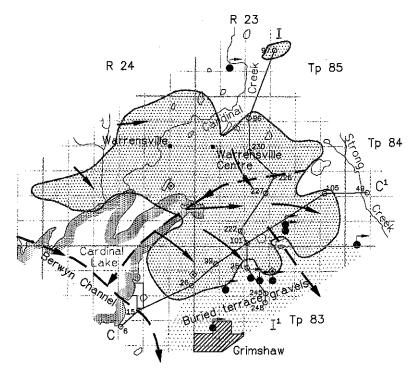


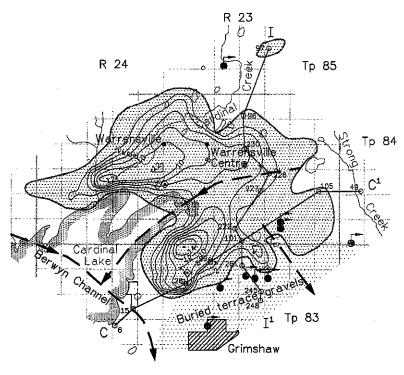
# <u>LEGEND</u>

- ----- Approximate extrent of Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer
- --- Approximate buried valley location
- --- Approximate groundwater flow direction
- ——— Aquifer saturated thickness (Contour Interval = 2 m)
- Spring area
- 1840 Test hole/well site
- ♦ Municipal well



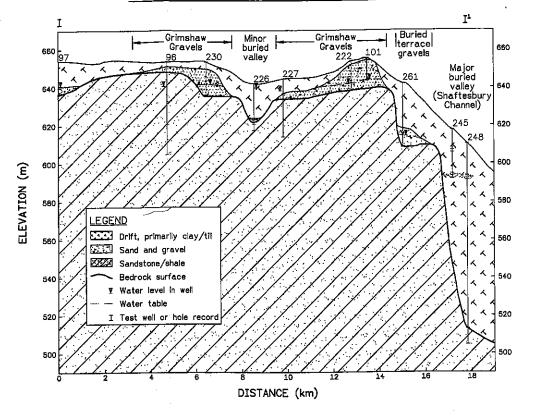
# INTERPRETED GROUNDWATER FLOW DIRECTION

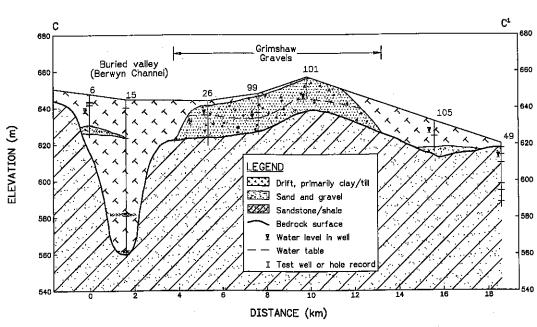




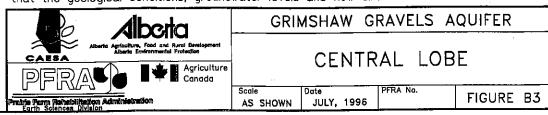
INTERPRETED SATURATED THICKNESS

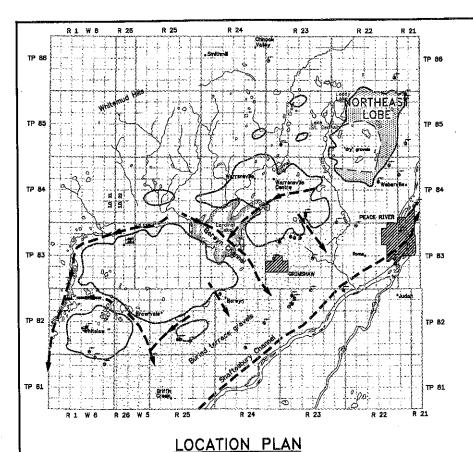
# GEOLOGICAL CROSS SECTIONS





Note: The shown preliminary maps and cross sections were prepared from selected drillers' logs filed with the Alberta Environmental Protection Groundwater Information Centre (GIC) to June 1995. Considerable geological interpretation was required to prepare these figures and additional test drilling and/or field surveying would be required to confirm that the geological conditions, groundwater levels and flow directions are as shown.





