

D2.6 – Guide on using ASR-Coastal with treated wastewater for irrigation

Based on improved ASR-Coastal reference site in Dinteloord, the Netherlands (TRL8)



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Executive Summary

In Dinteloord (The Netherlands), an advanced sustainable freshwater supply was realized using ASR-Coastal within the Subsol project. The Dinteloord water system consists of rapid filtration, ultra-filtration (UF) and finally RO-treatment for wastewater from a sugar factory, an ASR-Coastal well field, and a 5 km distribution loop connecting all water with the ASR-Coastal scheme that stores and recovers the water between autumn and spring/summer. The system was officially opened in April 2018 and is currently in operation.

Important lessons were learned at the site, which can be used as a guide for implementing ASR-Coastal in combination with effluent reuse elsewhere. They include:

- A step-by-step approach: There are various elements that can fail when applying ASR-Coastal and while reusing (treated) waste water. A careful step-by-step approach (Chapter 4) with a critical but open view is required toward realisation. This also involves continuously (every step) informing targeted water users, authorities, neighbours, and the supplier of the waste water. All aspects such as technical feasibility, economic viability, and hydrological acceptability should constantly be assessed in an iterative process.
- Demonstrate and communicate: Both water reuse and ASR-Coastal involves complex processes and technology. A clear demonstration and communication are vital to inform stakeholders, end users and the public.
- Setting up the organisational structure: As shown in Chapter 5, combining reuse with aquifer storage and recovery for various end users may require a firm organisational structure with clear roles for each party. In Dinteloord, this structure was set up by the TOM ('Tuinbouwontwikkelingsmaatschappij', Dutch for horticulture development company), which was developing the area and acted as a director.



1. Introduction

1.1. Motivation for waste water reuse and aquifer storage

Waste water reuse is recognized as a key solution to deal with water scarcity (European Commission, 2018). Besides treating the reuse water to a certain desired quality, management of its availability to meet its demand over time is vital for success. Aquifer storage and recovery using for instance ASR-coastal (as developed in the Subsol project) can provide the solution to match availability with demand and to further safeguard water quality via aquifer passage (Dillon et al., 2006).

1.2. The Dinteloord dilemma: a mismatch between availability and demand

In Dinteloord (The Netherlands), a modern greenhouse area called 'Nieuw-Prinsenland' (260 ha) was realised by the Tuinbouwontwikkelingsmaatschappij (TOM). In this salinizing coastal area without a significant external freshwater supply, the availability of very high-quality water (sodium <2.4 mg/l) for greenhouse irrigation during droughts was a major challenge. Rainwater collected at greenhouse roofs and stored in aboveground basins formed the basis for the irrigation water supply. However, these basins cannot store sufficient water to overcome years with prolonged periods of drought, like in the recent dry Summer of 2018.

Use of ground- and surface water was prohibited because these sources are under pressure of salinization. A neighbouring sugar factory producing large volumes of waste water between September and January provided a potential water source. However, this availability of water is out-of-phase with the projected demand of the greenhouse horticulturalists (April-August, depending on the moment of drought). How to transfer the available reuse water to the dynamic time of demand?

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Figure 1-1: The first greenhouses operational in Dinteloord (2016). In 2018, most of the area is already covered with greenhouses.

1.3. Aims

The experiences of the site in Dinteloord are collated in this guide with the aim to facilitate waste water reuse with the help of ASR-Coastal.

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2. Location

The innovative greenhouse horticulture area ('Agro & Food Cluster'; AFC) Nieuw Prinsenland is located in Dinteloord, in the Southwest of the Netherlands (Figure 2-1). It has a strategic location with a direct connection to the most important traffic arteries of Western Europe, resulting in short travel times to the greenhouse horticulture centre in the western part of the Netherlands, but also to the international harbours of Rotterdam and Antwerp (Belgium) and the industrial hub Ruhrgebied (Germany).



Figure 2-1: Left: location of Nieuw Prinsenland with respect to major highways (orange). Right: location of Nieuw Prinsenland with respect to Amsterdam (and Schiphol airport), the major international harbours of Rotterdam (The Netherlands) and Antwerp (Belgium), and the industrial hub Ruhrgebied (Germany).

The elevation of land surface at Nieuw Prinsenland is approximately equal to sea level. The availability of freshwater is limited to precipitation, since the area is located in the vicinity of estuaries of the North Sea, and surface water and groundwater are commonly brackish or saline. The river Dintel runs along the study area and is used for effluent discharge by Suiker Unie. In summer, this river cannot be used as a source for irrigation water due to its low discharge.

Besides modern greenhouse horticultural companies and the sugar factory Suiker Unie, Nieuw Prinsenland consists of industries active in the production, process, and storage of agricultural products (Figure 3-2). 260 ha is allocated to the modern greenhouse horticulture, and 50 ha is available for industries active in the biobased economy, which may also need freshwater for their processes.





3. Chosen solution: waste water reuse ánd aquifer storage and recovery

The Dinteloord water system reuses wastewater from the food industry (sugar factory Suiker Unie) for greenhouse irrigation and food industries (Figure 3-1). The basis of freshwater management is formed by rainwater stored in surface basins. The reused wastewater is used upon aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) in a brackish aquifer with a newly developed configuration ('ASR-Coastal') for additional supply. This creates the crucial bridge between net availability of rainwater and treated wastewater (September -January) and the later net demand for irrigation water (April – August).



Figure 3-1: Set-up of the sustainable water supply system in Dintelooord

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The Dinteloord waste water treatment system consists of a submerged UF-system followed by an RO-treatment unit for the wastewater. This treatment facility is connected to a 5 km long distribution loop connecting all water to the ASR-Coastal scheme that stores and recovers the water between autumn and spring/summer. The purification plant purifies a maximum of 1440 m³/d during periods of waste water discharge from the sugar factory (September till January, and in May). In case of calamities, the purification plant is able to operate on river water, even when the sugar factory is not producing waste water. The quality of treated effluent is given in 0.

To ensure water availability during moments of demand, the recent subsurface water solution ASR-Coastal was added. Eight dedicated ASR-Coastal wells with different levels for infiltration and recovery of water were implemented to cope with potentially unfavourable buoyancy effects (i.e. upward movement of 'light' stored freshwater in the native brackish groundwater). For more information on ASR-Coastal, see the Technical and Economical Guide on ASR-Coastal (Subsol D1.7).



Figure 3-2: Overview of the innovative and sustainable greenhouse horticulture area 'Agro & Food Cluster' (AFC) Nieuw Prinsenland.

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4. Guideline for realization of an ASR-Coastal scheme using treated waste water (based on Dinteloord)

4.1. Stepwise approach

The Dinteloord water supply system followed a careful path towards realisation, starting with a desk-study to assess the feasibility of the subsurface for ASR-Coastal and the optimal location for the wells. Subsequently, a pilot drilling as well as a small-scale pilot were executed to explore the potential performance of ASR-Coastal. Subsequently, up-scaling of the system took gradually place to the realisation of 4 ASR-wells, and later to the full-scale implementation of 8 ASR-wells and the development of the piping network that connects to Suiker Unie and (future) horticulturalists. The complete stepwise approach is listed in Figure 4-1 and is further explained in the following paragraphs. It can be regarded as a guideline for evaluation and implementation of ASR with the scope of waste water reuse.

I. Desk-study: literature on regional hydrogeological conditions, sampling of existing monitoring wells



Figure 4-1: Stepwise approach to realize the ASR-Coastal scheme to enable water reuse in Dinteloord.



4.2. Detailed activities in every step

4.2.1. I. Desk-study and additional sampling [2012]

During the desk-study, existing data from earlier drilling and sampling campaigns were evaluated to characterize the local aquifers and groundwater quality, complemented by sampling of an available observation well in the study area. Some results are shown in Figure 4-2 and Figure 4-3, displaying the local chloride concentrations of the ambient groundwater and a hydrogeological schematisation, respectively. The aim of this phase was to:

- characterize the local aquifers and hydrology ('conceptual hydrogeological model')
- define typical operational parameters of the ASR system
- define the required water quality for infiltration using ASR wells
- identify potential data gaps

Hydrogeology

Two potential target aquifers consisting of fine to medium coarse sand were identified within 100 m depth. Little data was available on deeper aquifers, but they were presumably more saline and less interesting because of the higher drilling costs. The regional head data suggest that groundwater flow was virtually absent.

Operational parameters

Based on a simple water balance model, the estimated water use, rainfall availability and volume of aboveground reservoirs, it was estimated that in the most extreme case:

- 41 days of shortage would occur
- 200 m³/h should then be supplied
- In total 220 000 m³ should therefore be available
- To overcome the shortage with an ASR-system, infiltration would occur with 1440 m³/d during 150 days (Sept-Jan)

Water quality

Since the water in Dinteloord was extensively treated via reverse osmosis, it was clear that the water would meet the legal targets for chemical composition and the operational targets with regards to clogging. Risks were however identified: during aquifer residence the hyperfresh, oxygen-containing infiltration water might lead to mobilisation of clay particles by freshening, and to dissolution of Fe, Mn, As, Ni, Co, and SO₄ by pyrite oxidation.

