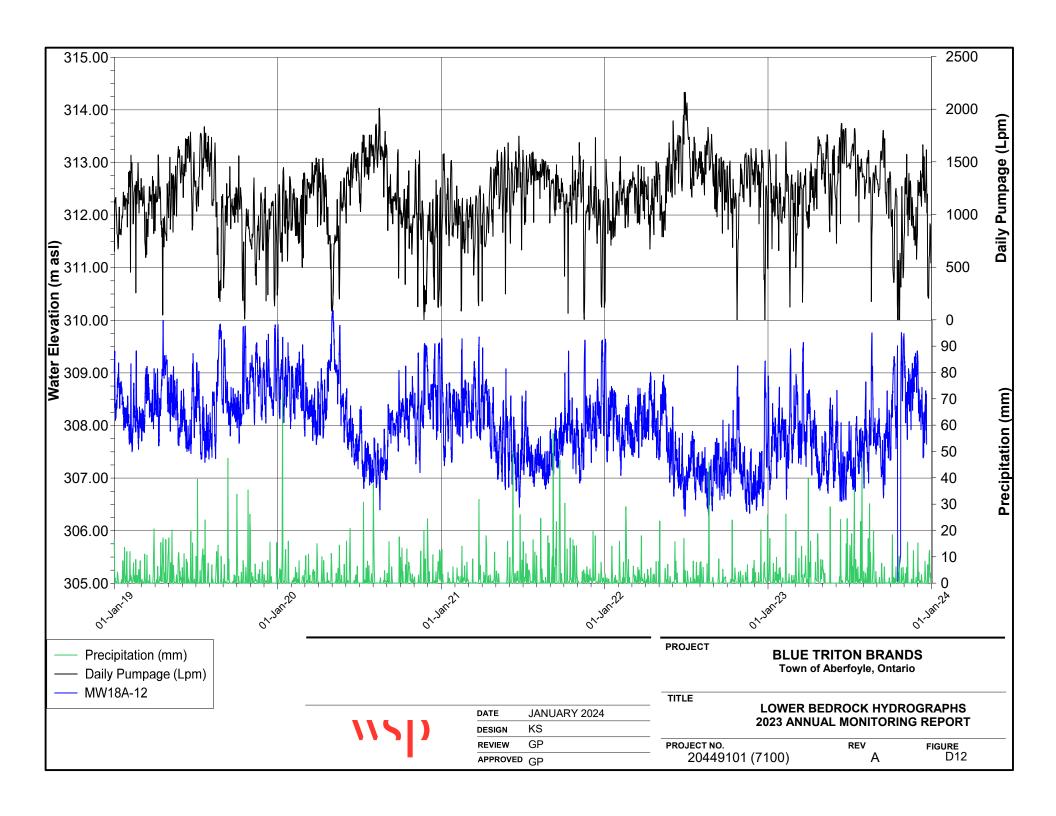


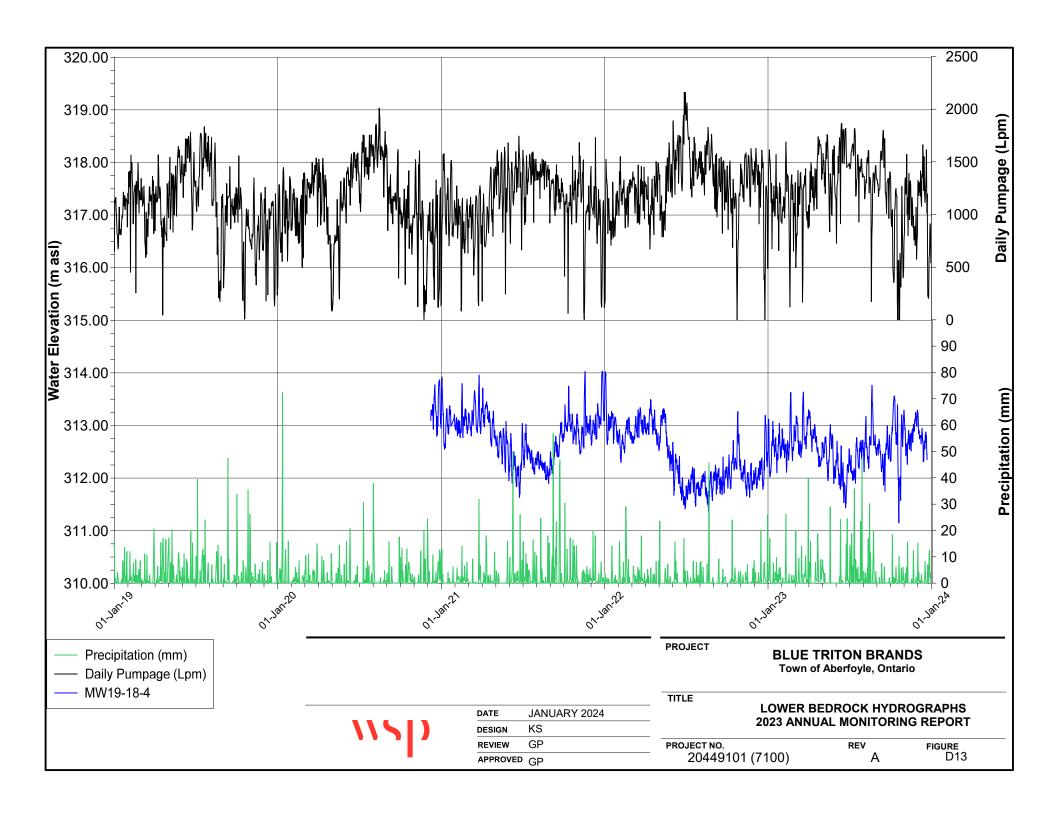


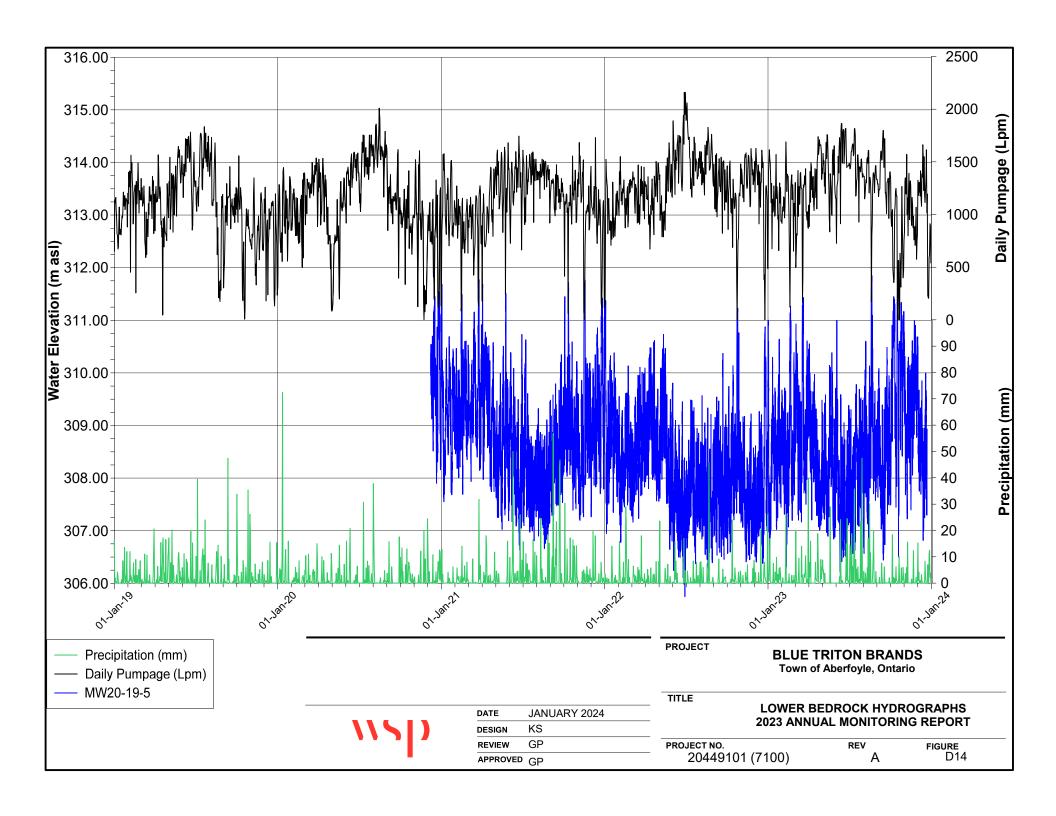


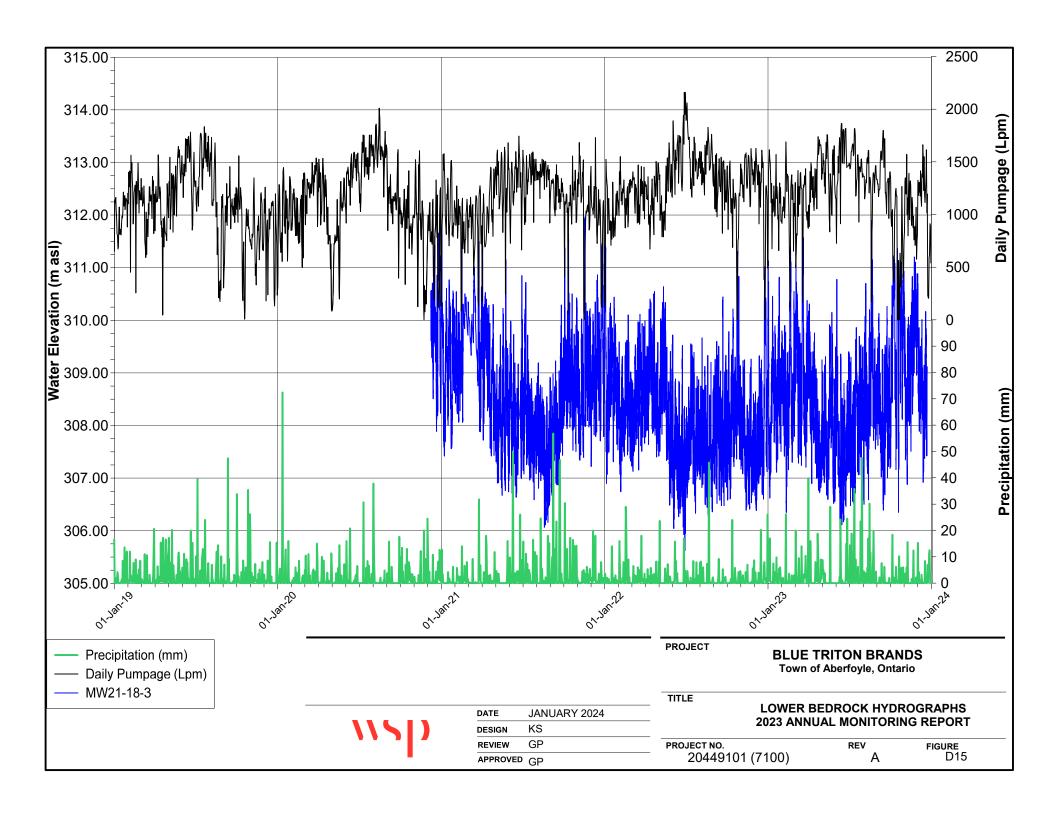


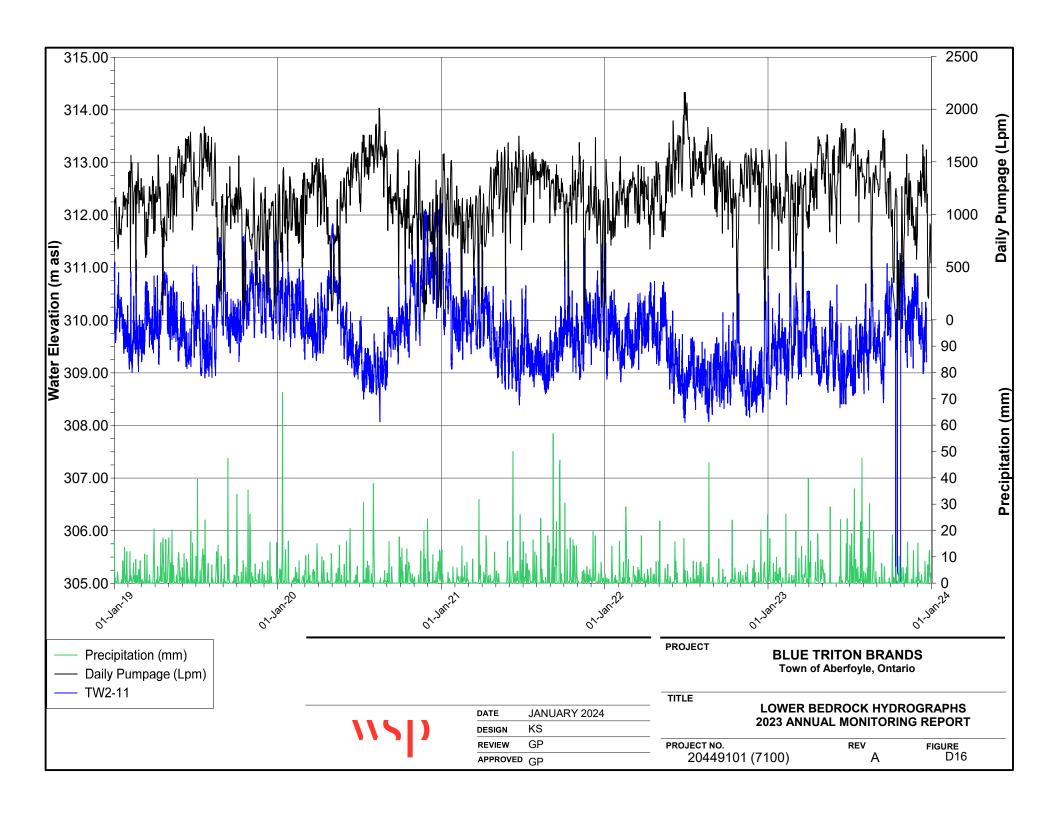


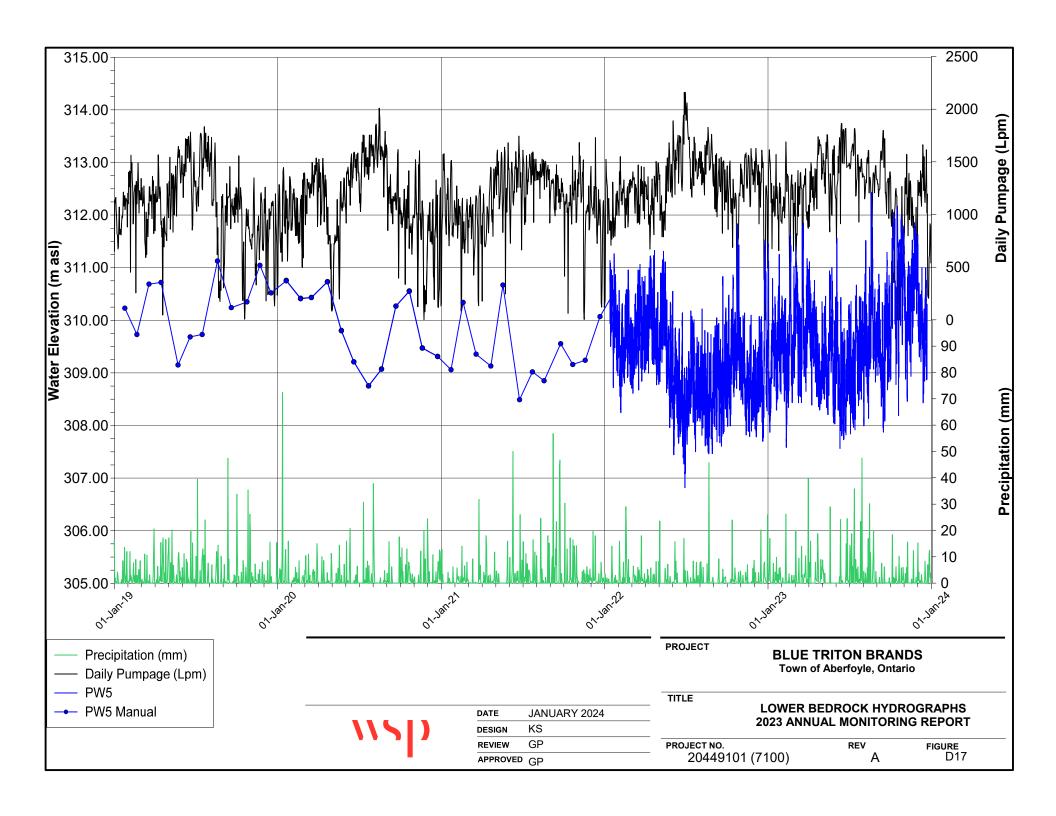


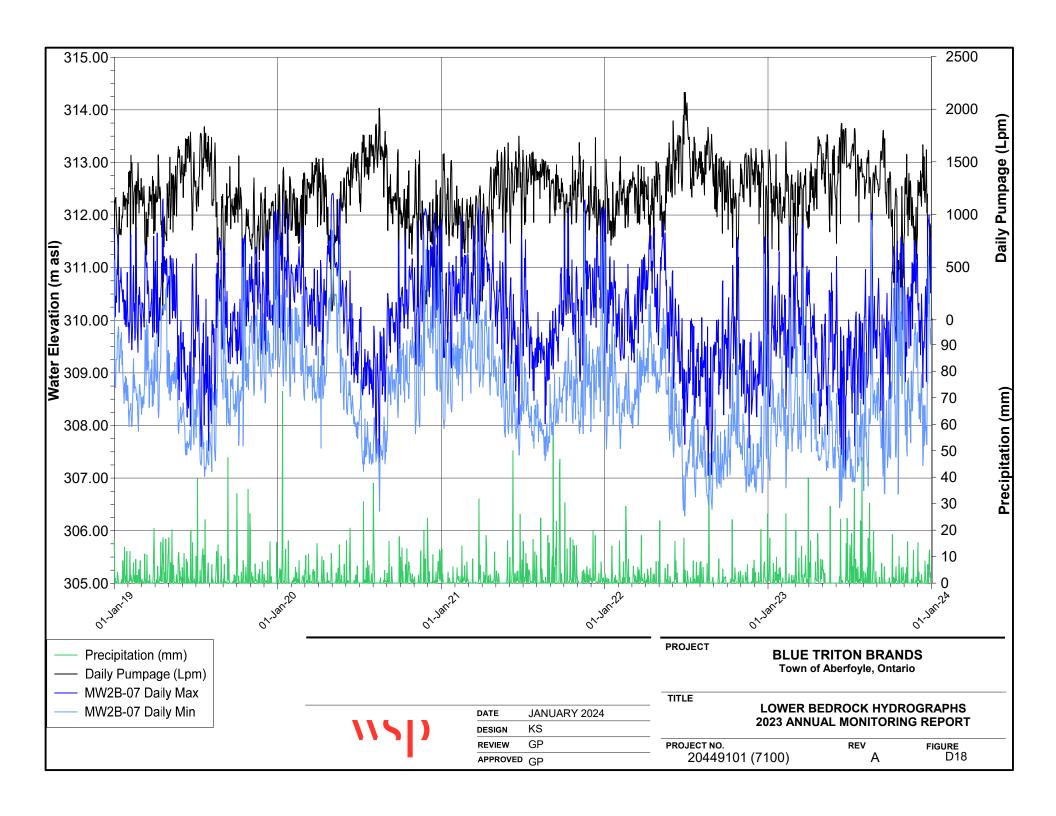


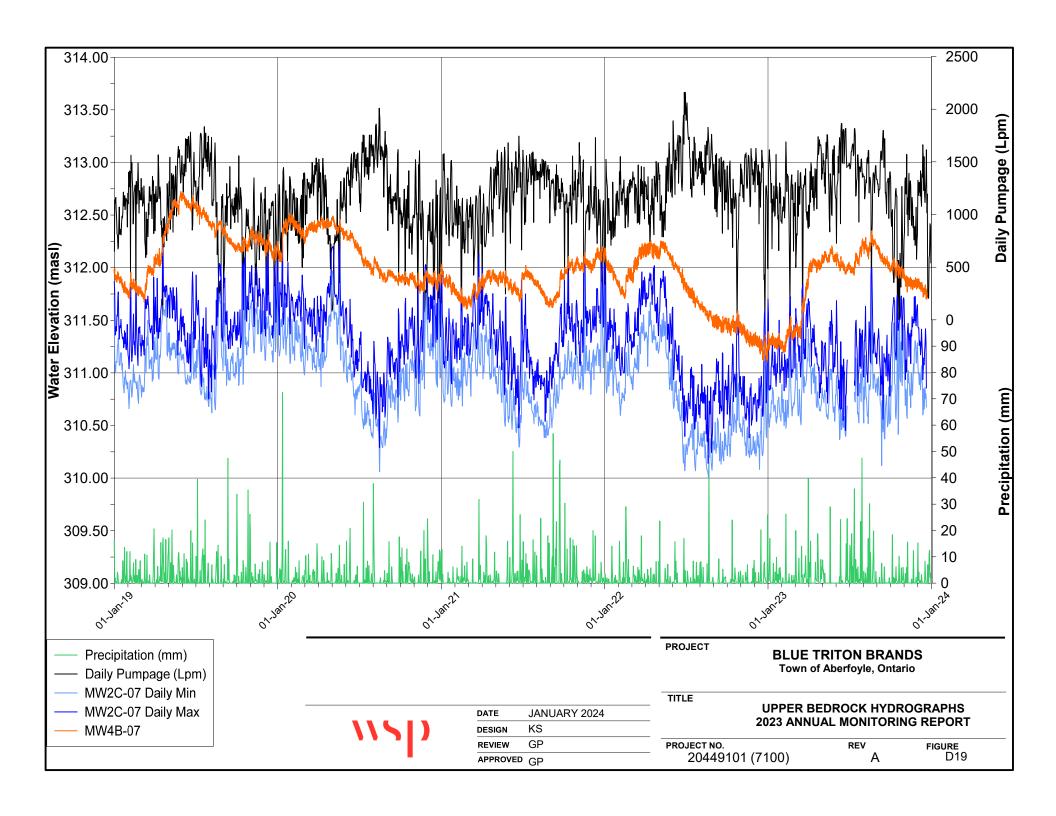


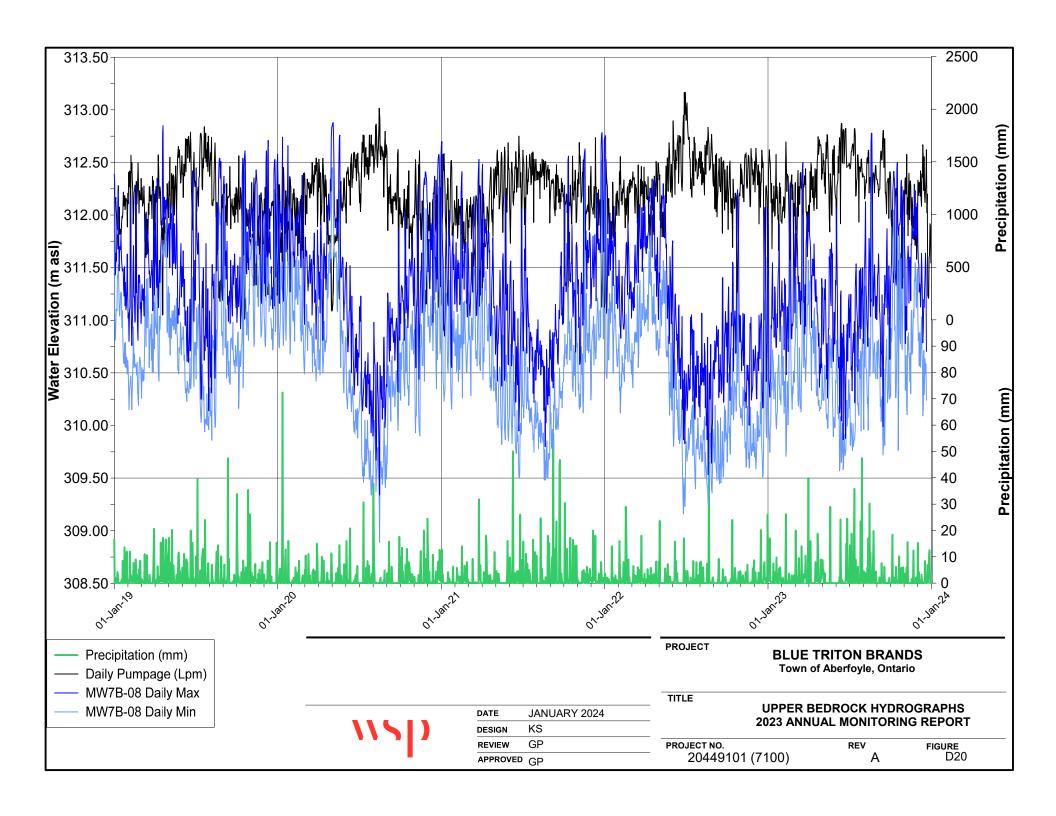


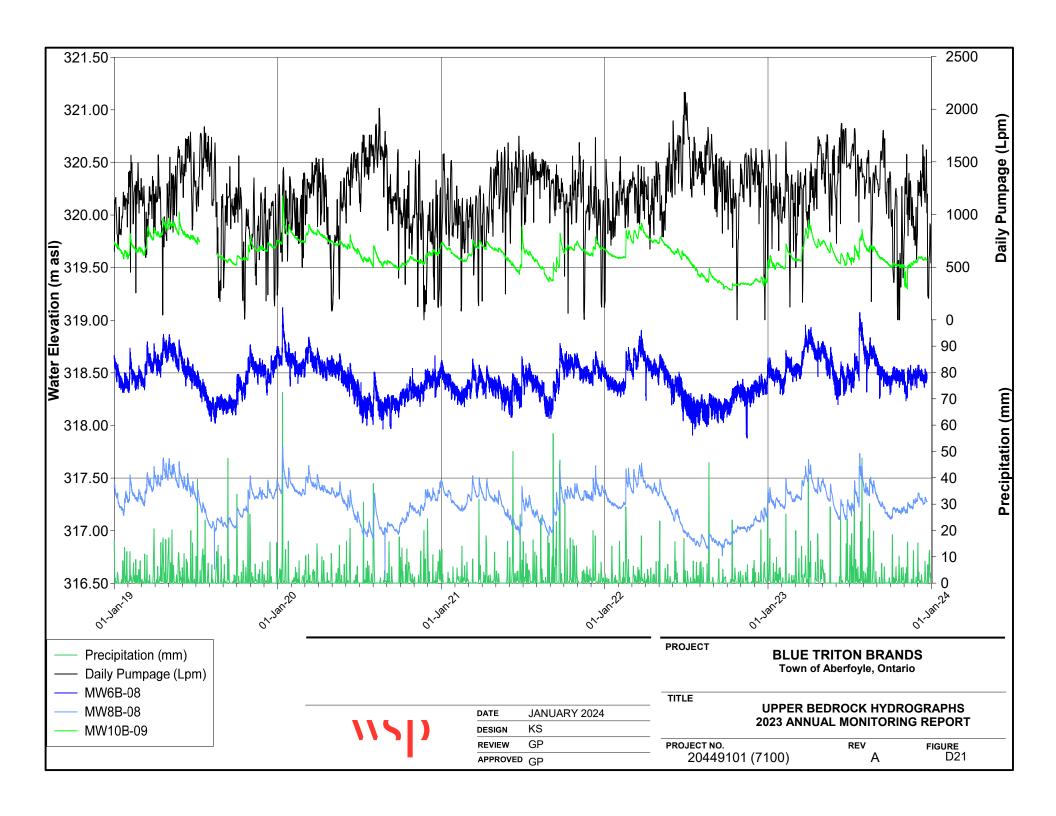


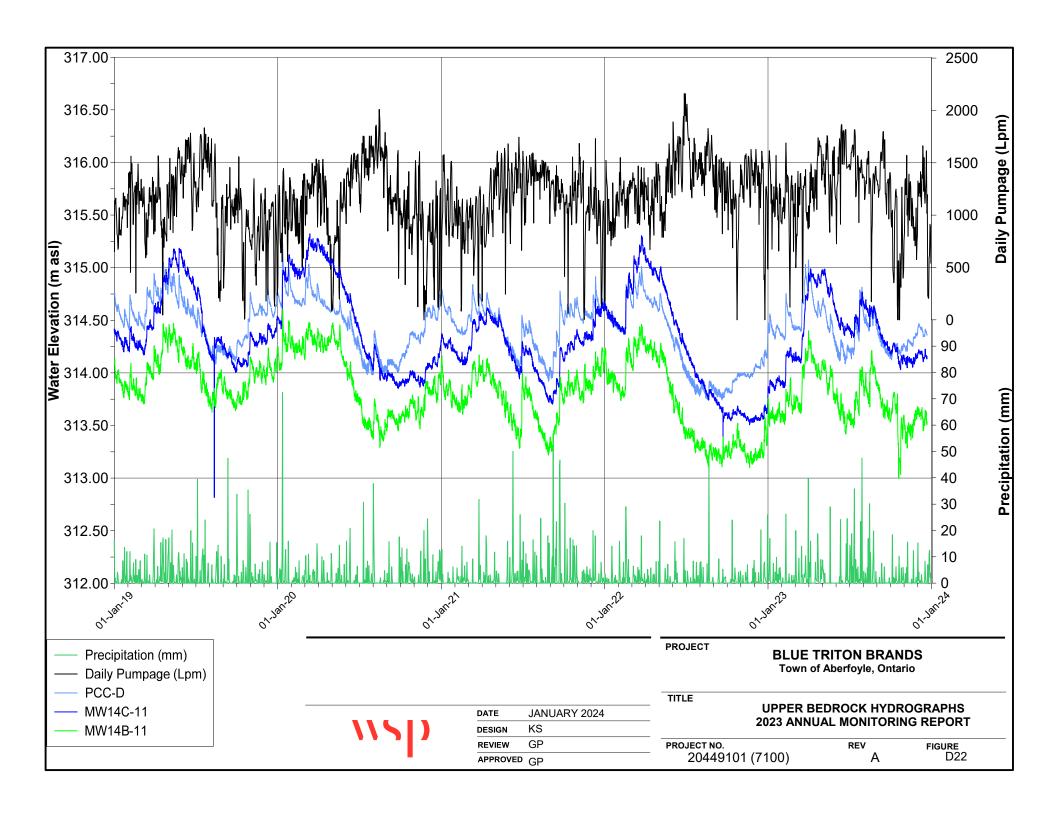


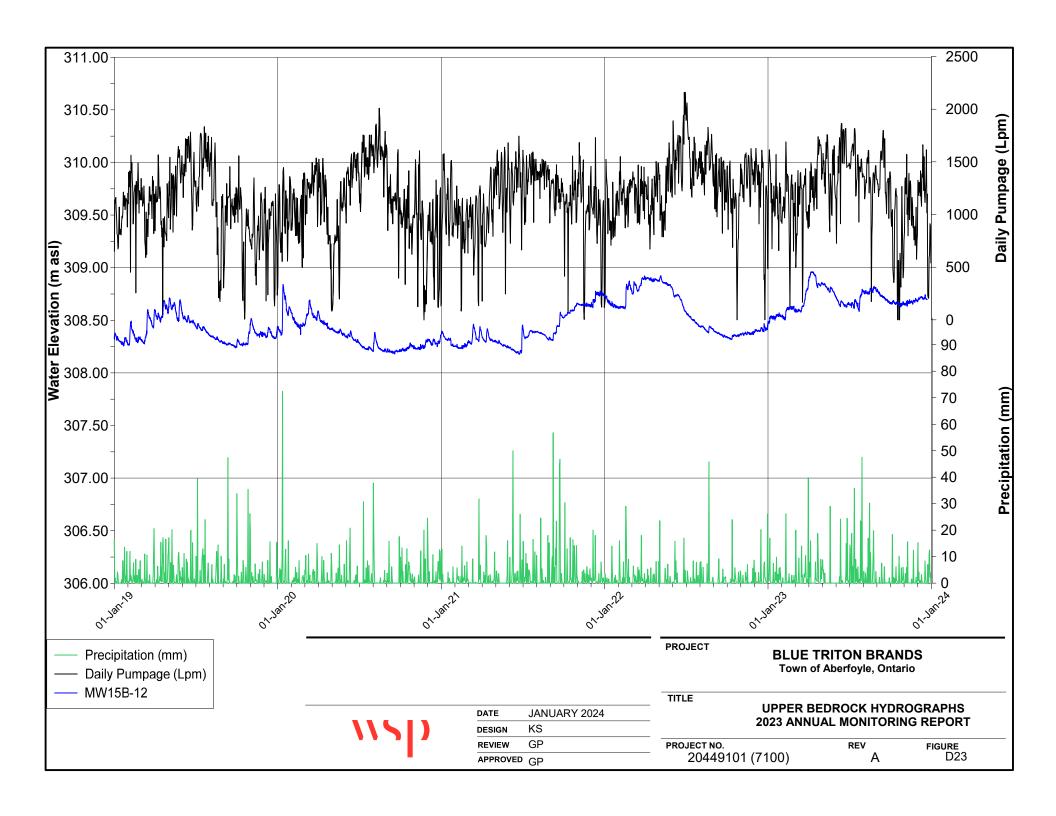


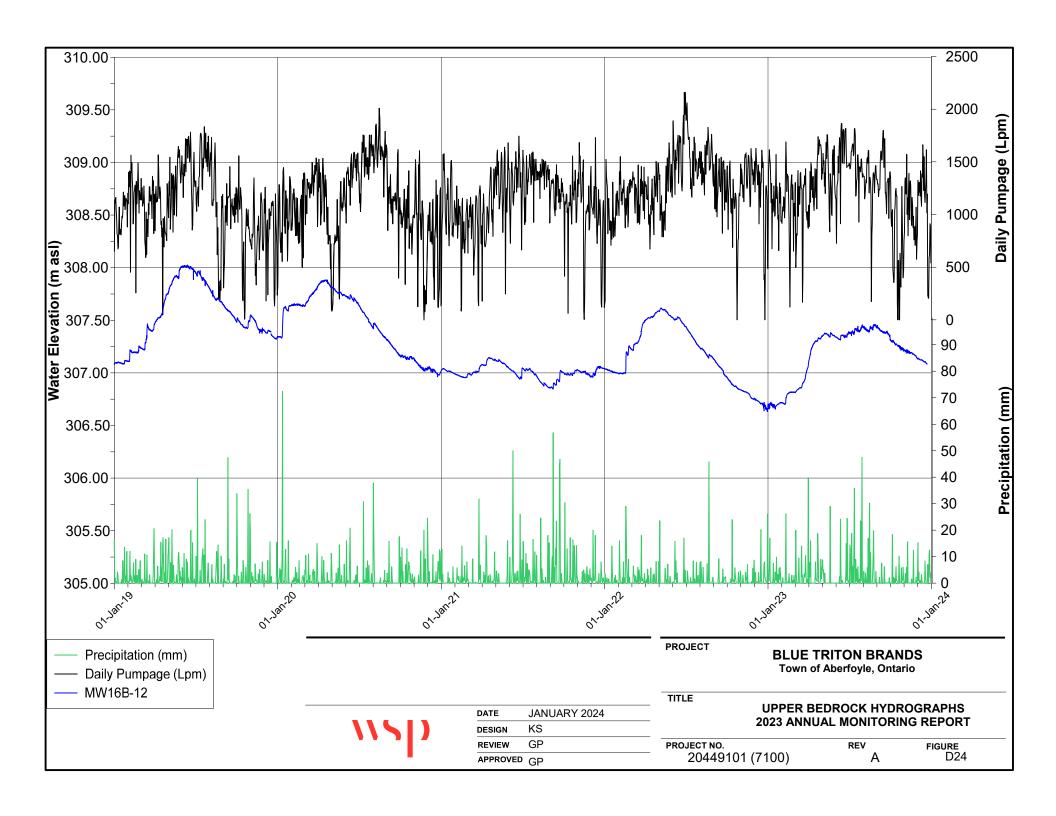


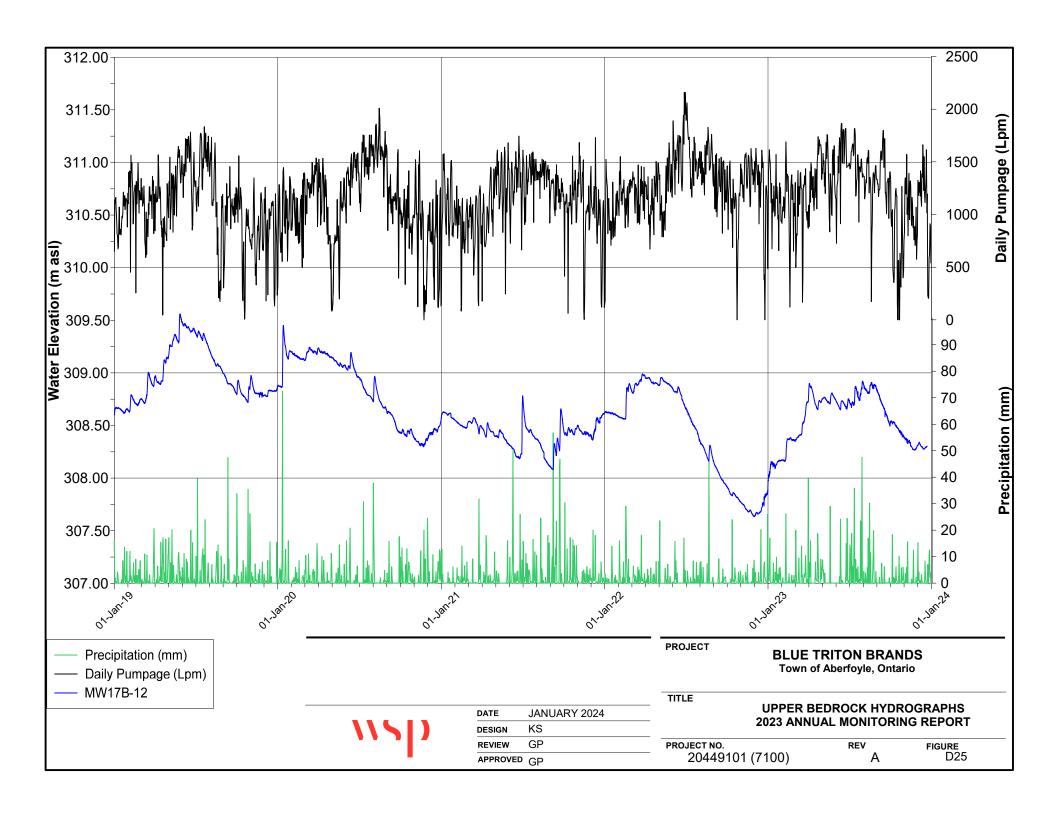


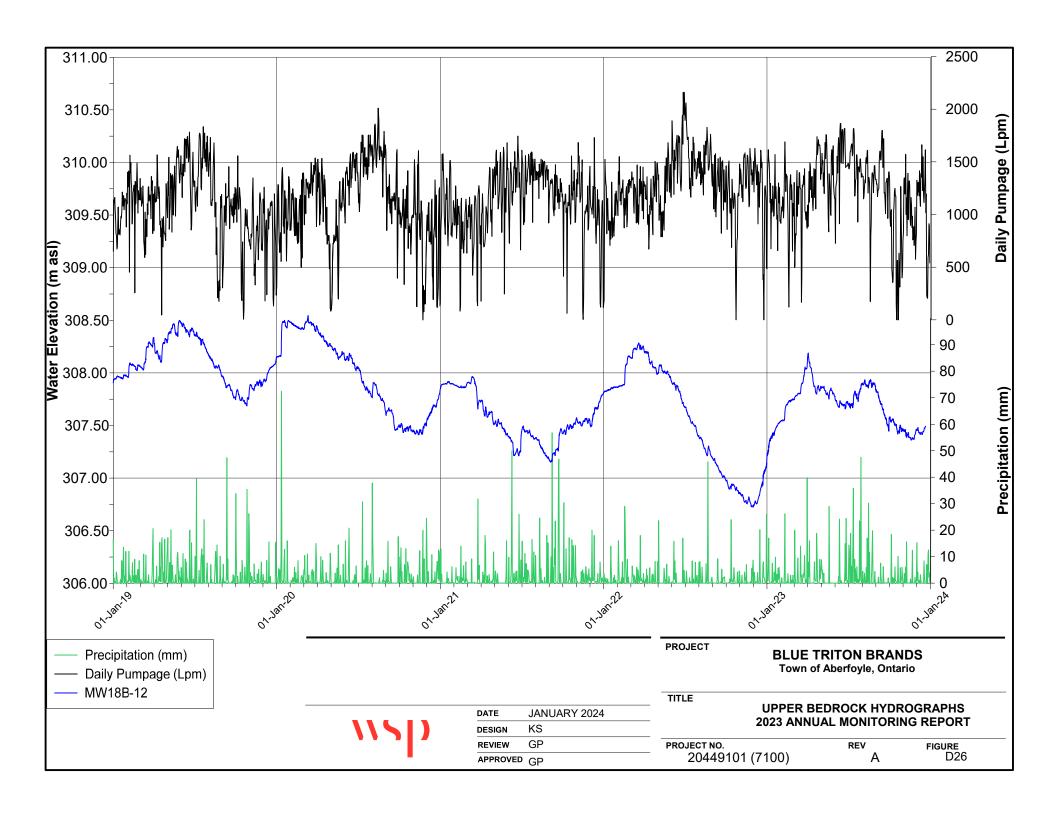


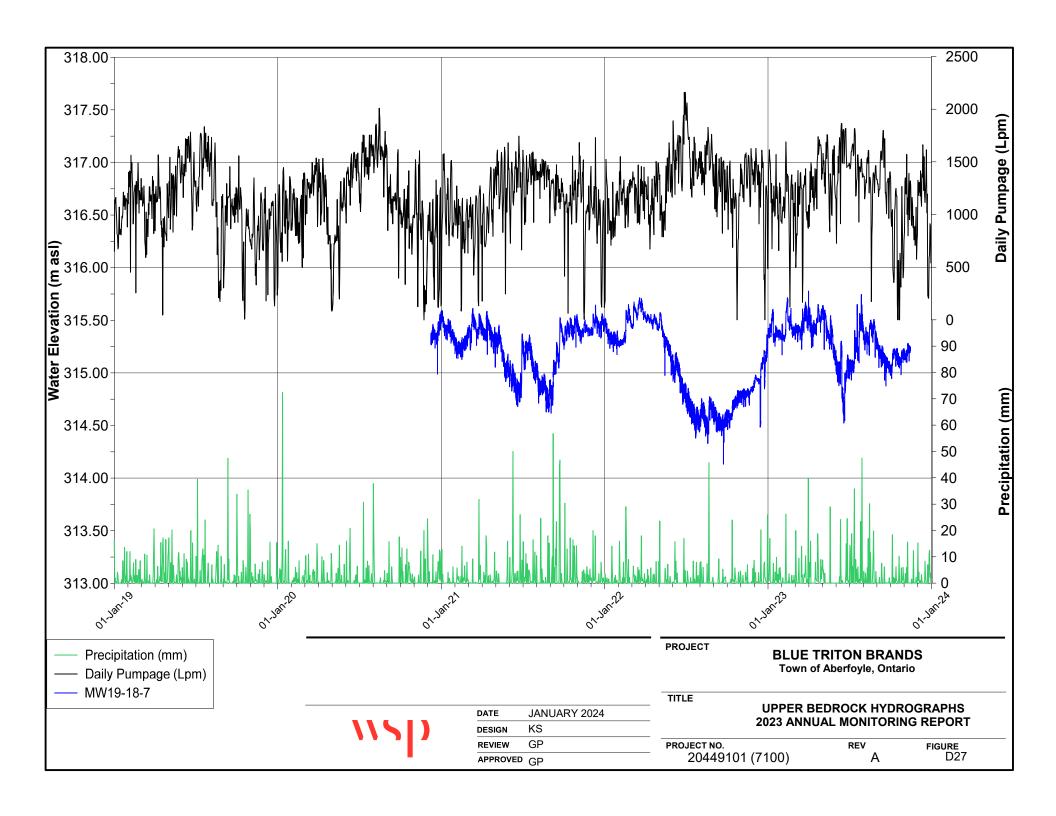


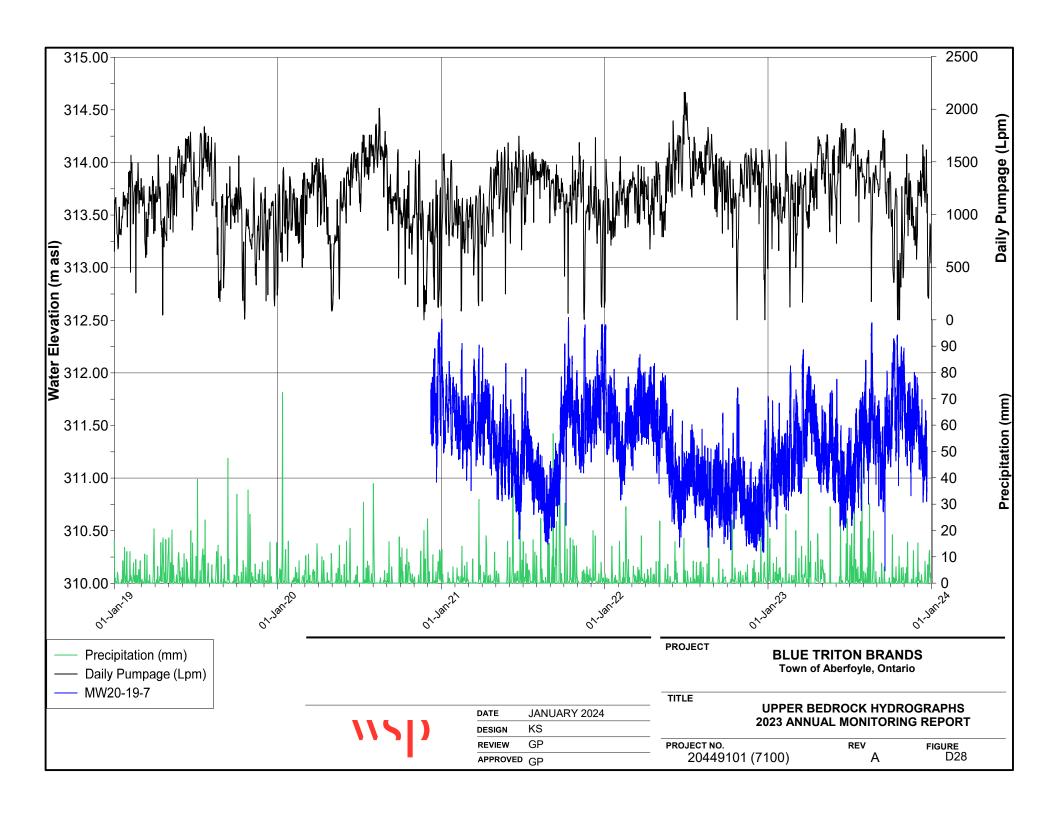


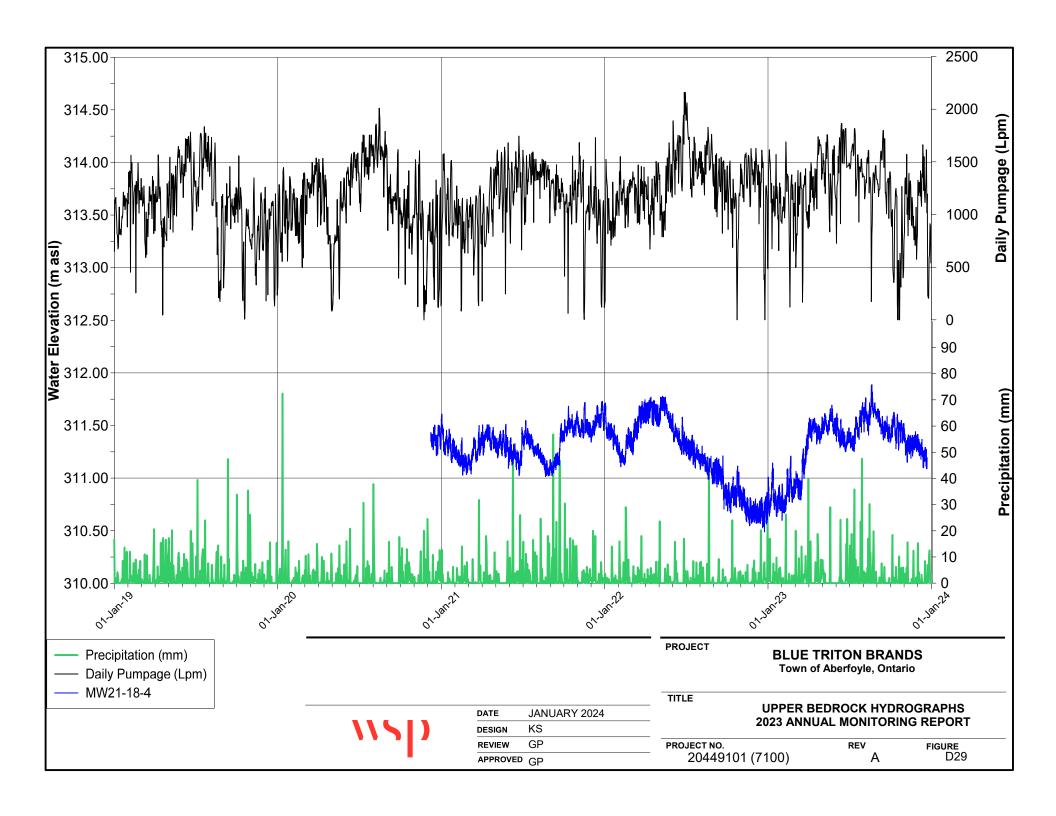


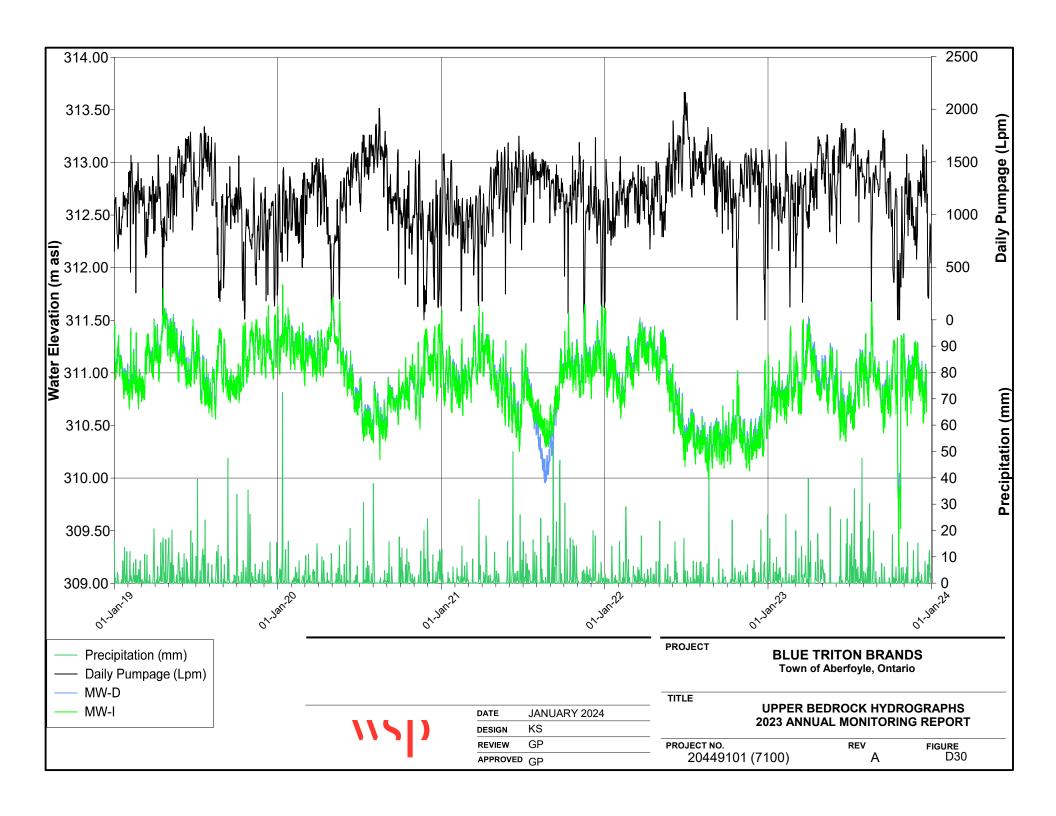


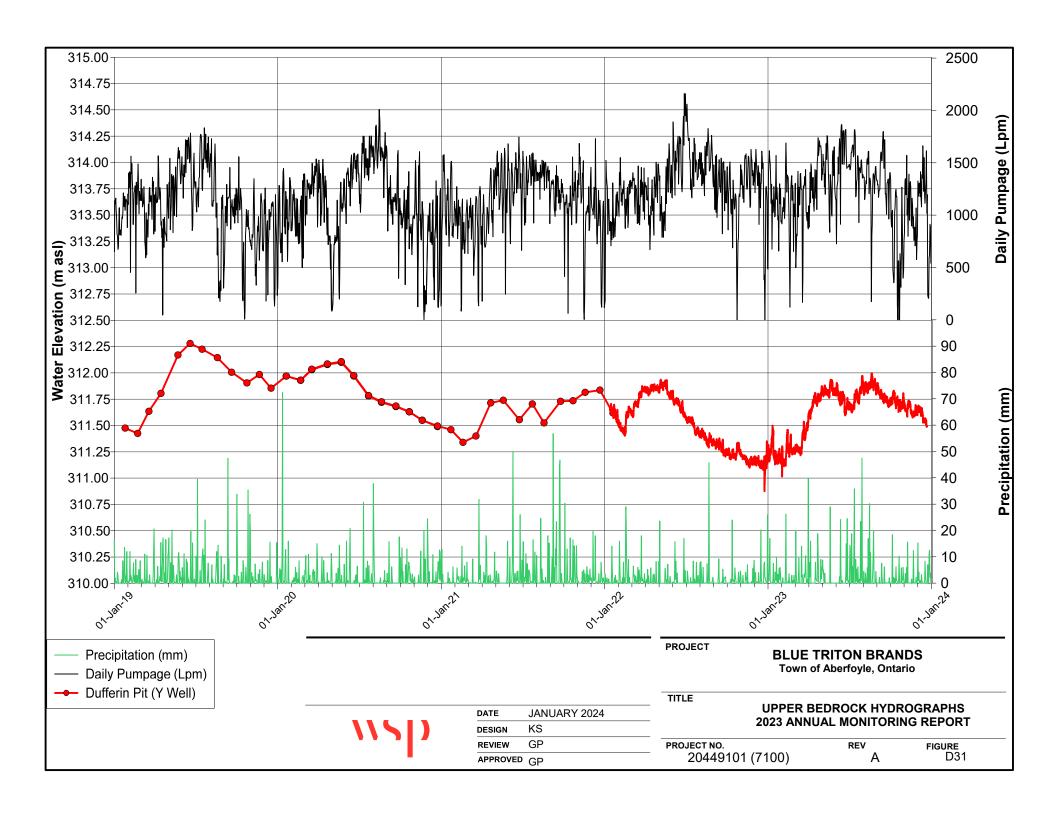


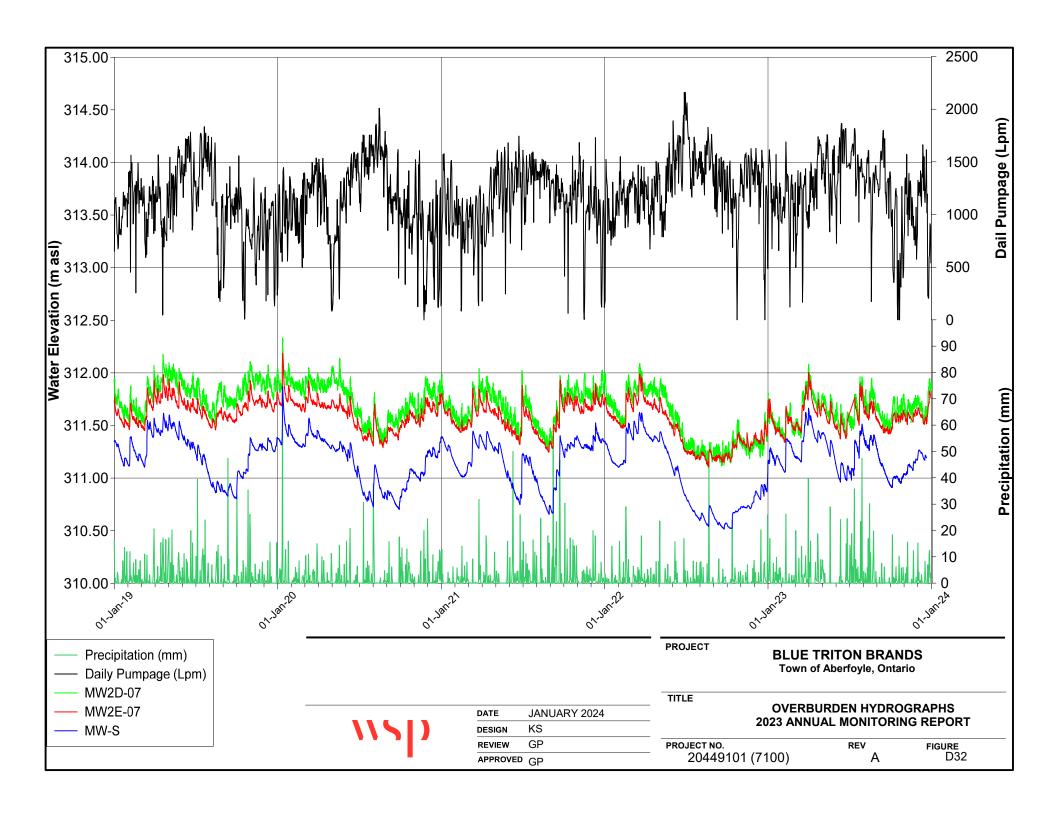


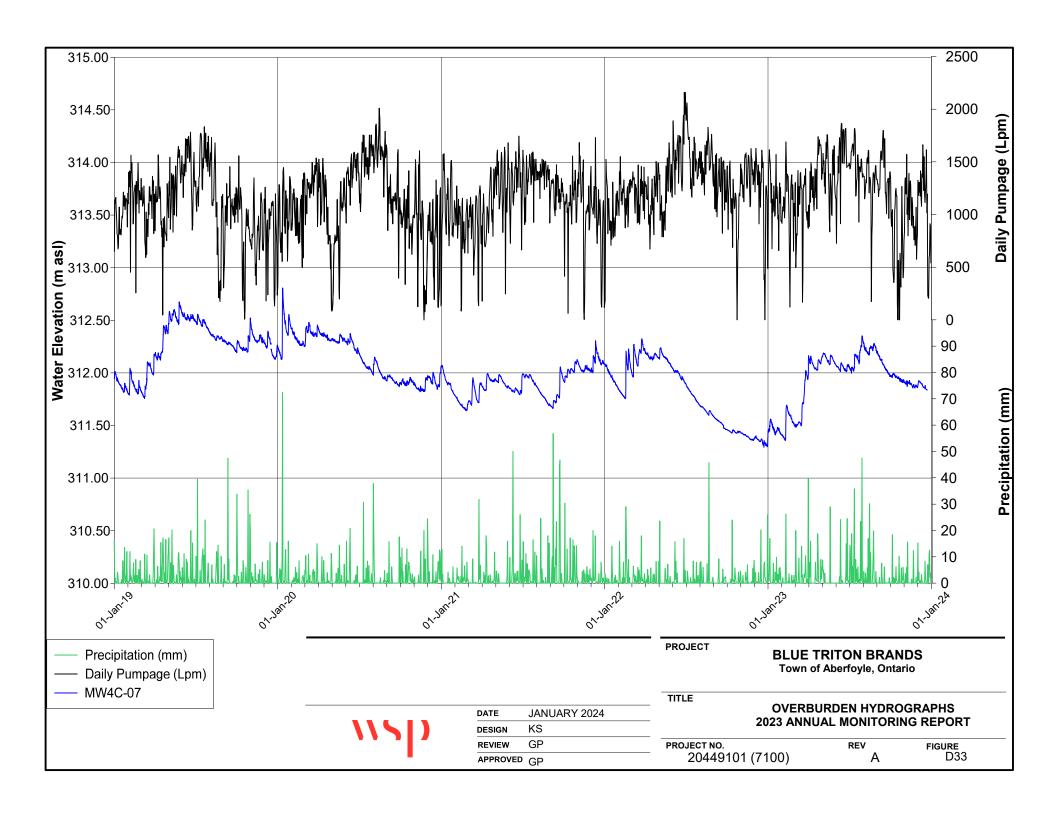


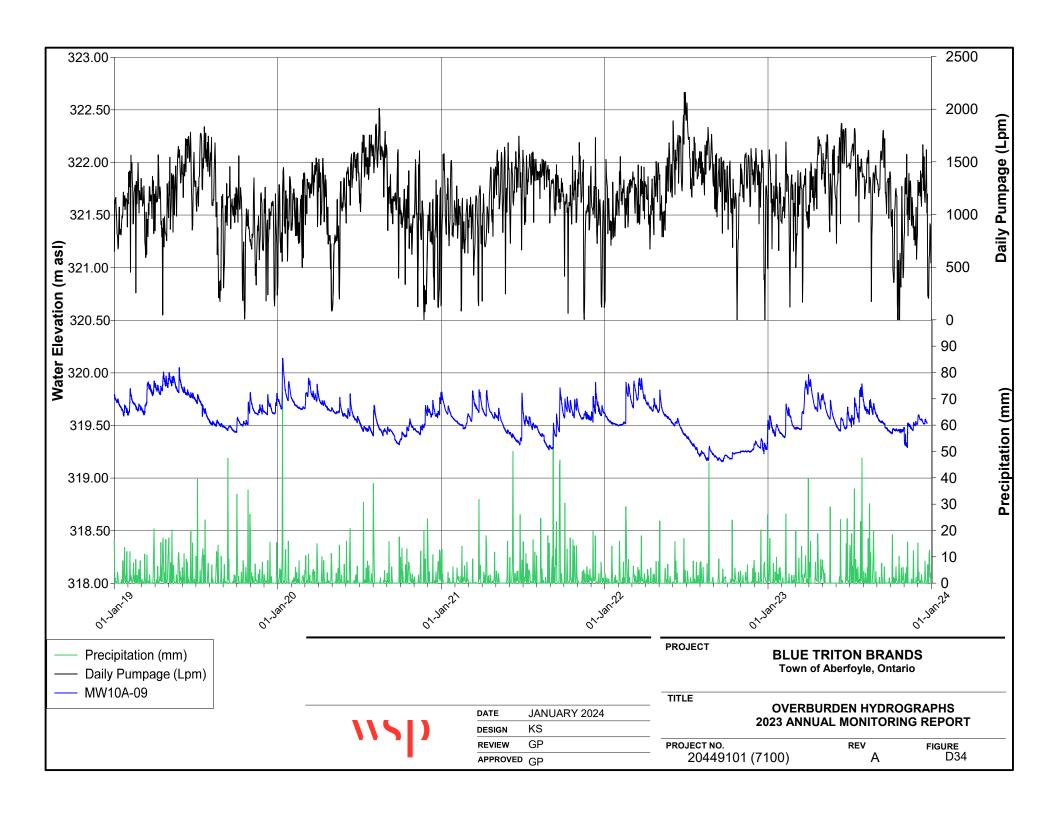


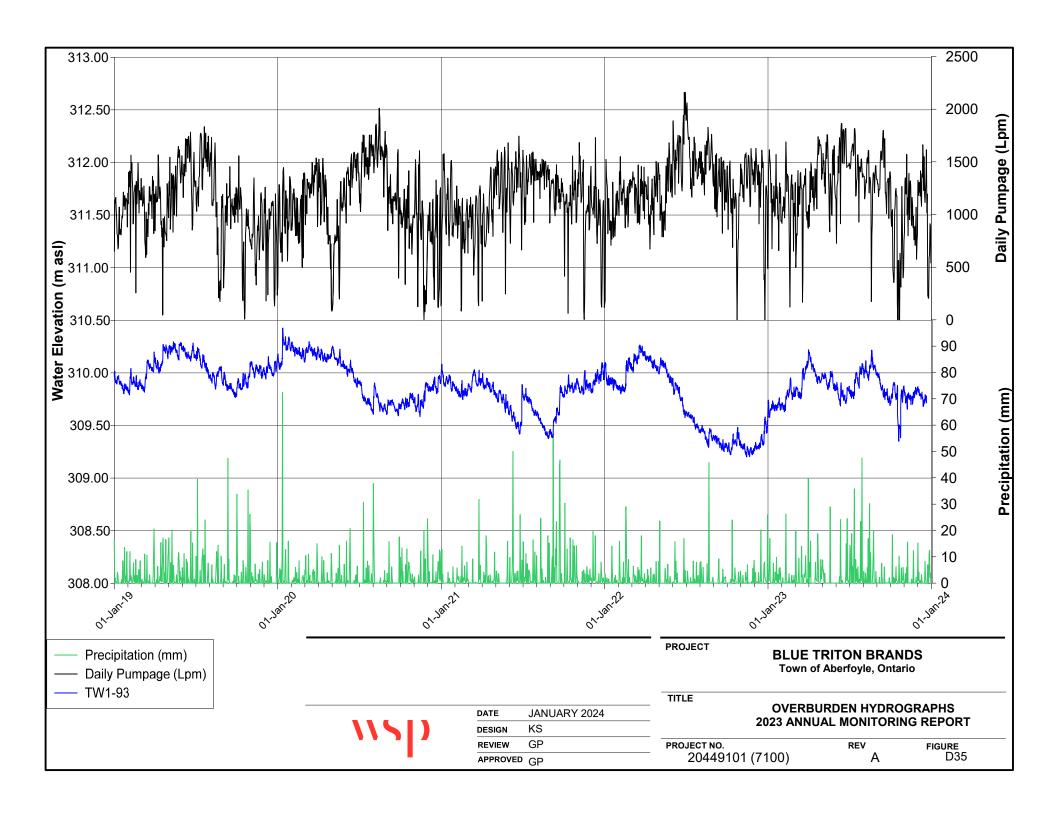


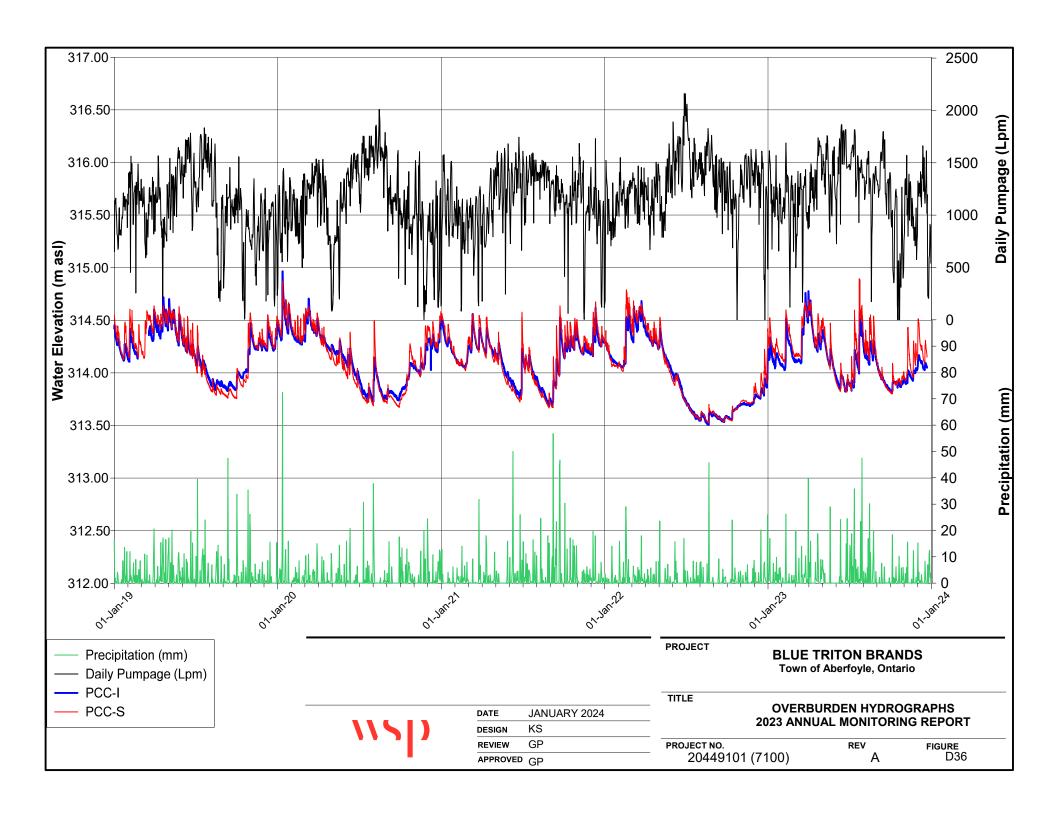


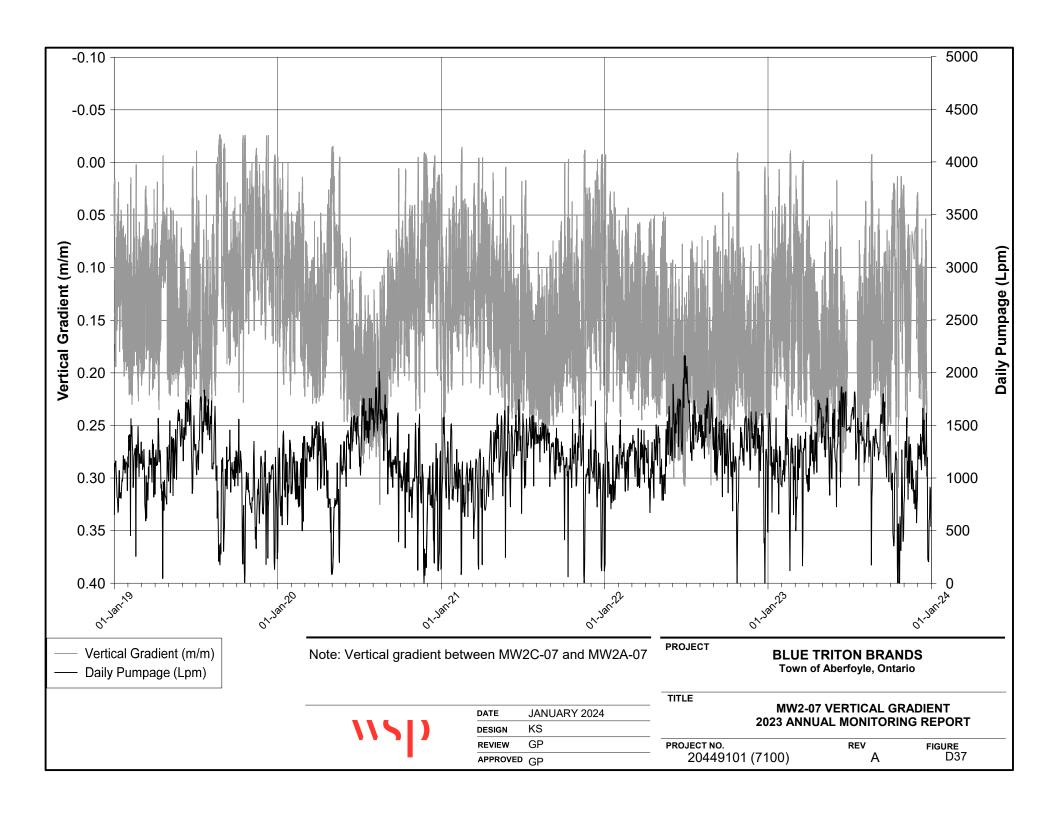


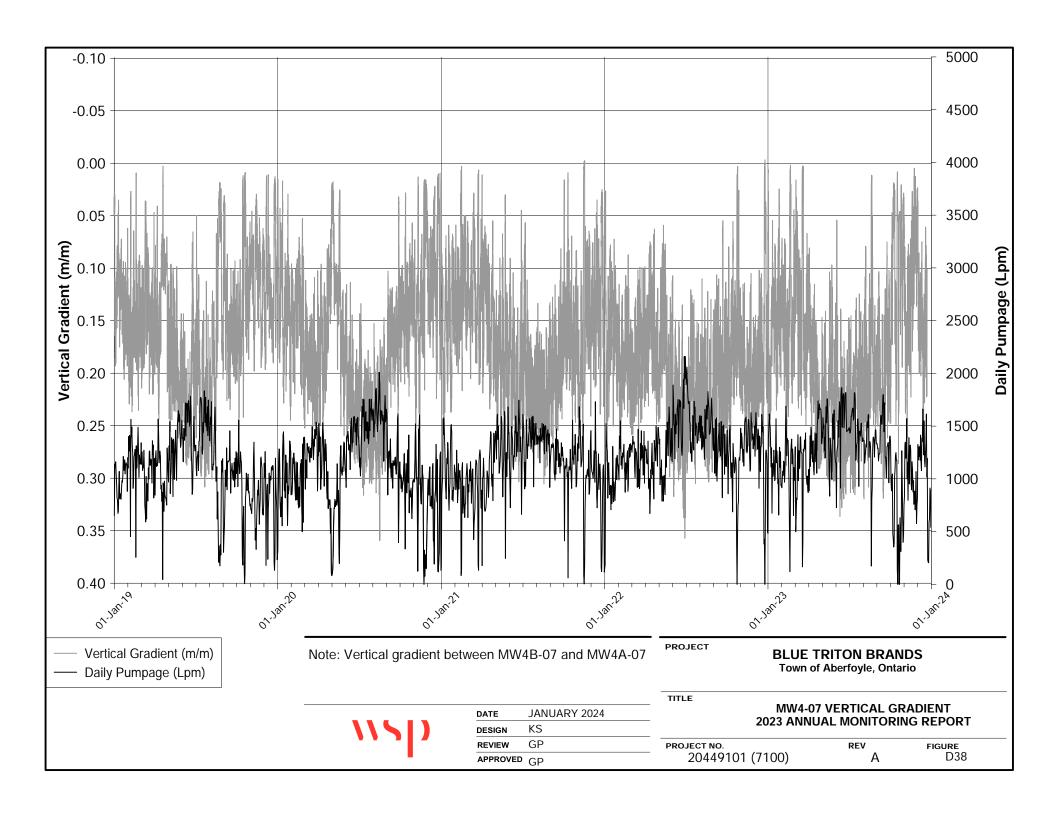


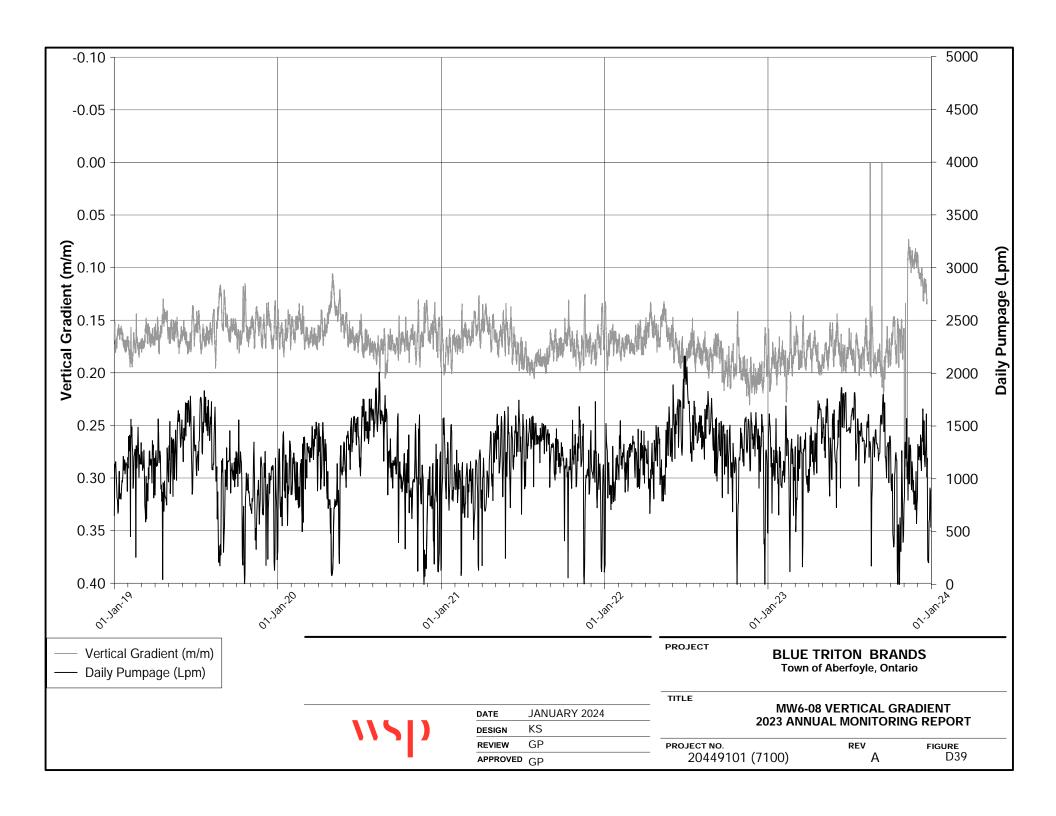


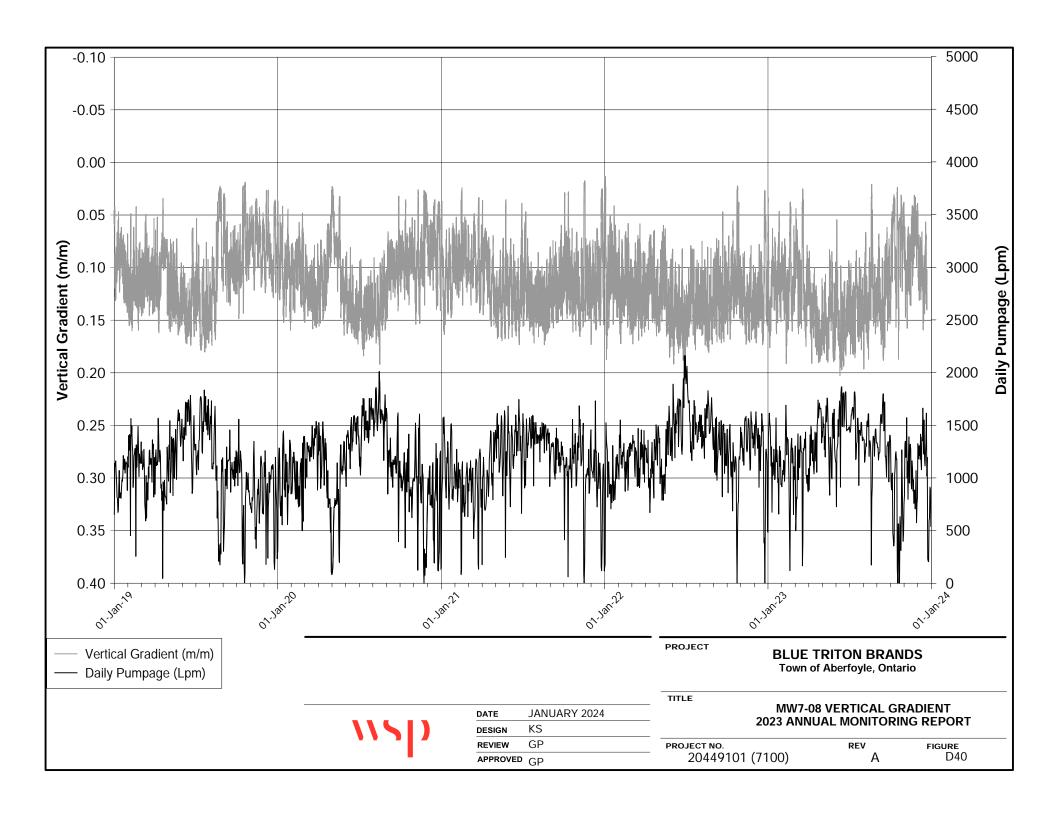


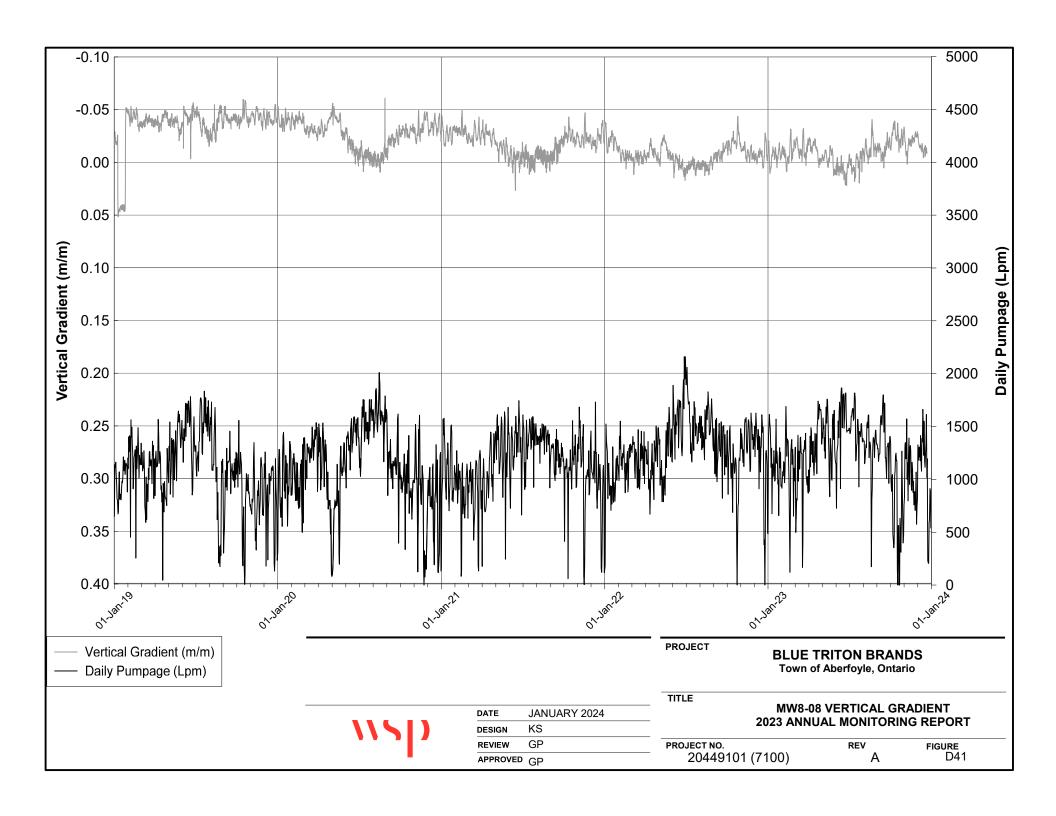


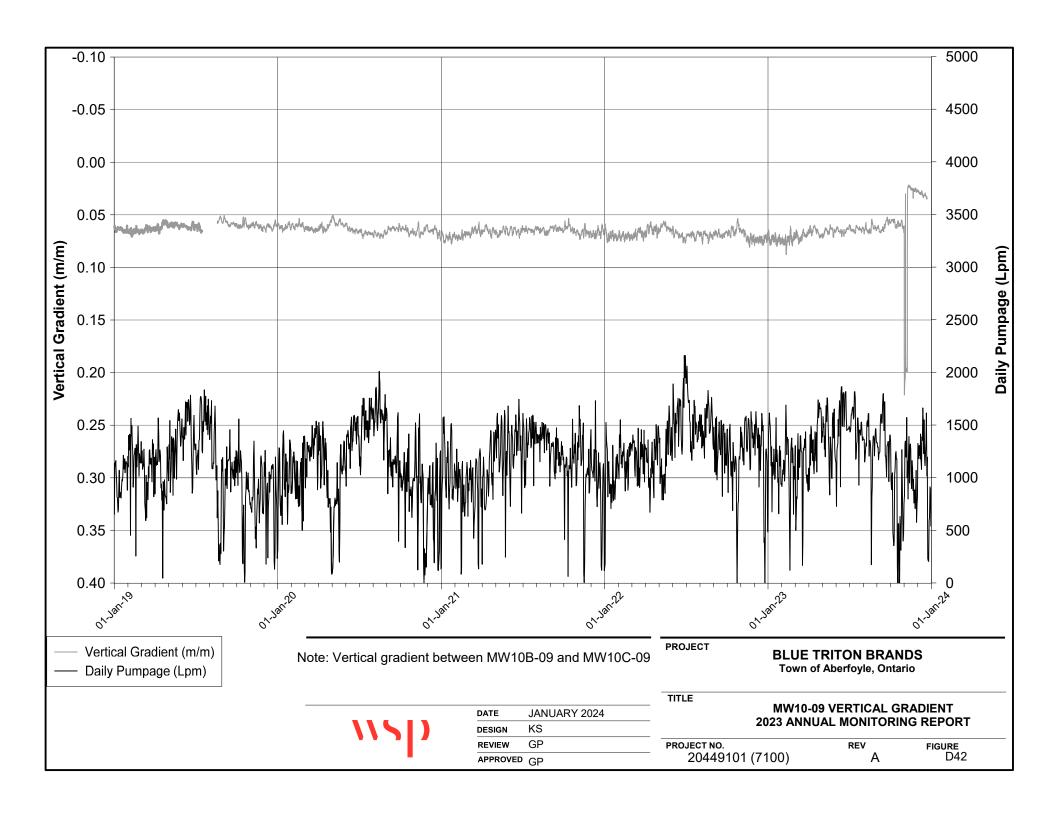


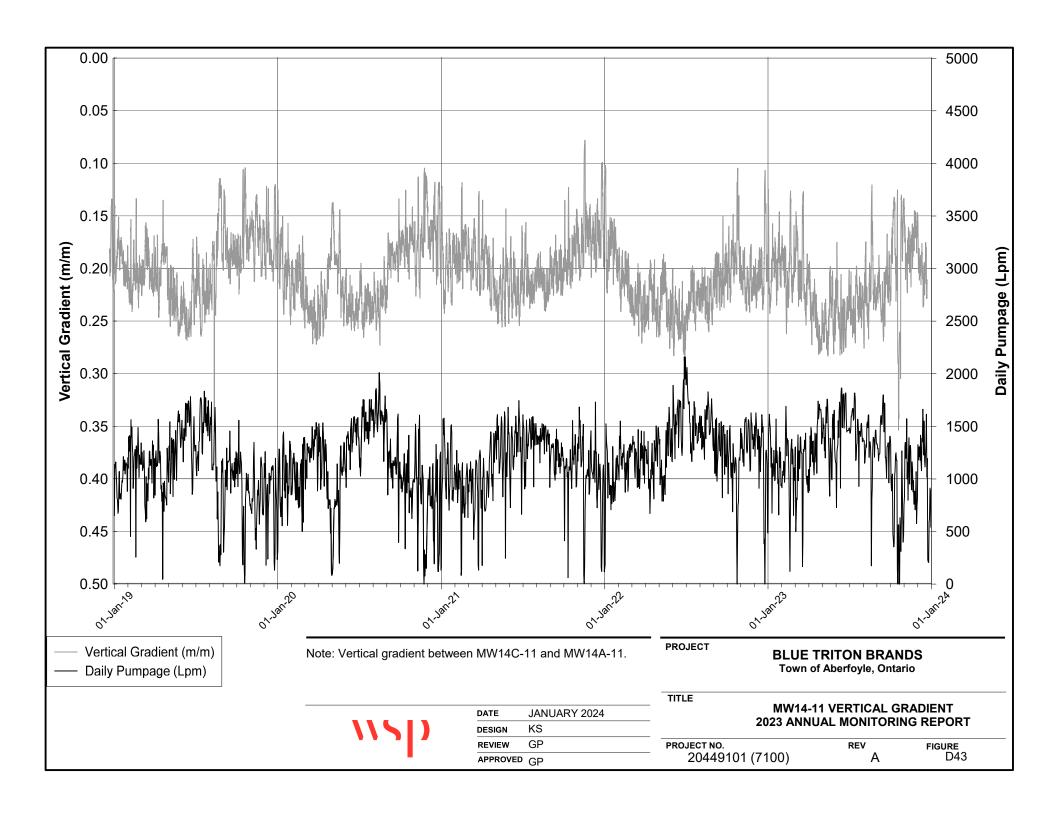


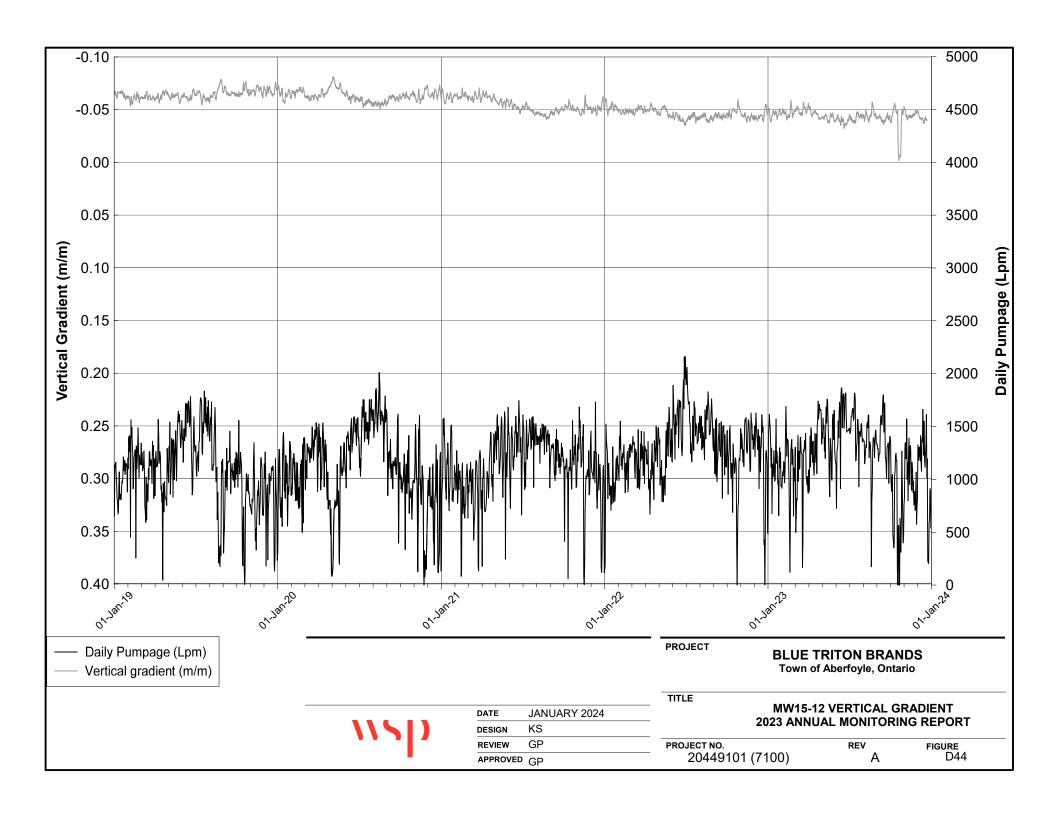


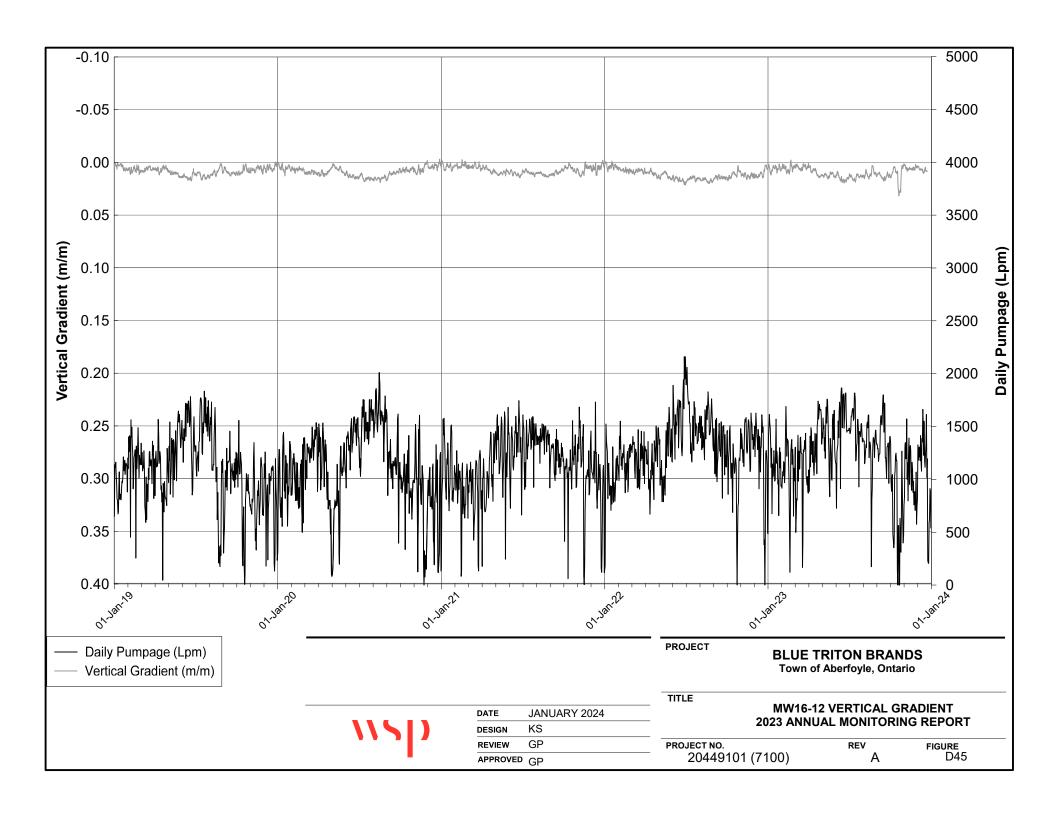


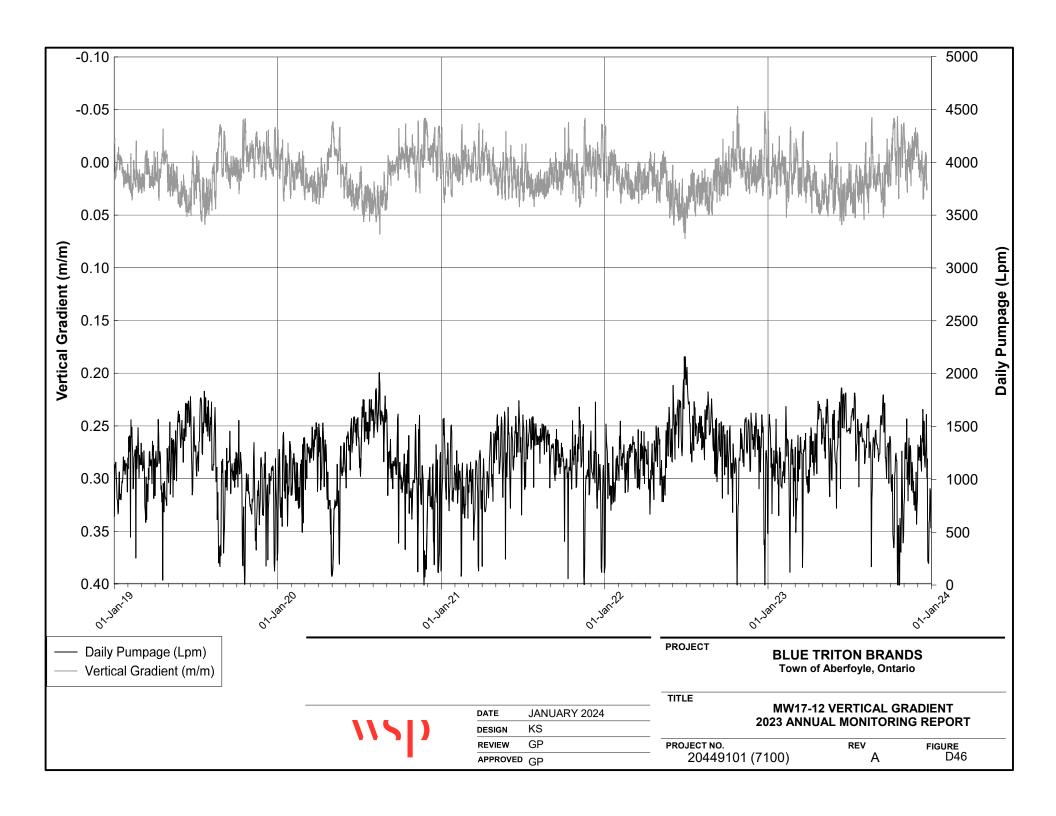


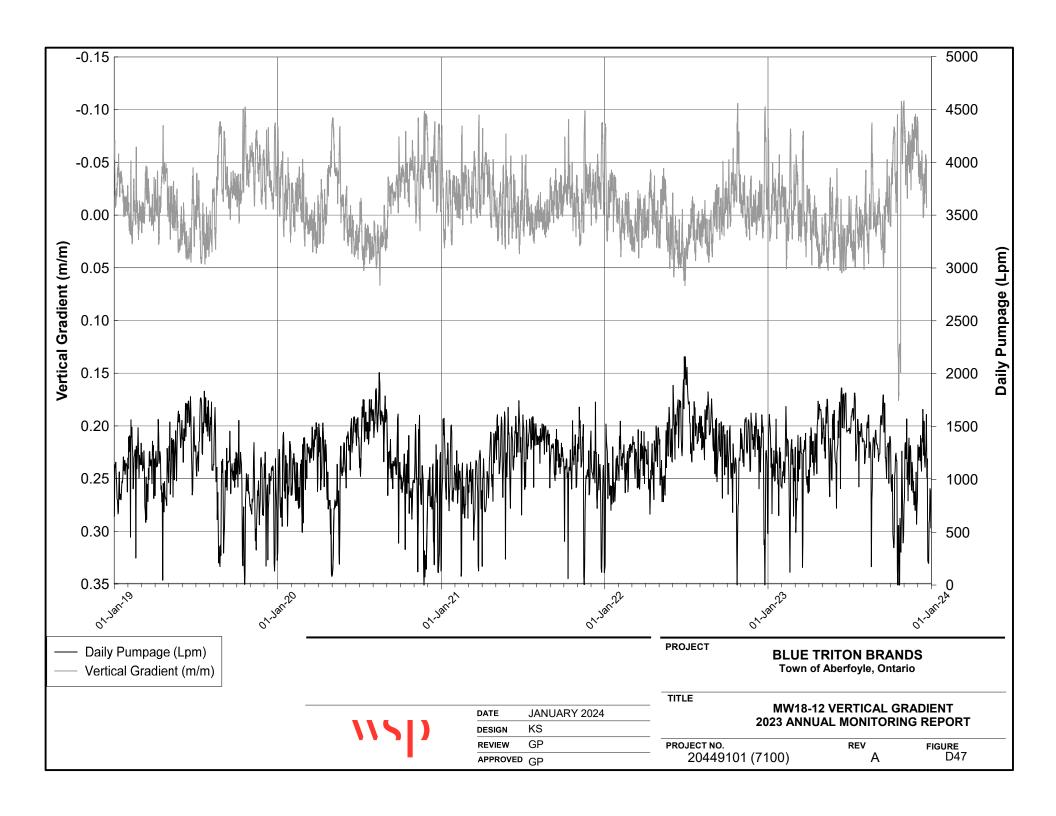


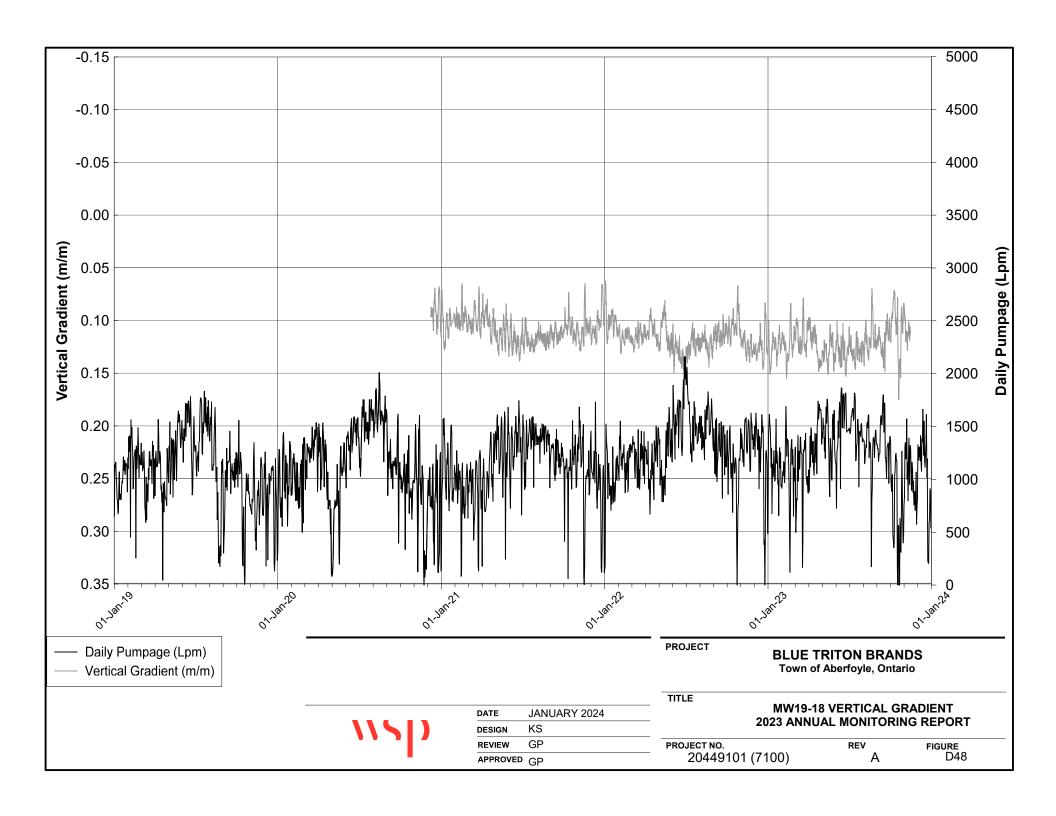


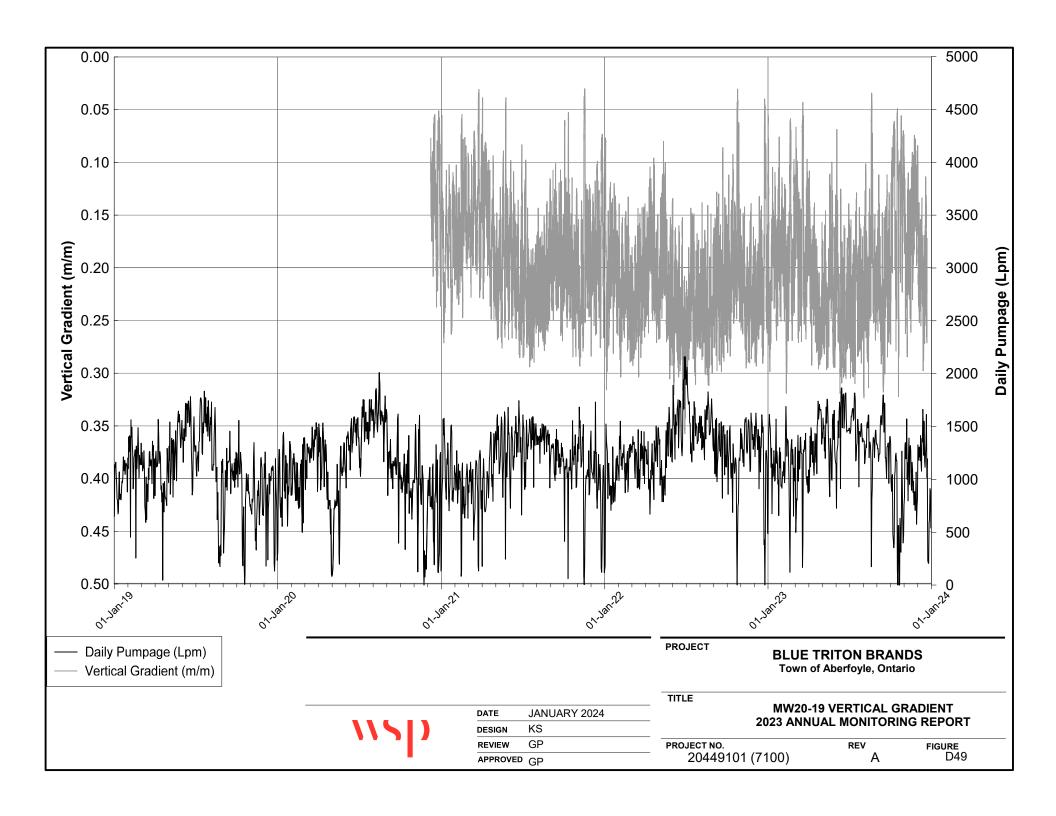


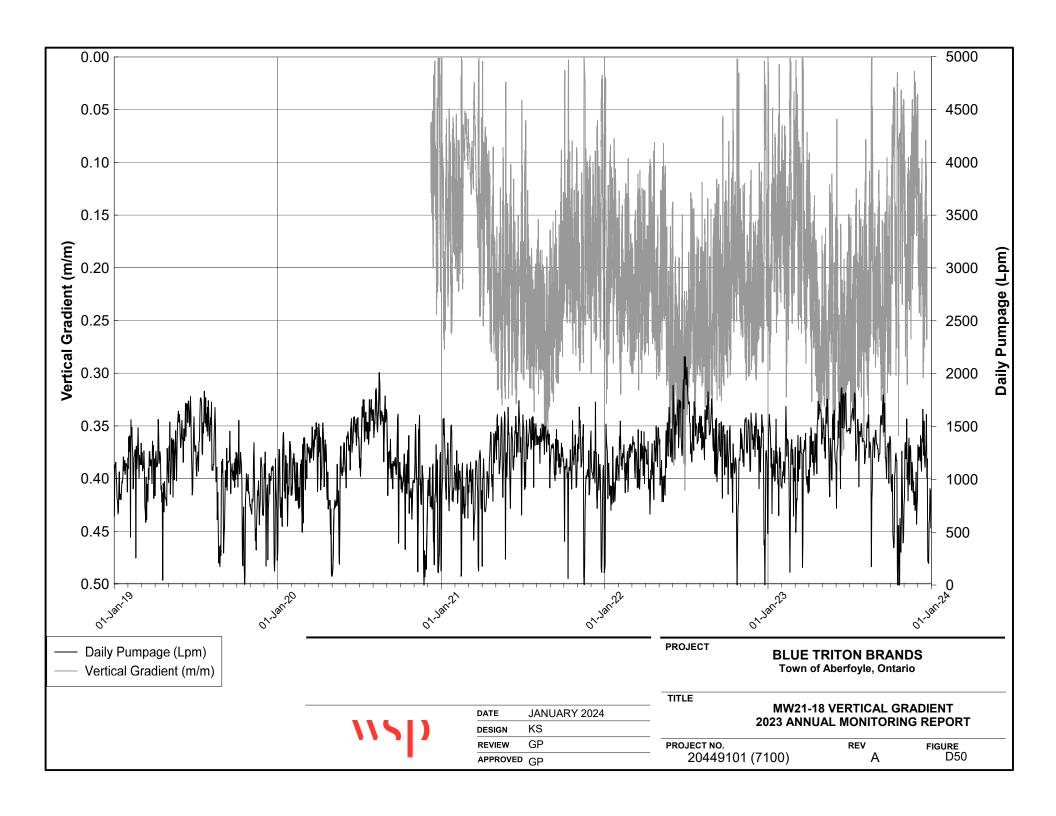












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APPENDIX E

Surface Water Level Monitoring



TABLE E1
Manual Surface Water Elevations (Mini Piezometers)
2023 Annual Report

Date	Water Level (masl)									
	MP1D-16	MP1S-16	MP16D-08	MP16S-08	MP6D-04	MP6S-08	MP12D-04	MP12S-04	MP14D-07	MP14S-07
17-Jan-23	318.81	318.24	312.05	312.04	311.45	311.45	311.30	311.36	311.39	311.11
21-Feb-23	318.88	318.30	312.19	312.18	311.55	311.54	311.40	311.45	311.46	311.17
24-Mar-23	319.03	318.50	312.51	312.51	311.77	311.76	311.57	311.63	311.65	311.27
19-Apr-23	318.89	318.32	312.28	312.29	311.60	311.58	311.53	311.49	311.50	311.21
17-May-23	318.82	318.24	312.21	312.23	311.52	311.50	311.44	311.40	311.42	311.17
