



Ministry of
Environment

Compliance Point for Protection of Receiving Aquatic Environments

Annual Stakeholder Workshop

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- Provide guidance on appropriate use of the CSR AW standard and the BCWQG in proximity to surface water bodies containing aquatic life.
- Useful when assessing remediation strategies at contaminated sites

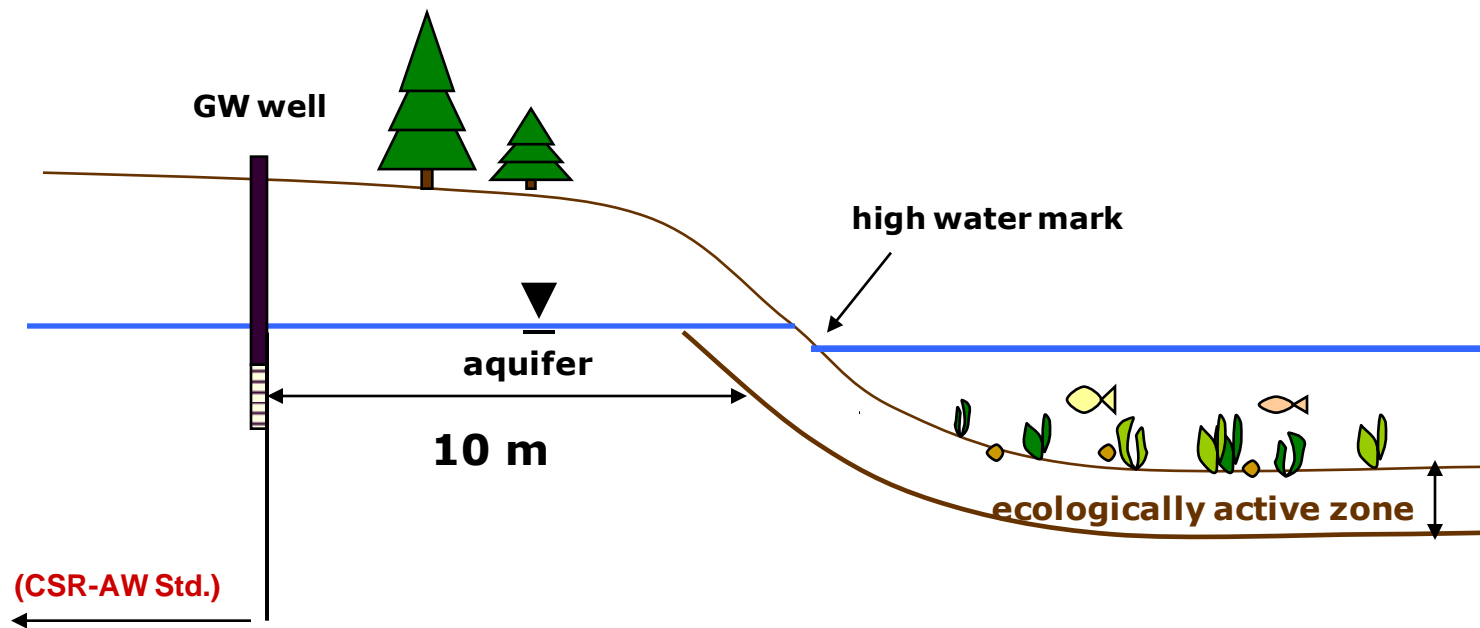
- In general, CSR AW standards are derived from the BCWQG (10x BCWQG)
- Standards were set with the assumption that water at a site will be diluted 10x before reaching the receiving environment.

- 3 areas of compliance
 - Groundwater
 - Ecologically Active Zone
 - Surface Water

- The CSR AW standard is applied to groundwater located within 1 km or within the 50 year groundwater travel time to within 10 m of the **ecologically active zone** from the closest surface water containing aquatic life