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# INTERPRETED GROUNDWATER FLOW DIRECTION

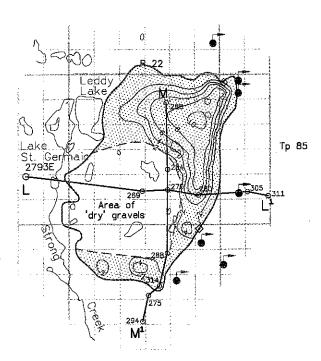


# LOCATION 1 LA

#### <u>LEGEND</u>

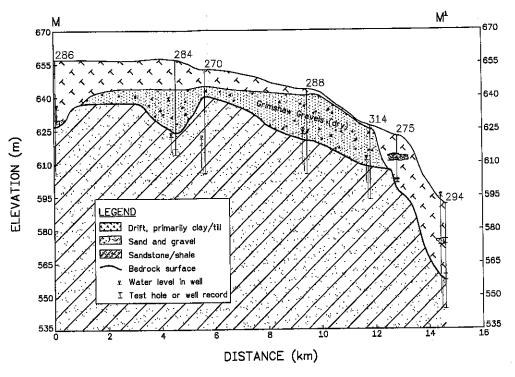
- Approximate extent of Grimshaw gravels Aquifer
- --- Approximate groundwater flow direction
- Spring area
- ----- Aquifer saturated thickness (Contour Interval = 2 m)
- ---- Approximate buried valley location
- 1840 Test hole/well site
- ♦ Municipal well

