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## WATER AND SALT BALANCE UPDATE FOR TWO RIVERS PLATINUM

### Surface Water Report

**Prepared for:**  
TWO RIVERS PLATINUM

**Project Number:**  
TRP6370

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## 1. Introduction

Digby Wells Environmental (hereafter Digby Wells) was appointed by Two Rivers Platinum (Hereinafter TRP) to update the existing Water and Salt Balance for Two Rivers Platinum operations.

The water balance update was completed in accordance with the Department of Water Affairs (DWA ) which is now Department of Water and Sanitation, DWS Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) G2: Water and Salt balances (DWA, 2006). Information provided by the TRP was used within these calculations and, where necessary, data provided in the WRC WR2012 publications (WRC, 2012) were used to complement the data provided by the client. The

## 2. Project Location

TRP is located within the Greater Tubatse Local Municipality (GTLM) which is situated in the Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) within the in the Limpopo Province. TRP is situated 60 km north-east of Mashishing (former Lydenburg) on the farms DwarsRivier 372 KT and De Grooteboom 373 KT on the southern part of the eastern limb of the Bushveld Complex. In the Water Management Area context, TRP is located in the Olifants WMA 2, within the Steelpoort River basin. The regional and locality map for the TRP project area is shown on Figure 2-1.

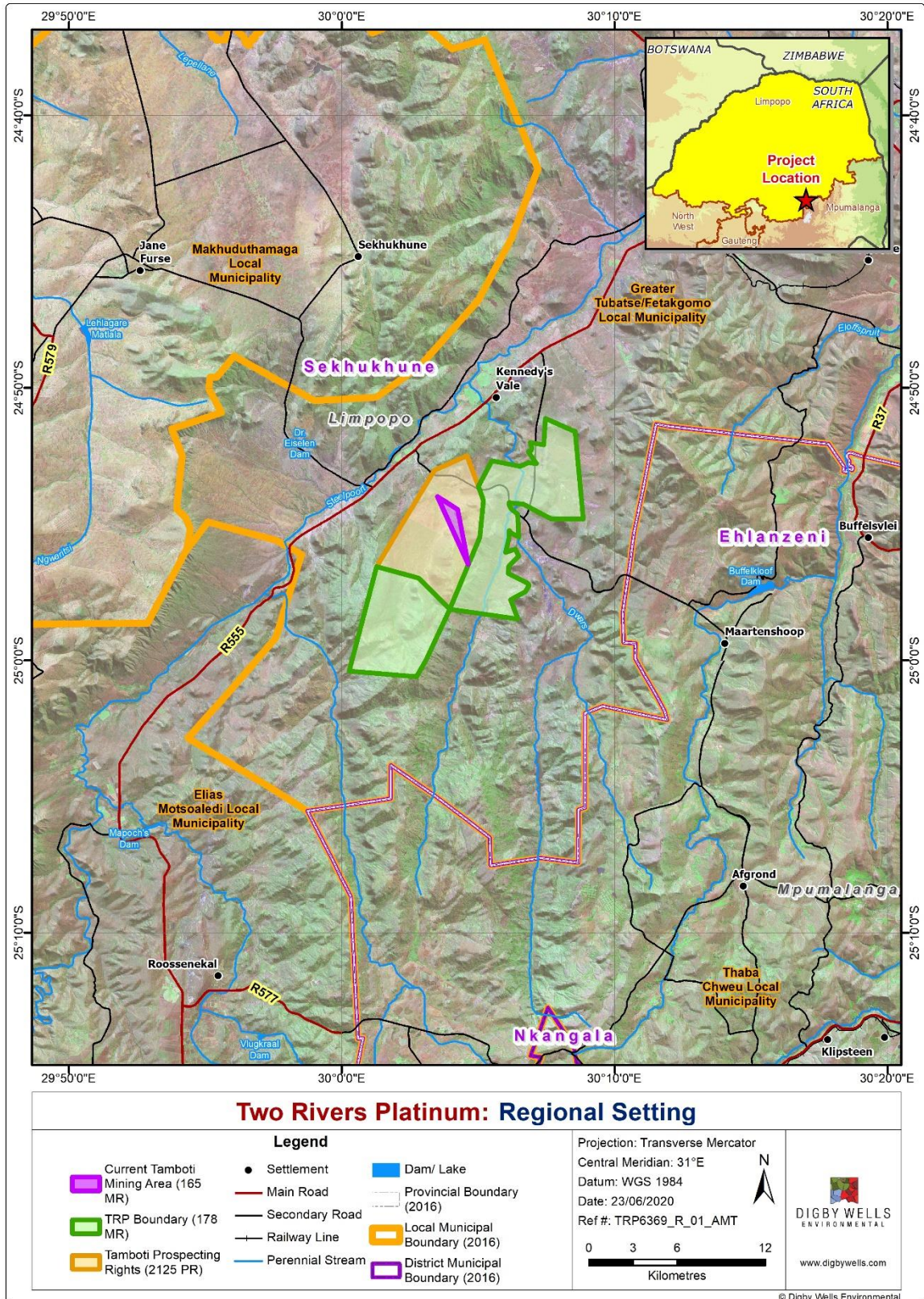


Figure 2-1: Regional Setting

### **3. Methodology**

#### **3.1. Review of Existing Water Balance and Site Assessment**

Prior to the site visit, a review of the existing water balance was conducted to obtain an understanding the site water reticulation system and associated water demand or requirements

