State of Washington Department of Ecology
Northwest Regional Office

WATER COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT

substitute for OMB No. 2040-0057 and EPA form 3560-3 (Rev. 9-94) (last file update 12-95.)

Section A: National Data System Coding (i.e., PCS)

Transaction Code	NPDES #	yr/mo/day	Inspection Type	Inspector	Fac Type
1 N 2 5	3 WA0031721 11	12 18/6/18 17	18 C	19 S	20 2

Remarks

Inspection work days	Facility Self-Monitoring Evaluation Rating	BI	QA	Reserved
67 2.0 69	70 5	71 N	72 N	73 ____ 74 75 _____ 80

Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected *(For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number)*	Entry Time/Date	Permit Effective Date
Washington Bulb Co., Inc. 16031 Beaver Marsh Road Mount Vernon, WA 98273	9:00 AM 06/18/18	07/01/03
	Exit Time / Date 11:00 AM 06/18/18	Permit Expiration Date 06/30/08

Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s)	Other Facility Data
John Roozen, Vice President PH: 360-424-5533 Fax: 360-424-3113	Permit adminstratively extended on June 20, 2008
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number. Same Phone Number Fax Contacted? ☒ Yes ☐ No	

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection (Check only those areas evaluated)

☒	Permit	☐	Flow Measurement	☒	Operations&Maint.	☐	CSO/SSO (Sewer Overflow)
☐	Records/Reports	☒	Self-Monitoring Program	☒	Sludge Handling/Disposal	☐	Pollution Prevention
☒	Facility Site Review	☒	Compliance Schedules	☒	Pretreatment	☐	Multimedia
☒	Effluent/Receiving water	☐	Laboratory	☐	Storm Water	☐	other

Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments

Arrived at 9am on June 18, 2018, weather sunny and getting warm. Met John Roozen in the office. We discussed the process to issue a newly updated permit. Discussed the silty clay loam soil texture of local soils. WA Bulb discharges their wash water to local drainage district ditch. The irrigation district regulates the ditch levels with weirs to maintain groundwater conditions that support capillary fringe crop growth in local fields. Water discharged from WA bulb into Jungquist Ditch does not routinely flow into Sullivan slough but rather is checked downstream and maintains groundwater under the local fields.

WA Bulb has stopped processing Iris bulbs, they now process just daffodil and tulip bulbs, so their washing season now extends from mid-May to early July.

Tulip bulbs are either washed in the field to remove much of the soil clods, or brought from the fields dry with much soil attached. There are separate lines of processing machinery for each. The soil is separated and is conveyed on to trucks for hauling back to the fields. The bulbs are sorted according to size, with the largest bulbs mostly grown for flower production, and the smaller bulbs returned to the fields in the fall to grow larger.

The wash water is injected with Polyfloc 800 coagulant prior to discharge into one of two primary settling ponds (pond 1 or pond 2). Clean water from the secondary settling pond (pond 3) is recycled back into the process line for washing, with overflows discharging into the drainage ditch.

At the time of our visit, the eastern most primary pond (pond 1) was dry and full of sediment. Water was flowing into pond 2, which also showed signs of significant sediment build-up. Water flowed from the primary pond into the secondary settling pond through a ditch connecting the two ponds. John grabbed a sample of water at this location to show its relative clarity and the effectiveness of the primary pond settlement.

Overflow from the secondary settling pond discharges over a circular weir under the pier structure and into the drainage ditch, which stirs up turbidity in the ditch. At the time of our visit, virtually all of the water in the ditch was from bulb washwater. The upstream "background" water was stagnant backwater.

Cleaning pond 1 and pond 2 is part of regular maintenance operations. Pond 1 was full of sediment and Pond 2 had significant accumulations of sediment. The facility could add diffuser pipes between pond 2 and pond 3 to improve settling performance, and add additional weir length to the outlet structure to improve clarity of the final effluent.

Overall the facility looked well designed and operated.

As part of this site visit, we visited the bulb drying facilities, as well as the greenhouses, bulb maturing cold rooms, and cut flower processing areas, none of which generate process wash water.

