



# **FINAL REPORT**

# King Street Investigation & Rehabilitation

Water Quality Monitoring Report for Data Collected from 2018 to 2020

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### 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

GM BluePlan Engineering Limited (GMBP) is pleased to submit this report to the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake (Town). The report provides an analysis of water quality samples from the storm sewer collection system which discharges to Queens Royal Beach (QRB) at the foot of King Street in the Town of NOTL. This beach is located in the Niagara River Area of Concern (AOC), having historical water quality problems related to high level of bacteria and resulting in beach postings to warn the water may be unsafe for swimming. The King Street Storm Sewer Outlet (KSSO) was identified as a potential source of bacterial contamination at the QRB impacting water quality goals as part of the Niagara River Remedial Action Plan (RAP). A water quality monitoring program, extensive field investigation program, and rehabilitation of identified infrastructure deficiencies were enacted within the KSSO drainage area from 2018 to 2020 with focus on *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) reduction.

**Figure 1** summarizes the water quality analysis performed on grab samples collected within the KSSO catchment area to understand fecal sources of *E. coli*.

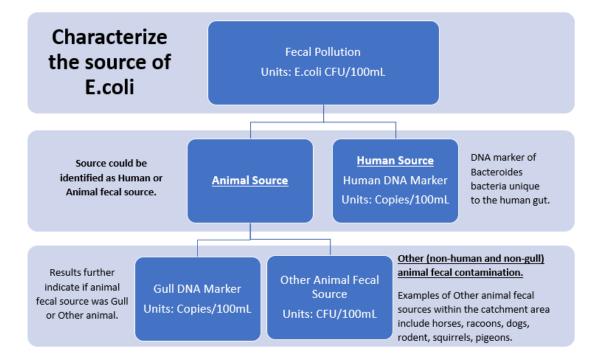


Figure 1: Analysis of Water Quality Grab Samples

The results within this report have been provided to the King Street Working Group (MECP, NPCA, Region of Niagara, Public Health, ECCC) as well as the Niagara River RAP Implementation Committee. The King Street Working Group and RAP Implementation Committee members have agreed storm sewer and QRB water quality have improved and RAP goals have been met. The process to remove the related water quality impairment for the Niagara River AOC will be initiated by the RAP Team in 2021.

**QRB** has achieved Beneficial Use Impairment (BUI) re-designation criteria which indicates the beach has met the 80% open threshold, prominent fecal pollution sources were investigated and are now known, all practical remedial actions have been taken to eliminate and reduce sewage contamination, and measures such as informative public signage being installed by the Town.



#### 2 INTRODUCTION

With funding support from Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, GM BluePlan Engineering Limited (GMBP) was retained by the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake (Town) to develop and implement a water quality sampling program and rehabilitation action plan for the King Street Storm Sewer Outlet (KSSO) drainage area. This area ultimately discharges to Queens Royal Beach (QRB), located within the Niagara River Area of Concern. The KSSO catchment area is located within the Town's tourist corridor and has a mixture of residential and commercial properties. The King Street Storm Sewer Outlet (KSSO) was identified as a potential source of *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) contamination at the QRB leading to beach postings to advise of unsafe swimming conditions and impacting water quality goals as part of the Niagara River Remedial Action Plan (RAP). The RAP goals are related to (1) identifying and addressing prominent fecal pollution sources, (2) at least 80% of beach samples meeting provincial recreational water quality goals, and (3) risk management in place to protect public health.

The provincial recreational water quality guidelines used to monitor beach quality is a geometric mean of 5 water samples taken from the beach with *E. coli* less than or equal to 200 CFU/100mL (CFU is "colony forming units"). A water quality monitoring program was developed and applied to the KSSO catchment area from 2018 (pre-existing state) to 2020 (post-rehabilitation state), in addition to a separate beach monitoring program. An infrastructure rehabilitation program was developed and implemented following a field investigation of the sewer systems.

The purpose of this report is to analyze sampling results collected to date within the KSSO catchment area. There are separate reports on QRB water quality monitoring results (Laufman & Patel 2020; Laufman & Moura 2019) which are both available at www.ourniagarariver.ca/document-library.

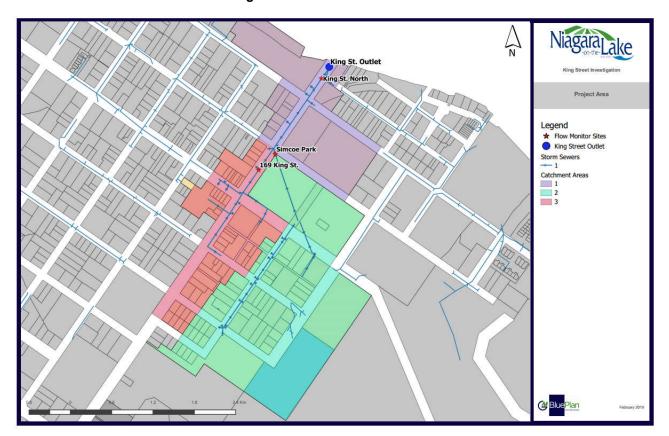


Figure 2: KSSO Catchment Area



**Table 1: Project Timeline Summary** 

Year	Action
2018	<ul> <li>Develop and implement a water quality sampling program to understand the existing state of the KSSO catchment area.</li> <li>Investigate and collect wastewater asset condition information through field investigations and existing data.</li> <li>Develop a prioritized list of rehabilitation recommendations for infrastructure improvements to ultimately reduce <i>E. coli</i> loading to the KSSO catchment area.</li> </ul>
2019	Implement infrastructure improvements for "Quick Wins" and short-term recommendations for <i>E. coli</i> reduction and monitor resulting water quality improvement.
2020	<ul> <li>Complete prioritized recommendations including infrastructure improvements requiring greater capital budget and implementation time.</li> </ul>

**Appendix A** includes sample locations and *E. coli* result maps from the 2018-2020 sample programs. **Appendix B** includes a map of rehabilitation improvements implemented for the KSSO catchment area.

#### 2.1 Rainfall Event Summary

For reference on characterizing storms during each sampling season:

- Wet weather samples were taken during rain fall events of at least 10mm within a 24 hours period.
- Dry weather sampling requires no rain occurring 48 hours prior to the sample date.
- A rainfall event is considered ≥ to 5mm of rain.
- An intense rainfall event is considered ≥ 20mm of rain within a 24-hour period.
- A dry year is characterized by ≤ to 5 rainfall events
- A wet year is characterized by ≥ to 10 rain fall events
- As it relates to the sampling season between 2018 to 2019
  - o 2018 and 2019 were considered average precipitation years
  - o 2020 was considered a dry year

# 2.2 Project Funding

The technical advisory group acknowledge Environment and Climate Change Canada for providing project funding of \$150,000 over 3 years. This includes \$70,000 toward the initial study and area investigation from July 2018-March 2019 and \$80,000 for the subsequent remediation & monitoring from April 2019-March 2020. Acknowledgement to Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks for \$65,000 to support the design-build of the Low Impact Development stormwater biofiltration facility installed within Simcoe Park.

# 2.3 Technical Advisory Group

The Town and GMBP have facilitated bi-monthly workshops with the following advisory group (Working Group) since 2018 to demonstrate project progress and to ensure RAP program initiatives are met:

- Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks (MECP)
- Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA)
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
- Edge-Water Research and Consulting
- Niagara Region Public Health
- Region of Niagara
- Town of NOTL.

The Town successfully implemented restoration actions and subsequent monitoring for the Working Group.