Data gaps

Little was known of the chemical composition of the groundwater in the study area. The available data suggested a transition from saline to brackish to freshwater right within the study area. The geochemical composition of the potential sand aquifers was also



insufficiently known. Finally, without knowing what crop types would be cultivated, the operational parameters were a first estimate only.



Figure 4-2: Choride concentrations in the vicinity of the Dinteloord project area in the upper (WVP1) and deeper aquifer (WVP2). Example of the content of the feasibility report (in Dutch). Peilbuizen means 'monitoring wells'.

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Figure 4-3: Hydrogeological schematization of the subsurface in the study area, including hydraulic parameters of discerned aquifers and aquitards and salinity distribution. Example of the content of the feasibility report (in Dutch).

4.2.2. II. First assessment of potential recovery efficiency [2012]

In the next step, the potential ASR performance was assessed using:

- 1. ASR performance estimation tools, such as implemented in the Subsol ASR-Coastal tool.
- 2. Modelling using SEAWAT (Version 4), based on the conceptual model.

Additionally, two potential well types were evaluated and the total costs of the project were estimated. The aim of this phase was to conclude on the potential of ASR in the project area and (indirectly) if further exploration would make sense.

ASR performance estimation

Due to the identified heterogeneity with respect to groundwater salinity in the area, these analyses were executed for various target locations in the project area, based on the presumable local characteristics of the target aquifers. The method applied was based on Bakker (2010), which is also available in the ASR-tool presented in Subsol deliverable



D1.7. With this approach, various relevant aquifer and operational parameters that all have an effect on the ASR performance are combined to assess the ASR performance. It was found that the upper Aquifer 1 gave the best chances for freshwater recovery (53-61%) compared to Aquifer 2 (36-41%) and Aquifer 3 (<35%). Aquifer 3 was therefore excluded from further analysis.

First groundwater modelling

As a next step, groundwater modelling was performed to better assess the potential freshwater upon aquifer storage. The hypothesis based on the performance estimations was that from Aquifer 1 more than 50% could be recovered and that Aquifer 2 would perform worse.

A simple axi-symmetrical model in SEAWAT (Langevin, 2008) was used for rapid runtimes. This implied horizontal homogeneity and absence of background lateral flow (not expected at the field site). Initial concentrations were based on the desk-study.



Figure 4-4: Set-up of an axi-symmetrical model based on Langevin (2008)

The groundwater modelling exercise (Figure 4-5) yielded the following insights in the recovery of unmixed injected water upon aquifer storage:

• The best potential was again found for Aquifer 1. Especially when the ASR-Coastal technology was selected, a recovery efficiency of 100% could eventually (after >5 cycles) be attained. This is the result of improved conditions after various cycles with an RE<100%, which results in a net infiltration.



• The recovery efficiency in Aquifer 2 would remain below 20%, even if ASR-Coastal was selected and if a buffer zone was created (a volume of water injected only to create better conditions for ASR).

Based on this groundwater modelling study, Aquifer 1 was provisionally selected as the target aquifer.





Well type selection

In this phase, it was also decided to apply the vertical ASR well type ASR-Coastal, and not to use horizontal wells (HDDWs), which have been applied at the Freshmaker in Ovezande, the Netherlands (Subsol D1.5). This was based on the following arguments:

- The costs of the required horizontal wells for a Freshmaker (at least 2) would be double the costs of the vertical wells that are involved with ASR-Coastal;
- ASR-Coastal has the potential to keep pace with the development of the water demand of the greenhouse area, since the well field can more easily be enlarged in a gradual way;
- ASR-Coastal has a lower risk of recovering admixed brackish water due to heterogeneous sections in the aquifer. With a horizontal well, the entire recovery would be disrupted as a result of horizontal layering in the aquifer. In a (vertical) well field, one can turn off the individual well screens at unfavourable sections in the aquifer, without disrupting the entire water recovery and supply.

Total cost estimation

At this stage, total estimated costs were 540 k€ for the ASR-Coastal wells only, without connecting pipelines and an ASR pumping station. As a result, the estimated cost price of



a cubic meter of water was at least 0.37 euro/m³. Taking the other potential costs into account, it was decided to proceed with the preparations for ASR-Coastal.



4.2.3. III. Exploratory drilling incl. sediment and groundwater analyses [2013]

Exploratory drilling can be very useful to attain reliable data on the lithological and geochemical properties of the target aquifer(s). Additionally, it provides the opportunity to install observation wells and sample the local groundwater.

On June 17 and 18 in 2013, a bailer drilling was executed to a depth of 70 m below surface level in the zone where the ASR scheme was planned (Figure 4-6). The bailer method was preferred over reverse rotary or rotary flush, because it yields better core samples. Samples were taken every meter and where lithological differences were observed within one meter. These samples were sent to the laboratory for grain size analysis and analysis of the carbonate and organic matter content. Based on these results, the characterization of the subsurface was updated (Figure 4-7).



Figure 4-6: Drilling of the expolaration well (left) and the resulting monitoring wells (right).

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Figure 4-7: Interpretation of the results collected during the exploratory drilling. Example from the report on the exploratory drilling (in Dutch)

4.2.4. IV. Second assessment of ASR recovery efficiency and hydrological effect study [2013, 2014]

New data from the exploratory drilling can be used to better assess the potential ASR performance and the hydrological effects in the area. Therefore, in this next step, the SEAWAT groundwater model was adjusted and the same model runs were performed. At the Dinteloord site, the groundwater was found fresher than expected in the desk-study, while the aquifer thickness was 10 m less. The modelled recovery efficiency of ASR-Coastal was just below 100% after 5 years, while less than 50% could be recovered by using a conventional ASR-well.

Besides recovery efficiency, the model also provided insights in the worst-case effects during operation (Figure 4-8). It was found that the hydrological effects were significant in the vicinity of the ASR-Coastal well field, especially close to the wells in the target aquifer. Consequently, around 0.11 m subsidence was expected near the wells during future operation. Since the nearby existing gas network was partly supported by a pile foundation



and partly by the clay layer (unsupported), this degree of subsidence was unacceptable. Therefore, there was a need for relocation of the planned ASR wells (Figure 4-9).



Figure 4-8: Results of the hydrological effects study: lowering of the hydraulic head in the target aquifer (in m).



Figure 4-9: Original locations (in blue) and new location of the ASR well field (in red)



4.2.5. V. Preliminary design and permitting

Once the location and rough operational parameters are known, a preliminary design for the ASR scheme should be set up, preceded by a small-scale pilot. Based on this design, improved cost estimations and an analysis of required permits can be performed.

In general, a permit is required to infiltrate and recover (large volumes of) water in and from aquifers. At the Dinteloord site, this is regulated under the National Water Act. European standards for infiltration water quality are incorporated in these regulations. A detailed hydrological report addressing all potential impacts is required when a permit is requested. The most relevant boundary conditions for approval at the Dinteloord site were the hydrological effects in the area and their impact on archeology (absent), infrastructure (acceptable at the final selected site), groundwater contaminations (acceptable), dikes (acceptable), and nature (acceptable). Based on the limited risks, the permit was granted for the Dinteloord site, provided that the expansion of the well field would take place stepwise, and the effect would be extensively evaluated during every step.

When it comes to water quality during ASR, the European Groundwater Directive is leading, setting strict quality limits for:

- Nitrate (50 mg/l max)
- Individual pesticides (0.1 µg/l max)
- The sum of pesticides (0.5 µg/l max)

Limits are also set by member states itself for separate groundwater bodies, but only for the following species: CI, Ni, As, Cd, Pb, total-P. When it comes to SWS, especially infiltration of water surpluses may impact the groundwater quality. The EU guidelines demand that the standstill-principle is met during this activity, indicating that infiltration should not negatively impact the quality of the whole water body. I.e. concentrations exceeding the limits set by the Groundwater Directive or for the individual water bodies may not be exceeded in the infiltration water.

Relevant regulations from various countries were collected in the Subsol Knowledge Base.

4.2.6. VI. First injection/storage/recovery and pumping test [2015-2016]

Before starting large-scale operation of any ASR-scheme, it is strongly advised to operate the ASR on a very small, controllable scale, for instance with only one well. At Dinteloord, this stage was subsidized by the TKI watertechnology programme in The Netherlands because of the innovative character of this water supply solution. Two nests with monitoring wells were drilled and used at the Dinteloord site (Figure 4-10):



- Monitoring nest 1: Close to the ASR well to record local effects (pressure transducers) and passage of the injected water (sampling + analyses) (PB1);
- Monitoring nest 2: Further away from the ASR well to verify the regional impact of the ASR operation (PB2).



Figure 4-10: Cross-section of the ASR pilot at Dinteloord. PP1 is the ASR well.