Following a quick tour of the drainage district ditch downstream, we left the facility about 11:15 am.

Name(s) and Signatures of Inspector(s)	Agency/Office/Telephone	Date
Robert Nolan	WA Dept. of Ecology/NWRO/425-649-7197 3190-160th Ave SE, Bellevue WA 98006	6/22/2018
Christopher Martin	425-649-7110	06/25/18
Signature of Management Q A Reviewer	**Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers**	**Date**
	WA Dept. of Ecology/rev's office/rev's phone fax fax #	07/30/2018

ANNOUNCED Inspection

INSTRUCTIONS

Section A: National Date System Coding (i.e., PCS)

Column 1: Transaction Code. Use N, C, or D for New Change or Delete. All inspections will be new unless there is an error in the data entered.

Columns 3-11: NPDES Permit No. Enter the facility's NPDES permit number. *(Use the Remarks columns to record State permit number, if necessary.)*

Columns 12-17: Inspection Date. Insert the date entry was made into the facility. Use the year/month/day format (e.g., 94/06/30 = June 30, 1994).

Column 18: Inspection Type. Use one of the codes listed below to describe the type of inspection:

A Performance Audit
B Compliance Biomonitoring
C Compliance Evaluation (non-sampling)
D Diagnostic
E Corps of Engineers Inspection
F Pretreatment Follow-up
G Pretreatment Audit
I Industrial User (IU) Inspection
L Enforcement Case Support
M Multimedia
P Pretreatment Compliance Inspection
R Reconnaissance
S Compliance Sampling
U IU Inspection with Pretreatment Audit
X Toxics Inspection
Z Sludge
2 IU Sampling Inspection
3 IU Non-Sampling Inspection
4 IU Toxics Inspection
5 IU Sampling Inspection with Pretreatment
6 IU Non-Sampling Inspection with pretreatment
7 IU Toxics with Pretreatment

Column 19: Inspector Code. Use one of the codes listed below to describe the *lead agency* in the inspection.
C - Contractor or Other Inspectors (*Specify in Remarks Columns*)
E - Corps of Engineers
J - Joint EPA/State Inspectors - EPA Lead
N - NEIC Inspectors
R - EPA Regional Inspector
S - State Inspector
T - Joint State/EPA Inspectors - State Lead

Column 20: Facility Type. Use of one of the codes below to describe the facility.
1 - Municipal. Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) with 1987 Standard Industrial Code (SIC) 4952.
2 - Industrial. Other than municipal, agricultural, and Federal facilities.
3 - Agricultural. Facilities classified with 1987 SIC 0111 to 0971.
4 - Federal. Facilities identified as Federal by the EPA Regional Office

Columns 21-66: Remarks. These columns are reserved for remarks at the discretion of the Region.

Columns 67-69: Inspection Work Days. Estimate the total work effort (to the nearest 0.1 work day), up to 99.9 days, that were used to complete the inspection and submit a QA reviewed report of findings. This estimate includes the accumulative effort of all participating inspectors; any effort for laboratory analyses, testing, and remote sensing; and the billed payroll time for travel and pre and post inspection preparation. This estimate does not require detailed documentation.

Column 70: Facility Evaluation Rating. Use information gathered during the inspection (regardless of inspection type) to evaluate the quality of the facility self-monitoring program. Grade the program using a scale of 1 to 5 with a score of 5 being used for very reliable self-monitoring programs, 3 being satisfactory, and 1 being used for very unreliable programs.

Column 71: Biomonitoring Information. Enter D for static testing. Enter F for flow through testing. Enter N for no biomonitoring.

Column 72: Quality Assurance Data Inspection. Enter Q if the inspection was conducted as follow-up on quality assurance sample results. Enter N otherwise.

Columns 73-80: These columns are reserved for regionally defined information.

Section B: Facility Data

This section is self-explanatory except for "Other Facility Data," which may include new information not in the permit or PCS (e.g., new outfalls, names of receiving waters, new ownership, and other updates to the record).