### 2.4 Report Reference

The following reports are provided under separate cover to the Town:

- 1. QRB monitoring reports (Laufman & Patel 2020; Laufman & Moura 2019).
- 2. King Street Rehabilitation based on new CCTV Data Collected Nov. 2020 (GMBP; 2020)

# 3 SAMPLE RESULTS SUMMARIZED FOR DRY AND WET WEATHER

Water quality DNA marker testing results shown in **Figure 3** suggest that **fecal contamination from Other Animal sources (non-human and non-gull) contribute larger amounts of** *E.coli* **to the KSSO area as is typical for urban stormwater systems. Most dry weather stormwater samples had measurable** *E. coli* **levels without detection of the human DNA marker or gull DNA markers. Animals are regularly contributing** *E.coli* **loading to the catchment in comparison to the rare detection of the Human DNA marker. Examples of Other Animal fecal sources within the catchment area include horses, racoons, dogs, rodents, squirrels, and pigeons. After 2020 remedial actions, large spikes in** *E. coli* **in KSSO are generally not associated with large spikes in human DNA marker, but more associated with animal fecal sources and are consistent with samples collected during wet events. Significant spikes in the gull DNA marker were found associated with spikes in** *E. coli* **following some rain events. Horses are likely a main contributing source as multiple commercial horse carriages run daily within the KSSO catchment area.** 

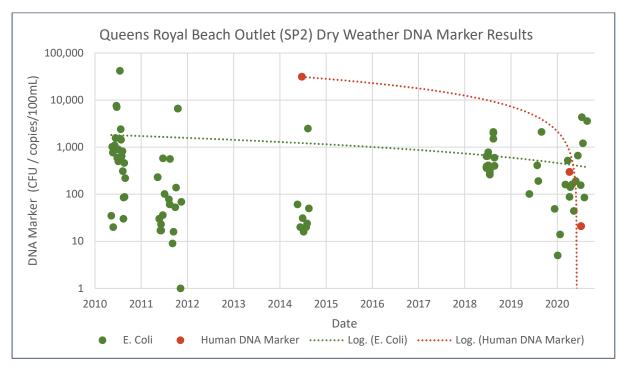


Figure 3: Historic Comparison of KSSO Water Quality Pre vs. Post Rehab

The Working Group agreed that the focus for *E. coli* reduction is from human sewage sources as this relates to local issues with sanitary sewer infrastructure and local contamination concerns within the Area of Concern. It should be noted, however, that beach postings from Public Health only account for the amount of *E. coli* colony forming units, not the fecal source of *E. coli*.



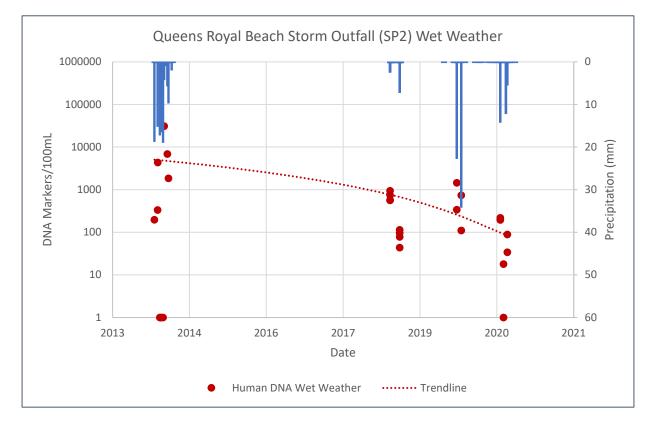


Figure 4: Historical Data for Human DNA marker for KSSO during Wet Weather

The precipitation data is from Niagara Open Data. Rain data for Niagara-on-the-Lake is from the Line 2 Precipitation Station, located within 5 km of the King Street project area. In **Figure 4**, the displayed precipitation (in millimeters) is a summation of all the rain that fell within a 24-hour period of each wet weather sampling day. This is intended to show the correlation between high-intensity rain events and high results of Human DNA marker. The 2020 results displayed on the graph only show the post-rehabilitation results. It is apparent that the Human DNA marker is showing lower levels even with larger storm events. While 2020 was generally a dry year, the Human DNA marker was mostly associated with rain events at the KSSO site.

# 4 2020 SAMPLING RESULTS ANALYSIS

In the 2020 season, the Town collected storm sewer grab samples during dry weather (from May to October on a biweekly basis) and wet weather (during rain events  $\geq$  10mm) for submission to Edge-Water Research and Consulting for an innovative analysis using Digital PCR (Microbial Source Tracking) to understand occurrence of human and gull DNA markers. This analysis provides additional information associated with each sample to help interpret the source of *E. coli*. The following indicator areas within the sub-catchment of KSSO were used to summarize monitoring results:

- KSSO The storm outlet discharging to QRB
- Davy Street
- King Street
- Low Impact Development (LID) Biofiltration Facility installed at Simcoe Park in 2020.

This report does not contain sampling results analysis from QRB as beach sampling was not part of GMBP's scope of work. Grab samples were collected by the Town and analyzed in a separate report noted in the Section 2.4 References.

Table 3 shows the percentage of time there were postings at QRB due to *E. coli* levels exceeding the guidelines for recreational water.



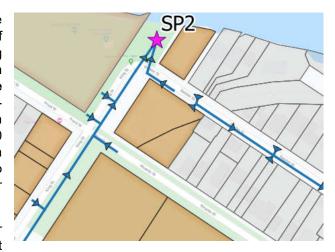
Year	Sample Size (n)	% Beach Postings
2011	27	48%
2012	43	33%
2013	43	56%
2014	40	50%
2015	30	27%
2016	16	25%
2017	14	29%
2018 ( <i>E. coli</i> limit increase to 200CFU/100mL from 100CFU/100mL in previous years)	35	17%
2019	37	19%
2020	42	10%

**Table 2: History of QRB Postings** 

#### 4.1 KSSO - Outlet Results

Previous Microbial Source Tracking studies have indicated that there are Niagara River upstream sources that deliver frequent low levels of human *E. coli* to QRB. The KSSO may negatively impact QRB during rain events but **post remediation sampling in 2020 has shown minimal levels of Human DNA markers from KSSO and that the KSSO is no longer a prominent source of human** *E. coli***. Post-rehabilitation sampling of KSSO only had 2 grab samples with Human** *E. coli* **present, the remaining 8 grab samples collected over the 2020 sampling season had <b>no detectable human DNA marker**. The Niagara River sampling point located upstream of the KSSO continues to indicate human *E. coli* but it does not seem to impact overall water quality at the beach.

The following summarizes results of the KSSO which discharges near QRB. Results are compared from 2018 to 2020 during both dry and wet weather sampling at Sample Point #2 (SP2).



#### Positive Improvements:

- Amount of Times No Human DNA marker was Detected at SP2 (Dry Weather) 100% of samples had Human DNA marker present in 2018. 20% of samples had Human DNA marker present in 2020 resulting in an 80% reduction in Human DNA marker present at an outlet (SP2) grab sample from 2018 to 2020.
- Historic Monitoring of Human DNA marker at SP2 99% reduction in Human DNA marker level since the highest recorded value in 2014.
- Max Human DNA marker (Dry Weather) 68% reduction from 2018 to 2020.
- Max Human DNA marker (Wet Weather) 85% reduction from 2019 and 77% reduction from 2018.
- Max Other Animal Source (non-human and non-gull) E. coli (Wet Weather) 82% reduction from 2018 to 2020.

#### Area for Improvement, Reason for Result and Future Action:

• The 2019 season focused on completing rehabilitation items (smaller data set of sampling). The maximum human DNA marker detected was 36 DNA copies/100mL during dry weather in 2019. The 2020 season (post rehab) had a larger sample data set and thus detected a higher maximum value in comparison to 2019. The 2020 value in comparison to 2018 did show a 68% reduction in maximum Human DNA markers detected.



