BC OGRIS Project Profile

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Project Name:	Groundwater Decision Support Tool
Project Number:	EI-2016-14
Proponent:	Foundry Spatial Ltd.
Funding Envelope:	Environmental Impacts
Timeframe:	April 25, 2016 – April 30, 2017

Project objectives

Development of a GIS-based groundwater data retrieval tool for hydrogeological decision support. The purpose of the tool will be for the instant retrieval and reporting of available groundwater-related data that are typically manually retrieved to support a desktop hydrogeological review and analysis, whereby a desktop hydrogeological review is a necessary first step in all groundwater related investigations.

Project description

The project will involve the development of a web-based GIS interface with flexible and interactive analysis tools, to allow users to access and retrieve an array of groundwater and aquifer related data. The vision for the groundwater tool is that, for a specified location and a specified search radius, the tool would produce an "immediate" report of available groundwater related information. The output report would provide information that would be reviewed, for example, by decision makers and qualified professionals to support decision making, or by oil and gas operators and their groundwater consultants to assist with planning and development.

The tool will be useful for decision-makers in the Commission, Provincial ministries (Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations – FLNRO, and Ministry of Environment – MOE), as well as by the oil and gas industry, consultants, and the public. Development of the tool would be guided with input from FLNRO/MOE and key industry groundwater specialists. The system will reside on Oil and Gas Commission servers and will be publically available.

Project background

There is a need to streamline the groundwater information compilation and review process to facilitate timely and well-supported decision making.

The primary outcomes will be:

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- 1. A modern, easy to use, web-based GIS interface with analytical and reporting tools, specifically designed for retrieval of relevant groundwater information to support decision making;
- 2. Better informed and timelier decision-making;
- 3. Documentation of information for application or project files; and
- 4. Information to support the understanding of location-specific sensitivity of groundwater and aquifer resources.

Project deliverables

The deliverables from this project include the following:

- 1. Groundwater Decision Support Tool.
- 2. User Guide—providing instructions for users.