



Water Sensitive Urban Design Assessment

for

46-54 Ferodale Road & 754 Medowie Road Rezoning

for VC Management Pty Ltd



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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Northrop Consulting Engineers has been engaged by VC Management (the proponent) to prepare a preliminary water sensitive urban design assessment to support the rezoning of a parcel of land comprising Lots 3-8 DP 243518. The rezoning proposes to change the existing land zoning from RU2 Rural Landscape to R3 Medium Density Residential and a portion of E1 Local Centre to the northwest.

Post-rezoning, the proponent is seeking to lodge a development application for a master-planned residential and commercial area within Lots 3-8, hereafter referred to as the development site. Lots 1 and 2 are currently under separate ownership and do not currently form part of the future development proposal. The subject site is illustrated in Figure 1.

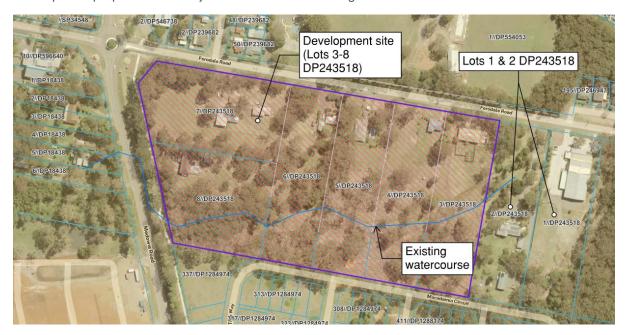


Figure 1 - Subject site (NSW Spatial Viewer).

The area to be rezoned lies within Hunter Water's Grahamstown drinking water catchment. Hunter Water (HWC) have requested that the proponent demonstrate development sites will have Neutral or Beneficial Effects (NorBE) on water quality. This preliminary assessment is intended to demonstrate that stormwater quality management measures can be provisioned as part of the ultimate development such that both NorBE outcomes and PSC's stormwater quality objectives can be achieved in an economical manner.

1.2 Relevant Guidelines

This report and associated drawings have been prepared in accordance with the following standards and guidelines:

- Port Stephens Council Development Control Plan (DCP), 2014.
- Port Stephens Council Development Water Sensitive Development Strategy Guidelines, 2011.
- Using MUSIC in Sydney's Drinking Water Catchments, SCA, 2012.
- New South Wales MUSIC Modelling Guidelines, BMT WBM, 2015.



1.3 Site Description

The land to be rezoned is bounded Medowie Rd to the west, Ferodale Road to north, 56 Ferodale Road to the east and an existing residential subdivision to the south (Macadamia Circuit) and has a total area of 7.7 hectares.

A natural watercourse traverses the site from north-east to south-west. Existing site topography grades at 3% to 6% towards the watercourse.

Lots 3-8 currently contain single residential dwellings and ancillary structures, consistent with rural residential land uses. The site has been partially cleared with some scattered vegetation throughout, with denser areas of vegetation centred on the south-eastern portion of the watercourse.

1.4 Proposed Development

The proposed development of Lots 3 to 8 is understood to consist of:

- A commercial area including supermarket, retail spaces, cafés and fast-food offices, public amenities.
- A childcare centre.
- Residential areas on both sides of the watercourse consisting of mixture of detached dwellings and multi-occupancy.
- Associated road, car parking and stormwater management infrastructure.
- Establishment of a dedicated drainage reserve area around the watercourse for preservation of biodiversity including koala trees and natural habitats.

2. Stormwater Quality

2.1 Stormwater Quality Objectives

Two water quality objectives were adopted for this assessment.

- NorBE.
- PSC load-based reduction targets.

NorBE targets were assessed in accordance with Sydney Catchment Authority's guidelines "Using MUSIC in Sydney's Drinking Water Catchments". By design, NorBE targets are variable, depending heavily on the pre-developed condition of the catchment. The following criteria are required to be satisfied to achieve NorBE:

- 1. Pollutant loading post-development for total suspended solids (TSS), total phosphorus (TP) and total nitrogen (TN) are to be a minimum of 10% less than pre-developed levels.
- 2. Pollutant loading post-development for gross pollutants (GP) must be less than or equal than pre-developed levels.
- 3. Pollutant concentrations for nutrients TP and TN post-development must be equal to or better than pre-developed concentrations over a minimum 5-year modelling period, between the 50th and 98th percentile runoff events.