21-Jun-23	318.78	318.22	312.11	312.13	311.47	311.45	311.34	311.31	311.36	311.14
19-Jul-23	318.82	318.26	312.24	312.26	311.58	311.56	311.46	311.44	311.46	311.19
22-Aug-23	318.84	318.27	312.28	312.30	311.63	311.60	311.54	311.50	311.48	311.22
19-Sep-23	318.79	318.22	312.10	312.13	311.50	311.49	311.35	311.34	311.38	311.17
19-Oct-23	318.80	318.24	312.12	312.13	311.54	311.52	311.43	311.44	311.40	311.16
16-Nov-23	318.77	318.26	312.14	312.15	311.56	311.54	311.47	311.44	311.46	311.18
22-Dec-23	318.87	318.26	312.15	312.15	311.54	311.52	311.41	311.40	311.46*	311.19

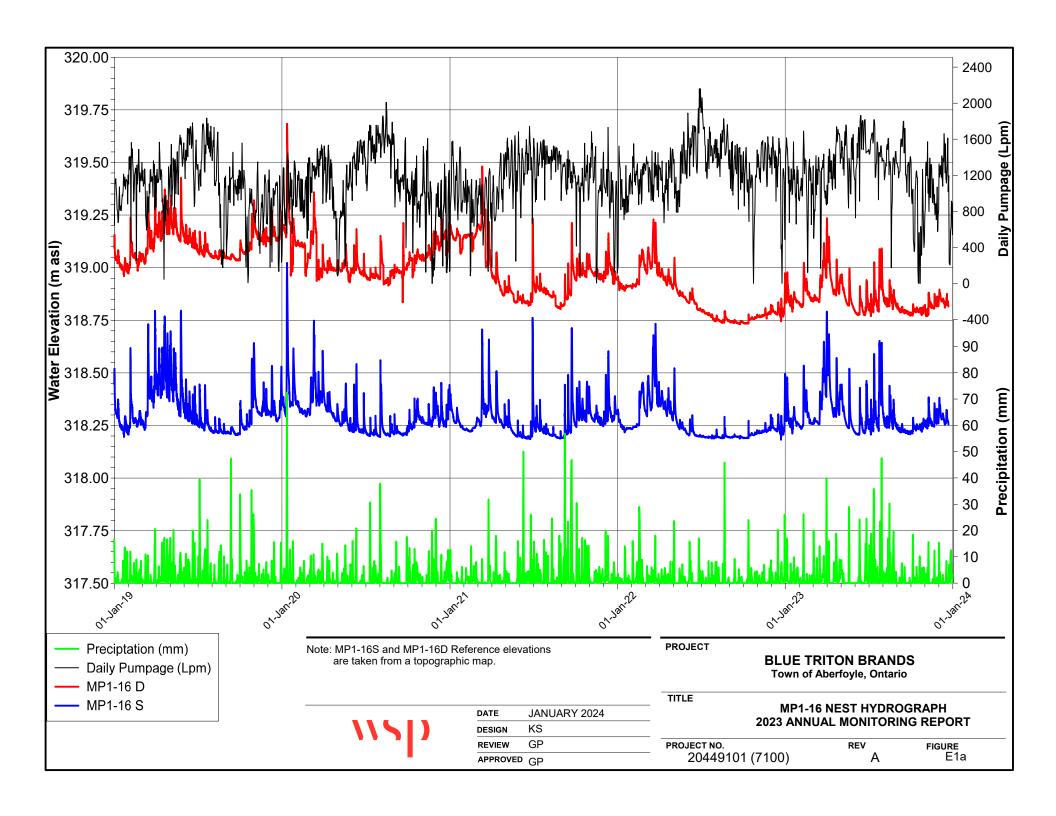
^{*} Water frozen

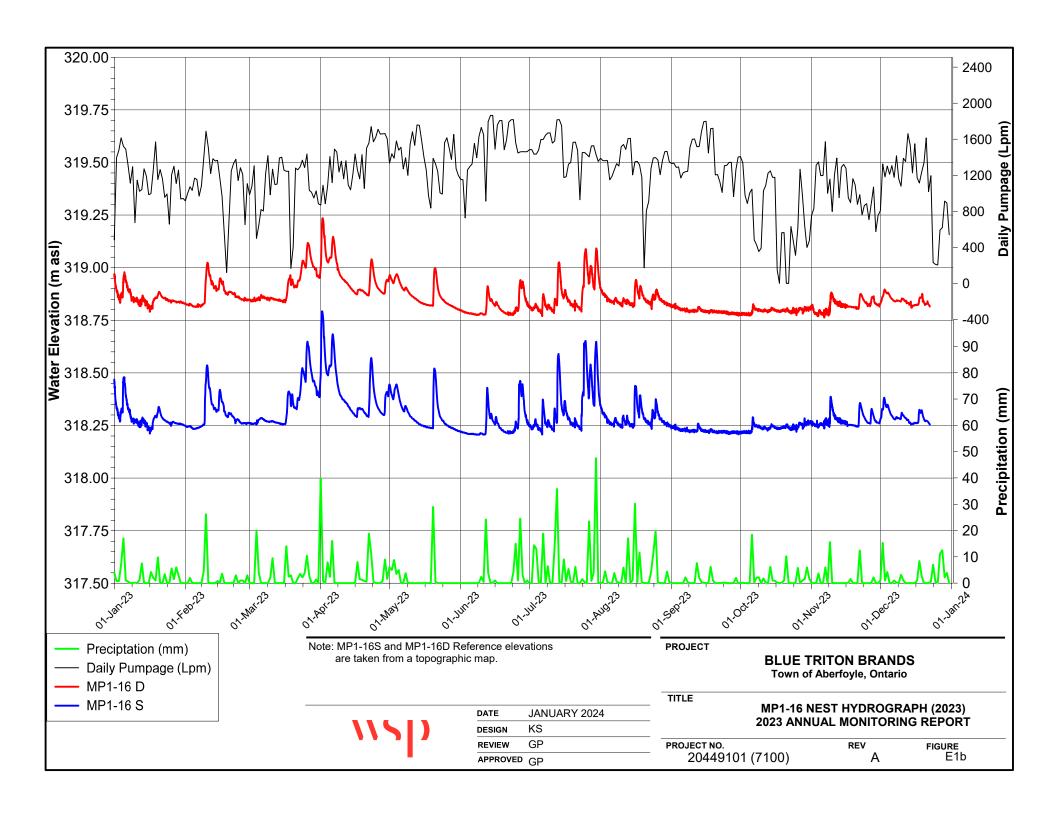
TABLE E1
Manual Surface Water Elevations (Mini Piezometers)
2023 Annual Report

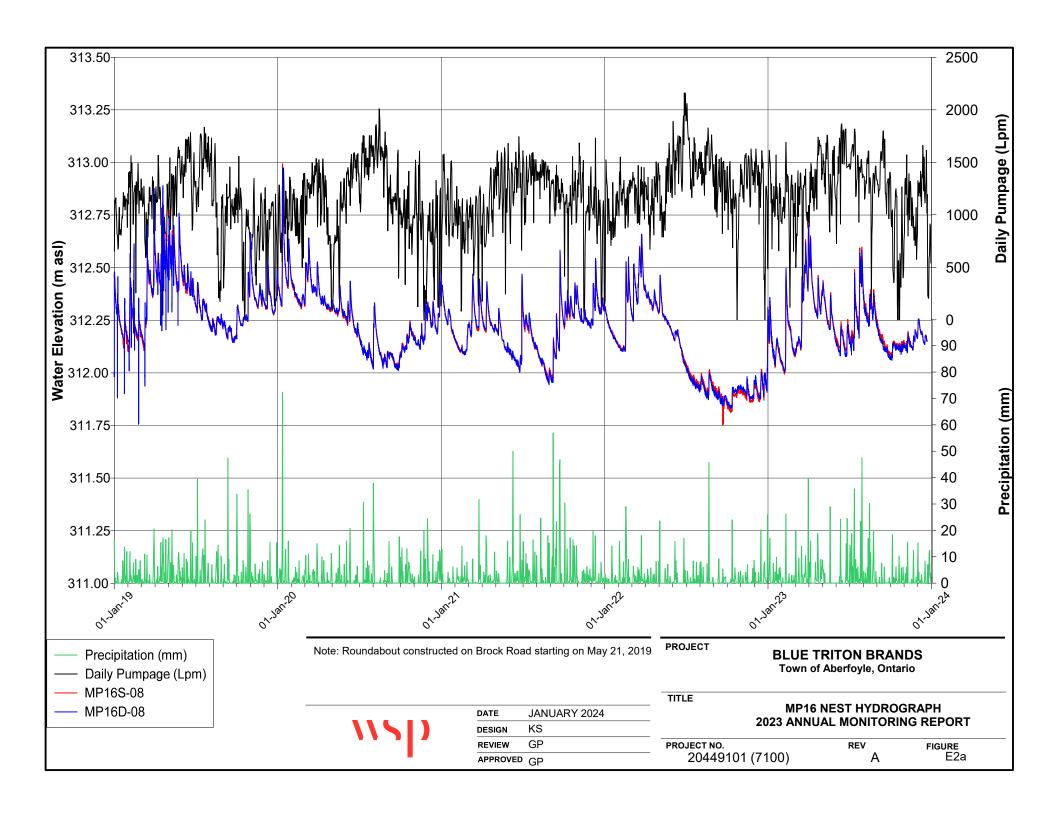
Data	Water Level (masl)								
Date	MP8D-04	MP8S-04	MP17D-11	MP17S-11	MP18D-11	MP18S-11			
17-Jan-23	310.29	310.28	309.51	309.53	308.21	308.25			
21-Feb-23	310.34	310.32	309.60	309.59	308.35	308.34			
24-Mar-23	310.47	310.45	309.76	309.75	308.53	308.50			
19-Apr-23	310.38	310.36	309.66	309.63	308.50	308.43			
17-May-23	310.33	310.32	309.59	309.57	308.42	308.38			
21-Jun-23	310.30	310.28	309.51	309.52	308.39	308.30			
19-Jul-23	310.33	310.32	309.58	309.57	308.37	308.34			
22-Aug-23	310.35	310.33	309.61	309.58	308.47	308.40			
19-Sep-23	310.30	310.28	309.51	309.53	308.40	308.40			
19-Oct-23	310.32	310.29	309.56	309.58	308.40	308.45			
16-Nov-23	310.33	310.30	309.58	309.61	308.38	308.42			
22-Dec-23	310.34	310.32	309.60	309.62	308.39	308.40			

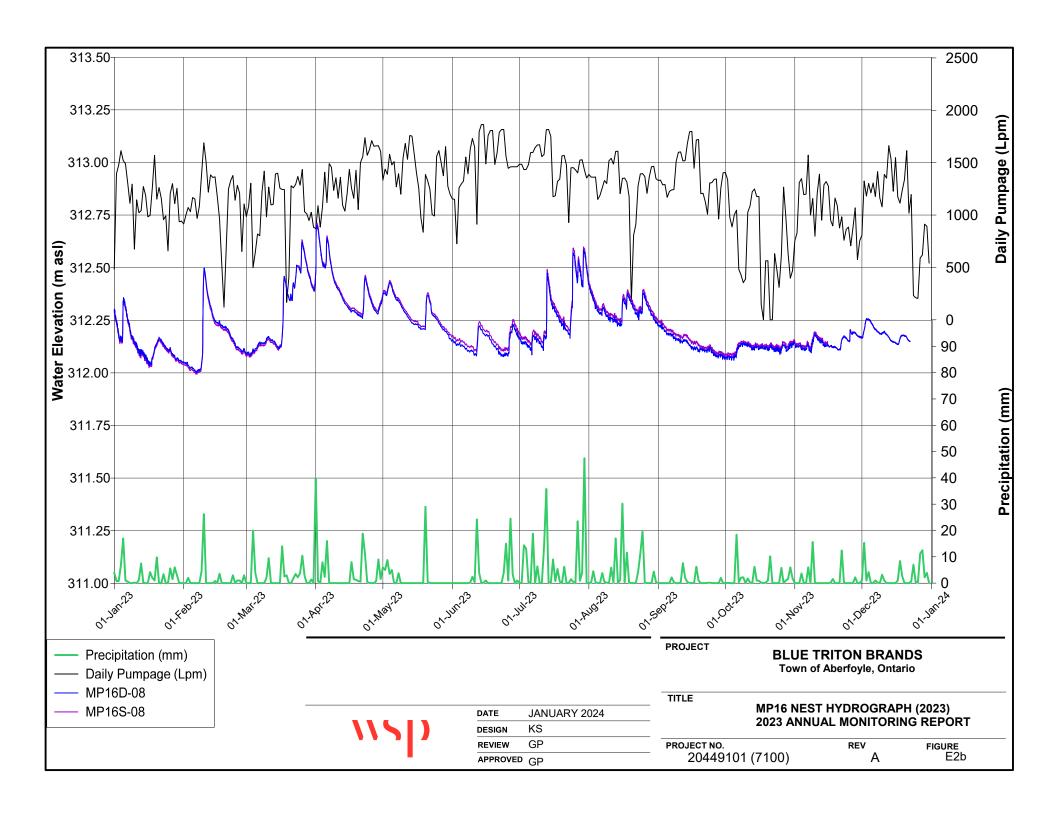
TABLE E2
Manual Surface Water Elevations (Surface Water Stations)
2023 Annual Report

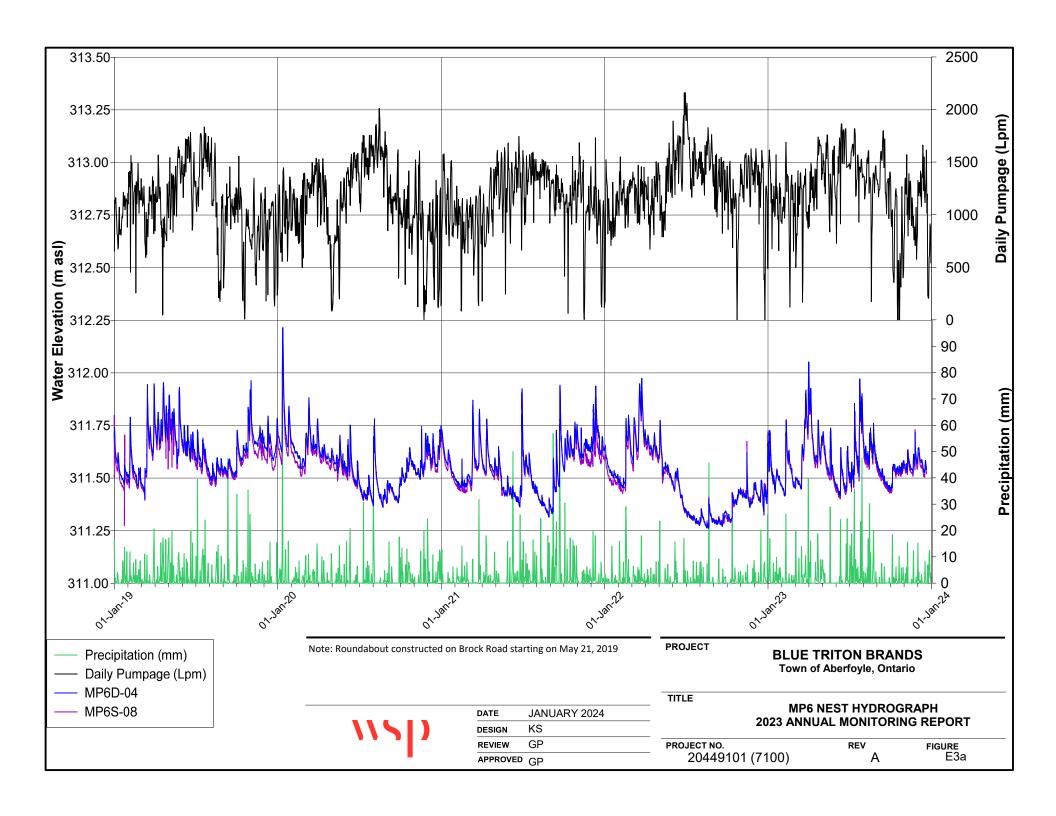
Date	Water Level (masl)							
Date	SW1	SW2	SW3	SW4	SW5			
17-Jan-23	311.50	310.44	317.33	312.45	307.26			
21-Feb-23	311.52	310.46	317.35	312.45	307.36			
24-Mar-23	311.76	310.56	317.43	312.60	307.48			
19-Apr-23	311.57	310.46	317.40	312.47	307.37			
17-May-23	311.43	310.38	317.30	312.42	307.32			
21-Jun-23	311.41	310.42	317.31	312.40	307.24			
19-Jul-23	311.48	310.44	317.33	312.45	307.33			
22-Aug-23	311.49	310.44	317.38	312.45	307.38			
19-Sep-23	311.44	310.41	317.35	312.44	307.28			
19-Oct-23	311.46	310.41	317.34	312.45	307.31			
16-Nov-23	311.52	310.44	317.31	312.45	307.32			
22-Dec-23	311.56	310.44	317.34	312.44	307.31			