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection

Check only those areas evaluated by marking the appropriate box. Use Section D and additional sheets as necessary. Support the findings, as necessary, in a brief narrative report. Use the headings given on the report form (e.g., Permit, Records/Reports) when discussing the areas evaluated during the inspection. The heading marked "Multimedia" may indicate medias such as CAA, RCRA, and TSCA. The heading marked "Other" may indicate activities such as SPCC, BMPs, and concerns that are not covered elsewhere.

Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments

Briefly summarize the inspection findings. This summary should abstract the pertinent inspection findings, not replace the narrative report. Reference a list of attachments, such as completed checklists taken from the NPDES Compliance Inspection Manuals and pretreatment guidance documents, including effluent data when sampling has been done. Use extra sheets as necessary.

PHOTO ADDENDUM – WASHINGTON BULB CO.

PHOTO 1 DESCRIPTION: FIELD WASHED BULBS HEADING TO ROTARY WASHER.

PHOTO 2 DESCRIPTION: ANOTHER VIEW OF CONVEYOR FROM TRUCKS. ROTARY WASHER IS IN THE CENTER REAR.

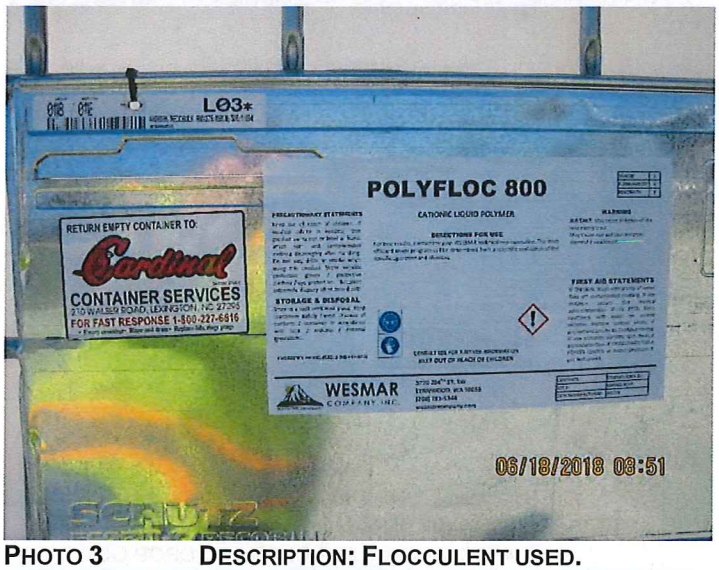

PHOTO 3 DESCRIPTION: FLOCCULENT USED.

PHOTO 4 DESCRIPTION: DISCHARGES FROM ROTARY WASHER AND FLOOR DRAINS.

PHOTO 5 DESCRIPTION: DISCHARGES FROM WASHING EQUIPMENT.

PHOTO 6 DESCRIPTION: VIEW LOOKING DOWN ROTARY WASHER.

PHOTO ADDENDUM – WASHINGTON BULB CO.

PHOTO 7 DESCRIPTION: CONVEYOR WITH DIRT CLODS TO BE LOADED ON A TRUCK.

PHOTO 8 DESCRIPTION: BULBS EXITING ROTARY WASHER.

PHOTO 9 DESCRIPTION: LINE 2 WITH UNWASHED BULBS HEADING TO A ROTARY WASHER.

PHOTO 10 DESCRIPTION: SAME AS PHOTO 9. SCREEN ALLOWS SMALLER CLODS TO DROP OUT.

PHOTO 11 DESCRIPTION: DISCHARGE INTO SETTLING POND 2.

PHOTO 12 DESCRIPTION: SETTLING POND 1. FULL AND AWAITING DRYING BEFORE SEDIMENT REMOVAL.

PHOTO ADDENDUM – WASHINGTON BULB CO.