Compliance: Groundwater

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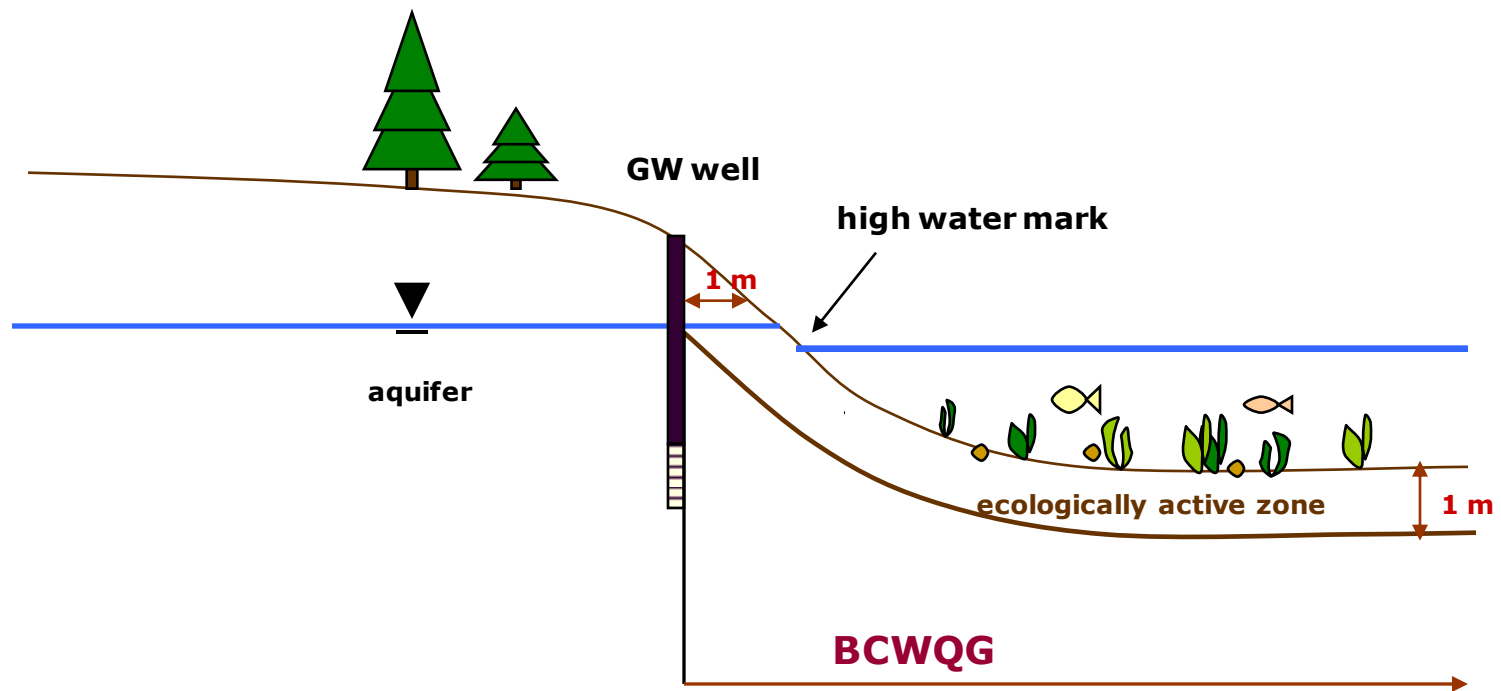


- Transition zone occurs where groundwater and surface water interact
- Transition zones often contain an ecologically active area where a variety of important ecological and physicochemical conditions and processes occur
- Ministry has defined the top 1 m of sediment as being ecologically active – “ecologically active zone”

- To ensure that the ecologically active zone is adequately protected, BCWQG should be met at 1 m inland of the high water mark (Figure 1) or the last groundwater well before the receiving water body.

Compliance: Ecologically Active Zone

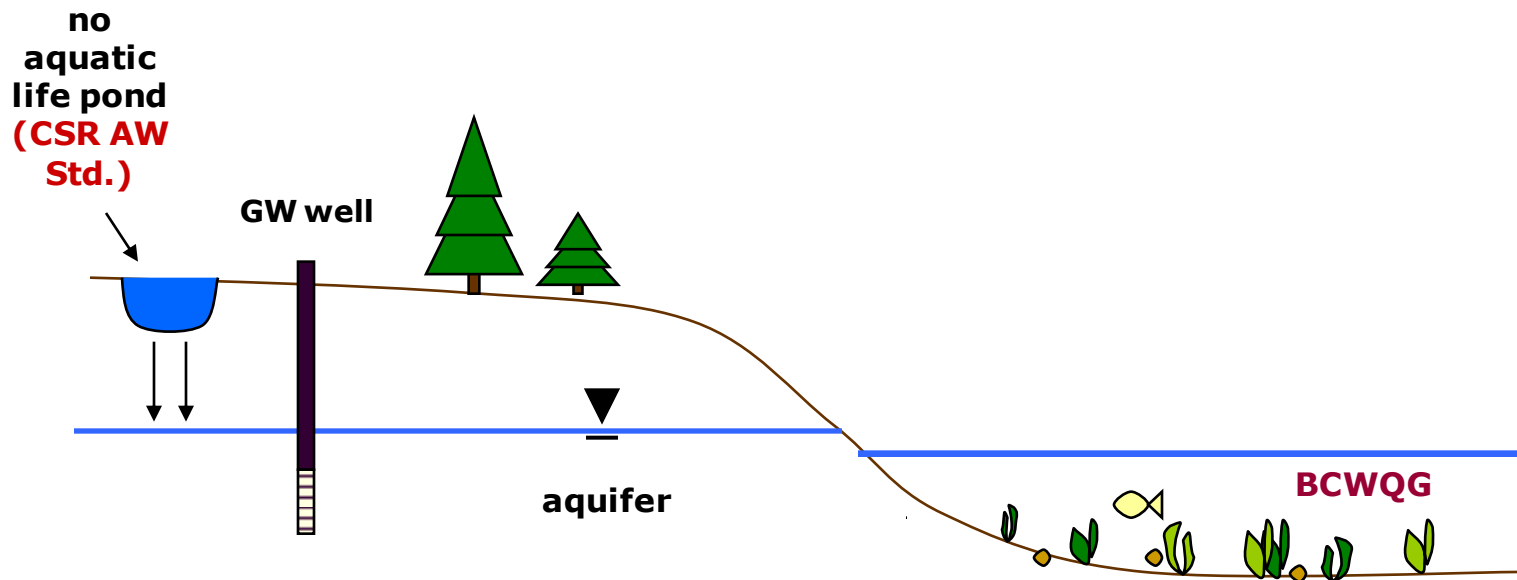
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- BCWQG apply to all surface water that supports aquatic life. 2 exceptions:
 1. Pooled water on a site that does not support aquatic life but is hydraulically connected by groundwater flow to a receiving water body
 2. Water on a site that does not support aquatic life and is hydraulically connected by surface flow to a receiving environment, but is not considered a receiving environment in itself (e.g. maintained watercourse)