Cycle testing

The cycle testing is preferably done with significant freshwater volumes, such that injected water passes beyond the nearby observation well. A guideline to assess water quality changes is provided by Stuyfzand (2002), which refers to ASR in freshwater aquifers. When buoyancy plays a role (like in brackish aquifers), however, it is advised to use the following approach:

- Record the reference situation (hydraulic heads, groundwater chemistry, EMprofile);
- 2. Infiltrate with the planned operational injection rate, until the fringe of the injected water is 1.5 times further than monitoring nest 1. Monitor and record the pressure



on the injection well and the flow during infiltration to asses potential clogging (Figure 4-11);

- Record electrical conductivity and/or perform frequent hydrochemical analysis at the observation wells of monitoring nest 1 and perform EM borehole logging: record the breakthrough of the injected water to assess dispersion and hydrochemical processes at the fringe;
- 4. Sample and analyse the infiltration water frequently enough to capture potential variations. Special attention is required for careful measurements of dissolved oxygen and NO₃ due to their oxidation capacity, which may induce significant water quality changes;
- 5. Store the water for at least 50% of the planned storage period, to allow relevant density-driven flow (buoyancy) to occur during storage;
- 6. During recovery with the planned recovery rate: record electrical conductivity and/or perform frequent hydrochemical analysis at the ASR well and at the observation wells of monitoring nest 1: record the breakthrough of the brackish water to assess dispersion and hydrochemical processes at the fringe;
- Perform an extensive pumping test combined with high-frequency recording of groundwater heads at monitoring nest 1 to derive relevant hydraulic parameters (conductivities, storage coefficients, maximum capacity of the well);
- 8. Stop recovering once brackish water approaches the recovery well, unless it is easy to dispose of this water locally. In the latter case, follow Stuyfzand (2002).

To reduce costs and to have water available for potential users that are already located near the ASR site, a more hybrid approach can be selected, as was done at the Dinteloord site (see 0). Based on the outcomes of this pilot, boundary conditions (e.g. well capacities and backflush requirements) were quantified and again a better aquifer parameterisation was achieved.

For the Dinteloord site, this implied that an injection rate of 8-10 m³/h could be expected, while a sustainable recovery rate of around 30 m³/h was derived. A slight decrease in the well capacity during infiltration led to implementation of an automated backflush in the final design.



Focus on organic micropollutants and pathogens

In Dinteloord, the focus regarding water quality was mainly on macrochemical composition and heavy metals, which were relevant for the end users. Analysis of organic micropollutants and pathogens was only performed during recovery to verify the absence upon RO-treatment and aquifer storage. In earlier stages, during testing of the waste water treatment, it was already found that these components were absent (below low detection limits) in the treated water, and thus in the infiltration water.

In many cases of waste water reuse, however, these components are not completely removed (especially when pretreatment is less efficient compared to RO), which makes monitoring of the fate of these components during aquifer residence a key issue in the test cycle.



Figure 4-11: Example of the calculated well capacity (based on measurements) during the test cycle at the Dinteloord site.



4.2.7. VII: Advanced water balance and groundwater modelling to define final operational parameters and assess final performance and effects

Upon completion of the first test cycle(s) and while having a good overview of the projected water demand, a final design can be set up. Three important inputs are required in this phase:

- 1. The boundary conditions and parameters derived from the pilot.
- 2. A highly reliable projection of the demanded operational performance of the ASR-Coastal system, based on a water balance model fed with the temporal water demand and availability in the area. See Appendix 3 for an example from the Dinteloord site. Defined should be:
 - a. The required maximum and average injection rate;
 - b. The required maximum and average recovery rate;
 - c. The required Total Storage Volume (TSV).
- 3. A highly reliable projection of the ASR-Coastal performance, based on a groundwater model calibrated on the data from the test cycle(s) (step VI). This is reported in Subsol deliverable D2.5 for the Dinteloord site (Figure 4-12).

Combination of these elements results in:

- 1. The required total injection volume to attain the TSV (this is more than the TSV itself, as part of the water is lost due to mixing and buoyancy): how much water should be infiltrated, given that one does not want to infiltrate more than needed because of the costs for treatment and infiltration;
- 2. A functional design of the ASR-Coastal well field (number of wells, distance in between wells, depths of the well screens).
- 3. A final assessment of the effects once upscaling is achieved, as is often requested by the permit;
- 4. Management of expectations: it might just be that in the first years of operation, certain elements show slightly elevated concentration above the sometimes strict limits set, but that this will improve cycle-after-cycle, as is the case in Dinteloord for sodium, according to model results and field observations.



Figure 4-12: Example of the final model to assess ASR performance at the Dinteloord site. SP 3 = stress period 3, which is the recovery phase of the first year in this case.

4.2.8. VIII: Final design and realisation of the ASR-Coastal scheme

Final design

Once the operational parameters and the design of the well field are known and fixed in a functional design, a final design of the ASR-Coastal well field can be made (Figure 4-12). This involves detailed engineering of the ASR-Coastal wells and their supply and recovery pipelines (including sensoring, valves, monitoring points, etc., Figure 4-14).

Additionally, a pumping station had to be built in Dinteloord in order to receive the treated waste water (from a distribution loop), to transfer it to the ASR-Coastal well field (during waste water availability), and to receive the recovered water from the ASR-Coastal wells (during dry spells). In the pumping station, the recovered water is also fed to the distribution loop with a constant pressure using a boosterpump. In this way, the submersible pumps were only required to pump the water to the pumping station, instead of supplying it directly to end users far away. This would have been a challenge with submersible groundwater well pumps.

The engineering for the final design was performed by the Codema Group (Bergschenhoek, The Netherlands). All technical drawings and flow schemes (e.g. Figure



4-15) required approval by KWR, acting as a supervising advisor. It is advisable in every ASR project to have an ASR-expert to perform this role.



Figure 4-13: Overview of the final ASR facility in Dinteloord, including ASR-wells, monitoring wells, and infrastructure.



Figure 4-14: Realised ASR-Coastal well at Dinteloord, including supply and recovery lines and sensors.

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Figure 4-15: Brief technical overview of the water-system in Dinteloord, including the connection of the pilot ASR-well. A more detailed overview is given in Appendix 4. Example of drawings in the final design phase.

Realisation

During realisation, a strict supervision on construction is strongly advised (but was found not very common in the greenhouse sector). Strict supervision is required to:

1. Assure that drillings are made according to the local standards and that the required bentonite clay plugs for ASR-Coastal are installed in between the well screens;



- 2. Check and (when needed based on observed lithology) amend the screening of the ASR-Coastal wells. This is vital for the success of the ASR-Coastal well.
 - In Dinteloord: KWR supervised the complete first drilling made during every drilling campaign. The drillers were obliged to hand in a coring description of every well after reaching the final depth, before installing the well screens.
- 3. Demand extensive development of the well capacity (various methods can be suitable) and demand capacity tests upon completion of the development.
- 4. Ascertain careful installation of submersible pumps: many submersible pumps are damaged already during installation without following the installation description.

Once the ASR-scheme is completed, an extensive test must be executed to assure that the demanded functionality is realised. In Dinteloord, this was done by KWR. Typical elements required attention:

- Coding of the different ASR-Coastal well layers in piping and software: using ASR-Coastal means that each individual well segment can operate independently. It is essential to ensure with 100% certainty that operation and monitoring is correctly corresponding between the control system and the well layers.
- Simple water installation and pumping technology, such as the rotation direction of the pump, that will affect the performance of the ASR-Coastal scheme.
- Calibration and integrity of sensors applied (EC, pH, temp, pressure).

4.2.9. IX: Monitoring and evaluation of the first ASR-cycles

Completing an ASR-Coastal scheme is one thing, but operating it may not be as straight forward as a common (above-ground) reservoir. Therefore, special attention is required during the first years of operation. In Dinteloord, the greenhouse cooperation owning the ASR-scheme has contracted KWR to supervise and evaluate the operation, to write a manual, and to improve the projection of the water demand and the impact thereof on the operation of the ASR (mainly: filling level).

Specific attention in the first cycles should be given to:

- Relatively equal distribution of infiltration water over the various wells and well layers of the ASR-Coastal scheme;
- Distribution of the recovery over the various wells and well layers of the ASR-Coastal scheme: the recovery rate should mirror the injection rate per well, but should predominantly occur through the shallow well layers of each well as a response to the buoyancy effect;
- Evaluation of water quality changes of the first few cycles enables to project the final water quality during longer operation (Stuyfzand, 1998);
- The assurance of proper collection, recording, and transfer of all data;
- Calibration of sensors (where relevant);



- Management of malfunctioning elements (sensors, valves, pumps);
- Recording of the groundwater levels in the surroundings, as often obliged in the permit;
- Daily liaison with the operator (in Dinteloord: the greenhouse cooperation).

Every year, an extensive evaluation of the operation, effects, and water balance of the ASR-Coastal scheme is performed for the Dinteloord site. The results are presented to the Provincial authority (permitting agent) and members of the cooperation.