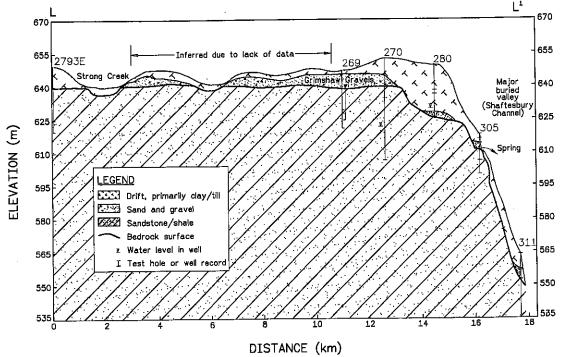
2793EO 1994 Test drilling program



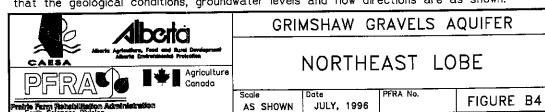
INTERPRETED SATURATED THICKNESS

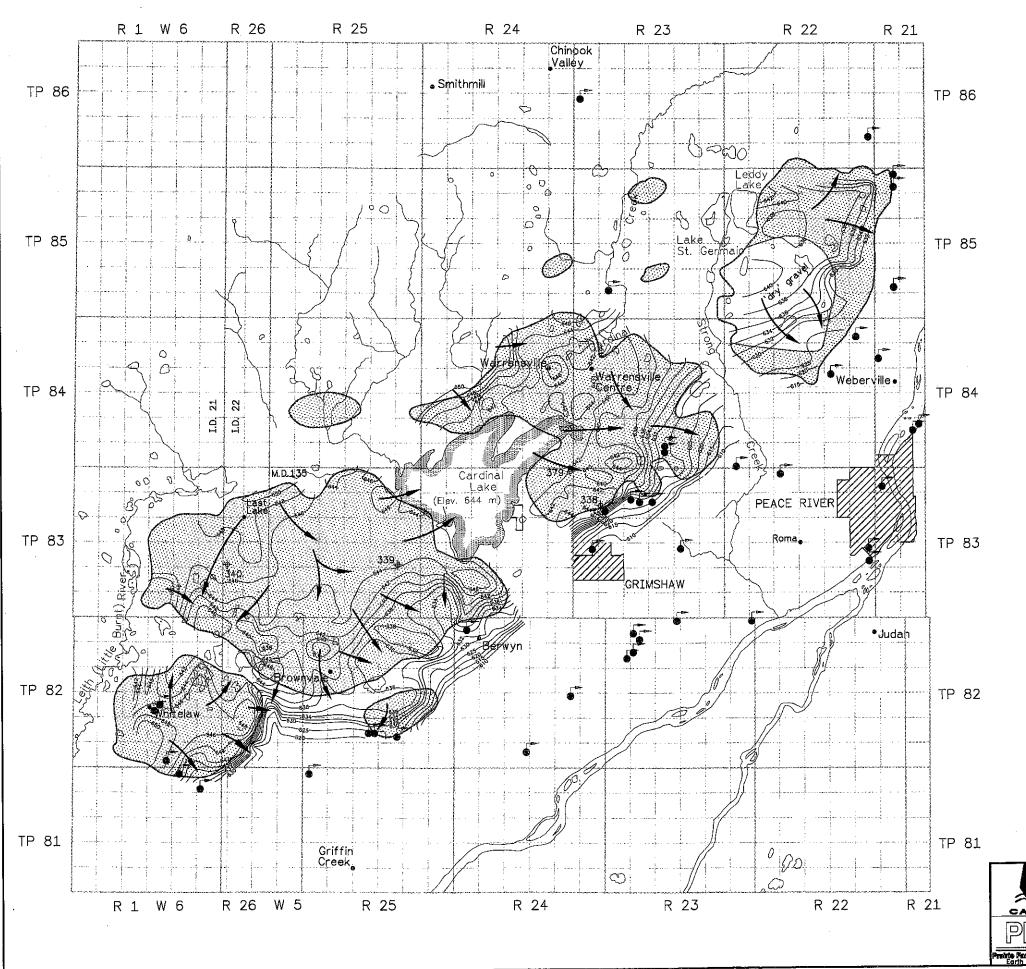
# GEOLOGICAL CROSS SECTIONS





Note: The shown preliminary maps and cross sections were prepared from selected drillers' logs filed with the Alberta Environmental Protection Groundwater Information Centre (GIC) to June 1995. Considerable geological interpretation was required to prepare these figures and additional test drilling and/or field surveying would be required to confirm that the geological conditions, groundwater levels and flow directions are as shown.





# How to use this figure:

This figure shows the general interpreted water table elevations as well as interpreted groundwater flow directions. In some areas such as the north half of the central lobe, reported water table elevations vary substantially from well to well. In these areas, substantial interpretation was required to "guess" which flow directions appeared most likely.

# Data used to prepare figure

This figure was prepared from geological interpretation of selected drillers' logs filed with the Alberta Environmental Protection Groundwater Information Centre (GIC) to June 1995. The surveying of ground elevation at the location of an additional 100 or so existing wells that have reported water levels is required to confirm the interpreted groundwater flow patterns.

# **LEGEND**

- Approximate extent of Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer
- --540- Water table elevation contours (metres)
- --- Apparent groundwater flow directions
- Springs