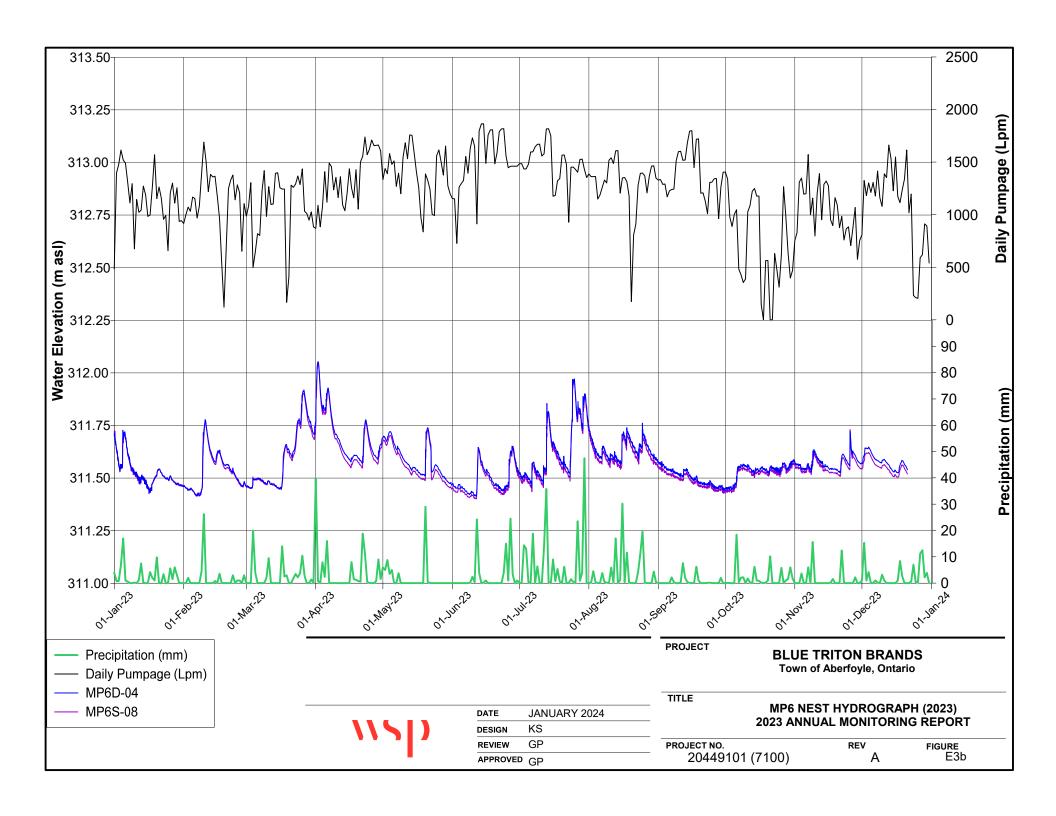


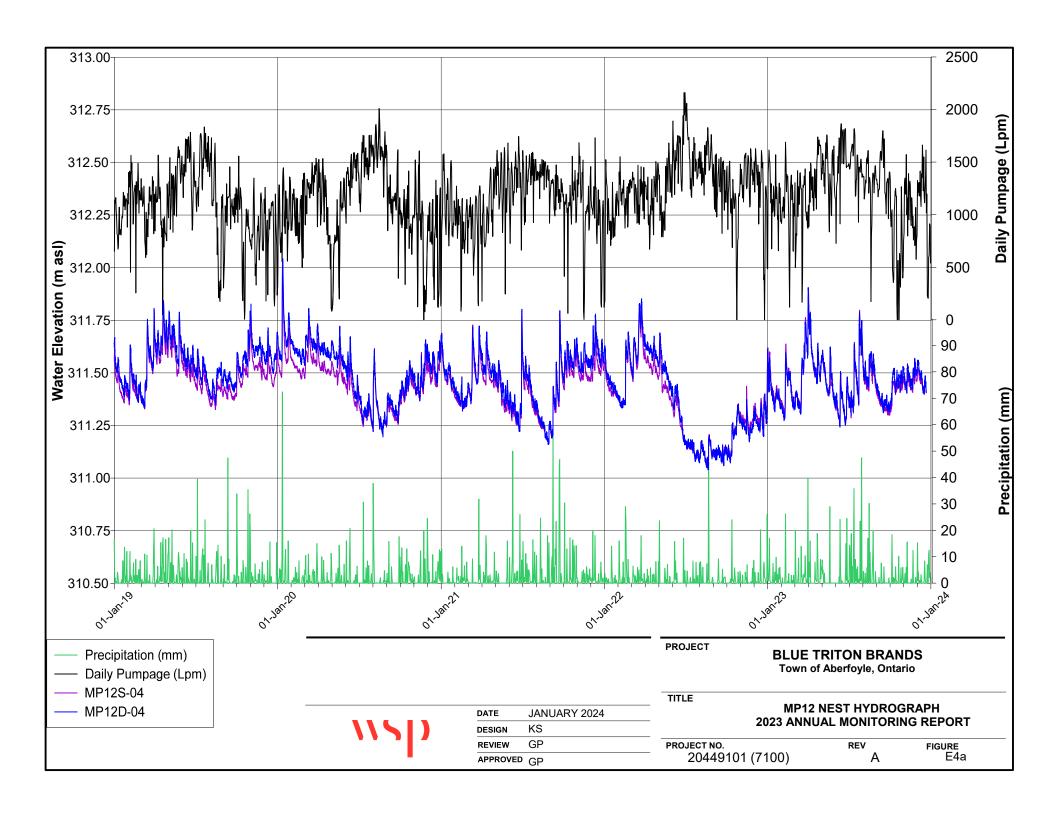


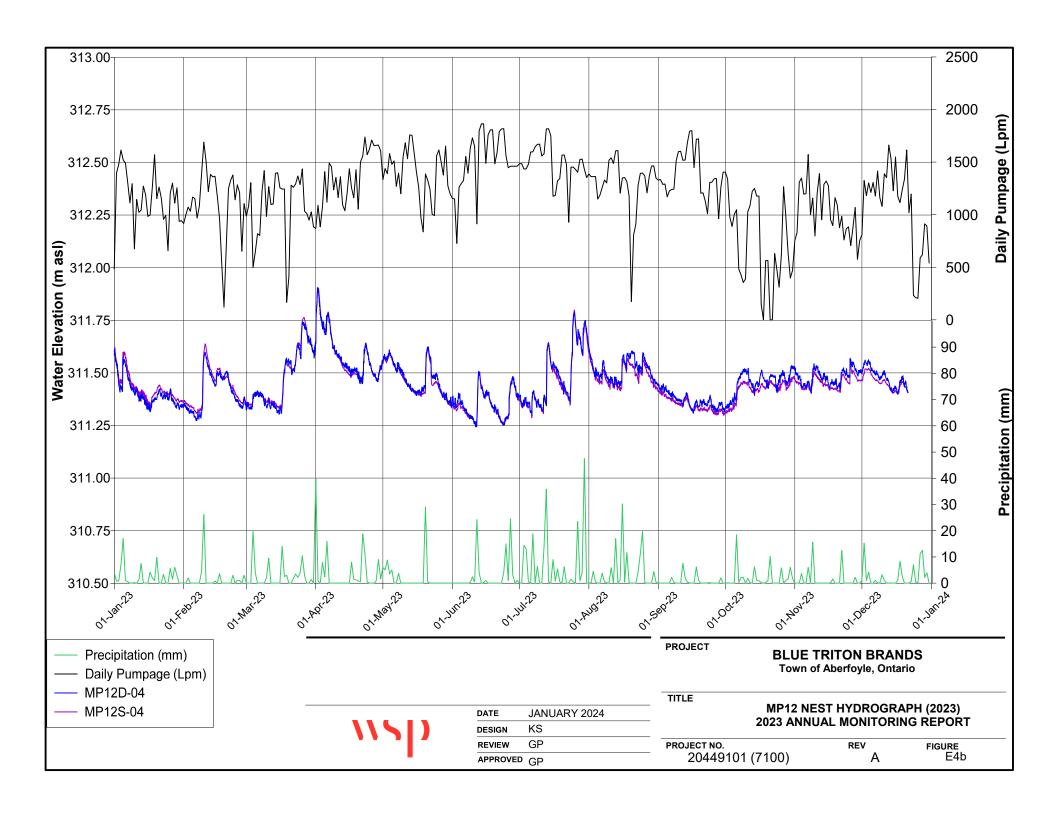


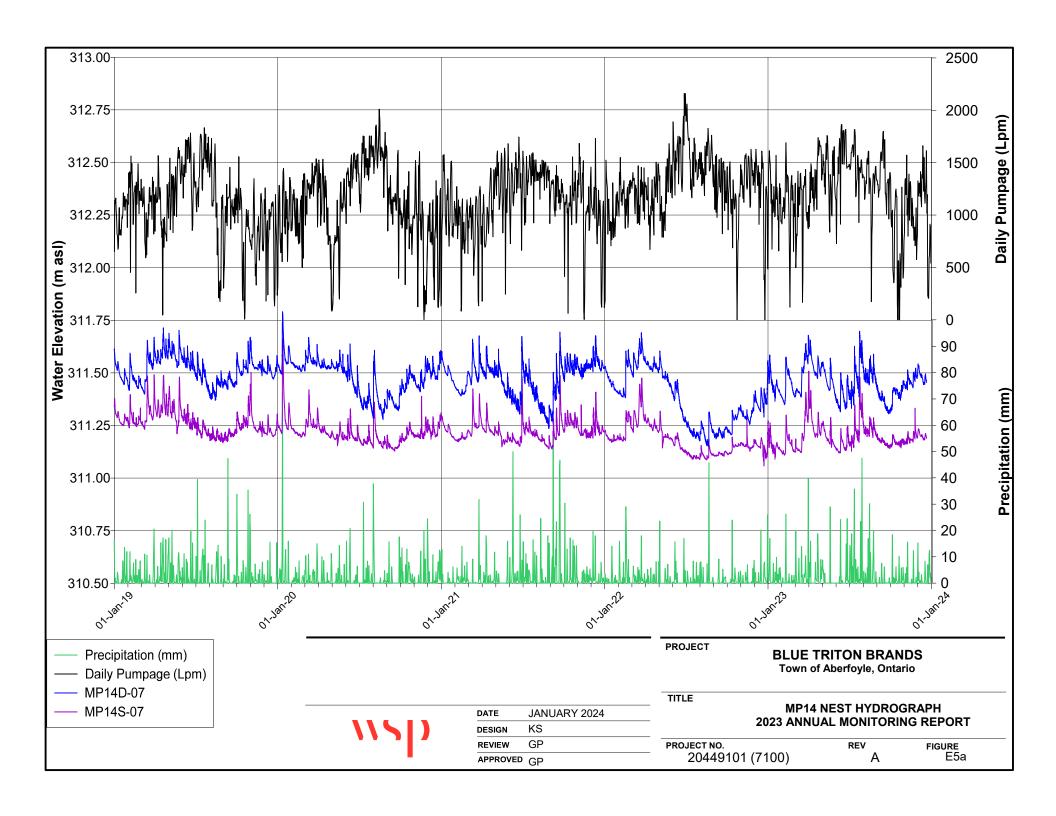


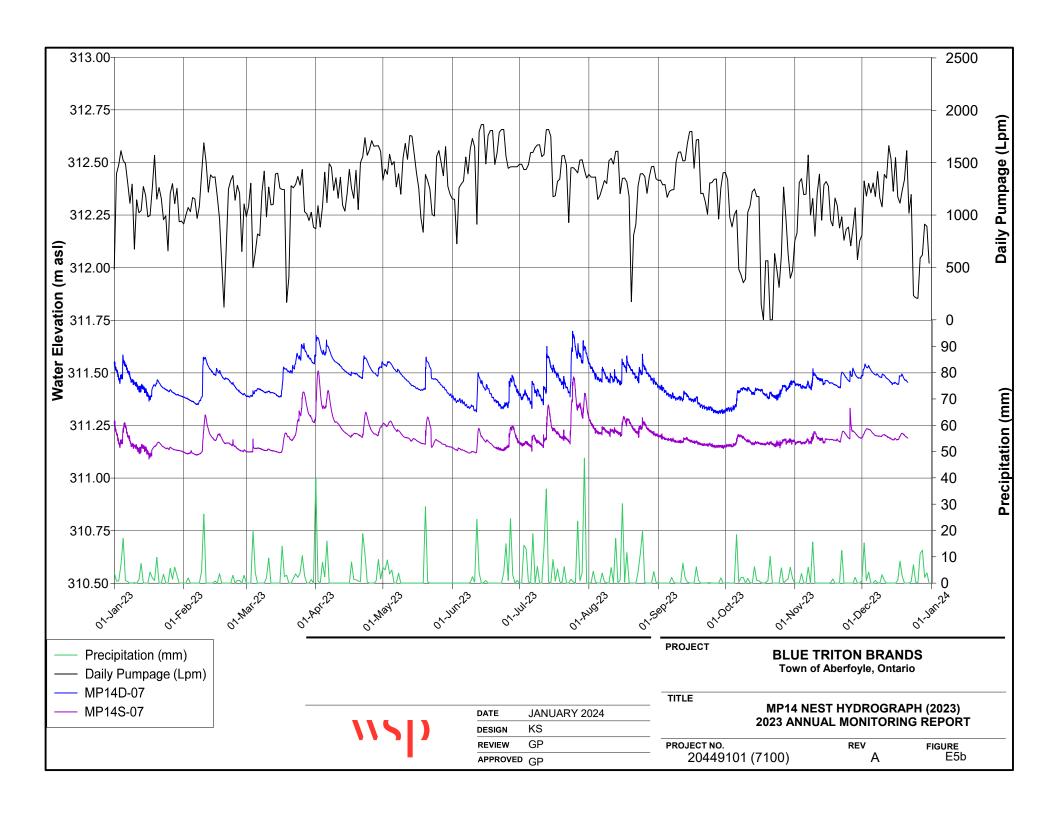


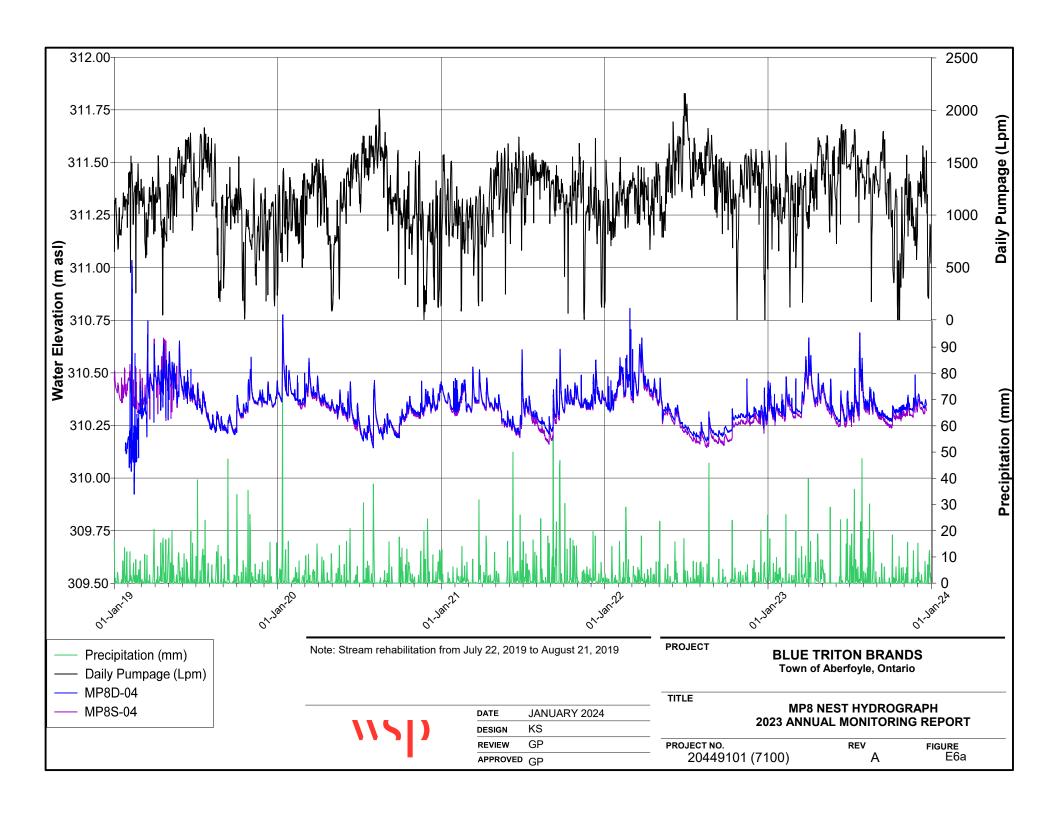


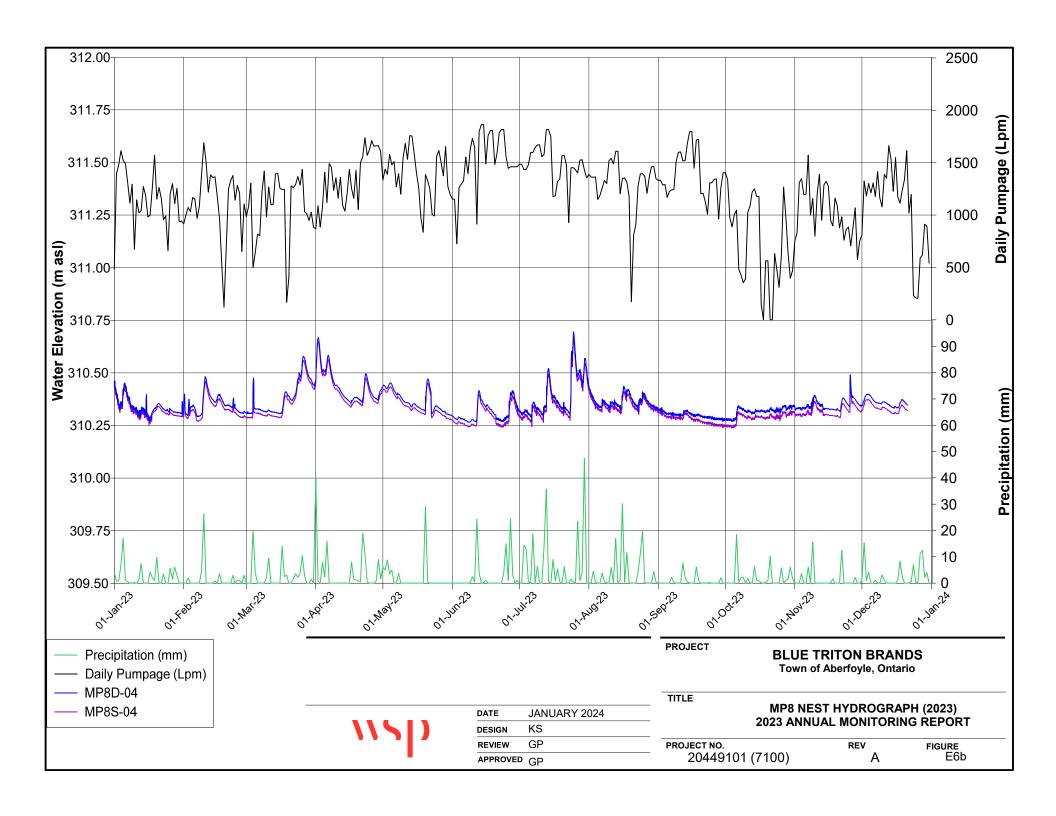


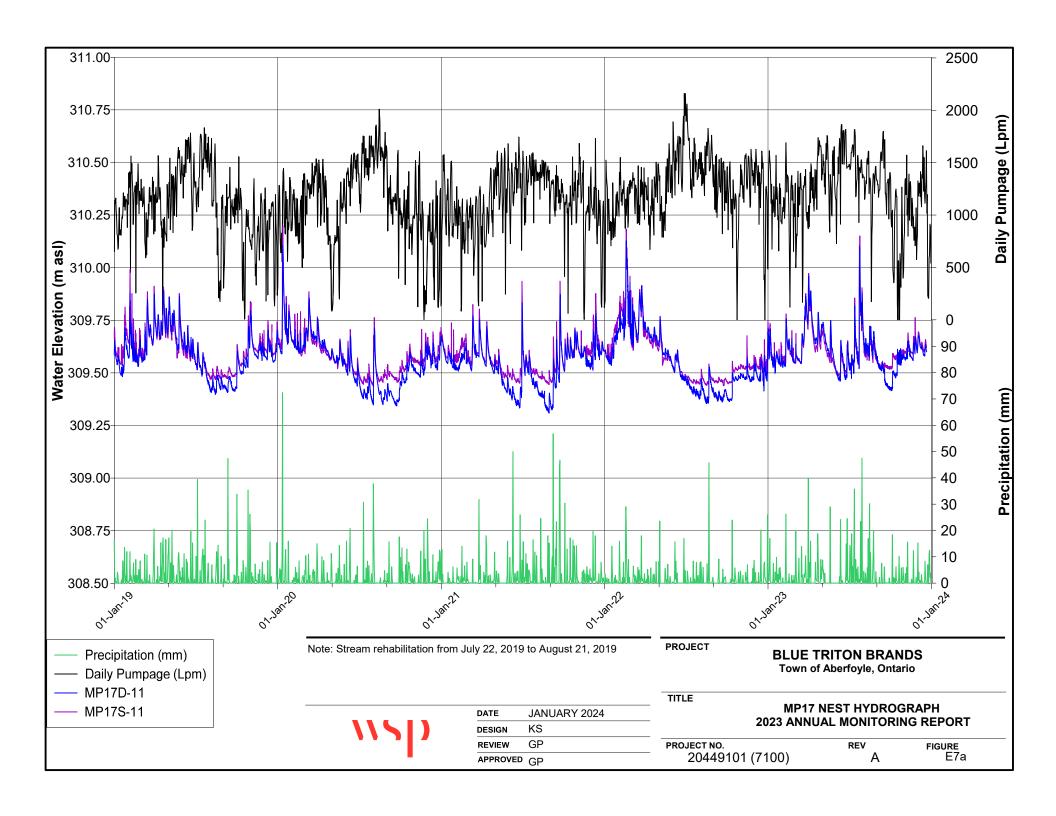


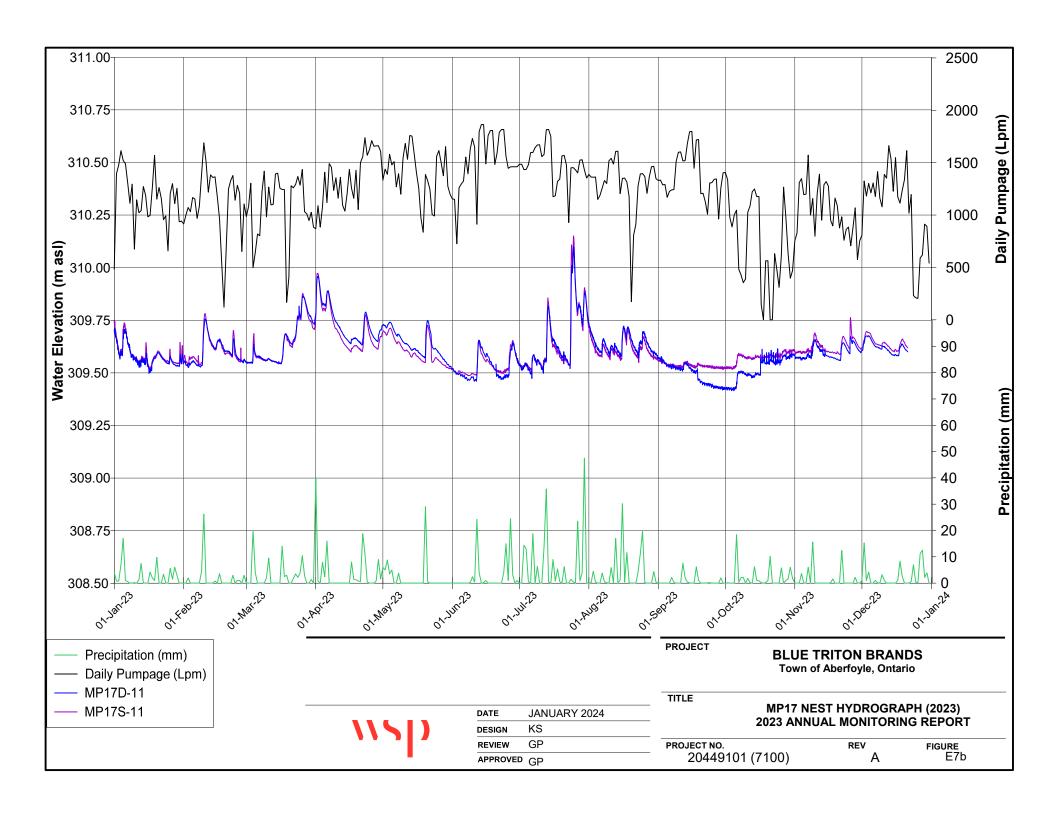


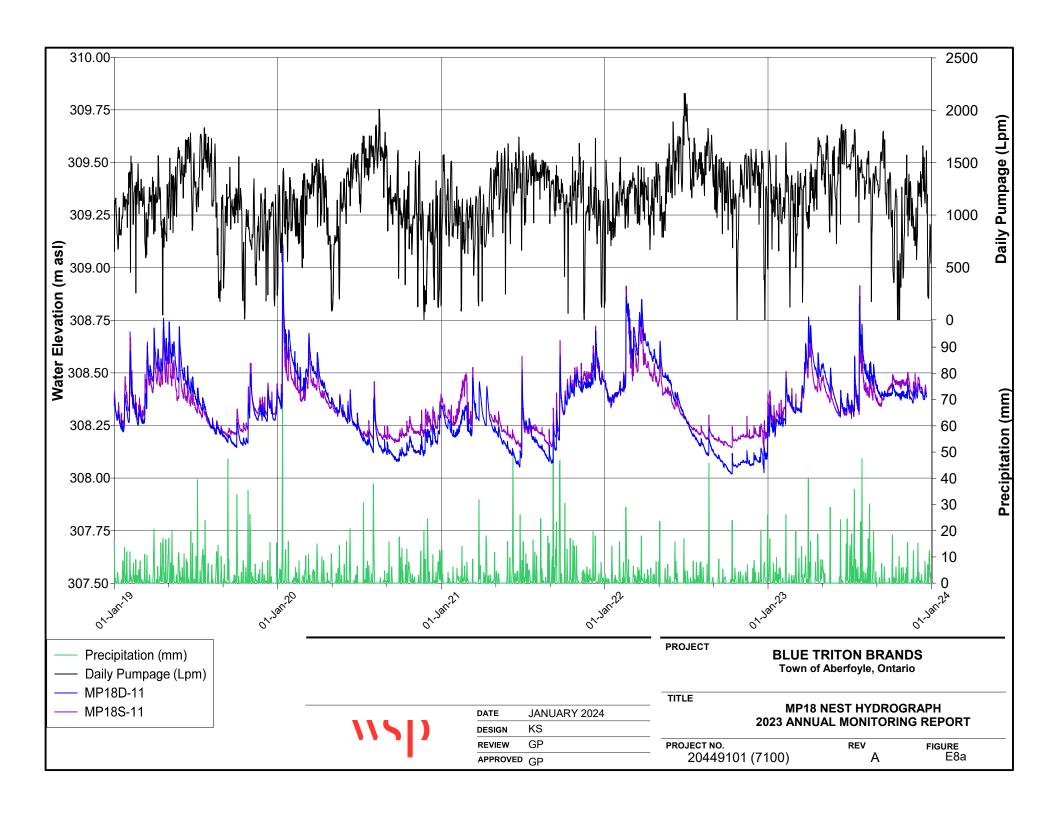


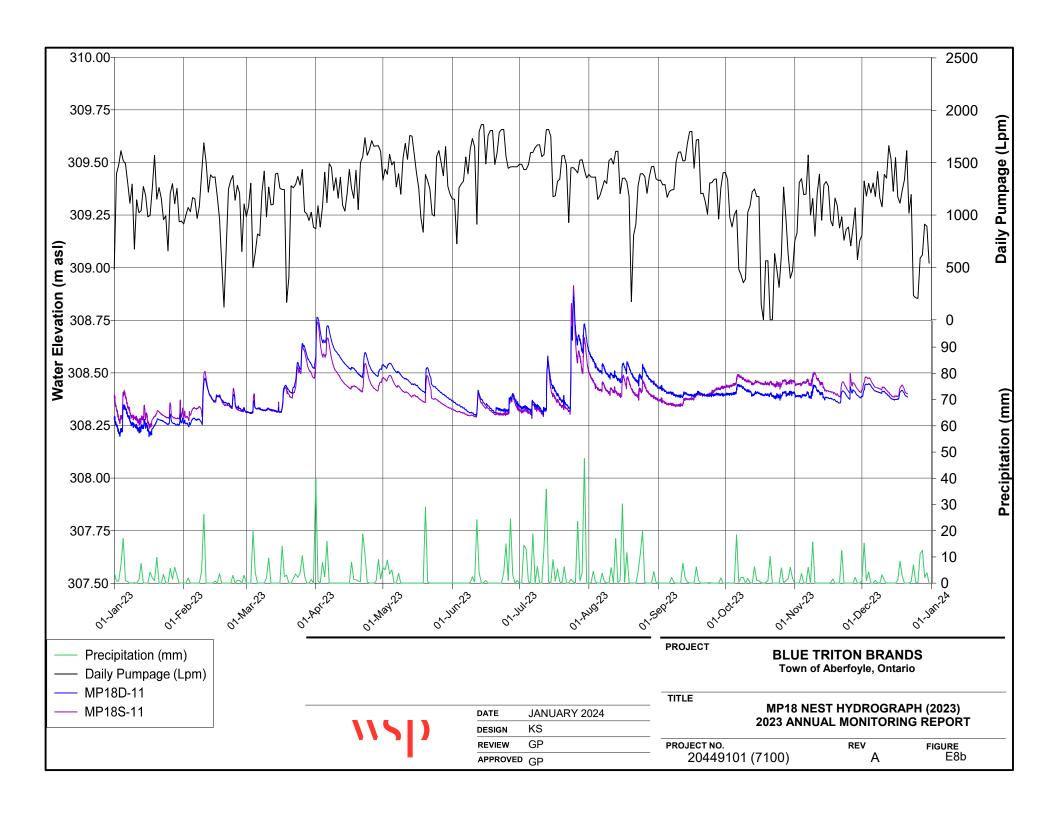


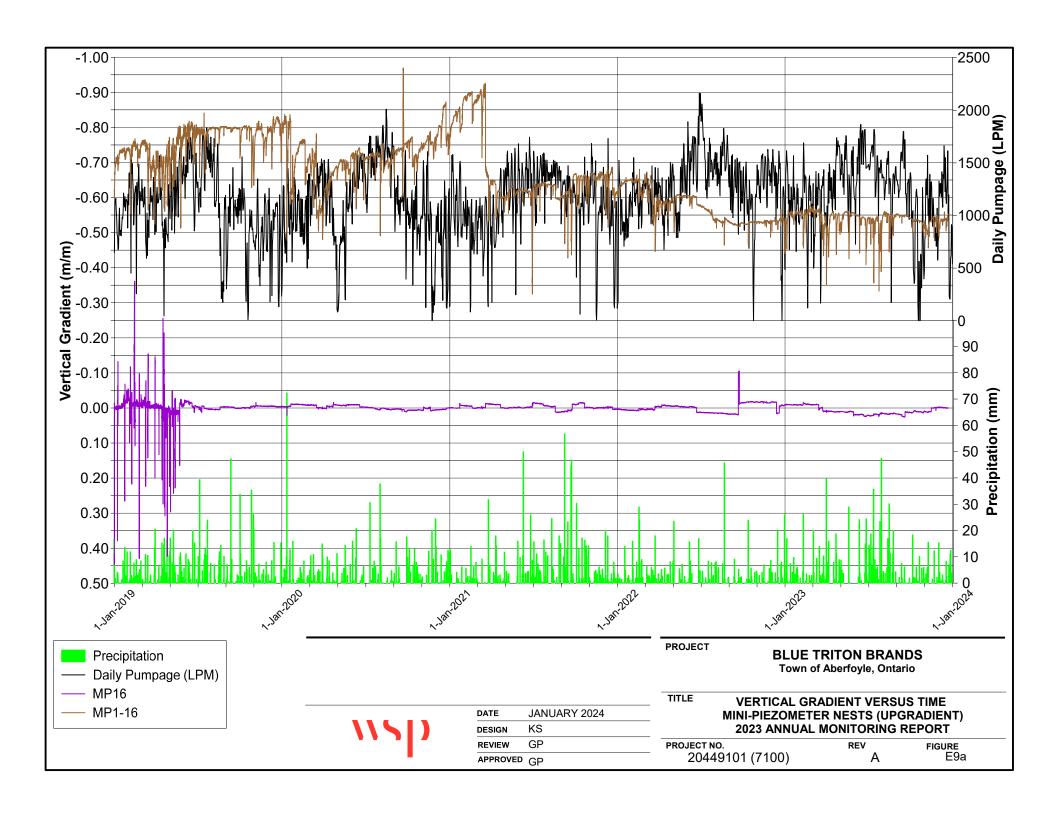


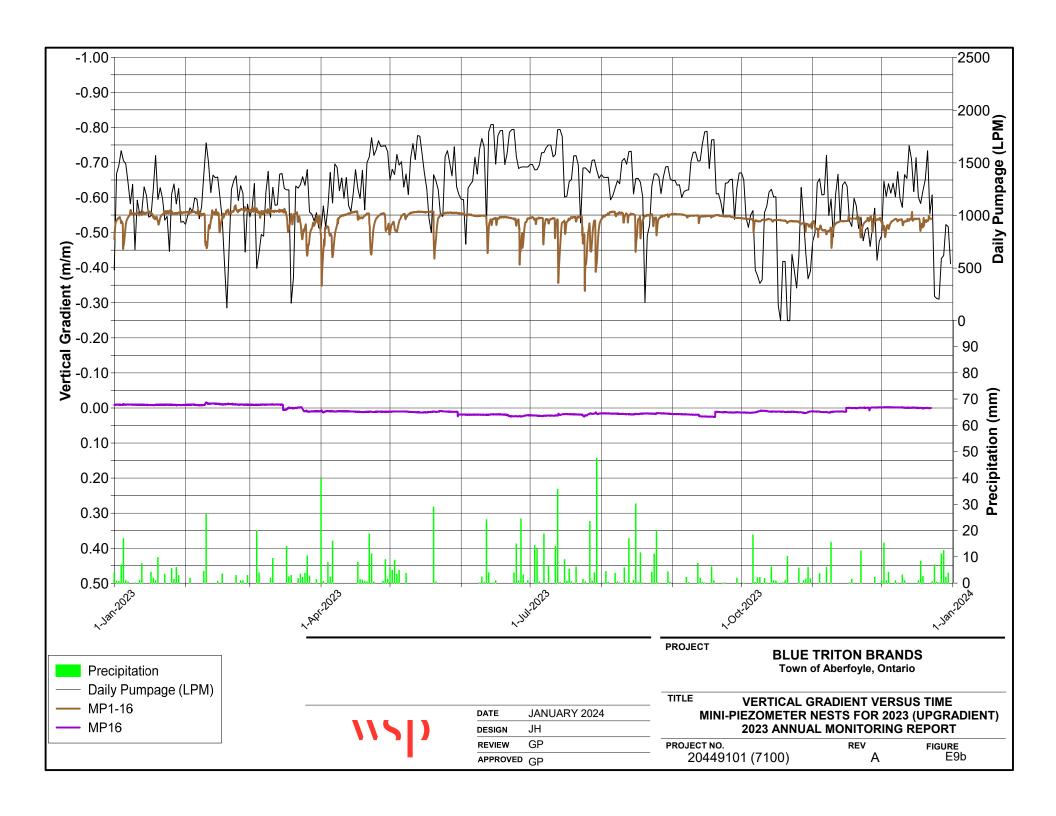


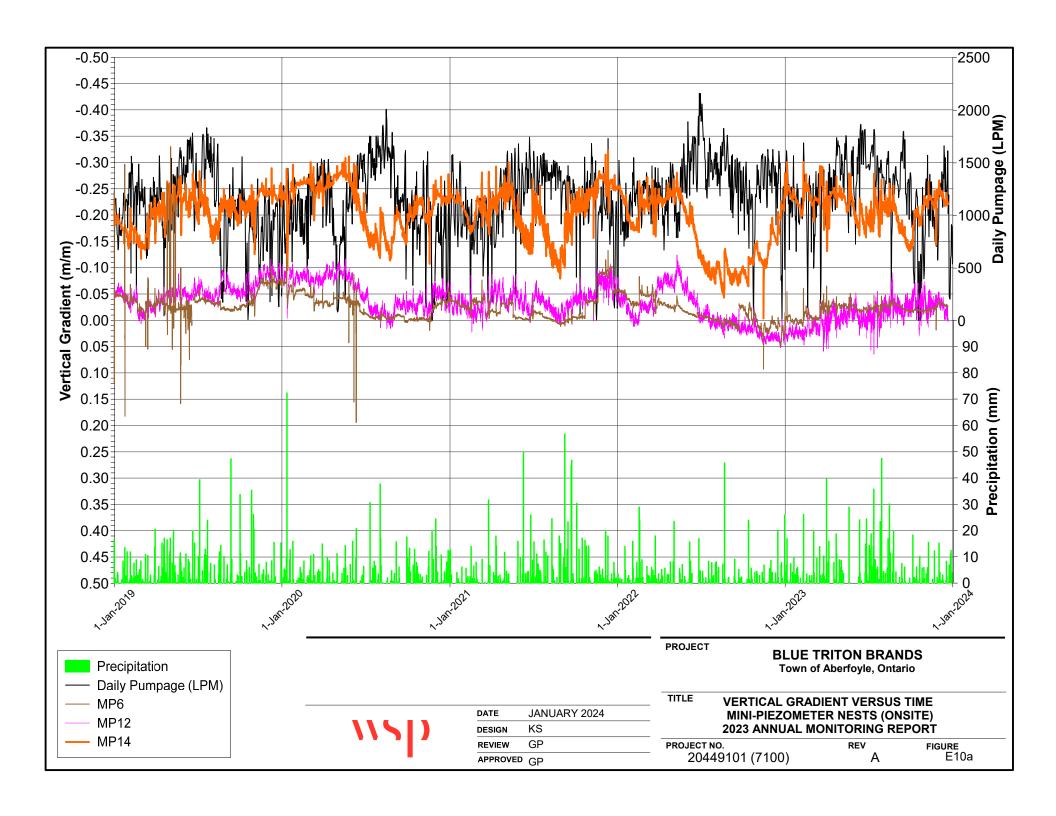


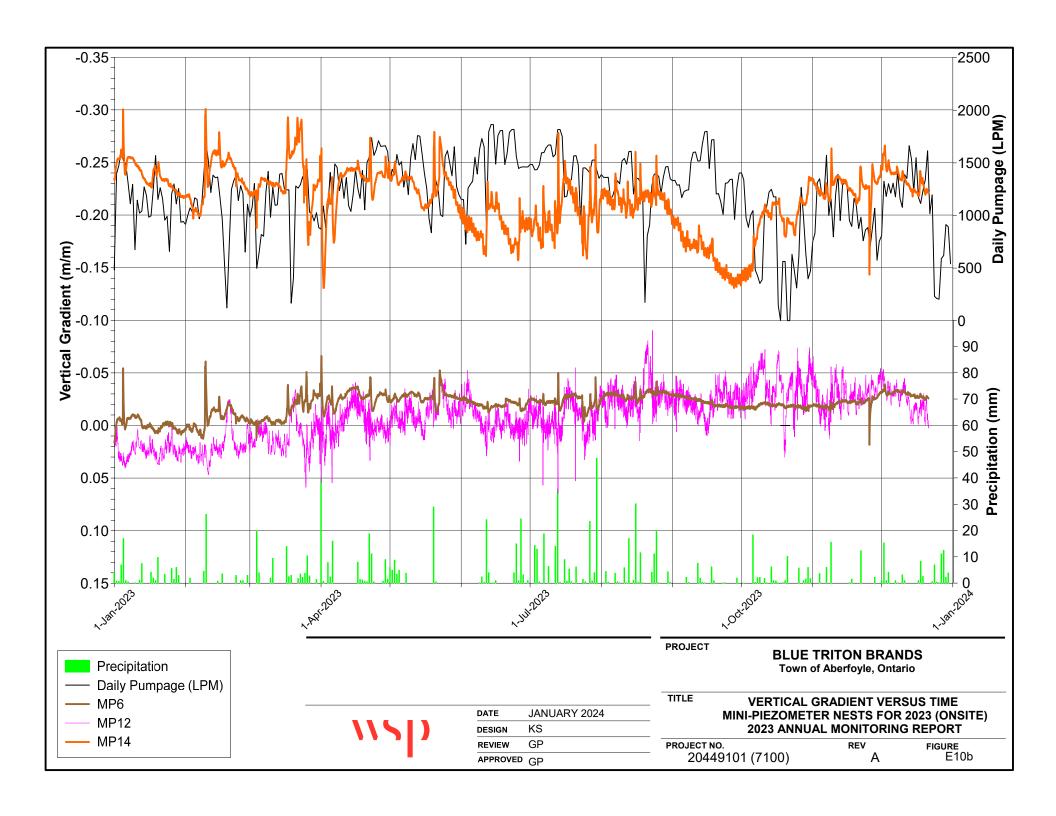


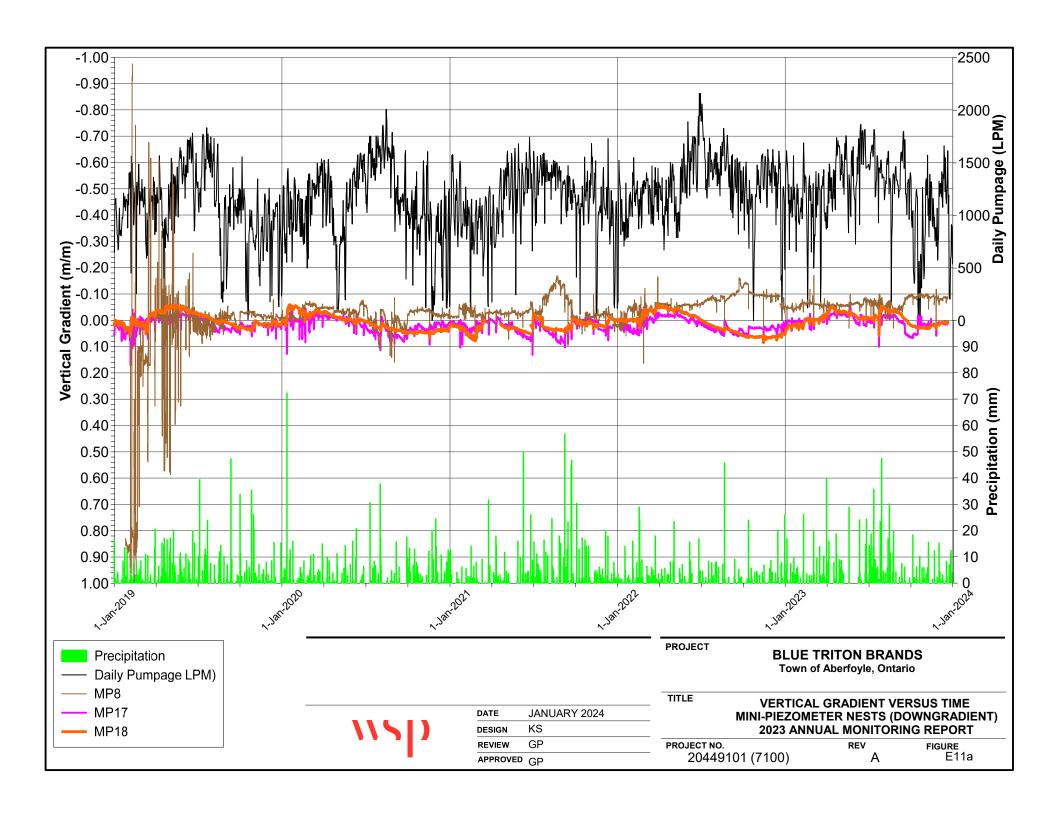


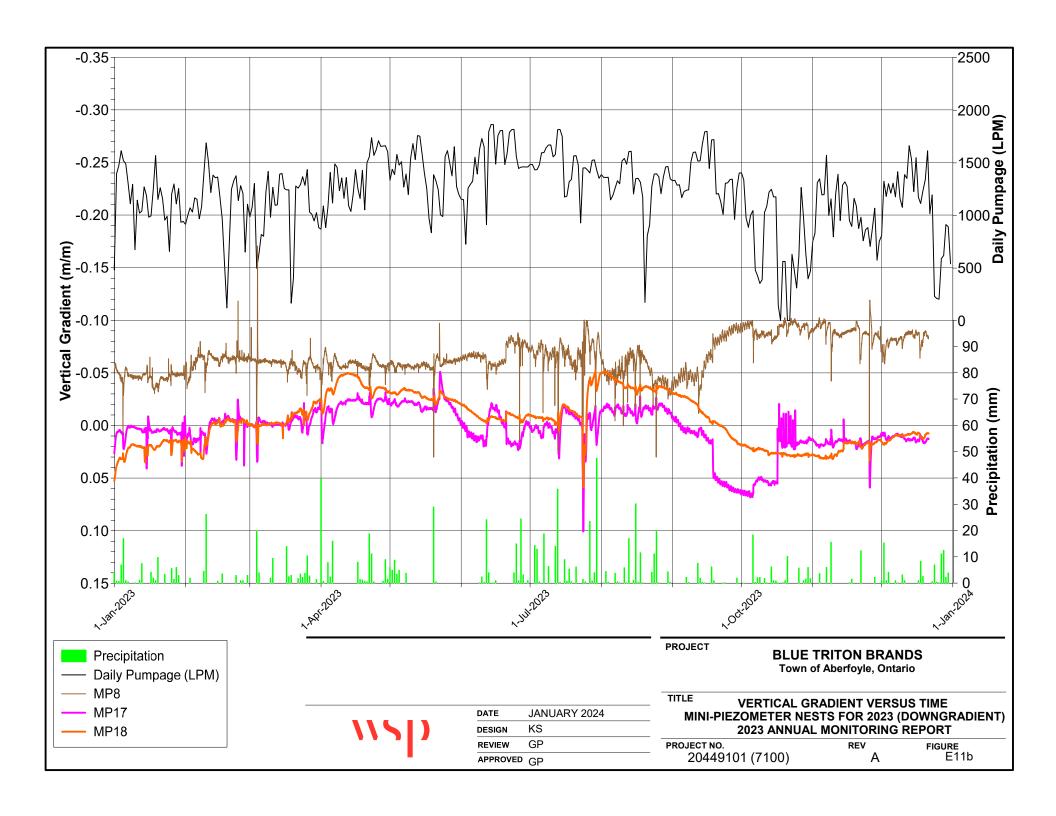


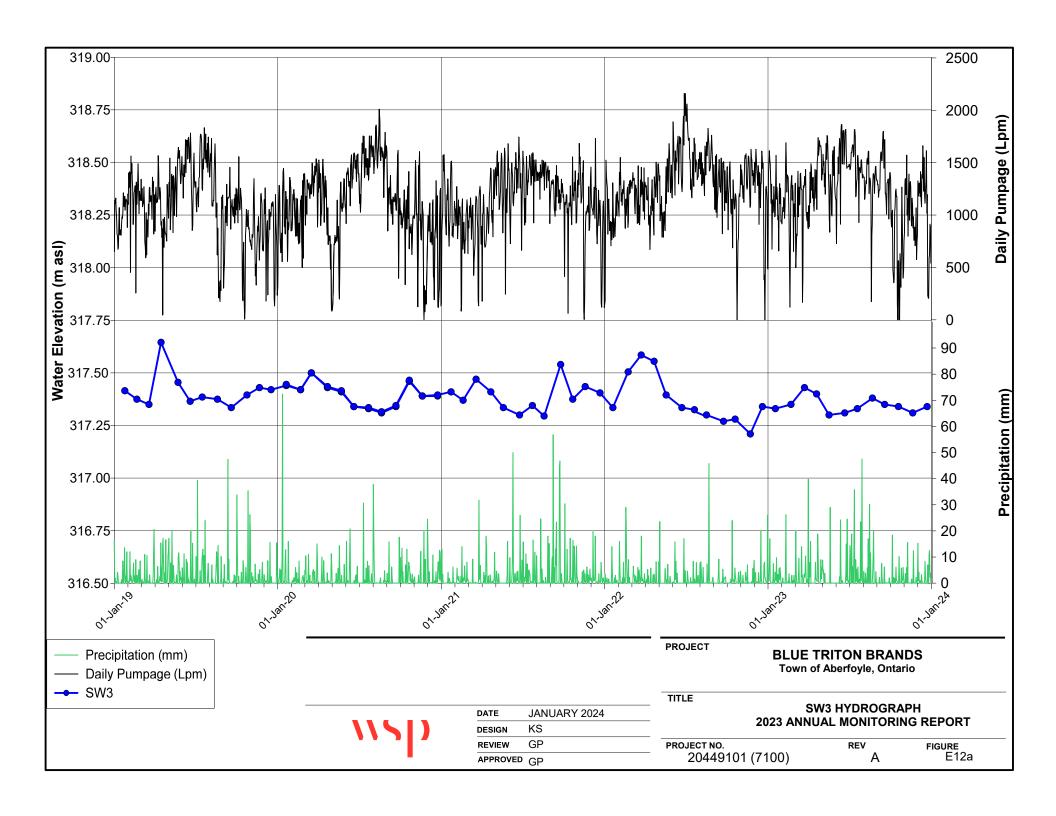


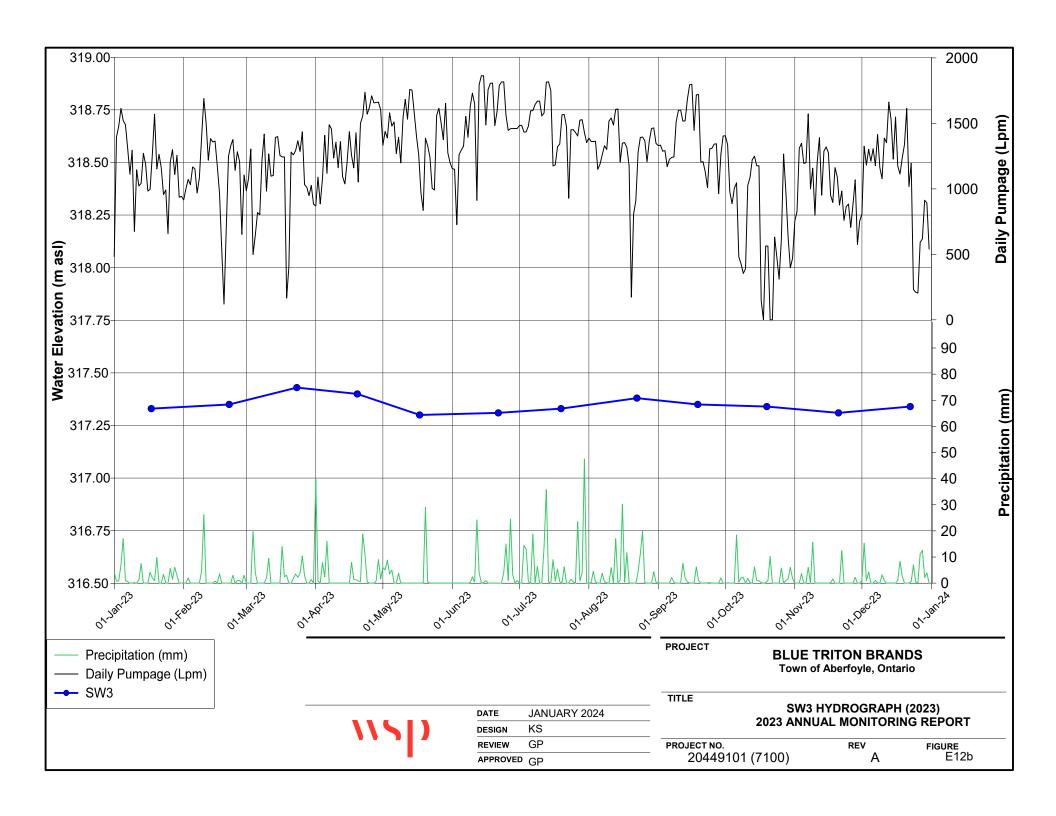


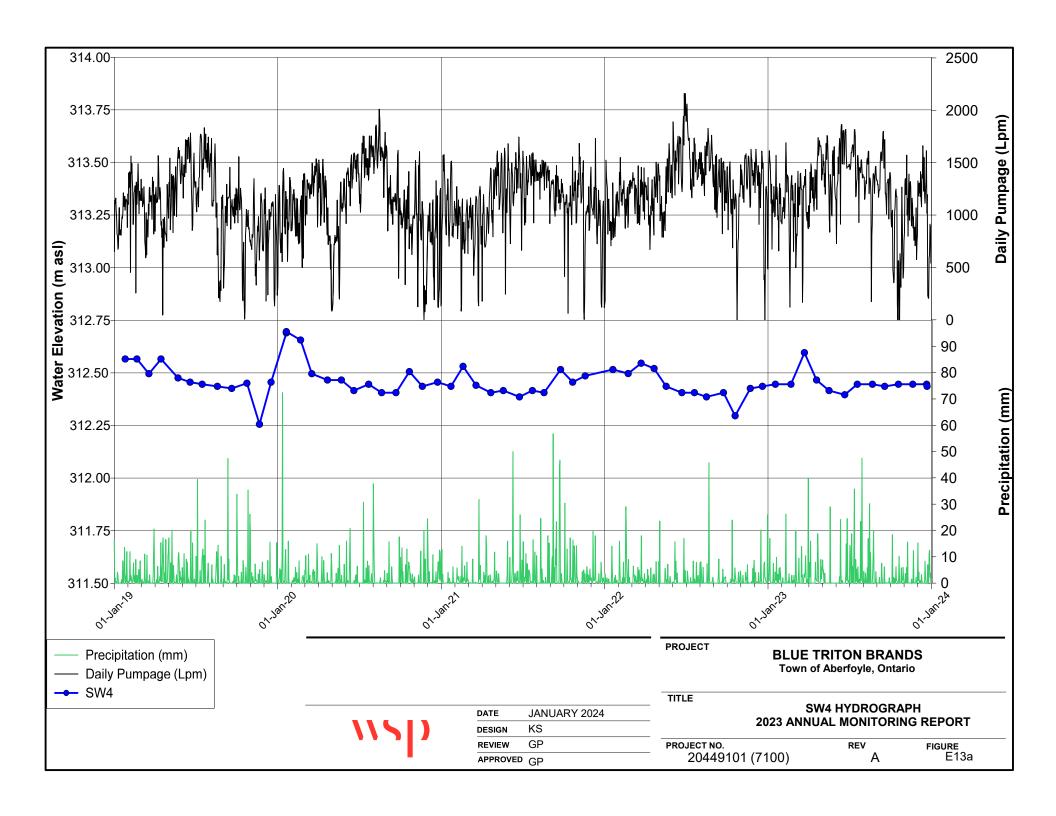


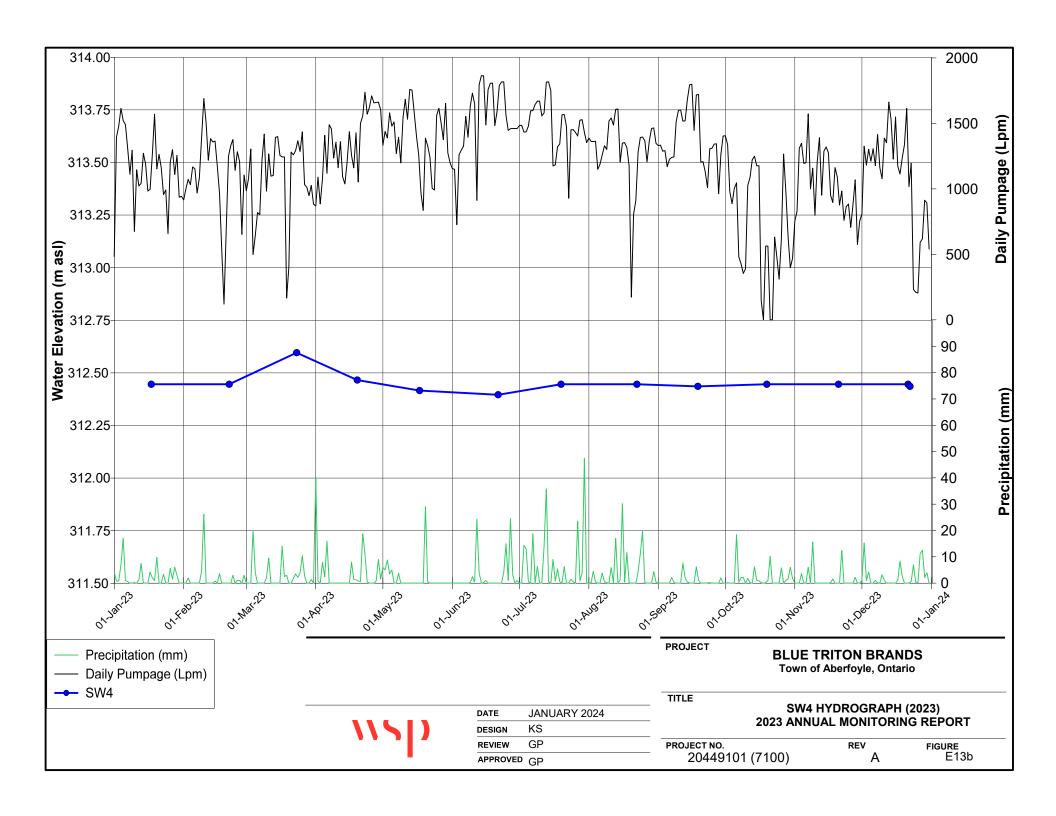


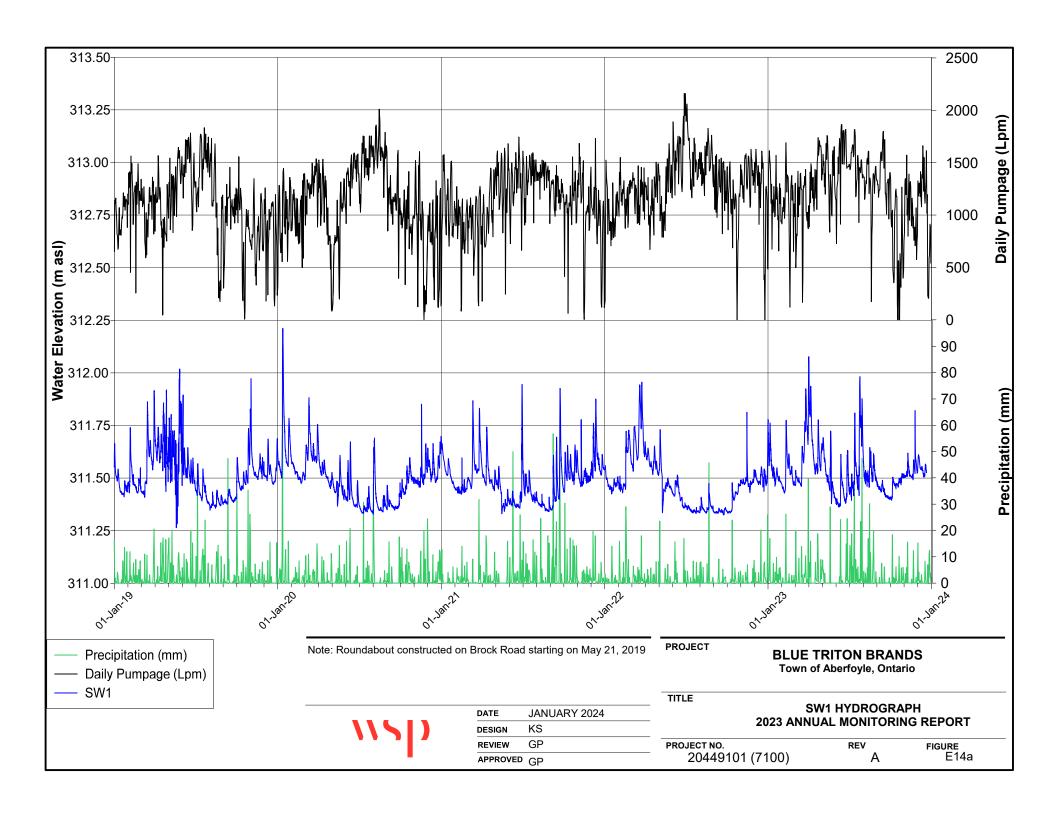


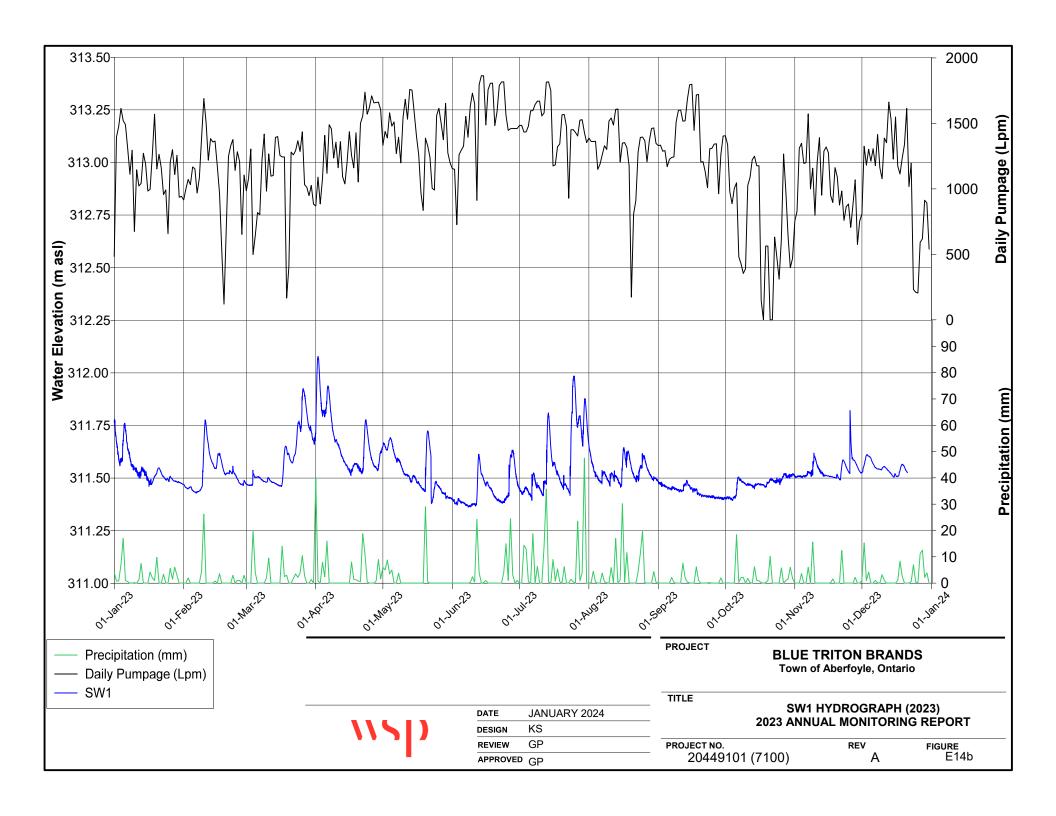