5. Technical details of the final set-up in Dinteloord

5.1.1. Outline of the final water system

Treated effluent of the sugar factory Suiker Unie is delivered via a 5 km long and 315 mm diameter HDPE distribution loop to an aboveground 200 m³ storage tank, which acts as a buffer to deal with potential variation in the supply of treated effluent. When the effluent reaches a threshold level in the storage tank, water is delivered from here to the pumping station in an already existing building bought by TOM. Here, the water can be delivered to a standpipe, which provides the pressure to infiltrate water into the subsurface through the ASR-wells that are connected to the 250 mm PE100-SDR17 and 90 mm PVC piping network (Figure 4-15 and Appendix 4). Whenever there is a demand for irrigation water, the treated effluent can be delivered to horticulturalists in three ways:

- a. The treated effluent can be delivered directly to the horticulturalists via the 315 mm HDPE piping network, without being stored in the storage tank and without being infiltrated into the subsurface;
- b. When there is insufficient direct availability of treated effluent, water stored in the storage tank can be delivered back to the 315 mm HDPE piping network with a boosterpump and can subsequently be provided to the horticulturalists;
- c. Treated effluent stored in the subsurface can be recovered through the ASR-wells and can, after storage in the storage tank, be provided to the horticulturalists along the distribution loop with a boosterpump.

5.1.2. Automated control unit

The large-scale, sustainable watersystem in Dinteloord has to be fully equipped to deal with the fluctuating water demand of the horticulturalists and the availability of treated effluent. As a result, there are several functional requirements. The system should be able to:

- Infiltrate at a minimum rate of 60 m³/h into the subsurface;
- Recover stored water at a rate of approximately 200 m³/h;
- Automatically start with infiltration whenever there is sufficient treated effluent available, and stop with infiltration when insufficient irrigation water is available;
- Automatically start with recovering stored water whenever there is a water demand, and stop with recovering stored water when there is no demand;
- Record operational data;
- Send alarms via e-mail and SMS upon disturbances.

Therefore, an automated control unit has been developed to supply, store, and recover treated effluent with the ASR-system and to deliver irrigation water automatically to horticulturalists whenever there is a demand. This system is equipped with a



programmable logic controller (PLC), which can be operated on site with a touch-screen (Figure 5-1). Additionally, a computerprogram with the same interface has been developed which allows for remote control of the system.

With the button 'Infiltreren is aan' (Dutch for 'infiltration is running'), the system is automatically controlled by the water level in the storage tank. Delivery of treated effluent to the storage tank, infiltration of this water into the subsurface, and delivery of stored freshwater are all controlled by this level. During ordinary cicumstances no further actions are required. The ASR-wells are pre-programmed such that flow will be properly distributed to all ASR well screens.

However, the system can also be manually regulated. For example, whenever there is a direct demand for irrigation water, or if a problem occurs in the regulation of the water level in the storage tank. Moreover, the threshold levels in the storage tank can be adjusted, individual well screens can be selected, rates can be altered, and the frequency of the backflush of well screens can be defined.



Figure 5-1: Main screen of the automated control unit of the watersystem in Dinteloord (in Dutch).


5.2. Photographic impression

A photographic impression of the Dinteloord ASR-system is given in Figure 5-2 - Figure 5-4.



Figure 5-2: The water storage tank that acts as a buffer (right).



Figure 5-3: Technical room of the ASR-facility: Standpipe to provide infiltration pressure (left), piping network to ASR-wells (middle), and a close-up of the boosterpump for supply to the distribution loop (right).



Figure 5-4: Exterior (left) and interior (right) view of the first ASR-well casing (ASR1) in the Dinteloord well-field.





6. Organisation with multiple end users on one waste water reuse & ASR-Coastal Scheme

Using waste water from one party for later use (after aquifer storage) by a second party involves clear agreements between the different parties. The Dinteloord site provides an interesting example of how such an organisational structure may look like.

6.1. Parties involved and their organisation (Dinteloord)

At the Dinteloord water system, many parties are involved with different roles (Table 6-1). This implies that an organisational structure has been set up to operate and administrate the entire water system (Figure 6-1). Basically, the greenhouse cooperation with their members has a central role, each member as owner (shares based on surface area) and main user of the water. However, since the core business of the members is greenhouse horticulture and not water, responsibilities have been distributed. This means that Veolia is operating the waste water treatment, while TOM and KWR operate the ASR-Coastal scheme. TOM is responsible for all financial aspects, while KWR is responsible for monitoring and evaluation of the ASR-Coastal scheme.

Name	Role
Greenhouse cooperation Nieuw Prinsenland (8 greenhouse owners)	Owner and most important end user of the water system
ТОМ	Developer of the greenhouse area, operator of the ASR-Coastal scheme on behalf of the cooperation
Suiker Unie	Provider of the waste water and end user of reused water
Veolia	Operator of the waste water treatment system
Water authority Brabantse Delta	Management of surface water system in the area
Province of Brabant	Permitting agent for the ASR
KWR	Development of ASR-Coastal Supervision during realisation Advising the water cooperation and TOM Evaluation of performance
Codema	Engineering and construction of the ASR-Coastal scheme Maintenance, repair malfunctioning elements

Table 6-1: Parties involved in the Dinteloord water system



Figure 6-1: Organisation of the Dinteloord water system

6.2. Cost coverage

In the Dinteloord set-up, there are two ways to cover the costs:

- 1. Investment costs: the costs that are made to realise the installations such as the waste water treatment, pipelines, pumping stations, ASR-Coastal wells;
- Variable costs: costs made to supply each m³. This comprises costs made for treatment (paid to Veolia), electricity, and monitoring. This also entails the costs of KWR and Codema for advice and maintenance.



The variable costs are calculated at the end of every year and may change over the years, depending on the need for maintenance and the total volume supplied. The users that use more water will automatically pay more to cover the total costs. The billing is executed by TOM.

6.3. Distribution and trading of water rights

The ASR-Coastal scheme has a maximum recoverable volume that can be supplied, which may vary over the years. Each spring, the recoverable freshwater volume is estimated by KWR, upon which TOM distributes the water volumes over the different users, based on their surface area. The users have a right to take at least this water volume. Users having a low water demand, can however transfer their rights to users with a high water demand. These transfers must be communicated to TOM.

The recovery rate is limited to 200 m³/h, which is 1 m³/h per hectare of greenhouse. This is therefore the minimum guaranteed supply rate for each user. Again, rates can be transferred from one user to the other.





7. Conclusions on the use of ASR-Coastal for water reuse

In this document, the experiences of applying ASR-Coastal for the storage of reused water for later use are collected as a guiding document. A step-by-step approach toward implementation is presented, including examples from the Dinteloord ASR-Coastal scheme.

7.1. Lessons learned

The most important lessons learned for applying ASR-Coastal for water reuse are:

• Take it step-by-step

There are various elements that can fail when applying ASR-Coastal or while reusing (treated) waste water. A careful step-by-step approach (Chapter 4) with a critical but open view is required toward realisation. Do the homework (desk-studies), verify important assumptions with field measurements, model early, and validate and demonstrate with a small-scale pilot. This also involves continuously (every step) informing targeted water users, authorities, neighbours, and the supplier of the waste water. All aspects such as technical feasibility, economic viability, and hydrological acceptability should constantly be assessed in an iterative process.

• Demonstrate and communicate

Both water reuse and ASR-Coastal involves complex processes and technology. A clear demonstration and communication are vital to inform stakeholders, end users, the public and of course the water users. For the Dinteloord case, this involved information panels, a short informative movie (shot by drone¹), a public opening², and a comprehensive article in a professional journal with details on the complete set-up³. The water users were particularly informed by regular meetings with their cooperation. The pTA session organized within Subsol was very useful to inform and involve a broad range of stakeholders.

• Set-up the organisational structure

As shown in Chapter 5, combining reuse with aquifer storage and recovery for various end users can require a firm organisational structure with clear roles for each party. In Dinteloord, this structure was set up by the TOM, which was developing the area and acted as a director. The TOM is a stable, central organisation with a good overview of all processes in the area and the ability to assess technical and economic viability based on information provided by experts.

¹ <u>vimeo.com/256952109</u>

² https://www.alliedwaters.com/news/sugar-beet-reuse-water-used-to-grow-tomatoes/

³ <u>https://www.h2owaternetwerk.nl/vakartikelen/1488-waterhergebruik-en-berging-met-aquifer-storage-and-recovery-asr-op-tuinbouwlocatie-nieuw-prinsenland</u>



7.2. Potential in different settings

At the Dinteloord site, the ASR-Coastal was successful in storing treated waste water for later reuse. Success at other sites will be strongly dependent on the local hydrogeological conditions. Use of the ASR-Coastal and Freshmaker Technological and Economical guides (D1.5 and D1.7 of the Subsol project) can together with the current guide support end users in evaluating subsurface water solutions in combination with water reuse. In general, potential of aquifer storage will be dependent on the presence of a suitable aquifer: permeable and preferably fresh, or otherwise suitable for SWS (see D1.5 and D1.7). Additionally, the aquifer should be suitable the retain the water. In other words: the water should not rapidly exfiltrate upon injection. Most viable conditions exist where aquifers are already depleted (resulting in salinization and declining groundwater levels), in coastal areas, and in areas with low groundwater levels.