In addition to NorBE requirements, PSC's DCP specifies load-based water quality targets for all developments larger than 2000 m^2 . The reduction targets vary depending on if the development is located within a sensitive catchment. For the purposes of this assessment and noting the subject site



is located in a drinking water catchment, sensitive targets have been adopted. The required reduction targets are reproduced in Table 1.

Table 1 -	PSC minimum	load-based treatment	t criteria for	sensitive catchments.

Pollutant	Reduction Target
TSS	85% retention of the annual average load
TP	65% retention of the average annual load
TN	50% retention of the average annual load
GP	90% reduction of the average annual load

2.2 Proposed Treatment Strategy

For undeveloped sites with low rates of nutrient generation, achieving NorBE targets typically requires substantial area be set aside for tertiary treatment. Noting the subject site is already constrained by flooding, provision of required tertiary treatment area on site is considered uneconomical due to the substantial loss of developable land.

As an alternative, PSC have indicated that provision of water quality treatment for an external catchment may be considered to achieve NorBE targets. This would be subject to adequate treatment measures being provided within the development site to meet Council's load-based targets.

A potential external catchment has been identified as a portion of residential to the north-east of the development site. The piped drainage system for this catchment currently discharges under Ferodale Road onto the subject site via an open channel and culvert. Subject to detailed investigations, it is proposed to provide an end-of-line gross pollutant trap adjacent to Ferodale Road catering to this catchment. The approximate extent of the external treatable catchment area is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2 – External catchment to be treated.



2.3 Catchments

2.3.1 Pre-developed Scenario

As shown in Figure 2, the pre-developed catchment area comprised the subject site (Lots 3-8), the neighbouring land (Lots 1 & 2) and the upstream external catchment to be treated. The existing fraction impervious for each catchment was estimated based on aerial imagery.

It has assumed that Lots 1 and 2 and the external residential catchment do not have any existing water quality treatment measures currently in place. Pre-developed catchment areas and impervious area assumptions are summarised in Table 2.

Catchment **Total** MUSIC **Existing** Area **Impervious Zoning/Surface Type Fraction** (ha) Lots 3 – 8 (development site) 7.76 Rural residential 5% Lots 1 - 2 (neighbouring land) 2.45 Rural residential 20% External residential catchment 9.36 Residential 60% Total catchment area 19.57

Table 2 – Pre-developed MUSIC catchment summary.

2.3.2 Post-developed Scenario

For the development site, a preliminary development masterplan was used to establish end land uses. For the neighbouring land to be rezoned, a blanket residential zoning was assumed, consistent with the proposed zoning.

Within the development site, the following catchment assumptions were adopted:

- For residential zones:
 - o 300 sq.m roof area for single dwellings and 200 sq.m for multi-dwellings.
 - Remaining impervious area 50% of the non-roof lot area.
- For commercial lots:
 - Roof area adopted from masterplan
 - o Remaining impervious area 80% of the non-roof lot area.
- For both commercial and residential zones:
 - 75% of assumed roof area assumed to be directed to rainwater reuse, with the remainder directly connected to the stormwater system.

With regards to the neighbouring land Lot 1 has an approved Development Application (DA) for a future swimming centre. At time of writing there is currently no known development proposed for Lot 2. For the purposes of modelling, it was assumed 50% portion of the total lot area in Lots 1 and 2 would be developed in the future with an assumed impervious fraction of 80%.



Catchment delineations are shown in Figure 3 with parameters summarised in Table 3.



Figure 3 – Post-developed catchments.

Table 3 – Post-developed MUSIC catchment summary.

