

Issue Date: January 23, 2018  
Effective Date: March 1, 2018  
Expiration Date: February 28, 2023  
Amendment Date: April 21, 2020

## State Waste Discharge Permit Number ST0005397

State of Washington  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
Eastern Regional Office  
4601 N. Monroe Street  
Spokane, Washington 99205-1265

In compliance with the provisions of the  
State of Washington Water Pollution Control Law  
Chapter 90.48 Revised Code of Washington, as amended,

Liberty School District #362  
29818 South North Pine Creek Road  
Spangle, Washington 99031

is authorized to discharge wastewater in accordance with the special and general conditions which follow.

Plant Location: Southeast of the school, just  
north of N. Pine Creek Road

Latitude: 47.397778 N  
Longitude: 117.316944 W

Treatment Type:  
Sequencing Batch Reactor (SBR) followed by  
polishing in a constructed wetlands and final  
disposal in an infiltration lagoon

Legal Description : SE¼ of the NW¼ of Section  
24, T.22 N., R. 43 E.W.M.



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## Summary of Permit Report Submittals

Refer to the Special and General Conditions of this permit for additional submittal requirements.

**Table 1: Summary of Permit Report Submittals**

Permit Section	Submittal	Frequency	First Submittal Date
S3.A	Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR)	Monthly	April 15, 2018
S5.A	Operator Certification Renewal Notification	1/year	May 15, 2018
S5.A	Certified Operator – Loss	As necessary	Immediately
S5.A	Certified Operator – Change	As necessary	Within 30 days of change
S5.G	Operations and Maintenance Manual Update or Review Confirmation Letter	1/permit cycle	February 28, 2022
S5.G	Operations and Maintenance Manual Changes	As necessary	-
S8.	Application for Permit Renewal	1/permit cycle	February 28, 2022
G1.	Notice of Change in Authorization	As necessary	-

## Special Conditions

### S1. Discharge limits

#### S1.A. Effluent limits

All discharges and activities authorized by this permit must comply with the terms and conditions of this permit. The discharge of any of the following pollutants more frequently than, or at a concentration in excess of, that authorized by this permit violates the terms and conditions of this permit. Wastewater flows and loadings must not exceed the Design Criteria specified in Section S4.

Beginning on the effective date, the Permittee is authorized to discharge treated domestic wastewater to the infiltrating wetland at the permitted location subject to the following limits:

**Table 2: Effluent Limits Outfall 001 Infiltrating Wetland**

Effluent Limits: Outfall 001 Infiltrating Wetland		
Latitude: 47.397778 N Longitude: -117.316944 W		
Parameter	Average Monthly <sup>a</sup>	Average Weekly <sup>b</sup>
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD <sub>5</sub> )	45 milligrams per liter (mg/L)	65 mg/L
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	45 mg/L	65 mg/L
Parameter	Monthly Geometric Mean	Daily Maximum
Fecal Coliform <sup>c</sup>	200/100 mL	400/100 mL
Parameter	Average Monthly <sup>a</sup>	Daily Maximum <sup>e</sup>
Nitrate-Nitrite (N)	---	10 mg/L
<sup>a</sup>	Average monthly effluent limit means the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month. To calculate the discharge value to compare to the limit, you add the value of each daily discharge measured during a calendar month and divide this sum by the total number of daily discharges measured.	
<sup>b</sup>	Average weekly discharge limit means the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar week, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar week divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that week. See footnote c for fecal coliform calculations.	
<sup>c</sup>	Ecology provides directions to calculate the monthly and the 7-day geometric mean in publication No. 04-10-020, <a href="https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/0410020.pdf">Information Manual for Treatment Plant Operators</a> available at <a href="https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/0410020.pdf">https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/0410020.pdf</a> .	

Parameter	Average Monthly <sup>a</sup>	Daily Maximum <sup>e</sup>
<sup>d</sup>	The Permittee must report the instantaneous maximum and minimum pH monthly. Do not average pH values.	
<sup>e</sup>	Maximum daily effluent limit means the highest allowable daily discharge. The daily discharge means the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day. For pollutants with limits expressed in units of mass, calculate the daily discharge as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For other units of measurement, the daily discharge is the average measurement of the pollutant over the day. This does not apply to pH or temperature.	

### S1.B. Best management practices/pollution prevention

The Permittee must comply with the following Best Management Practices to prevent pollution to waters of the State:

1. Do not discharge in excess of the hydraulic capacity of the infiltrating wetland.
2. Do not discharge priority pollutants, dangerous wastes, or toxics in toxic amounts.

## S2. Monitoring requirements

### S2.A. Wastewater monitoring

The Permittee must monitor the wastewater prior to discharging into the infiltrating wetland.