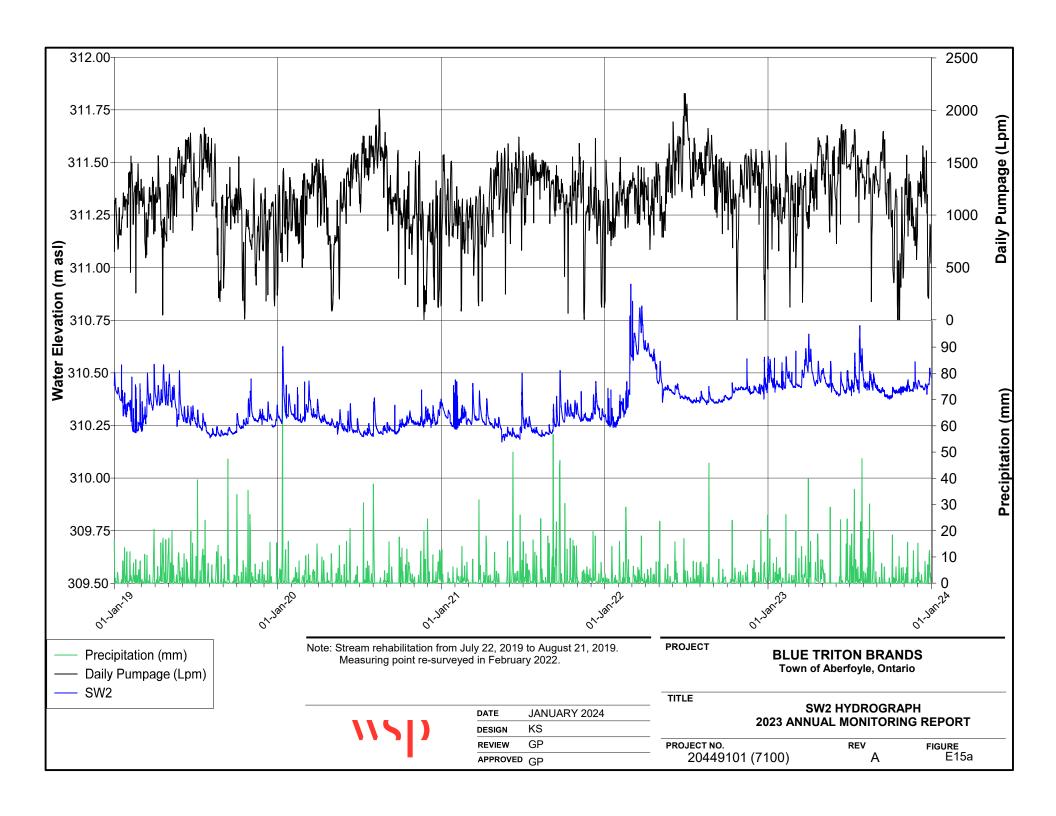


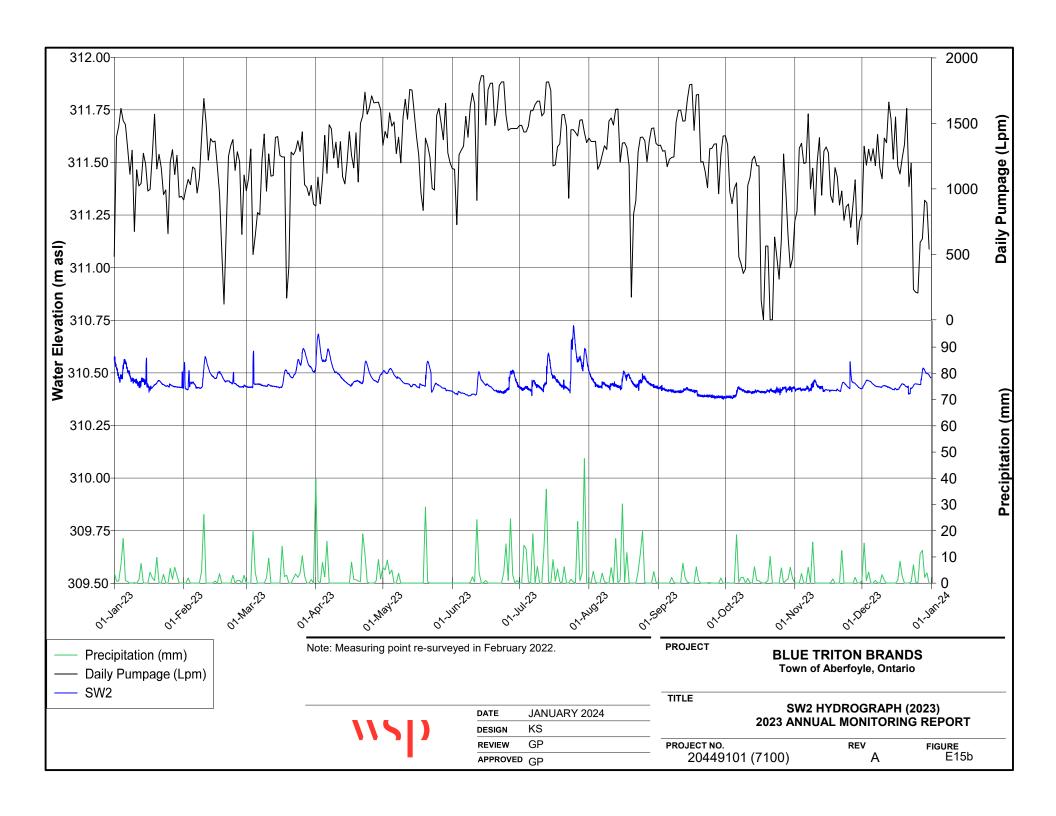


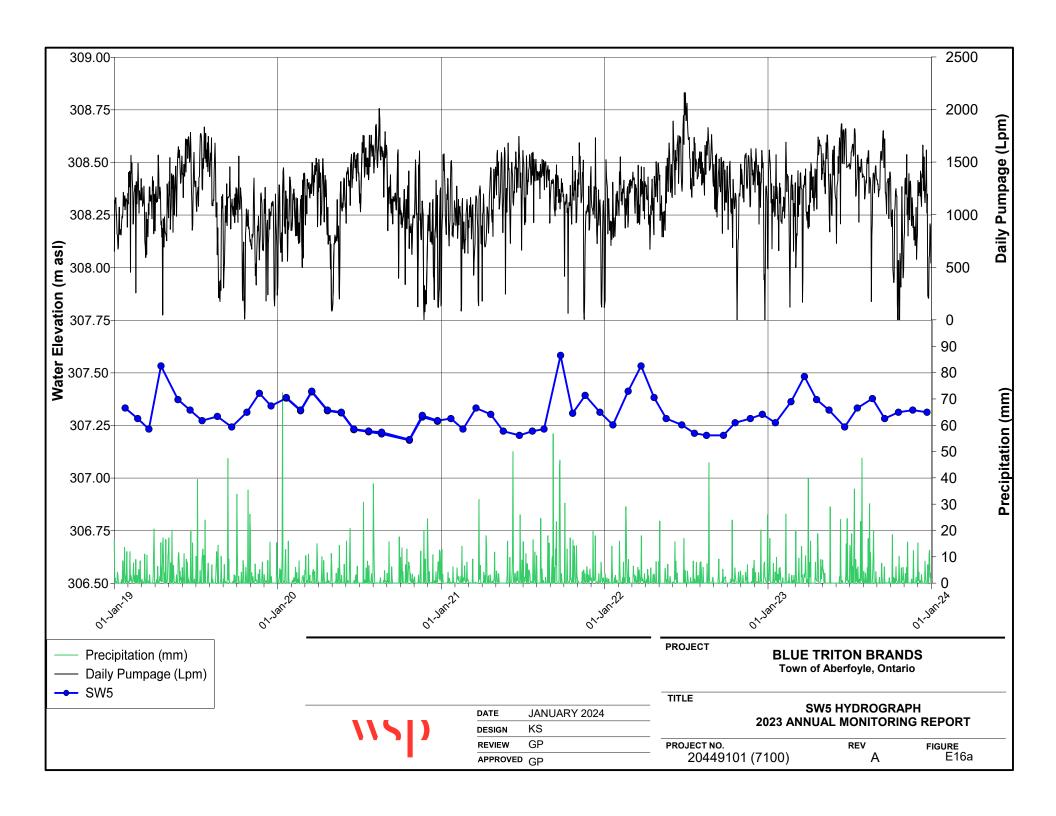


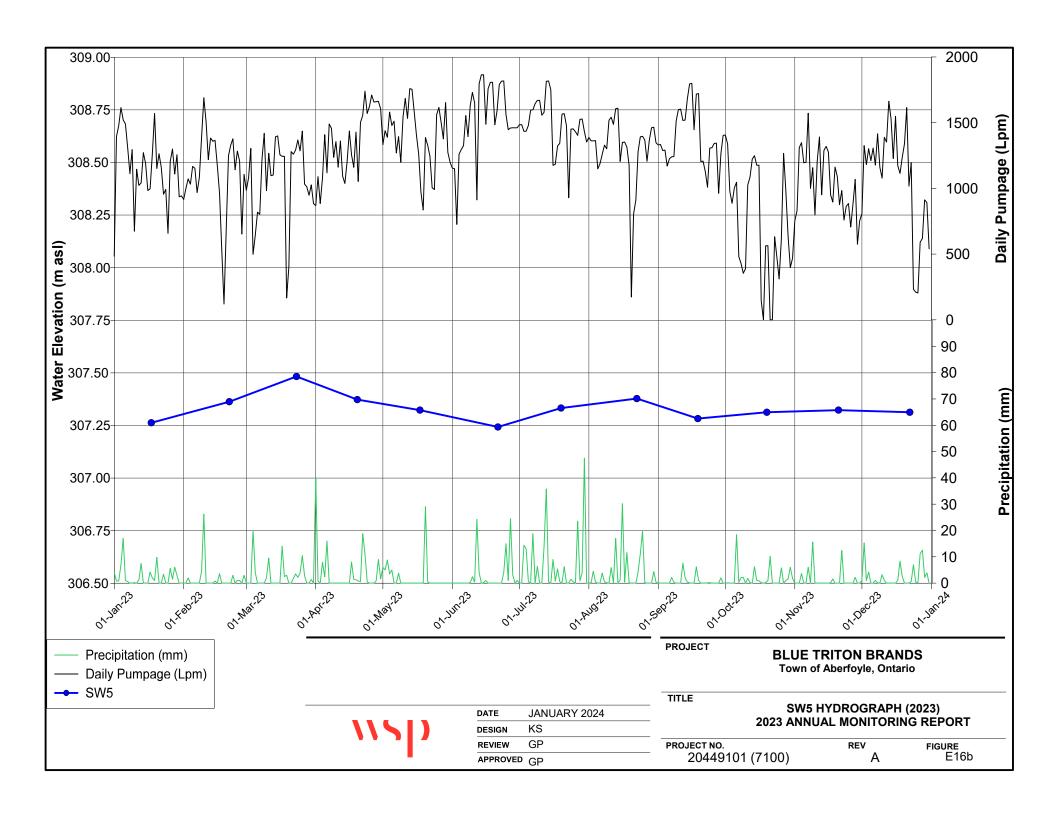












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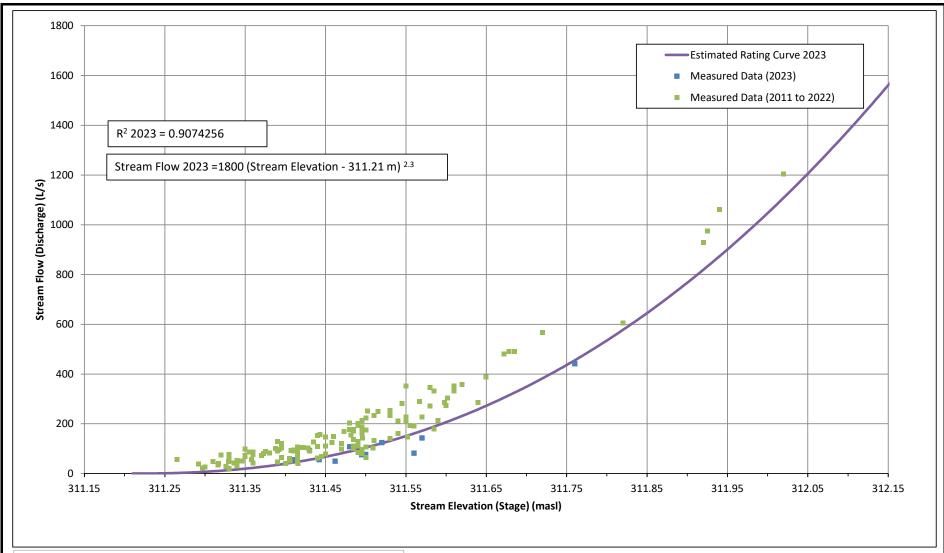
APPENDIX F

Surface Water Flow Monitoring



TABLE F1
Surface Water Flow
2023 Annual Report

DATE	SW-1 Flow (L/sec)	SW-2 Flow (L/sec)
17-Jan-23	75.7	72.3
21-Feb-23	124.5	144.9
24-Mar-23	441.4	473.4
19-Apr-23	142.9	168.1
17-May-23	93.0	89.3
20-Jun-23	55.4	64.5
19-Jul-23	107.8	117.3
22-Aug-23	104.2	122.4
18-Sep-23	55.4	61.8
19-Oct-23	50.0	59.2
20-Nov-23	76.5	74.4
21-Dec-23	81.8	96.1

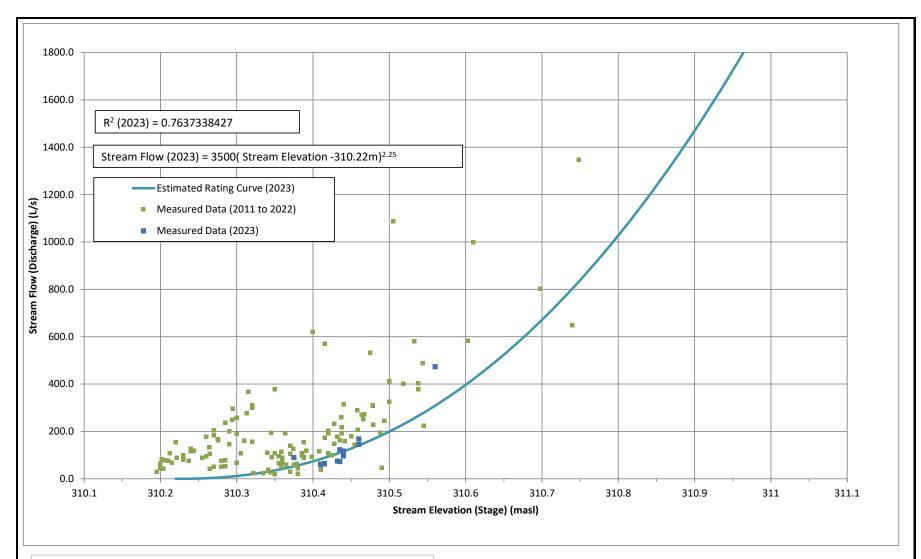


2023 Data Notes:

In 2023, the range of water levels recorded during manual flow measurements (and used to determine the stage-discharge relationship) = \sim 311.41 to 311.76 masl. The full range of water levels recorded in 2023 = \sim 311.36 to 312.08 masl.