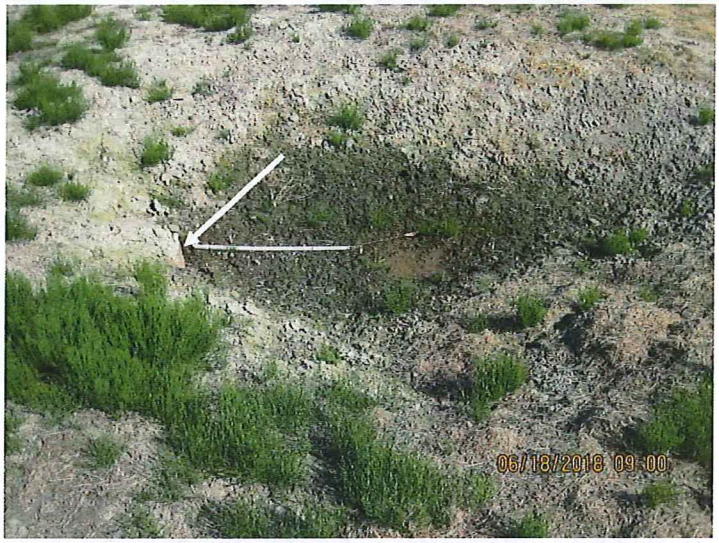

PHOTO 13 DESCRIPTION: DISCHARGE INTO SETTLING POND 1. (ARROW IS DISCHARGE PIPE.)

PHOTO 14 DESCRIPTION: SETTLING POND 1, FULL OF SEDIMENT.

PHOTO 15 DESCRIPTION: DITCH UPSTREAM OF DISCHARGE POINT.

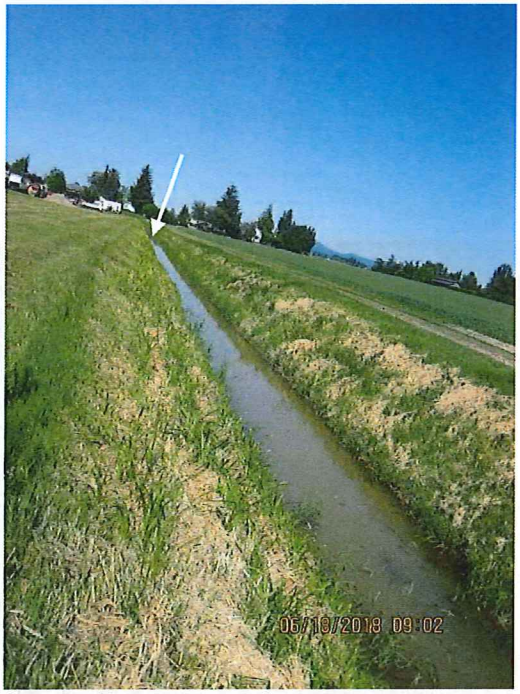

PHOTO 16 DESCRIPTION: LOOKING DOWN DITCH TOWARD DISCHARGE POINT (ARROW).

PHOTO ADDENDUM – WASHINGTON BULB CO.

PHOTO 17 DESCRIPTION: FINAL SETTLING POND (SETTLING POND 3). INLET IS FOREGROUND CENTER.

PHOTO 18 DESCRIPTION: OUTLET FROM SETTLING POND 2 TO SETTLING POND 3.

