

# **Terms of Reference**

## **Local Subwatershed Studies**

**May 2023**

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2019), along with other guiding documents, promote integrated land use planning processes which consider multiple factors when planning for communities and neighbourhoods. These factors include the natural and physical environment, infrastructure needs, transportation, as well as socio-economic considerations. A cornerstone to contemporary planning, as recognized by the Growth Plan (2017), is the need for multi-disciplinary subwatershed studies which comprehensively establish a baseline characterization of the environmental conditions and natural systems and resources in a subject study area planned for growth developed on the basis of a subwatershed unit.

The Local Subwatershed Studies (Local SWS) will be required to assist in developing a sustainable development plan for the subject growth area in Caledon by protecting and enhancing the natural and human environments through the implementation of the direction, targets, criteria and guidance of the Settlement Area Boundary Expansion Scoped Subwatershed Study (Wood et. Al., December 2021). The Local Subwatershed Studies are intended to confirm, refine and implement a natural heritage systems management approach that will protect, rehabilitate, and enhance the natural and water-based environments within the Secondary Plan Area, and the surrounding lands in the subwatershed.

The lands being proposed for development through a Secondary Plan are generally referred to as the Primary Study Area (PSA) while those lands beyond the PSA within the subwatershed limits are referred to as the Secondary Study Area (SSA). Local SWS work in the PSA is typically more detailed and supported by field investigations, whereas the work in the SSA is generally less detailed and primarily supported by desktop information and more limited field work. The broader watershed/subwatersheds may have existing downstream constraints beyond the identified Secondary Plan study area and, to the appropriate extent, these will have to be considered in establishing the management strategies based on the overall study objectives and ultimate targets. Where there are watershed wide management strategies established through watershed studies, the established strategy is to be considered a minimum requirement.

The Local Subwatershed Studies will need to:

- Identify the location, extent, present status, significance, and sensitivity of the existing natural environment;
- Identify environmentally sensitive areas and natural hazards, including constraints and opportunities;
- Confirm or refine the natural environment system(s) (i.e., natural heritage and water resource systems) to protect, rehabilitate, and enhance the water quality/quantity, ecological form, function and the interactions and interdependences between the system within the Secondary Plan Area and local environs;
- Identify lands where development may be considered, and determine how existing and future land uses can be developed to be compatible with the natural environment system(s);
- Undertake an iterative Impact Assessment based on an initial Preliminary Preferred Land Use Plan (This inherently will require establishing an initial land use concept which will need to be tested and assessed), followed by a second refined land use concept developed through the feedback from the initial testing, including input from other technical studies and feedback from stakeholders;
- Provide direction on best management practices (BMPs) to manage impacts from the urbanization proposed through the Secondary Plan (from an environmental and water management perspective), and, where there are established BMPs for infrastructure, these are considered a minimum requirement;

- Provide direction on future study requirements (i.e., Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or equivalent), infrastructure needs (i.e., planning and implementing servicing and transportation infrastructure from an environmental and water management perspective);
- Establish an implementation and management strategy and requirements for environmental systems monitoring;
- Support the Class Environmental Assessment processes being undertaken as part of the infrastructure planning for the Secondary Plan, specific to constraints and opportunities associated with the natural and water-based systems.

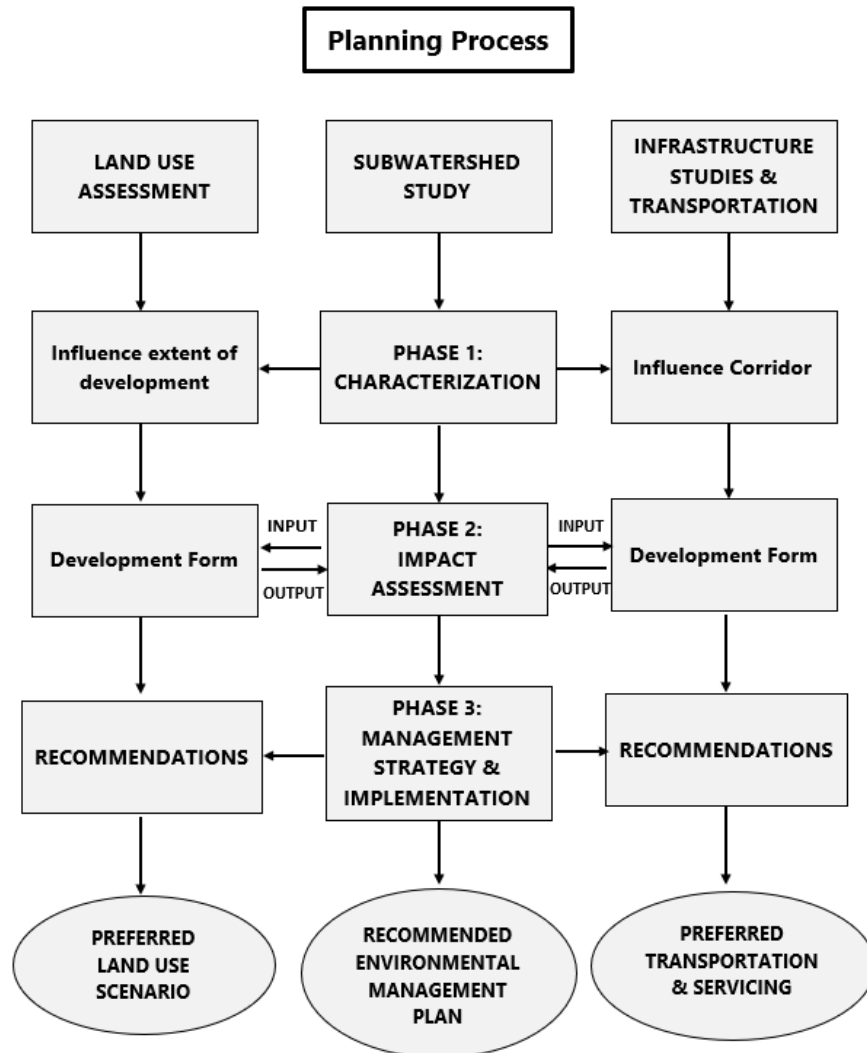
As noted above, the extent and form of study varies based on the discipline and the areas of interest, with more intensive field investigations in the lands slated for development and less intensive desk-top forms of study in the lands beyond the secondary plan to provide an overall subwatershed context. This systems-based assessment involves an examination of the role of water (both surface and ground) in sustaining area resources, including creeks, wetlands, and other water-based features, including headwater drainage features. This baseline characterization, built on a period of field data collection and monitoring, then serves as the basis from which to examine and assess potential impacts due to planned urbanization. The impact assessment process includes a vetting of land use concept plans through an integrated and comprehensive planning exercise, that includes consideration of the findings and requirements of infrastructure studies such as Master Servicing (Water/wastewater) and Transportation Plans, which are concurrently advanced for consideration through a consultative process involving local (Caledon) and the Regional municipality (Peel), other provincial agencies, landowners, Indigenous Nations and Peoples, and the public. Once appropriately vetted, management and monitoring recommendations to implement the recommendations of the Local Subwatershed Study and related municipal Master Plans are required to be translated into policy and strategies for community development as part of the Secondary Plan.