379 Alberta Environmental Protection observation well

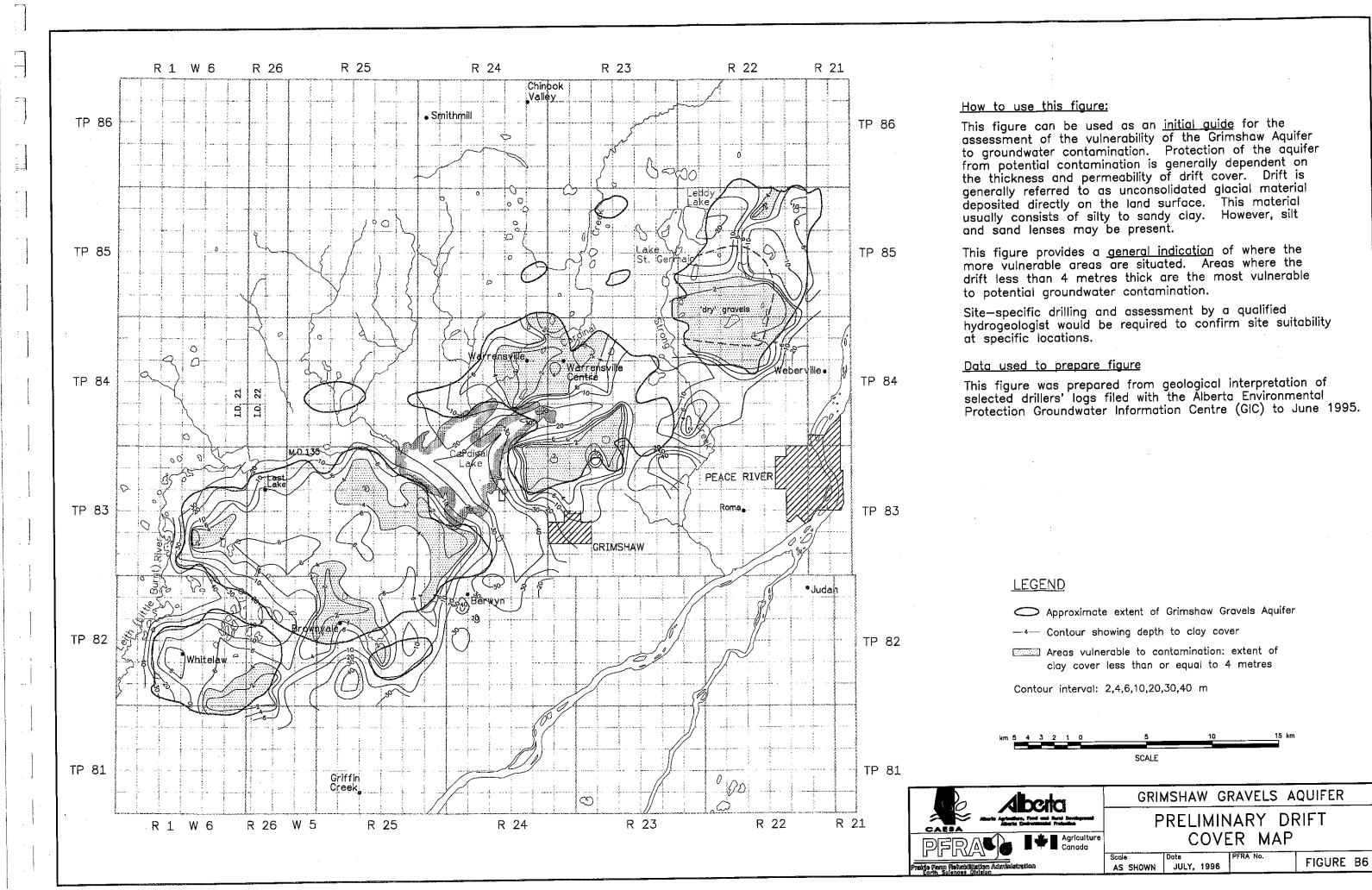


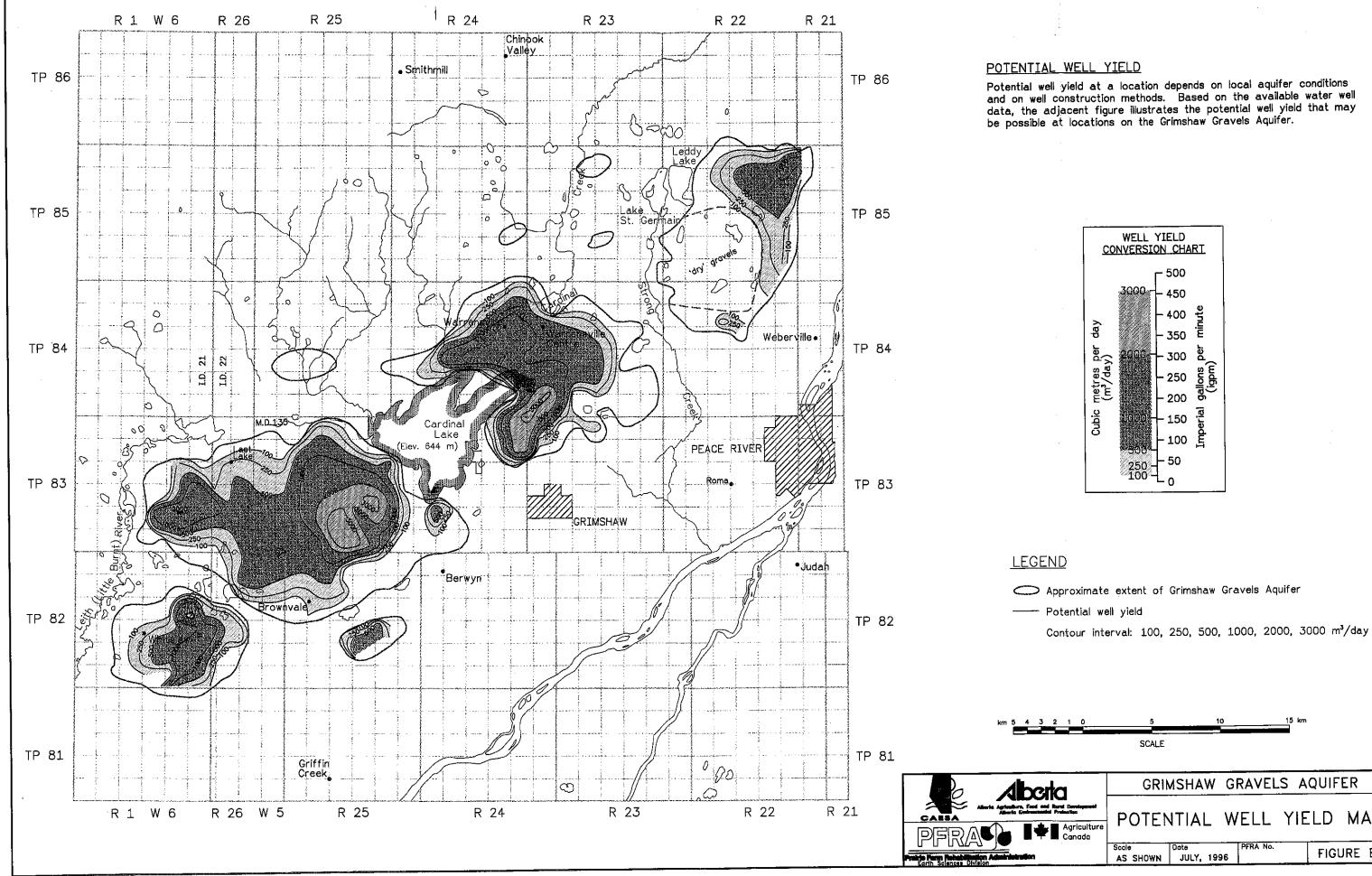


GRIMSHAW GRAVELS AQUIFER

WATER TABLE ELEVATION CONTOUR MAP

Scale Date PFRA No. FIGURE B5







GRIMSHAW GRAVELS AQUIFER

POTENTIAL WELL YIELD MAP

#### IRON

#### Background

Iron is one of the most common elements present in geological deposits, and almost all groundwater contains some iron. For domestic water supplies, the Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines recommend an iron concentration of no greater than 0.3 mg/L. Although iron does not constitute a health problem, iron concentrations greater than 0.3 mg/litre can stain laundry and plumbing fixtures, as well as impart an objectionable taste and colour to the water.

Iron concentrations, up to 3 mg/L, can generally be removed with conventional water softening equipment. Iron concentrations exceeding 3 mg/l require the use of special filters.

#### **Current Situation**

Assessment of iron levels is hampered by incomplete information on how the water was sampled. Water analyses carried out to date do not usually identify the precise point of sampling. A sample could have been taken directly from the well, from a tap, or after treatment. This information is important since iron can be added to water from metal parts within the distribution system (metal casings, pump parts, piping) or be removed by treatment components.

For the Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer, over 400 tests for iron have been conducted on both untreated and treated water. Recognizing the lack of information on how and where the water was sampled, about 80% of the samples tested had iron concentrations of less than 3 mg/L. The average reported iron concentration is about 0.4 mg/L. More precise sampling techniques are required to determine whether or not this represents a "true" average. The adjacent figure shows sample sites and test results for wells located both on and off the Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer. Iron concentrations of water samples taken during the 1995 CAESA farmstead water wells survey are identified with a '(1995)' subscript.

#### **Management Considerations**

A knowledge of regional iron levels can assist in locating potential well sites which may require little or no treatment for iron removal. Improved water sampling methods will assist in collecting reliable data. In order to measure accurate aquifer iron concentrations, the sample must be taken directly from the well. Standing water in the well must first be pumped out, before collecting the sample. A small quantity of acid should be added to the water sample to lower the pH. This will ensure that the iron does not precipitate or settle out, allowing for a reliable iron measurement. The 1995 CAESA farmstead water samples were collected in accordance with this procedure.

