Groundwater, Climate Change and Water Security in the Canadian Prairies Global Water Futures 2021 Operations Team Meeting – Project Reporting Template

Instructions: All GWF projects are asked to provide a summary update on their activities and accomplishments in preparation for the upcoming Operations Team meeting. **Please submit these by email to** chris.debeer@usask.ca by no later than December 2. These will be used to help guide discussions and breakout synthesis activities and will be made generally accessible on our website in advance of the meeting.

Project Name: Groundwater, Climate Change and Water Security in the Canadian Prairies Our major accomplishments to date are:

- Identification of baseflow trends across the Canadian Prairies (by month)
- Preliminary correlation to climate indices (temperature, antecedent wetness, precipitation)
- Identification of aquifer for groundwater/surface water model development
- Obtained GIS files for groundwater systems in Saskatchewan
- Obtained Saskatchewan groundwater well database

Our current activities are:

- Developing an integrated hydrologic model for a representative, shallow, Canadian Prairies aquifer (Dalmeny)
- Identifying potential climate and land/water use scenarios for the model
- Finalizing GAMLSS results for correlation between baseflow and climate indices
- Starting correlation analysis between streamflow and baseflow trends with GRACE/GRACE-FO data
- Identifying additional representative groundwater systems for Saskatchewan
- Preliminary planning of field sampling for spring 2022

The main accomplishments expected by the end of the project are:

- improved understanding of the potential effects of increased groundwater use in the Canadian Prairies using a suite of groundwater tracers, hydrograph analyses and numerical models
 - Identify representative groundwater systems in the Canadian prairies
 - Development of a geochemical catalog of environmental tracers for groundwater systems in the Canadian Prairies
 - Development of integrated hydrologic model for Dalmeny basin & other representative aquifer systems
 - Model scenarios to demonstrate potential changes to surface and groundwater availability due to changes in climate, land use and water use
 - Baseflow and hydrograph trend analysis to identify regions susceptible to streamflow depletion
 - Correlation to climate indices to indicate susceptibility to climate change
 - Integration of geological, hydrogeology, geochemical data, numerical models and statistical analyses to develop conceptual models of representative groundwater systems in the Canadian Prairies

Here is a key visual from the project (figure, photo, table, graph, etc.)