Catchment ID	Description	Area (ha)	Zoning/Surface Type	Assumed Impervious Fraction
RN1	Residential North Roof to reuse	0.79	Roof	100%
RN2	Residential North Remainder + Roof Missing Tanks	0.73	Residential	68%
RS1	Residential South Roof to reuse	0.50	Roof	100%
RS2	Residential South Remainder + Roof Missing Tanks, untreated	0.47	Residential	80%
RS3	Residential South Remainder + Roof Missing Tanks, treatable by filter baskets	0.16	Residential	100%
C1	Childcare Roof to reuse	0.08	Residential	80%
C2	Childcare Remainder + Roof Missing Tanks	0.22	Roof	100%
C3	Commercial Precinct Roof to Reuse	0.40	Commercial	90%



C4	Commercial Precinct Remainder + Roof Missing Tanks	1.53	Roof	100%
RO1	Public Roadway	0.84	Sealed Road	70%
W1	Drainage Reserve Lot 3-8	2.04	Revegetated Land	0%
RE1	Lot 1 and 2 Residential	2.45	Residential	40%
OFR1	Offsite Catchment	9.36	Commercial	60%

2.3.3 Model Setup

Port Stephens Council (PSC) provides standardised MUSIC modelling parameters including meteorological data and soil conditions via the MUSIC-Link feature. Within this, four rainfall zones can be adopted dependent on location and soil type. For this assessment, Zone B (Medowie and Raymond Terrace) was adopted with clay type soils.

Where necessary, remaining modelling parameters were adopted from the NSW Music Modelling Guidelines (BMT, 2015). A MUSIC-Link report is included in Appendix A.

2.3.4 Proposed Treatment Measures

Treatment for the development site will be provided via a combination of discrete on-lot treatment, primarily rainwater harvesting tanks and end of line treatment via a GPT and biofiltration basin. Proposed treatment measures are summarised in Table 4.

Table 4 – Pre-developed catchment summary.

Proposed Measure	Treatment Type	Description	
Gross pollutant traps (e.g. Humes HumeGard or	Primary	A proprietary gross pollutant trap is proposed to cater for the northern portion of the development site and internal public roadway.	
equivalent)		In addition, a gross pollutant trap is proposed at the outlet of the external catchment 'OFR1'.	
		GPTs provide primary treatment prior to discharge to secondary and tertiary treatment measures. They are primarily designed to remove litter, debris and course sediment from runoff to protect downstream secondary and tertiary treatment measures.	
Biofiltration Basins	Tertiary	A biofiltration basin with minimum filter area 500 m ² has been proposed within the development site, immediately downstream of the proposed GPT.	
		Biofiltration systems are shallow, vegetated water bodies that utilise fine filtration and biological uptake processes to remove pollutants from stormwater.	
Rainwater Reuse Tanks	Secondary	Rainwater tanks have been provided for individual residential and commercial lots. The following tank sizes were assumed for this investigation:	
		 Residential lots – 2 kL per dwelling 	
		 Childcare centre (C1, C2) – 10 kL 	
		 Commercial precinct (C3, C4) – 20 kL 	



It is noted that the above reuse volumes are preliminary estimates and larger volumes may be required at development application stage.

As noted in section 2.3.2, 75% of the assumed roof area was assumed to be directed to the reuse tank.

Assumed rainwater re-use rates for residential dwellings is consistent with the values provided in the NSW MUSIC Modelling Guidelines (BMT, 2015), based on internal reuse for toilet and laundry connections. Reuse within commercial zones was estimated based on estimated number of toilet fixtures and external irrigation rates. Adopted reuse rates are as follows:

- Residential lots 0.124 kL/day per dwelling
- Childcare centre (C1) 1 kL/day
- Commercial precinct (C3) 2 kL/day

Proprietary on-lot gross pollutant capture (e.g. Ocean Protect OceanGuard or equivalent) Primary

Due to topography of the site, it is expected the southern residential area will not be able to drain to the proposed end of line treatment measures. As such, it has been assumed that the majority of this catchment will discharge directly to the watercourse without additional treatment beyond rainwater tanks.

It is understood however a portion of the residential land is to be developed as multi-dwelling complexes. For such sites it is appropriate to assume that full or partial on-lot treatment will be required by PSC. To reflect this, proprietary pit filter inserts were modelled for 25% of the southern catchment, in addition to rainwater reuse tanks.

Pit filter inserts capture gross pollutants and fine sediment from runoff, as well as removing small amounts of nutrients and fine sediments attached to larger items captured.

Treatment measures for Lots 1 and 2 were not modelled in detail. For the purposes of assessing NorBE, it has been assumed that any future commercial development will implement on-lot treatment measures sufficient to achieve PSC's load-based targets as per Table 1. This was represented in MUSIC as a generic treatment node achieving these targets.