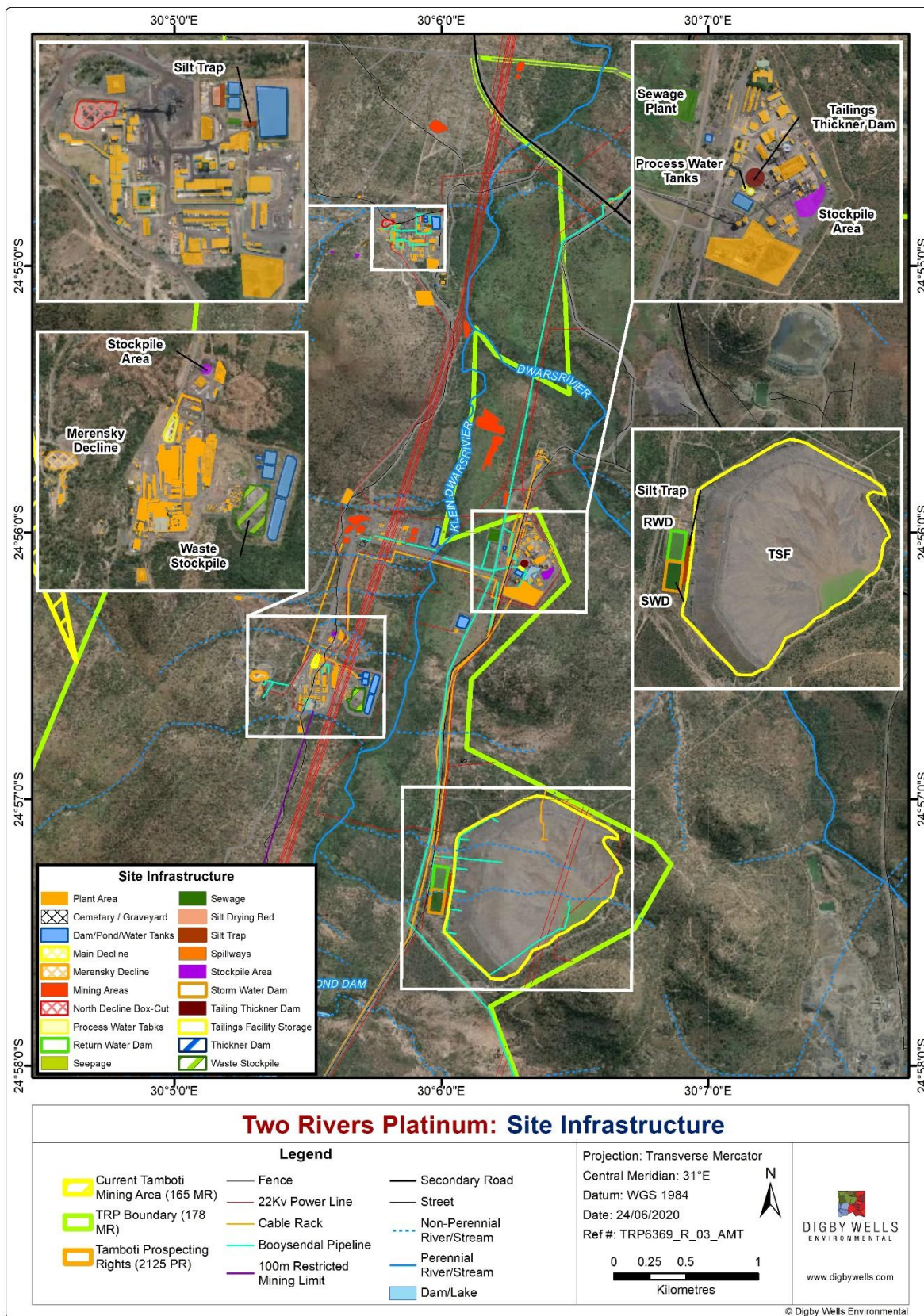
This was followed by a site visit which was undertaken on the 26 and 27 of May 2020, to assess the site conditions and verify the water management infrastructures together with the water reticulation status quo.

#### **3.2. Baseline Hydrology**

The regional rainfall, evaporation and runoff data were obtained from the database provided by the Water Resources of South Africa 2012 study (WRC, 2015) and was used to determine the Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP), Mean Annual Evaporation (MAE) and the Mean Annual Runoff (MAR) for the Upper Olifants River catchment. Time series rainfall-runoff and Symons Pan evaporation historical data for 1920 to 2009 were used to determine average regional hydro-meteorological parameters. These analyses were useful to provide insight into the general rainfall-runoff and evaporation dynamics for the area and enable calculation of potential evaporation on the open water storage facilities within the mine. However, the site specific rainfall data provided by TRP was used on the water balance to calculate the average rainfall and runoff volumes for various components of the mine.

#### **3.3. Water Balance**

As stated above, a static excel based water and salt balance was developed or updated in accordance with the DWS Best Practice Guidelines (BPG) G2: Water and Salt Balances (DWA, 2006). The static water balance compilation utilised results of the hydrological assessment to provide hydrological inputs as rainfall, runoff and evaporation into modelling calculations. Other water volumes were obtained from TRP and where there were gaps, reasonable assumptions were made (which include assuming volumes similar to the previous year) , while keeping in mind the mine's operational philosophy. The site infrastructural map for TRP is presented in Figure 3-1.