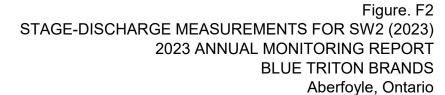


Figure. F1 STAGE-DISCHARGE MEASUREMENTS FOR SW1 (2023) 2023 ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT BLUE TRITON BRANDS Aberfoyle, Ontario

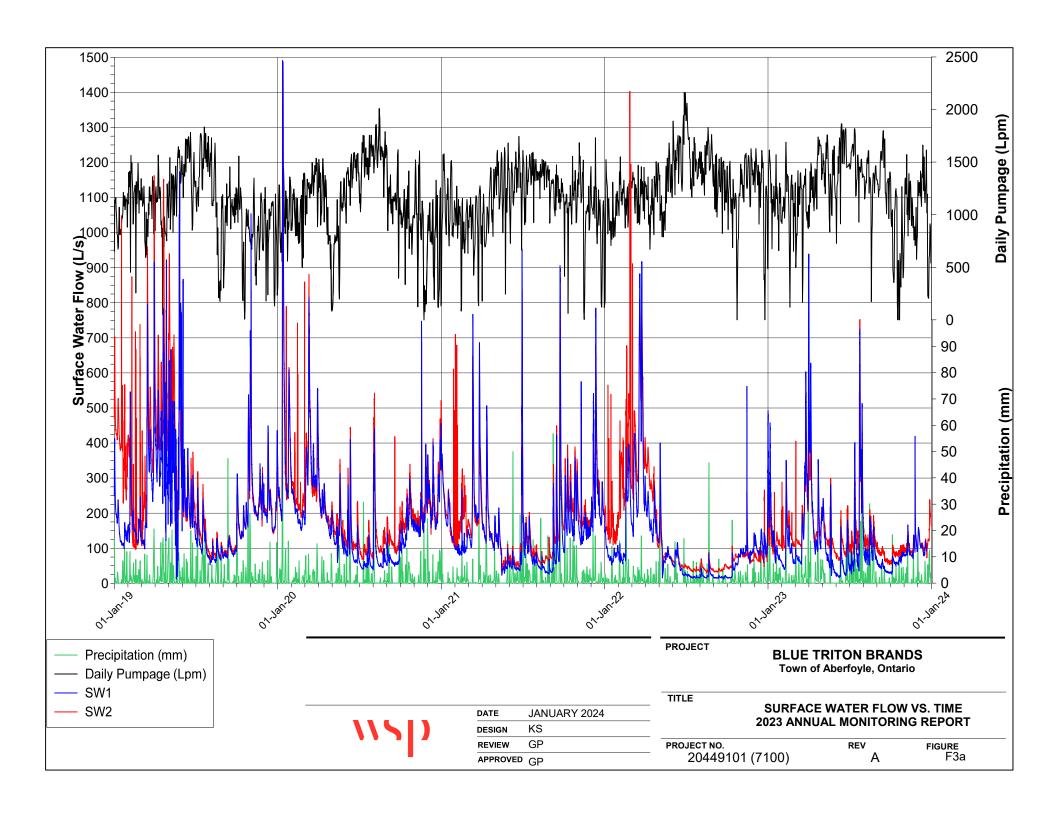


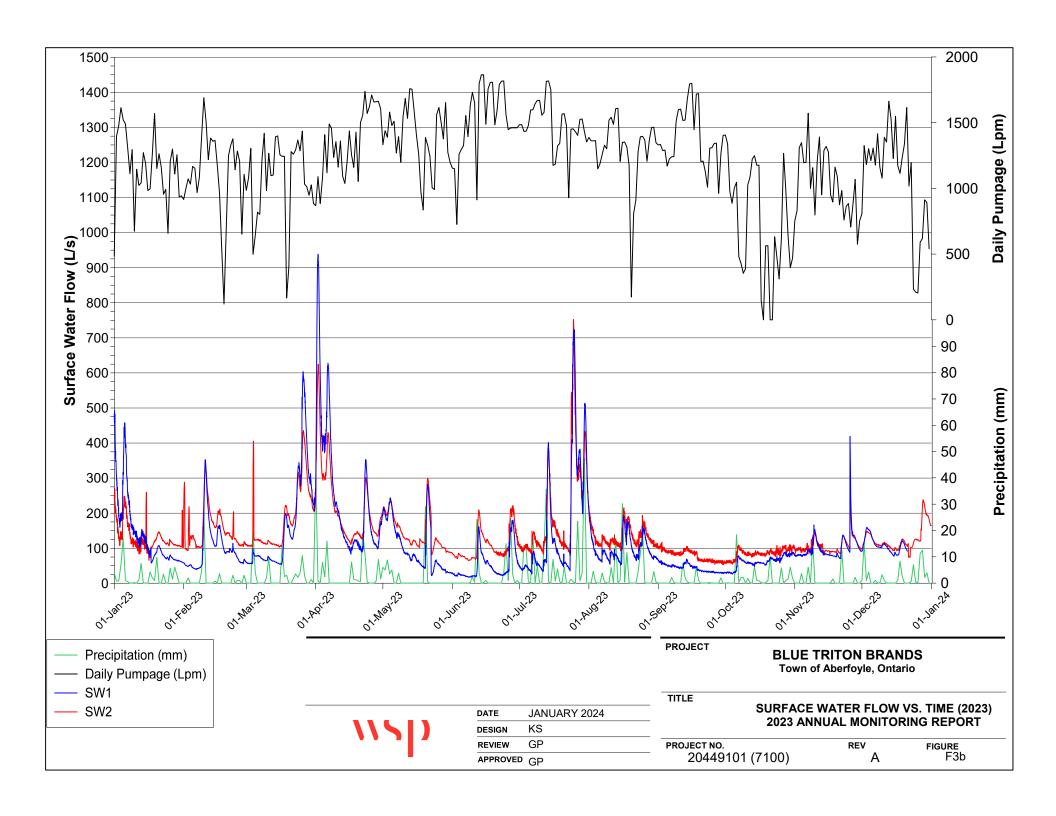
2023 Data Notes:

In 2023, the range of water levels recorded during manual flow measurements = 310.38 to 310.56 masl. The full range of water levels recorded in $2023 = \sim 310.37$ to 310.72 masl.





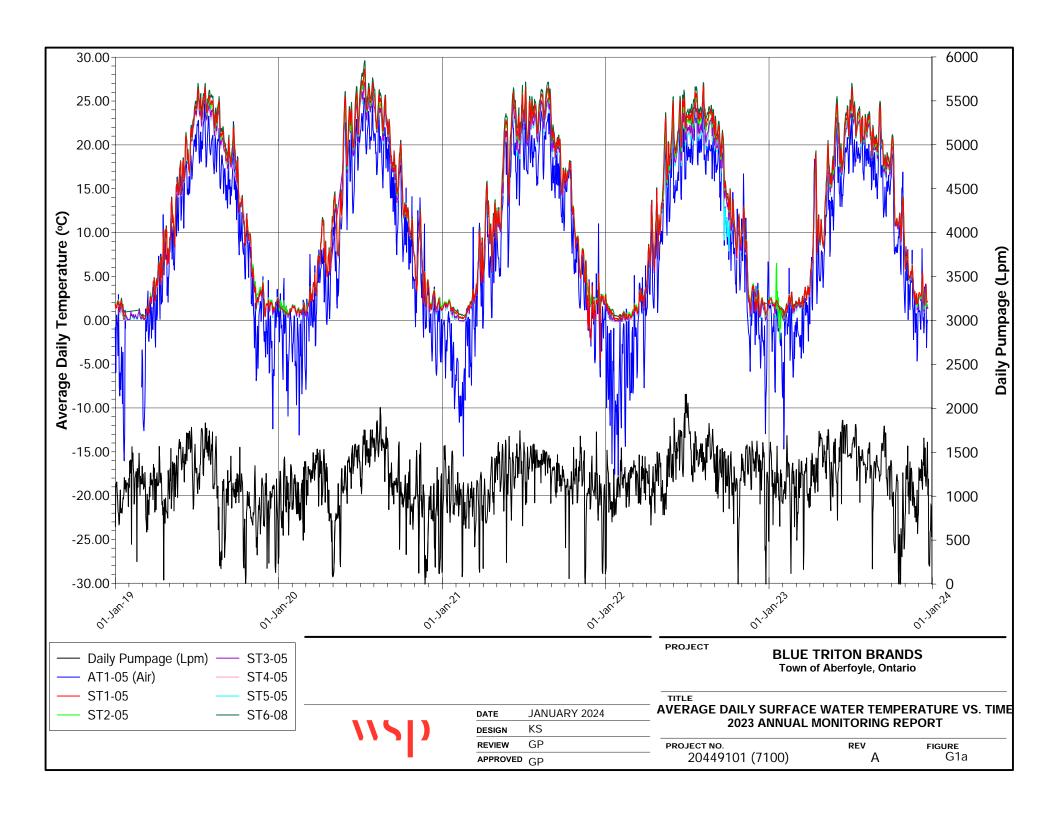


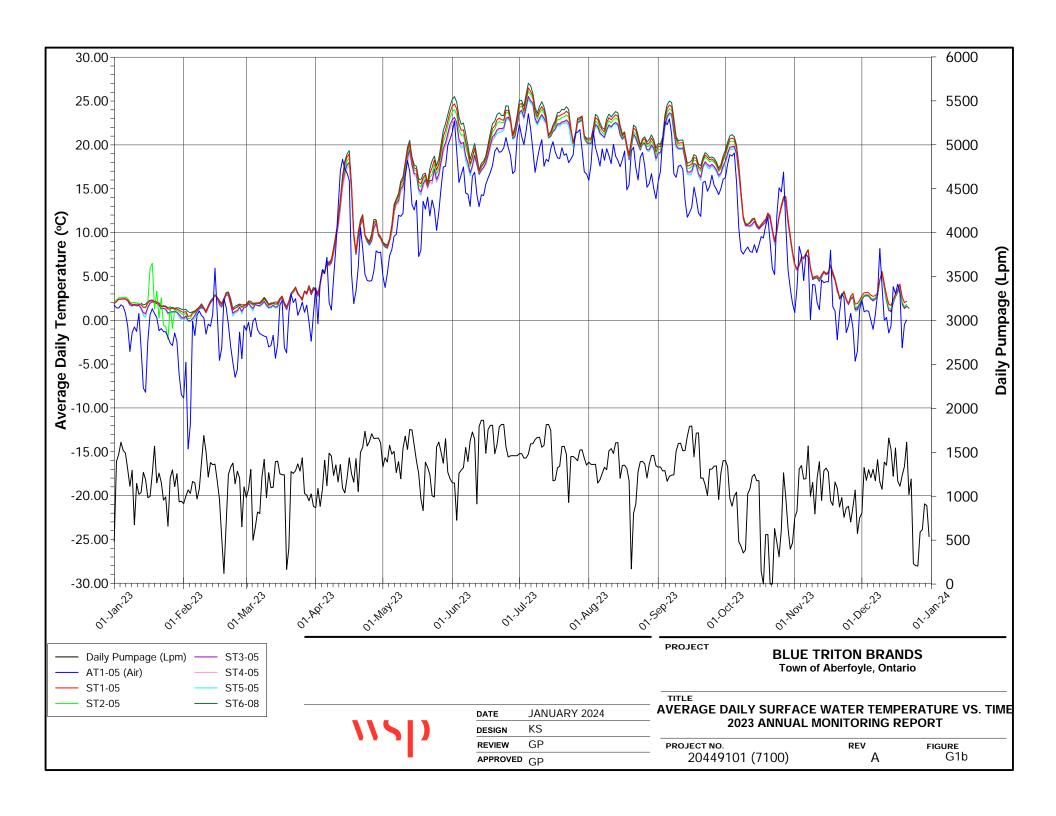


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APPENDIX G

Stream Temperature Monitoring





Examination of the Temperature Suitability of Aberfoyle Creek for Resident Fishes: 2006-2023

Prepared for Blue Triton Brands



Prepared by Cam Portt and Jim Reid
C. Portt and Associates
March 2024

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Introduction

Condition 4.4 of the Permit to Take Water (PTTW Number 1763-8FXR29) issued to Nestlé Waters Canada (Nestlé), now Blue Triton Brands (Blue Triton), by the Ontario Ministry of Environment (MOE, now Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks) on April 29, 2011, required that Nestlé review the appropriateness of the methodology of their water temperature monitoring program in Aberfoyle Creek (the Nestlé program). C. Portt and Associates conducted that review for Nestlé and made a number of recommendations (Portt, 2011). The recommendations of the review were accepted by the MOE and were to be incorporated commencing in the 2012 field season (letter from Carl Slater, MOE, to Don DeMarco, Nestlé, October 26, 2011). One of those recommendations was that historical and future temperature data be analyzed using ThermoStat software, which has been developed to evaluate the thermal suitability of Ontario streams for thermal guilds for individual species of fishes in order to provide insight into the ecological implications of the current temperature regime. The monitoring is now required under Condition 4.4 of PTTW 3133-C5BUH9. Subsequently, the results of these analyses have been reported annually (Portt and Reid, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023). This report presents the results of the analyses of the 2023 data, together with the data from previous years.

Methods

Water temperature is monitored at the sediment-water interface at six locations in Aberfoyle Creek (Figure 1) using Tidbit© V2 and MX2203 temperature loggers manufactured by Onset Computer Corporation. (http://www.onsetcomp.com/products/data-loggers/utbi-001 or mx2203). The loggers have an accuracy of ±0.2°C between 0°C and 50°C and drift is 0.1°C per year. Monitoring at Stations 1 – 5 began in 2005; monitoring at Station 6, which is the station furthest upstream, began in 2008. The data are logged at half-hour intervals.

The data were analyzed using ThermoStat Version 3.1 temperature analysis software (Jones and Schmidt, http://people.trentu.ca/nicholasjones/thermostat.htm). ThermoStat calculates the thermal suitability for individual fish species based on laboratory determined optimal and lethal temperatures, compiled by Hasnain et al. (2010), and the water temperature record.

Hasnain et al. (2010) provide the following definitions for the temperature criteria:

Optimum growth temperature (OGT): The optimum growth temperature is that which supports the highest growth rate in an experiment where separate groups of fish are exposed to one of a set of constant temperatures under ad libitum feeding conditions. The range of these constant temperatures is chosen so that reduced growth is observed at both extremes (McCauley and Casselman 1980 cited in Wismer and Christie 1987, Jobling 1981).

Final temperature preferendum (FTP): Final temperature preferendum is that towards which fish gravitate when exposed to an 'infinite' temperature range (Giattina and Garton 1982 cited in Wismer and Christie 1987). Two methods are used to determine FTP: the gravitation method and the acclimation

method (Jobling 1981). The gravitation method involves exposing fish to a temperature gradient until they gravitate towards a specific temperature. The acclimation method extends the gravitation method by carrying out repeated 'gravitation trials' with fish acclimated to progressively higher temperatures. The preferred temperature exhibited in each trial is then plotted against the acclimation temperature and the FTP is the temperature at which the best fit line for these data crosses the line of equality (Jobling 1981). An informal survey of a subset of the original sources indicated that most estimates were determined via the gravitation method. FTP estimates obtained using both methods were compiled in the database.

Upper incipient lethal temperature (UILT): The upper incipient lethal temperature is that at which 50% of the fish in an experimental trial survive for an extended period (Spotila et al. 1979, Jobling 1981, Wismer and Christie 1987). Testing for UILT involves placing groups of fish in separate baths, each held at a different constant temperature, using a sufficiently wide range of constant temperatures that rapid mortality is observed in some baths whereas slow incomplete mortality occurs in others (Spotila et al. 1979).

Critical thermal maximum (CTMax): The critical thermal maximum is an indicator of 'thermal resistance' and is defined as the temperature at which a fish loses its ability to maintain a 'normal' upright posture in the water (loss of equilibrium; Jobling 1981). It is determined by exposing fish in a tank to steadily increasing water temperatures (typically at a rate of 1 °C min-1) and noting the temperature at which the fish exhibit spasms and loss of equilibrium (Jobling 1981, Wismer and Christie 1987). Remaining at, or above, CTMax results in mortality (Jobling 1981, Wismer and Christie 1987).

Thermal indices that reflect suitability are calculated based on the temperature record for a location and the laboratory derived criteria (Table 1). The proportion of the June through August temperature measurements that are within ±2 °C of the optimal or preferred temperature and the proportion of the June through August temperature measurements that equal or exceed the lethal threshold temperatures are expressed as a percentage of the total number of temperature measurements during this period. Because the temperature measurements occurred at fixed intervals, this percentage of measurements is equivalent to the percentage of the time from June 1st through August 31st that the temperature conditions are met.

Table 1. Indices used to evaluate the thermal suitability for individual fish species.

	Optimal Range Indices
%OGT	Percent of temperature measurements within ±2°C of the optimal growth temperature.
	Higher values indicate better conditions, to a theoretical maximum of 100%.
%FTP	Percent of temperature measurements within ±2°C of the final temperature
	preferendum. Higher values indicate better conditions, to a theoretical maximum of
	100%.
	Lethal Threshold Indices
%>UILT	Percent of temperature measurements that equal or exceed the upper incipient lethal
	temperature. Lower values indicate better conditions. 0% is optimum.
%>CTmax	Percent of temperature measurements that equal or exceed the critical thermal
	maximum. Lower values indicate better conditions. 0% is optimum.

Not all the temperature criteria are available from the scientific literature (Hasnain et al, 2010) and, therefore, some of the thermal suitability indices cannot be calculated for some species. The temperature criteria that were available and used by ThermoStat for the fish species that were captured in Aberfoyle Creek during electrofishing conducted in 2008 are presented in (Table 2), together with the number of individuals of each species that was captured on each of the two sampling dates.

Table 2. Number of individuals of each species that were captured by electrofishing Aberfoyle Creek on January 31 and September 24, 2008 and the temperature criteria that are available from the scientific literature, from Hasnain et al (2010), and are used by ThermoStat to calculate thermal indices.

		capt	individuals ured ng date		ble fro	ture criteria m the scientific rature		
Common name	Scientific name	01/31/2008	09/24/2008	OGT	FTP	UILT	CTmax	
blacknose dace	Rhinichthys atratulus	25	29	na¹	19.6	28.6	30.2	
bluntnose minnow	Pimephales notatus	3	2	26.2	24.1	31.5	29.9	
brook trout	Salvelinus fontinalis	1	0	14.2	14.8	24.9	29.3	
brown trout	Salmo trutta	4	3	12.6	15.7	25.0	28.3	
common shiner	Luxilus cornutus	96	36	22.0	21.9	30.4	31.2	
common white sucker	Catostomus commersonii	49	76	25.5	23.4	27.8	31.6	
creek chub	Semotilus atromaculatus	154	353	na	24.9	29.1	33.0	
johnny darter	Etheostoma nigrum	59	52	na	na	na	na	
largemouth bass	Micropterus salmoides	0	3	26.6	28.6	31.9	38.4	
pumpkinseed	Lepomis gibbosus	2	10	25.0	27.7	31.7	37.6	
rainbow darter	Etheostoma caeruleum	3	28	na	19.9	na	32.1	
rock bass	Ambloplites rupestris	9	37	28.4	24.9	33.9	36.0	

^{1.} na indicates that the temperature metric was not available.

The water temperature data were analyzed for each year at each monitoring location, excluding cases for which a significant portion of the potential temperature measurements was missing for the June through August period. Temperature logging at Sites 1 through 5 began on July 1, 2005; consequently, 2006 is the first year for which thermal suitability indices were calculated. Temperature logging at Site 6 began on May 15, 2008, so there are no thermal suitability indices for that site prior to 2008. There are significant gaps in the summer temperature data for Site 4 in 2010, so the thermal suitability indices were not calculated. Approximately 3.5 days of data were missing for Sites 2 and 3, at the end of August in 2010, and 9.5 hours of data for June 1 were missing for Site 1 in 2010; it was assumed that these amounts of missing data would not materially alter the calculated thermal suitabilities. There are no gaps in the summer temperature data series after 2010.

The mean air temperature at the Guelph Turfgrass weather station, which is the closest Environment Canada weather station to the site, was calculated for the period June 1 through August 31 for the years 2007-2009 and 2011-2023. The weather station began operating during the summer of 2006, and there are missing data during June of 2010, so the June – August mean could not be calculated for those years. The relationship between mean June – August air temperature and mean June – August water temperature was explored graphically and using regression analyses.

Results

Graphs of the thermal suitability indices are presented in Figure 2 (%>UILT), Figure 3 (%>CTmax), Figure 4 (%FTP) and Figure 5 (%OTG). The indices values are presented in Appendix A. Summer water temperatures are highest at the most upstream location, which is closest to the Aberfoyle Mill pond, and decrease with distance downstream. This is reflected in the thermal indices, which improve from upstream to downstream for species that require cold temperatures and improve from downstream to upstream for species that require warm temperatures. Mean June – August air temperature was 18.26 °C in 2023, which is intermediate for the period 2007 – 2023 (Figure 6). This is reflected in the thermal suitability indices.

Lethal temperatures are arguably the most critical thermal factor in determining fish distributions. If lethality occurs, other factors such as growth are immaterial. It is clear from Figure 2 that brook trout and brown trout are the species whose upper incipient lethal temperature is equaled or exceeded most frequently from June 1st to August 31st; in the warmest years, at the warmest site (Site 6), the %>UILT exceeds 40% for those species. The upper incipient lethal temperature is also exceeded, but infrequently, for blacknose dace, common shiner, creek chub and white sucker. In 2023, the upper incipient lethal temperature for brook trout and brown trout was exceeded 12% and 10% of the time, respectively, at the farthest upstream station and 2% of the time for brook trout and for brown trout at the station farthest downstream. In 2023, the *CTMax* was not exceeded for any species at any site (Figure 3).

The percentage of the time, from June 1st to August 31st, that water temperature is within 2°C of the final temperature preferendum (%FTP) is lowest for brown trout and brook trout, which have the lowest preferred temperatures, at all sites in all years (Figure 4; Table 2). The next lowest %FTP values, in most years, are for pumpkinseed and largemouth bass (Figure 4), which have the highest preferred temperatures (Table 2). In 2023, as in past years, the %FTP was highest for species with intermediate temperature requirements.

The percentage of the time, from June 1st to August 31st, that water temperature was within 2°C of the optimal temperature for growth (%OGT) is presented in Figure 5. The lowest %OGT values are for brown trout and brook trout, which have the lowest optimum temperature for growth among the species that occur in this portion of Aberfoyle Creek (Table 2). In 2023, %OGT was zero for brown trout at all sites and ranged from zero at the farthest upstream site to 1.4% at the farthest downstream site for brook trout. The next lowest value was for rock bass, which is the species with the highest optimum temperature for growth (Table 2). As in previous years, the highest mean %OGT in 2023 was for species with intermediate optimum temperatures for growth.

The mean June – August water temperature at each monitoring location is plotted versus mean June – August air temperature at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute in Figure 6. Mean June – August water temperature decreases in a downstream direction through the Blue Triton property (Figure 6). This is also evident in the plots of the temperature indices (Figures 2-5). For example, the percent of temperature measurements that exceed the ultimate upper incipient lethal temperature (%>UILT) for brook trout decreases with distance downstream (Figure 2).

As Figure 6 illustrates, the mean June – August water temperature is highly correlated with the mean June – August air temperature. The regressions shown are two-stage polynomials. At the three furthest upstream sites, mean June – August air temperature accounts for 93% of the variation in mean June – August water temperature. The rate of increase in water temperature with air temperature tends to decrease in a downstream direction, as does the proportion of the variation accounted for (the r²). In 2023, the mean June – August water temperature was lower than is predicted based on the equations derived from previous years' data at all six locations.

Discussion

The 2023 fish suitability results were consistent with those of previous years. In the reach of Aberfoyle Creek that flows through the Blue Triton property, some species (i.e. largemouth bass, rock bass) are limited by low temperatures and the individuals that occur there probably originate from the mill pond that is just upstream. Brook trout and brown trout, conversely, are limited by high temperatures that exceed their upper incipient lethal temperature frequently during the summer (Figure 2) and often exceed their preferred temperature and their optimum temperature for growth (Figure 5), even in cool summers. The 2023 results continue to support the previously expressed opinion that water temperature is the principal factor limiting trout abundance in the Blue Triton reach of Aberfoyle Creek, which was based on an analysis by C. Portt using the thermal suitability model of Wehrly et al. (2007) and presented in the Response to Technical Stakeholders' Comments on the TW3-80 Permit Renewal Application (Distributed: March 4, 2011).

The data continue to demonstrate a strong correlation between mean June – August air temperature and mean water temperature in Aberfoyle Creek during the same period, however, in 2023 mean water temperature was lower at all six monitoring locations than predicted by the relationship during previous years. In fact, in 2023, mean summer water temperatures were lower than in any of the previous years in the data set except 2009. It had previously been suggested (Portt and Reid, 2022) that stream flow during the June-August period might be affecting the water temperature versus air temperature relationship, with lower water temperatures in years with lower flow. In 2023, the flow in Aberfoyle Creek in the June 1 – August 31 period was slightly above the 2009 – 2023 average for that period. Therefore, low flow is not the cause of the lower than predicted water temperature in 2023. Furthermore, a plot of the residuals (observed minus expected) from the water temperature versus air temperature regression against mean stream flow (Figure 7) did not show a relationship between mean daily flow and the residuals. It remains clear that any study that attempts to link changes in water temperature over time to causative factors must take year-to-year differences in air temperature into account but unclear what additional factors are involved.

Conclusions

In 2023, mean summer (June – August) air temperature was intermediate among those observed during the period 2007 – 2023. The overall pattern of water temperature suitability for the fish species found in the Aberfoyle Branch of Mill Creek from Brock Road downstream through the Blue Triton property in 2023

are consistent with previous years. Water temperatures during the June 1 – August 31 period are usually too warm for coldwater species such as brook trout and brown trout and too cold for warmwater species such as largemouth bass. The water temperatures during this period are most favorable for species such as common shiner which have intermediate thermal requirements. During the summer, the water in the mill pond upstream from Brock Road becomes warm and, although the creek temperature decreases with distance downstream, it frequently exceeds the ultimate upper incipient lethal temperature for brook trout and brown trout at the furthest downstream temperature monitoring site.

The 2023 stream temperatures were lower than predicted from the mean water temperature versus mean air temperature regression at all six sites. Mean stream flow during the June 1 - August 31 period was not exceptional in 2023 and the data do not demonstrate a relationship between flow and residuals of the water temperature versus air temperature relationship. The cause of the lower stream temperature in 2023 is unknown.

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Figure 1. Temperature logging locations used in the Blue Triton monitoring program in Aberfoyle Creek.

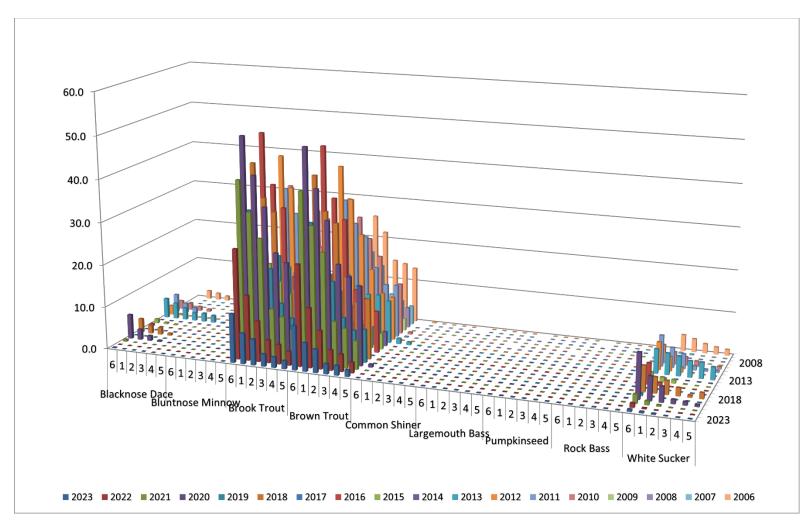


Figure 2. Percent of temperature measurements that exceed the ultimate upper incipient lethal temperature (%>UILT) during the period June 1 to August 31, by species, station, and year.

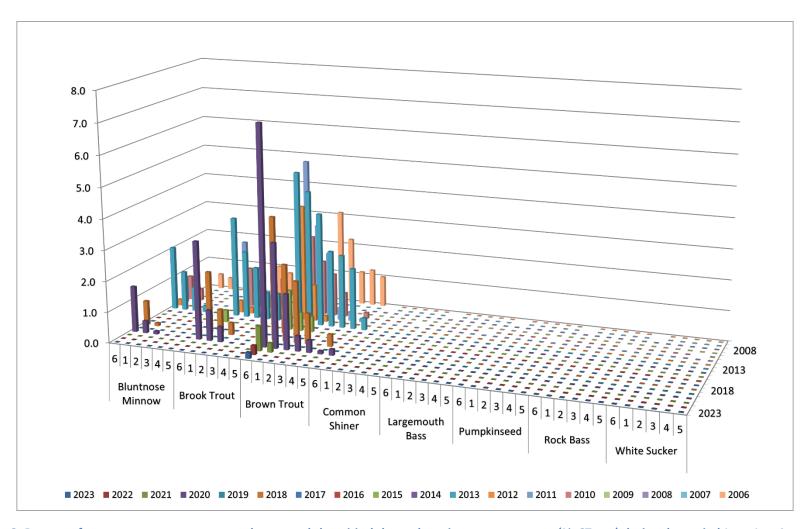


Figure 3. Percent of temperature measurements that exceed the critical thermal maximum temperature (%>CTmax) during the period June 1 to August 31, by species, station, and year.

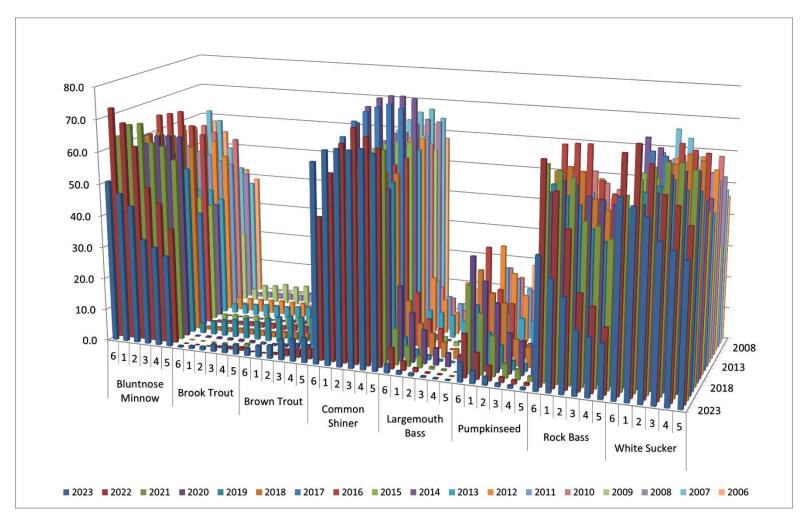


Figure 4. Percent of temperature measurements within ±2°C of the final temperature preferendum (%FTP) during the period June 1 to August 31, by species, station, and year.

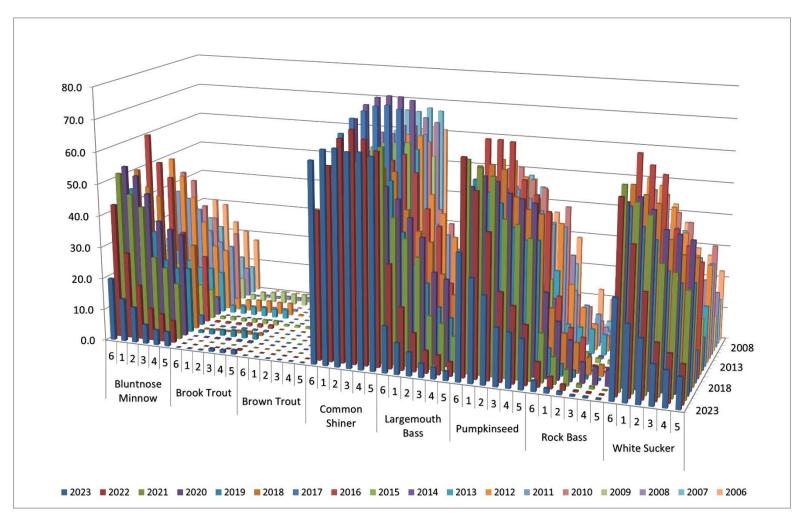


Figure 5. Percent of temperature measurements within ±2°C of the optimal temperature for growth (%OTG) during the period June 1 to August 31, by species, station, and year.

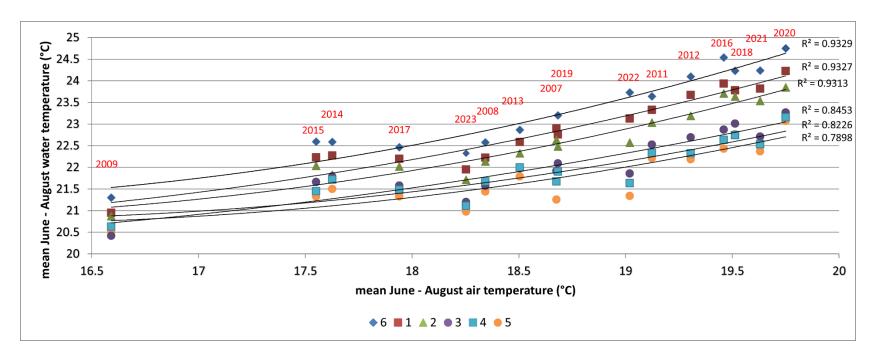


Figure 6. Plot of the mean June 1 - August 31 water temperature at each site versus mean June 1 - August 31 air temperature at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute weather station, by year. The lines and R² values are for second order polynomial regressions.

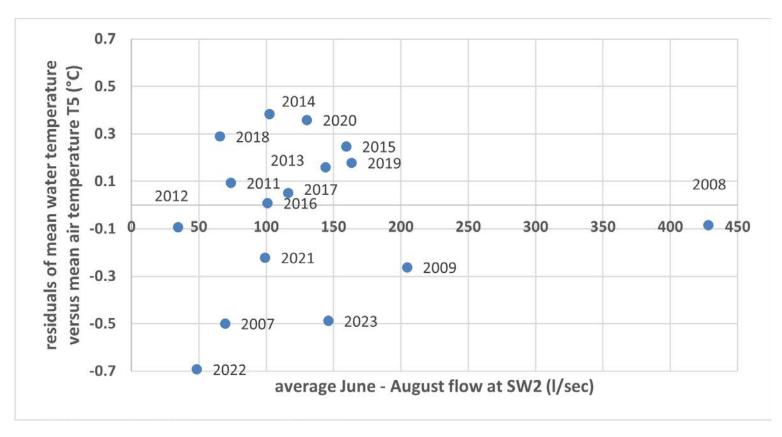


Figure 7. Residuals (observed minus expected) for regression of mean June-August water temperature at the furthest downstream monitoring site versus mean stream flow for the same period.

APPENDIX A

Thermal suitability indices

Percent of temperature measurements within ±2°C of the optimum growth temperature (%OGT) Year																				
										Ye	ar									
Species	Station	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	Mean
Blunt-	6	19.8	42.5	51.6	53.0	45.0	50.3	20.9	60.1	27.0	18.2	23.2	49.2	37.4	43.1	12.3	26.2			37.0
nose Minnow	1	13.6	27.3	45.2	50.3	36.5	45.2	14.0	51.4	21.3	13.0	19.3	43.7	35.3	40.6	8.5	19.3	25.0	30.5	31.2
	2	11.3	17.3	41.5	44.9	31.7	42.5	10.6	46.8	17.3	8.5	16.2	36.8	31.9	32.2	7.2	19.3	22.2	29.1	27.4
	3	6.1	10.2	25.7	36.4	22.8	30.9	5.5	29.0	13.2	7.9	14.2	28.7	24.9	28.3	5.9	11.7	15.1	23.3	20.2
	4	4.8	8.8	22.6	34.1	20.5	27.4	4.5	24.9	10.7	7.0	14.3	20.9	21.3		7.0	11.9	12.1	20.3	17.3
	5	4.6	7.0	17.9	32.8	20.7	27.4	3.1	21.6	9.4	5.9	13.2	19.7	20.1	23.5	6.9	9.5	9.0	17.5	16.1
	Mean	10.0	18.9	34.1	41.9	29.5	37.3	9.8	39.0	16.5	10.1	16.7	33.2	28.5	33.5	8.0	16.3	16.7	24.1	24.7
Brook Trout	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.8	0.0	2.3	3.6	0.2	0.0	1.7	0.2			0.7
Hout	1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.2	1.5	0.4	0.2	0.5	1.1	0.0	2.4	3.5	0.2	0.0	2.9	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.9
	2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	1.8	0.3	0.3	0.5	1.0	0.0	2.6	3.8	0.4	0.0	3.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.9
	3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	2.1	0.8	0.4	0.9	1.2	0.0	2.7	3.9	0.5	0.0	3.8	1.1	0.1	0.0	1.1
	4	1.0	0.1	0.0	0.5	2.4	0.9	0.4	1.0	1.3	0.0	2.6	3.8	0.5		3.4	1.0	0.2	0.0	1.2
	5	1.4	0.4	0.1	0.5	1.9	0.8	0.4	1.1	1.4	0.0	2.8	3.9	0.6	0.0	3.6	1.4	0.7	0.1	1.2
	Mean	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.3	1.8	0.6	0.3	0.7	1.1	0.0	2.6	3.8	0.4	0.0	3.1	0.8	0.2	0.0	1.0
Brown Trout	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0			0.1
Hout	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0		0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1
Common Shiner	6	62.4	46.6	42.4	33.7	37.6	35.4	66.0	29.5	53.7	68.5	55.0	36.4	47.3	44.8	63.9	60.0			48.2
Offici	1	65.9	60.3	48.3	38.3	43.0	41.6	70.9	38.8	56.7	73.1	57.7	43.1	51.0	47.0	60.8	59.8	60.1	56.3	52.9
	2	66.5	68.7	51.3	43.7	46.5	43.3	73.4	42.4	60.9	75.6	59.1	51.8	53.4	54.8	62.8	62.7	67.1	61.5	56.9
	3	65.7	71.6	61.1	51.6	53.4	52.9	75.1	55.8	62.4	76.3	60.1	56.8	59.7	56.7	51.4	62.9	66.8	60.5	60.2
	4	65.9	68.9	62.8	52.9	54.6	57.2	75.6	58.1	62.7	76.2	60.1	63.1	62.5		57.9	65.7	68.2	61.4	62.6
	5	64.9	65.7	66.2	53.6	54.5	56.4	74.6	60.2	63.0	75.3	59.4	63.0	62.6	59.6	54.2	64.4	67.4	60.7	62.2

	Mean	65.2	63.6	55.4	45.6	48.3	47.8	72.6	47.5	59.9	74.2	58.6	52.4	56.1	52.6	58.5	62.6	65.9	60.1	57.3
Large- mouth	6	14.6	32.4	45.4	50.1	39.1	45.1	14.8	54.8	20.6	13.4	17.5	44.6	34.2	38.0	9.0	19.6			31.9
Bass	1	9.8	19.6	39.4	44.8	29.4	38.8	8.6	43.9	16.5	9.1	15.1	38.8	31.0	33.7	6.8	15.1	19.9	26.6	26.1
	2	7.4	12.1	34.1	39.2	24.1	35.8	6.1	38.8	13.6	6.2	13.4	31.5	26.6	26.5	4.4	14.8	18.7	25.5	22.5
	3	4.4	7.1	16.6	28.9	17.1	26.2	2.7	21.2	9.5	5.6	11.3	22.3	20.4	22.7	4.3	8.9	12.1	20.2	15.6
	4	3.6	6.1	14.6	27.1	14.1	20.1	1.9	18.1	7.7	5.3	11.3	15.8	16.9		5.2	8.9	9.3	17.6	12.9
	5	2.9	4.5	11.1	25.9	14.3	21.2	1.1	15.7	6.4	4.7	10.2	15.0	16.3	18.0	4.6	7.0	6.4	15.3	12.1
	Mean	7.1	13.6	26.9	36.0	23.0	31.2	5.9	32.1	12.4	7.4	13.1	28.0	24.2	27.8	5.7	12.4	13.3	21.0	20.0
Pump- kinseed	6	39.1	66.0	64.5	55.7	57.0	60.2	42.9	66.8	42.5	39.8	39.5	57.5	47.5	53.0	23.4	45.8			49.7
Kiriseeu	1	31.9	56.5	62.4	59.1	53.5	60.9	36.0	66.8	38.3	33.2	36.5	57.4	47.6	53.8	18.3	38.3	48.8	46.8	47.4
	2	27.2	44.8	60.1	57.8	50.6	59.7	32.6	66.4	35.8	23.5	33.0	52.6	45.1	50.1	15.4	38.2	45.3	43.6	44.4
	3	18.0	27.4	47.9	54.7	43.7	51.8	23.5	55.3	29.3	23.3	28.2	46.3	41.5	47.8	13.7	29.0	34.1	36.5	37.9
	4	16.9	23.7	46.7	53.3	40.2	48.4	21.5	51.1	26.6	21.4	28.6	41.8	37.6		14.4	29.5	27.2	32.6	34.7
	5	15.5	18.4	42.9	52.4	40.5	47.4	18.7	46.3	24.6	17.4	25.1	39.0	37.0	42.4	14.2	25.0	21.2	28.9	32.7
	Mean	24.8	39.5	54.1	55.5	47.6	54.7	29.2	58.8	32.9	26.4	31.8	49.1	42.7	49.4	16.6	34.3	35.3	37.7	41.0
Rock Bass	6	3.3	7.7	15.1	26.3	8.2	19.3	0.2	20.7	5.5	3.1	8.5	20.1	17.1	14.6	1.6	5.4			11.8
Dass	1	1.5	3.7	8.4	17.9	3.8	12.0	0.0	11.3	3.3	1.9	8.0	13.1	12.7	11.1	1.0	2.5	3.8	12.4	7.7
	2	1.0	1.8	5.0	12.7	2.2	9.5	0.0	8.7	3.0	1.0	7.8	8.2	10.2	6.9	0.8	2.5	3.3	9.3	5.7
	3	0.4	0.4	1.1	6.5	1.0	5.4	0.0	0.4	1.4	8.0	6.5	4.9	5.2	4.2	0.2	0.5	1.4	6.5	2.9
	4	0.4	0.4	0.8	5.5	0.6	3.6	0.0	0.1	1.1	0.5	6.5	1.7	4.2		0.3	0.5	0.6	6.0	2.1
	5	0.3	0.2	0.2	5.0	0.6	4.6	0.0	0.1	0.8	0.2	5.7	2.3	3.3	2.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	4.7	1.9
	Mean	1.2	2.4	5.1	12.3	2.7	9.1	0.0	6.9	2.5	1.3	7.2	8.4	8.8	7.9	0.7	1.9	1.8	7.8	5.3
White Sucker	6	30.5	58.2	60.8	55.0	52.9	58.3	34.0	65.9	36.6	30.4	33.6	55.3	44.6	50.0	18.0	37.3			45.2
Odcker	1	23.3	45.1	56.1	56.7	47.3	55.6	26.9	62.6	32.0	23.7	30.0	53.3	43.0	48.9	15.0	27.5	37.0	42.4	41.1
	2	19.6	31.8	52.8	53.4	43.8	53.4	22.4	60.1	28.0	15.7	25.8	47.0	39.9	43.6	12.8	28.5	35.1	36.8	37.4
	3	12.5	17.5	39.3	48.0	35.1	43.2	14.1	44.4	22.4	14.9	20.8	39.5	34.6	40.8	9.5	19.4	21.9	29.0	29.8
	4	11.2	14.8	37.1	47.0	31.9	39.1	11.7	39.7	18.9	12.8	21.1	32.9	31.2		10.8	21.1	18.9	27.0	26.7
	5	9.7	12.1	32.4	45.7	32.3	38.7	10.0	35.3	17.2	10.3	18.7	30.3	29.7	34.2	11.1	17.5	14.2	22.3	25.0
	Mean	17.8	29.9	46.4	51.0	40.6	48.1	19.9	51.3	27.6	18.0	25.0	43.1	37.2	43.5	12.9	25.2	25.4	31.5	34.1

				Perc	ent of te	mperatu	re measi	urements	s within ±	-2°C of th	ne final to	emperati	ure prefe	rendum	(%FTP)					
Species	Station	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	Mean
Black-	6	34.8	13.8	11.5	10.9	17.8	13.7	27.4	9.2	28.0	26.7	26.9	10.2	21.6	21.1	51.1	30.5			21.9
nose Dace	1	38.9	19.3	15.1	14.1	20.4	16.1	33.2	12.0	33.3	31.4	30.7	12.9	24.7	22.5	57.2	35.1	24.9	24.8	25.5
	2	41.9	28.3	17.9	16.3	23.5	17.0	35.5	13.6	36.1	42.3	34.0	17.1	28.4	24.8	53.2	34.1	26.7	26.5	27.9
	3	49.7	39.1	27.4	20.8	28.1	22.0	42.2	20.6	41.7	42.0	38.9	22.9	34.1	29.2	59.9	40.2	37.8	37.7	34.1
	4	51.4	43.4	28.4	21.5	31.0	23.9	43.9	24.1	45.0	43.9	38.6	27.4	36.4		58.4	39.6	41.2	42.2	36.4
	5	53.4	48.7	31.0	22.1	31.4	24.7	46.6	26.9	46.9	48.7	42.1	30.9	38.9	34.1	59.7	43.3	49.8	48.4	39.1
	Mean	45.0	32.1	21.9	17.6	25.4	19.6	38.1	17.7	38.5	39.2	35.2	20.2	30.7	26.3	56.6	37.1	36.1	35.9	31.0
Blunt-	6	50.7	72.8	63.4	53.7	57.8	57.3	60.8	60.5	54.3	58.7	51.1	57.0	52.0	57.4	33.9	56.3			55.3
nose Minnow	1	47.2	68.4	67.2	58.9	59.9	61.6	55.3	66.8	50.5	52.9	48.1	60.7	53.2	58.8	28.9	53.8	62.2	58.0	56.1
	2	43.5	61.4	67.8	60.8	58.7	63.0	51.8	67.5	48.0	43.0	44.9	59.9	51.5	59.5	26.6	52.5	59.1	54.6	54.3
	3	33.3	48.7	62.1	63.5	55.2	62.4	41.9	68.4	43.3	42.3	40.5	57.6	50.7	57.5	23.6	47.4	50.0	47.6	50.9
	4	31.2	44.1	61.2	63.7	52.5	60.7	40.5	64.1	40.1	40.9	40.7	56.2	48.9		23.4	46.1	43.4	42.0	48.3
	5	28.8	36.3	57.2	63.7	52.8	58.8	36.9	61.5	37.6	37.1	38.0	51.5	48.0	55.6	22.6	42.3	38.3	39.0	46.3
	Mean	39.1	55.3	63.2	60.7	56.2	60.6	47.9	64.8	45.6	45.8	43.9	57.2	50.7	57.8	26.5	49.7	50.6	48.2	51.8
Brook Trout	6	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.2	0.9	0.3	0.6	1.5	0.0	2.9	3.9	0.8	0.0	3.5	1.2			1.4
Tiout	1	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.4	4.3	1.1	0.4	0.9	1.8	0.0	3.0	3.9	0.8	0.0	5.2	1.7	0.2	0.0	1.5
	2	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.5	5.1	1.2	0.5	1.0	1.8	0.0	3.4	4.0	1.0	0.0	5.5	1.6	0.3	0.0	1.6
	3	2.3	0.4	0.2	0.6	5.6	1.5	0.8	1.3	2.1	0.1	3.7	4.1	1.2	0.0	6.3	1.9	0.5	0.1	1.9
	4	2.5	0.7	0.4	0.6	6.3	1.6	8.0	1.4	2.6	0.1	3.6	4.3	1.2		5.8	1.8	1.7	0.2	2.2
	5	3.0	1.0	0.9	0.6	5.7	1.6	1.4	1.6	2.5	0.3	3.8	4.2	1.2	0.0	6.5	2.6	3.8	0.4	2.3
	Mean	1.7	0.4	0.3	0.5	5.0	1.3	0.7	1.1	2.1	0.1	3.4	4.1	1.0	0.0	5.5	1.8	1.3	0.1	1.8
Brown Trout	6	2.4	0.0	0.0	0.5	7.2	1.6	8.0	1.2	2.9	0.8	4.2	4.3	2.3	0.7	8.3	3.8			2.8
1.000	1	3.7	0.0	0.1	0.5	8.1	2.1	1.1	2.0	3.4	0.9	4.4	4.3	2.3	0.6	9.7	4.5	2.6	0.2	2.9
	2	4.2	0.5	0.3	0.8	8.8	2.1	1.4	2.0	3.5	1.2	4.8	4.8	2.6	1.1	10.1	4.7	2.8	0.4	3.2
	3	6.5	2.1	1.2	1.4	8.8	2.4	3.2	2.7	3.9	1.4	5.4	5.0	3.1	1.4	11.6	5.6	4.0	1.0	3.9
	4	7.1	2.4	1.7	1.5	9.3	2.6	3.4	2.9	4.1	1.4	5.4	5.4	3.1		10.5	5.1	5.0	1.6	4.2
	5	7.9	3.3	2.0	1.6	8.9	2.6	4.1	3.4	4.4	1.8	5.9	5.3	3.3	2.1	11.8	5.9	6.6	2.8	4.5

