## 3. IDENTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM

Due to the environmental impact of untreated stormwater entering natural receiving waters from the the Park, and ongoing issues with flooded roadways, localized surface ponding and stormwater pooling at depths that block vehicular and pedestrian access routes the City of Parksville has requested a Storm Water Management Master Plan for the Park (PCPSWMMP) to mitigate storm related flooding, provide treatment to stormwater runoff and plan for future precipitation and sea level conditions at the site. Performance of the existing stormwater management system's quality and quantity controls, deficiencies in the system, and the resulting implications for park usage and protection of the built, cultural and natural environment, are evaluated and discussed in this section, and summarized in Table 7. The system assessment is used to identify and prioritize specific deficiencies in the system such that strategic improvements may be implemented to increase the capacity and resiliency of the system to extreme weather events and coastal inundation. Current and future trends are discussed in relation to meeting the expected level of service for stormwater management as the Park continues to develop. The issues in the study area are summarized at the end of this section in a problem statement, which leads into the planning and performance objectives of the Stormwater Management Master Plan informing the strategic improvements in each subcatchment.

## 3.1. Water Quality

Currently, runoff from approximately 35% of the Park, serviced by storm sewers, does not receive treatment to reduce pollutants discharged into Parksville Bay and the Englishman River Estuary. Runoff from the remaining 65% of the Park is managed by isolated systems that retain the majority of rainfall events each year. Activities within Parksville Community Park include passive and active recreation, low velocity roadways, parking areas, street sweeping, pruning and mowing. Potential sources of pollutants include vehicular contaminants such as oil, metals and rubber, fertilizer for turf maintenance, and sediments from exposed or eroding surfaces.

## 3.2. Water Quantity

The Park's stormwater system is intended to convey drainage away from frequently used park amenities however ponding, at times significant, is occurring on roadways, pathways and in vegetated areas even during smaller rainfall events. Continued development of the Park will increase impervious cover, runoff volumes and associated pollutants. Existing inland flooding issues will be exacerbated by climate change, including higher sea levels, more rainfall and potential additional impacts that have not yet been assessed, such as groundwater flooding. In addition, extreme sea levels are anticipated to inundate a substantial extent of the Park based on late-century climate change projections while higher "normal" tides will reduce discharge capacity.

## **3.3.** Storm Sewer System Deficiencies

Treatment of runoff and ponding water during storm events are directly tied to the condition and design of the storm sewer system in the Park such as inlet capacity, pipe size, invert elevations and sizing of infiltration facilities. Modeling of the existing storm sewer infrastructure revealed that the

24-hour SCS Type 1A Pacific Coast storm is critical for both the minor system (10-year return period) and the major system (100-year return period), causing more ponding than shorter duration, more intense events. System deficiencies during both events are summarized in Table 6 and illustrated in Figure 21 and Figure 22. Ponding depths in Figure 21 and Figure 22 were derived from 2D modeling estimates of water depth across the ground surface represented by the digital elevation model (DEM). In support of anecdotal evidence, the continuous simulation model highlighted that late summer short duration, high intensity events exceed the inlet and pipe capacity of the system.

Rainfall Event	% of CBs & MHs Flooded	% of Pipe Length with Limited Capacity	Total Area of Road Flooding
10-year 24-hour SCS Type 1A Pacific Coast	37.5	13.5	1843 m <sup>2</sup> > 0.06 m deep
100-year 24-hour SCS Type 1A Pacific Coast	45.8	28.2	1384 m <sup>2</sup> > 0.15 m deep

**Table 6:** Deficiencies in Existing Stormwater Management System

Infiltration facilities (rock pits) within the Park, shown on Figure 17, have many uncertainties associated with them including volume, depth, inlet capacity and infiltration rate. The infiltration capacity of some of the existing rock pits is insufficient to mitigate nuisance flooding of some roads and parking areas (e.g. Ravenhill Road). This may be due to insufficient footprint area/storage, poor construction practices, clogging with fines or organic matter (lack of maintenance), limited infiltration capacity of in-situ soils, and/or shallow groundwater.