**Figure 3-1: Site Infrastructural layout at TRP**

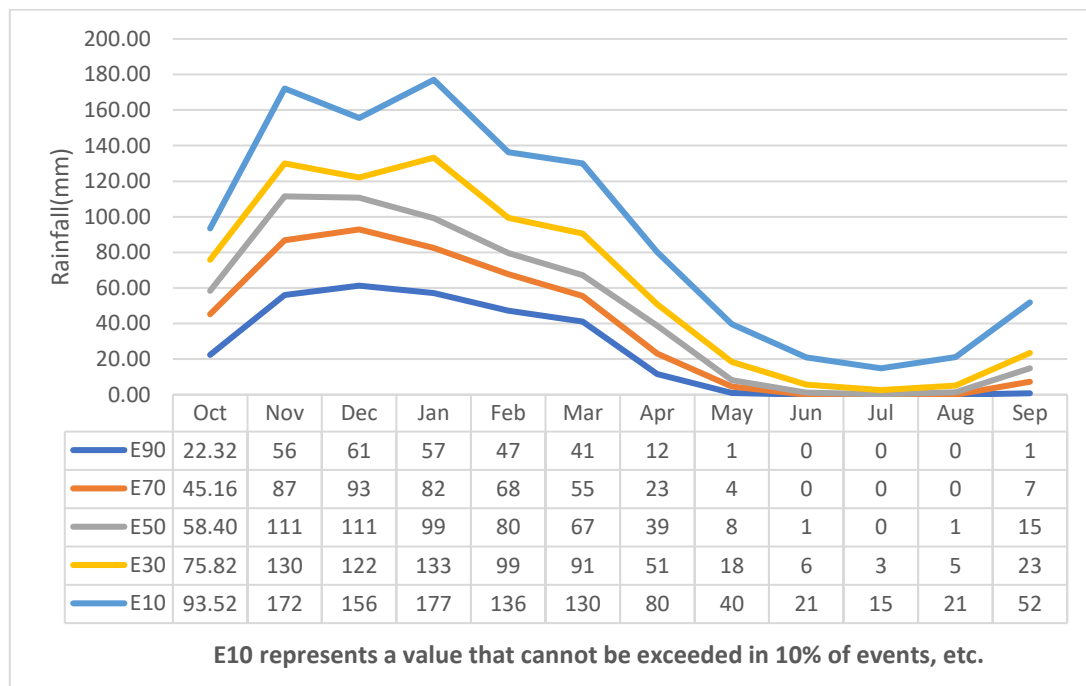


## 4. Baseline Hydrology

The TRP site is situated within the quaternary catchment boundaries of B41H and B41G, with most of the infrastructure located within the B41G quaternary catchment and thus the climatic data for this quaternary has been selected and used to represent TRP.

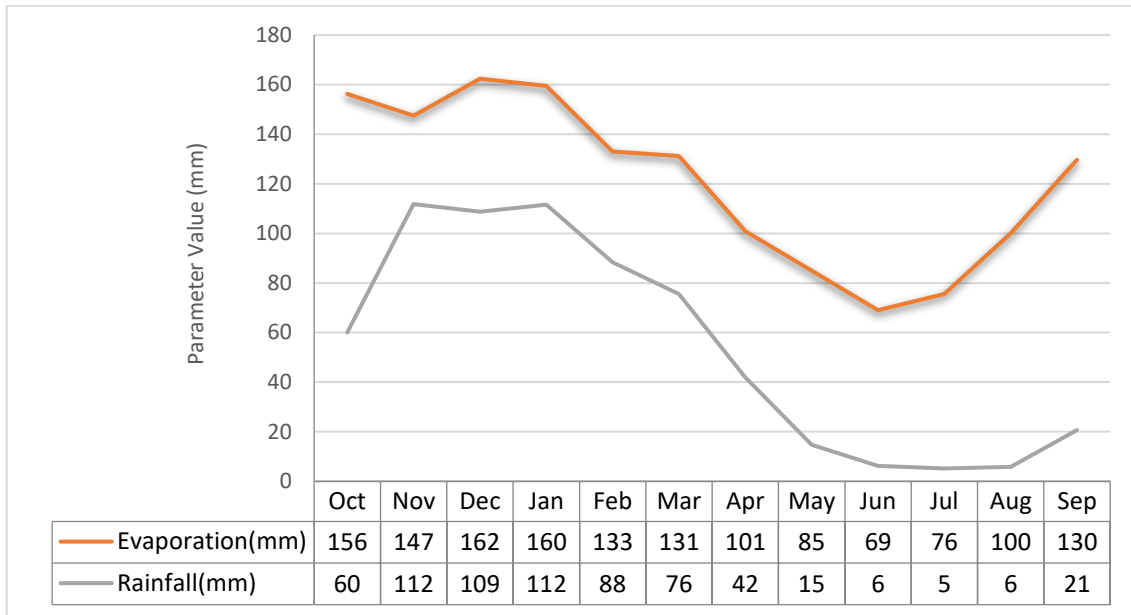
### 4.1. Climate

The project site is characterised by a temperate climate with cool dry winters and warm summers. The Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) for quaternary catchments B41G is 650 mm. The average MAP for the quaternary catchment B41G is likely to be distributed as indicated in Figure 4-1. The normal rainfall (90% of events) for the wettest month (December) will likely not exceed 61 mm, while extreme rainfall (10% of the events) will likely not exceed 156 mm. This implies that the region experiences moderate to high rainfall.



