

Pathways toward....

Mainstreaming Groundwater Protection Planning and Comprehensive Planning

**Presenters:** 

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## Pathways... bridging the gap

"Governments all say they want sustainability, but are slow to implement strategies."

> the integrity gap

Canada's Environmental Policy and Institutions

> Edited by Eugene Lee and Anthony Perl





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 Integrated Modeling & Visualization can support an ongoing dialogue about policy options and their coherence across jurisdictional boundaries.



### Science & Policy Interactions



# Motivating Question

we can characterize the groundwater resource and know where and why there are vulnerabilities (quality/quantity)

#### THEN

where is it safe, or not safe, for people and property to be, and how can we mitigate impacts of these activities?



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### Summary of Main Points





- Environment underground, under threat
- Consistent with recommendations established by NAS, EPA, EU and emerging trends in risk-based assessment (Environmental Protection, Climate Change & Disaster Reduction)



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## Summary of Main Points







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Extends well established techniques for vulnerability and risk assessment by evaluating potential hazard impacts for existing and future settlement patterns

Underpinning methodologies include Multi-Criteria-Decision Analysis, Cost-Benefit Analysis and Scenario-based integrated assessment modeling for evaluating groundwater protection.

Piloting the use of a 'Groundwater Risk Index' to evaluate both impacts and mitigation- adaptation strategies.



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### Implications of our approach







Complements and extends existing methodologies already in place (e.g. BC well-head protection toolkit, aquifer vulnerability assessment, others)

- Potential bridge to ongoing comprehensive land use planning initiatives at Provincial scale (Regional Growth Strategy/Official Community Plans).
- Continued collaboration with provincial, regional and academic partners, both in terms of ongoing methodology development and evaluation/refinement.

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## **Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis**



### **Analytic-Deliberative Framework**

informing decisions in a democratic society...



FIGURE 1-2. A schematic representation of the risk decision process.

#### On a range of complex societal decisions:

National Research Council National Academy of Sciences

Stern & Fineberg, 1996

Environmental Protection (EPA;USACE;EU)
Climate Change (UNEDP; EU; UN-APF)
Natural Hazards (FEMA;NDMS;ISDR-HFA)



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### **BC Well Protection Toolkit; Tier 1-**(deliberative; guidelines for quantitative input)





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### EU; Groundwater Protection Planning Tiers 2/3 - (deliberative; quantitative; analytic)



## underground, under threat







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### **EPA Source Water Assessment Program;** (deliberative; semi-quantitative)



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### APF - Integrated Assessment Framework for Policy Analysis

#### ADAPTATION POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

**Developing Strategies, Policies and Measures** 





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## Analytic-Deliberative Framework for Groundwater Protection Planning





## Groundwater Protection Planning Land Use Analysis



#### **Development** Constraints (non-negotiable)





#### **Growth Potential**

- Population Growth
- Commercial Growth •••
- Economic Growth

#### **Build-out Capacity**

- Regulatory Constraints
- Policy Constraints
- Existing Development
- ✤ Development Potential

#### **Develop. Preferences**

- Environmental Criteria
- Economic Criteria
- Socio-Cultural Criteria

#### Allocation Scenarios

- Environmental Criteria
- Economic Criteria
- Socio-Cultural Criteria





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### **Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis**



#### **Supply** (build-out capacity)



## Land Use Analysis

Future population numbers for a selected year are allocated to areas with highest development preference rankings.





#### Development preference (timing)





#### **Allocation Scenario**

Each spatial unit is filled to its capacity and then the next highest one is filled, and so on, until demand is met.



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### **Existing Conditions**

#### dwelling units = 2,753

\_ 7×

SiteBuilder3D Viewer from CommunityViz

File Themes Motion Paths Exepoints Display Environment

### **OCP Buildout**

#### Existing dwelling units = 2,753

\_ 7 ×

#### Anticipated Demand = 5,186 – 7,627 OCP Buildout Capacity = 5,300

SiteBuilder3D Viewer from CommunityViz

File Themes Motion Paths Exepoints Display Environment



### Land Use Allocation Model

intended to assist Community and regional District planners in:

### day-to-day operations

- DP review
- > suitability analysis,
- regulatory & bylaw compliance,

### longer-term strategic planning initiatives

- > alternate growth strategy assessment
- greenways & ecosystem services plan
- Natural hazard mitigation
- > water resource management
- >OCP review & amendment process





## **NRCan Land Use Allocation Model**

- Designed to support interactive exploration of land use scenarios and evaluation of growth management strategies/policies over time scopes of interest to a regional or local planning process
- Based on backcast modeling approach that emphasizes development of desirable future scenarios and policy options for achieving these outcomes
- Allocates growth (residential, commercial, etc.) to land area based on criteria that are developed, calibrated and weighted through a deliberative community planning process
- Model outputs include preference maps that reflect embedded knowledge and values of planning process, and allocation scenarios delineating incremental growth patterns over time.