Proposed end of line treatment measures are illustrated in Figure 4. The MUSIC model setup is shown in Figure 5.



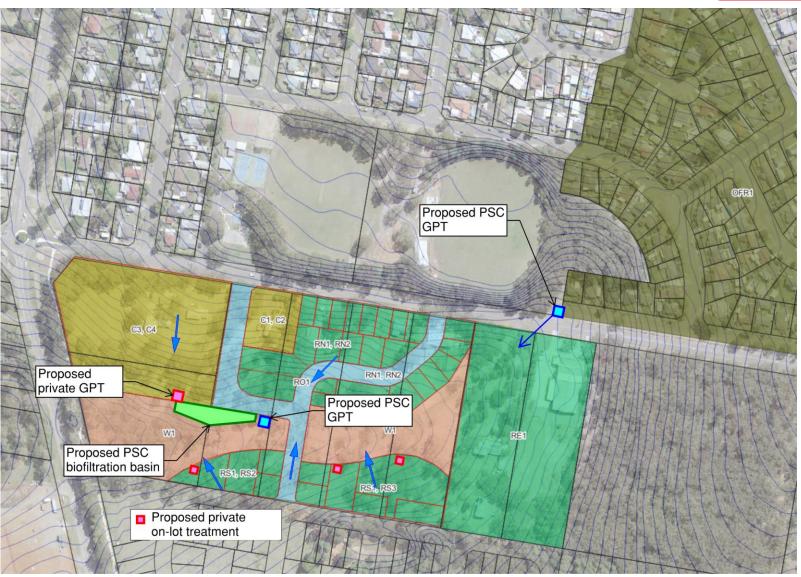


Figure 4 – Proposed treatment devices.

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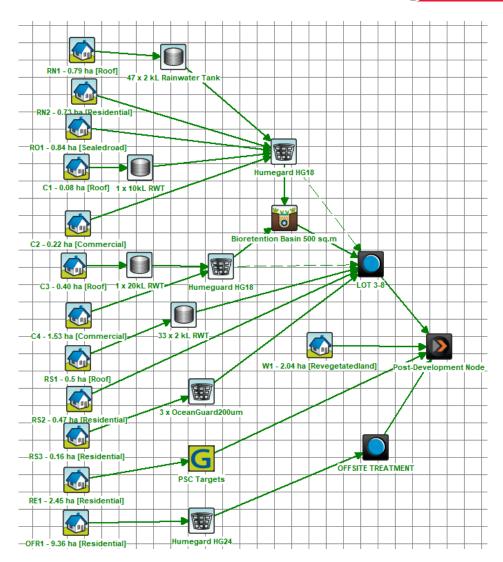


Figure 5 – MUSIC model post-developed schematic.

2.4 MUSIC Results

2.4.1 PSC Reduction Target Criteria (Lots 3-8)

The performance of the proposed treatment measures for Lots 3-8 (the site) is provided in Table 5.

Table 5 – MUSIC results – pollutant load reduction against PSC targets (Lots 3-8 only).

Pollutant	Source Loading (kg/year)	Residual Loading (kg/year)	Percentage Reduction	Target Reduction
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	7270	1110	85%	85%
Total Phosphorus (TP)	13.8	4.7	66%	60%
Total Nitrogen (TN)	109	49.0	55%	50%
Gross Pollutants (GP)	1320	90.7	93%	90%



The proposed treatment measures are therefore sufficient to achieve pollutant load reductions in accordance with PSC's targets.

2.4.2 NorBE Criteria

For the NorBE assessment, the broader catchment was considered, inclusive of Lots 1 and 2 and the offsite treatment area. Pre and post-development pollutant loading results are provided in Table 6.

Post-developed **Pollutant Pre-developed Net Reduction** Source Loading Residual Loading (kg/year) (kg/year) Total Suspended 16200 8300 Yes, >10% Solids (TSS) Total Phosphorus 27.9 19.3 Yes, >10% (TP) Total Nitrogen 218 184 Yes, >10% (TN) **Gross Pollutants** 2360 321 Yes (GP)

Table 6 - MUSIC results - pre- and post-developed comparison.

The above results demonstrate that the treatment measures proposed under the rezoning proposal result in a net reduction in pollutant loading, satisfying NorBE criteria #1 and #2.