- Max Other Animal Source (non-human and non-gull) *E. coli* (Dry Weather) the *E.coli* amount was highest during dry weather in 2020 compared to 2018.
  - Although the *E. coli* was unusually high on this particular grab sample day, the human DNA marker was not detected.
  - During wet weather, the *E. coli* showed an 82% reduction from 2018. Wet weather is typically a more probable time for higher levels of fecal and nutrients loading the storm sewer.
  - o E.coli levels could be a result of multiple commercial horse carriages traveling the catchment area daily.

The reason for the spikes in *E. coli* without detection of the human or gull DNA markers is likely due to the 2020 season having fewer precipitation events acting to flush the storm sewer system.

It is recommended that the Town continue to regularly flush the system based on rainfall frequency during the summer season (i.e. schedule more flushing if an overly dry season). For further reduction in the number of beach postings, it is also recommended that the horse carriages be re-routed away from the KSSO catchment area.

Currently, storm sewer outfalls do not have to adhere to specific water quality regulations. The guidelines for Canadian recreational water quality for *E. coli* to be less than or equal to 200 CFU/100mL was used as a general level to compare KSSO catchment sample results.

Table 4 summarizes sampling results from the KSSO (SP2) which discharges to QRB.

**Table 3: SP2 Sampling Results** 

Location	Comparison Type	Dry or Wet	Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	% Reduction (2018 - 2020)
		Weather						only co	018 DNA analysis ompleted on wet other samples	
	Amount of Times KSSO outlet was > 200 CFU/100mL (Other Animal Source, Non- Human and Non- Gull)	Dry	E. coli	2020 (post rehab)	4/10 grab samples	2019	2/5 grab samples	2018	15/15 grab samples	100% of samples in 2018 exceeded limits while in 2020 40% of samples exceeded limits for Other Animal Sources (non-human and nongull) during dry weather.
Storm Outlet to QRB	Amount of Times KSSO outlet was > 200 CFU/100mL (Other Animal Source, Non- Human and Non- Gull)	Wet	E. coli	2020 (post rehab)	6/6 grab samples	2019	4/4 grab samples	2018	7/7 grab samples	Consistent loading of catchment area with Other Animal Source (Non-Human and Non- Gull) during wet weather.
	# of samples ≤ 1,000 CFU/100mL (NRPHU limit)  (Other Animal Source, Non- Human and Non- Gull)	Dry	E. coli	2020 (post rehab)	7/10 grab samples	2019	4/5 grab samples	2018	12/15 grab samples	Consistent loading of catchment area with Other Animal Source (Non-human and Non- Gull) during dry weather.



Location	Comparison Type	Dry or Wet Weather	Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	only co	Comparison Parameter  018 DNA analysis ompleted on wet ther samples	% Reduction (2018 - 2020)
	# of samples ≤ 1,000 CFU/100mL (NRPHU limit)  (Other Animal Source, Non- Human and Non- Gull)	Wet	E. coli	2020 (post rehab)	3/6 grab samples	2019	0/4 grab samples	2018	0/7 grab samples	100% of samples exceeded limit in 2018/2019, while in 2020 the limit is exceeded 50% of the time.
	Amount of Times KSSO outlet was > 200 copies/100mL	Dry	Human	2020 (post rehab)	1/10	2019	0/5	2018	4/8	50% of samples in 2018 exceeded limit while in 2020 10% of samples exceeded the limit.
	Amount of Times KSSO outlet was > 200 copies/100mL	Wet	Human	2020 (post rehab)	1/6	2019	3/4	2018	4/8	50% of samples in 2018 exceeded limit while in 2020 17% of samples exceeded the limit.
	# of samples ≤ 1,000 copies/100mL (NRPHU limit)	Dry	Human	2020 (post- rehab)	10/10	2019	5/5	2018	8/8	Consistent that all grab samples were below NRPHU limit for Human DNA markers.
	# of samples ≤ 1,000 copies/100mL (NRPHU limit)	Wet	Human	2020 (post- rehab)	6/6	2019	3/4	2018	8/8	Consistent that grab samples were below NRPHU limit for Human DNA markers.
	Amount of Times  No Human DNA marker detected	Dry	Human	2020 (post rehab)	8/10 grab samples	2019	4/5 grab samples	2018	0/8 grab samples	80% of grab samples in 2020 had zero human DNA markers compared to 100% of the time present in 2018.
	Long Term Monitoring - Max Human DNA marker	Wet	Human	2020 (post rehab)	220 (copies/ 100mL)	2014	31,258 (copies/ 100mL)	-	NA	99% reduction in human DNA marker since the highest recorded value in 2014.
	Max Human DNA marker amount	Dry	Human	2020 (post- rehab)	298 (copies/ 100mL)	2019	36 (copies/ 100mL)	2018	942 (copies/ 100mL)	<b>68% reduction</b> from 2018 to 2020.
	Max Human DNA marker amount	Wet	Human	2020	220 (copies/ 100mL)	2019	1,457 (copies/ 100mL)	2018	942 (copies/ 100mL)	There was an <b>85%</b> reduction from 2019 results, and <b>77%</b> reduction from 2018 results.
	Max Other Animal Source Amount (non-human & non-gull)	Dry	E. coli	2020	4,340 (CFU/ 100mL)	2019	2,100 (CFU/ 100mL)	-	NA	Higher levels of E. coli from 2019 to 2020. Likely due to a drier 2020 season and 2019 smaller data set.
	Max Other Animal Source Amount (non-human & non-gull)	Wet	E. coli	2020	25,600 (CFU/ 100mL)	2019	84,000 (CFU/ 100mL)	2018	142,000 (CFU/ 100mL)	<b>82% reduction</b> from 2018 to 2020.



### 4.2 Davy Street Results

The following section summarizes results of the Davy Street storm sewer, which discharges to Simcoe Park. Davy Street infrastructure improvements occurred in sanitary laterals on private property and owned by the Town and included mainline structural lining of the Davy Street storm sewer. The following analysis compares results from the Davy Street storm sewer point of discharge (SP8) prior to entering the new LID system installed in May 2020 to further improve water quality objectives.



#### Positive Improvements:

- Amount of times Human DNA marker Detected (Dry Weather)
   100% reduction of Human DNA detected during dry weather in 2019 and 2020 compared to 2018 when samples always had Human DNA marker present.
  - Amount of times Human DNA marker Detected (Wet Weather) 83% of samples showed no Human DNA in 2020, compared to 0% (all samples has human DNA detected) in 2018 and 2019.
- Maximum value of Human DNA marker (Dry Weather) 100% reduction in Human DNA from 2018 to 2020.
   Zero Human DNA marker present in 2020 dry weather samples.
- Maximum Other Animal Source (non-human and non-gull) E. coli (Dry Weather) 99.1% reduction from 2019 to 2020 and 99.9% reduction from 2018 to 2020.
- Maximum Other Animal Source (non-human and non-gull) *E. coli* value (Wet Weather) **89% reduction** from 2019 to 2020 and **88% reduction** from 2018 to 2020.