The Permittee must monitor in accordance with the following schedule and the requirements specified in **Appendix A**.

**Table 3: Monitoring Requirements – Influent & Effluent**

Parameter	Units	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Sample Type
<b>(1) Wastewater Influent</b>			
Wastewater Influent means the raw sewage flow from the collection system into the treatment facility. Sample the wastewater entering the headworks of the treatment plant excluding any side-stream returns from inside the plant.			
Flow	GPD (gallons per day)	Continuous <sup>a</sup>	Metered
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD <sub>5</sub> )	Milligrams per liter (mg/L)	1/month	8-Hour Manual Composite <sup>b</sup>
BOD <sub>5</sub>	lbs/day <sup>c</sup>	1/month	Calculated

Parameter	Units	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Sample Type
<b>(1) Wastewater Influent</b>			
<sup>a</sup>	Continuous means uninterrupted except for brief lengths of time for calibration, power failure, or unanticipated equipment repair or maintenance. The time interval for the associated data logger must be no greater than 30 minutes.		
<sup>b</sup>	8-Hour Composite means a series of individual samples collected over an 8-hour period into a single container, and analyzed as one sample.		
<sup>c</sup>	lbs/day = Concentration (mg/L) x Flow (in GPD) x 8.34/1,000,000		

Parameter	Units	Minimum Sampling Frequency	Sample Type
<b>(2) Final Wastewater Effluent (from wetland to infiltration)</b>			
Wastewater exiting the constructed wetlands to the infiltrating wetland.			
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD <sub>5</sub> )	mg/L	1/month <sup>d</sup>	Grab <sup>a</sup>
BOD <sub>5</sub>	lbs/day <sup>b</sup>	1/month <sup>d</sup>	Calculated
Total Suspended Solids (TSS)	mg/L	1/month <sup>d</sup>	Grab <sup>a</sup>
TSS	lbs/day <sup>b</sup>	1/month <sup>d</sup>	Calculated
Fecal Coliforms	#/100 mL <sup>c</sup>	1/month <sup>d</sup>	Grab <sup>a</sup>
Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN)	mg/L as N	1/month <sup>d</sup>	Grab <sup>a</sup>
Nitrate plus Nitrite Nitrogen	mg/L as N	1/month <sup>d</sup>	Grab <sup>a</sup>
NH <sub>3</sub> Nitrogen	mg/L as N	1/month <sup>d</sup>	Grab <sup>a</sup>
<sup>a</sup>	Grab means an individual sample collected over a 15 minute, or less, period.		
<sup>b</sup>	lbs/day = Concentration (mg/L) x Flow (in GPD) x 8.34/1,000,000		
<sup>c</sup>	Report a numerical value for fecal coliforms following the procedures in Ecology's <a href="https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/0410020.pdf">Information Manual for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators</a> , Publication Number 04-10-020 available at <a href="https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/0410020.pdf">https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/0410020.pdf</a> . Do not report a result as too numerous to count (TNTC).		
<sup>d</sup>	Samples must be taken once per month during the school year (September through June) and reported only if a discharge from the wetland occurs.		

## **S2.B. Sampling and analytical procedures**

Samples and measurements taken to meet the requirements of this permit must represent the volume and nature of the monitored parameters, including representative sampling of any unusual discharge or discharge condition, including bypasses, upsets and maintenance-related conditions affecting effluent quality.

Groundwater sampling must conform to the latest protocols in the Implementation Guidance for the Ground Water Quality Standards, (Ecology 1996).

Sampling and analytical methods used to meet the water and wastewater monitoring requirements specified in this permit must conform to the latest revision of the following rules and documents unless otherwise specified in this permit or approved in writing by Ecology.

- Guidelines Establishing Test Procedures for the Analysis of Pollutants contained in 40 CFR Part 136
- Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater (APHA)

The Permittee must conduct and report all soil analysis in accordance with the Western States Laboratory Plant, Soil and Water Analysis Manual, [Soil, Plant and Water Reference Methods for the Western Region](https://www.naptprogram.org/files/naptp/western-states-method-manual-2005.pdf), 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2005 available at <https://www.naptpprogram.org/files/naptp/western-states-method-manual-2005.pdf>.

The Permittee must also participate in a proficiency testing program such as the [North American Proficiency Testing Program](https://www.naptpprogram.org/) available at <https://www.naptpprogram.org/>.

