



Making a difference...together

STICKS ALLISON WATER LOCAL SERVICE COMMITTEE

2008 OPERATIONS REPORT 23 AUGUST 2008

The following is provided for information to residents and users of the Sticks Allison water local services.

WATER SUPPLY

The only source for water for the Sticks Allison utility is a single well, drilled in rock, located on Lot 7 to the south of the service area. The well is currently limited in production to approximately ten imperial gallons per minute (Igal), which has been adequate for the utility for the past number of years. As the summers on the island continue to experience extended dry periods, water use restrictions will continue to be applied to manage the water supply.

Staff have been monitoring well levels throughout the year. A plot of the static well levels for 2004 to date this year is attached to this report for information. Static well levels, with 2008 data points shown in blue, indicate recharge potential was not fulfilled this past spring. August reading is considered low as compared to previous year's readings, illustrating the role water conservation can play to help reduce well drawdown. Staff will follow the well level more closely for the duration of August and into the fall to ensure more stringent water restrictions are not needed.

WATER PRODUCTION / CONSUMPTION

There have been no significant leaks experienced in the system so far this year, however there is an ongoing small but continuous loss of water from the system.

Water consumption by the utility during the summer months of May 1 to July 31, 2008 averaged 151,897 Igal/month, an increase of about 2.6% over 2007 where the average was 148,025 Igal/month. For the 34 active water users in the area, the average water use in July was 5,852 gallons per user or 433 gallons per user greater than in 2007 and 1,030 greater than 2006.

The attached chart of water consumption and production does indicate some water is lost from the system. Losses are calculated as the difference between water production at the well head and water consumed or sold through the individual household water meters. Not all the losses are due to leakage. Flushing of the water system especially during the summer months also contributes to this lost water. The average water loss from this system varies widely as it is such a small water system. A single leak on the system will be reflected in much higher ratio of lost water to production. In July of this year, the difference in production and consumption was 11.5%. Stated as a continuous usage it would amount to 0.58 gpm, a rate easily attributable to what a single malfunctioning toilet would consume. The average losses for the system over the past several years would amount to around 23% of the total production. Stated as a continuous loss this would amount to less than one gallon per minute, again a very respectable number.

Staff have been reviewing trends between water utilities on the Islands this summer. The long term average consumption per connection per day for Sticks Allison is in the order of 100 gallons. For July it is 189 gallons per connection per day and for January, 58 gallons per connection per day. Those water utilities with surface water sources appear to use more water with January flows around the 100 gallon mark and summer flows averaging 250 gallons per connection per day. Sticks Allison however is excessive when compared to the tiny Cedars of Tuam water system on Salt Spring Island. With a well yield of around three gallons per minute, this utility is very thrifty in its water use with summer peaks being around 87 gallons per connection per day.

WATER QUALITY

There were few water quality concerns with the water system again this year.

METERING PROJECT

The committee in 2008 agreed with staff there is a need to commence replacement of the system water meters. Over time the bottom of the meter body wears through resulting in a leak from the system. The committee agreed to a program to transfer \$3,000 to the reserve fund to be used to replace meters on a programmed basis. It was intended to also upgrade the meter setters to provide for dual check valves which is a public health protection from backflow into the system during periods of low pressure in the system. The cost of a new meter assembly is in the order of \$500 and the cost to install between \$350 and \$500. Given this cost it was estimated the work would be done with six installs scheduled each two years.

Earlier this year, Susan DeGryp, CRD Director for the Southern Gulf Islands (SGI) announced a commitment to fund supply of water meter hardware with radio read capability for Sticks Allison. Conversion of the meter units to be read electronically will be undertaken in all CRD SGI water services over the next year or two. Under the program CRD will own the necessary hardware to read the water meter registers. The unit is portable and will be transferred from island to island when necessary to allow electronic capture of the data. For Sticks Allison, as the present meters are not compatible with the system, the program will cover the cost of purchasing the necessary hardware as well. It will remain the responsibility of Sticks Allison to do the installation work, however it is now likely staff can install six or seven units per year instead of each two years with full change out completed over the next five years.

OPERATING BUDGET

2007/2008

Revenue for the Sticks Allison water budget is derived from user fees, parcel taxes and interest. The total revenue for 2007 amounted to \$30,734. Expenditures in 2007 amounted to \$27,450. After carrying forward \$3,238 from the previous year to 2007, the committee transferred \$5,522 to the reserve fund leaving a small surplus of \$1,000 at year-end. The budget in 2008 was increased by \$3,000 to fund the meter replacement program. The increase translated to a new user fee of \$668, an increase of \$88 from 2007. The increase was the first since 2004. A copy of a Statement of Financial Activities as prepared by the CRD Finance Department is attached for information.