#### Area for Improvement, Reason for Result and Future Action:

- Maximum value of Human DNA marker (Wet Weather) a reduction of 15% of Human DNA markers maximum amount comparing 2019 to 2020, yet an increase of 40% occurred comparing 2018 to 2019 data. Potential reasons for an increase from 2018 to 2019 maximum human DNA markers during wet weather at SP8 outlet:
  - The max human DNA marker grab sample from 2018 occurred during a wet weather storm event of 40.75mm. This is large storm event that cause significant flushing to the storm sewer, thereby lowering the Human DNA markers value for 2018. The rain events during the highest readings of human DNA markers in 2019 and 2020 were 34 mm on Oct. 31, 2019 and 8.5 mm Oct 19, 2020.
  - The max human DNA marker amount from 2019 was collected from the sump, which in 2019 was a soil channel that collected the discharge from the outfall. Sediment acts as a host environment for *E.coli* to multiply. For the 2020 season, this location is now part of the LID collection and filtration system.
  - The max human DNA marker amount from 2019 was a grab sample taken prior to improvements being completed upstream on the sanitary laterals on Davy Street.
  - The max human DNA marker amount from 2020 occurred on Oct 19, 2020. Prior to this date, this location in the 2020 season had no human DNA markers detected from 5 other grab samples. The groundwater table rises in the fall and aids in cross-connection flow from potential historic infrastructure in the area. Near this location, an arched brick sewer is located on Picton Street (unknown if previously used for sanitary, storm or combined sewer and if abandoned or active connections exist).
  - On a positive note, post-LID infiltration reduced the 2020 max value of human DNA marker by an additional 93%.
  - Another positive is that during wet weather events, 83% of grab samples had zero Human DNA marker detected in 2020, while in contrast, 100% of grab samples had Human DNA marker in 2018 and 2019.

Previous mainline sewer condition assessments used existing Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) condition information collected in 2017 prior to GMBP involvement. Additional CCTV was completed in the area in November 2020 to understand the origin of remaining Human DNA marker occurrences in the 2020 sampling season. This identified improvements which could be made to segments of the wastewater collection system to further improve SP8 and SP6. Additional rehabilitation items have been provided under separate cover to the Town (References Section 2.4).



#### Table 5 summarizes sampling results from the Davy St. Outlet (SP8) which flows to Simcoe Park.

#### **Table 4: Davy Street Sampling Results**

Location	Comparison Type	Dry or Wet	Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	% Reduction (2018 - 2020)
		Weather						completed	ONA analysis only on wet weather amples	
	Outlet amount of times Human DNA marker detected	Dry	Human	2020	0/2 grab samples	2019	0/3 grab samples	2018	5/5 grab samples	100% of samples showed no human DNA marker in 2020 and 2019 vs. 0% in 2018 in dry weather.
	Outlet amount of times Human DNA marker Detected	Wet	Human	2020	1/6 grab samples	2019	4/4 grab samples	2018	5/5 grab samples	83% of samples showed no human DNA marker in 2020 vs. 0% in 2018 and 2019 in wet weather.
D	Outlet max Human DNA marker	Dry	Human	2020	0 (copies/ 100mL)	2019	0 (copies/ 100mL)	2018	367 (copies/ 100mL)	100% reduction in human DNA marker from 2018 to 2020 in dry weather.
Davy Street	Outlet max Human DNA marker	Wet	Human	2020	512 (copies/ 100mL)	2019	600 <sup>[1]</sup> (copies/ 100mL)	2018	367 (copies/ 100mL)	Reduction of 15% from 2019 to 2020 values. Additional reasoning provided in text for results.
	Max Other Animal Source Amount (non- human & non-gull)	Dry	E. coli	2020	121 (CFU/ 100mL)	2019	13,500 (CFU/ 100mL)	2018	220,000 (CFU/ 100mL)	2020 compared to 2019: 99.1 % reduction. 2020 compared to 2018: 99.9% reduction.
[1] – sump s	Max Other Animal Source Amount (non- human & non-gull)	Wet	E. coli	2020	26,700 (CFU/ 100mL)	2019	251,000 (CFU/ 100mL)	2018	220,000 (CFU/ 100mL)	There was an 89% reduction from 2019 results, and 88% reduction from 2018 results.

# 4.3 King Street Results

The following summarizes results of the King Street storm sewer, which discharges near QRB. King Street infrastructure work included improvements to private property sanitary laterals, disconnection and re-routing of two direct improper connections, manhole rehabilitation and segments of structural storm sewer mainline lining. The following analysis compares results from the **King Street storm sewer sampling points (SP2, SP4, SP6, SP7)**.

#### Positive Improvements:

- Maximum amount of Human DNA marker (Wet Weather) There was an **85% reduction** from 2019 to 2020 and a **77% reduction** from 2018.
- Maximum amount of Other Animal Source (non-human and non-gull) E. coli (Dry Weather) 99% reduction from 2018 to 2020.



Maximum amount of Other Animal Source (non-human and non-gull) E. coli (Wet Weather) - 89% reduction from 2018 to 2020.

#### Area for Improvement, Reason for Result and Future Action:

- Maximum amount of Human DNA marker (Dry Weather) a higher value of dry weather Human DNA was experienced at SP6 in comparison to 2018 and 2019 levels.
  - o At this sample location, 60% of grab samples in 2020 had no human DNA marker detection.
  - SP6 Other Animal Source (non-human and non-gull) E. coli levels during dry weather had a 94% reduction from 2019 to 2020 and a 60% reduction from 2018 to 2020 results comparing maximum grab sample results.
  - Rehabilitation efforts on King Street implemented improvements downstream of SP6.



New CCTV data collected in November 2020 identified a likely sewage entry point, and a prioritized rehabilitation report outlines suggested improvements to further improve SP6 and SP8 grab samples. Suggested rehabilitation to specific wastewater segments has been provided under separate cover.

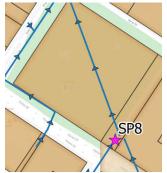
Table 6 summarizes sampling results from the King Street storm sewer sampling points (SP2, SP4, SP6, SP7).

**Table 5: King Street Results** 

Location	Comparison Type	Dry or Wet	Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	% Reduction (2018 - 2020)	
	.,,,,,	Weather						only co	018 DNA analysis ompleted on wet other samples	(2018 - 2020)	
	Maximum amount of Human DNA marker	Dry	Human	2020	4,811 (copies/ 100mL)	2019	58 <sup>[1]</sup> (copies/ 100mL)	2018	942 (copies/ 100mL)	3/5 grab samples at SP6 in 2020 showed no human DNA markers. Levels of human DNA markers may relate to a mainline defect nearby.	
	Maximum amount of Human DNA marker	Wet	Human	2020	220 (copies/ 100mL)	2019	1,487 <sup>[1]</sup> (copies/ 100mL)	2018	942 (copies/ 100mL)	There was an <b>85%</b> reduction from the 2019 results, and <b>77% reduction</b> from 2018 results.	
King Street	Maximum Other Animal Source Amount (non- human & non-gull)	Dry	E. coli	2020	24,500 (CFU/ 100mL)	2019	400,000 <sup>[1]</sup> (CFU/ 100mL)	2018	2,000,000 <sup>[1]</sup> (CFU/ 100mL)	99% reduction from 2018 to 2020. 94% reduction from 2019 to 2020.	
	Maximum Other Animal Source Amount (non- human & non-gull)	Wet	E. coli	2020	25,600 (CFU/ 100mL)	2019	166,000 <sup>[1]</sup> (CFU/ 100mL)	2018	223,000 (CFU/ 100mL)	<b>89% reduction</b> from 2018 to 2020.	



#### 4.4 LID Results







Simcoe Park Before LID





Simcoe Park Post-LID Construction

With funding support from ECCC and MECP, a biofiltration LID was designed by GMBP and installation coordinated by the Town within Simcoe Park. The LID construction was completed on May 28, 2020. The biofiltration facility uses one meter of engineered filter media comprised of sand, soil and organic matter to provide quality control treatment for two stormwater outfalls with a 4.2 ha catchment area. Wet weather DNA sampling was completed at the LID site at the inlet and outlet of the LID system to determine the *E. coli* reduction capability.