The storm sewer system at the southwest end of Sandcastle Drive does not have positive drainage to the ocean outfall due to a sag in the sewer system. An infiltration manhole located at the west corner of Sandcastle Drive and Salish Sea Drive retains all rainfall that cannot overtop the perched point in the system. Calibration of the model to observed surface flooding and water levels in the storm sewer network indicate that flood risk is primarily caused by design, installation and operational deficiencies in underground infrastructure as well as grading for overland flow routing.

Sediment clogging of the sea outfall appears to contribute to flood risk in the Park, however the frequency and mechanics of clearing the clogging is unknown. In addition, the system draining to Parksville Bay has limited free outfall capacity due to astronomical tides (i.e. when sea level rises above the invert for a portion of each day). Existing deficiencies are exacerbated by multi-day rainfall events since parts of the system cannot drain within 24 hours of an initial rainfall event.

Increased imperviousness during future infrastructure upgrades will result in increased demands on the existing, limited capacity storm sewers. As indicated in the CPMP, imperviousness is expected to increase from 31% to 33% over the next 20 years. Without stormwater management controls the planned changes to the site will further reduce capacity to manage stormwater runoff and increase pollutant loads by introducing additional impervious surfaces (e.g. pavement) and removing natural storage from the landscape (e.g. depressions, vegetated areas).



Figure 21. Existing Conditions Model Results during 10-Year 24-Hour SCS Type 1A Pacific Coast Rainfall Event



Figure 22. Existing Conditions Model Results during 100-Year 24-Hour SCS Type IA Pacific Coast Rainfall Event



Table 7	. Existing an	d future	expected	subcatchment	deficiencies
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			<ul> <li>The system was not intended to drain inland flooding from coastal inundation.</li> <li>Area is vulnerable to minor ponding from waves breaking along the shoreline.</li> <li>Area is very vulnerable to late-century coastal inundation / associated impacts as it is located at the low point in the Park's shoreline pathway.</li> </ul>
Tennis Court	Rock Pit		<ul> <li>PRESENT DAY</li> <li>The tennis courts drain to an underground rock pit that may be undersized or clogged.</li> <li>Infiltration facility was not sized to manage runoff from the contributing area.</li> <li>Runoff frequently ponds above drain inlets located around the tennis courts.</li> <li>FUTURE</li> <li>This area will be vulnerable to late-century coastal inundation / associated impacts.</li> </ul>
Volleyball Court	Drain pipe	<b>су</b> Су	<ul> <li>PRESENT DAY</li> <li>Ponding within volleyball courts occurs during large rain events.</li> <li>Drain pipes direct water west, through the berm, to catchbasins along Sandcastle Drive.</li> <li>FUTURE</li> <li>This area will be vulnerable to late-century coastal inundation / associated impacts.</li> </ul>
Sandcastle Dr. Shoreline	Rock Pits		<ul> <li>PRESENT DAY</li> <li>The catchments drain to underground rock pits.</li> <li>Infiltration facilities lack pre-treatment resulting in reduced capacity due to clogging.</li> <li>Infiltration facilities were not sized to manage runoff from the contributing area, a potential cause for ponding in the roadway.</li> <li>Tide fluctuations limit the discharge period through infiltration facilities.</li> <li>FUTURE</li> <li>This area will be vulnerable to late-century coastal inundation and associated impacts.</li> </ul>
Dry Basin	Vegetated Ditch, Dry Basin		<ul> <li>PRESENT DAY</li> <li>Surface ponding occurs in parking lot southwest of Arbutus Point, and the gravel pedestrian pathway at the north end of this key area due to creation of a berm during tree planting (alleviated with recently installed area drain).</li> <li>Curling Club rooftop runoff directs water through a ditch to dry basin</li> <li>Available dry basin volume is underutilized due to site grading.</li> <li>Dry basin is suspected to be part of the original estuary prior to development of the Park.</li> <li>Dry pond currently empties through infiltration and evapotranspiration. A hydraulic link to groundwater is suspected.</li> <li>Some areas of adjacent RV Park drain to dry pond.</li> <li>BY 2040</li> <li>Planned roadway connection between Sandcastle Drive to Corfield Street North as part of CPMP.</li> <li>FUTURE</li> <li>This area will be vulnerable to late-century coastal inundation / associated impacts.</li> </ul>