PHOTO 19 DESCRIPTION: SURFACE DISCHARGE FROM SETTLING POND 3 TO DITCH

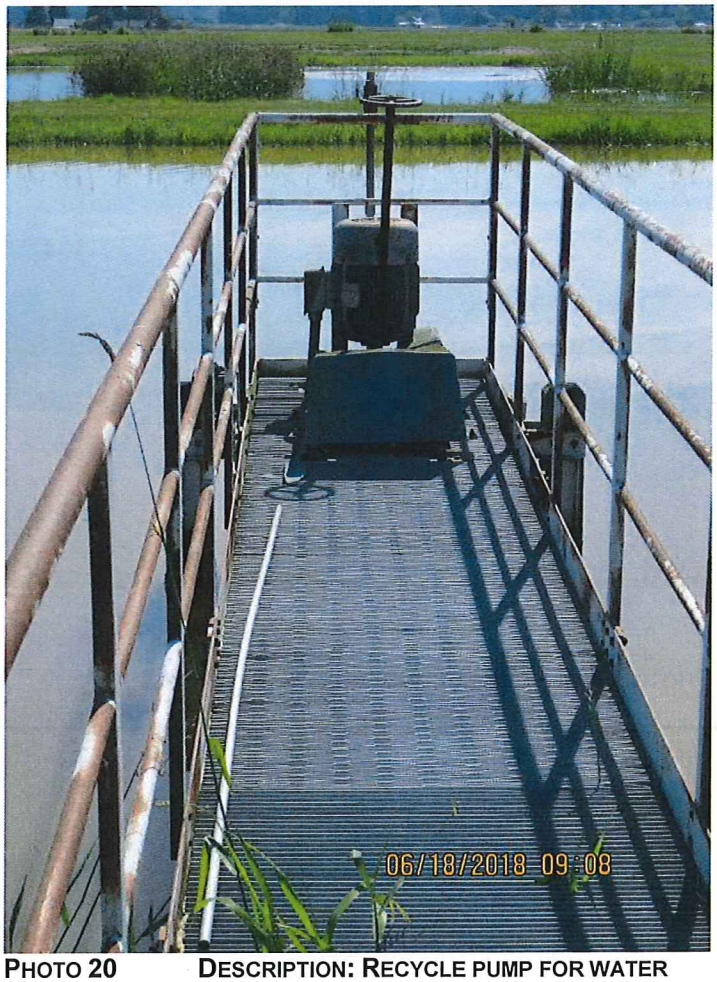

PHOTO 20 DESCRIPTION: RECYCLE PUMP FOR WATER REUSE IN PLANT OPERATIONS.

PHOTO ADDENDUM – WASHINGTON BULB CO.

PHOTO 21 DESCRIPTION: DISCHARGE FROM POND 3 INTO AGRICULTURAL DITCH (~600 GPM).

PHOTO 22 DESCRIPTION: CRATES OF WASHED BULBS BEING AIR DRIED. AIR PLENUM IS BEHIND CONTROL BOX. BOXES HAVE SCREENED BOTTOMS. AIR MOVES UP THROUGH BOXES AND EXIT THROUGH OPENINGS ON THE ENDS.

PHOTO 23 DESCRIPTION: LOCAL IRRIGATION PUMP SET TO WITHDRAW WATER FROM AGRICULTURAL DITCH.

PHOTO 24 DESCRIPTION: TRUCK HAULING SEPARATED DIRT AND CLODS BACK TO FIELDS.

PHOTO ADDENDUM – WASHINGTON BULB CO.

PHOTO 25 DESCRIPTION: WEIR DAM FOR MAINTAINING SUMMER GROUNDWATER LEVEL. CULVERT IS UNDER AN AG ROAD ACROSS THE DITCH.