### **1.1 Study Area**

\*\*\*\*\*TEXT TO BE ADDED, SPECIFIC TO THE SECONDARY PLAN AREA\*\*\*

### **1.2 The Secondary Planning Process**

This Section is meant to assist in the understanding of the context of the Local Subwatershed Study (Local SWS) in relation to the Town's Secondary Planning Process. The relationship between the Secondary Planning process and the integrated Local Subwatershed Study and Infrastructure Planning Processes is presented in Figure 1.



**Figure 1: Integrated Land Use, Subwatershed, and Infrastructure Study Process**

The Secondary Plan, with the accompanying studies, supports the development of a community development plan (with accompanying development policies). The Secondary Plan process and the related studies (i.e., Local Subwatershed Study, Transportation Master Plan, Water and Wastewater Master Plans, Agricultural Impact Study, and Fiscal Impact/Asset Management Study) have been established to form a comprehensive and coordinated planning process that will be required to meet the approvals necessary under the Planning Act and the Environmental Assessment (EA) Act.

The Local SWS will provide the environmental base and context for the natural and water-based systems to support the infrastructure planning for the Secondary Plan Area. Combining the Planning Act and Municipal Class EA process permits the Municipality and Region to plan the Secondary Plan area and its required infrastructure collaboratively in a holistic manner.

The concurrent infrastructure related studies, as part of the Secondary Plan, are intended to follow the Municipal Class EA Master Planning Process (Approach #2). The level of investigation, consultation, and documentation will need to be sufficient to address Phases 1 and 2 of the Class EA process to fulfill the requirements for Schedule A and B projects and establish in the documentation the basis for specific future investigations if Schedule C projects are identified.

To facilitate consultation, a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be formed comprising of staff from the Municipality, the Region, Conservation Authority, various applicable Provincial representatives, landowner technical representatives, and the consulting team(s). For specific and specialized matters, "sub TACs", involving discipline-specific professionals, will be established. The TAC will advise and assist in directing the development of the Secondary Plan and its component studies throughout the study process. The TAC will assist in ensuring that the Secondary Plan evolves from the foundational basis of the Local Subwatershed Study to a Community Development Plan in a collaborative manner through the integration of the concurrent consultant studies.

Overall, the Secondary Plan will identify the community structure for the current Settlement Area Boundary Expansion (SABE) lands to ensure appropriate integration and consideration for development opportunities within the community. The Secondary Plan will include land use categories, a road/transit/cycling/trail and municipal servicing network, a natural heritage system and open space/major community facility requirements. The objective is to ensure that the new community neighbourhoods and employment areas in the current SABE lands are developed sustainably in the optimal location, meeting the objectives and requirements of the Growth Plan (2017), as implemented through the Regional Official Plan and the Municipal Official Plan.

As noted above, the environmental base for the Secondary Plan (i.e., the natural heritage system and the water resource system) will be defined by the Local Subwatershed Study. The natural heritage system and water resource system established through the Province and Regional Official Plan, refined through the Municipal Official Plan, will be further refined or confirmed through the Local Subwatershed Study in support of the Secondary Plan.

A fundamental objective of the Secondary Plan is to ensure the Municipality develops as a sustainable community. To achieve sustainability, the community will be developed based on the vision to be a compact, complete, healthy, and resilient community.

## **2.0 GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE SUBWATERSHED STUDY PROCESS**

### **2.1 Local Subwatershed Studies – Scope and Approach**

The Secondary Plan Work Program and related Studies will guide the development of the Secondary Plan area through a consultative, collaborative, and coordinated process to establish a compact, complete, healthy, and resilient community.

The Local Subwatershed Studies for the various Secondary Plan Areas in Caledon will need to describe the location, extent, sensitivity and significance of natural features and functions within the identified study area and evaluate the factors and influences that are important to their sustainability. The respective studies will establish goals and objectives for terrestrial and aquatic systems (i.e., natural heritage) and water resource systems in accordance with the Provincial Policy Statement, the Region's Official Plan, Caledon's Official Plan, and the applicable Watershed Plans and Subwatershed Studies, including the Settlement Area Boundary Expansion Scoped Subwatershed Study (Wood et. al., December 2021). Using existing desktop information and available studies, as well as reconnaissance-level and detailed fieldwork, the respective studies will document existing conditions, assess potential impacts of existing and future development and recommend management strategies to manage and mitigate the predicted impacts of urbanization, including comprehensive stormwater management strategies to protect, enhance and restore hydrologic functions. In conjunction with the concurrent development of Secondary Plans, including Transportation and Servicing Master Plans (water and wastewater), the Local Subwatershed Studies (including the Landscape Scale Analysis sub-component) will reflect and refine the Natural Heritage System and Water



Resource System in the Secondary Plan area and identify strategies to protect, enhance and restore ecological functions and promote compatible activities.

In addition, the Local Subwatershed Studies will be required to include monitoring pre-development to characterize existing features and systems and baseline conditions. The initiation of monitoring prior to development is necessary to properly characterize the study area and further to conduct a thorough impact assessment at a detailed level for the local SWS and Secondary Planning Stage. The post-development monitoring program, implemented following completion of the Subwatershed Study, is also required to provide appropriate recommendations for potential adaptive environmental management incorporating the findings from the environmental monitoring program in Town-led initiatives, such as broader scale planning strategies and secondary planning recognizing that development and secondary planning will be staged and phased with opportunities to adjust requirements in subsequent planning stages. In this regard, the Local Subwatershed Study is required to provide guidance for developing and implementing a monitoring program post-development, as well as to provide direction regarding the timing and duration associated with each monitoring component, the party responsible for the various monitoring components, and funding, timing and strategy.

The Local Subwatershed Studies will be conducted in three (3) phases, discussed in further detail below. The formulation and TAC acceptance of the Technical Work Plan is a core component of the process for Local Subwatershed Studies. The Technical Work Plan would be developed and specifically tailored for each local study area under a separate process, prior to initiating the Local Subwatershed Study and site monitoring. The Technical Work Plan would include details on the scope of field work and monitoring along with mapping to characterize the study area and provide the basis for required modelling for the subwatershed area. The Local Subwatershed Study process requires that the Technical Work Plan be finalized and approved by the municipality, with consultation with relevant Conservation Authority and Region prior to initiating field surveys, etc. in the characterization phase (Phase 1) and prior to proceeding into the Impact Assessments (Phase 2).

An overview of each phase of the Local SWS process is provided below, with further details provided in the subsequent section.

### **Phase 1: Characterization and Integration**

Phase 1 of the Local SWS builds upon the Scoped Subwatershed Study to characterize the resources associated with each subwatershed by study discipline (i.e., hydrology/hydraulics, groundwater, water quality, stream morphology, aquatic, and terrestrial ecology). Background and supplemental field data are to be assessed by each discipline, and then across disciplines, to:

- a) establish the form, function and linkages of the environmental resources,
- b) confirm, refine and identify environmental constraints and opportunities related to terrestrial and aquatic habitat, features, and systems,
- c) establish surface water and groundwater constraints and opportunities associated with flooding, erosion, water quality, water budgets, including recharge and discharge areas through new numerical tools (models) suitably calibrated to local conditions,
- d) Refine and implement criteria and constraints for management opportunities associated with the environmental features and systems.

Goals, objectives and targets were developed through the Scoped Subwatershed Study, the Local Subwatershed Study will refine direction from the scoped work to establish area-specific direction that is refined over the study period for the respective subwatershed(s) in consultation with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), comprised of representatives from Caledon, Peel, CAs, and various Provincial agencies.

The Phase 1 characterization includes pre-development monitoring to characterize existing systems and features as well as to inform establishing baseline conditions for comparison with post-development conditions.