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Appendix 1. Characterization of the target aquifer

A1.1. Characterization of the target aquifer

A detailed characterization of the target aquifer was achieved by:

- Grain size analysis of samples taken from monitoring well PB1 (Figure 4-13);
- Borehole logging using the Robertson DIL-38 Probe in March 23, 2016);
- A pumping test performed in April 2016;
- Sampling the targeted depth intervals of well screens for geochemical analysis.

The lithology observed at monitoring well PB1 is presented in Table A1-1, the measured natural gamma (CPS) and the electrical conductivity resulting from the borehole logging are presented in Figure A1-1.

The top 10 m of the subsurface consists of fine sand, clay, and peat and acts as a confining layer for the target aquifer (Table A1-1). The target aquifer is around 18 m thick and consists of fine to medium fine sand, with a thin clay layer in the middle. This is also evident from the slightly higher electrical conductivity and natural gamma (CPS) of the borehole logging results at 20 m BSL (meters below sea level) (Figure A1-1).

Based on the pumping test, different hydraulic conductivities (K_{hor}) were assigned to several intervals of the target aquifer (Table A1-2), according to their grain size analysis and borehole logging. The results indicate that the highest conductivity (K = ~18 m/d) is found in the lower half of the aquifer, whereas the conductivity in the upper half is limited to around 6 m/d.

Table A1-1: Lithology at the Dinteloord ASR-system based on observations at PB1. m ASL = meters above sea level.

Layer top (m ASL)	Layer bottom (m ASL)	Formation	Lithology	Mean grain size	Layer type
0.0	-10.0	Naaldwijk	Clay, fine sand, peat	-	Aquitard
-10.0	-20.0	Waalre (sand)	Fine sand, clay layer at the base	150	(Target) Aquifer
-20.0	-28.0	Waalre (sand)	Medium fine sand	215	(Target) Aquifer
-28.0	-32.0	Waalre (clay)	Sandy clay	-	aquitard



Figure A1-1: Natural gamma log and electrical conductivity at PB1 (Figure 4-13) on March 2016, after the first injection of freshwater. The blue rectangles represent the well screens of the first ASR well. The EC of the formation at the depth of these well screens is 0 mS/m, because treated effluent with a very low EC (<50 μ S/cm) was already injected at the time of logging.

Table A1-2: Hydrogeological parameterization based on the pumping test performed at the Dinteloord ASR-site. The depth is given in m BLS, which is an abbreviation for meters below the land surface.

Coological unit	Depth	Thickness model layer	Effective porosity	Khor	Khor / Kvert	Storativity (S)
deological unit	(m BLS)	(m)	(-)	(m/d)	(-)	(-)
Top layer	0 - 1	1	0.3	5	3	0.1
Phreatic layer	1 - 5	4	0.3	5	3	1.0E-04
Clay cap	5 - 12	7	0.2	0.1	10	1.0E-04
Aquifer 1a	12 - 20	8	0.35	6	1	5.0E-05
Aquitard 1a	20 - 21	1	0.2	0.4	10	1.0E-04
Aquifer 1b	21 - 25	4	0.35	6	3	1.0E-04
Aquitard 1b	25 - 26	1	0.2	3	10	1.0E-04
Aquifer 1c	26 - 30	4	0.35	18	3	1.0E-04
Aquitard 1c	30 - 37	7	0.2	0.14	10	1.0E-04
Aquifer 2	37 - 40	3	0.35	10	3	1.0E-05
Aquitard 2	40 - 50	10	0.2	0.02	10	1.0E-05
Aquifer 3	-4969	20	0.35	15	3	1.0E-06



Monitoring well PB1 has been sampled at the targeted intervals of the ASR-screens for geochemical analysis. The results indicate that the target aquifer will be most reactive around screen ASR1.2, followed by ASR1.1 (Table A1-3). Here, the highest contents of Soil Organic Material (SOM), calcite, siderite, and various metals were observed. However, the highest pyrite content (and probably As content; Zn, Ni and Co seem less connected with pyrite) was observed at ASR1.4. The high contents of Mg suggest that the carbonates may be present as dolomite ((Ca,Mg)CO₃) or dolomitic limestone, and that Mg is at least partly silica-bound. Groundwater quality suggests, however, that very low Mg CaCO₃ should be present and thus that most Mg is silica-bound, e.g. as biotite.

Table A1-3: Geochemical results based on mixed samples from PB1 at the depth of the ASR well screens

	Interval:	ASR1.1	ASR1.2	ASR1.3	ASR1.4
Parameter					
Dry residue 105°C (g/g)	%	81.0	81.8	80.8	85.0
Loss on ignition 550°C (g/g)	%	79.1	80.1	80.2	84.7
Residue 1000°C (g/g)	%	78.1	78.8	79.6	84.3
Sodium upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	100	120	88	53
Potassium upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	935	1100	500	250
Calcium upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	3170	6575	2330	465
Magnesium upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	2460	4190	2050	430
Iron upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	15855	28755	6515	4045
Manganese upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	165	380	77	15
Silica upon HNO3 destruction*	mg/kg dw	2195	2625	1780	1615
Aluminium upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	6820	7285	2980	1470
Arsenic upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	2.8	3.8	2.1	18
Barium upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	15	16	7.9	4.5
Nickel upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	13	9.3	6.6	4.4
Cobalt upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	4.8	3.7	2.2	4.2
Chromium upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	12	14	7.9	3.2
Titan upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	32	45	43	22
Zinc upon HNO3 destruction	mg/kg dw	17	14	9.6	4.7
C	%	0.31	1.09	0.18	0.07
S	%	0.05	0.06	0.02	0.16
SOM (calculated using C)	%	0.62	2.18	0.36	0.14
CaCO ₃ (calculated using Ca)	%	0.79	1.64	0.58	0.12
Pyrite (calculated using S)	%	0.09	0.10	0.04	0.30
Mg/Ca (molar ratio)		1.28	1.05	1.45	1.52
K/AI		0.09	0.10	0.12	0.12

* Far too low by incomplete dissolution in HNO₃



A1.2. Characterization of the native groundwater

From a preliminary study, the transition from saline to fresh groundwater appeared to be situated right within the planned project area (Figure A1-2). The occurrence of saline groundwater in the area is the result of flooding and infiltration of seawater during the Holocene transgressions, until the estuaries of the North Sea were closed in the 1970's.



Figure A1-2: Overview of the planned project area and monitoring wells B43G0391, PB1, and PB2. The red, orange, and blue contours represent the chloride concentrations in groundwater based on groundwater-maps of TNO.

The exact location of the transition was not fully known, due to the limited number of drillings performed in the area. Therefore, the already present monitoring well (B43G0391) and a newly placed monitoring well (PB2) were sampled. The groundwater at B43G0391 appeared to be considerably more saline than Figure A1-2 suggests, especially at the deeper section of the first aquifer, where a chloride concentration of 4,330 mg/L was detected. Groundwater at PB2 had a chloride concentration of 1,050 mg/L. These chloride concentrations are too high for the efficient implementation of ASR-Coastal. The second



aquifer is even more saline and therefore also unsuitable. On top of this, the gas-station close to PB2 is sensitive to subsidence (Figure 3-2).

As a result, another monitoring well (PB1) was placed approximately 500 m to the southeast of PB2 to determine the groundwater salinity and the suitability of the subsurface there. The native groundwater observed at PB1 appeared to be relatively fresh, with chloride concentrations of 28 – 54 mg/L (Table A1-4) and thus remarkably lower than those observed at PB2. Therefore, the subsurface at PB1 was suitable for the implementation of ASR. It was decided to still use ASR-Coastal (with multiple layers) instead of conventional ASR with a fully penetrating well because modelling indicated that deepest layers would more quickly salinize (Figure A2-6).

Sample code	PB1.2	PB1.3	PB1.4	PB1.5
Depth (m ASL)	-16.00	-19.50	-24.00	-28.50
Date	23/10/2015	23/10/2015	23/10/2015	23/10/2015
EC-25 Lab (uS/cm)	691	691	671	730
Temp (°C)	12.4	11.7	11.7	11.8
pH (Field)	7.9	7.8	7.8	7.7
Turbidity (NTU)	3.0	1.2	11.4	8.5
DO (mg/L)	1.1	0.5	0.8	1.3
Na (mg/L)	40	41	29	35
K (mg/L)	3.4	3.4	3.5	2.4
Ca (mg/L)	92	91	100	110
Mg (mg/L)	10.0	10.0	11.0	8.6
Fe (mg/L)	0.39	0.42	0.66	1.10
Mn (mg/L)	2.70	2.40	2.20	0.15
NH ₄ (mg NH ₄ /L)	1.7	1.9	1.7	0.5
Cl (mg/L)	32	28	29	54
SO4 (mg/L)	<30	<30	<30	<30
HCO3 (mg/L)	380	390	370	350
NO3 (mg N/L)	<3	<3	<3	<3
PO4-t (mg P/L)	<1	<1	<1	<1
As (ug/L)	6.9	6.6	5.6	<5
IBAL %	2.2	1.8	3.9	3.9
∆EC-meas %	-22	-10	13	6
BEX (meq/L) excl. dolomite	1.7	1.9	1.4	0.7
BEX (meq/L) incl dolomite	1.0	1.2	0.6	0.3
Watertype	F3CaHCO3+	g3CaHCO3+	g3CaHCO3+	F3CaHCO3
TDS (mg/L)	562	568	547	562
Density	1000.2	1000.2	1000.2	1000.2

Table A1-4: Native groundwater quality observed at PB1



Appendix 2. Results of the small scale pilot: ASR1

A2.1. Infiltration water quality

The treated effluent is extremely fresh and subsaturated for calcite (Table A2-1). The ionic balance is not correct, probably due to erroneous HCO₃ data. Before infiltration into the subsurface, the quality of treated effluent complies with the limits for high-class irrigation water, as set by TOM.