	Mean	5.3	1.4	0.9	1.1	8.5	2.2	2.3	2.4	3.7	1.3	5.0	4.9	2.8	1.2	10.3	4.9	4.2	1.2	3.6
Com-	6	62.0	44.6	40.9	32.7	36.8	34.3	65.0	28.1	53.2	67.2	54.2	34.8	46.0	43.9	62.5	57.2			3.6
mon Shiner	1	65.7	58.1	46.8	37.3	42.0	40.0	70.0	37.1	56.6	72.5	56.9	41.5	50.3	46.2	60.8	59.8	60.1	56.3	46.9
	2	66.4	67.2	50.5	42.2	45.3	42.1	73.2	40.7	60.5	75.4	59.1	50.7	52.6	53.0	62.8	60.5	63.9	58.9	52.1
	3	66.2	72.1	60.0	50.0	52.3	52.1	74.8	54.0	62.0	76.3	60.4	55.9	59.1	55.7	56.5	63.4	66.6	61.4	55.7
	4	66.9	69.7	61.7	51.7	53.9	56.0	75.9	56.6	63.1	76.4	60.3	61.9	62.0		60.5	65.2	67.8	62.2	60.0
	5	65.8	66.5	65.3	52.8	54.1	55.8	74.9	59.0	63.1	75.8	59.3	62.1	62.1	58.9	56.3	64.6	65.1	57.9	62.3
	Mean	65.5	63.0	54.2	44.5	47.4	46.7	72.3	45.9	59.8	73.9	58.4	51.2	55.4	51.5	59.9	61.8	64.7	59.3	61.7
Creek	6	40.5	67.1	64.9	55.9	57.4	60.4	44.9	66.8	43.9	42.1	40.5	57.4	47.9	53.6	23.3	45.2			56.6
Chub	1	34.1	58.2	63.4	59.6	54.3	62.0	38.1	67.3	39.4	34.8	37.7	58.0	48.4	54.3	18.1	38.3	48.8	45.0	50.3
	2	29.1	47.7	61.5	58.5	51.9	60.8	34.3	67.4	37.1	25.3	33.9	53.8	45.8	50.8	19.2	38.0	44.9	43.0	48.0
	3	19.7	29.4	49.3	55.6	45.2	53.1	25.7	56.8	30.9	24.9	29.4	47.8	42.9	49.1	13.7	29.0	34.1	36.5	45.4
	4	18.1	25.9	48.3	55.0	41.9	50.1	23.1	53.1	27.8	23.3	30.0	43.5	38.6		16.2	32.1	30.1	34.1	39.0
	5	16.8	20.2	44.9	53.8	42.2	48.8	20.5	48.4	25.9	18.9	26.9	40.4	38.4	43.9	14.9	26.7	21.2	28.9	36.5
	Mean	26.4	41.4	55.4	56.4	48.8	55.9	31.1	60.0	34.2	28.2	33.1	50.2	43.7	50.3	17.6	34.9	35.8	37.5	34.0
Large- mouth	6	2.7	6.6	11.3	23.5	6.3	16.7	0.1	17.1	4.8	2.4	8.0	17.5	15.4	12.4	1.1	4.4			42.1
Bass	1	1.1	2.8	6.4	15.6	2.8	9.9	0.0	9.0	2.9	1.4	7.7	10.8	10.7	9.1	0.5	2.5	3.8	10.0	10.1
	2	0.8	1.2	3.8	10.6	1.5	7.3	0.0	6.3	2.5	0.3	7.2	6.9	8.7	5.4	0.5	1.8	2.7	8.3	6.4
	3	0.4	0.3	0.7	5.4	0.5	4.8	0.0	0.1	1.2	0.3	5.8	3.7	4.2	3.6	0.2	0.5	1.4	6.5	4.6
	4	0.3	0.2	0.4	4.3	0.3	3.1	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.2	5.7	1.1	3.3		0.2	0.2	0.4	5.4	2.4
	5	0.2	0.0	0.0	3.6	0.4	3.7	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	5.1	1.5	2.6	2.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	4.7	1.7
	Mean	0.9	1.9	3.8	10.5	2.0	7.6	0.0	5.4	2.1	0.8	6.6	6.9	7.5	6.5	0.4	1.6	1.7	7.0	1.5
Pump- kinseed	6	6.0	13.6	27.3	34.9	18.9	28.6	3.4	33.6	9.8	5.4	10.0	30.1	22.1	21.0	3.6	9.4			4.4
	1	4.0	8.2	19.1	27.6	10.8	21.9	0.7	20.8	6.3	3.9	9.7	21.6	18.9	18.2	2.7	5.6	8.1	18.1	18.4
	2	2.6	4.7	12.6	21.4	7.3	19.2	0.1	16.7	5.2	2.2	8.7	14.9	16.0	14.2	2.3	5.9	8.0	14.0	13.4
	3	1.0	1.6	4.5	12.6	2.9	8.4	0.0	5.5	2.9	2.1	8.2	9.0	10.2	9.7	0.7	2.2	3.1	9.8	10.5
	4	0.9	1.2	3.2	10.4	2.4	6.3	0.0	4.3	2.1	2.0	8.2	5.3	7.7		0.9	2.5	2.4	9.1	5.7
	5	0.7	0.8	1.5	9.2	2.5	6.9	0.0	2.4	1.6	1.6	7.8	5.7	6.3	5.5	0.6	1.0	0.8	6.8	4.5
Doinhou	Mean	2.5	5.0	11.4	19.4	7.5	15.2	0.7	13.9	4.7	2.9	8.8	14.4	13.5	13.7	1.8	4.4	4.5	11.6	3.8
Rainbow Darter	6	38.9	15.8	14.3	13.5	19.2	15.7	33.4	10.6	32.7	32.2	31.0	12.9	25.4	23.7	52.3	31.5			9.2
	1	43.1	23.5	18.8	16.8	23.1	18.5	39.1	14.4	37.8	38.4	34.7	15.9	28.1	25.6	60.5	37.5	29.1	29.4	24.9
	2	46.3	32.0	21.6	19.2	26.0	19.4	41.4	16.3	41.7	49.7	38.2	21.0	32.5	28.8	57.5	36.8	31.4	31.9	29.2
	3	54.4	44.2	31.7	23.8	31.7	25.6	49.7	23.9	47.1	49.9	43.6	27.9	38.4	33.7	62.3	45.2	42.5	42.7	32.1
	4	56.0	48.3	32.5	24.8	33.5	28.4	51.6	28.0	50.1	51.5	43.3	31.9	41.1		62.2	43.7	46.5	46.8	38.7
	5	57.9	54.8	35.8	25.2	33.8	29.6	53.9	31.3	52.1	55.6	45.7	35.6	42.9	37.4	63.2	49.0	54.7	52.3	41.1

	Mean	49.4	36.4	25.8	20.6	27.9	22.9	44.9	20.8	43.6	46.2	39.4	24.2	34.7	29.8	59.7	40.6	40.8	40.6	43.6
Rock	6	40.5	67.1	64.9	55.9	57.4	60.4	44.9	66.8	43.9	42.1	40.5	57.4	47.9	53.6	23.3	45.2			35.1
Bass	1	34.1	58.2	63.4	59.6	54.3	62.0	38.1	67.3	39.4	34.8	37.7	58.0	48.4	54.3	18.1	38.3	48.8	45.0	50.3
	2	29.1	47.7	61.5	58.5	51.9	60.8	34.3	67.4	37.1	25.3	33.9	53.8	45.8	50.8	19.2	38.0	44.9	43.0	48.0
	3	19.7	29.4	49.3	55.6	45.2	53.1	25.7	56.8	30.9	24.9	29.4	47.8	42.9	49.1	13.7	29.0	34.1	36.5	45.4
	4	18.1	25.9	48.3	55.0	41.9	50.1	23.1	53.1	27.8	23.3	30.0	43.5	38.6		16.2	32.1	30.1	34.1	39.0
	5	16.8	20.2	44.9	53.8	42.2	48.8	20.5	48.4	25.9	18.9	26.9	40.4	38.4	43.9	14.9	26.7	21.2	28.9	36.5
	Mean	26.4	41.4	55.4	56.4	48.8	55.9	31.1	60.0	34.2	28.2	33.1	50.2	43.7	50.3	17.6	34.9	35.8	37.5	34.0
White	6	59.1	70.5	57.7	47.9	52.2	50.5	69.2	51.1	59.1	69.0	57.1	52.3	54.7	56.2	43.5	59.9			42.1
Sucker	1	56.7	73.3	62.4	54.4	57.2	56.5	67.4	60.2	57.9	66.1	55.5	57.5	56.1	58.4	38.1	58.2	66.7	60.3	55.7
	2	54.0	67.9	66.2	58.1	59.2	57.8	66.2	64.3	56.9	58.3	52.8	61.7	55.4	61.1	35.8	57.6	64.1	59.3	58.3
	3	47.6	59.7	68.0	63.5	61.3	65.0	59.3	69.4	53.9	58.3	49.7	62.7	56.1	61.6	32.2	55.3	58.5	54.7	58.4
	4	45.3	56.9	68.0	64.8	58.7	68.1	57.4	67.7	51.3	57.2	50.0	62.7	57.0		33.6	54.8	54.0	49.7	58.1
	5	43.0	51.6	66.4	65.1	58.7	66.5	54.4	67.1	49.3	52.3	47.1	59.1	55.0	61.6	33.4	53.8	49.0	46.1	57.0
	Mean	51.0	63.3	64.8	59.0	57.9	60.7	62.3	63.3	54.7	60.2	52.0	59.3	55.7	59.8	36.1	56.6	58.5	54.0	55.3

			P	ercent of	f tempera	ature me	asureme	ents that	exceed	the ultim	ate uppe	r incipie	nt lethal	tempera	ture (%>	UILT)				
					-						Year			-	-	-				
Species	Station	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	Mean
Black-	6	0.1	0.0	0.5	5.8	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.6	1.0	0.0	4.7	2.2	4.3	2.0	0.0	0.0			1.7
nose Dace	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	3.8	0.3	2.3	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.9
Daoo	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	2.8	0.0	1.4	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.6
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.3	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.3
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.2
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.1
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.1	1.6	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0	2.8	0.4	1.4	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.6
Blunt-	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
nose Minnow	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brook Trout	6	11.5	25.9	41.1	50.6	33.0	43.4	10.6	49.4	17.8	9.9	18.4	42.0	33.6	33.7	7.9	17.7			29.2
Tiout	1	7.2	15.3	33.9	41.8	23.5	35.5	5.9	37.5	13.6	7.1	15.9	34.5	27.7	29.1	4.9	11.6	17.1	25.4	22.8
	2	6.1	9.6	28.1	34.7	19.7	32.4	3.4	32.2	10.8	5.0	13.9	26.3	24.4	23.7	3.5	11.2	15.5	23.7	19.3
	3	2.9	5.4	11.9	24.3	11.8	20.6	1.2	16.1	7.3	4.8	11.5	17.8	17.1	19.3	3.1	7.2	9.8	17.8	12.6
	4	2.5	4.6	10.3	22.3	8.5	14.6	0.4	13.8	5.1	4.5	11.5	12.4	13.1		3.4	7.0	6.8	15.4	9.9
	5	1.9	3.3	7.6	20.3	9.3	15.7	0.1	11.0	4.1	3.9	10.5	11.2	13.3	13.0	2.9	5.3	4.5	13.3	9.1
	Mean	5.4	10.7	22.2	32.3	17.6	27.0	3.6	26.7	9.8	5.9	13.6	24.0	21.5	23.8	4.3	10.0	10.7	19.1	17.0
Brown Trout	6	10.4	23.8	39.8	49.2	31.4	41.7	9.2	47.4	16.7	9.1	17.7	40.6	32.0	31.7	7.0	15.6			27.8
	1	6.7	14.0	32.1	39.9	22.1	33.6	5.3	35.5	12.9	6.5	15.4	32.9	26.6	27.5	4.9	11.6	17.1	25.4	21.8
	2	5.5	9.0	26.3	32.9	18.2	31.1	2.8	30.7	9.7	4.6	13.1	24.7	23.6	22.5	3.5	10.0	13.9	21.6	18.1
	3	2.4	4.8	10.6	23.1	10.0	18.8	0.8	14.4	6.4	4.4	11.2	16.5	16.3	18.4	2.2	5.3	7.0	14.8	11.3
	4	2.3	4.1	9.3	20.5	7.3	13.2	0.2	12.5	4.5	4.3	11.3	11.0	12.4		2.9	6.0	5.6	14.2	9.0
	5	1.6	2.5	6.7	18.6	7.8	14.2	0.0	9.8	3.7	3.4	10.1	10.3	12.5	12.1	2.8	4.8	4.5	13.3	8.4

	Mean	4.8	9.7	20.8	30.7	16.1	25.4	3.1	25.1	9.0	5.4	13.1	22.7	20.6	22.4	3.9	8.9	9.6	17.9	15.9
Common	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.0			0.2
Shiner	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
Creek Chub	6	0.0	0.0	0.1	3.9	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	3.6	0.6	2.9	1.5	0.0	0.0			1.1
Citab	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.2	1.2	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.5
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.3
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.1
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.9	0.1	0.8	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.4
Large- mouth	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
Bass	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pumpkin -seed	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Deels	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rock Bass	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
White	6	0.5	1.0	2.1	10.6	0.6	6.0	0.0	4.9	2.0	0.0	5.7	6.5	7.3	4.3	0.0	0.4			3.6
Sucker	1	0.3	0.2	0.9	5.6	0.1	3.7	0.0	0.7	1.1	0.0	5.0	3.4	4.7	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.3	3.8	2.0
	2	0.2	0.0	0.3	3.6	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	4.6	1.2	3.5	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	3.1	1.4
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	3.8	0.2	1.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.7
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	0.0	0.5		0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.5
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.5
	Mean	0.2	0.2	0.6	3.7	0.1	2.8	0.0	0.9	0.7	0.0	4.3	1.9	2.9	2.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	2.4	1.4

	Percent of temperature measurements that exceed the critical thermal maximum temperature (%>Ctmax)																			
			Year Year 2023 2022 2021 2020 2019 2018 2017 2016 2015 2014 2013 2012 2011 2010 2009 2008 2007 2006 Mean																	
Species	Station	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	Mean
Black-	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.1	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0			0.3
nose Dace	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Blunt- nose	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.5	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.2	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.0			0.5
Minnow	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.2
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.1
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.1
Brook Trout	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	3.3	0.4	2.3	1.3	0.0	0.0			0.9
	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.2	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.4
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.3
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.1
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brown	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.6	0.1	0.6	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.3
Trout	6	0.2	0.3	0.8	7.1	0.0	4.0	0.0	1.8	1.3	0.0	5.0	3.8	5.2	2.6	0.0	0.0			2.3
	1	0.0	0.0	0.3	3.4	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0	4.4	1.2	3.1	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1	1.3
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	3.7	0.2	2.2	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.2	0.9
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.0	0.4	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.4
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.4	0.0	0.3		0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.3
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.2

	Mean	0.0	0.1	0.2	2.2	0.0	1.7	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.0	3.3	0.9	1.9	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.7	0.9
Common	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
Shiner	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Creek Chub	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
Ondo	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lorgo	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Large- mouth	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
Bass	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pumpkin-	Mean 6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
seed	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rainbow	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
Darter	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	•	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rock	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
Bass	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
White Sucker	6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0
Suckei	1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Mean	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

March 2024 20449101

APPENDIX H

Biological Monitoring



2023 Biological Monitoring Program Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle Property

Prepared For:

Blue Triton Brands

Prepared By:

Beacon Environmental Limited

Date:

Project:

2024-03-13

216114.1



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Appendices

Appendix A. Key Biophysical Attributes of the Vegetation Communities in the Study Area

Appendix B. Flora Checklist

Appendix C. Breeding Bird Checklist (2023)

1. Introduction

Beacon Environmental Limited (Beacon) and C. Portt and Associates were retained by Blue Triton Brands to undertake terrestrial and aquatic monitoring at the company's Aberfoyle property located at 101 Brock Road South in the Township of Puslinch (**Figure 1**). A Site Context Map is included as **Figure 2**. The biological monitoring program for the property was initiated in 2007 as a condition of a Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) Permit to Take Water (PTTW) (#7043-74BL3K) for the onsite wells that service their bottling operations. Biological monitoring remains a condition of the current PTTW (#3133-C5BUH9).

Condition 4.4 of the current PTTW states:

The Permit Holder shall undertake wetland monitoring and redd surveys as recommended in "2010 Biological Monitoring Program Final Report" by C. Portt and Associates* dated January 28, 2011. Results from the wetland and redd surveys shall be submitted to the Director as a part of the annual monitoring report...

*Note: Authorship of the 2010 report should be attributed to Dougan & Associates and C. Portt and Associates.

The objectives of the biological monitoring program are to:

- Characterize existing aquatic, wetland and terrestrial resources; and
- Document potential long-term changes to the site's biological resources.

Existing or baseline biological conditions on the Aberfoyle property were established through surveys and inventories completed between 2007 and 2009 which fulfilled the first objective. To achieve the second objective, there has been ongoing biological monitoring with annual reports submitted to the MECP as per the PTTW conditions. The type and frequency of biological monitoring is variable and based on the recommendations provided in each year's annual monitoring report.

Between 2007 and 2023, biological monitoring has included the following:

- Electrofishing surveys of Aberfoyle Creek; [C. Portt & Associates];
- Salmonid spawning (redd) surveys of Aberfoyle Creek; [C. Portt & Associates];
- Ecological Land Classification (ELC);
- Vascular plant surveys;
- Permanent vegetation monitoring plot surveys;
- Amphibian call surveys;
- Breeding bird surveys;
- Odonate (dragonfly/damselfly) surveys;
- Owl surveys;
- Turtle surveys;
- Marsh surveys (assessment of surface hydrology); and
- Invasive species mapping Common Reed.



Biological monitoring completed on the property between 2007 and 2023 is summarized in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Summary of Biological Monitoring Program (2007-2023)

		Aquati	С		Vegetati	ion			Wild	dlife		
Year	Electrofishing	Habitat characterization	Spawning (<i>i.e.</i> Redd) surveys	Ecological Land Classification (ELC) mapping	Vegetation plot sampling	Marsh surveys	Invasive species mapping	Nocturnal amphibian call monitoring	Breeding bird surveys	Owl surveys	Basking Turtle surveys	Odonate surveys
2007			Х	Х								
2008	X		X	X	X			X	X			
2009		X	Х	X		X	X	Х	X			
2010			X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2011			X			X	X	Х	X	X	X	X
2012			Х								X	Х
2013			X		Х	Х	X					
2014			X		Х							
2015			Х					Х	Х		Х	
2016			X		X		X	X	X		X	
2017			X				Х	Х	Х		Х	
2018		_	Х					Х	Х		Х	
2019			Х	Х	Х			Х	Х		Х	
2020			Х					Х	Х		Х	
2021			Х					Х	Х		Х	
2022			Х					Х	Х		Х	
2023			X					Х	Χ		Х	

The 2022 Aberfoyle Biological Monitoring Program Report (Beacon 2023) recommended that core wildlife monitoring (amphibian, reptiles and birds) be completed in 2023. Additionally, the 2022 Aquatic Monitoring Report (C. Portt and Associates 2023) recommended that salmonid spawning surveys of Aberfoyle Creek be conducted in 2023. The recommended biological monitoring was completed in 2023. Beacon completed core wildlife monitoring and C. Portt and Associates completed salmonid spawning (redd) surveys of Aberfoyle Creek.

This annual report includes a comprehensive summary of the biological monitoring program and data collected between 2007 and 2023. The report describes the methods and findings of the various monitoring activities and compares data from prior years to identify potential changes or trends in selected monitoring parameter or indicators over the long term.





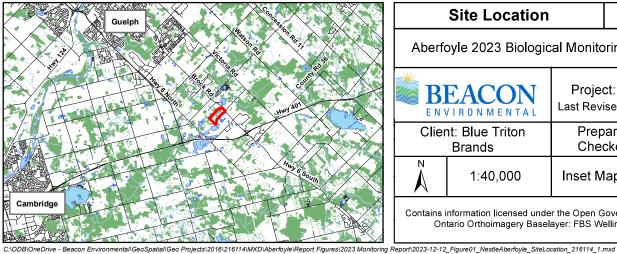
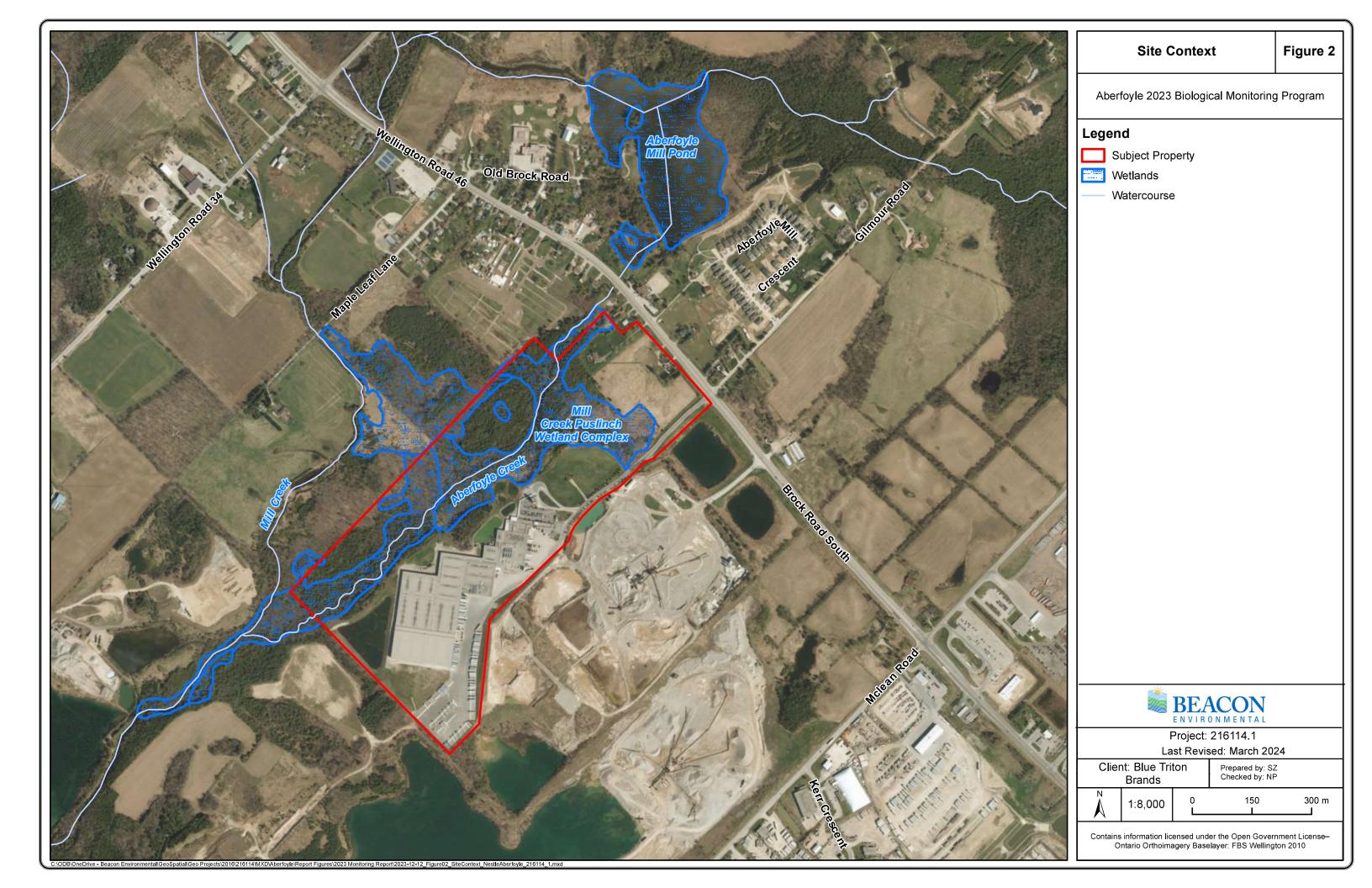


Figure 1 **Site Location** Aberfoyle 2023 Biological Monitoring Program Project: 216114.1 Last Revised: March 2024 ENVIRONMENTAL Prepared by: SZ Checked by: NP Client: Blue Triton Brands 1:40,000 Inset Map:1:250,000 Contains information licensed under the Open Government License-

Ontario Orthoimagery Baselayer: FBS Wellington 2010



2. Methods

2.1 Aquatic Survey

C. Portt and Associates has surveyed Aberfoyle Creek for evidence of Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*) or Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) spawning, from its confluence with Mill Creek upstream to the limit of the Blue Triton Brands property (**Figure 2**) annually, beginning in 2007. In 2023, the surveys were conducted on October 27 and November 16. On these dates, this entire reach of the creek was walked and searched for spawning fish or areas of disturbed substrate that could be indicative of salmonid spawning.

2.2 Vegetation Surveys

2.2.1 Ecological Land Classification

Ecological communities associated with the subject property were classified in accordance with the Ecological Land Classification System for Southern Ontario (ELC) (Lee *et al.* 1998). ELC is the provincial standard for classifying ecological communities. Ecological communities are classified based on their biophysical parameters such as vegetation composition and structure as well as physical site conditions such as topography, slope, soil, moisture and drainage. Information on these parameters is collected from each polygon to confirm the appropriate classification using the ELC community catalogue.

Ecological communities were initially classified and mapped by Dougan & Associates in the fall 2007. As the mapping was more than ten years old, Beacon reviewed the various ecological communities in the field on July 23, 2019 to confirm their boundaries and classifications and update the mapping where necessary.

ELC classification and mapping is generally conducted only once a decade as the rate of vegetation change is relatively slow and was, therefore, not repeated in 2023.

2.2.2 Floristic Surveys

A floristic survey of the property was initially completed by Dougan & Associates in the fall of 2007 to establish baseline conditions and develop a checklist of vascular plants for the subject property. The checklist has been variably amended over the years based on data collected from the vegetation plots and incidental observations. To update this checklist, Beacon completed a floristic survey of the subject property on July 23, 2019.

Floristic surveys are generally completed every five to ten years as the rate of vegetation change is relatively slow and were, therefore, not repeated in 2023.



2.2.3 Vegetation Plot Sampling

To monitor changes to vegetation resources in wetland communities on the property over time, six permanent vegetation sampling plots were established in 2007 in representative wetland communities. Sampling was completed in the summers of 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014, 2017 and 2019. No plot sampling was undertaken in 2023. Sampling is proposed for 2024.

The vegetation sampling plots are circular and comprise an area of 100 m². The centroid of each plot is marked with a steel T-bar. The UTM coordinates for each plot in NAD83 are provided in **Table 2** and mapped on **Figure 3**.

Plot No.	UTM Zone	UTM Easting	UTM Northing
1	17T	569227	4812889
2	17T	569075	4812948
3	17T	568804	4812731
4	17T	568500	4812482
5	17T	568500	4812482
6	17T	568892	4812956

Table 2. Locations of Permanent Vegetation Monitoring Plots

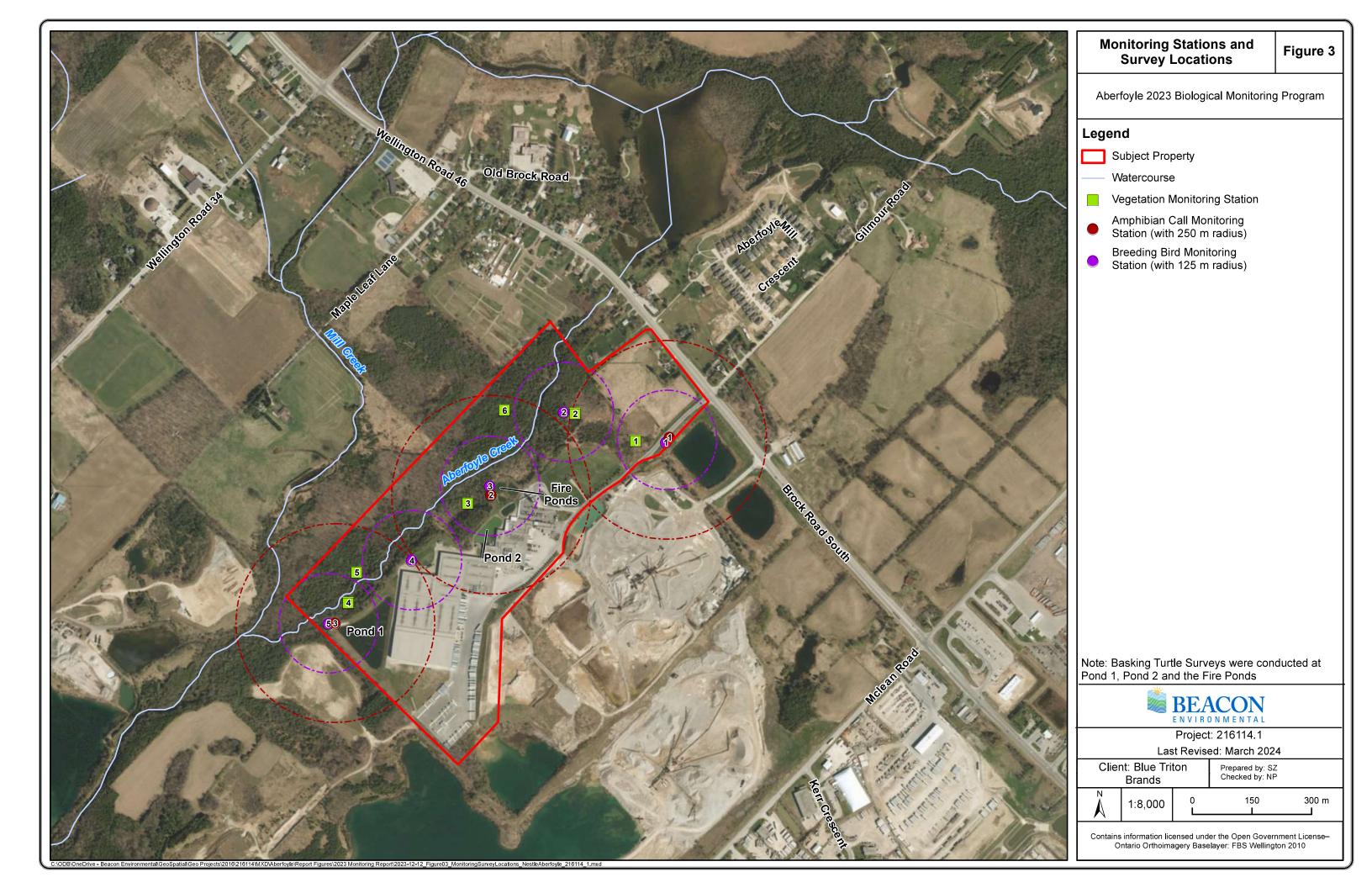
A handheld GPS s used to locate the plots. The outer boundaries of each sample plot were delineated by attaching a 5.64 m length of rope to the T-bar centre post and temporarily marking the plot perimeter with flagging tape Within each sampling plot, information is collected on the composition and structure of the vegetation, by estimating the cover abundance at various height classes.

Vegetation data collection methods follow the standardized vegetation sampling protocols of the Ecological Land Classification System (ELC) for Southern Ontario (Lee *et al.* 1998). Within each plot, all observed species are documented, and the percent cover estimated by assigning a cover value of 1-4 (1) <10%; 2) 10-25%; 3) 25-60%; and 4) >60%) to each species for each vegetation layer it occurs in. Vegetation layers corresponded with the following height classes 1) <0.5 m; 2) 0.5-2 m; 3) 2-10 m, and 4) >10 m).

Vegetation data are subjected to a Floristic Quality Assessment (FQA) that provides a metric for monitoring changes to each sampling plot over time (Oldham et al., 1995). The FQA is determined from total number of species (species richness) in a given area (e.g. sampling plot) and summing their conservatism values. Species conservatism is considered a measure of "the degree of faithfulness a plant displays to a specific habitat or set of environmental conditions" (Oldham et al., 1995). More conservative species display a higher degree of fidelity to particular habitats or ecological conditions and are relatively intolerant of disturbance. Less conservative species tend to be habitat generalists and more tolerant of disturbance. In Ontario, plant species have been assigned a coefficient of conservatism value (CC) value ranging from 0-10. A description of how these values were assigned is provided below:

- 0-3: Species found in a wide variety of habitats including disturbed sites;
- 4-6: Species found in specific habitats, but tolerate moderate disturbance;
- 7-8: Species found in advanced successional communities with minor disturbance; or





9-10: Species found in high quality natural areas and/or limited to a narrow range of environmental conditions.

The FQA is used to establish a Floristic Quality Index (FQI) value. Generally speaking, higher FQI values are indicative of higher floristic quality and lower levels of disturbance, whereas lower FQI values indicate poorer quality and higher disturbance. FQI values were determined for each of the six monitoring plots by calculating the mean CC for each plot and multiplying it by the square root of the total number of species. FQI values were calculated using both the total number of species per plot and for native species only. The FQI values were then used to compare changes over time both within and among vegetation plots.

In addition to the FQI, a Wetness Index was also calculated for each plot and the site as a whole. Each plant species in Ontario has been assigned a Coefficient of Wetness (CW) based on their probability of occurring in wetlands. CW values range from -5 to 5. Species with negative CW values favour wetter conditions and typically occur in wetlands; species with positive CW values prefer drier conditions and tend to occur in uplands. The Wetness Index is calculated by averaging the CW values of each species observed in the plot. A Wetness Index for the site was obtained by averaging the CW of each plot. The wetness index could potentially be used as an indicator of hydrological changes.

2.2.4 Marsh Surveys

Marsh surveys were undertaken by Dougan & Associates in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2013. The purpose of these surveys was to check moisture levels and to confirm these classifications of ELC communities. This was done by determining the approximate depth of standing water (if present) versus the presence of saturated soil, moist soil or dry soil. This level of detail is sufficient to differentiate a Shallow Marsh and a Meadow Marsh within the ELC system (Lee *et al.* 1998). A key difference between the two communities is the presence of standing water for much or all of the growing season within a Shallow Marsh compared to the seasonally flooded meadow marsh. However, this level of detail is not sufficient for correlating long term trends with any degree of certainty, as moisture levels in wetlands vary seasonally and annually depending on factors such as precipitation, average temperature, etc. For these reasons, additional marsh surveys were not conducted.

2.2.5 Invasive Species Mapping

There are several colonies of Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) present on the subject property. Common Reed is a highly invasive non-native plant species that is known to displace native wetland vegetation. Since 2007, the colonies on the property have been observed to be expanding. Colonies of Common Reed were originally mapped in several locations on the property in 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2013 by Dougan & Associates to track changes in the size of the colonies. The edges of the colonies were mapped using a high-resolution GPS. The Common Reed colonies were re-surveyed and mapped again by Beacon in 2016 and 2017 using an RTK (Real-Time-Kinematic) GPS to facilitate comparison with prior years. It is recommended that these colonies be re-surveyed when ELC mapping is updated in 2028.

Common Reed is ubiquitous in the adjacent landscape. It is prevalent in roadside ditches next to the property and is also present on neighbouring properties. The species is very difficult to control. The most effective control method is chemical treatment using herbicide. While such treatments are



considered safe and pose minimal risk to the environment when appropriately applied, Blue Triton Brands has elected not to implement a treatment program due to the proximity of the colonies to the production well (TW3-80). Common Reed colonies on the subject property will continue to be monitored in the future, however any management or control will remain at the discretion of Blue Triton Brands..

2.3 Wildlife Surveys

2.3.1 Amphibian Surveys

Amphibian call surveys were undertaken to estimate the species richness, abundance, and location of frog and toad populations associated with the subject property. Because there is variation in the breeding periods during which different frog or toad species (anurans) are calling and detectable, surveys were completed at three different periods between April and June to ensure coverage of the full range of early to late breeding species. These surveys were conducted by Dougan and Associates in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011, and then by Beacon annually between 2015 and 2023.

In 2023, Beacon conducted surveys on April 14, May 11, and June 27 using the survey protocols developed for the Marsh Monitoring Program (MMP) (Bird Studies Canada, 2009). On each occasion the subject property was visited at least 0.5 hours after sunset during suitable weather conditions to listen for calling frogs and toads at three (3) permanent monitoring stations that were established in 2008. The locations of these monitoring stations are illustrated in **Figure 3**. Amphibians observed or heard calling in other locations on the property during these and other surveys were also recorded as incidental observations.

Surveys were conducted using the point count method whereby the surveyor stands at a set point or station for a specific period of time and records all species that can be heard calling within the sample area. A minimum of three minutes was spent listening at each station. The approximate locations of calling amphibians were noted on a standard MMP data sheet and chorus activity for each species was assigned a call code as follows:

- 0 No calls:
- 1 Individuals of one species can be counted, calls not simultaneous:
- 2 Calls of one species simultaneous, numbers can be reliably estimated; or
- 3 Full chorus, calls continuous and overlapping, individuals indistinguishable.

In addition to recording species and call levels, weather conditions (i.e., air temperature, precipitation, wind speed, and cloud cover) at the time of survey were also recorded. Weather conditions for the 2023 surveys are summarized in **Table 3**.



Table 3. Amphibian Survey Details

	Survey 1	Survey 2	Survey 3
Date:	April 14, 2023	May 11, 2023	June 27, 2023
Start time:	8:33 pm	9:03 pm	9:36 pm
Temperature:	21°C	23°C	17°C
Wind speed:	3 – 5 km/h	3 – 5 km/h	6 - 11 km/h
Cloud cover:	0%	0%	100%
Precipitation:	None	None	Damp/Haze

2.3.2 Breeding Bird Surveys

Breeding bird surveys were undertaken in 2023 by Beacon to document the diversity and abundance of avian populations associated with the subject property. Previous surveys were completed in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 by Dougan & Associates. Beacon completed surveys annually between 2015 and 2023.

There are five permanent point count stations that were established in 2008 that provide coverage for the majority of the property. Each point count station is positioned so the observer can detect calling birds up to a distance of 125 m. The locations of the point count stations are illustrated in **Figure 3**. A handheld GPS was used to locate the plots.

A modified point count methodology, based on protocols established for the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas for point counts (Cadman *et al.* 2007), Forest Bird Monitoring Program (CWS, 2006) and a standard method recommended for monitoring songbird populations in the Great Lakes Region (Howe *et al.* 1997), was utilized to complete breeding bird surveys. The following is a detailed description of the modified approach utilized to complete these surveys:

- Surveys should be conducted a minimum of one week apart (CWS 2006);
- Point count stations will be at least 250 m apart (Howe et al. 1997 & CWS 2006);
- Since the Blue Triton Brands property in Aberfoyle is relatively small, a randomized site selection approach will not be required. The majority of natural features on the site are covered by the five- point count station survey areas;
- Survey duration for each point count is 10 minutes, consistent with the Forest Bird Monitoring Program (CWS 2006) and Howe *et al.* (1997) and is not restricted to forested habitats;
- The location of each individual adult bird is recorded on a field sheet as per the layout and symbols used by the Forest Bird Mapping Protocol (CWS 2006) or Howe et al. (1997). Bird flying overhead (i.e., not directly associating with the survey area) or otherwise not showing any breeding evidence will be distinguished from the other breeding birds;
- Observations recorded on the field maps are transferred into a summary table. All birds observed or heard within suitable habitat are assumed to be breeding; and
- Breeding evidence is documented according to the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas protocols (Cadman *et al.* 2007).



Birds observed between the point count surveys are noted separately on a field map to help ensure that no bird species present on the property are missed as the point count circles do not cover the entire property.

Weather conditions (i.e., air temperature, precipitation, wind speed, and cloud cover) at the time of survey were recorded (see **Table 4**).

Table 4. Breeding Bird Survey Details

	Survey 1	Survey 2
Date:	June 6, 2023	June 22, 2023
Start time:	6:40 am	6:45 am
End Time:	8:40 am	8:50 am
Temp:	14°C	14°C
Wind:	1 - 6 km/h	1 – 6 km/h
Cloud cover:	80%	60%
Precipitation:	None	None

2.3.3 Owl Surveys

Owl surveys were not part of the original biological monitoring program, however in August 2009, Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) was reported from the northeast portion of the subject property by Dougan & Associates. To confirm this record, two surveys were completed in 2010 and an additional survey was completed in 2011. The survey consisted of broadcasting Barred Owl calls using a portable compact disc (CD) player. In 2011, Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) calls were also broadcast prior to the Barred Owl calls. A period of silence was included following each series of calls to allow the surveyor to listen for a response. The surveys were completed from two stations in forested habitats in the vicinity of the original observation. No additional owl surveys have been undertaken since 2011.

2.3.4 Basking Turtle Survey

The ponds on the subject property are known to support populations of Midland Painted Turtle (*Chrysemys picta marginata*) and Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*).

Midland Painted Turtle is listed federally as a Special Concern species. Snapping Turtle is listed both federally and provincially as a Special Concern species. Snapping Turtle was originally observed in the large pond near the western property boundary in 2008, which is labelled as Pond 1 on **Figure 3**.

To monitor populations of turtles, basking surveys were completed by Dougan & Associates annually between 2010 and 2012, and by Beacon annually between 2015 and 2023.

In 2023, basking turtle surveys on the property were primarily focused on Pond 1; brief surveys of the other ponds were also completed. The surveys consist of slowly walking along the outer edge of the ponds using binoculars to scan the perimeter and other potential basking sites within the pond. Surveys were completed in mid-May and mid-September between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm during sunny periods when the air temperature was greater than water temperature and after inclement weather. Surveys, including weather conditions, are included in **Table 5**.



Table 5. Basking Turtle Survey Details

	Survey 1	Survey 2	Survey 3
Date:	May 4, 2023	May 29, 2023	September 15, 2023
Start time:	2:50 pm	8:55 am	10:30 am
End time:	4:10 pm	10:10 am	11:30 am
Temp:	14°C	20°C	15 °C
Wind Speed:	6-11 km/h	6-11km/h	1-6 km/h
Cloud cover:	90%	0%	0%
Precipitation:	None	None	None

2.3.5 Odonate Surveys

While not included in the original monitoring program, it was felt that baseline surveys for dragonflies and damselfly surveys could be used to supplement the baseline biological data available for the site. In 2010, 2011 and 2012, Dougan & Associates conducted odonate surveys for select habitats on the subject property, while in 2009 they were recorded incidentally. Surveys were informally conducted during ideal weather conditions simultaneously to turtle basking surveys using a net. Any individuals caught were immediately examined with a 10x (power) hands lens and then released following identification. No individuals were collected, and no microscopic analysis was conducted. When needed, identifications were confirmed using Jones (2008) and Lam (2004). The surveys were brief, and the findings were not considered a comprehensive list of species potentially present. No additional odonate surveys have been undertaken since 2012.

2.3.6 Other Wildlife Observations

Other wildlife species observations and habitat encountered over the course of the 2023 field season were recorded as incidental observations. When encountered, the species and locations of the wildlife were noted.

3. Results

3.1 Aquatic Survey

No evidence of salmonid spawning was observed along Aberfoyle Creek on the subject property in 2023. This is consistent with the findings of previous surveys completed annually from 2007 through 2022.



3.2 Vegetation Surveys

No vegetation surveys were conducted in 2023. The discussion presented below provides a summary of previous surveys. It is recommended that vegetation plot sampling will be conducted again in 2024 and floristic and ELC surveys will be conducted in 2028.

3.2.1 Ecological Land Classification Mapping

No significant changes to any of the ecological communities were observed during the 2019 review, however minor adjustments were made to the boundaries of several communities. The changes were as follows:

- ELC unit 22 changed from Cultural Woodland (CUW1) to Fresh-Moist White Cedar Coniferous Forest (FOC 4-1) due to increased size and dominance of Eastern White Cedar; and
- ELC Unit 11 changed from Mineral Meadow Marsh (MAM2) to Cattail Mineral Shallow Marsh/Reed Canary Grass Mineral Meadow Marsh (MAS2-1/MAM2-2) due to a shift in dominance of cattails and reed canary grass.

The revised ELC mapping is presented in **Figure 4** and a table summarizing the various ecological communities is presented in **Appendix A**.

3.2.2 Flora

Floristic surveys completed between 2007 and 2019 have documented a total of 255 vascular plant species. Of these, 242 have been determined to the species level and 13 could only be determined to genus for various reasons. An updated checklist is provided in **Appendix B.** Of the species identified, 56 are considered non-native to Ontario and represents 23% of the total site flora. Native species are ranked S4 or S5 by the NHIC, indicating that they are generally common and secure in Ontario.

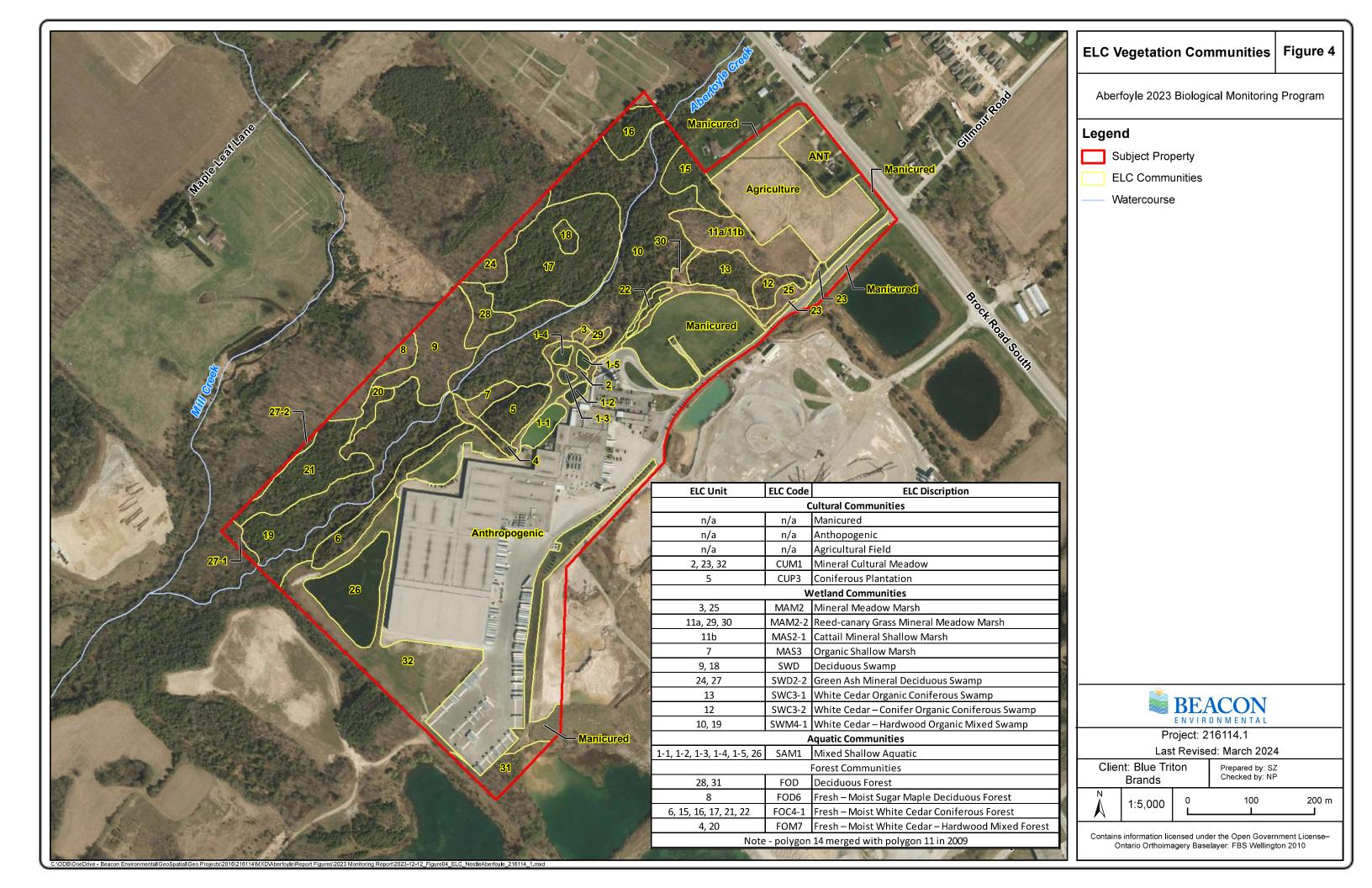
Two regionally rare and six regionally uncommon species have been documented on the subject property, which are summarized in **Table 6**.