### **Phase 2: Subwatershed Impact Assessment**

Phase 2 of the Local SWS identifies future stressors, describes (past, present) and predicts (future) impacts, and assesses these impacts against the preliminary goals, objectives, and targets developed as part of Phase 1. Future land use scenario(s) are evaluated based on input from the Town's Land Use Team. For various disciplines (i.e., groundwater, hydrology, hydraulics and water quality) analytical tools are used to predict changes to existing conditions in relation to subwatershed-based targets associated with the development of the Secondary Plan area. Information and analyses from previous background studies (i.e., Watershed Plan, Regional Scoped Subwatershed Study, Hydrologic Investigations, Tier 3 Studies, etc.) will be used to assist modelling future land use scenarios. For others (i.e., terrestrial and aquatic ecology) predictions will inherently be semi-quantitative, qualitative or conceptual, integrated with predictions from other subwatershed disciplines (i.e., hydrogeology, hydrology, hydraulics and water quality) and experience elsewhere including knowledge of habitat/biota interactions.

As noted earlier, the Subwatershed Impact Assessment process is expected to be an iterative process whereby an initial land use concept will be evaluated/tested against the preliminary targets, and the feedback from this initial test may then inform the establishment of a refined land use concept.

### **Phase 3: Management Strategies, Implementation, and Monitoring Plan**

Phase 3 of the Local SWS will use the findings of Phase 2: Impact Assessment to refine and finalize the evaluation of various land use scenarios and recommend a set of preferred management strategies, addressing the preferred land use designations and form, established through broader planning input to achieve the identified goals and objectives, and to establish the recommended strategies. An Implementation Plan will be prepared to offer guidance on locations and types of SWM facilities including Low Impact Development (LID) practices, staging/phasing, future study requirements, monitoring, Environmental Assessment requirements, and general economics.

Phase 3 also involves the development of a long-term monitoring initiative that is to evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed management strategies post-development by assessing whether the assumptions made at the Local SWS scale are appropriate and predictions made are sufficiently accurate. The feedback from monitoring will then be used through a process of adaptive management to determine if parts of the Local Subwatershed Study strategies and/or recommendations should be modified as part of future development applications. While the execution of the post-development monitoring plan is not included within the scope of work for the Local Subwatershed Studies, the Local Subwatershed Studies are nevertheless to provide framework-level direction regarding the components, methods, duration, and key locations for the execution of the monitoring program, as part of future work. Further details on area specifics would need to be considered as part of future neighbourhood scale studies.

## **2.2 Phase 1 – Subwatershed Characterization and Integration**

### **2.2.1 Background Information Review/Gap Analysis/Work Plan Confirmation**

#### ***Background Information Review:***

During Phase 1, the Study Area will need to be characterized and preliminary mapping of constraints and opportunities will need to be developed. Information shall be obtained through three (3) levels of investigation, including (i) review of desk-top secondary sources (compiling information from existing documents); (ii) reconnaissance-level fieldwork; and (iii) detailed fieldwork.

Existing desk-top information relevant to the Local Subwatershed Study Area will need to be reviewed. The Regional Scoped SWS has a comprehensive database and summary of the area studies relevant to these study areas and should be established as the starting point.

**Gap Analysis:**

Background data used to prepare the Local Subwatershed Study, will need to be documented listing its source and format (e.g., municipal report/agency website/personal communication). For map data, the map scale shall be specified. The list of source materials shall follow a generally accepted bibliographic format. The purpose of documenting the background data is to facilitate a "gap analysis" and identify possible methods preferred by which to appropriately address the information gaps in Phase 1, as required.

A summary of each document from which information was used to prepare the Local Subwatershed Study will need to be prepared. For each source, a brief (single paragraph) review shall be produced, summarizing the source's content, and describing its relevance to the Local Subwatershed Study.

**Technical Work Plan Confirmation:**

Once all of the background data have been collected, the need and requirements for obtaining additional information beyond that outlined in the core scope shall be determined, and a proposed program for collecting potential additional data shall be outlined to the TAC. This process allows for collaborative consultation on the Technical Work Plan. It will be important to receive final sign-off from the TAC prior to advancing the updated/refined work plan. Any budget implications (plus or minus) will need to be appropriately reviewed and approved by the Town of Caledon in advance of execution.

**2.2.2 Hydrology and Hydraulics**

Background information on the study area is to be collected from all available sources. Maps of the study area will be provided by the Municipality, Region, and Conservation Authority. For each subwatershed and associated outlet, the physical features (e.g., subwatershed boundary, physiography, topography, soils, major watercourses, drainage swales, and wetland features) within the Secondary Plan Area shall be established. Any specific areas of interest shall be defined, identifying important implications on development potential, environmental features, and / or watercourse system function.

**Hydrology:**

The Hydrologic Modelling should apply a hybrid approach whereby the hydrologic modelling of the Local Subwatershed shall apply the approved hydrologic modelling from the Conservation Authorities for Regulatory Flood Hazard assessments, as well as new local detailed continuous hydrologic modelling for assessment of frequency flows, water balance and erosion. The detailed continuous hydrologic model shall be selected for use in the Local SWS; the model(s) will need to be developed and calibrated for the subwatersheds' existing condition. The local hydrologic model shall be a continuous, deterministic, hydrologic model, approved by TAC, with a strong physical representation of surface runoff, baseflows, and surface and groundwater interaction. It will be necessary to justify the applicability and sufficiency of the proposed numerical model(s). The modelling should ensure the hydrologic and hydraulic features are quantified for each subwatershed within the study area. The development of the models in accordance with applicable standards to support future Municipal or Conservation Authority use of the model, and model results, will be considered as an asset.

It is recommended as part of the review of background data, that the locations for streamflow gauges and rain gauges be identified. Field data for model calibration/validation should be collected between April and November inclusive. Once calibrated/validated the model is to be executed in both event (synthetic design storms) and continuous mode to generate peak flows for a range of return period storms including 2, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100, 350 year and Regional Storm.

The results from the surface water modelling should be used to corroborate the water budget developed as part of the Hydrogeologic assessment (ref. Section 2.2.3).

The hydrologic modelling is to establish the baseline hydrology for the subwatershed system. As noted, it is expected that the model(s) will be calibrated/validated based upon both historical rainfall and flow monitoring data, as well as new study data collected as part of this study. The exercise should meet the standards to provide a comprehensive understanding of the existing hydrologic conditions of the study area. The model shall be calibrated/validated to provide comparable flows at the subwatershed outlets to those determined in any previous watershed or drainage studies for the given watercourses. The model input parameters shall be compared to previous studies and modified to represent more detailed subwatershed modelling and shall be completed to the satisfaction of the TAC. The extent of area modelled should be sufficient to generate results at key/important downstream locations/confluence points and locations of interest (i.e. Special Policy Areas, Flood Vulnerable Areas, Flood Vulnerable Roads) to confirm development of the Secondary Plan Area will not have adverse impacts on the peak flow rates.

The Erosion potential assessment of receiving and downstream watercourses shall be carried out using continuous simulation of watercourse flows over a suitable period of time, to evaluate the duration of critical discharge exceedance, cumulative erosion index (Ontario Ministry of Environment, 2003), cumulative effective work (per TRCA SWM Criteria, 2012), and other methodologies proposed by the study team stream morphologist (e.g. cumulative effective discharge, number of exceedances), to determine erosion thresholds (discharge, velocity and shear stress) established by the study stream morphologist and the associated guidance on the appropriate methodology.