Sample code	IN_12-2-16	IN_21-3-16	IN_4-10-16	IN_8-12-16	IN_2-2-17	IN_28-11-17	Quality limit TOM
Date	12/02/2016	21/03/2016	4/10/2016	8/12/2016	2/2/2017	28/11/2017	21/03/2016
EC-25 Lab (uS/cm)	13	14	19	7	9	10	300
Temp (°C)	11.4	10.2	14.5	8.5	11.3	9.3	-
pH (Field)	6.8	7.2	5.7	6.8	5.4	5.4	6.5
Turbidity (NTU)	4.1	0.8					-
DO-calc (mg/L)	0.8	0.7	7.5	10.5	9.6	10.4	-
Na (mg/L)	1.5	1.2	2.0	0.8	0.9	<2	2.3
K (mg/L)	0.5	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.7	46.9
Ca (mg/L)	<0.5	<0,5	<1.2	<1.2	<1.2	<3	32.1
Mg (mg/L)	<0.5	<0,5	<0.15	<0.15	<0.15	<0.4	4.9
Fe (mg/L)	<0,01	<0,01	<0.09	<0.09	<0.09	<0.005	0.25
Mn (mg/L)	<0.002	0.0	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.0004	0.25
NH_4 (mg NH_4/L)	0.2	0.1	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	<0.023	0.4
Cl (mg/L)	7.3	<1	1	<0.6	0.6	<2	17.7
SO₄ (mg/L)	5.3	<1	<0.6	0	0	<0.33	28.8
HCO₃ (mg/L)	25	16	7.6				91.5
NO ₃ (mg N/L)	<3	<3	0.24	0.33	0.21	1.4	217
PO₄-t (mg P/L)	<1	<1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	0.28	27
As (ug/L)	<5	<5	0.1	0	0		-
Zn (ug/L)			375	10	23		196
DOC	<5		0.1			<0.1	-
IBAL %	-78.2	-56.7	56.6	78.0	49.8	-21.9	
TDS (mg/L)	40	18	5	2	3	3	
Density	999.6	999.7	999.2	999.8	999.6	999.8	

Table A2-1: Observed injection water quality in 2016 and 2017



A2.2. Water quantity

In 2016, an exploratory ASR-cycle was performed with a single ASR-well (ASR1). From the 28th of January until the 4th of March, 8,500 m³ of treated effluent was stored in the subsurface using all well screens of ASR1. The infiltration pressure remained constant, indicating the absence of well clogging. After 6 months of storage, 1,000 m³ was successfully recovered with ASR1 between the 15th and 20th of August without exceeding the water quality requirements for irrigation water. During this phase, the recovery rate was highest in well screens 1 and 2 to prevent buoyancy effects on stored freshwater. Buoyancy effects proved, however, to be insignificant.

In autumn 2016, ASR2 was placed and since the 15th of November an additional 25,000 m³ of treated effluent was stored in the subsurface through ASR1 and ASR2. In the dry spring of 2017, 25,000 m³ was recovered and delivered to the already present horticulturalists. 80 % of recovered water met the requirements of the local horticulturalists, which was more than expected based on preliminary modelling.

After realisation of ASR3 and ASR4, a long phase of infiltration was initiated again in the autumn of 2017 using all four available ASR-wells. In total, more than 100,000 m³ was infiltrated until the end of March 2018. Due to the summer drought of 2018, approximately 60,000 m³ of stored water was recovered from early July till mid-August 2018.

The total volume of water infiltrated through and recovered from all ASR-wells since February 2016 is given in Figure A2-1, which reflects the information given above. The total volume of water infiltrated through and recovered from ASR1 since February 2016 is given in Figure A2-2.



Figure A2-1: Infiltration (red dotted line and fields), recovery (blue dotted line and fields), and net infiltration (black solid line) of treated effluent through all ASR-wells from February 2016 till August 2018.

Sub Sol



Figure A2-2: Infiltration (red dotted line and fields), recovery (blue dotted line and fields), and net infiltration (black solid line) of treated effluent through ASR1 from February 2016 till August 2018.

For each individual screen of ASR1, the net volume of water that was infiltrated is given in Figure A2-3. The colorscale on the righthand side of Figure A2-3 corresponds with the colorscale of the water quality figures in this appendix, and represents the distribution of water quality measurements during operation of the ASR-system. In addition, **Error! Reference source not found.** can be used besides Figure A2-3 and the water quality figures as a quick reference to the corresponding ASR-phases.

Sub Sol



Figure A2-3: Net volume of water infiltrated through each well screen of ASR1. The colorbar and the dots represent the time-steps at which water quality measurements were taken from ASR1 and observation well PB1 during different phases of the ASR-operation.

A2.3. Model results

A2.3.1. Small-scale pilot

A SEAWAT groundwater-model was calibrated based on the observations during the small scale pilot with a single ASR-well. The breakthrough of freshwater at the monitoring well at 10 m could only be reproduced by limiting the dispersion coefficient in the aquifer to 0.1 m. This model predicts that the loss of infiltrated freshwater by buoyancy and mixing is limited, thereby positively affecting the recovery efficiency (Figure A2-4).



Figure A2-4: Modelled distribution of freshwater from the ASR-well in the target aquifer during the storage phase of the first ASR cycle (June 3, 2016). Top: Total dissolved solids (TDS); bottom: Cl. The depth is in m ASL, and the horizontal distance is the distance from the ASR wells (m).

A2.3.2. Large-scale application

The recovery efficiency of the finalized well field (8 ASR wells) was predicted with the SEAWAT groundwater model. In this case, 25,000 m³ of freshwater was infiltrated and recovered per ASR well to produce the initially targeted 200.000 m³ per year.

A2.3.3. Predicted performance based on CI concentrations

Since CI is the best indicator for salinization, it was first analysed when the wells would recover water with a chloride concentration above the TOM limit (17.7 mg/l), corresponding with ~50% ambient groundwater. In the first 5 years, the recovery efficiency increases from 92.5 to >99% (Table A2-3). The results do show that concentration will increase in the final recovery stage, especially at the deepest well screens. The high recovery efficiencies are partly due to tolerating a relatively high fraction of ambient groundwater in the recovered water. In a more saline aquifer with a higher chloride concentration, the tolerated fraction of recovered ambient groundwater would be lower. This implies that the recovery efficiency would also be lower. Besides buoyancy of the lighter injected water, diffusive mixing with ambient groundwater becomes also more



important with higher ambient chloride concentrations. Because stricter limits were set for Na, it was decided to also analyse the modelled Na-concentrations.

Table A2-2: Future operational	ASR scheme for the	groundwater model ((Volume in m ³ /well,	average of 8 wells)
		5	(

Phase	Duration	Q (m3/d)	Volume (m3)	Q per well screen layer (%)
	(d)			
Injection	140	180	25,200	PPX.1: 25, PPX.2: 21, PPX.3: 28, PPX.4: 26
Storage	150	0	0	-
Recovery	40	-625	-25,000	PPX.1: 25, PPX.2: 21, PPX.3: 28, PPX.4: 26

Table A2-3: Recovery efficiency per cycle based on CI

Cycle	Recovery Efficiency (%)				
1	92,5				
2	95,9				
3	98,4				
4	98,4				
5	98,4				
6 - 20	99,2				



Figure A2-5: Modelled CI concentrations (10 cycles: Cycle 2 is shown).



A2.3.4. Predicted performance based on Na concentrations

The limit set for Na is stricter that the limit for Cl, such that less mixing with brackish water can be allowed. Especially well layer 1 and 4 suffer from early admixing of Na by diffusion or convective flow plus dispersion from the confining clay layers, limiting the recovery efficiency in the first cycles. However, as a consequence of ongoing freshening by overinfiltration, the recovery efficiency increases to >80% after 5 years. When a somewhat higher salinity (e.g. 11 mg Na/I: generally accepted in modern greenhouse horticulture if no better water is available) is accepted, the recovery efficiency will be in line with the recovery efficiency based on Cl.

Table A2-4: Predicted recovery efficiency based on the TOM Na limit (2.4 mg/l)

Cycle	Recovery Efficiency			
	(%)			
1	33,8			
2	59,7			
3	70,5			
4	75,9			
5-6	80,3			
7-8	82,6			
9-10	83,5			



Figure A2-6: Simulated Na concentrations (10 cycles: Cycle 1 is shown)



Figure A2-7: Simulated Na concentrations (10 cycles: Cycle 5 is shown)

Appendix 3. Water balance model

A3.1. Water balance model fundamentals

The water balance of Nieuw Prinsenland is composed of two main storage reservoirs:

- 1. The surface storage basin of the greenhouse horticulturalists (**B**).
- 2. The ASR-buffer, i.e. the subsurface as the storage reservoir for ASR (VASR).