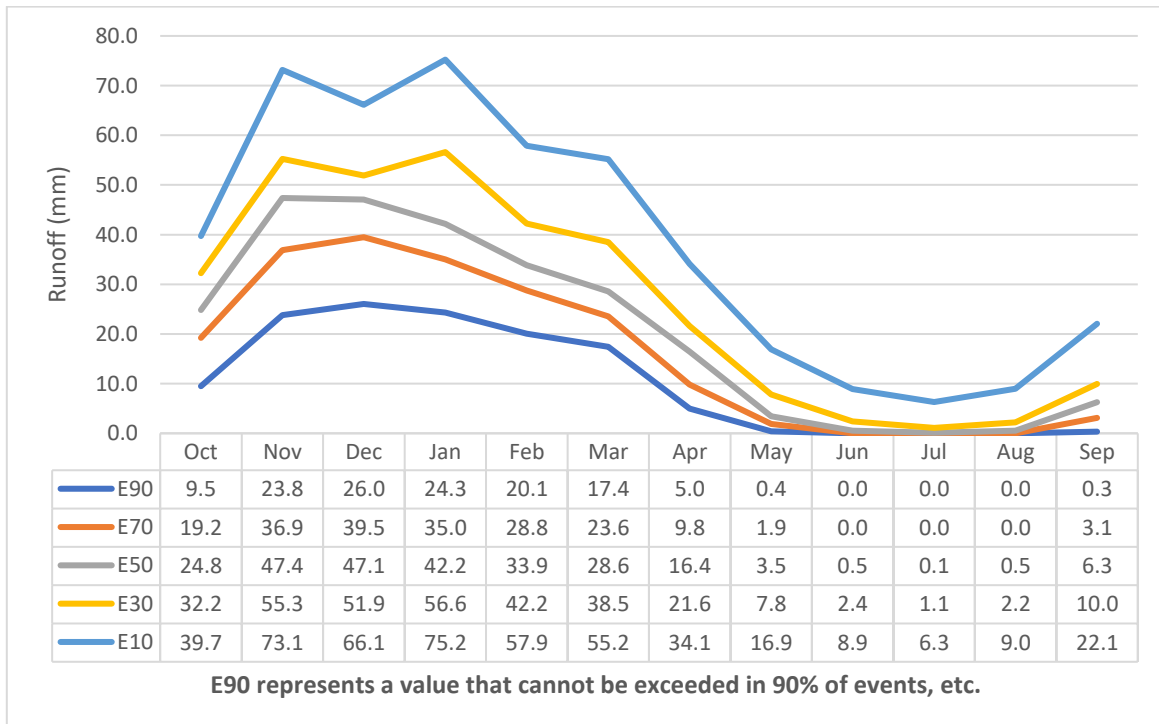
**Figure 4-1: Monthly Rainfall Distribution**

The Mean Annual Evaporation (MAE) for the quaternary catchment B41G is 1 500 mm (WRC, 2015). The region clearly experiences higher evaporation than precipitation received, giving rise to dry winters and wet summers with a negative natural water balance. The average monthly distribution of potential evaporation and rainfall for both quaternary catchments can be seen in Figure 4-2.



**Figure 4-2: Monthly Evaporation and Rainfall**

The Mean Annual Runoff (MAR) depth for the area was calculated to be 49.84 mm. This runoff accounts for approximately 42% of the MAP for the area. The 90<sup>th</sup> (normal flow) and 10<sup>th</sup> (extreme flow) percentiles of runoff during the month of December are 26mm and 66.1 mm, respectively. The average MAR for quaternary catchment B41G is likely to be distributed as indicated in Figure 4-3.



**Figure 4-3: Monthly Runoff Distribution**

## 5. Water and Salt Balance

In line with the DWS's best practice guidelines, a clear definition and understanding of the boundaries of the water system and layout of the water circuits are required to develop the water balance for a mine. This water and salt balance serves as the mine water management tool that assists with water management decision making, risk evaluations and simulation of different water usage scenarios for the mine.

The water management boundaries are defined according to the mine processes and these are subdivided into water demand, water sources and water storage:

### 5.1.1. Water demand/usage

TRP requires water for the following uses, but not limited to:

- Use on the Concentrator Plant;
- Mining purposes;
- Dust suppression;
- Irrigation; and
- Potable water for drinking and other domestic uses.

### 5.1.2. Water sources

TRP water sources include the following:

- Rainfall and runoff
- Groundwater/mine water and borehole water,
- River water; and
- External water (trucked in).

### 5.1.3. Water storage/containment facilities

The water storage infrastructure includes:

- Pollution Control Dam (PCD);
- Jojo tanks/Reservoir;
- Storm Water Dams (SWD); and
- Return Water Dams (RWD).

## 5.2. Calculations and Assumptions

### 5.2.1. Rainfall and Evaporation

Site specific monthly rainfall data used in the TRP Mine water balance is indicated in Table 5-1 whilst the Symons Pan potential monthly evaporation data used in the water balance is indicated in Table 5-2.