#### ***Hydraulics:***

The Local SWS will involve a field inventory of creeks, road crossings (culverts and bridges), stormwater facilities, etc. The current drainage systems and outlets shall be characterized as to potential drainage constraints and opportunities. The intent of the hydraulic modelling is to define area flood hazards and system constraints.

For established and regulated watercourses located in the study area, hydraulic analyses shall be conducted. Flood lines shall be established for the Regulatory Event (i.e., based on the flows associated with the greater of the Regional Storm event or 100 Year Storm) for existing conditions. For the creeks that have floodplain delineation, as identified in previous studies, the flood lines shall be updated to reflect the current limits of the flood hazard, for land use planning purposes, but not as a formal flood plain map. The floodplain delineation should be based on hydraulic modelling, using the latest Hydrologic Engineering Centers River Analysis System (HEC-RAS) model from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to generate the associated flood lines based on the peak flows established through the hydrologic analysis conducted for the Local SWS. As noted, this component of the Local SWS, while preparing preliminary floodlines for land use planning purposes, is not intended to be a formal floodline mapping study.

### **2.2.3 Hydrogeology**

The goal of the Local SWS with respect to hydrogeology is to establish a geological conceptual model for the study area, determining the key characteristics of the bedrock and overburden systems, in addition to their functions in terms of controlling groundwater movement, availability, and quality in the subwatershed study area. An integral component is to assess the interactions between the groundwater system and the surface water system, and to determine the overall role or function of these interactions in an ecosystem context. It is also important to establish an understanding of the effects of future development on the local groundwater resource to assist in the need and implementation of measures to address overall water balance. This Local Subwatershed Study will build upon the understanding derived through the SABE Scoped Subwatershed Study. The incorporation of additional field monitoring using new data and refined

modelling tools will provide additional spatial and temporal insights on the groundwater system. The refined analysis will achieve the primary objectives and extend the understanding of the following key matters:

- Presence of potentially significant local recharge areas, linked with local discharge,
- Shallow depth to groundwater: strong upward gradient,
- Groundwater/surface water interaction,
- Dewatering needs,
- Seepage areas and
- Existing tile drainage.

In order to accomplish the above, additional data made available over the course of the local study will need to be reviewed prior to finalizing the groundwater field program, as part of the Technical Work Plan. The groundwater field program is expected to include but not be limited to the following; specific details of each will need to be tailored to the characteristics and resources in the subject Subwatershed area:

- Monitoring well installations with borehole logs,
- Drivepoint piezometers,
- Manual and continuous water level measurements,
- Groundwater and surface water chemistry,
- Hydraulic conductivity measurements and
- Spot baseflow measurements.

Depending upon the needs of the local study area, the refinement of the conceptual groundwater model provided in the Scoped Subwatershed Study may include the following:

- Refine geologic interpretation and hydrostratigraphy including surficial geology and hydrogeologic parameters.
- Refined understanding of observed shallow groundwater conditions as they relate to response to storm events, upward gradient and potential impacts on infrastructure.
- Refine mapping and interpretations groundwater discharge areas (subwatershed scale and reach scale).
- Refinements to understanding of groundwater flow include contributions to and from areas outside the subwatersheds.

The baseline groundwater conceptual model and more detailed numerical groundwater model and analysis should incorporate observations and technical assessment from the hydrologic, terrestrial, aquatic and fluvial geomorphologic characterizations. These would include for example:

- Observations of seepage and discharge,
- Fish habitat,
- Phreatophytic observations,
- Streambed composition, and
- Low flow analysis and water quality.

In turn the groundwater characterization should provide technical input to aid in confirming or guiding the characterization of the other component disciplines associated with the Local SWS.

Field observations for groundwater discharge will be coordinated at the outset of the field program. In order to efficiently use the field resources, observations from all disciplines should be utilized, as it is expected that more field reconnaissance is carried out by terrestrial, aquatic and fluvial geomorphology in the course of their work.

The SABE Scoped Subwatershed Study provided an existing conditions water balance for the Focus Study Area utilizing the water balance parameters estimated from an Oak Ridges Moraine Groundwater Program model. This water balance methodology could be considered for the Local Subwatershed Study to provide a refined baseline water balance for comparative purposes in the Phase 2 Impact Assessment. This water balance, if carried out, should be compared to the hydrological water balance described above.

#### **2.2.4 Stream Morphology**

Several objectives concerning aquatic habitat are intended to protect the morphological and fluvial character of the study area streams, with the intent (where feasible and required) to restore sinuosity, maintain physical habitat attributes (e.g., pools, riffles etc.), diversity and fluvial processes (e.g., bed load transport, energy reduction through sinuosity, etc.), and to prevent increases in erosion and deposition through the maintenance of the hydrological regime.

The fluvial geomorphological assessments in support of Local Subwatershed Studies should meet or exceed the criteria outlined in Appendix B – Erosion and Geomorphology - of the TRCA Stormwater Management Criteria (2012).

Available data for the subwatershed and other existing sources, are to be reviewed to confirm the need for updating the existing information. Surface water feature types (watercourses and headwater drainage features) should be defined and identified appropriately as a reach delineation is performed. Reach delineations and feature types are to be confirmed and/or updated based on refined mapping and field investigations. A baseline morphologic assessment, according to stream characterization and flood /erosion considerations, is required including a detailed inventory of stream morphology observations. Through field-based observations of channel processes and stability, sensitive and/or representative sites are to be selected to complete detailed field surveys for an erosion threshold analysis at the systems scale.

An erosion potential analysis is to be conducted, based on the erosion data collected to understand the erosion processes and to identify areas which are prone to erosion, or where existing structures may be at risk. This will be completed through desktop and field analyses. The erosion potential analysis is also to determine the threshold flows for erosion at strategic points in the subwatershed for input to the hydrologic assessment to support the development of management guidance. Assessments will identify sites most sensitive to erosion, with reasonable details covering the entire study area.

An erosion hazard delineation will be completed for each watercourse reach. The valley setting will determine whether a meander belt (unconfined systems), or a long-term stable top of slope (confined systems) is delineated. These assessments and application of setbacks will conform to Provincial Policy and applicable Conservation Authority Regulations.

In addition, the Study Team's Stream Morphologist, along with others on the Study Team including aquatic and terrestrial ecologists and surface and groundwater specialists, are to conduct an assessment of watercourse constraints (high, medium, or low constraints) to confirm or refine the results from the SABE, while also completing an assessment the headwater drainage features (HDFs) in accordance with the application methodology presented in *Evaluation, Classification and Management of Headwater Drainage Features Guidelines* (TRCA/CVC 2014). The assessment will need to involve multi-seasonal fieldwork and an integrated interpretation of the data to establish current classification and future management (Phase 3). Any site-specific modifiers to the protocol will need to be vetted through the study's Technical Advisory Committee prior to finalizing and proposing management recommendations. The classification and management of HDFs provides for detailed, field verified assessments to maintain overall system function and contributions, that previously may have been estimated through the application of legacy drainage density targets.