Table 6. Regionally Rare and Uncommon Plants Species

Scientific Name	Common Name	Region Status ¹
Asplenium platyneuron	Ebony Spleenwort	Rare
Brachyelytrum erectum	Long-awned Wood Grass	Rare
Symphyotrichum urophyllum	Arrow-leaved Aster	Uncommon
Cardamine pensylvanica	Pennsylvania Bitter-cress	Uncommon
Equisetum sylvaticum	Woodland Horsetail	Uncommon
Cinna latifolia	Slender Wood Reedgrass	Uncommon
Ranunculus pensylvanicus	Bristly Crowfoot	Uncommon
Symphyotrichum pilosum	Frost Aster	Uncommon

¹Draft Wellington Country Vascular Plant List (Cecile 2017)





3.2.3 Vegetation Plot Sampling

A total of 115 plants were recorded from the six vegetation plots in 2019, including five that were identified to genus. Of the 110 species identified, 85 (85%) are native, and 16 (15%) are considered non-native in Ontario. The proportion of native/non-native is similar to previous years with 88% native in 2008, 87% in 2010, 85% in 2013, 87% in 2014, and 92% in 2016. **Photograph 1** shows a portion of Plot 5 that was surveyed in 2019.

Data for individual vegetation plots has not been included in this report but is on file with Beacon.



Photograph 1. Representative Photograph of Plot 5 on August 12, 2019

3.2.3.1 Floristic Quality Assessment

FQA values for each plot between 2008 and 2019 are summarized in **Table 7**. A comparison of FQA values averaged across all plots is provided in **Table 8**. Species richness is noticeably lower in 2008 compared to the following five monitoring years. The data show a spike in species richness and a corresponding increase in FQI between 2008 and 2010. After 2010, the numbers decrease somewhat and generally level off between 2013 and 2019.

Table 7. FQA Summary by Plot for 2008-2019

Plot	Variable/ Parameter	2008	2010	2013	2014	2016	2019
	Total Species	22	52	41	44	39	35
1	Native Species	19	43	31	36	31	30



Plot	Variable/ Parameter	2008	2010	2013	2014	2016	2019
	Introduced Species	3	9	10	8	8	5
Ī	Wetness Index	-2.18	-2.33	-1.24	-1.93	-1.49	-2.26
Ī	Mean Total CC	3.32	2.98	2.20	2.65	2.59	3.17
Ī	Mean Native CC	3.84	3.60	2.90	3.51	3.26	3.60
Ī	Total FQI	15.56	21.49	13.86	17.55	16.17	18.76
Ī	Native FQI	16.75	23.64	16.16	21.09	18.15	19.72
	Total Species	30	53	40	41	41	41
	Native Species	27	48	34	38	34	35
	Introduced Species	3	5	6	5	7	6
2	Wetness Index	-1.93	-2.52	-1.73	-1.93	-1.61	-1.78
-	Mean Total CC	3.23	3.88	3.08	3.32	3.1	3.12
	Mean Native CC	3.59	3.51	3.62	3.78	3.74	3.66
	Total FQI	17.71	25.55	18.14	21.24	19.85	19.99
	Native FQI	18.67	26.85	21.09	22.67	21.81	21.64
	Total Species	23	62	47	50	48	47
Ī	Native Species	20	55	39	45	42	41
Ī	Introduced Species	3	7	8	6	7	6
3	Wetness Index	-1.09	-1.86	-1.26	-2.18	-2.10	-1.89
1 °	Mean Total CC	3.26	3.60	3.21	3.62	3.42	3.57
Ī	Mean Native CC	3.75	4.05	3.97	4.11	3.90	4.10
Ī	Total FQI	15.64	28.45	20.36	25.60	23.7	24.5
Ī	Native FQI	16.77	30.33	24.18	27.29	27.27	26.24
	Total Species	17	30	28	31	37	39
	Native Species	15	27	25	29	32	34
	Introduced Species	2	3	3	3	5	4
4	Wetness Index	-0.29	-1.63	-1.61	-1.42	-1.27	-1.33
4	Mean Total CC	4.00	4.17	3.82	4.10	3.97	3.92
	Mean Native CC	4.53	4.63	4.28	4.54	4.59	4.50
	Total FQI	16.49	22.82	18.92	22.81	24.13	24.5
	Native FQI	17.56	24.06	21.4	24.00	25.98	26.24
	Total Species	21	46	37	36	41	47
	Native Species	19	39	33	34	36	42
	Introduced Species	2	7	4	3	5	5
5	Wetness Index	-1.19	-0.48	-0.95	-0.75	-1.15	-1.26
'	Mean Total CC	4.05	3.85	3.78	3.88	3.71	3.77
	Mean Native CC	4.47	4.54	4.24	4.33	4.27	4.21
	Total FQI	18.55	26.10	21.6	23.27	23.74	25.82
	Native FQI	19.50	28.34	24.37	24.89	25.32	27.31
	Total Species	16	29	26	28	24	24
	Native Species	14	21	20	22	19	20
	Introduced Species	2	8	6	6	5	4
6	Wetness Index	-1.00	0.21	-0.46	-0.32	-0.1	-0.63
	Mean Total CC	3.06	2.45	2.62	2.86	2.92	2.71
	Mean Native CC	3.50	3.38	3.40	3.64	3.68	3.25
	Total FQI	12.25	13.18	12.85	15.12	14.31	13.27



Plot	Variable/ Parameter	2008	2010	2013	2014	2016	2019
Native FQI		13.10	15.49	15.21	17.06	16.04	14.53

Table 8. Comparison of Floristic Quality Assessment scores averaged across all plots, 2008-2019

Parameter	2008	2010	2013	2014	2016	2019
Average Total Species Richness	21.50	45.33	36.50	38.33	38.33	38.83
Average Native Species richness	19.00	38.83	30.33	34.00	32.33	33.67
Average Non-native Species Richness	2.50	6.50	6.17	5.17	6	5.16
Average Wetness Index	-1.28	-1.44	-1.21	-1.42	-1.29	-1.52
Average Native CC	3.95	3.95	3.74	3.99	3.90	3.89
Average Total CC	3.49	3.49	3.12	3.41	3.28	3.38
Average Native FQI	17.06	24.79	20.40	22.83	22.1	22.61
Average Total FQI	16.03	23.04	17.62	20.93	20.31	21.14

The fluctuations in the floristic parameters could be attributed to various environmental factors such as precipitation, herbivory, competition from dominant species, and natural dieback, which can vary on a seasonal and annual basis. Based on the monitoring data available, it is not possible to directly attribute the observed changes to specific environmental factors or variables. Some of the variability observed is likely attributable to observer bias, especially in plots where certain species occur in low numbers and can be easily overlooked or are not reliably detected.

Overall, there have been some minor shifts in species composition and abundance from year-to-year, which is to be expected. The general composition and structure of the vegetation within the plots have not changed substantially and the observed changes are within the expected range of natural variation for the wetland community types present.

3.2.4 Marsh Surveys

As part of the ELC confirmation work completed by Dougan & Associates in 2009, marshes on the subject property were assessed and recorded, and some ELC was updated from 2008 to 2009. These surveys were again conducted by Dougan & Associates in 2010, 2011 and 2013 (not in 2012). The resulting predominant vegetation species and the biophysical characteristics of each marsh surveyed have been included in Dougan and Associates' annual monitoring reports.

In 2010, the overall conditions that had been recorded in 2009 had not changed substantially. However, ELC Unit 7 (**Figure 4**) appeared drier due to lack of deep standing water and a new moisture gradient was observed in ELC Unit 29. No changes or re-classifications to ELC communities were made in 2010.

Again, the hydrologic conditions and vegetation composition observed in 2011 were not significantly different from 2010. Common Reed had spread, but the abundance of hydrophilic species (which would be indicative of changing wetland conditions) did not significantly change. No changes or reclassifications to ELC communities were made in 2010.



The conditions of the marshes observed in 2013 were slightly drier in comparison to what was noted in 2010 and 2011. Dougan & Associates attributed these changes to the much lower than average level of precipitation in 2012 and the slightly lower than average precipitation in 2013. No changes or reclassifications to ELC communities were made in 2013.

Dougan & Associates note that ELC Units 3, 29, 5 and 6 are impacted by discharge of water from the complex of small constructed ponds west of the parking lot. The water level in these ponds are being artificially regulated, which could explain fluctuations. Dougan & Associates also noted that the variation in vegetation in marshes could also be a result of plant responses to variations in weather patterns and environmental conditions rather than permanent trends.

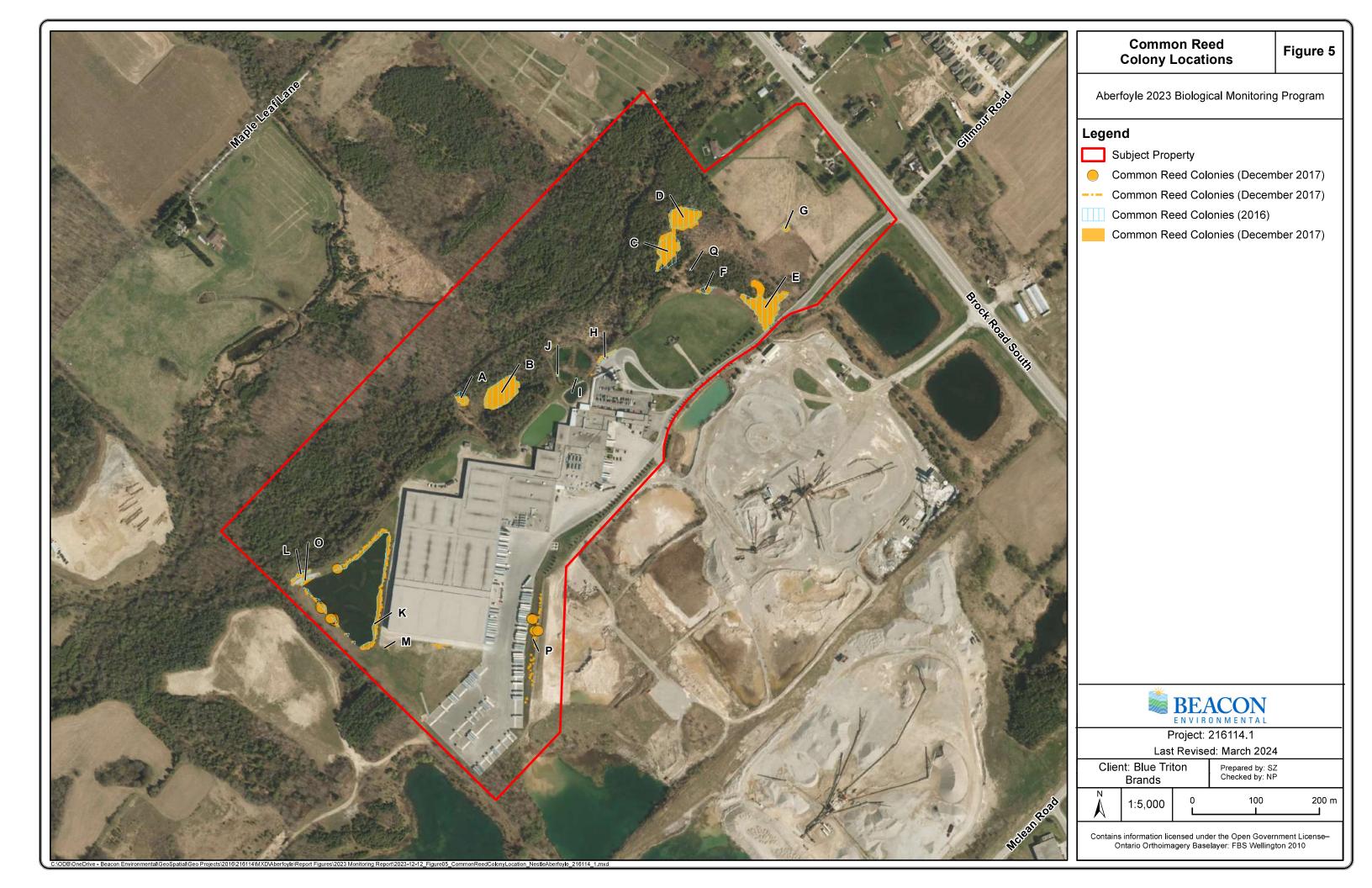
3.2.5 Invasive Species Mapping

Since monitoring was initiated on the property, colonies of Common Reed have been slowly expanding (**Figure 5**). Patch sizes were recorded in 2013, 2016 and 2017 (**Table 9**).

Table 9. Comparison of Common Reed Patch Size between 2013, 2016 and 2017

Oalami	Size (m²)		D:55 (2)	D:ff====== (0/)	
Colony	2013	2016	2017	Difference (m²)	Difference (%)
Α	172.28	254.43	255.04	0.61	0.24%
В	1,698.69	1,813.99	1,964.49	150.50	8.30%
С	1,920.17	1,401.47	2,886.44	266.24	10.16%
D	1,511.74	1,218.73	-	-	-
E	3,095.25	1,913.31	2,439.94	526.63	27.52%
F	1,061.60	202.67	123.36	-79.31	-39.13%
G	101.73	84.08	118.58	34.50	41.03%
Н	-	127.31	162.44	35.13	27.59%
I	-	4.92	7.55	2.63	53.46%
J	-	25.05	18.73	-6.32	-25.23%
К	-	1,655.91	1,456.14	199.77	-12.06%
L	-	182.24	210.49	28.25	15.50%
М	-	-	16.77	-	-
N	-	-	70.55	-	-
0	-	-	132.15	-	-
Р	-	-	62.52	-	-
Q	-		6.23	-	-
Total	9,561.46	8,884.11	9,931.42	1,047.31	11.79%





Monitoring of the Common Reed colonies in 2016 revealed a decrease in the rate of expansion of these colonies, but an increase in the colony size was observed in 2017. Between these two years, the following changes in Common Reed on the property were documented:

- Notable increases in colonies B, C (which has now joined with colony D), E and K;
- Small increases in colonies A, G, H, I and L;
- Small decreases in colonies F and J;
- Five new colonies, M through Q, were identified; and
- 32 additional points that were too small to map as polygons were also identified.

The change in cover of Common Reed on the subject property increased by 1,047.31 m², or 11.79% between 2016 and 2017. The Common Reed cover in 2017 was similar to that of the patch size recorded in 2013. It is anticipated that Common Reed will continue to spread throughout suitable open habitat on the property. An area being invaded by Common Reed is shown in **Photograph 2**.



Photograph 2. Common Reed within Colony E on December 18, 2017

3.3 Wildlife Surveys

3.3.1 Breeding Amphibians

Six anuran species were recorded from three stations on the subject property during the 2023 nocturnal amphibian call surveys. Species include American Bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*), American Toad (*Anaxyrus americanus*), Green Frog (*Lithobates clamitans*), Gray Treefrog (*Dryophytes versicolor*),



Northern Leopard Frog (*Lithobates pipiens*), and Spring Peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*). The findings of these amphibian breeding surveys are summarized in **Table 10**.

The primary amphibian breeding area on the property is the group of two to three small ponds/shallow aquatic features ("fire ponds") located just west of the parking lot. In 2023, no water was observed in the west fire pond and no amphibians were observed there.

Some indication of amphibian breeding was observed in Pond 1, Pond 2, and the pond at Brock Road S, which is just east of the property, in 2023.

Amphibians observed incidentally in 2023 during other field surveys included: American Bullfrog, Green Frog and Northern Leopard Frog.

Table 10. Breeding Amphibian Survey Results (2023)

Location (Figure 3)	Round 1 (April 14, 2023)	Round 2 (May 11, 2023)	Round 3 (June 27, 2023)
1	No calls	No calls	GRFR – 2(6) BULL – 1(2) GRTR – 1(1)
2	SPPE – 3 NLFR – 1(2)	SPPE – 2(4)	GRTR - 3)
3	No calls	GRFR – 1(1) BULL – 1(1) AMTO – 1(2)* SPPE – 2(10)*	GRFR – 1(8) BULL – 1(3) GRTR – 1(1)

^{* =} Call recorded from outside of station area

AMTO = American Toad, BULL = Bullfrog, GRFR = Green Frog, SPPE = Spring Peeper, GRTR = Gray Treefrog, NLFR = Northern Leopard Frog

Code 0 - No calling

Code 1 - Individuals can be counted; calls not simultaneous. Estimated number of individuals indicated in brackets

Code 2 - Calls distinguishable; some simultaneous calling. Estimated number of individuals indicated in brackets

Code 3 - Full chorus; calls continuous and overlapping.

The 2023 amphibian breeding activity is generally comparable to previous years (2008-2011 and 2015-2022).

Results of amphibian breeding surveys from all years are shown in **Table 11**. Spring Peeper and Green Frog have been observed each year monitoring has been completed. American Toad has been heard every year since 2016. Gray Treefrog has been observed in all years except 2022. Wood Frog has been observed in 2008, in 2011, from 2015 to 2017, and from 2019 to 2021. Northern Leopard Frog was incidentally observed in many years, and was documented calling during the nocturnal amphibian surveys at Pond 1 in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2019, and Pond 2 in 2023. American Bullfrog was observed incidentally in 2021 and 2022, and on Pond 1 and 3 during 2023 surveys.



Table 11. Breeding Amphibian Monitoring Results (2008–2023)

Year	SPPE	GRTR	GRFR	CHFR	WOFR	AMTO	NLFR	BULL
2008	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	-	-	-
2009	Х	Х	X	-	-	-	-	-
2010	X	Х	Х	-	-	-	X*	-
2011	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	-	-
2015	Х	X	Х	-	X	-	X*	X*
2016	Х	Х	Х	-	Х	Х	X*	-
2017	X	Х	Х	-	Х	X	X	Х
2018	Х	Х	X	-	-	Х	-	-
2019	Х	Х	Х	-	X*	Х	Х	Х
2020	X	Х	Х	-	Х	X	-	X*
2021	Х	X	Х	-	Х	X	-	X*
2022	Х	-	Х	-	-	Х	X*	X*
2023	Х	Х	Х	-	-	Х	Х	Х

SPPE = Spring Peeper, GRTR = Gray Treefrog, GRFR = Green Frog, CHFR = Western Chorus Frog, WOFR = Wood Frog, AMTO = American Toad, NLFR = Northern Leopard Frog, BULL = American Bullfrog

Overall, the results of these surveys have been relatively consistent with minor variations from year-to-year, which are to be expected based on the types of habitat present on the property and daily/annual species variations. Adult anurans are very mobile and often travel over upland areas to find suitable habitats.

3.3.2 Breeding Birds

A total of 49 species of birds (**Appendix C**) was documented on and directly adjacent to the subject property in 2023. Of the 49 species documented, 35 exhibited evidence of breeding and are considered to be breeding on the subject property.

During the field surveys in 2023, species that were observed flying or foraging over the property, or observed during migration and not considered to be breeding on the property, included: Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*), Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*), Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*), Redtailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*), Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*), Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*), Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*), Common Raven (*Corvus corax*), Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*), Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) and House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*). These species were either observed flying overhead or were using the property to forage (e.g., swallow species).

Of the 35 species that exhibited breeding evidence, one is a species that has conservation status. Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*), which is designated as Special Concern under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (2002) and provincial *Endangered Species Act* (2007), was recorded on the property during the 2023 breeding bird survey. This species was also recorded breeding on the property during the 2022 breeding bird survey. All species have a conservation rank of S5 (Secure) or S4 (Apparently Secure) (NHIC 2022).



^{*} Indicates species observed incidentally and not recorded during amphibian monitoring surveys (from 2015 onward)

Eastern Wood-Pewee is a common breeding bird species for the property in Aberfoyle and is often associated with wooded features. In 2023 Eastern Wood-Pewee was heard singing at breeding bird monitoring station 5.

Six of the 35 bird species that displayed some level of breeding evidence on the property are considered to be "priority landbird species" in Bird Conservation Region (BCR) 13, the Lower Great Lakes – St. Lawrence Plain. Priority species are those that meet Partners in Flight criteria for Species of Continental or Regional Importance, because of high conservation concern / vulnerability and/or high stewardship responsibility scores (OPIF 2008). Species include:

- Northern Flicker (Colaptes auratus);
- Eastern Wood-Pewee;
- Eastern Kingbird (Tyrannus tyrannus);
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak (Pheucticus Iudovicianus);
- Savannah Sparrow (Passerculus sandwichensis); and
- Baltimore Oriole (Icterus galbula).

Northern Flicker was heard calling from breeding bird monitoring station 5, incidentally during the first breeding bird survey near Pond 1, and also incidentally during the May 4, 2023 basking turtle survey. Eastern Kingbird was heard calling incidentally in the open areas of the property along the eastern property boundary, in the meadow by Pond 1 and also incidentally during the May 29, 2023 basking turtle survey. Rose-breasted Grosbeak was heard singing from breeding bird monitoring stations 4 and 5 and also incidentally along the southern property boundary in a deciduous forest community. One Savannah Sparrow was recorded incidentally in the weedy meadow near Pond 1 during the first 2023 breeding bird survey. Baltimore Oriole was recorded singing from breeding bird monitoring stations 2, 4 and 5 and incidentally along the western property boundary during the second 2023 breeding bird survey.

Nine of the 35 breeding bird species are considered significant in Wellington County (Dougan & Associates 2009). These species include:

- Northern Flicker;
- Eastern Wood-Pewee;
- Least Flycatcher (Empidonax minimus);
- Eastern Kingbird;
- Pine Warbler (Setophaga pinus);
- American Redstart (Setophaga ruticilla);
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak;
- Savannah Sparrow; and
- Baltimore Oriole.

One Least Flycatcher was recorded incidentally during the first and second 2023 breeding bird surveys in the forest communities at the southeastern and southwestern edges of the property. One Pine Warbler was recorded incidentally during the second 2023 breeding bird survey in the coniferous plantation at the southwestern edge of the property. An American Redstart was recorded singing from breeding bird monitoring station 5 during the first survey and recorded incidentally in the coniferous plantation at the southwestern edge of the property during the second 2023 breeding bird survey.



Five of the 35 breeding bird species observed in 2023 are considered area-sensitive. Area-sensitive species require larger areas of suitable habitat in order to sustain their populations (OMNR 2000) and are therefore considered more sensitive to habitat loss and fragmentation. These species include:

- Least Flycatcher;
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea);
- Pine Warbler;
- American Redstart; and
- Savannah Sparrow.

Least Flycatcher, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Pine Warbler and American Redstart are associated with the forested habitats on the property. Savannah Sparrow is associated with an open area on the property.

The number of breeding and total birds recorded each year through the monitoring surveys is shown in **Table 12**.

Monitoring Year	Number of Total Bird Species	Number of Breeding Bird Species
2008	40	34
2009	45	39
2010	48	36
2011	50	38
2015	39	33
2016	48	40
2017	51	37
2018	39	32
2019	44	34
2020	47	35
2021	44	32
2022	36	31
2023	49	35

Table 12. Breeding Bird Monitoring Results (2008-2023)

Breeding bird species that were not recorded this year were primarily woodland species that breed in the forested habitat north of the plant. Birds in this area can be difficult to hear from the point count stations if wind levels are towards the higher end of what is permitted for breeding bird surveys.

However, the overall results of the breeding bird surveys in 2023 are similar to the results of breeding bird surveys that were completed in previous years at the site. Differences in the results of these surveys can be attributed to daily and annual species variations.

3.3.3 Owl Surveys

During the two Barred Owl surveys conducted in 2010, Barred Owl was not recorded. However, during the second owl survey in 2010 on July 27, a Northern Saw-whet Owl was recorded calling continuously for 5 minutes in the northeast corner. The Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas states that this species breeds in



a variety of forest types but is most abundant in coniferous forests (Cadman *et al.* 2007). Therefore, the Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle property provides suitable habitat for this owl species. Northern Saw-whet Owl is considered locally rare in Wellington County (Dougan and Associates 2009) and ranked as "secure" (S5) by NHIC (2022).

As a result of this record, the 2011 field surveys included broadcasting calls for Northern Saw-whet Owls, as discussed in **Section 2.3.3**. However, in 2011, no owls were heard during the survey, and no formal owl surveys or incidental observations of owls have occurred since.

3.3.4 Basking Turtle Survey

The results of the basking turtle surveys are shown below in **Table 13**. Pond locations are shown on **Figure 3**.

	Survey 1 (May 4, 2023)			Survey 2 (May 29, 2023)			Survey 3 (September 15, 2023)		
	Pond 1	Pond 2	Fire Ponds	Pond 1	Pond 2	Fire Ponds	Pond 1	Pond 2	Fire Ponds
Midland Painted Turtle (Chrysemys picta marginata)	1	0	0	3	0	0	3	0	0
Snapping Turtle (Chelydra serpentina)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 13. Basking Turtle Survey Results (2023)

The majority of the turtles that were observed on the subject property were Midland Painted Turtles, all of which were observed in Pond 1 (**Figure 3**). This species is not considered significant at the local (Dougan & Associates 2009), regional (Plourde *et al.* 1989), or provincial (NHIC 2022) level. In April 2018, COSEWIC updated this species' status to Special Concern due to loss of wetlands in Ontario; on April 23, 2021, the *Species at Risk Act* (2002) added Midland Painted Turtle to Schedule 1 with the Special Concern status.

The number of Midland Painted Turtles seen in 2018-2023 is lower than what has previously been recorded (refer to **Table 14**). This is likely due to the establishment of Common Reed and willows around the edge of Pond 1, as well as a higher-than-average water level in 2023 in Pond 1, which have reduced basking opportunities. Additionally, the basking turtle surveys were started later this year in May after the initial ice melt and temperature warming in mid-April, which likely contributed to these lower observations. It is recommended for future monitoring years to start these surveys following the first ice melt in the spring once temperatures have warmed to appropriate levels for basking turtles to ensure more comparable results between survey years.

One Snapping Turtle was incidentally observed nesting in the mulch bed near the building, adjacent to Pond 2. Snapping Turtle nests were observed adjacent to Pond 1 in previous years. In 2019, Blue



Triton Brands staff indicated that Snapping Turtle are frequently observed nesting in the gravel around the ponds.

A summary of the basking turtle survey results from the Blue Triton Brands monitoring program on the Aberfoyle property are shown below in **Table 14**.

Table 14. Basking Turtle Monitoring Results (2008-2023)

Year	Snapping Turtle*	Midland Painted Turtle*
2008	1	0
2010	0	8 (5)
2011	1	38 (23)
2015	2 (1)	80 (36)
2016	5 (4)	42 (23)
2017	5	44 (25)
2018	1	30 (13)
2019	4 (2)	34 (22)
2020	6	34 (17)
2021	3 (2)	34 (21)
2022	4 (1)	28 (11)
2023	0	7 (3)

^{*} Maximum number observed per survey event are noted in parentheses.

3.3.5 Odonate Surveys

Baseline odonate surveys were completed by Dougan & Associates in 2010 and 2011 in the vicinity of Pond 1. The following taxa were observed:

- Common Green Darner Anax junius;
- Northern/Vernal Bluet Enallagma annexum/E. vernale;
- Rainbow Bluet Enallagma antennatum;
- Boreal Bluet Enallagma boreale;
- Marsh Bluet Enallagma erbium;
- Unidentified Bluet species Enallagma sp.;
- Eastern Pondhawk Ervthemis simplicicollis:
- Eastern Forktail Ischnura verticalis;
- Dot-tailed Whiteface Leucorrhinia intacta; and
- Unidentified Spreadwing species Sympetrum sp.

Additionally, Canada Darner and Eastern Pondhawk were noted incidentally in 2009.

Dougan & Associates note that this list is likely quite conservative since the survey was focussed in the Pond 1 area, and there are likely many other taxa present on the subject property. Common Green Darner, Boreal Bluet, Marsh Bluet, Eastern Pondhawk, Eastern Forktail and Dot-tailed Whiteface are ranked as "secure" (S5) while Rainbow Bluet, Northern Bluet and Vernal Bluet are ranked as "apparently secure" (S4) (NHIC 2022). Both Northern and Vernal Bluets are also considered Significant in Wellington County (Dougan & Associates 2009).



No additional odonate surveys are proposed in the near future.

3.3.6 Other Wildlife Species Observations

Other wildlife that were recorded on the subject property during the 2023 field season included:

- Eastern Cottontail (Sylvilagus floridanus);
- Unidentified Bat species (Chiroptera species);
- Coyote (Canis latrans);
- Muskrat (Ondatra zibethicus);
- Pumpkinseed (Lepomis gibbosus); and
- Bass species (Micropterus sp.).

These incidental wildlife observations are similar to those noted in previous years.

4. Conclusion and Recommendations

This annual monitoring report describes the methods and findings of the 2023 biological monitoring field programs for the Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle property. Aquatic and terrestrial monitoring completed in 2023 included:

- Salmonid spawning (redd) surveys in Aberfoyle Creek;
- Amphibian breeding surveys;
- Breeding bird surveys; and
- Turtle basking surveys.

Consistent with the required aquatic monitoring program, salmonid spawning surveys were completed along Aberfoyle Creek in 2023 by C. Portt and Associates. No evidence of spawning was observed. These findings are consistent with those of previous years (2007-2022).

Amphibian breeding surveys completed in 2023 documented six species. These findings are consistent with previous survey years and there are no significant changes to the resident breeding populations.

Breeding bird surveys were completed in 2023. Thirty-five (35) species were noted to be breeding on the property, which is consistent with numbers observed in 2008, 2010, 2019 and 2020. These numbers are average in comparison to other years and are consistent with normal year to year variation.

Turtle basking surveys of the pond habitats on site were completed in 2023 and confirmed that Painted Turtle and Snapping Turtle are actively using the site for basking, breeding and over-wintering. While the survey methodologies employed have been standardized, year to year variation in numbers observed remains relatively high. Going forward, it is recommended to complete the first turtle basking survey of the year shortly after the first ice melt in the spring once temperatures have reached appropriate levels for basking turtles to increase detectability.



Floristic surveys of the property were completed in 2019 to update the overall plant species checklist which was last updated in 2011. A total of 255 species were documented. Over 77% of the species present are considered native to Ontario and reflects the quality of the ecological communities present.

In 2019, ecological communities on the subject property were verified and ELC mapping updated. The last update was in 2009. No significant changes were observed to warrant re-classification; however, the boundaries of several communities were adjusted slightly.

Monitoring of vegetation in the six permanent sampling plots located in select wetland communities was completed in 2019. The data indicate that while there have been minor shifts in species composition and abundance from year-to-year, that most of this variation is attributable to sampling biases and does not reflect changes related to altered hydrology or disturbance; although there is some evidence to suggest compositional changes in some plots are related to expansion of Common Reed colonies.

No vegetation surveys were conducted in 2023. It is recommended that vegetation plot surveys will be conducted again in 2024 and ELC and floristic surveys be conducted in 2028.

In summary, the findings suggest that there have not been any significant changes to the various terrestrial and aquatic parameters being monitored on the Aberfoyle property. Species richness, abundance, and distribution are generally within the range expected and attributable to natural variation and succession. The subject property continues to support high quality terrestrial and wetland habitats that support a diverse range of native wildlife. The aquatic environment is strongly influenced by the thermal loading from the Aberfoyle Mill Pond.

To maintain a complete record of the variation in the wildlife communities from year to year, it is recommended that Core wildlife monitoring (amphibian, reptiles and birds) be completed in 2024. Vegetation plots are monitored to assess changes in wetland communities on the property over time. The plots are monitored less frequently, generally every three to four years. Since the last surveys were conducted in 2019, it is recommended that they be conducted in 2024. Additionally, Salmonid spawning surveys in Aberfoyle Creek will be conducted as required in 2024 by C. Portt and Associates, as required by the PTTW.



2023 Biological Monitoring Program Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle Property

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Appendix A

Key Biophysical Attributes of the Vegetation Communities in the Study Area

Appendix A

Key Biophysical Attributes of the Vegetation Communities in the Study Area¹

Unit.	1	2	3	4	5
ELC Code	SAM1	CUM1	MAM2	FOM7	CUP3
Vegetation Type	Mixed Shallow Aquatic Ecosite	Mineral Cultural Meadow Ecosite	Mineral Shallow Marsh Ecosite	Fresh-Moist White Cedar - Hardwood Mixed Forest Ecosite	Coniferous Plantation Ecosite
Overstorey Composition	Salix sp	Alnus incana spp. rugosa, Thuja occidentalis, Populus tremuloides, Populus deltoides ssp. deltoides, Canadensis, Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Fraxinus nigra		Acer rubrum, Acer negundo, Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Thuja occidentalis, Populus tremuloides, Salix amygdaloides	Pinus strobes, Pinus sylvestris, Thuja occidentalis, Betula papyrifera, Prunus serotina, Acer saccharum var. saccharum, Carya cordiformis, Fraxinus americana, Rhamnus cathartica, Lonicera tatarica
Understorey Composition	Polygonum hydropiper, Rumex crispus, Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani, Typha angustifolia, Verbena hastata	Salix eriocephala, Rhamnus cathartica, Lonicera tatarica, Salix purpurea, Cornus sericea ssp. sericea, Vitis riparia, Rubus idaeus ssp. Idaeus, Salix exigua	Ribes triste Cornus sericea ssp. sericea	Cornus sericea ssp. sericea, Salix sp, Rubus idaeus ssp. idaeus	Rubus idaeus ssp. idaeus, Prunus virginiana var. virginiana
Groundcover Composition	Lemna minor	Solidago Canadensis, Daucus carota, Aster sp, Symphyotrichum novae- angliae, Asclepias syriaca, Echium vulgare, Achillea millefolium var. millefolium, Oenothera biennis, Tussilago farfara, Verbascum Thapsus, Fragaria virginiana ssp. Virginiana, Anemone sp, Trifolium sp	Typha latifolia, Carex stricta, Solanum dulcamara, Phalaris arundinacea, Thalictrum dioicum, Laportea canadensis, Mentha sp, Solidago rugosa ssp. Rugosa, Onoclea sensibilis, Carex intumescens, Eupatorium maculatum var. maculatum, Eupatorium perfoliatum, Symphyotrichum puniceum var. puniceum, Impatiens capensis, Lysimachia thyrsiflora, Ranunculus hispidus var. hispidus, Glyceria striata, Leersia oryzoides, Carex sp	Equisetum arvense, Tussilago farfara, Phalaris arundinacea	Asarum canadense Solidago flexicaulis Maianthemum canadense Tussilago farfara Eurybia macrophylla Carex granularis Sanguinaria canadensis
Diameter Range	N/A	N/A	1	1-2	2–3
Structural Diversity	1	1	2	2	2
Canopy Closure	N/A	1	1	2(3)	3
Relative Age	2	1	2	2	2
Soil Texture	L	L	Om 15/ L	L – rip/rap	LfS
Drainage Class	3	1	3	1	1
Slope Class	1	1	1	2	2–3
Topographic Class	1	1	2	1	1
Botanical Quality	1	1	2	1	1

¹ Appendix A is based off the 2011 Biological Monitoring Program - Final Report (Dougan & Associates 2012) with minor updates from work done by Beacon in 2019.



Unit.	6	7	8	9	10
ELC Code	FOC4-1	MAS3	FOD6	SWD	SWM4-1
Vegetation Type	Fresh-Moist White Cedar Coniferous Forest	Organic Shallow Marsh Ecosite	Fresh-Moist Sugar Maple Deciduous Forest Ecosite	Deciduous Swamp	White Cedar - Hardwood Organic Mixed Swamp
Overstorey Composition	Thuja occidentalis Fraxinus pennsylvanica Acer saccharum var. saccharum	Thuja occidentalis, Betula papyrifera, Ulmus americana, Fraxinus nigra, Betula alleghaniensis, Acer saccharum var.saccharum Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Acer rubrum, Prunus serotina, Carpinus caroliniana ssp. virginiana, Tilia americana,	Acer saccharum var. saccharum, Ostrya virginiana, Tilia americana, Thuja occidentalis, Betula alleghaniensis, Betula papyrifera, Tsuga canadensis, Fagus grandifolia, Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Fraxinus americana	Fraxinus nigra Populus tremuloides Betula alleghaniensis Acer rubrum Tilia americana Thuja occidentalis Fraxinus pennsylvanica Fagus grandifolia	Thuja occidentalis, Populus tremuloides, Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Ulmus americana, Fraxinus nigra, Betula papyrifera, Betula alleghaniensis, Acer rubrum,
Understorey Composition	Sambucus racemosa var. racemosa Cornus alternifolia Ribes sp	Cornus sericea ssp. sericea, Rubus pubescens, Parthenocissus vitacea, Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis	-	Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis, Cornus sericea ssp. sericea	Rhamnus cathartica, Rubus idaeus ssp. idaeus, Salix petiolaris, Amelanchier alnifolia, Hamamelis virginiana, Cornus sericea ssp. sericea, Sambucus nigra ssp. canadensis, Parthenocissus vitacea, Lonicera dioica, Prunus virginiana var. virginiana, Cornus alternifolia, Alnus incana spp. rugosa, Frangula alnus, Cornus racemosa, Rubus pubescens, Prunus serotina,
Groundcover Composition	Cystopteris bulbifera Tussilago farfara Carex communis Asarum canadense Onoclea sensibilis	Phragmites australis, Thelypteris palustris var. pubescens, Carex hystericina, Solanum dulcamara, Scirpus atrovirens, Epilobium hirsutum, Onoclea sensibilis, Cicuta maculata, Bidens frondosa, Typha latifolia, Sium suave, Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum, Lycopus americanus, Agrostis stolonifera	Carex pensylvanica, Onoclea sensibilis, Solidago flexicaulis, Tussilago farfara, Polystichum acrostichoides, Caulophyllum thalictroides, Asarum canadense, Anemone acutiloba, Carex pedunculata	Phalaris arundinacea Carex sp Solidago rugosa ssp. rugosa Onoclea sensibilis, Boehmeria cylindrica Carex lupulina Euonymus obovata	Solanum dulcamara, Agrimonia gryposepala, Thalictrum dioicum, Onoclea sensibilis, Oxalis stricta, Carex eburnean, Cystopteris bulbifera, Pilea pumila, Viola sororia, Clematis virginiana, Echinocystis lobata, Lysimachia thyrsiflora, Circaea lutetiana ssp. canadensis,, Phalaris arundinacea, Aster puniceus var. puniceus, Anemone virginiana var. cylindroidea, Dryopteris carthusiana, Echinocystis lobata
Diameter Range	3	1	2–3	2–3	2–3
Structural Diversity	2	2	2	2	2
Canopy Closure	3	1	3	3	3
Relative Age	2	2	2	2	2
Soil Texture	LfS	Om/SiL	L	L	O/L
Drainage Class	2	3	2	3	3
Slope Class	2(3)	1	1– 2	1	1
Topographic Class	2	2	1	2	2
Botanical Quality	2	2	2	2	3



Unit.	11	12	13	14-merged with Polygon 11 in 2009	15
ELC Code	MAS2-1/MAM2-2	SWC3-2	SWC3-1	SWT2	FOC4-1
Vegetation Type	Cattail Mineral Shallow Marsh/Reed Canary Grass Mineral Meadow Marsh	White Cedar - Conifer Organic Coniferous Swamp	White Cedar Organic Coniferous Swamp	Mineral Thicket Swamp Ecosite	Fresh-Moist White Cedar Coniferous Forest
Overstorey Composition	Populus tremuloides, Thuja occidentalis	Thuja occidentalis Larix laricina	Thuja occidentalis, Populus balsamifera ssp. balsamifera Larix laricina, Betula papyrifera	Thuja occidentalis	Thuja occidentalis
Understorey Composition	Rhamnus cathartica Salix sp Salix petiolaris Ribes sp Cornus sericea ssp. sericea	Lonicera tatarica	Parthenocissus vitacea Lonicera tatarica	Salix sp Parthenocissus vitacea	-
Groundcover Composition	Typha latifolia, Phalaris arundinacea, Solidago canadensis var. scabra Tussilago farfara, Lysimachia thyrsiflora, Solanum dulcamara, Equisetum arvense, Carex hystericina, Carex stipata Aster puniceus var. puniceus, Eupatorium maculatum var. maculatum, Caltha palustris, Onoclea sensibilis, Impatiens capensis, Poa sp, Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani, Cicuta maculate, Carex stricta	Carex stricta, Carex pellita Dryopteris carthusiana Thelypteris palustris var. pubescens, Osmunda cinnamomea, Galium aparine, Equisetum arvense, Aster sp, Typha latifolia, Tussilago farfara, Fragaria virginiana ssp. virginiana, Caltha palustris, Solidago canadensis var. scabra, Thalictrum pubescens, Cypripedium parviflorum, Phragmites australis, Onoclea sensibilis	Equisetum arvense, Tussilago farfara, Onoclea sensibilis Galium aparine, Solanum dulcamara, Carex stipata, Phalaris arundinacea, Aster puniceus var. puniceus Thalictrum pubescens Dryopteris carthusiana, Caltha palustris, Eupatorium perfoliatum, Impatiens capensis, Eupatorium maculatum var. maculatum, Carex rosea, Cypripedium parviflorum, Taraxacum officinale	Typha latifolia Aster puniceus var. puniceus Phalaris arundinacea Solanum dulcamara Carex stipata Cicuta maculata Impatiens capensis Lysimachia thyrsiflora Onoclea sensibilis Thalictrum pubescens Asclepias syriaca Typha angustifolia	-
Diameter Range	N/A	1– 2	2– 3	1	3
Structural Diversity	2	2	2	2	2
Canopy Closure	N/A	2–3	3	1	3
Relative Age	2	2	2	2	2
Soil Texture	L	Om	Om	L	LfS
Drainage Class	3	3	3	3	2
Slope Class	1	1	1	1	1
Topographic Class	2	2	2	2	2
Botanical Quality	2	2	2	2	2



Unit.	16	17	18	19	20
ELC Code	FOC4-1	FOC4-1	SWD	SWM4-1	FOM7
Vegetation Type	Fresh-Moist White Cedar Coniferous Forest	Fresh-Moist White Cedar Coniferous Forest	Deciduous Swamp	White Cedar - Hardwood Organic Mixed Swamp	Fresh-Moist White Cedar - Hardwood Mixed Forest Ecosite
Overstorey Composition	Thuja occidentalis	Thuja occidentalis, Pinus strobus Populus tremuloides, Betula papyrifera, Prunus serotina Picea abies, Abies balsamea	Fraxinus nigra Rubus idaeus ssp. idaeus Rubus pubescens Parthenocissus vitacea Rhamnus cathartica Thuja occidentalis Vitis riparia Frangula alnus Populus tremuloides	Species composition similar to unit 10	Thuja occidentalis, tilia americana, Acer saccharum ssp saccharum, Ostrya virginiana, Tsuga canadensis
Understorey Composition	-	Prunus virginiana var. virginiana Rhamnus cathartica	-	-	Acer saccharum ssp saccharum
Groundcover Composition	-	Carex flacca, Danthonia spicata, Solidago nemoralis	Anemone canadensis Solanum dulcamara Geum sp Thalictrum pubescens Circaea lutetiana ssp. canadensis Arisaema triphyllum ssp. triphyllum Galium sp Solidago rugosa ssp. rugosa	-	Carex pensylvanica, Dryopteris carthusiana, Asarum canadense
Diameter Range	2–3	2-3	1– 2	2-3	2-3
Structural Diversity	1	1	2	2	2
Canopy Closure	3	3	2	3	3
Relative Age	2	2	1	2	2
Soil Texture	L	L	L	O/L	L
Drainage Class	1	1	3	3	2
Slope Class	1	1	1	1	1-2
Topographic Class	2	2	2	2	2
Botanical Quality	2	2	2	3	2



Unit.	21	22	23	24	25
ELC Code	FOC4-1	FOC4-1	CUM1	SWD2-2	MAM2
Vegetation Type	Fresh-Moist White Cedar Coniferous Forest	Fresh-Moist White Cedar Coniferous Forest	Mineral Cultural Meadow Ecosite	Red Ash Mineral Deciduous Swamp	Common Reed Mineral Meadow Marsh
Overstorey Composition	Populus tremuloides Thuja occidentalis Fraxinus pennsylvanica Fraxinus americana Acer saccharum var. saccharum Betula alleghaniensis	Thuja occidentalis, Betula papyrifera Salix fragilis, Populus balsamifera ssp. balsamifera, Populus tremuloides,	Acer negundo	-	Populus balsamifera ssp. balsamifera Acer negundo
Understorey Composition	-	Salix purpurea, Cornus sericea ssp. sericea, Lonicera tatarica	Rhamnus cathartica, Rubus idaeus ssp. idaeus, Vitis riparia	-	Vitis riparia, Parthenocissus vitacea
Groundcover Composition	Solidago canadensis	Equisetum arvense, Solidago canadensis, Tussilago farfara, Taraxacum officinale	Solidago canadensis var. scabra, Echium vulgare, Linaria vulgaris, Thlaspi arvense, Equisetum arvense, Symphyotrichum novae-angliae, Bromus inermis ssp. pumpellianus, Leucanthemum vulgare, Solidago canadensis, Arctium minus, Lotus corniculatus, Daucus carota, Cirsium arvense, Rumex crispus, Tussilago farfara, Anemone canadensis, Asclepias syriaca, Trifolium repens	-	Phalaris arundinacea Rumex crispus Anemone canadensis, Ranunculus acris, Phragmites australis
Diameter Range	2–3	2–3	N/A	2-3	N/A
Structural Diversity	1	2	1	2	1
Canopy Closure	3	3	N/A	3	N/A
Relative Age	2	2	1	2	1
Soil Texture	L	L	L	L	L
Drainage Class	1	1	1	3	2
Slope Class	1	2	1– 2	1	1
Topographic Class	2	2	1	2	1
Botanical Quality	2	2	1	2	1



Unit.	26	27	28	29	30
ELC Code	SAM1	SWD2-2	FOD	MAM2-2	MAM2-2
Vegetation Type	Mixed Shallow Aquatic Ecosite	Green Ash Mineral Deciduous Swamp	Deciduous Forest	Reed Canary-grass Mineral Meadow Marsh	Reed Canary-grass Mineral Meadow Marsh
Overstorey Composition	Salix exigua	Fraxinus pensylvanica, Fraxinus nigra, Ulmus americana, Betula allegheniensis, Tilia Americana, Populus tremuloides	Fraxinus pensylvanica, Populus tremuloides, Thuja occidentalis, Pinus strobus	Thuja occidentalis, Fraxinus nigra	-
Understorey Composition	-	Rubus idaeus ssp melanolasius, Rhamnus cathyartica, Sambucus canadensis, Thuja occidentalis, Viburnum trilobum (R)	Thuja occidentalis, Cornus sericea ssp sericea, Rhamnus frangula, abies balsamea	Cornus sericea ssp sericea, Rubus idaeus ssp strigosus, Thuja occidentalis	-
Groundcover Composition	Coronilla varia, Poa sp Achillea millefolium var. millefolium, Typha latifolia, Juncus effusus ssp. solutes, Silene vulgaris, Melilotus officinalis Rumex crispus, Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani, Ranunculus sceleratus var. sceleratus	Onoclea sensibilis, Solidago rugosa, Clematis virginiana, Cystopteris bulbifera	Carex pensylvanica, Solidago canadensis var. scabra, Pteridium aquilinum, solidago rugosa, Solanum dulcamara, Solidago rugosa	Phalaris arundinacea -D, Symphyotrichum lateriflorum var. angustifolium, Eupatorium maculatum, Aster puniceus, Carex sp.,	Phalaris arundinacea -D, Aster puniceus-A, Typha angustifolia, Typha latifolia, Symphyotrichum lanceolatum var. lanceolatum, Cyperipedium parviflorum var. makasin
Diameter Range	N/A	2	1,2 (3)	1	1
Structural Diversity	1	2	2	1	1
Canopy Closure	N/A	3	3	1	1
Relative Age	1	2	1– 2	1	1
Soil Texture	L	L	L	L	L
Drainage Class	3	2–3	1	2–3	2–3
Slope Class	1	1	1	1	1
Topographic Class	1	1	1	1	1
Botanical Quality	2	2	2	2	2



Unit.	31	32
ELC Code	FOD	CUM1
Vegetation Type	Deciduous Forest Remnant	Cultural Meadow
Overstorey	Acer saccharum ssp saccharum, Tilia	
Composition	americana	-
Understorey	_	_
Composition		
Groundcover Composition	-	Some areas manicured turf, some areas seeded; <i>Medicago sativa, Melilotus sp, Daucus carota</i>
Diameter Range	2	1
Structural Diversity	1	1
Canopy Closure	3	1
Relative Age	2	1
Soil Texture	L	L
Drainage Class	1	1
Slope Class	1	1
Topographic Class	1	1
Botanical Quality	2	1

LEGEND

Diameter Range (1 = <15 cm dbh.; 2 = 15 - 30 cm dbh.; 3 = >30 cm dbh.)