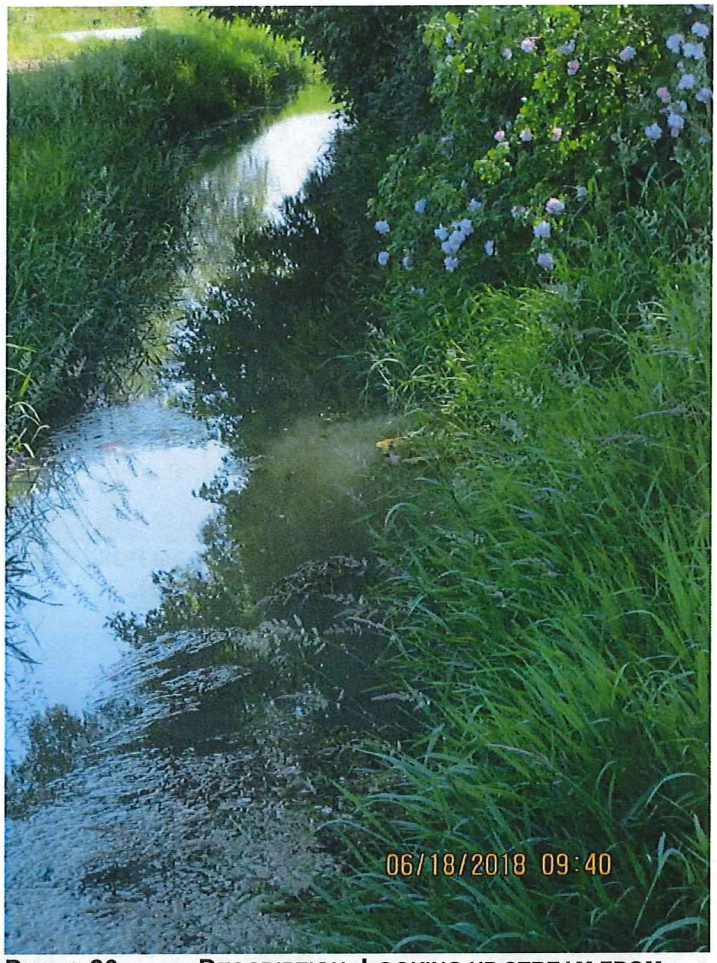

PHOTO 26 DESCRIPTION: LOOKING UP STREAM FROM WEIR DAM IN PHOTO 25.

PHOTO 27 DESCRIPTION: LOCAL IRRIGATION

PHOTO 28 DESCRIPTION: DOWNSTREAM CHECK WEIR MAINTAINING GROUNDWATER LEVELS FOR CAPILLARY FRINGE IRRIGATION

PHOTO ADDENDUM – WASHINGTON BULB CO.

PHOTO 29 DESCRIPTION: OUTLET FROM SETTLING POND 2.

PHOTO 30 DESCRIPTION: DISCHARGE TO AG DITCH. JOHN ROOZEN (PLANT VP).

PHOTO 31 DESCRIPTION: ANOTHER VIEW OF THE RECYCLE PUMP. SETTING POND 2 IN BACKGROUND.

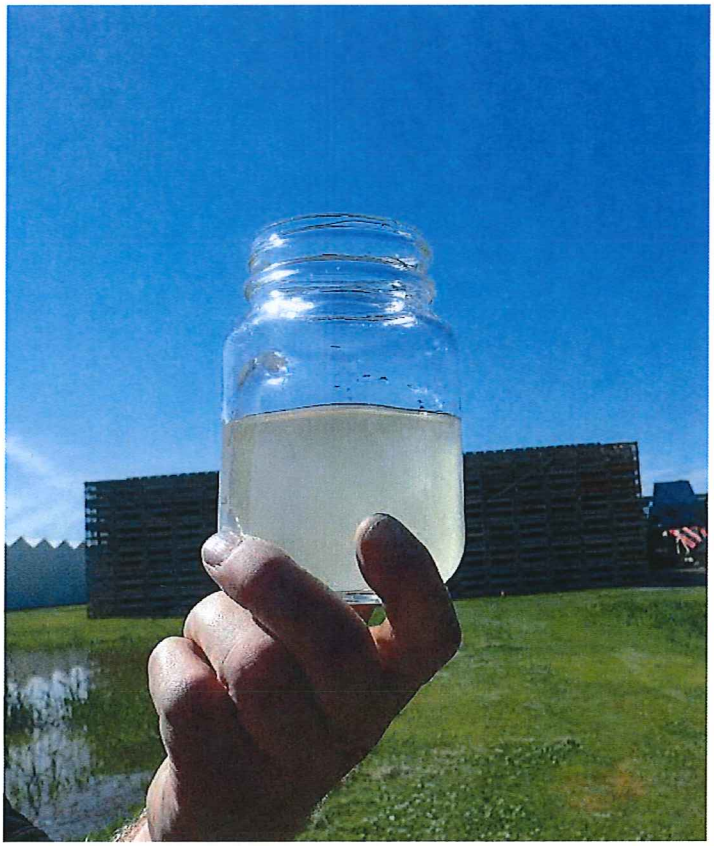

PHOTO32 DESCRIPTION: DISCHARGE FROM POND 2 TO POND 3