GENERAL INFORMATION

	<u>Water</u>
Single Family Equivalents	34
Taxable Parcels in service area	26
Total Parcels in service area	38
Annual Utility Fee	\$668.24
Annual Parcel Tax	\$415.33
Connection Charges	\$400.00 (minimum)

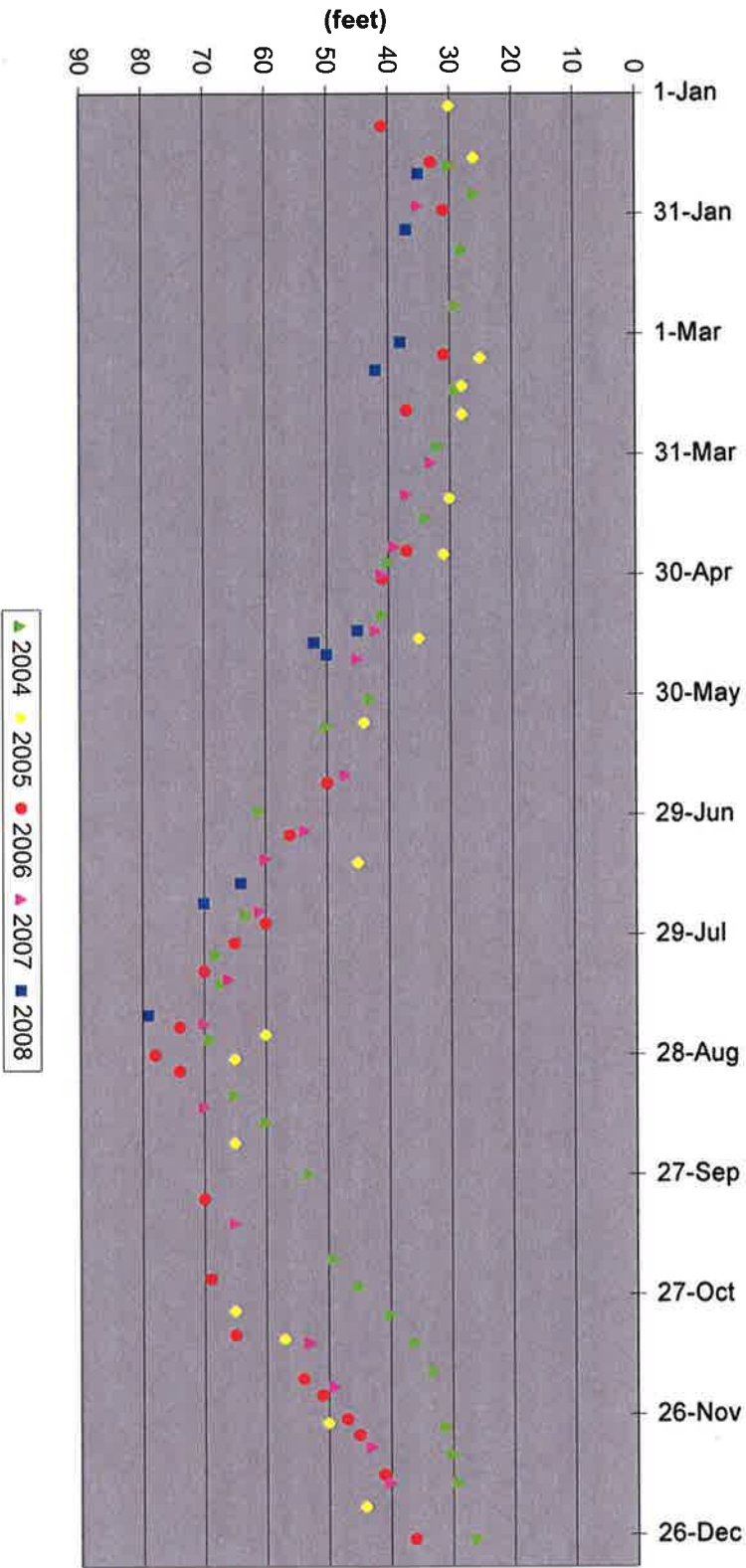
Note: The parcel tax applies only to those parcels that elected not to prepay for the capital works project.

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

WATER REVENUE FUND STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (UNAUDITED) For the year ended December 31, 2007

	Sticks Alison Galiano Island Water Supply
REVENUES	
Transfers from government	\$ 10,260
Sale of services	20,005
Other revenue from own sources:	
Interest earnings	202
Other revenue	267
Grants in lieu of taxes	-
	<hr/> 30,734
EXPENDITURES	
General government services	1,580
Other	25,785
Other fiscal services	85
	<hr/> 27,450
NET REVENUES	
(EXPENDITURES)	3,284
Transfers to own funds:	
Water Capital Fund	-
Reserve Funds	5,522
Equipment Replacement Fund	-
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CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	(2,238)
Opening balance	3,238
CLOSING BALANCE	<hr/> \$ 1,000

CRD ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - OPERATIONS DIVISION
STICKS ALLISON WATER SYSTEM - WELL NO. 5
JANUARY - DECEMBER 2004-2008 WELL LEVELS



**CRD ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES - OPERATIONS DIVISION
STICKS ALLISON WATER SYSTEM
SYSTEM PRODUCTION VS. CONSUMPTION**