Structural Diversity (1 = strata 1 & 2; 2 = >2 strata; 3 = > 3 strata, old growth)

Canopy Closure (1 = <25%; 2 = 25–50%; 3 = >50%)

Relative Age (1 = immature; 2 = mature; 3 = old growth)

Soil Texture (sand/silt/clay/org)

Drainage Class (1 = well-drained; 2 = imperfectly drained (1 – 3 mottles); 3 = poorly drained (>3 mottles)

Slope Class (1 = <10%; 2 = 10-25%; 3 = >25%)

Topographic Class (1 = uniform; 2 = uneven; 3 = high variability (hummocky)

Botanical Quality (1 = disturbed, exotics; 2 = low diversity; 3 = high diversity (sig spp. present)

Edge Abbreviations: () represent localized condition; D = Dominant (51–100%); A = Abundant (21–50%); F = Frequent (11–20%); O = Occasional (5–10%); S = Scarce (<5%)





Appendix B



Appendix B

Flora Checklist

Scientific Name	Common Name (FOIBIS)	Coefficient of Conservatism	Wetness Index	S-Rank	Wellington
Alisma triviale	Northern Water-plantain	1	-5	S5	-
Sagittaria latifolia	Broadleaf Arrowhead	4	-5	S5	-
Toxicodendron rydbergii	Western Poison Ivy	0	0	S5	-
Cicuta bulbifera	Bulb-bearing Water-hemlock	5	-5	S5	-
Cicuta maculata	Spotted Water-hemlock	6	-5	S5	-
Daucus carota	Queen Anne's Lace	0	5	SNA	-
Hydrocotyle americana	American Water-pennywort	7	-5	S5	-
Sium suave	Hemlock Water-parsnip	4	-5	S5	-
Apocynum androsaemifolium ssp. androsaemifolium	Spreading Dogbane	3	5	S5	-
Arisaema triphyllum ssp. triphyllum	Jack-in-the-pulpit	5	-2	S5	-
Aralia nudicaulis	Wild Sarsaparilla	4	3	S5	-
Asarum canadense	Wild Ginger	6	5	S5	-
Asclepias incarnata ssp. incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	6	-5	S5	-
Asclepias syriaca	Common Milkweed	0	5	S5	-
Asplenium platyneuron	Ebony Spleenwort	6	3	S4	R
Achillea millefolium var. occidentalis	Wooly Yarrow	0	3	S5	-
Ambrosia trifida	Great Ragweed	0	-1	S5	-
Bidens frondosa	Devil's Beggar's Ticks	3	-3	S5	-
Cichorium intybus	Chicory	0	5	SNA	_
Cirsium vulgare	Bull Thistle	0	4	SNA	-
Erigeron philadelphicus var. philadelphicus	Philadelphia Fleabane	1	-3	S5	-
Eupatorium perfoliatum	Common Boneset	2	-4	S5	_
Euthamia graminifolia	Grass-leaved Goldenrod	2	-2	S5	_
Eutrochium maculatum var. maculatum	Spotted Joe-pye Weed	3	-5	S5	_
Hieracium sp.	Hawkweed Species	0	0		_
Lactuca biennis	Tall Blue Lettuce	6	0	S5	_
Lactuca sp.	Lettuce Species	0	0		_
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	0	5	SNA	_
Solidago altissima var. altissima	Tall Goldenrod	1	3	S5	_
Solidago canadensis	Canada Goldenrod	1	3	S5	
Solidago flexicaulis	Broad-leaved Goldenrod	6	3	S5	
Solidago gigantea	Smooth Goldenrod	J /	-3	S5	-
Solidago nemoralis var. nemoralis	Field Goldenrod	2	-5	S5	-
Solidago rugosa ssp. rugosa	Rough Goldenrod	4	-1	S5	-
Sonchus arvensis ssp. arvensis	Field Sowthistle	0	-1	SNA	-
		0	0		-
Sonchus asper ssp. asper Symphyotrichum lanceolatum ssp. lanceolatum	Spiny-leaf Sowthistle	3	0	SNA S5	-
	Panicled Aster	3	-3		-
Symphyotrichum lateriflorum var. lateriflorum	Calico Aster		-2	S5	-
Symphyotrichum novae-angliae	New England Aster	2	-3	S5	-
Symphyotrichum pilosum var. pilosum	Hairy Aster	4	2	S5	U
Symphyotrichum puniceum var. puniceum	Purple-stemmed Aster	6	-5	S5	-
Symphyotrichum urophyllum	Arrow-leaved Aster	6	5	S4	U
Taraxacum officinale	Common Dandelion	0	3	SNA	-
Tussilago farfara	Colt's Foot	0	3	SNA	-
Impatiens capensis	Spotted Jewel-weed	4	-3	S5	-
Caulophyllum giganteum	Blue Cohosh	-	-	S5	_



Scientific Name	Common Name (FOIBIS)	Coefficient of Conservatism	Wetness Index	S-Rank	Wellington
Caulophyllum thalictroides	Blue Cohosh	6	5	S5	-
Alnus incana ssp. rugosa	Speckled Alder	6	-5	S5	
Betula alleghaniensis	Yellow Birch	6	0	S5	<u>_</u>
Betula allegramensis Betula papyrifera	Paper Birch	2	2	S5	
Carpinus caroliniana ssp. virginiana	American Hornbeam	6	0	S5	
Echium vulgare	Common Viper's-bugloss	0	5	SNA	
Hackelia virginiana	Virginia Stickseed	5	1	S5	
Myosotis laxa	Small Forget-me-not	6	-5	S5	-
Myosotis scorpioides	True Forget-me-not	0	-5 -5	SNA	-
Symphytum officinale ssp. officinale	Common Comfrey	0	5	SNA	-
Cardamine diphylla	Broad-leaved Toothwort	7	5	SINA S5	-
	Pennsylvania Bitter-cress	6	-4	S5	-
Cardamine pensylvanica		0	•	SNA	U
Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum	True Watercress	0	-5		-
Thlaspi arvense	Field Penny-cress	0	5	SNA	-
Lobelia siphilitica	Great Blue Lobelia	6	-4	S5	-
Lonicera tatarica	Tartarian Honeysuckle	0	3	SNA	-
Sambucus canadensis	Common Elderberry	5	-2	S5	-
Sambucus nigra	Eupopean Elderberry	-	-	SNA	-
Viburnum opulus	Guelder-rose Viburnum	0	0	SNA	-
Silene vulgaris	Maiden's Tears	0	5	SNA	-
Euonymus obovatus	Running Strawberry-bush	6	5	S5	-
Hypericum perforatum	St. John's-wort	0	5	SNA	=
Convolvulus arvensis	Field Bindweed	0	5	SNA	-
Cornus alternifolia	Alternate-leaf Dogwood	6	5	S5	-
Cornus racemosa	Gray Dogwood	2	-2	S5	-
Cornus sericea ssp. sericea	Red-osier Dogwood	2	-3	S5	-
Echinocystis lobata	Wild Mock-cucumber	3	-2	S5	-
Thuja occidentalis	Northern White Cedar	4	-3	S5	-
Carex bebbii	Bebb's Sedge	3	-5	S5	-
Carex bromoides	Brome-like Sedge	7	-4	S5	-
Carex communis	Fibrous-root Sedge	6	5	S5	-
Carex flacca	Heath Sedge	0	0	SNA	-
Carex flava	Yellow Sedge	5	-5	S5	-
Carex gracillima	Graceful Sedge	4	3	S5	-
Carex granularis	Meadow Sedge	3	-4	S5	-
Carex hystericina	Porcupine Sedge	5	-5	S5	-
Carex intumescens	Bladder Sedge	6	-4	S5	-
Carex Iupulina	Hop Sedge	6	-5	S5	-
Carex pedunculata	Longstalk Sedge	5	5	S5	-
Carex pellita	Woolly Sedge	4	-5	S5	-
Carex pensylvanica	Pennsylvania Sedge	5	5	S5	-
Carex radiata	Stellate Sedge	4	5	S5	-
Carex sp.	Sedge Species	0	0	-	-
Carex stipata	Stalk-grain Sedge	3	-5	S5	-
Carex stricta	Tussock Sedge	4	-5	S5	-
Carex vulpinoidea	Fox Sedge	3	-5	S5	-
Schoenoplectus tabernaemontani	Soft-stemmed Bulrush	5	-5	S5	-
Scirpus atrovirens	Woolgrass Bulrush	3	-5	S5	-
Pteridium aquilinum var. latiusculum	Bracken Fern	2	3	S5	<u> </u>
Athyrium filix-femina var. angustum	Lady-fern	<u>Z</u>	0	S5	-
Cystopteris bulbifera	Bulblet Fern	5	-2	S5	-
Dryopteris carthusiana	Spinulose Wood Fern	5	-2	S5	-
		7	- <u>-</u> 2 -5	S5 S5	-
Dryopteris cristata	Crested Wood Fern	I	J -5	১১	



Scientific Name	Common Name (FOIBIS)	Coefficient of Conservatism	Wetness Index	S-Rank	Wellington
Dryopteris intermedia	Evergreen Wood Fern	5	n n	S5	-
Dryopteris marginalis	Marginal Wood Fern	5	3	S5	
Matteuccia struthiopteris var. pensylvanica	Ostrich Fern	5	-3	S5	
Onoclea sensibilis	Sensitive Fern	J /	-3	S5	<u>-</u>
Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas Fern	5	5	S5	<u>-</u>
Equisetum arvense	Field Horsetail	0	0	S5	<u>-</u>
Equisetum sylvaticum	Woodland Horsetail	7	-3	S5	U
Coronilla varia	Crown-vetch	1	5	SNA	U
Lotus corniculatus	Bird's-foot Trefoil	0	3	SNA	-
	Black Medic	0	1	SNA	-
Medicago lupulina		0	1		<u>-</u>
Trifolium repens	White Clover	0	2	SNA	-
Trifolium sp.	Clover Species	0	0	-	-
Fagus grandifolia	American Beech	6	3	S5	-
Geranium maculatum	Wild Geranium	6	3	S5	-
Geranium robertianum	Herb-robert	0	5	S5	-
Ribes cynosbati	Prickly Gooseberry	4	5	S5	-
Ribes triste	Swamp Red Currant	6	-5	S5	-
Iris versicolor	Blueflag	5	-5	S5	-
Carya cordiformis	Bitternut Hickory	6	0	S5	-
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut	5	3	S4?	-
Juncus effusus ssp. solutus	Soft Rush	4	-5	S5	-
Galeopsis tetrahit	Brittle-stem Hempnettle	0	5	SNA	-
Lycopus americanus	American Bugleweed	4	-5	S5	-
Lycopus uniflorus	Northern Bugleweed	5	-5	S5	-
Mentha arvensis	Corn Mint	3	-3	S5	-
Nepeta cataria	Catnip	0	1	SNA	-
Prunella vulgaris ssp. lanceolata	Self-heal	5	5	S5	-
Prunella vulgaris ssp. vulgaris	Common Heal-all	0	0	SNA	-
Scutellaria galericulata	Hooded Skullcap	6	-5	S5	=
Scutellaria lateriflora	Mad Dog Skullcap	5	-5	S5	-
Scutellaria sp.	Skullcap Species	0	0	-	_
Lemna minor	Lesser Duckweed	2	-5	S5	_
Allium tricoccum	Wild Leek	7	2	S5	-
Maianthemum canadense	Wild-lily-of-the-valley	5	0	S5	
Maianthemum stellatum	Starflower False Solomon's Seal	6	1	S5	
Polygonatum pubescens	Downy Solomon's Seal	5	5	S5	_
Trillium grandiflorum	White Trillium	5	5	S5	_
Trillium sp.	Trillium Species	0	0		
Lythrum salicaria	Slender-spike Loosestrife	0	-5	SNA	
Fraxinus nigra	Black Ash	7	-4	S5	<u> </u>
	Green Ash	3	-3	S5	
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Enchanter's Nightshade	3	3	S5 S5	-
Circaea lutetiana ssp. canadensis Epilobium hirsutum	Great-hairy Willow-herb	0	-4	SNA	-
					-
Epilobium parviflorum	Small-flower Willow-herb	0	3	SNA	-
Epilobium sp.	Willow-herb Species	0	0		-
Cypripedium parviflorum	Small Yellow Lady's-slipper	1	-1	S5	-
Epipactis helleborine	Eastern Helleborine	0 7	5	SNA	-
Osmunda cinnamomea	Cinnamon Fern	[-3	S5	-
Oxalis stricta	Upright Yellow Wood Sorrel	0	3	S5	-
Sanguinaria canadensis	Bloodroot	5	4	S5	-
Abies balsamea	Balsam Fir	5	-3	S5	-
Larix laricina	American Larch	7	-3	S5	-
Pinus nigra	Black Pine	0	-5	SNA	-



Scientific Name	Common Name (FOIBIS)	Coefficient of Conservatism	Wetness Index	S-Rank	Wellington
Pinus strobus	Eastern White Pine		3	S5	- Weilington
Tsuga canadensis	Eastern Hemlock	7	3	S5	<u>-</u>
Plantago lanceolata	English Plantain	0	0	SNA	<u>-</u>
Plantago major	Nipple-seed Plantain	0	-1	SNA	-
Agrostis gigantea	Redtop	0	0	SNA	-
Brachyelytrum erectum	Long-awned Wood Grass	7	5	S4S5	 R
	Fringed Brome	6	_	S5	Γ
Bromus ciliatus	Smooth Brome	0	-3	SNA	-
Bromus inermis ssp. inermis		0	5		<u>-</u>
Cinna latifolia	Slender Wood Reedgrass	/	-4	S5	U
Danthonia spicata	Poverty Oat-grass	5	5	S5	-
Echinochloa crusgalli	Barnyard Grass	0	-3	SNA	-
Elymus hystrix	Bottle-brush Grass	5	5	S5	-
Elymus repens	Quack Grass	0	3	SNA	-
Elymus virginicus var. virginicus	Virginia Wild-rye	5	-2	S5	-
Glyceria grandis	American Manna Grass	5	-5	S4S5	-
Glyceria striata	Fowl Manna Grass	3	-5	S5	-
Leersia oryzoides	Rice Cutgrass	3	-5	S5	=
Phalaris arundinacea	Reed Canary Grass	0	-4	S5	-
Phleum pratense	Timothy	0	3	SNA	-
Phragmites australis ssp. australis	European Common Reed	0	-4	SNA	-
Poa palustris	Fowl Bluegrass	5	-4	S5	-
Poa pratensis ssp. pratensis	Kentucky Bluegrass	0	1	SNA	-
Schizachne purpurascens ssp. purpurascens	Purple Oat	6	2	S5	-
Polygonum hydropiper	Water-pepper	4	-5	SNA	=
Rumex crispus	Curly Dock	0	-1	SNA	-
Rumex orbiculatus	Water Dock	6	-5	S4S5	-
Lysimachia ciliata	Fringed Loosestrife	4	-3	S5	-
Lysimachia thyrsiflora	Water Loosestrife	7	-5	S5	-
Trientalis borealis ssp. borealis	Northern Starflower	6	-1	S5	-
Adiantum pedatum	Northern Maidenhair-fern	7	1	S5	-
Actaea pachypoda	White Baneberry	6	5	S5	-
Anemone acutiloba	Sharp-lobed Hepatica	6	5	S5	-
Anemone canadensis	Canada Anemone	3	-3	S5	-
Anemone virginiana var. virginiana	Virginia Anemone	4	5	S5	-
Aquilegia canadensis	Wild Columbine	5	1	S5	-
Caltha palustris	Marsh Marigold	5	-5	S5	-
Clematis virginiana	Virginia Virgin-bower	3	0	S5	-
Ranunculus abortivus	Kidney-leaved Buttercup	2	-2	S5	_
Ranunculus acris	Tall Buttercup	0	-2	SNA	_
Ranunculus hispidus var. caricetorum	Swamp Buttercup	5	-5	S5	
Ranunculus pensylvanicus	Bristly Crowfoot	3	-5	S5	U
Ranunculus recurvatus var. recurvatus	Hooked Crowfoot	. — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	-3	S5	<u> </u>
	Buttercup Species	0	0	30	
Ranunculus sp. Thalictrum dioicum		5	2	- S5	-
	Early Meadowrue	5	-2	S5 S5	-
Thalictrum pubescens	Tall Meadowrue	3		SNA	-
Frangula alnus	Glossy Buckthorn	U	-1		-
Rhamnus cathartica	Buckthorn	0	0	SNA	-
Agrimonia gryposepala	Tall Hairy Agrimony	2	2	S5	-
Fragaria virginiana	Wild Stawberry	2	1	S5	-
Geum canadense	White Avens	3	0	S5	-
Geum laciniatum	Rough Avens	4	-3	S4	-
Geum sp.	Avens Species	0	0	-	-
Geum urbanum	Clover-root	0	5	SNA	-



Scientific Name	Common Name (FOIBIS)	Coefficient of Conservatism	Wetness Index	S-Rank	Wellington
Malus sp.	Apple Species	0	0	-	-
Prunus serotina	Wild Black Cherry	3	3	S5	-
Rubus idaeus ssp. strigosus	Wild Red Raspberry	0	-2	S5	-
Rubus pubescens	Dwarf Raspberry	<u> </u>	-4	S5	_
Spiraea alba	Narrow-leaved Meadow-sweet	3	-4	S5	_
Galium aparine	Cleavers	Δ	3	S5	_
Galium asprellum	Rough Bedstraw	6	-5	S5	-
Galium palustre	Marsh Bedstraw	5	-5	S5	<u> </u>
Galium sp.	Bedstraw Species	0	0		<u> </u>
Populus balsamifera ssp. balsamifera	Balsam Poplar	0	-3	S5	-
Populus deltoides ssp. deltoides	Eastern Cottonwood	4	-3	S5	
		2	- 0	S5	-
Populus tremuloides	Quaking Aspen White Willow		0	SNA	-
Salix alba		0	-3		-
Salix bebbiana	Bebb's Willow	4	-4	S5	-
Salix discolor	Pussy Willow	3	-3	S5	-
Salix eriocephala	Heart-leaved Willow	4	-3	S5	-
Salix exigua	Sandbar Willow	3	-5	S5	-
Salix fragilis	Crack Willow	0	-1	SNA	-
Salix petiolaris	Meadow Willow	3	-4	S5	-
Salix purpurea	Basket Willow	0	-3	SNA	=
Salix sp.	Willow Species	0	0	-	-
Acer negundo	Manitoba Maple	0	-2	S5	-
Acer platanoides	Norway Maple	0	5	SNA	•
Acer rubrum	Red Maple	4	0	S5	-
Acer saccharinum	Silver Maple	5	-3	S5	-
Acer saccharum var. saccharum	Sugar Maple	4	3	S5	-
Acer x freemanii	Freeman's Maple	-	0	S5	-
Mitella nuda	Naked Bishop's-cap	6	-3	S5	-
Tiarella cordifolia	Heart-leaved Foam-flower	6	1	S5	-
Chelone glabra	Turtlehead	7	-5	S5	-
Verbascum thapsus	Common Mullein	0	5	SNA	-
Veronica anagallis-aquatica	Brook-pimpernell	0	-5	SNA	-
Veronica officinalis	Common Speedwell	0	5	SNA	-
Smilax herbacea	Smooth Herbaceous Greenbrier	5	0	S4	-
Solanum dulcamara	Climbing Nightshade	0	0	SNA	_
Thelypteris palustris var. pubescens	Marsh Fern	5	-4	S5	-
Tilia americana	American Basswood	<u> </u>	3	S5	_
Typha angustifolia	Narrow-leaved Cattail	3	-5	S5	
Typha angastirolia Typha latifolia	Broad-leaf Cattail	3	-5	S5	-
Ulmus americana	American Elm	3	-3	S5	<u> </u>
		0	5	SNA	
Ulmus pumila	Siberian Elm	U		SINA S5	-
Boehmeria cylindrica	False Nettle	4	-5		-
Laportea canadensis	Wood Nettle	6	-3	S5	-
Pilea pumila	Canada Clearweed	5	-3	S5	-
Urtica dioica ssp. gracilis	Slender Stinging Nettle	2	-1	S5	-
Verbena hastata	Blue Vervain	4	-4	S5	-
Viola sororia	Woolly Blue Violet	4	1	S5	-
Viola sp.	Violet Species	0	0	-	-
Parthenocissus vitacea	Thicket Creeper	3	3	S5	-
Vitis riparia	Riverbank Grape	0	-2	S5	

a - COSEWIC = Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada: END = Endangered, THR = Threatened, SC = Special Concern

b - Species at Risk in Ontario List (as applies to ESA) as designated by COSSARO (Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario): END = Endangered, THR = Threatened, SC = Special Concern



- c SRANK (from Natural Heritage Information Centre) for breeding status if: S1 (Critically Imperiled), S2 (Imperiled), S3 (Vulnerable), S4 (Apparently Secure) SNA (Not applicable...'because the species is not a suitable target for conservation activities'; includes non-native species); last updated approximately 2019
- d Draft Wellington County Vascular Plant List (Cecile 2017). Status only shown if: R = Rare, U = Uncommon





Appendix C

Breeding Bird Checklist (2023)

Appendix C

Breeding Bird Checklist (2023)

September Substitute September Sep		Status					June 6, 2023								J	June 22, 2023							
Tumpester Soran Cognos becombare S4	Common Name	Scientific Name	Species at Risk	at Risk in Ontario	breeding season	Regional	sensitive	2023-04-14 Incidentals	2023-05-04 Incidentals	2023-05-11 Incidentals	2023-05-29 Incidentals	PCS #1	PCS #2	2# 20 L	PCS #4	PCS #5	Incidentals	PCS #1	PCS #2	PCS #3	PCS #4	PCS #5	Incidentals
Canada Gooce		Butorides virescens									X						1					1	
Mailard Area playing-refroes S5 S		Cygnus buccinator																			F		
Ring-method Duck									'							F	F						
Columnia aura SS SR F F S SR SR SR																	1						
Red tailed lawk Bute parameterals SS									X														
Killoer		Cathartes aura				S,R			F		F												
American Woodcock Scriptor Soring and seagle Signary S									F														
Caspian Serine casple S3 SR X X	Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus									Х						1		F				2
Downy Noodpecker Picoles publisseers Si	American Woodcock	Scolopax minor						Х															
Northern Flicker Cologue suranus SC SC S4 S S S S S S S S	Caspian Tern	Sterna caspia			S3	S,R			Х														
Eastern Mood-Pewee	Downy Woodpecker	Picoides pubescens			S5									1								1	
Least Flyactibler	Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus			S4	S			Х								2					1	
Great Cressed Flycatcher	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Contopus virens	SC	SC	S4	S									F	1							
Great Crested Flycatcher	Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus			S4	S	Α										1						1
Eastern Kingbird		Myiarchus crinitus			S4											1					1		
N. Rough-winged Swallow Silegifoloperry serripennis S4 S F F F S S S S S S	Eastern Kingbird	•			S4	S					Х	1					2						1
Bank Swallow Rigara in joan THR THR S4 S F F F F F F F F F																	1			F			1
Barn Swallow			THR	THR		S			F	F	F												
Blue Jay									F														F
American Crow Corvus brachyrhynchos S5 X F I F I F I I F I I F II I									Х			F						F					
Common Raven														=			1		F				
House Wren Traglodytes aedon S5																							F
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Polioptila caerulea S4 S4 S S S S S S S													1					1	2				
American Robin Turdus migratorius S5 S							Α										1						
Cardy Cather Cardy Cather Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Cardy Card							-		Х		Х	3	1		1		2	4	1		2	1	
Cedar Waxwing Bombycilla cedrorum S5 S S S S S S S S															•		_	•		1	-	1	
European Starling Sturnus vulgaris SE SE SE SE SE SE SE S	Cedar Waxwing													=			1	F	F	F			2
Warbling Vireo Vireo ofivaceus S5 L L L X 3 L 1 1 1 L	Furopean Starling											F					F	•	1	-		$\overline{}$	
Red-eyed Vireo Vireo olivaceus S5 Image: Common Yellow Northern Cardinalis Image: Common Yellow Northern Ca											X	3				1	1	1				$\overline{}$	1
Yellow Warbler Setophaga petechia S5 S A S I 1 1 2 S 3 Pine Warbler Setophaga pinus S5 S A S S														+	1	- -	: 	- +			-	\rightarrow	
Pine Warbler Setophaga pinus S5 S A B<	Yellow Warbler														1		1	2			-+	\rightarrow	3
American Redstart Setophaga ruticilla S5 S A X X I						S	Δ								•		•	-			-	\rightarrow	1
Northern Waterthrush Parkesia noveboracensis S5 X X X X X I <td></td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>\rightarrow</td> <td>1</td>											X					1						\rightarrow	1
Common Yellowthroat Geothlyphis trichas S5 S5 S5 X 1 1 S 2 S S Northern Cardinal Cardinalis cardinalis S5 S5 S		, ,					А		X						1					1	-+	\rightarrow	
Northern Cardinal Cardinalis cardinalis S5 S Indigor Sparrow S5 Indigor Sparrow S5 Indigor Sparrow S6 Indigor Sparrow S6 Indigor Sparrow													1 .		<u> </u>					2	-+	\rightarrow	-
Rose-breasted GrosbeakPheucticus IudovicianusS4SSS11111Indigo BuntingPasserina cyaneaS4SSS <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td> ^</td><td>1</td><td> </td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>+</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td>-</td><td>\dashv</td><td>\rightarrow</td><td>-</td></t<>											 ^	1	 			1	+	1	1	-	\dashv	\rightarrow	-
Indigo Bunting Passerina cyanea S4 S4 S4 S4 S4 S5 S5 S4 S5 S5 S5 S4 <						e								' 	+	1	+	-	-	+	+	\rightarrow	1
Chipping Sparrow Spizella passerina S5 1 1 1 1 3 Savannah Sparrow Passerculus sandwichensis S4 S A S						3								+		1	+	+	1	+	-+	1	\dashv
Savannah Sparrow Passerculus sandwichensis S4 S A S A 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1									-			1					1	+	<u>'</u>		+		2
						9	٨		-					+	+		1	+		+	+	\rightarrow	J
	Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia			S5	J	Λ		Х		X	2	3				2	2	1	1	+	1	1



				Status							June 6, 2023						June 22, 2023				
Common Name	Scientific Name	National Species at Risk COSEWIC ^a	Species at Risk in Ontario Listing ^b	Provincial breeding season SRANK ^c	Wellington Regional Status ^d	Area- sensitive (OMNR) °	2023-04-14 Incidentals	2023-05-04 Incidentals	2023-05-11 Incidentals	2023-05-29 Incidentals	PCS #1	PCS #2	PCS #3	PCS #4	PCS#5	Incidentals	PCS #1	PCS#2	PCS #3	PCS #4	PCS #5 Incidentals
Swamp Sparrow	Melospiza georgiana			S5				Х													
Bobolink	Dolichonyx oryzivorus	THR	THR	S4	S	Α												F			'
Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus			S4				Х		Х	2	1		2	3	5	2		2	F	3 3
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula			S5										F				F			
Brown-headed Cowbird	Molothrus ater			S4							F					2		1			1
Baltimore Oriole	Icterus galbula			S4	S									1	1			1			1
House Finch	Haemorhous mexicanus			SNA							F										
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis			S5				Х				F		F		2	1				F 2

KEY

- a COSEWIC = Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada: END = Endangered, THR = Threatened, SC = Special Concern
- b Species at Risk in Ontario List (as applies to ESA) as designated by COSSARO (Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario): END = Endangered, THR = Threatened, SC = Special Concern
- c SRANK (from Natural Heritage Information Centre) for breeding status if: S1 (Critically Imperiled), S2 (Imperiled), S3 (Vulnerable), S4 (Apparently Secure) SNA (Not applicable...'because the species is not a suitable target for conservation activities'; includes non-native species); last updated approximately 2022
- d Significant Wildlife List for Wellington County from the City of Guelph Natural Heritage Strategy, Volume 2 (Dougan & Associates with Snell and Cecile 2009), last updated by the City of Guelph 2012. Status only shown if: S = Significant, R = Rare Note that the following designations were excluded from this list:
 - ** = Only habitats that support or have recently supported active nests should be considered significant;
- † = Bank Swallow: Significant only when found nesting in colonies equal to or greater than 100. However, recent OBBA data for Wellington County should be reviewed to see if this is appropriate.
- † = Cliff Swallow: Significant only when found nesting in colonies equal to or greater than 8. However, recent OBBA data for Wellington County should be reviewed to see if this is appropriate.
- ‡ = Being small and secretive, these species are often overlooked. When more information is collected, it is possible that they may not merit significant species status in the future.
- o= Habitat protection should be considered only when larval habitat is present at or in close proximity to where adults were documented.
- Δ = Considered significant at present, but may prove to be too common to be so regarded in the future.
- e Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR). 2000. Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (Appendix G). 151 p plus appendices.

Beacon Breeding Status classifications:

- # breeding pair
- F- foraging/flyover
- x- Species observed not breeding



March 2024 20449101

APPENDIX I

Technical Memoranda: Analysis of Potential Recharge at the Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle Facility SWB Model 2023 Update and TW3-80 Drawdown Analysis



Environmental & Water-Resource Consultants

Memorandum

Date: February 28, 2024

From: Xiaomin Wang and Christopher Neville

To: Greg Padusenko, WSP

Project: SSP-994-33

Subject: Analysis of potential recharge at the BlueTriton Brands Aberfoyle facility

SWB model 2023 update

<u>Overview</u>

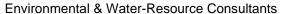
S.S. Papadopulos & Associates, Inc. (SSP&A) has applied the SWB model of the United States Geological Survey to estimate potential recharge in the Aberfoyle area during 2023. The annual analyses are conducted for two purposes:

- To support the understanding of the fluctuations in groundwater levels observed in shallow monitoring wells of the Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle facility monitoring program; and
- To support the assessment of the likely variability in potential recharge and its distribution across the area around the production well TW3-80 at the Aberfoyle facility.

The results of the first SWB analysis for the Aberfoyle area were presented in the 2018 Aberfoyle Annual Monitoring Report (Golder Associates, March 2019). The analysis covered the years 2008 through 2018. The SWB analyses have subsequently been updated for the 2019 through 2021 Aberfoyle Annual Monitoring Reports (Golder Associates, March 2020, March 2021. March 2022). The Aberfoyle Annual Monitoring Report for 2022 was prepared by WSP, Golder Associates' successor firm (WSP, March 2023).

Climate data from the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) Shade's Mills climate station were specified for the analyses for the years 2018-2022. The precipitation data from the Shade's Mills station and the temperature data from the Kitchener-Waterloo Airport station have been specified for the analysis of 2023 conditions.

In 2023 the total reported precipitation was 988 mm. The annual potential recharge estimated with the SWB model is 189 mm. The results of the updated analysis are consistent with the general trends inferred from the analyses for 2008-2022.





To: Greg Padusenko, WSP Date: February 28, 2024

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1. Introduction

The SWB Soil Water Balance) model developed by the United States Geological Survey is applied to estimate the daily potential recharge to the water table (Westenbroek et al., 2010). In March 2019, S.S. Papadopulos & Associates, Inc. (SSP&A) applied the SWB model over the area surrounding the Nestlé Waters Canada (now BlueTriton Brands) Aberfoyle facility. The analysis was conducted for two purposes:

- To support the understanding of the fluctuations in groundwater levels observed in shallow monitoring wells of the Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle facility monitoring program; and
- To support the assessment of the likely variability in potential recharge and its distribution across the area around the production well TW3-80 at the Aberfoyle facility.

The results of the SWB analyses for 2008-2018 daily precipitation data were presented in the 2018 Aberfoyle Annual Monitoring Report (Golder Associates, March 2019). SWB analyses have been conducted during the preparation of each subsequent Aberfoyle Annual Monitoring Report (Golder Associates, March 2020, March 2021, March 2022; and WSP, March 2023). This memorandum documents the results of the SWB analyses applied with 2023 daily precipitation and temperature data. Consistent with the analyses for previous years, the 2023 daily precipitation are derived from the Shade's Mills station. The 2023 temperature data are derived from the Kitchener-Waterloo (KW) station with missing temperature data infilled with data from the Guelph Turfgrass Institute station obtained from the Environment and Natural Resources Canada website.

The SWB model refers consistently to "recharge". Following the guidance of Dr. Hugh Whiteley, the quantity that is reported as "recharge" should be interpreted as "potential recharge" (H. Whiteley, written communication December 7, 2021). Potential recharge is defined as that portion of the precipitation that has moved downward below ground surface and that has the potential to eventually recharge the water table. The interval between the bottom of the root zone and the top of the water table is not considered in the SWB analysis. For cases in which the water table is close to the bottom of the root zone, the results of the SWB model should approximate the annual recharge. For cases in which there is a significant travel time between the bottom of the root zone and the water table, the SWB results may not match actual groundwater recharge rates in time or in space. The recharge analyses from 2008 to 2021 were conducted using the SWB model, version 1.0.0. Since 2022, the SWB model version 1.2 (March 2019), has been applied for the analyses.

$\Sigma^2\Pi$

S.S. PAPADOPULOS & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Environmental & Water-Resource Consultants

To: Greg Padusenko, WSP Date: February 28, 2024

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This memorandum consists of six main sections:

- 1. Introduction [this section];
- 2. SWB conceptual model;
- 3. SWB model input;
- 4. Sources of input data for the Aberfoyle area;
- 5. SWB results for the Aberfoyle area for 2023; and
- 6. References.



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2. SWB conceptual model

The SWB model implements a modified Thornthwaite-Mather soil-water balance analysis (Westenbroek et al., 2010). The SWB model estimates each component of the soil-water balance for daily timesteps. Model outputs may be daily, monthly, or annual values of infiltration, along with estimates of interception, snow cover, runoff, potential and actual evapotranspiration. The spatial distributions of these quantities are calculated over time using a gridded data structure.

As indicated in the introduction, the documentation of the SWB model refers to infiltration. This nomenclature will be retained here, recognizing that "infiltration" is more correctly interpreted as "potential recharge". The SWB model calculates infiltration with a modified Thornthwaite-Mather soil-water accounting method (Thornthwaite and Mather, 1957). Infiltration is calculated as the difference between the change in soil moisture and sources and sinks:

$$infiltration = (precip + snowmelt + inflow) - (interception + outflow + ET) - \Delta soil moisture$$

The descriptions of the terms in the water balance are presented below, following the terminology of the documentation of the SWB model:

Precip – daily values of precipitation using ASCII or Surfer grid formats;

Snowmelt – daily values of snowmelt calculated based on air temperature of daily mean, maximum and minimum;

Inflow – daily values of water inflow into a cell calculated over a flow-direction grid derived from a digital elevation model;

Interception – daily values of rainfall trapped and used by vegetation, calculated by use of a "bucket" approach assuming a user-specified amount which varies from different land-use types and seasons:

Outflow – daily values of water outflow from a cell calculated based on curve number rainfall-runoff relation (Cronshey and others, 1986), soil type and runoff conditions;



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ET – daily values of evapotranspiration. There are five methods included in the SWB code. The simplest method is Thornthwaite and Mather (1957) requiring only daily maximum and minimum air temperature. The Thornthwaite-Mather method contains functions considering daylight length, radiation, sunset angle for the estimation of potential evapotranspiration; and

 Δ soil moisture – daily values of the amount of water held in soil storage for a given cell calculated based on the Thornthwaite and Mather (1957) procedure.



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3. SWB model input

The datasets required for the application of the SWB model are listed below.

Gridded (ESRI ASCII or Surfer)
Land-use classification
Hydrologic soil group
Flow direction
Available soil-water capacity
Tabular
Climate data (e.g. precipitation and temperature)
Soil and land use property lookup table
Soil-water retention table (Thornthwaite and Mather, 1957)

A text model control file must be prepared for running the SWB code and the following additional information is required:

- Model domain, grid size;
- Growing season start and end;
- Initial soil moisture;
- Initial snow cover;
- Runoff calculation and routing method;
- Evapotranspiration method; and
- Output options.

Optional inputs for *ET* methods other than Thornthwaite and Mather (1957) and Hargreaves and Samani (1985) include daily average wind speed in m/s, average relative humidity in percent, maximum relative humidity in percent and percentage of possible sunshine.





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4. Sources of input data for the Aberfoyle area

The limits of the area considered in the analysis are shown in Figure 1. The area has been selected to extend northeast beyond the expected limits of the capture zone of the Aberfoyle facility production well TW3-80, and southwest to the Sideroad 10 stream gauge on Mill Creek.

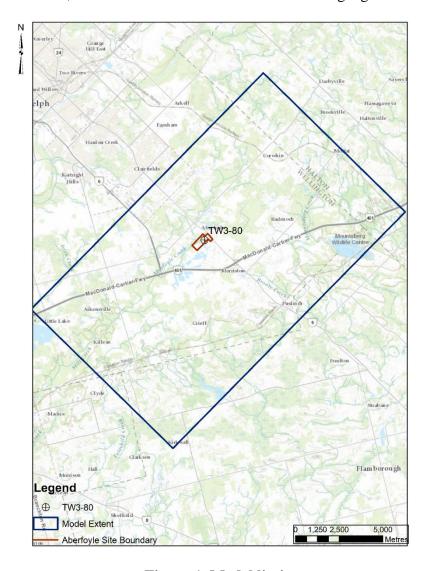
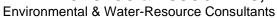


Figure 1. Model limits





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Climate data

Two types of climate data are required: daily precipitation and temperature (minimum, maximum and average). Historically, both sets of data are obtained from the climate station at Shade's Mills, monitored by the Grand River Conservation Authority. When data are missing from the station, gaps are filled using the daily precipitation data from the KW station. In 2023, the precipitation data are obtained from the Shade's Mills station; while the temperature data are obtained from the KW station. The missing 2023 temperature data are filled using the daily temperature data from the Guelph Turfgrass Institute station recorded on the Environment and natural resources website (https://climate.weather.gc.ca/historical_data/).

Land cover data

Land cover data are obtained from the Southern Ontario Land Resource Information System (SOLRIS v2) mapping compiled by OMNRF (2015).

https://www.javacoeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/geonetwork/srv/en/main.home

Flow direction data

Flow direction data are obtained from the Ontario Integrated Hydrology Data (OMNRF, 2012). https://www.javacoeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/geonetwork/srv/en/main.home

Hydrologic soil type data

Hydrologic soil groups are used to estimate runoff from precipitation. The classification of soils within the study area has been obtained using the Ontario Data - Soil Survey Complex created by Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA, 2012). https://www.javacoeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/geonetwork/srv/en/main.home



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Soil-water capacity data

The soil-water capacity data are specified based on the textures of the surficial soils. The description of the soil textures, 'A' horizon, are provided in the field named "ATEXTURE1" of the Soil Survey Complex Data obtained from the OMAFRA website. A lookup table relating soil-water capacity and soil texture is reproduced below (Earthfx, 2016; Table 8.11).

"A" Horizon Texture	Description	Proportion	PRMS Soil Type	Wilting Point (wp)	Field Capacity (Fc)	Porosity (n)	Plant Available Water (PAW)	Sat Hydraulic Conductivity (mm/hr)
SIL	Silt Loam	27%	Loam	0.14	0.32	0.48	0.18	12.2
L	Loam	22%	Loam	0.13	0.27	0.46	0.14	18.6
SL	Sandy Loam	15%	Sand	0.08	0.18	0.45	0.10	50.3
CL	Clay Loam	11%	Clay	0.21	0.35	0.47	0.14	16.7
Unclassified	Unclassified	8.7%	Loam	0.13	0.26	0.40	0.13	9.3
LS	Loamy Sand	5.9%	Loam	0.06	0.12	0.46	0.06	91.3
FSL	Fine Sandy Loam	3.5%	Loam	0.09	0.21	0.45	0.12	42.0
ORG	Organic	3.3%	Clay	0.16	0.34	0.65	0.18	2.1
GL	Gravelly Loam	1.9%	Sand	0.05	0.11	0.42	0.05	12.4
SICL	Silty Clay Loam	0.51%	Loam	0.21	0.38	0.51	0.17	5.9
FS	Fine Sand	0.14%	Sand	0.03	0.08	0.46	0.05	110.0
LFS	Loamy Fine Sand	0.12%	Loam	0.07	0.14	0.45	0.07	72.5
GS	Gravelly Sand	0.11%	Sand	0.02	0.05	0.41	0.03	76.0
VFSL	Very Fine Sandy Loam	0.08%	Loam	0.13	0.25	0.45	0.12	19.5
GSL	Gravelly Sandy Loam	0.01%	Sand	0.00	0.00	0.43	0.00	33.5

Table 8.11: Soils mapping based parameters lookup table.

Soil and land use property lookup table

The soil and land use property lookup table is developed with the following procedure:

- Obtain the land use description provided by SOLRIS v2, e.g., Forest tree cover > 60%;
- Download the Land Use Code (LU) "LU_lookup_WISCLAND_w_forested_hillslope.txt" from the USGS website;
- Based on the land description, obtain the SCS number, maximum infiltration rates, interception storage values and depth of root zone from the USGS table; and
- Integrate all the information into a new lookup table for the Aberfoyle analysis





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5. SWB results for the Aberfoyle area for 2023

The calculated spatial distribution of annual potential recharge for 2023 is shown in Figure 2. The estimated daily potential recharge values over the study area are shown in Figure 3.

The annual total precipitation and the annual total potential recharge values estimated with the SWB model from previous analyses are tabulated below. Over the 16-year period of the analyses, the estimated annual potential recharge has varied over a relatively wide range, from about 85 mm to 220 mm. Values of estimated potential annual recharge are plotted against the total annual precipitation in Figure 4. As shown in the figure, the estimated annual potential recharge for 2023 follows the general trend of the results for previous years. The calculated potential recharge for 2023 of 189 mm exceeds the 16-year average and is substantially larger than the value estimated for 2022.

Year	Annual total precipitation (mm)	Annual potential recharge (mm)
2008	1200.8	218.0
2009	1011.0	165.9
2010	921.5	144.7
2011	1023.9	202.2
2012	807.1	97.7
2013	1108.1	199.8
2014	898.7	171.3
2015	839.4	117.1
2016	937.8	127.0
2017	1091.8	210.3
2018	1048.6	221.2
2019	1058.9	205.1
2020	856.5	130.7
2021	1022.8	165.3
2022	682.3	84.8
2023	987.8	189.1
Mean	968.5	165.6
Median	999.4	168.6

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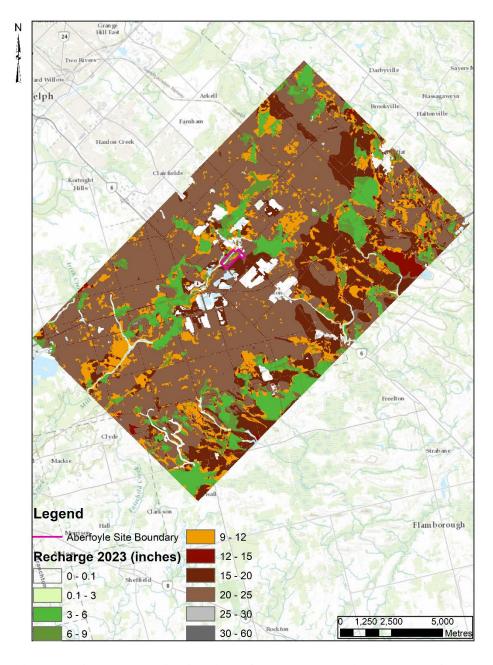


Figure 2. Calculated distribution of annual potential recharge for 2023

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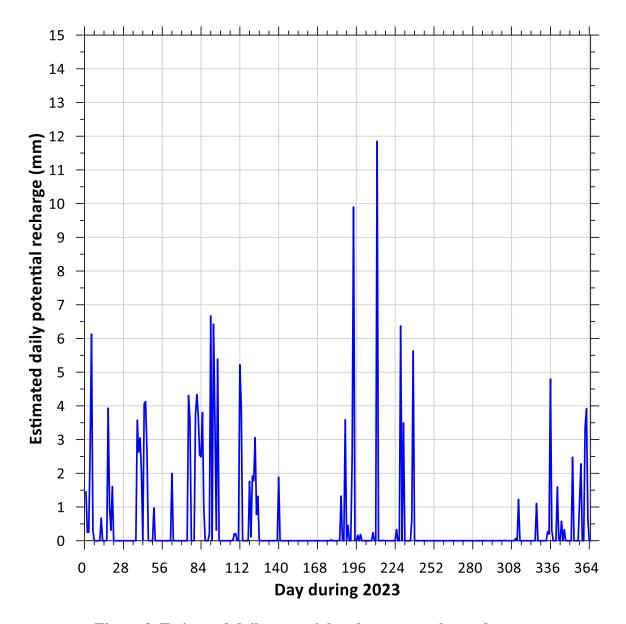


Figure 3. Estimated daily potential recharge over the study area

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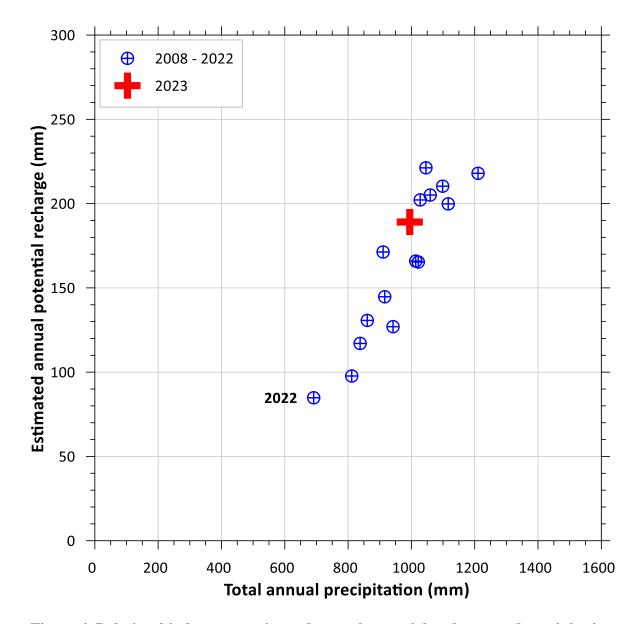


Figure 4. Relationship between estimated annual potential recharge and precipitation



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Westenbroek, S.M., V.A. Kelson, W.R. Dripps, R.J. Hunt, and K.R. Bradbury, 2010: SWB—A Modified Thornthwaite-Mather Soil-Water-Balance code for estimating groundwater recharge, U.S. Geological Survey Techniques and Methods 6–A31, 60 p.

WSP Canada Inc., 2023: Blue Triton Brands Aberfoyle Site: 2022 Annual Monitoring Report, submitted to Blue Triton Brands, March 2023.



TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

DATE February 20, 2024 **Project No.** 20449101

TO Andreanne Simard, Ph.D., Natural Resource Manager

Blue Triton Brands

CC John Piersol, Chris Neville

FROM Greg Padusenko EMAIL gregory.padusenko@wsp.com

TW3-80 DRAWDOWN ANALYSIS

Withdrawals from well TW3-80 by Blue Triton Brands (Blue Triton) are authorized by Permit to Take Water (PTTW) number 3133-C5BUH9. Water levels have consistently been presented as hydrographs that simultaneously present up to five years of daily pumping data from TW3-80, daily precipitation, and daily water level data (Figure D1a in Annual Report). Because water levels at TW3-80 can vary up to 15 m each day, the TW3-80 hydrograph illustrates both the daily maximum and daily minimum levels rather than each hourly measurement. The hydrographs are effective for enabling a rapid, qualitative assessment of multiple years of data, graphically illustrating the degrees of daily, seasonal, and annual variability. Furthermore, long-term trends in aquifer capacity can be noted in the multi-year hydrographs, and the absence of clear declining trends in water levels is a significant line of evidence that the aquifer is being sustainably managed.

However, a qualitative review of the hydrographs is limited in its ability to support the interpretation of long-term trends, and to distinguish between potential causes of water level changes. The pumping rate of TW3-80 is the primary influence on the water level in TW3-80. Other factors such as aquifer recharge and nearby competing withdrawals also influence water levels, but the degrees to which they contribute to water level changes cannot be distinguished by visual inspection. The following analysis has been completed to quantitatively determine the degree to which TW3-80 pumping rates affect water levels at TW3-80.

TW3-80 Annual Withdrawal Volumes

Annual water withdrawals from well TW3-80 increased each year from 2011 through 2016, before decreasing in 2017 through 2019. The water takings from 2019 to 2021 are similar but have increased slightly over the three years with an additional increase in 2022. The water taking in 2023 decreased slightly compared to 2022. Figure 4.1 in the Annual Report shows a graph of the annual pumpage since 2001.

To quantitatively demonstrate the degree to which the water levels are directly related to pumping rates, the following analysis evaluates the relationship between monthly pumping rates with monthly average water levels in TW3-80.

Analysis

The TW3-80 transducer dataset extends from September 2005 through December 2023. Hourly water level measurements for the entire dataset were averaged each day and then assembled in monthly averages. Months

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February 20, 2024

in which fewer than 20 days of water levels were recorded, due to periodic data gaps related to transducer failure, are excluded from the analysis. Daily groundwater withdrawal data from TW3-80 are aggregated as monthly totals. The monthly averaged water levels are plotted against average monthly pumping on Figure 1.

Figure 1 illustrates the inverse linear relationship between the monthly TW3-80 pumping rate, and the average monthly water levels in TW3-80. Based on a regression of 213 months of data, every 100 L/min increase in pumping results in a 0.62 m decline in water level. Most individual data points do not fall directly on the regressed line, meaning that variables other than the pumping rate influence the TW3-80 water level; however, 198 of the 213 data points (93%) are within 1 m of the expected water level, defined by the regression.

The regression goodness of fit (r² statistic) may be used to assess the ability of the regression relation to explain the relationship between the pumping level and the pumping rate. The r² value of 0.89 means that the monthly average pumping rate accounts for 89% of the variation in the monthly average TW3-80 water level. The 11% balance is understood to be caused by the other external variables, such as variations in vertical flow into the deep bedrock and other nearby groundwater withdrawals.

Effect of Precipitation

It is very challenging to quantitatively describe the relationship between precipitation and aquifer water levels, as precipitation is not the same as recharge which in turn is not the same as flow into the Lower Bedrock Aquifer. The relationship between precipitation and aquifer recharge is seasonally variable, with most recharge occurring in late winter and early spring, after the ground surface thaws and before plant transpiration becomes significant. The relationship between precipitation and aquifer recharge is not linear either, as unusually intense precipitation is likely to increase runoff, and not enhance recharge. Additionally, aquifer recharge (or the lack thereof during a drought) to the deep aquifer is not instantaneous, such that relating precipitation in a discrete month is unlikely to have a good correlation to the average water level in that same month.

However, the data illustrated on Figure 1 suggest that variations in aquifer recharge (and by extension, precipitation) have no greater than about +/-1 m effect on aquifer water levels. As stated, 198 of 213 data points in this regression are within +/-1 m of the regressed line. This means that even under drought conditions and significant precipitation deficits, the deep aquifer is affected by no greater than 1 m beyond what is predicted based only on the monthly pumping.

Conclusions

Changes in groundwater withdrawals from TW3-80 account for 89% of the influence on changes in water levels measured at TW3-80. For each 100 L/min change in the monthly average pumping rate, water levels are predicted to change by 0.62 m. The effects of precipitation deficits that have been observed, affecting recharge volumes to the Lower Bedrock Aquifer, have been inferred to have no greater impact than about 1 m of additional decline on TW3-80 water levels.

WSP Canada Inc.



APPENDIX A

Figure 1



