

32

DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC VISION PROJECT BACKGROUND MATERIAL SUMMARY SHEET

1. Title

Aquifers of the Capital Regional District, by Sylvia Kenny, UVic School of Earth & Ocean Sciences Co-op

2. Location:

On line, on disc with Heather Phillips, should be available from CRD as a booklet.

3. Year Published:

December 2004

4. Brief Summary:

Dense with specialized information and vocabulary, describes the types of groundwater aquifers and how they relate to each other. Also, how the surface water supply relates to each aquifer.

Attempts to assess their potential yield and vulnerability to contamination. Also describes water quality and content with reference to the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality.

Information is gleaned from records kept for current wells and interviews with well users.

Observed that demand from the groundwater aquifers is much reduced because GVWD water from surface water sources is available in most of the study area, and because where GVWD water is not available, population density tends to be lower.

Suggests that the provincial ministry in charge of the "monitoring wells" elsewhere in the province should establish "monitoring wells" in aquifers in our area.

5. Opinion on Relevance to Project:

From a depth of ignorance, I can't really tell, except that maybe we should latch onto the monitoring wells idea and follow up on that. It seems that information from the various wells fills in the details of boundaries for aquifers, how much they will yield at what rate and so on. Without the wells, it is a less informed guess. The community needs some perspective as to whether we will do better with groundwater or surface water supplies, or which areas will do better with which water source. We need better understand how to protect the water sources.

6. Categories Covered:

Governance Recreation Economy

Environment Community Development

Others (Specify): Water supply

7. Reviewer:

Heather Phillips