### **2.2.5 Aquatic Environment**

The available background information on fish habitat in the study area, including information on permanence of flow and thermal regime, fish communities, fish species present, aquatic species at risk present, and benthic invertebrate communities should be acquired and used to characterize the aquatic environment. Some aspects of aquatic habitat such as channel form and stability, headwater drainage feature classification, and riparian vegetation will be addressed by, or in conjunction with, other disciplines (e.g. fluvial geomorphology, terrestrial ecology). Data gaps should be identified, if present. If data gaps exist that will limit the effectiveness of the subsequent phases of the Local SWS, field programs should be conducted to address them. In some cases, data gaps may be addressed through baseline monitoring.

Baseline monitoring sites should be established and monitoring initiated. Baseline monitoring sites should be representative of larger reaches based on key parameters such as the fish community and thermal regime and on expected susceptibility to development impacts. Baseline monitoring methods should follow established protocols (e.g., Ontario Stream Assessment Protocol, Ontario Benthic Biomonitoring Protocol) and conform with the monitoring methodologies employed by TRCA, if possible, to maximize the utility of the data.

### **2.2.6 Terrestrial Environment**

#### Landscape Scale Screening

To better understand the ecological context of the proposed development area as part of the overall subwatershed, the Local Subwatershed Studies will review and build upon the direction and guidance in the Regional Scoped SWS. The purpose of this review will be to generate information on the ecological context of the Study Area, consider its position and role in the Natural Heritage System of the Scoped SWS and potential connectivity of the Study Area within the broader landscape. This Landscape Scale Screening supports identification of terrestrial and wetland habitat connectivity, potential wildlife movements, and the ecological context of the Secondary Plan Area, in relation to the surrounding environs to help understand, confirm, and where appropriate recommend additional linkages between the ecological systems within the Secondary Plan area and with lands beyond their boundaries on the landscape. This screening will rely on existing desktop information sources.

Building on the approaches used in the SABE Scoped SWS, a variety of metrics should be used to quantify existing landscape-scale conditions and functions. Given the broader scale of interest for the Landscape Scale Screening, the objective should be to characterize patches of natural cover that occur within the subwatershed and the area surrounding the Secondary Plan Area being studied. Metrics should include, but are not limited to, those that quantify:

- The occurrence and diversity of vegetation community types within and across patches
- The size and shape characteristics of vegetation and habitat patches
- Landscape composition (i.e., matrix influences) influence on features and/or natural area patches
- Connectivity of patches (i.e., physical and functional connectivity)
- The occurrence and coverage of features and/or habitats that have policy implications (e.g. habitat for Species at Risk, species that are provincially rare, Significant Wildlife Habitat, etc.)

#### Detailed Assessment of Terrestrial Resources

An assessment of terrestrial resources in the subwatershed shall be undertaken. The Natural Area Inventory information from the Conservation Authority and the Town of Caledon should be consulted prior to the initiation of field work. The data collected shall be used to ensure that future land-use planning and development is consistent with Section 2.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement and Region of Peel's Official Plan.

Depending on the vegetation community, Ecological Land Classification (ELC) results and habitats determined to be present in the study area, it may be appropriate to undertake targeted surveys for certain taxa or species, rather than rely solely on incidental observation. The Significant Wildlife Habitat Eco-Region 6E Criteria Schedules (MNR, 2015) should be used in conjunction with the Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (MNR, 2000) when assessing Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH); this analysis should incorporate advancements in SWH analysis that are provided by stakeholders and agencies (e.g., watershed-scale SWH mapping).

Detailed field assessment of the terrestrial resources shall be provided to characterize the terrestrial environment and establish a baseline terrestrial environment for the Secondary Plan Area, including the proximity to, and the degree of linkage with other habitats. When assessing species, status should include federal, provincial and local rankings. In addition, maps that identify natural heritage features and the results of the terrestrial investigations shall be provided. Features are to be assessed against criteria and direction outlined in the Scoped Subwatershed Study (Part A) to inform implementation of management guidelines for features and other components of the NHS (Parts B and C of the Scoped Subwatershed Study). Specific consideration shall be given to the location and relationship of features and areas within the NHS (e.g., occurring within the Province’s NHS, linkage, proximity to Key Features, etc.). Opportunities for enhancement of the terrestrial environment shall build on those identified in the SABE Scoped Subwatershed study, including confirmation of enhancement areas objectives and targets.

**Table 1: Terrestrial Environment Inventory Requirements**

<b>Biophysical Inventory</b>	<b>Inventory Requirements</b>
Vegetation Community Identification	Use Ecological Land Classification to classify vegetation communities according to Lee et al. (1998).
Botanical Inventory	3 season survey (spring, summer and fall) to identify species.
Native / Invasive Flora Survey	Determine the percentage of Native and Invasive Species in surveyed vegetation communities.
Woodland Evaluations	Inventory within woodland areas should be sufficient to evaluate the significance of woodland features based on relevant criteria and policy definitions. Woodland boundaries should be field verified with responsible authorities where feasible.
Evaluation of Unclassified Wetlands	Document species records and wetland community types consistent with methods used in the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (OWES).
Breeding Bird Surveys	2 surveys at least 10 days apart; the first between May 24th and June 16th and the second between June 17th and July 10th using 10-minute point counts and area searches. Breeding evidence by species should be recorded according to the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas protocol.
Reptile Surveys	Use active searching or other commonly accepted. MNR protocols/methods (April- July and Sept.-Oct.)



<b>Biophysical Inventory</b>	<b>Inventory Requirements</b>
Amphibian Breeding Surveys	3 surveys between April and June corresponding to specific nighttime temperatures of >5°C, >10°C and >17°C, according to the Marsh Monitoring Protocol. Salamander surveys are required using active searching and should be completed in spring in appropriate ponds to determine the presence of salamander breeding areas.
Incidental Wildlife Observations	Incidental sightings of all wildlife (mammals, birds, butterflies, dragonflies, damselflies, amphibians, and reptiles) should be recorded during site investigations
Species at Risk Screening	Screening should include results from all available sources, i.e. Natural Heritage Information Centre, wildlife atlases, MNR Municipal List and Conservation Authority database.
Significant Wildlife Habitat Screening and Assessment	This assessment will include identifying candidate and confirmed Significant Wildlife Habitat and will utilize the MNR's <i>Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide 2000</i> ) and associated Criteria Schedules (MNR 2015).

### 2.2.7. Surface Water Quality

Currently available background information shall be used to provide a preliminary understanding of the baseline water quality in the Secondary Plan Area and subwatershed. The existing datasets shall be reviewed to understand the existing water quality status to provide the baseline reference and identify any water quality concerns and constraints in the study area. Other studies such as the Conservation Authority's Source Water Protection work will have some relevant data to contribute to this understanding. The study will also complete an inventory of existing SWM facilities and the respective catchment areas, as the baseline reference for stormwater management in terms of water quantity/ quality control.

Should additional water quality information be needed, local water quality monitoring data can be collected in order to support characterizing the area's surface water quality based upon the contributing land use, soils, and existing stormwater quality management practices during both wet (storm) and dry (baseflow) periods. Surface water quality monitoring at the same locations as the streamflow gauging is preferred in order to correlate the surface water quality with the study area hydrology. Surface water quality monitoring would need to be conducted between the months of April and December. Water quality grab sampling would be completed at each station for three (3) dry weather events and capturing at least one (1) wet and one (1) dry event for each season. Two (2) grab samples would be obtained for each wet weather event, with the objective of characterizing the surface water chemistry during the onset of the storm with the first sample and characterizing the surface water chemistry during the recession of the storm with the second sample. Grab sampling has been recommended over the use of automated samplers as prior experience with the use of automated samplers has demonstrated logistical issues related to the pre-determination of the sampling duration and interval, functional issues related to the "triggering" of the sampler and siting on a flat surface, as well as other issues related to protection against vandalism.