#### Comparative sample results comparing the LID inlet to LID outlet:

- Maximum values for Human DNA marker during wet weather 93% reduction.
- Maximum values for Other Animal source (non-human and non-gull) E. coli during wet weather 95% reduction.
- Average values for Human DNA marker during wet weather 89% reduction.
- Average values for Other Animal source (non-human and non-gull) E. coli during wet weather 94% reduction.

The Town will be responsible for future LID maintenance and ECA report tracking of maintenance activities as previously provided under separate cover.

Table 7 shows the sampling results from the LID in Simcoe Park.



#### **Table 6: LID Sampling Results**

Location	Comparison Type	Dry or Wet Weather	Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	Year	Comparison Parameter	% Reduction (2018 - 2020)
		weatner						Note: 2018 DNA analysis only completed on wet weather samples		
	Inlet vs. Outlet Max	Wet	Human	2020 (Inlet)	512 (copies/ 100mL)	2020 (Outlet)	34 (copies/ 100mL)	-	NA	93% reduction from the inlet to the outlet.
	Inlet vs. Outlet Max Other Animal Source (non-human and non-gull)	Wet	E. coli	2020 (Inlet)	23,000 (CFU/ 100mL)	2020 (Outlet)	1,050 (CFU/ 100mL)	ı	NA	95% reduction from the inlet to the outlet.
LID	Inlet vs. Outlet Average	Wet	Human	2020 (Inlet)	85 (copies/ 100mL)	2020 (Outlet)	9 (copies/ 100mL)	ı	NA	<b>89% reduction</b> from the inlet to the outlet.
	Inlet vs. Outlet Average for Other Animal Source (non- human and non-gull)	Wet	E. coli	2020 (Inlet)	14,767 (CFU/ 100mL)	2020 (Outlet)	848 (CFU/ 100mL)	-	NA	94% reduction from the inlet to the outlet.

## 5 CLOSING RECOMMENDATIONS

# 5.1 Zero E. coli Unlikely

GMBP notes it will be normal for the area to have low *E. coli* concentrations from urban animal sources within the storm sewer system and zero *E. coli* at QRB or the KSSO is unlikely. The following additional contributors may continue to load the KSSO catchment area:

- 1. **Historic Infrastructure:** Based on a historical drawing review, the Town may have had a **past practice of not filling abandoned pipes**, which now aid as drainage conduits for cross-connection flow between wastewater assets with defects (i.e. allows flow from leaks to travel further). Queen Street contains at a minimum seven abandoned shallow sanitary sewers. Abandoned pipes with no fill added upon abandonment were identified during the investigation (King Street & Platoff Street).
- 2. **Arched Brick Sewers:** An arched brick sewer was identified on Picton Street which is still connected to the storm sewer system, discharging to Simcoe Park which ultimately drains to King Street and QRB. A second arched brick sewer was identified on King Street during rehabilitation efforts.
- 3. **Upstream Contributors to the KSSO:** The following locations act as contributors to the KSSO catchment area:
  - a. A drainage ditch from The Commons park discharges to the Wellington Street storm sewer and ultimately the KSSO. This drainage ditch has shown elevated levels of *E. coli* from sampling completed pre and post of an annual horse polo match hosted in the upstream park area.
  - b. One Mile Creek is a watercourse directly upstream of the KSSO catchment area which has impaired water quality exceeding provincial *E. coli* standards by a factor of 10 to 20 since 2003.
  - c. A shallow aquifer discharges to a catchbasin which connects to the KSSO outlet. NPCA sample data from July 2019 at this location had a maximum amount of *E. coli* of 369 CFU/100mL.

Multiple contributing sources surrounding the King Street catchment area, and the age of infrastructure, imply the catchment area will likely always experience some presence of *E. coli* from urban animal sources (e.g. bird and mammal wildlife) and occasional low concentrations of the Human DNA marker, despite best practical efforts at reducing sources within the study area.



### 5.2 Proactive Long-Term Plan

GMBP has identified long-term continual improvements of infrastructure for the area to have a reactive plan for any future asset deterioration in the catchment area. These actions are recommended for the Town of NOTL, unless otherwise specified.

#### Year 2021

- Town has confirmed sampling in summer season of 2021 and beyond will focus on sampling the beach waters at QRB to maintain its public beach status. GMBP recommends that the KSSO (SP2) be sampled for additional supplemental data to confirm the source of any potential *E. coli* loading (Human, Gull, Other Animal Source). The DNA analysis will assist to record the source of *E. coli* loading for any future beach postings. The Working Group confirms that long term beach monitoring is a focus for Town resources.
- Town of NOTL to track the daily number of horses and working times travelling the catchment area for supplemental information to understand and address future beach postings that may be linked to 'Other' E. coli sources as noted in this report. It is recommended that the horse carriages ideally be re-routed off King Street or other horse waste management options be considered to reduce droppings on the roads.
- For further improvement to water quality for the King Street and Davy Street storm outlets, suggested structural trenchless lining to select sewer segments has been provided under separate cover.

#### Year 2025

 Collect new CCTV data of storm and sanitary mainlines with sanitary lateral launch within the KSSO catchment area to ensure the most up to date condition information.

#### Annual area maintenance:

- o LID maintenance and associated maintenance tracking (ECA stipulation) to ensure effective filtration.
- o Storm sewer flushing with frequency dependent on wet weather events during the summer season.
- KSSO catchment area manhole and catchbasin sump cleaning annually. Simcoe Park manhole sumps will require manual labour for sump maintenance due to inadequate access for vacuum trucks.
- Smart Sponge installed at King Street and Byron Street to be manually cleaned (once every 4 months) and monitored (bi-annually) on a continuous basis to ensure debris removal and status of sponge. Town to coordinate receiving new sponges and installation.