**Table 5-1: TRP Monthly rainfall for 2019**

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Rainfall (mm)	110	38	32	38	0	0	0	0	0	40	10	135

**Table 5-2: Potential average monthly evaporation for quaternaries B41G**

Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Evaporation (mm)	156	147	162	160	133	131	101	85	69	76	100	130

### 5.2.2. Constants and other Assumptions

While some of the information was provided by TRP, information was also gathered from previous or existing reports and by use of GIS spatial platform to measure some of the areas at the mine. Table 5-3 present some the key constants and assumptions that were applied on this water and salt balance update model

It is important to note that on the salt balance, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) was used to determine the salt loads similarly to the 2019 water and salt balance. This is with the exception of Sewage quality results which did not have TDS results, and therefore Ammonia was used for all the sewage salt load calculations.

**Table 5-3: Summary of the Key Constants and Assumptions**

Variables	Value	Unit	Source
<b>Surface areas of facilities</b>			
NDCD1	450	m <sup>2</sup>	Measured/GIS
NDCD2	450	m <sup>2</sup>	Measured/GIS
NDSWS1	4300	m <sup>2</sup>	Measured/GIS
MCD1 -4	11000	m <sup>2</sup>	Measured/GIS
TSF Pool Area	52800	m <sup>2</sup>	Measured/GIS
TSF Beach Area	557200	m <sup>2</sup>	Measured/GIS
Runoff factor	0.8	%	Assumption
Softening plant losses	0.1	%	Assumption
Sewage treatment losses	0.1	%	Assumption
<b>TRPM storage facility capacities</b>			

South UG2 decline storm water dam	20 000	m <sup>3</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
North UG2 decline storm water dam	20 000	m <sup>3</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
Old Tailings return water dam	150 000	m <sup>3</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
UG2 Plant PCD	10 000	m <sup>3</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
South Merensky decline storm water dam	15 000	m <sup>3</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
North Merensky decline storm water dam	20 000	m <sup>3</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
New Tailings return water dam	150 000	m <sup>3</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
Merensky Plant PCD	20 000	m <sup>3</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
Stockpile Area PCD	10 000.0	m <sup>3</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
<b>Catchment areas of facilities</b>			
South UG2 decline	190 000	m <sup>2</sup>	Measured/GIS
North UG2 decline	81 000	m <sup>2</sup>	Measured/GIS
UG2 Plant	180 000	m <sup>2</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
South Merensky decline	20 000	m <sup>2</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
North Merensky decline	20 000	m <sup>2</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
Merensky Plant	60 000	m <sup>2</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB
Stockpile Area	30 000	m <sup>2</sup>	Golder report 2019 WB

### 5.3. Water and Salt Balance Results

The TRP monthly average water balance with the water process flow diagram (PFD) for 2019 period is shown in Figure 5-1, while the salt balance is presented in Figure 5-2. The mine water reticulation circuit consist of the following:

#### Surface water abstraction and treatment

The majority of surface water abstracted is used in the processing of ore. The water is transported from the point of abstraction via pipelines to the different points where it is utilised. Only a small fraction of the water is treated for human consumption at the offices and plant. The sewage that is generated on the mine is treated on site with the effluent returned to the plant as make-up water;

#### Underground mines

Currently, only two decline shafts are in operation mining the UG2 resource. These are known as the South UG2 decline and North UG2 decline. Mining is also proposed from the South Merensky and North Merensky declines; and

#### Pollution control dams and storm water facilities

Pollution control and containment dams have been installed at the various facilities for containing underground dewatering, the storm water and pollution control facilities include:

- UG2 North Decline: NDCD 1-2, NDSWD 1;

- Merensky North Decline: NDCD 3-4, NDSWD 2;
- Reef Stockpile Area: SPCD1;
- UG2 South Decline: MDCD 1-4;
- Merensky Main/South Decline: MDCD 5-6;
- UG2 Concentrator Plant: UG2PCD1; and
- UG2 Concentrator Plant: MPSWD1-2.

### **Concentrator plants**

- The plant receives water from the surface water abstraction points as well as some water from borehole for drinking water purposes. Ore is milled in this area. After ore processing is complete, an ore concentrate is produced and exported out of the mine area. The fines residue is pumped to the TSF for disposal. This plant area is paved and storm water runoff from the plant area reports to the plant Pollution Control Dam (UG2PCD1) from where it is returned to the process for re-use;

### **TSFs**

- This facility is used for storage of the fine residue from the UG2 plant. The outer wall is constructed using hydro cyclones while the central deposition is done using a spigot arrangement. A new TSF is also proposed to handle fine residues upon closure of the existing TSF

### **Return Water Dam**

- The Return Water Dam (TRTD1-2) receives the surplus water from the TSF as well as seepage from the TSF beach areas from where water is pumped back to the UG2 plant. New return water dams (NTRWD 1&2) are proposed also for the New TSF; and