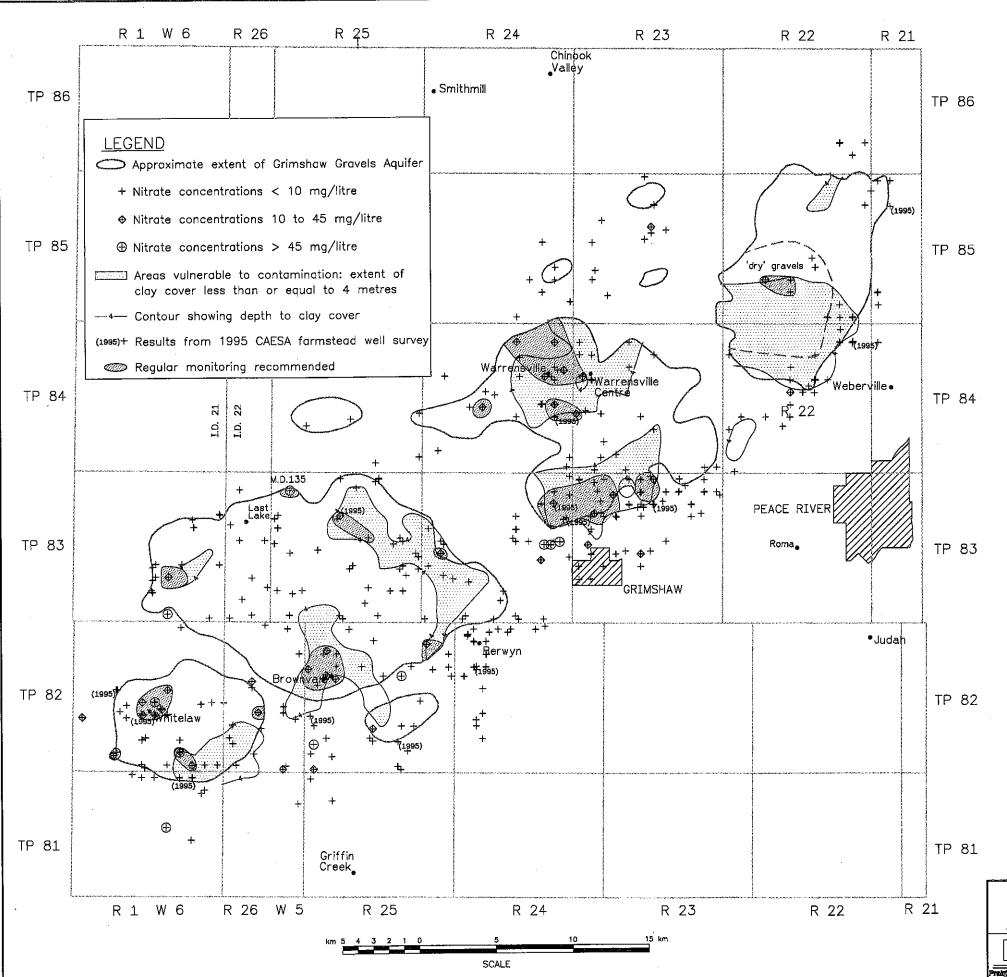
Source of Data: Alberta Environmental Protection Groundwater Information Centre Chemistry data file (to March, 1996).



GRIMSHAW GRAVELS AQUIFER

WATER QUALITY MAP: IRON CONCENTRATION

Scale Date PFRA No. FIGURE B8



## NITRATE

Background

Unlike most other minerals in groundwater, nitrate is not dissolved primarily from the minerals in geological deposits. Nitrate is leached downward into groundwater from sources, such as: a) surplus nitrogen fixed to soil by plants, such as alfalfa and legumes; b) animal wastes; c) fertilizers; d) sewage effluent from lagoons, septic fields, septic tanks, effluent irrigation; e) industrial waste chemicals. Elevated nitrate concentrations can occur from either direct discharge of contaminated surface water around a well or by natural infiltration by "contaminated" water into an aquifer.

The Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines recommend nitrate concentrations of less than than 45 mg/L. Concentrations higher than this are undesirable, since they may have a toxic effect on infants or young children. High nitrate concentrations can also be dangerous to people with low stomach acid levels. Cattle can be affected by concentrations of nitrate that exceed 100 mg/L. A high nitrate level should also be considered as a warning that harmful (pathogenic) bacteria may be present and testing should be carried out to assess this possibility.

Nitrate can only be removed by demineralization or distillation processes.

#### **Current Situation**

For the Grimshaw Aquifer, over 300 tests for nitrate have been carried out. Over 80% of all tests measured less than 5 mg/L. The average nitrate concentration is about 0.6 mg/L. In general, elevated nitrate levels appear to coincide with areas of reduced clay cover. Reported incidences of nitrate concentrations are shown on the adjacent figure, which includes all historical nitrate levels. However, more recent tests from the same well may indicate lower levels. This figure includes tests taken both on and off the Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer. Samples of higher nitrate concentration, as identified in the 1995 farmstead well water quality survey, are identified with a '(1995)' subscript.