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### Integration of Groundwater Protection Planning and Comprehensive Planning



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## Elements of Groundwater Vulnerability



### Water Quality

Vulnerability: An assessment of the physical characteristics of groundwater aquifers (*susceptibility*) and the potential for surface contamination over time



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### Water Quantity

Sustainable Water Yield: the capacity of surface and groundwater supplies to balance environmental and human needs over longer-term strategic planning horizons (10-40 years).

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### Intrinsic Groundwater Susceptibility





Groundwater vulnerability maps provide science-based guidelines and an operational framework for:

Iand-use planning and the development of Best Management Practices and/or policy recommendations for groundwater protection.

informing communities and decisionmakers about groundwater protection and stewardship



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### Groundwater Protection Planning Groundwater Resource Assessment

#### Threat / Hazard Assessment:

 $(\mathsf{T}) = \sum (\mathsf{E}^* \mathsf{M}^* \mathsf{L})$ 

(E) = Spatial Extent (point/dispersed)
(M) = Magnitude (toxicity, fate, amount)
(L) = Likelihood of Occurrence



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1996

NAS

Adapted from

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Groundwater Protection Planning Groundwater Resource Assessment

Vulnerability Assessment: = Susceptibility/Capacity

 $(V) = \sum (S_i * S_a / C_a) * (S_{wy} / C_{wy})$ 

(S<sub>i</sub>) = Intrinsic Groundwater Susceptibility
(S<sub>a</sub>) = Anthropogenic Susceptibility
(C<sub>a</sub>) = Anthropogenic Capacity
(S<sub>wy</sub>) = Susceptibility -Available Water Yield
(C<sub>wy</sub>) = Capacity to mitigate Water Yield



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#### Learning & Feedback



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#### Island Water Sustainability Model Gabriola Island, British Columbia

Programmed by Craig Forster, Univ. of Utah, College of Architecture+Planning

Last Revised: July 18, 2006



#### INTRODUCTION

This model provides an opportunity for island residents and planners to learn more about the interaction between people and water systems on marine islands - particularly in the way that the island water systems might respond to different population growth and climate futures. Although this model is tuned to the specifics of Gabriola Island, the principal features of the system are similar to many marine islands around the world. Explore the model interface by clicking on each of the buttons below: "Background", "Inspect Model", and "Explore System".



If you GET LOST in the INTERFACE, try coming back here by clicking '1st Page' then start over. Also consider getting help from the interface map available by clicking on 'Map'.

Quit

#### (1)

OTE: Clicking this button always returns you to the previous screen



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Map



#### Looking to the Future 1990 through 2029



Start by clicking on 'Reset Switch' to reset the 'Natural System' switch to the 'down' or 'off' position.

1. How might future policies affect the system?

**Future Policies** 

How might future climate change affect the system?









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#### Looking to Future Water Demand Policies

represents a change in crop or change in farming practices.

Agricultural water wanted can be reduced through conservation by reducing the

Agricultural water wanted can be reduced after 2005 through loss of agricultural land

at a specified annual % loss. Loss may be result of fallowing or due to conversion to

Residential (including hospitality industry) water use can be reduced through

implemented any time after 2005 as a specified % decrease in water wanted.

Commercial/Industrial (non-hospitality) water use can be adjusted to consider

conservation. Assuming no conservation from 1990 to 2000, conservation can be

irrigate rate per hectare of crop as a % of the 1990-2000 irrigation rate. This

Adjust future water demand policies here then go to 'Policies' to see change in water demand features OR go to 'Future' to see impacts on hydrologic system.

#### Policy Action

Rate Reduc as % 1990 to 1999

12



2005

U



Start Time for Policy

IRRIG Ag Land Future Loss Rate %



#### IRRIG Ag Land Loss Start Time



Res Conserve

Start Time

2024

2031

Res Future Conserve Rate Reduc as %



Comm Ind Want New mill cub m/mo





#### Graphs of Future

1st Page

different future conditions.



re Policies

з Мар



urban land.

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Vulnerability (Water Budget)  $V_{wv} = (S_{wv}/C_{wy})$ 



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### Groundwater Resource Risk Index

Risk (R) = Hazard-Threat (T) X Vulnerability (V)) Hazard-Threat (T) = ([E] x [M] x [L]) Vulnerability (V) =  $\sum$  (Si\*Sa/Ca) \* (Swy/Cwy)

**Hazard-Threat** 

Assessment



#### **Risk Assessment**



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Vulnerability

Assessment





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## Regional MetroQuest Community NRCan Land Use Model





Priorities



Indicators



Targets



**Concept Plan** 







### Groundwater Resource Vulnerability





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