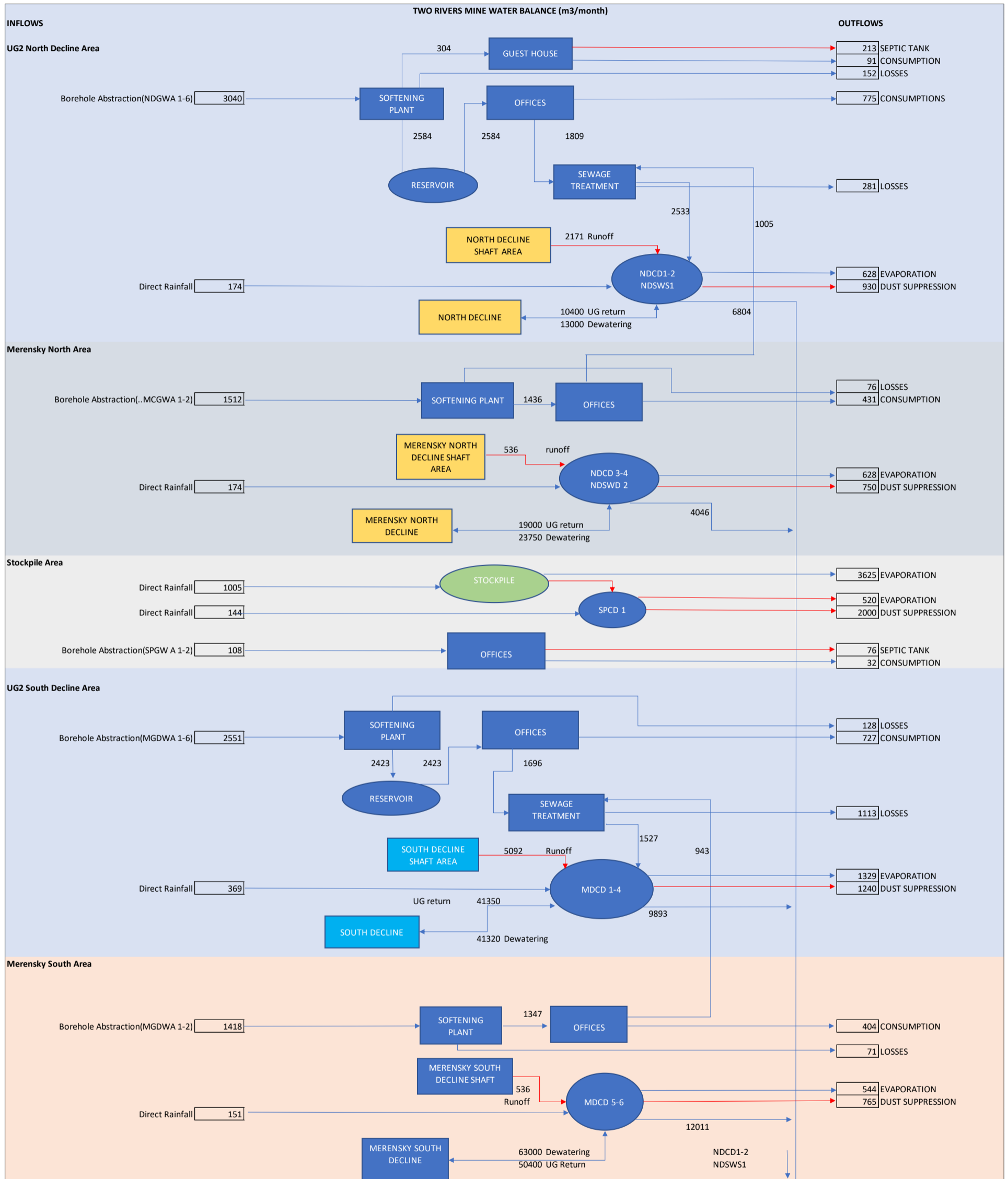
### **Reef Stockpile**

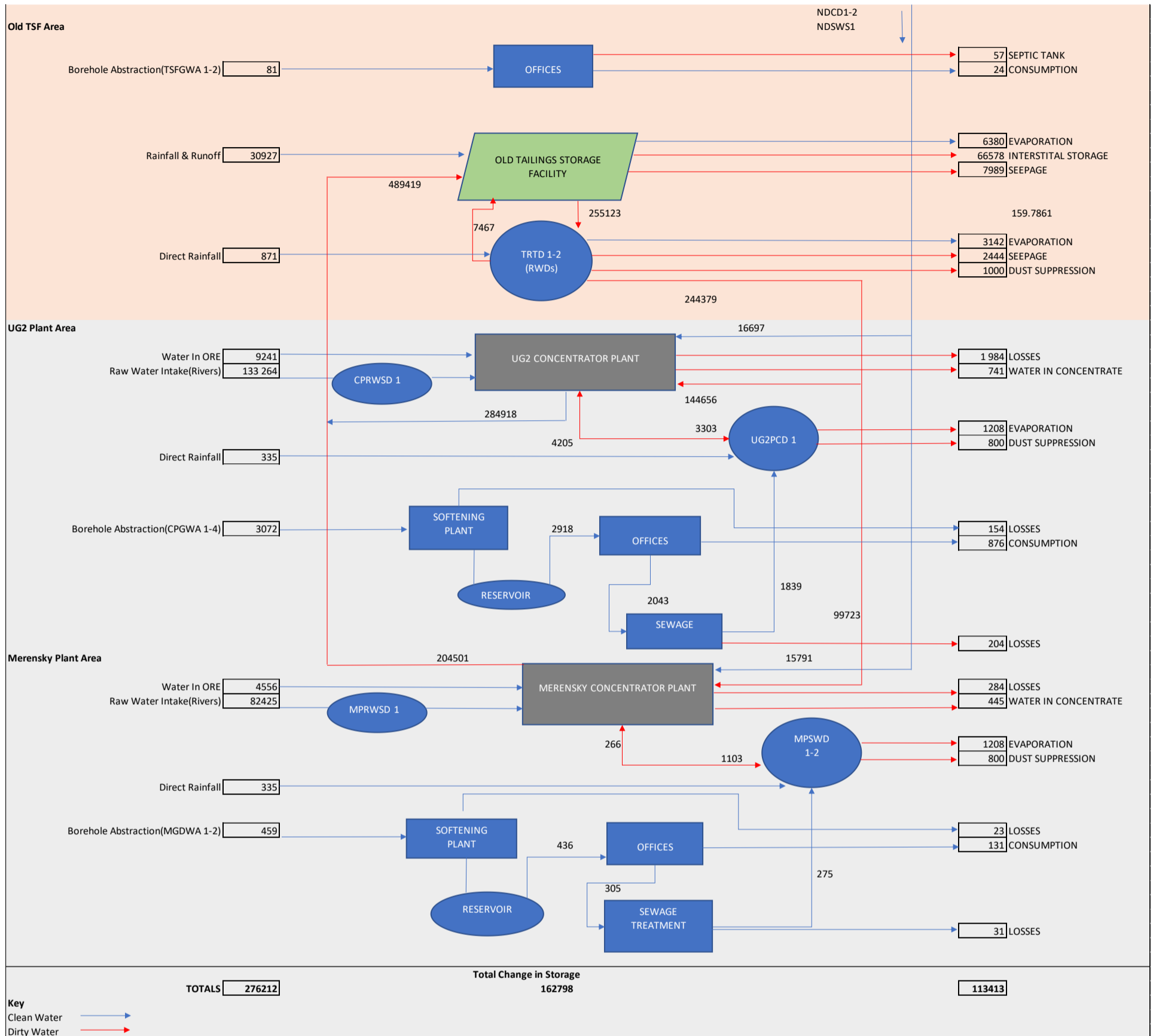
- The ROM stockpile receives Ore from underground and then delivers to the plant.

The water and salt balance has been compiled for a mean rainfall year and the site specific rainfall data provided by TRP was used to calculate the average rainfall and runoff volumes for various components of the mine, whilst the evaporation was derived from the WRC2015 manual.