These storage reservoirs are linked through the infiltration and recovery fluxes of the ASR-facility. The remaining fluxes that contribute to the change of volume in both reservoirs are clarified in Table A3-1, in Figure A3-2 and Figure A3-1, and in the following equations:

$$\Delta B = I_{Roof} + I_{Basin} + ASR_{sup} - ASR_{rw} - BO - D$$

$$\Delta V_{ASR} = IWD - SFU + ASR_{rw} - ASR_{sup}$$

Table A3-1: Description of the fluxes given in the formulas above.

Symbol	Flux
I _{Roof}	Net precipitation intercepted by greenhouse roofs
I _{Basin}	Net precipitation intercepted by the surface basin
ASR _{sup}	Supplement water recovered from the subsurface through ASR and delivered to horticulturalists
ASR _{rw}	Surplus water of horticulturalists delivered to the ASR-facility and recharged into the subsurface
ВО	Basin water overflow
D	Water demand of the horticulturalist
IWD	Treated effluent supplied from purification plant
SFU	Water (re-)used by the sugar factory Suiker Unie



Figure A3-1: Schematic representation of the water balance of the greenhouse horticulturalists.

Sub Sol



Figure A3-2: Schematic representation of the total water balance of Nieuw Prinsenland, with integration of the water balance of the greenhouse horticulturalists (green). For clarification: in this outline, waste water is first discharged to the river, after which intake of the same water occurs. This leads to a more constant water quality feeding the treatment.

A3.2. Data acquisition

The acquisition of data to fill the water balance was done in threefold:

- 1. Operational boundary conditions of the sugar factory, the purification plant, and the ASR-facility (Figure A3-2: red).
- 2. Data of net precipitation (Figure A3-2: blue).
- 3. Data of the water balance of greenhouse horticulturalists (Figure A3-2: green).

The lay-out of the water balance of Nieuw Prinsenland that can be composed from all retrieved data is presented in Figure A3-3.



Figure A3-3: Lay-out of the water balance of Nieuw Prinsenland.

A3.3. Operational boundary conditions

The operational boundary conditions include design requirements specified by TOM and KWR. The sugar factory acts as a water supplier and user in two periods:

- 1. From April 1 to June 15, sugar is refined, which requires 25 000 m³ and results in 500 000 m³ of wastewater.
- 2. The beet campaign runs from August 15 to September 1, when 5 000 m³ is required and at least 1500, 000 m³ of wastewater is produced.

The purification plant purifies the wastewater at a maximum of 1,440 m³/day. When the sugar factory is not in operation or in case of calamities, the purification plant is able to purify Dintel River water instead of wastewater.

The ASR-facility acts as a supplementary reservoir for the greenhouse cooperation in Nieuw Prinsenland. The full-scale system including 8 wells is able to infiltrate treated wastewater at a rate of 1,440 m³/d and to recover stored water at a rate of 4,800 m³/d. The target storage volume (TSV) of the ASR-facility will be at least 200,000 m³, functioning as an additional supply of 1 m³/h/ha during 40 days when demanded by the greenhouse horticulturalists.

A3.4. Net precipitation data

Precipitation is the main water source for the horticulturalists. Precipitation data is therefore obtained by averaging precipitation data from the nearest measurement stations of the KNMI (Royal Dutch Meteorological Institute) in Steenbergen and Oudenbosch. Daily precipitation data documented in mm/day for the period 2000-2017 is used for this study. Compensation for evaporation losses was done with a daily evaporation rate of 0.633 mm, based on data of a single horticulturalist.



A3.5. Greenhouse horticulturalists

In the future, Nieuw Prinsenland has space to house 11 greenhouse horticulturalists. At the time of research, 5 greenhouse horticulturalists were already present in the planned project area and were interviewed to obtain data regarding their water use and demand, i.e. the operational parameters of the greenhouse. The most important data are the (minimum) buffer capacity, the water demand of crops (taking both solar and artificial ilumination into account), the area of greenhouse roofs, the surface area of the storage basin, and the effective area of crops. The 6 greenhouse horticulture lots that are not yet occupied were analysed on the basis of the average data retrieved from the 5 existing greenhouse horticulturalists.

A3.6. Current water balance

A3.6.1. Set-up of the current water balance model

For the current water balance of each individual greenhouse horticulturalist, **B** was simulated using the demand (**D**) and the precipitation data series of 2000-2017 (I_{Roof} and I_{Basin}) (Figure A3-4). Precipitation data of 2003 is suitable to simulate the reaction of the water demand to a dry year and the data of 2002 was suitable to simulate a wet year. The ASR-fluxes are initiated when the level of the storage basin allows so. In case interception of basin overflow (**BO**) is required, the maximum buffer capacity can be lowered and the water can be directed to the ASR system as **ASR**_{rw}. When the minimum buffer capacity is lower than the minimum water level in the storage basin, water can be recovered through the ASR system as **ASR**_{sup}.

Besides being discharged onto surface water, **BO** can be used as a water source for **ASR**_{rw}. By modelling **BO**, the **ASR**_{rw} feasibility can be calculated. The maximum **ASR**_{rw} is 1 440 m³/d. When there are multiple horticulturalists able to provide **ASR**_{rw} simultaneously, only one is able to supplement the **V**_{ASR}, due to this limiting rate.



Figure A3-4: Simulation of the water volume in the surface storage basin.

The relative ASR_{sup} and BO contributions of each individual horticulturalist were determined, and the ASR_{sup}/B_{max} ratio will be calculated for the dry year 2003 as a design parameter. Moreover, the A_{roof}/B_{max} ratio is an important parameter for horticulturalists, since more crops can be produced with a larger ratio between the greenhouse roof area and the storage basin.

The volume of water stored in the subsurface (V_{ASR}) was calculated through time on a daily basis. The water use of the sugar factory (SFU) and ASR_{sup} of the current day were subtracted from V_{ASR} of the previous day (Figure A3-5), while the water supply of the purification plant (IWD) and ASR_{rw} of the current day were added to this value. The dynamics of V_{ASR} provide insight in how the ASR handles the annual water demand. The annual average and potential fluctuation are used to estimate the ASR usability.



Figure A3-5: Simulation of the water volume stored in the subsurface.

5 greenhouse horticulturalists are included in the current water balance, being the four tomato growers RedStar, Marrewijk Tomaten 1, Marrewijk Tomaten 2, and Lans Tomaten, and the eggplant grower Purple Pride. The ASR-facility in the current water balance consists of only 4 ASR-wells with the combined properties given in Table A3-2, which will change in the future ASR-configuration. The water demand of the sugar factory in Table A3-2 will remain fairly constant in the future.

Quantity	Unit	Time
100 000	m ³	-
120	m³/hour	24 hours
40	m³/hour	24 hours
295	m³/day	Variable
333	m³/day	Variable
	Quantity 100 000 120 40 295 333	Quantity Unit 100 000 m³ 120 m³/hour 40 m³/hour 295 m³/day 333 m³/day

A3.6.2. Water demand of the current water balance model

The water demand of the current greenhouse hotriculturalists is presented in Figure A3-6. The tomato growers have less seasonal variation and a higher average water demand compared to the eggplant company (Purple Pride), which is both caused by the difference in crop illumination. During winter, tomato growers provide artificial light, whereas the eggplant company only uses natural sun light.



Figure A3-6: Water demand (D) of the currently present greenhouse horticulturalists.

The relationship between the B_{MAX}/A_{ROOF} ratio and the annually averaged ASR_{SUP}/D ratio is presented in Figure A3-7. The average B_{MAX}/A_{ROOF} differs between 0.2 and 0.38, resulting in 12% and 4% of the total **D** to originate as ASR_{SUP} , respectively.



Figure A3-7: Relationship between the B_{MAX}/A_{ROOF} ratio (maximum B / surface area) and the annually averaged ASR_{SUP}/D (supplement water from ASR / demand) ratio based on the average horticulturalist currently present in Nieuw Prinsenland.

A3.6.3. Results of the current water balance model

B is modelled for each individual greenhouse horticulturalist for the 17-year time series (2000-2016) (Figure A3-8 - Figure A3-12). When **B** remains above the minimum buffering capacity (**MinBC**), no additional water originating from ASR is required. When **B** rises above the maximum buffering capacity (**MaxBC**), water is available for storage through ASR or basin overflow occurs. A summary of the results in Figure A3-8 - Figure A3-12 is presented in Table A3-3.



Figure A3-8: B of RedStar simulated for 2000-2016. The red dotted line indicates the maximum buffering capacity (MaxBC) and the yellow dotted line indicates the minimum buffering capacity (MinBC). The wet year 2002 and dry year 2003 are visualised with a yellow and blue background, respectively.