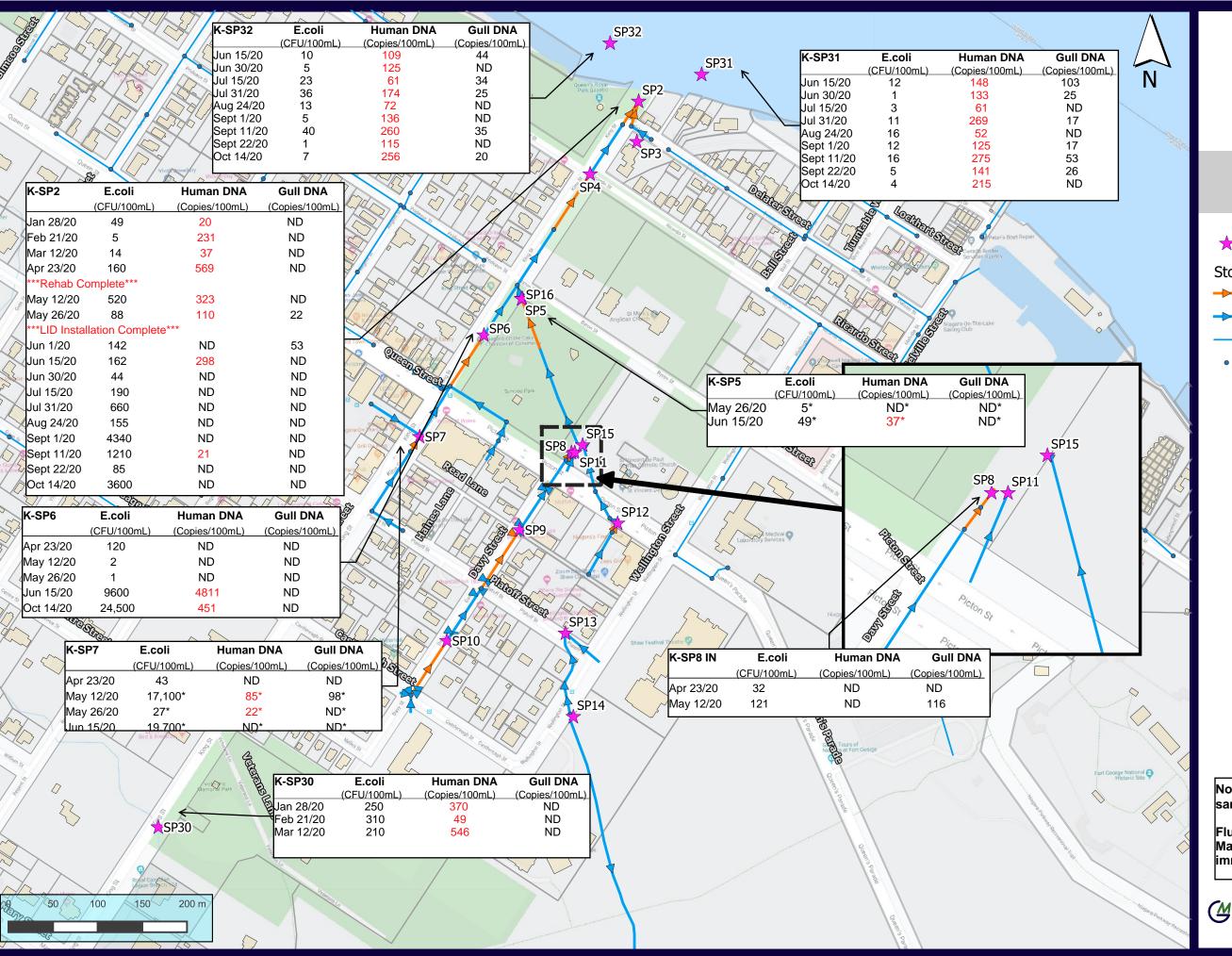
#### Signage

To further reduce human health risks, signage should be installed at QRB to inform people about potential bacteria in the water and how to prevent getting sick (check results on NOTL website, avoid swimming within 24-48 hours after rain event, wash hands after swimming, etc.). This item is currently a task in progress with the Town.

#### 6 CLOSING

The Town has successfully completed an innovative project for the KSSO catchment area. The lessons learned as part of this project will aid other municipalities for future storm sewer management initiatives. The success of this project has led the Town and GMBP to receive the **2020 Consulting Engineers of Ontario (Niagara Region Chapter) Award for Engineering Excellence**. This project was selected for exhibiting engineering excellence, improving or enhancing the quality of community life and supporting sustainable growth through uniqueness, ingenuity and creativity.

# APPENDIX A: SAMPLE DATA SUMMARY MAPS FROM 2018-2020





Niagara-on-the-Lake King St. Investigation

2020 Study Area Sampling Points Dry Weather Flow Results

★ Sampling Points

Storm Sewer Network

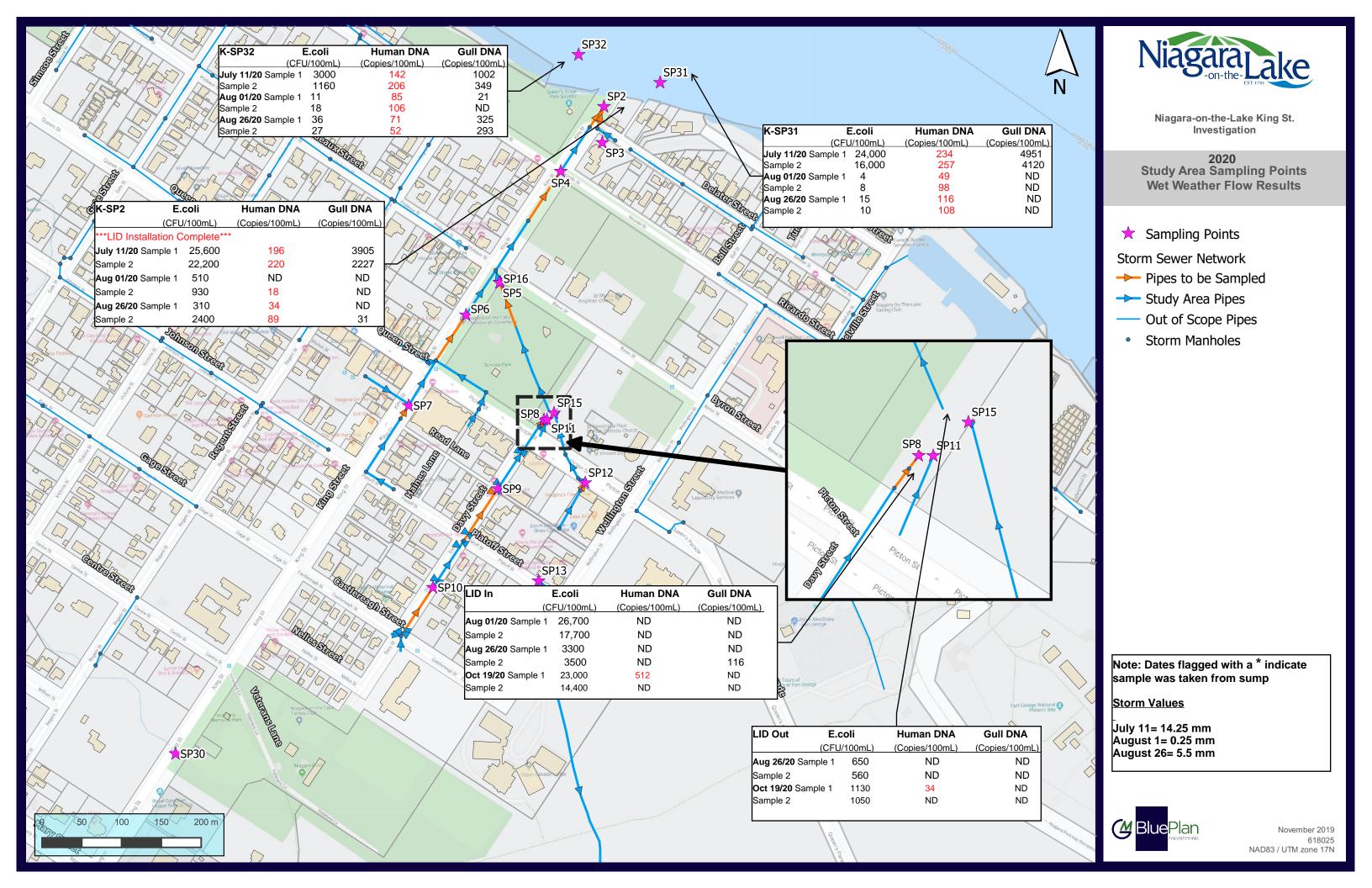
- Pipes to be Sampled
- → Study Area Pipes
- Out of Scope Pipes
- Storm Manholes