The grab samples for each wet weather and dry weather event may need to be analyzed for the following contaminants:

- Oil and Grease
- Total Phosphorus
- Anions (Nitrate, Nitrite, Phosphate, Chloride)
- Ammonia
- Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)
- Conductivity
- Total Solids (TS)
- Total Suspended Solids (TSS)
- BOD<sub>5</sub>
- Dissolved Oxygen
- pH/alkalinity
- Salinity
- Total Coliforms/Fecal Coliforms/E. Coli
- PAH
- Metals (Al, Sb, As, Ba, Be, B, Cd, Ca, Cr, Co, Cu, Fe, Pb, Mg, Mn, Mo, Ni, P, K, Se, Si, Ag, Na, Sr, Tl, Sn, Ti, W, U, V, Zn, Zr)
- Hardness as CaCO<sub>3</sub>
- Turbidity

### **2.2.7 Phase 1 Report – Subwatershed Characterization and Integration**

At the completion of Phase 1, the general characteristics of the study area will have been identified and a clear understanding of the constraints and opportunities will have been developed. Constraints and opportunities mapping shall be developed, and a preliminary Natural Heritage System should be identified, building upon that identified in the Regional Scoped SWS. The Phase 1 Report will establish the general characteristics of the subwatershed and the Secondary Plan Area, which will be the starting point from which the proposed land uses are to be developed. Of importance, the Phase 1 Characterization report should identify/delineate all key natural heritage and key hydrologic features and assess their status and significance tied to policy requirements, as a key deliverable and component of the constraint mapping.

The Phase 1 Report shall include:

- Summary of background literature and data reviewed;
- Subwatershed study area characterization including:
  - a. Climate, landform, geology, and soils
  - b. Hydrogeology/groundwater quantity and quality
  - c. Surface water quantity and quality
  - d. Stream geomorphology
  - e. Aquatic and Terrestrial ecosystems
  - f. Natural Environment Systems

based on the findings of the:

- (i) review of secondary sources (compiling information from existing documents); (ii) reconnaissance-level fieldwork; and/or (iii) detailed fieldwork.
- Assessment of above identified features and functions to evaluate their significance
- Summary of the subwatershed study area major issues, concerns and constraints.

The constraint-based framework that is developed should be consistent and inclusive of all relevant federal, provincial, municipal, and CA policies and clearly identify areas that are protected from development and those that provide opportunities for development.

Note: It is expected that a Draft Table of Contents will be submitted for review and comment well in advance of the Draft Report submission.

### **2.3 Phase 2 – Impact Assessment**

Based on the outcomes of Phase 1, including the review of background information sources and supplementary fieldwork, Phase 2 will require an iterative assessment of the potential impacts of future land use changes on the natural environment and water-based system within the study area. The findings from the Phase 1 Characterization and Integration work, completed by the various disciplines, along with the outcomes of the initial servicing and transportation needs, will be considered in an integrated manner in developing the preliminary preferred land use concept. A screening of the preliminary land use concepts is to be undertaken to determine a preliminary preferred concept(s) for impact assessment in Phase 2.

The Phase 2 Impact Assessment will be completed concurrently to the other component studies such as the Transportation Master Plan, and Water / Wastewater Master Servicing Plan, which will also be assessing the impacts and requirements of the preliminary preferred land use concept.

The intent of Phase 2 is to assess the impacts of the preliminary preferred land use concept and inform the preliminary establishment of initial management strategies which:

- protect the critical elements and systems of the subwatershed and local drainage system;
- prevent environmental degradation;
- provide adequate flexibility for integration with adjacent development and redevelopment areas where present;
- assist in the establishment of open space linkages;
- identify opportunities and constraints to development;
- provide a strategy to manage legacy impacts from existing land uses;
- detail preliminary locations and areas for stormwater management (LID BMPs and end-of-pipe facilities); and
- identify restoration and enhancement opportunities.

In Phase 2, a detailed analysis shall be completed to assess the impacts of future land use changes in the Secondary Plan Area. Various options and practices for mitigating these impacts shall be reviewed and management strategies to create net benefit shall be advanced. As noted, the assessment of future land use changes is premised on an iterative approach whereby the feedback from the initial assessment shall be provided to the TAC and the Land Use Planning Team. The impact assessment shall also consider the impacts of climate change to the Natural Heritage System and Water Resources System, and the manner in which the proposed development and management plan may exacerbate or mitigate these impacts. In this regard, the impacts resulting from the proposed development and climate change are intended to be assessed in an integrated manner, rather than evaluating the impacts separately/individually.

The information from the Local SWS at this stage, will be considered along with the information from the concurrent transportation and servicing assessments to refine the preliminary preferred land use concept option(s) to eventually develop a preferred Secondary Plan.

The next iteration of impact assessment will be expected to be more scoped and focused on the specific changes to the land use and environmental impact management strategies. Hence the scope outlined in the following sections will need to be conducted iteratively, whereby the initial assessment will inherently be more complex and detailed than the subsequent assessments. It is expected that the majority of the

impacts and associated management and land use changes will have been captured as part of the initial iteration.

### **2.3.1 Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analysis**

#### **Hydrology:**

A hydrologic analysis shall be conducted for the initial future development land use concept to determine post-development flows, hydrographs and water balance (integrated with the groundwater assessment).

The existing conditions hydrologic model(s) shall be modified to reflect post-development conditions and executed continuously and in event mode to generate peak flows for all events ranging from 2, 5, 10, 25, 50,100 and 350 year, and the Regional Storm. As in the hydrologic analysis for existing conditions, the model results shall be reviewed by the TAC. The modelling will be used to determine the potential impacts on surface water, groundwater and water budgets. The Phase 2 Impact assessment hydrologic analysis will need to:

- Delineate a discrete drainage area plan based on potential future development;
- Calculate post-development flows for all event storms at predetermined locations, as per discretized drainage area plan and model schematic diagram within the study area. The post-development flows shall be compared to existing flows for all storm events at the hydrologic nodes of interest. If the Conservation Authority has an approved hydrologic model which establishes unit release rates for development, then the results of the local modelling as part of this local study are to be validated against the existing guidance from local Conservation Authorities;
- Conduct the water budget assessment at the nodes of interest coordinated with the Groundwater modelling (see below).
- Identify constraints related to imperviousness and intensity of development. Assess the requirement and/or performance of proposed stormwater management facilities including the potential approach for Regulatory flow impact management per the details outlined in the Regional Scoped SWS;
- Assess the future discharge impacts (both flows and erosion potential) on the local systems and the broader creek systems based upon the methods completed as part of the Phase 1 hydrologic assessment (critical discharge, cumulative erosion index, and cumulative effective work), in coordination with the Study Team Stream Morphologist;
- Complete a climate change assessment consisting of evaluating the hydrologic impacts for projected design storms (i.e., 2080s IDF projections) and four (4) locally historic storms , and the formative timeseries for four (4) formative storm events which occurred in other jurisdictions.
- Any preliminary stormwater management strategies, required to match the post-development flows to existing conditions, shall be identified.

The future development impact assessment should evaluate the impacts on both runoff volumes and peak flow rates.