For assessment of criteria #3, cumulative frequency plots of nutrient concentrations for total nitrogen and total phosphorous are provided in Figure 6 and Figure 7.

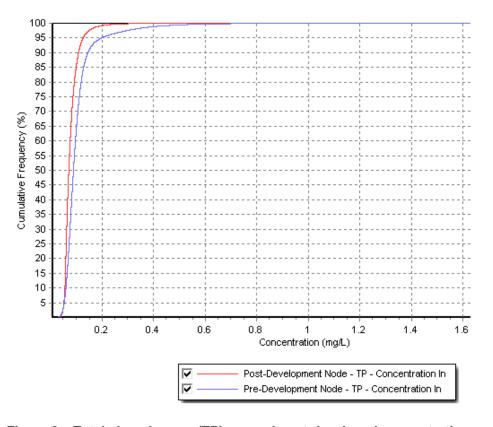


Figure 6 – Total phosphorous (TP) pre and post-developed concentration.



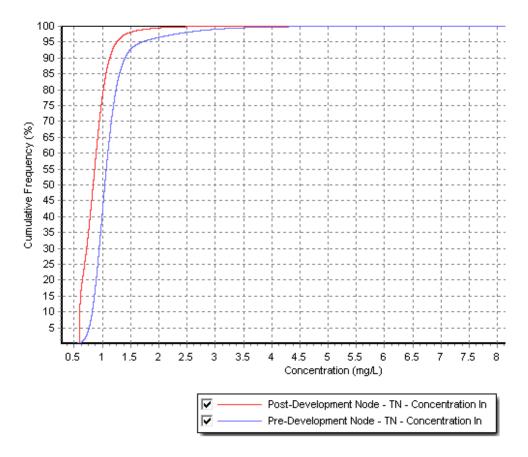


Figure 7 – Total nitrogen (TN) pre and post-developed concentration.

The above graphs demonstrate that post-developed nutrient concentrations between the 50th and 98th frequency percentiles are less than the pre-developed case and as such, NorBE can be achieved at the site.

3. Conclusion

Based on the preliminary water sensitive urban design assessment undertaken, the subject site is recommended for rezoning assessment on the grounds of sufficient opportunities for stormwater quality management. Determination of specific water sensitive urban design measures for the development will be established at the time of development application in consultation with PSC, inclusive of necessary external treatment measures necessary to achieve NorBE outcomes.



Appendix A – MUSICLink Report





MUSIC-link Report

Project Details Company Details

 Project:
 Company:
 Northrop

 Report Export Date:
 22/05/2025
 Contact:
 Andrew Killen

 Catchment Name:
 NL240432_Medowie_CD [I] 250522
 Address:
 215 Pacific Highway, Charlestown

 Catchment Area:
 5.71ha
 Phone:
 02 4943 1777

Impervious Area*: 149.3% Email: akillen@northrop.com.au

Rainfall Station: WILLIAMTOWN RAAF - Station 061078 -

Zone B

Modelling Time-step: 6 Minutes

Modelling Period: 1/01/1998 - 31/12/2007 11:54:00 PM

Mean Annual Rainfall:1125mmEvapotranspiration:1394mmMUSIC Version:6.4.0MUSIC-link data
Version:6.40

Study Area: Williamtown

Scenario: Sensitive Catchment - Clay soils

 * takes into account area from all source nodes that link to the chosen reporting node, excluding Import Data Nodes

Treatment Train Effe	ctiveness	Treatment Nodes		Source Nodes	
Node: LOT 3-8	Reduction	Node Type	Number	Node Type	Number
How	9.61%	Rain Water Tank Node	4	Urban Source Node	16
TSS	84.9%	Bio Retention Node	1		
TP	65.7%	GPT Node	4		
TN	54.9%	Generic Node	1		
GP	93.1%				