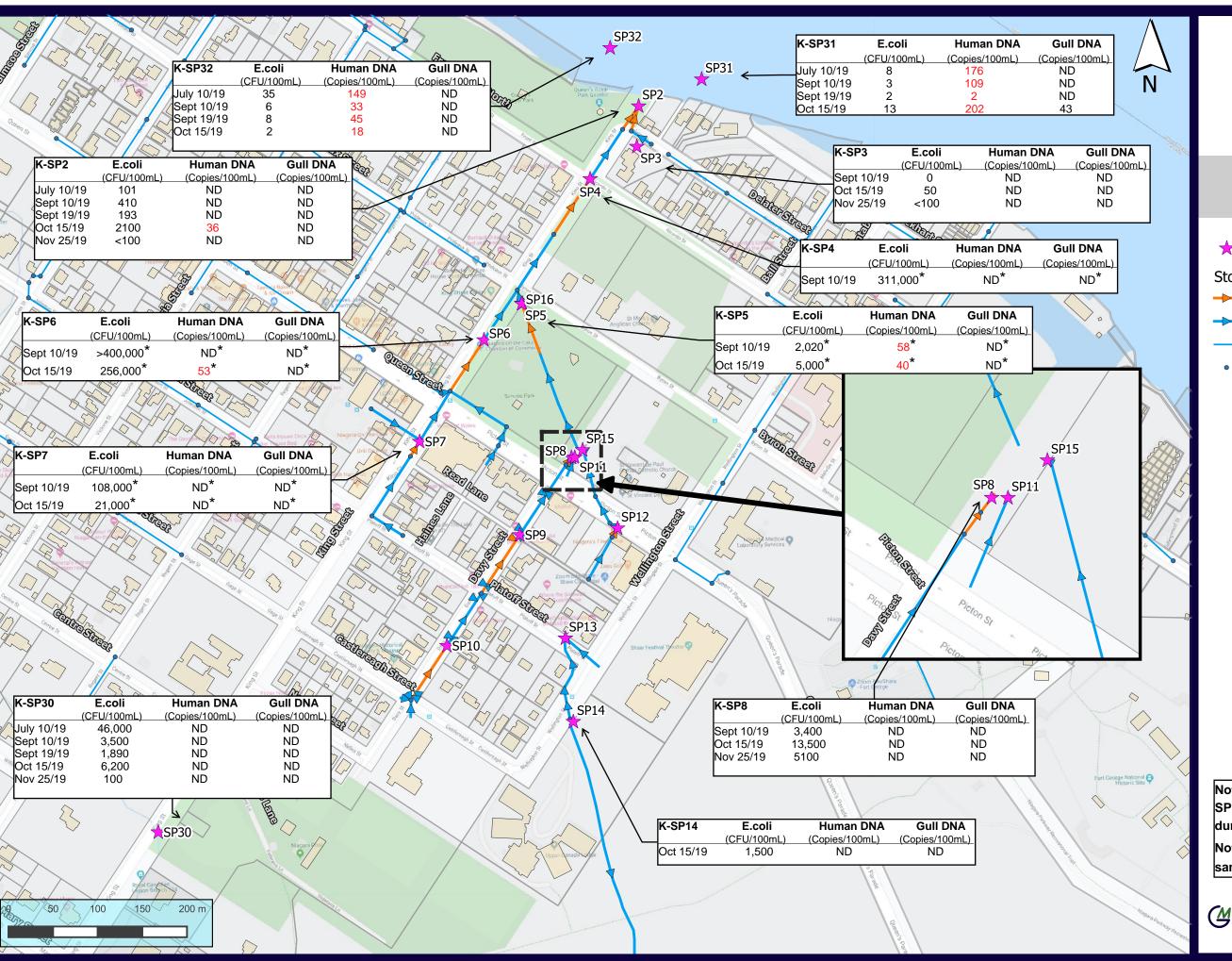
Note: Dates flagged with a \* indicate sample was taken from sump

Flushing of catchment area occured on May 11 and May 12, 2020 (Sampling immediately following flushing)



November 2019 618025 NAD83 / UTM zone 17N







Niagara-on-the-Lake King St. Investigation

2019 Study Area Sampling Points Dry Weather Flow Results

★ Sampling Points

Storm Sewer Network

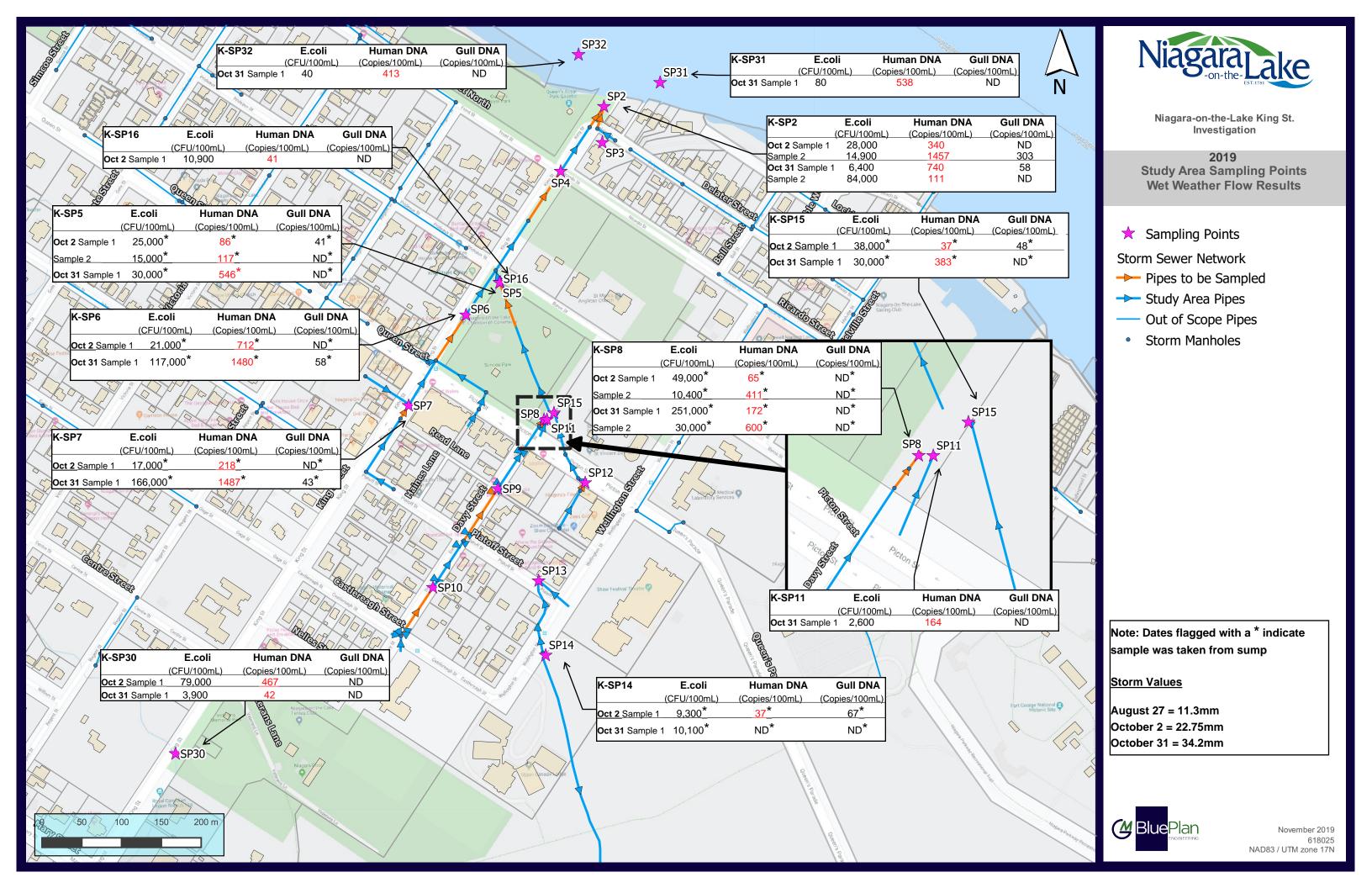
- → Pipes to be Sampled
- → Study Area Pipes
- Out of Scope Pipes
- Storm Manholes