#### **Hydraulics:**

The existing hydraulic condition shall be reviewed in the context of the proposed development, with the land use changes, runoff increases and/or channel modifications. For those watercourses which may receive additional flow or perhaps require no controls, the study shall assess the impacts of the proposed development on watercourse water levels, flow velocities and water surface profiles for all storm events. Any potential erosion based upon critical erosion parameter (i.e., critical flow, critical shear, critical velocity) and/or flood risk concerns due to the proposed development shall be identified and compared to those

identified under Phase 1, in consultation with stream morphologists. Again, for any watercourses where flow would change, current flood line information shall be updated for post-development scenarios. The model results shall be reviewed and approved by the TAC.

The updated future land use flood lines (where changes are considered) are to be presented on the maps, with Regulatory Event flood line locations and cross sections identified with flood elevations. The level of service for hydraulic structures within the study area and the resulting overtopping depths, caused by the Regulatory Event, shall be assessed and documented on existing roads at all crossing structures. The floodplain maps should confirm the post-development flood levels are consistent with the current condition. Any changes in the flood inundation magnitude must be listed in inventory, with explanations of such changes.

### **2.3.2 Hydrogeology**

The hydrogeology impact analysis shall examine the impact of future development land use changes on the groundwater systems. An impact analysis is to be completed to evaluate the sensitivity of the groundwater flow system to changes in land use resulting from a potential reduction in recharge. Impacts are expected to include a decrease in the water table elevation, changes to stream flow (e.g., baseflow/groundwater discharge) and the potential degradation of groundwater quality. The hydrogeological component of the subwatershed investigation shall:

- Ensure the groundwater sensitive areas are recognized and protected from future urbanizing and disturbances;
- Within the water balance assessment, update the overall groundwater budget model along with the surface water components for both existing and future scenarios; the water budget for the study area shall estimate precipitation, evapo-transpiration, runoff and infiltration, in addition to the groundwater recharge and discharge; and
- Take into account any relevant needs within the Source Water Protection Plan.

The baseline water balance assessment described in Phase 1, should be updated to reflect changes in the various parameters related to development scenarios to consider potential impacts particularly to changes in groundwater recharge. As presented in Phase 1, the hydrological model is also utilized to carry out a water balance and a comparison should be conducted and differences rationalized. Integration with the hydrologic modelling and consistency of the various input parameters is required. It is understood the hydrologic and groundwater analysis may have some differences in the physical representation. These potential limitations should be reflected in the overall impact assessment.

The groundwater impact assessment should be integrated with the ecological component impact assessments as it relates to the groundwater function for discharge or water table depth.

### **2.3.3 Stream Morphology and Erosion Analysis**

Erosion hazards as mapped and confirmed through Phase 1 will need to be evaluated against the proposed land use plan to ensure that area watercourses are protected from encroachment by development, but also to ensure that risk to property and infrastructure is minimized. Where realignments are proposed, and provided there is sufficient rationale, realignment alternatives should be evaluated through an integrated process with other members of the Study Team to maintain flood conveyance, habitat requirements, and linkages. Any realignment will require that appropriate erosion hazards and setbacks are delineated and mapped.

The continuous erosion analysis (see hydrologic assessment above) for the existing conditions shall be updated with the future development scenarios for each critical parameters as described in Section 2.2.2

(critical discharge, cumulative erosion index, and cumulative effective work) . Erosion potential for the study area shall be estimated by applying erosion thresholds to the existing channel / bank conditions using the post-development flows. This analysis is to be completed for the same cross sections that were assessed as part of the detailed geomorphological assessment. Appropriate mitigation measures shall be recommended for sections showing a significant increase in erosion potential. Erosion thresholds shall be used to establish discharge rates for stormwater management systems for the proposed development to ensure there is no increase in downstream erosion applying the methodology per the approved Technical Work Plan. This process will involve determination of the impacts without mitigation and then defining the necessary levels of control in an iterative manner to ensure downstream systems are appropriately protected.

Based on the results presented in Phase 1, identify which watercourses and headwater drainage features (HDFs) in the proposed development area are stable and have sufficient conveyance capacity, and which watercourses and headwater drainage features need restoration or alteration through the application of natural channel design principles. Stream morphology shall be assessed downstream of future development areas, with a focus on the existing and potential erosion concerns. The extent to which downstream areas need to be assessed will be based on a sensitivity review by the Stream Morphologist and the Hydrologist. Existing and future development impacts shall be evaluated with the development strategy indicated to limit the negative impacts, while accommodating opportunities to restore and improve the existing watercourse or HDF condition. This will need to consider watercourse constraints (high or medium constraint, as per the SABE Scoped SWS) and HDF management classifications (protection, conservation, mitigation, no management) which determine recommendations for features remain on the landscape (protected in-place or realigned) versus those (HDFs) which can be removed subject to appropriate management practices.

For areas of new development, the size of the channel block necessary to allow natural channel design to occur shall be determined. The sizing will include the erosion hazard, hydraulic criteria , fisheries setbacks and Natural Heritage System planning, and all buffers and setbacks. The natural channel design information on which the preliminary assessments are made, shall be documented for use at the next stages of planning (i.e., neighbourhood scale). The natural channel design strategy must clearly define that all channel blocks have the ability to convey flows associated with the Regulatory event. As noted, the size determination should be made based on stream morphology, in addition to the considerations of aquatic and terrestrial features and setbacks. The determination of which watercourses and HDFs are to be maintained and which are to be considered for relocation or removal, needs approval of the TAC. The Conservation Authority and MNRF and others will ultimately need to be consulted for any recommended channel works.

#### **2.3.4 Aquatic Environment**

Assess the potential impacts of future land uses on the aquatic habitats through direct modifications (e.g., watercourse realignments, watercourses crossings) and impacts arising from changes to the hydrologic and hydrogeologic regimes and riparian vegetation. Opportunities for aquatic habitat enhancement by direct modification (e.g., eliminating barriers to fish migration) or enhancement of riparian buffers should also be considered. The effects of the anticipated changes to aquatic habitat on aquatic biota will need to be assessed.

Consideration is to be given to the presence and role of aquatic features and functions as part of the Natural Heritage System. This is to include, at a minimum, thermal regime, species diversity, water quality and quantity, and their long-term protection within the NHS to inform the assessment of impacts at the system scale.

### **2.3.5 Terrestrial Environment**

The Study Team is to investigate potential land use impacts on terrestrial features, their associated functions and their role within the NHS based on the integrated system analysis completed in Phase 1. Appropriate mitigation strategies, including buffers/setbacks, will be identified in order to protect the natural heritage features and functions from disturbance. In addition, linkages identified through the Scoped SWS will be confirmed or refined, and consideration for additional linkages (e.g., site scale linkages) are to be assessed. Linkages shall be confirmed and protected through this phase. Linkages are important in reducing the potential adverse impacts of habitat fragmentation on natural areas. The management strategies shall be documented toto :

- Demonstrate protection of features retained as components of the NHS ;
- Demonstrate efficacy of mitigation measures to protect features from impacts associated with proposed development.
- Clearly identify linkages and enhancements necessary to maintain system connectivity (and thus functions).
- Demonstrate how system targets are met.

The assessment shall generally focus on the sensitive areas identified in Phase 1 of the Local SWS and areas in the immediate vicinity of proposed developments. Where a continuous ELC-defined vegetation community extends beyond the subject areas, the assessment shall generally address the entire community, including portions beyond the study area boundaries.

Additionally, the impact assessment should consider the degree to which any changes in the recommendations of the scoped SWS could have potential for negative impacts. For example, this may include assessing changes to/removal of proposed linkages and/or enhancement areas, Alterations and impacts are to be considered at both the site-scale and system-scale.