Similar to the 2019 salt balance, measured Total Dissolved Salts (TDS) concentration for the various facilities on the mine were used to compile the salt balance except on the sewage water quality results which did not have TDS results, and therefore Ammonia was used for all the sewage salt load calculations.

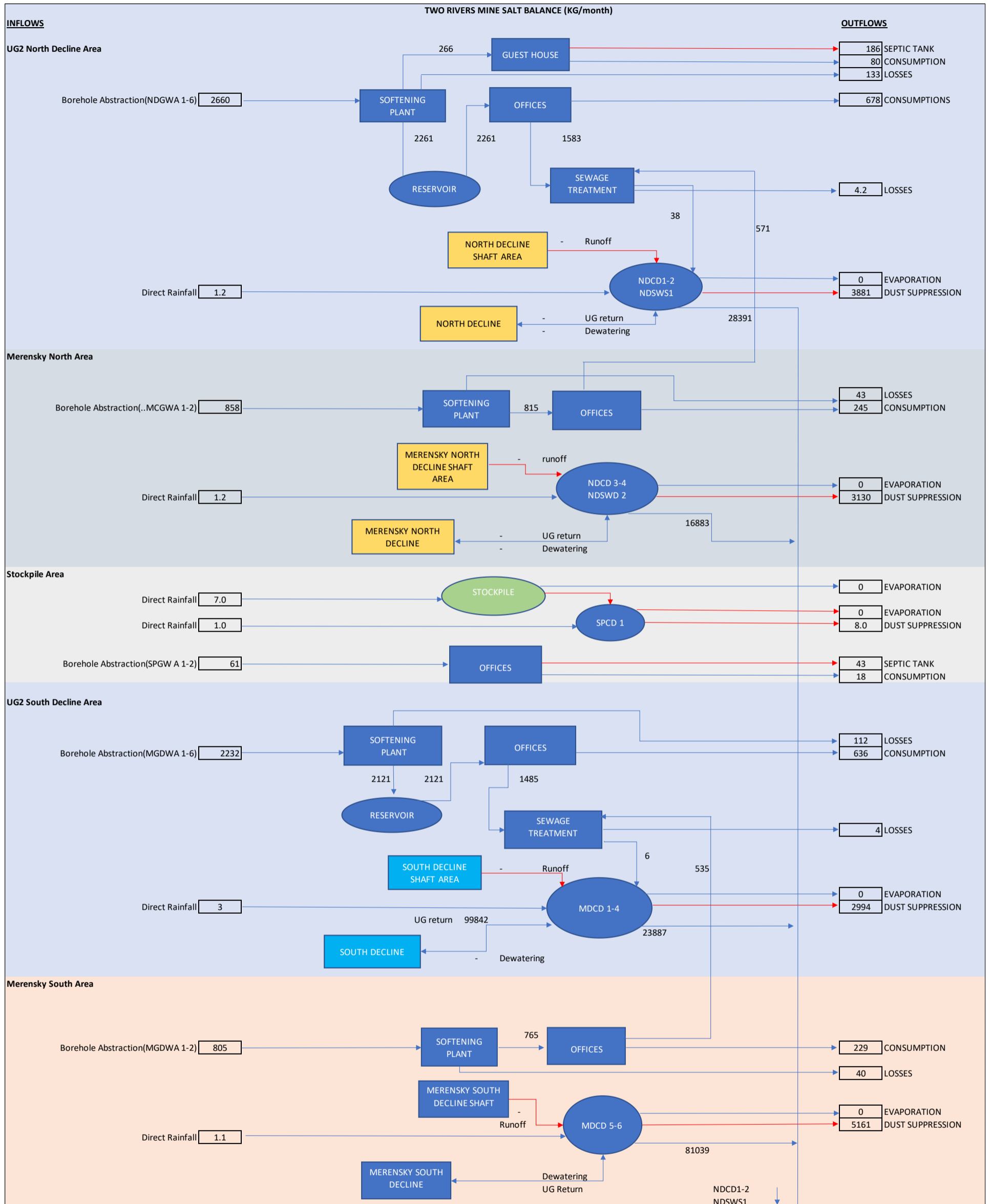
The monthly average water balance is shown in Figure 5-1, while the salt balance is presented in Figure 5-2.