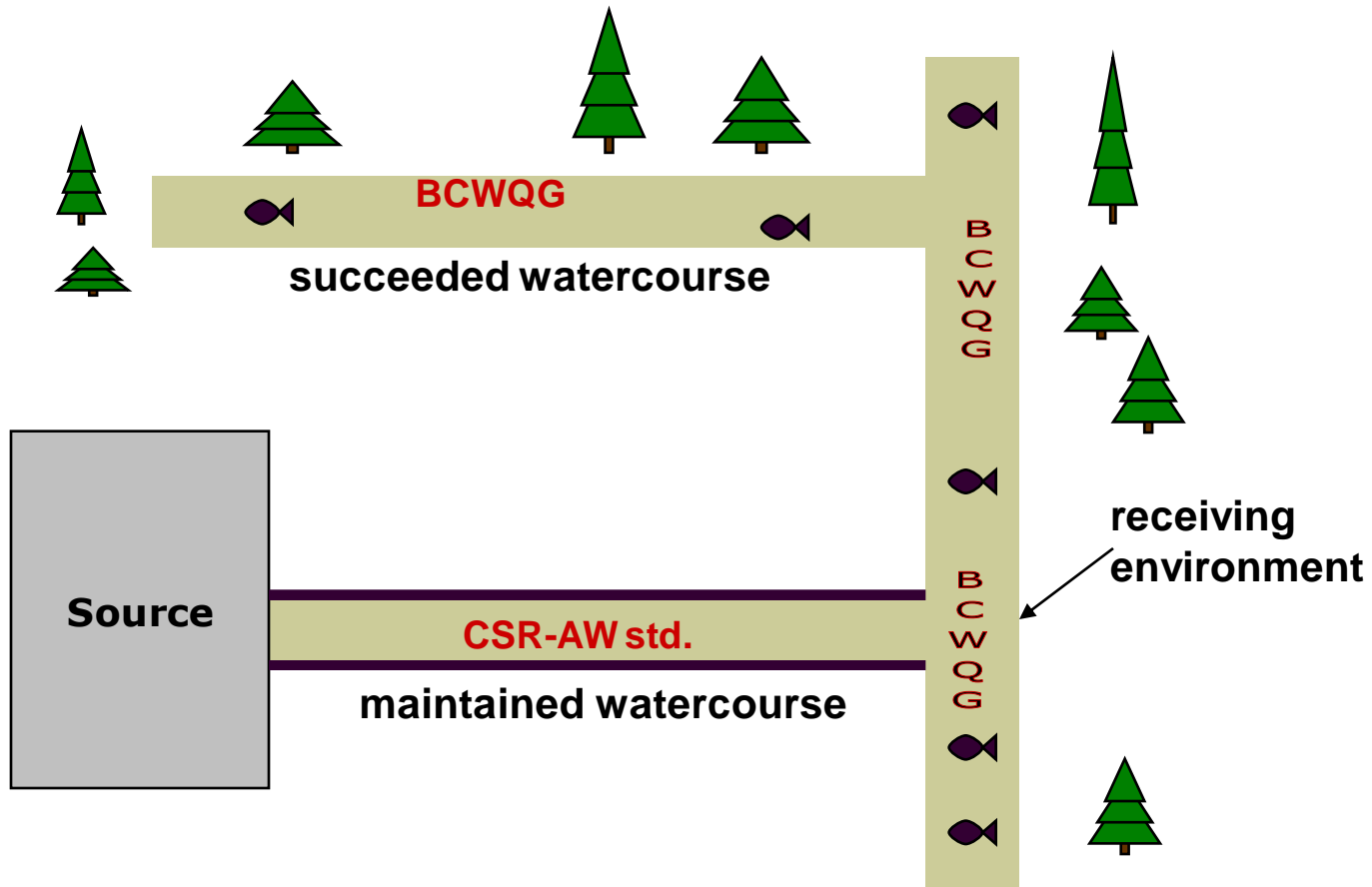
Compliance: Surface Water

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Compliance: Surface Water

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Questions?

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