In addition to management strategies that address land use impacts, consideration should also be given to impacts or opportunities associated with the active transportation network (particularly NHS/WRS crossings) and trail networks.

### **2.3.6 Surface Water Quality**

The successful consultant shall investigate potential land use impacts (i.e., increased imperviousness, land use type changes, etc.) and develop strategies to maintain or enhance in-stream water quality. Actions to address existing point and non-point sources of pollution resulting in degraded water quality shall be developed. Best Management Practices (BMPs) for urban stormwater management shall be recommended for all new development to address stormwater quality. The proposed BMPs shall be in accordance with the requirements of the MECP and the Municipality including the Provincial guidance which focuses on a treatment train approach using LID BMPs.

### **2.3.7 Phase 2 Report – Impact Assessment**

At the completion of the Phase 2 Iterative Land Use Assessments , Reports will need to be prepared (i.e., one for each iteration) outlining the results of the Impact Assessment. These Reports shall be submitted to document the results of the impact assessment and the preliminary evaluation of the stormwater management options and recommended subwatershed management strategies, as they relate to the proposed development. The water (surface/ground) modelling input and output files shall be appended to this report. In addition, constraints and opportunities present in the study area, in terms of urban expansion, environment impacts and protection, shall be clearly documented with GIS maps for the associated locations.

Note: It is expected that a Draft Table of Contents will be submitted for review and comment well in advance of the Draft Report submission.

## **2.4 Phase 3 – Management, Implementation and Monitoring Plan**

Phase 3 shall identify and set the framework for implementation and monitoring of the preferred subwatershed's management strategy building from the results of the iterative land use impact assessments. Management recommendations are required to address the objectives identified in the Settlement Area Boundary Expansion Scoped Subwatershed Study, as well as the goals, objectives and targets from the parent watershed plan for the respective Secondary Plan Areas. A Management, Implementation, and Monitoring Plan shall be developed, which sets out the requirements for phasing, operation of facilities, and monitoring to ensure the future development(s) are in compliance with the approved Local Subwatershed Study and Secondary Plan Policies. The direction provided in the Settlement Area Boundary Expansion Scoped Subwatershed Study - Part C: Implementation Plan (Wood et. al., December 2021) shall be used as the foundation for developing the monitoring plan to further refine, develop and identify management recommendations and requirements for the detailed subwatershed studies. The Phase 3 work will be completed when a preferred land use plan has been determined based upon the findings and recommendations from Phase 1 and 2 of the detailed Subwatershed Study natural heritage system and water resource system direction and guidance, as well as the companion studies for transportation and servicing. The findings of this study will provide implementation recommendations and a technical framework for future infrastructure works and support the future development proposals in accordance with the approved Secondary Plan.

The stormwater management strategy will need to outline the siting for various components of the overall stormwater management plan, including key locations for facilities and general guidance for selecting green infrastructure and LID practices to manage the impacts to the Natural Heritage System and Water Resources System. The scope for additional studies will also need to be identified that are to be completed in support of future Block Plans, Draft Plans of Subdivisions or Condominium, and Site Plans as required, to meet the objectives and targets of the Local Subwatershed Study. The Local Subwatershed Study is to identify preliminary locations for logical development blocks drainage sheds for consideration as part of future neighbourhood plans. The scope for additional studies should include requirements to complete hydrologic and/or hydraulic modelling to verify the stormwater management criteria established in the higher-level studies based upon more detailed information, and revise/refine the criteria as required.

Management strategies are required that will reflect the local and functional linkages of sensitive groundwater recharge and discharge areas, the potential groundwater quantity impacts on the private wells and groundwater quality degradation. Groundwater management strategies should include technical input (quantitative and qualitative) into the determination or refinement of hydrogeologically sensitive areas relating to both recharge and discharge, issues related to shallow water table or strong upward gradients, potential location and function of Stormwater Management facilities and other BMPs, as well as planning and policy recommendations for groundwater quantity and quality protection.

Watercourse management recommendations will be made at the reach scale and based on an integrated characterization of feature constraints, with site-specific opportunities presented as appropriate. Similarly, headwater drainage feature management recommendations will be based on the outcome of the Local Subwatershed Study, through the application of the TRCA/CVC (2014) guidelines with reach-scale recommendations. Deviations from the recommendations of the HDF guidelines will require that site modifiers are identified to justify changes in the management recommendation. Management recommendations and opportunities are to be developed in consultation with the Study's TAC, with agreement prior to study conclusion.



Managing features of the NHS will build on the proposed strategy outlined in the Scoped Subwatershed Study following the recommended Net Gain Mitigation Hierarchy approach. Specific management strategies and implementation recommendations should be prescribed for features/ areas that are identified as avoidance (i.e., protect in-situ), minimize and mitigate, linkages, enhance, replicate, and compensate. The framework outlined in the Scoped SWS provides a detailed overview of the various management approaches. Avoidance is required and/or recommended for key features (e.g., features protected by policy) and/or supporting features that are included in the NHS. Minimization of impacts and mitigation strategies should identify the required set of integrated approaches that reduce the degree of disturbance and impacts on natural features resulting from the proposed land use changes. Linkage recommendations should include specific design and implementation requirements to support connectivity at multiple scales (landscape, local, and site-scale). Enhancement recommendations should identify improvements to biological composition and function of areas in the context of the local landscape (e.g., habitat diversity / availability) or within the system (e.g., under-represented habitats). Replication and/or compensation management strategies should be identified, as a last resort, for features that cannot be protected in-situ, but require inclusion in the NHS; sufficient guidance should be presented such that the success of the proposed replication and/or compensation can be assured based on appropriate site selection, restoration protocols, financing, and long-term ownership/management responsibility

Phase 3 shall outline the agencies/organizations that are responsible for carrying out the various recommendations and specify when in the development process the various recommendations need to be initiated. Phase 3 shall include:

- Timing and Phasing recommendations for the construction of any required facilities with respect to the future development; these recommendations will inherently need to consider the influence of other infrastructure as well;
- Asset Management Strategies such as:
  - A Phasing and Funding strategy for the construction and maintenance of the facilities;
  - Recommendations for future studies;
- An Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan to monitor the subwatershed's response to land use change and suggest adaptive responses where impacts are being observed; the monitoring program will need to ensure compliance with the Local Subwatershed Study, and a strategy for corrective actions which may be necessary based on results of the monitoring program; it is notable that MECP is advancing industry guidance for broad-based community monitoring plans to support the Consolidated Linear Infrastructure ECA process; this guidance is expected late 2023/early 2024 at which point the Municipality will have 2 years to prepare a plan for MECP review and approval; the Local SWS monitoring program should take this into consideration and align with its requirements accordingly;
- Assist Secondary Plan Team with developing policies for consideration in the Secondary Plan;
- Criteria and time frame for the review/update of the Local Subwatershed Plan;

The Management, Implementation, and Monitoring Plan shall also recommend the phasing of development, and provide guidance to address climate change considerations, particularly demonstrating compliance with the Town of Caledon's Community Climate Change Action Plan and the Peel Region's Climate Change Master Plan. This will permit changes to recommend mitigation measures and management strategies for future phases of the development, in the case where results of monitoring from the initial phases suggest that changes are warranted.

Note: It is expected that a Draft Table of Contents will be submitted for review and comment well in advance of the Draft Report submission.

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