Figure A3-9: B of Marrewijk Tomaten I simulated for 2000-2016. The red dotted line indicates the maximum buffering capacity (MaxBC) and the yellow dotted line indicates the minimum buffering capacity (MinBC). The wet year 2002 and dry year 2003 are visualised with a yellow and blue background, respectively.



Figure A3-10: B of Lans Tomaten simulated for 2000-2016. The red dotted line indicates the maximum buffering capacity (MaxBC) and the yellow dotted line indicates the minimum buffering capacity (MinBC). The wet year 2002 and dry year 2003 are visualised with a yellow and blue background, respectively.



Figure A3-11: B of Marrewijk Tomaten 2 simulated for 2000-2016. The red dotted line indicates the maximum buffering capacity (MaxBC) and the yellow dotted line indicates the minimum buffering capacity (MinBC). The wet year 2002 and dry year 2003 are visualised with a yellow and blue background, respectively.



Figure A3-12: B of Purple Pride simulated for 2000-2016. The red dotted line indicates the maximum buffering capacity (MaxBC) and the yellow dotted line indicates the minimum buffering capacity (MinBC). The wet year 2002 and dry year 2003 are visualised with a yellow and blue background, respectively.

Table A3-3: Amount of years MinBC and MaxBC are reached, ASR_{SUP} and the ratio between ASR_{SUP} and B_{MAX} for the dry year 2003, and BO and the ratio between BO and B_{MAX} for the wet year 2002 (current area of occupation = 58%).

Horticulturalist	Amount of years	ASR _{SUP} 2003 (m ³)	Amount of years	BO 2002 (m ³)	
	MinBC is reached	(ASR_{SUP}/B_{MAX})	reached MaxBC	(BO/B _{MAX})	
RedStar	15	63 000 (0.70)	11	43 000 (0.48)	
Marrewijk Tomaten 1	8	15 000 (0.30)	11	23 000 (0.46)	
Lans Tomaten	15	75 000 (0.75)	11	48 000 (0.48)	
Marrewijk Tomaten 2	17	50 000 (1.26)	13	31 000 (0.78)	
Purple Pride	8	4 200 (0.24)	17	21 000 (1.20)	
	Total:	207 200 m ³	Total:	166 000 m ³	

 V_{ASR} fluctuates throughout the years from periods without any demand for water to the minimum volume in the dry year 2003 and at other times of high water demand (Figure A3-13). The fluctuations reflect the same pattern as the fluctuations of **B** of the individual horticulturalists.



Figure A3-13: V_{ASR} modelled with the current water balance. The green boxes represent the two periods of water recharge (beet campaign and sugar refinement). The red box highlights the minimum _{VASR} in the dry year 2003.

A3.7. Future water balance

A3.7.1. Set-up of the future water balance model

For the future water balance of each individual greenhouse horticulturalist, the same steps were undertaken as in the current water balance but now with different initial values and a total of 11 individual greenhouse horticulturalists. The properties of the 6 future greenhouse horticulturalists are based on the average of the 5 companies that are already present in Nieuw Dinteloord. The water demand (**D**) of the future horticulturalists is based on the water demand of the four tomato horticulturalists, which have a higher demand than the eggplant company, resulting in a worst case prediction of the water demand. In the future scenario, the ASR-facility will consist of 8 wells, of which the combined properties are given in Table A3-4. The properties of the sugar company remain unchanged (Table A3-2).

Table A3-4: Input of the future water balance model.

Parameter	Quantity	Unit	Time	
ASR TSV	200 000	m³	-	
ASR max. abstraction	200	m³/hour	24 hours	
ASR max. recharge	60	m³/hour	24 hours	
Water demand Beet campaign	295	m³/day	Variable	
Water demand sugar refining	333	m³/day	Variable	
		•		

A3.7.2. Results of the future water balance model

The greenhouse area and **B** of the future horticulturalists is calculated according to the average B_{MAX}/A_{Roof} of the current horticulturalists and the **D** of tomato horticulturalists. Although **B** of the biggest model horticulturalist (user 6) is four times that of the smallest model horticulturalist (user 1), there are no relative differences between the different modelled horticulturalists (Figure A3-14). Only the starting values are somewhat different. Similarly, **ASR**_{SUP}/**B**_{MAX} and **BO**/**B**_{MAX} are equal for the different model horticulturalists, but



ASR_{SUP} and BO are higher for a larger modeled greenhouse area (Table A3-5). Table A3-5 also shows the relative differences between the curent and the model horticulturalists. The ratios of total roof area (A_{ROOF}) of the current horticulturalists and the model horticulturalists (56% and 44%, respectively) correspond with those of ASR_{SUP}. The ratios of BO (58% and 42%, respectively) differ from this value by 2%. The total ASR_{SUP} for the dry year 2003 was 358 671 m³, which is almost twice the TSV. In contrast, the total BO during the wet year 2002 was 315 990 m³.

V_{ASR} fluctuates throughout the years from periods without any demand for water to the minimum volume in the dry year 2003 and at other times of high water demand (Figure A3-15). The fluctuations reflect the same pattern as the fluctuations of **B** of the individual horticulturalists. The influence of the model horticulturalists with respect to the current horticulturalists is shown in Figure A3-16. The relative pattern of **V**_{ASR} in the future water balance is similar to that of the current water balance. However, during consecutive dry years, the **V**_{ASR} is unable to fully replenish, resulting from the additional end users.



Figure A3-14: Relationship between user 1 (smallest model horticulturalist: right axis) and 6 (biggest model horticulturalist: left axis), based on their B. The MinBC and MaxBC are for both users 1 and 6.

	AS	SR _{SUP} 2003 (m ³)			BO 2002	
RedStar		59 760			48 660	
Marrewijk Tomaten 1		14 976			25 780	
Lans Tomaten		71 712			54 142	
Rijk Zwaan		-			-	
Marrewjk Tomaten 2	48 279		33 934			
Purple Pride	5 544			19 602		
$A_{\text{Roof}} = 56\%$	Total =	200 271	(55.8%)	Total =	200 271	(57.6%)
Model 1		10 560			8 925	
Model 2		13 440			11 359	
Model 3		28 800			24 341	
Model 4		28 800			24 341	
Model 5		38 400			32 454	
Model 6		38 400			32 454	
A _{Roof} = 44%	Total =	158 400	(44.2%)	Total =	133 874	(42.3%)
$A_{\text{Roof}} = 100\%$		Total =	358 671		Total =	315 990

Table A3-5: Total ASR_{SUP} of 2003 and BO of 2003 per horticulturalist, including the totals of the current users and of the model users.



Figure A3-15: V_{ASR} modelled with the future water balance. The red box highlights the minimum _{VASR} in the dry year 2003.



Figure A3-16: V_{ASR} modelled with the current water balance (red) and the future water balance (blue).

A horticulturalist qualifies for **ASR**_{RW} if **BO** and **BO/B**_{MAX} are both high. Figure A3-17 shows that Lans Tomaten, Marrwijk Tomaten 2, and Purple Pride are the most suitable horticulturalists to qualify for **ASR**_{RW}. The **ASR**_{RW} for these horticulturalist is shown in Figure A3-18. Purple Pride delivers water to the ASR-system every year. During the wet year 2002, **ASR**_{RW} was relatively low for all three horticulturalists, whereas it was relatively high in the years 2001, 2010, 2013, and 2015. During wet years, **V**_{ASR} is full all year (Figure A3-16) and **BO** is high, explaining the low **ASR**_{RW}.









Figure A3-18: Annual ASR_{RW} for Purple Pride, Marrewijk Tomaten 2, and Lans Tomaten.

A3.8. Discussion

The results portrayed in previous sections are promising. There is a tight collaboration between the horticulturalists and the ASR-system during the modeled years. During wet years the horticulturalists do not have a high demand. However, during dry years, demand can be excessive. Thereby, **V**_{ASR} can become depleted and **B** of individual horticulturalists drops to low minima. ASR depletion can be prevented by increasing the TSV by 150 000 m³. Another option to prevent ASR depletion is by recharging longer or faster and by taking future climate into account. **B** of individual horticulturalists never gets depleted because water is acquired already at a level of 40%. The annual D can therefore be provided by the combined use of **B** and V_{ASR}, justifying the potential of ASR as a tool to improve freshwater management collectively. Depletion of **B** might occur if the water demand slightly increases or future climate changes.

In the future, the model and its input can be adjusted for an improved assessment of the water balance in Dinteloord. Improvements can include the prevention of ASR depletion or the inclusion of future climate estimations. Shortcomings of the presented water balance models include the estimation of evaporation, the indirect delivery of treated effluent from the purification plant to horticulturalists, the amendable way of supplying **ASR**_{RW}.



The future situation with more horticulturalists included in the collective system is less resilient than the current situation with five end users because of the higher total water demand. During extremely dry years, **B** approaches minimum values and **ASR**_{SUP} can reach a maximum of 350 000 m³, whereas the average is 125 000 m³.

In general, the current water balance and the future water balance reflect a resilient cooperation between the individual horticulturalist and the ASR buffer. The risk of implementation lies in consecutive dry years, possibly resulting in insufficient ASR replenishment.


Appendix 4. Technical overview of the water system