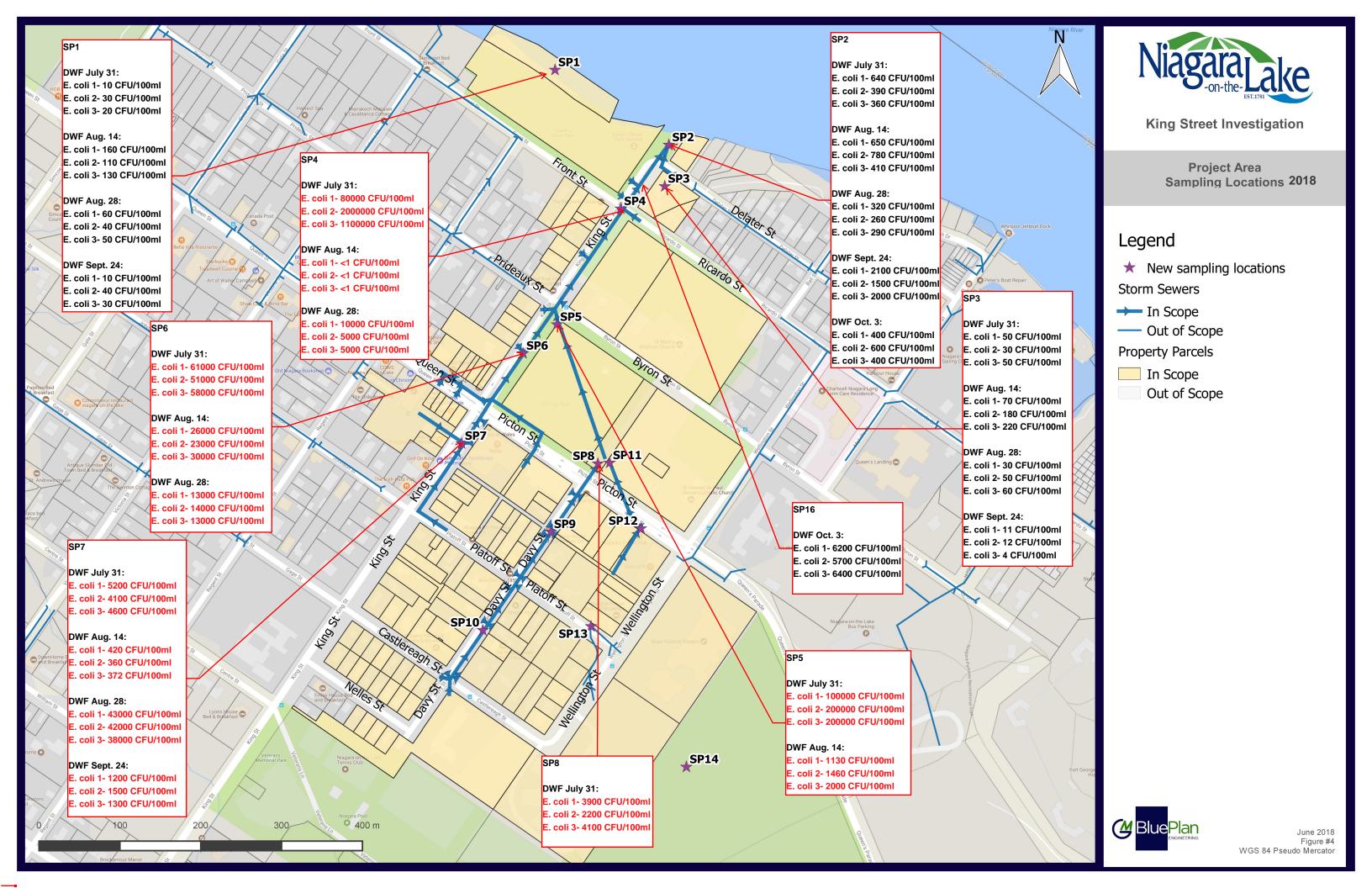
Note: SP9, SP10, SP11, SP12, SP13, SP14 and SP15 did not exhibit any DWF during the sampling times.

Note: Dates flagged with a \* indicate sample was taken from sump

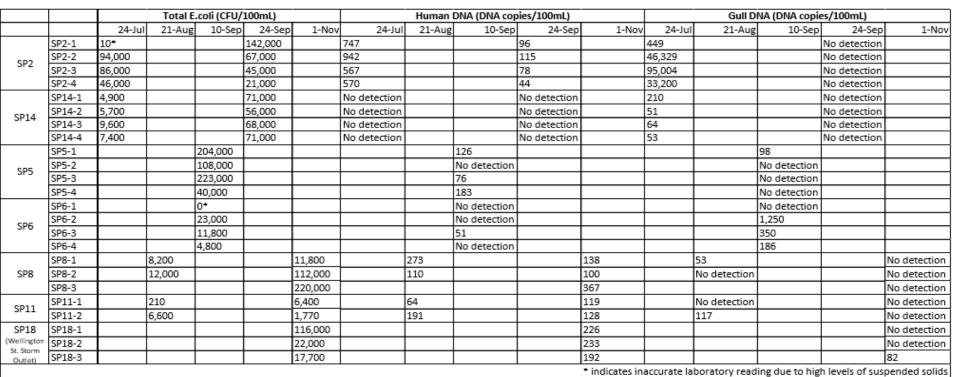


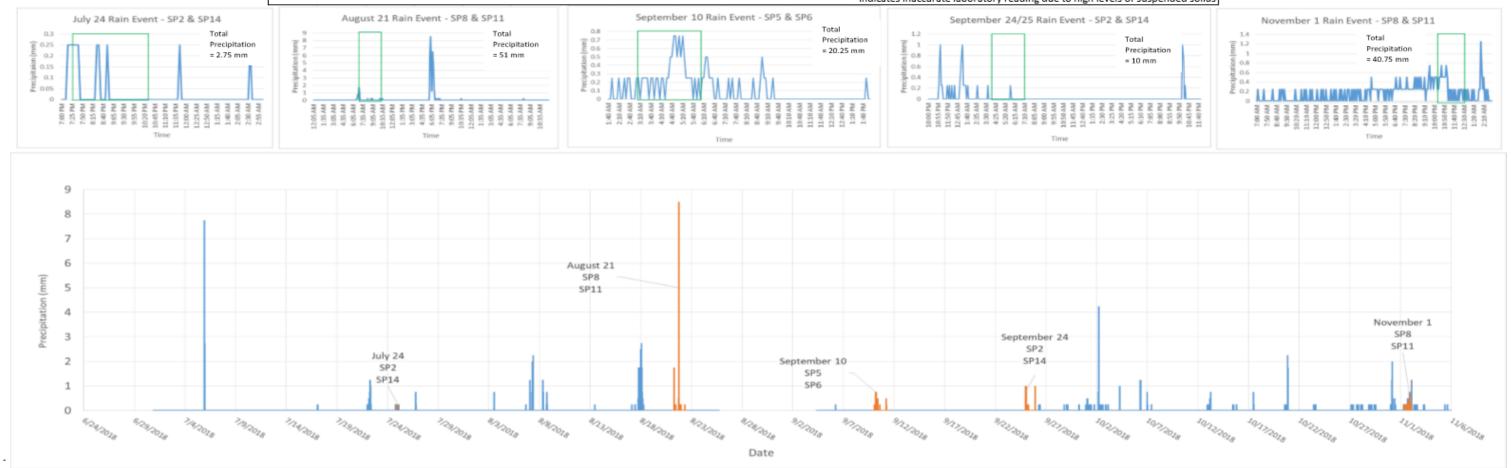
November 2019 618025 NAD83 / UTM zone 17N











# APPENDIX B: REHABILITATION IMPROVEMENTS SUMMARY MAP