Comments

N/A





Node Type	Node Name	Parameter	Min	Max	Actual
Bio	Bioretention Basin 500 sq.m	Hi-flow bypass rate (cum/sec)	None	None	100
Bio	Bioretention Basin 500 sq.m	PET Scaling Factor	2.1	2.1	2.1
GPT	3 x OceanGuard200um	Hi-flow bypass rate (cum/sec)	None	99	0.12
GPT	Humegard HG18	Hi-flow bypass rate (cum/sec)	None	99	0.6
GPT	Humegard HG24	Hi-flow bypass rate (cum/sec)	None	99	1.05
GPT	Humeguard HG18	Hi-flow bypass rate (cum/sec)	None	99	0.6
Post	Post-Development Node	% Load Reduction	None	None	3.5
Post	Post-Development Node	GP % Load Reduction	90	None	91
Pre	Pre-Development Node	% Load Reduction	None	None	0
Rain	1 x 10kL RWT	% Reuse Demand Met	None	None	89.418
Rain	1 x 20kL RWT	% Reuse Demand Met	None	None	92.10
Rain	33 x 2 kL RWT	% Reuse Demand Met	None	None	83.40
Rain	47 x 2 kL Rainwater Tank	% Reuse Demand Met	None	None	83.999
Urban	C1 - 0.08 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.08
Urban	C1 - 0.08 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0
Urban	C1 - 0.08 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	80.0
Urban	C2 - 0.22 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.182
Urban	C2 - 0.22 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0.037
Urban	C2 - 0.22 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	0.22
Urban	C3 - 0.40 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.4
Urban	C3 - 0.40 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0
Urban	C3 - 0.40 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	0.4
Urban	C4 - 1.53 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	1.295
Urban	C4 - 1.53 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0.234
Urban	C4 - 1.53 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	1.53
Urban	OFR1 - 9.36 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	5.597
Urban	OFR1 - 9.36 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	3.762
Urban	OFR1 - 9.36 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	9.36
Urban	PRE1 LOT 3-8	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.399
Urban	PRE1 LOT 3-8	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	7.360
Urban	PRE1 LOT 3-8	Total Area (ha)	None	None	7.76
Urban	PRE2 LOT 1-2	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.489
Urban	PRE2 LOT 1-2	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	1.960
Urban	PRE2 LOT 1-2	Total Area (ha)	None	None	2.45
Urban	PRE3 OFFSITE CATCHMENT	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	5.573
Urban	PRE3 OFFSITE CATCHMENT	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	3.786
Urban	PRE3 OFFSITE CATCHMENT	Total Area (ha)	None	None	9.36
Urban	RE1 - 2.45 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.984
Urban	RE1 - 2.45 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	1.465
Urban	RE1 - 2.45 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	2.45





Node Type	Node Name	Parameter	Min	Max	Actual
Urban	RN1 - 0.79 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.79
Urban	RN1 - 0.79 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0
Urban	RN1 - 0.79 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	0.79
Urban	RN2 - 0.73 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.497
Urban	RN2 - 0.73 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0.232
Urban	RN2 - 0.73 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	0.73
Urban	RO1 - 0.84 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.587
Urban	RO1 - 0.84 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0.252
Urban	RO1 - 0.84 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	0.84
Urban	RS1 - 0.5 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.5
Urban	RS1 - 0.5 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0
Urban	RS1 - 0.5 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	0.5
Urban	RS2 - 0.47 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.269
Urban	RS2 - 0.47 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0.195
Urban	RS2 - 0.47 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	0.465
Urban	RS3 - 0.16 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0.089
Urban	RS3 - 0.16 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	0.065
Urban	RS3 - 0.16 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	0.155
Urban	W1 - 2.04 ha	Area Impervious (ha)	None	None	0
Urban	W1 - 2.04 ha	Area Pervious (ha)	None	None	2.037
Urban	W1 - 2.04 ha	Total Area (ha)	None	None	2.037





Failing Parame	Failing Parameters						
Node Type	Node Name	Parameter	Min	Max	Actual		
Post	Post-Development Node	TN % Load Reduction	45	None	37.4		
Post	Post-Development Node	TP % Load Reduction	60	None	49.6		
Post	Post-Development Node	TSS % Load Reduction	90	None	62.5		
Pre	Pre-Development Node	GP % Load Reduction	90	None	0		
Pre	Pre-Development Node	TN % Load Reduction	45	None	0		
Pre	Pre-Development Node	TP % Load Reduction	60	None	0		
Pre	Pre-Development Node	TSS % Load Reduction	90	None	0		
Only certain paramete	ers are reported when they pass validation						