**Figure 5-1: TRP Monthly Average Water Balance**





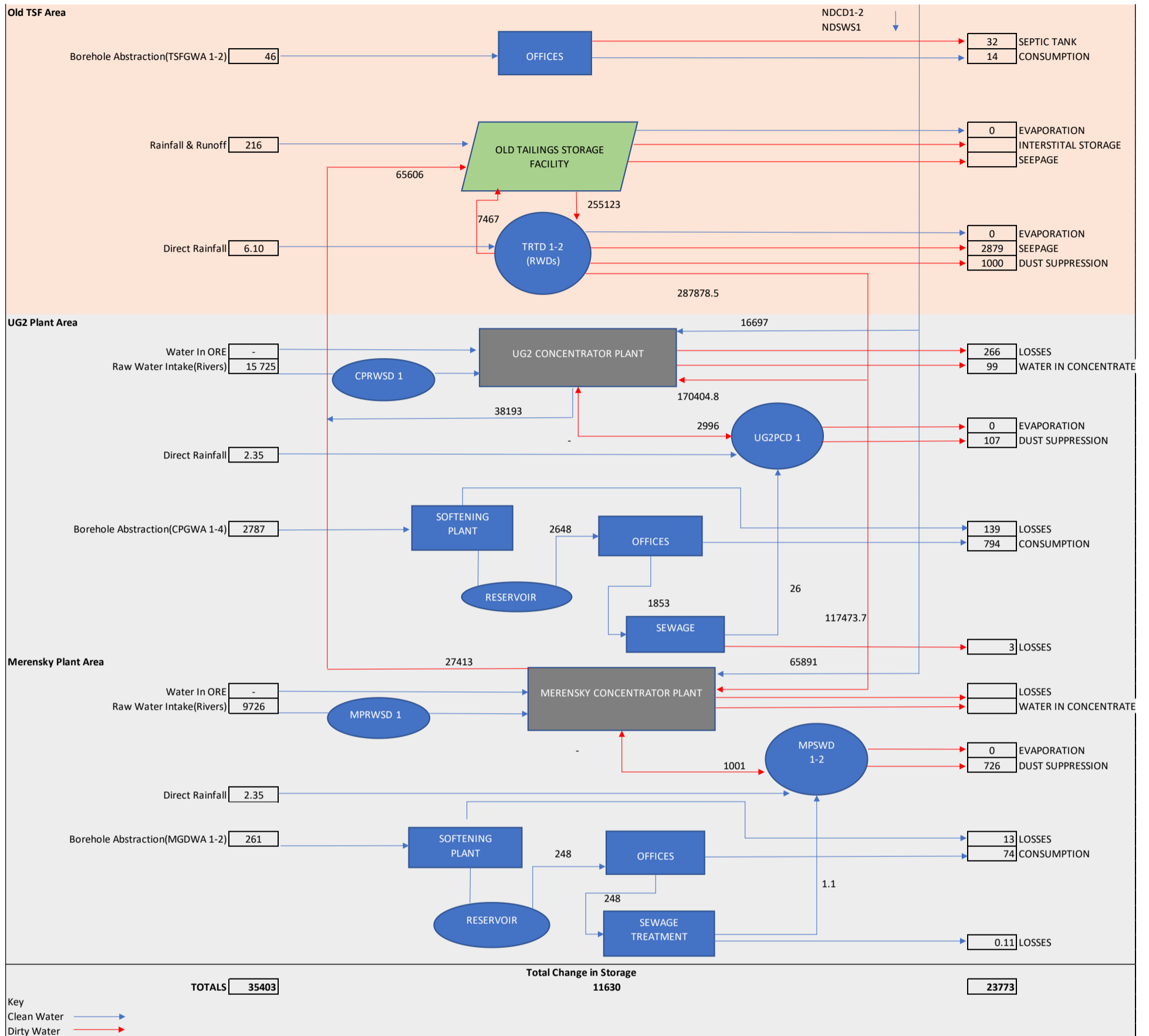


Figure 5-2: TRP Monthly Average Salt Balance

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