**Management Considerations** 

Sites with elevated nitrate levels represent areas that are more sensitive to groundwater contamination. In these areas, an increased level of care is required to ensure contamination does not occur. These areas should be regularly monitored to determine if nitrate levels are above the acceptable standard, and whether they are increasing or decreasing.

Source of Data: Alberta Environmental Protection Groundwater Information Centre Chemistry data file (to March, 1996).

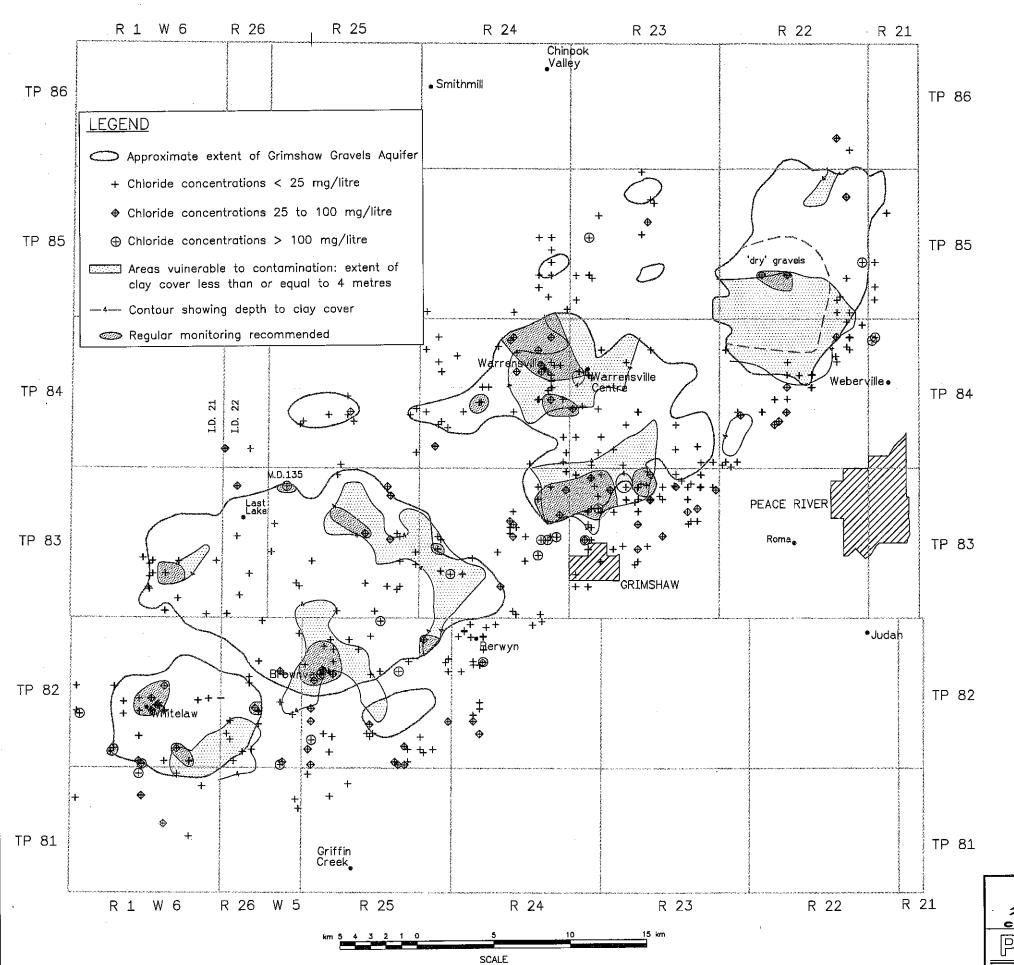


GRIMSHAW GRAVELS AQUIFER

WATER QUALITY MAP: NITRATE CONCENTRATION

NITRATE CONCENIRAL

Scale Date PFRA No. FIG.



#### **CHLORIDE**

Background

Chloride in groundwater generally originates from two main sources:
a) dissolution of salts in geological deposits, such as marine shales or near-shore siltstones or sandstones; or b) downward leaching of near-surface contaminants into groundwater, such as from landfills, sewage, or road salts.

The Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines recommend chloride concentrations of less than 250 mg/L. While not unhealthy, chloride concentrations greater than 250 mg/L can impart an objectionable taste to water.

#### **Current Situation**

For the Grimshaw Aquifer, over 325 tests for chloride have been carried out. Over 80% of all tests measured less than 20 mg/L. The average chloride concentration is about 5 mg/L. In general, the higher chloride levels coincide with wells completed in either buried valley or bedrock aquifers, or areas of reduced clay cover. The approximate test results and location of wells where samples-were tested for chloride are shown on the adjacent figure. This figure includes tests taken both on and off the Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer.

Management Considerations

Elevated chloride levels may be the first sign of possible contamination. An increase in chloride levels may occur from upward migration of groundwater from underlying aquifers, or from surface sources of contamination. Often elevated nitrate levels together with elevated chloride levels is a more positive indication of groundwater contamination than the presence of nitrate alone. Areas where regular monitoring of chloride levels are recommended are shown on the attached figure.

Source of Data: Alberta Environmental Protection Groundwater Information Centre Chemistry data file (to March, 1996).



GRIMSHAW GRAVELS AQUIFER

WATER QUALITY MAP: CHLORIDE CONCENTRATION

Scale Date
AS SHOWN JULY, 1996

# R 22 R 21. R 23 R 24 R 26 R 25 R1 W6 Chinpok Valley Smithmill TP 86 TP 86 **LEGEND** Approximate extent of Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer + Total Dissolved Solids < 500 mg/litre ♦ Total Dissolved Solids 500 to 1000 mg/litre TP 85 ⊕ Total Dissolved Solids > 1000 mg/litre TP 85 (1995)+ Results from 1995 CAESA farmstead well survey 'dry' gravels **(** + Warrensville. Weberville∙ TP 84 TP 84 **+** 22 77 $\oplus$ I.D. I.D. M.D.135 PEACE RIVER **⊕** + TP 83 TP 83 <sup>I</sup>GRIMSHAW Berwyn Judah †(1995) TP 82 ⊕ TP 82 0 **4**(1995) (H) TP 81 TP 81 Griffin Creek\_ R 21 R 22 R 23 R 26 W 5 R 25 R 24 R 1 W 6 SCALE

#### TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS (TDS)

Background

Groundwater is not pure because it contains dissolved minerals. A chemical analysis of groundwater is required to determine the "quality" of groundwater sampled. Parameters such as hardness and iron concentrations, as well as other constituents such as chloride, sulphate, sodium, calcium and magnesium are measured. The type and amount of these dissolved minerals can affect the usefulness of groundwater. If certain minerals are present in excessive amounts, water quality problems can occur. These include an objectionable taste or colour, laxative effects, excessive hardness, or encrustation and corrosion of the well and components of the distribution system.

The total amount of all constituents is expressed as total dissolved solids (TDS). TDS will vary depending on the route and rate at which groundwater moves through geological deposits. For drinking water, the Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines recommend a TDS of less than 500 mg/L. While higher levels are not necessarily unhealthy, some additional treatment would generally be recommended. In Alberta, TDS levels over 1000 mg/L are considered high.

## **Current Situation**

For the Grimshaw Aquifer, the amount of total dissolved solids, in submitted groundwater samples, has been calculated for over 180 samples. TDS typically ranges from less than 400 to 600 mg/L, with over 80% of all tests reporting less than 600 mg/L. In general, higher TDS values were noted for wells completed partially or completely in bedrock strata or in the buried valleys that divide the Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer into separate lobes. Reported TDS values are shown on the adjacent figure. This figure includes tests taken both on and off the Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer. TDS concentrations, as identified in the 1995 CAESA farmstead water well survey, are identified with a '(1995)' subscript.

**Management Considersations** 

The total dissolved solids for groundwater within the Grimshaw Gravels Aquifer is generally considered to be excellent. However, a water analysis is still recommended at sites considered for well development to determine if any type treatment would be required. Areas on the aquifer where elevated levels of TDS occur may be an indication that: the water quality in the aquifer is being influenced by the underlying bedrock deposits or the well is located in an isolated "pocket" of gravel.

Source of Data: Alberta Environmental Protection Groundwater Information Centre Chemistry data file (to March, 1996).



GRIMSHAW GRAVELS AQUIFER

WATER QUALITY MAP: TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS

Scale Date
AS SHOWN JULY, 1996