## **S2.C. Flow measurement and continuous monitoring devices**

The Permittee must:

1. Select and use appropriate flow and continuous monitoring devices and methods consistent with accepted scientific practices.
2. Install, calibrate, and maintain these devices to ensure the accuracy of the measurements is consistent with the accepted industry standard, the manufacturer's recommendation, and approved O&M manual procedures for the device and the wastestream.
3. Calibrate continuous monitoring instruments weekly unless it can demonstrate a longer period is sufficient based on monitoring records. The Permittee:
  - a. May calibrate apparatus for continuous monitoring of dissolved oxygen by air calibration.



- b. Must calibrate continuous pH measurement instruments using a grab sample analyzed in the lab with a pH meter calibrated with standard buffers and analyzed within 15 minutes of sampling.
  - c. Must calibrate continuous chlorine measurement instruments using a grab sample analyzed in the laboratory within 15 minutes of sampling.
4. Maintain calibration records for at least three years.

#### **S2.D. Laboratory accreditation**

The Permittee must ensure that all monitoring data required by Ecology for permit specified parameters is prepared by a laboratory registered or accredited under the provisions of chapter 173-50 WAC, Accreditation of Environmental Laboratories. Flow, temperature, settleable solids, conductivity, pH, and internal process control parameters are exempt from this requirement.

#### **S2.E. Request for reduction in monitoring**

The Permittee may request a reduction of the sampling frequency after 12 months of monitoring. Ecology will review each request and at its discretion grant the request when it reissues the permit or by a permit modification.

The Permittee must:

1. Provide a written request.
2. Clearly state the parameters for which it is requesting reduced monitoring.
3. Clearly state the justification for the reduction.

### **S3. Reporting and recording requirements**

The Permittee must monitor and report in accordance with the following conditions. Falsification of information submitted to Ecology is a violation of the terms and conditions of this permit.

#### **S3.A. Discharge monitoring reports**

The first monitoring period begins on the effective date of the permit (unless otherwise specified). The Permittee must:

1. Summarize, report, and submit monitoring data obtained during each monitoring period on the electronic discharge monitoring report (DMR) form provided by Ecology within the Water Quality Permitting Portal. Include data for each of the parameters tabulated in Special Condition S2 and as required by the form. Report a value for each day sampling occurred (unless specifically exempted in the permit) and for the summary values (when applicable) included on the electronic form.

To find out more information and to sign up for the [Water Quality Permitting Portal](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Water-quality-permits-guidance/WQWebPortal-guidance) go to <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Water-quality-permits-guidance/WQWebPortal-guidance>.

2. Enter the “No Discharge” reporting code for an entire DMR, for a specific monitoring point, or for a specific parameter as appropriate, if the Permittee did not discharge wastewater or a specific pollutant during a given monitoring period.
3. Report single analytical values below detection as “less than the detection level (DL)” by entering < followed by the numeric value of the detection level (e.g. < 2.0) on the DMR. If the method used did not meet the minimum DL and quantitation level (QL) identified in the permit, report the actual QL and DL in the comments or in the location provided.
4. **Not** report zero for bacteria monitoring. Report as required by the laboratory method.
5. Calculate and report an arithmetic average value for each day for bacteria if multiple samples were taken in one day.
6. Calculate the geometric mean values for bacteria (unless otherwise specified in the permit) using:
  - a. The reported numeric value for all bacteria samples measured above the detection value except when it took multiple samples in one day. If the Permittee takes multiple samples in one day it must use the arithmetic average for the day in the geometric mean calculation.
  - b. The detection value for those samples measured below detection.
7. Report the test method used for analysis in the comments if the laboratory used an alternative method not specified in the permit and as allowed in Appendix A.
8. Calculate average values and calculated total values (unless otherwise specified in the permit) using:
  - a. The reported numeric value for all parameters measured between the agency-required detection value and the agency-required quantitation value.
  - b. One-half the detection value (for values reported below detection) if the lab detected the parameter in another sample from the same monitoring point for the reporting period.
  - c. Zero (for values reported below detection) if the lab did not detect the parameter in another sample for the reporting period.

9. Report single-sample grouped parameters (for example: priority pollutants, PAHs, pulp and paper chlorophenolics, TTOs) on the WQWebDMR form and include: sample date, concentration detected, detection limit (DL) (as necessary), and laboratory quantitation level (QL) (as necessary).

The Permittee must also submit an electronic copy of the laboratory report as an attachment using WQWebDMR. The contract laboratory reports must include information on the chain of custody, QA/QC results, and documentation of accreditation for the parameter.

10. Ensure that DMRs are electronically submitted no later than the dates specified below, unless otherwise specified in this permit.
11. Submit DMRs for parameters with the monitoring frequencies specified in S2 (monthly, quarterly, annual, etc.) at the reporting schedule identified below.

The Permittee must:

- a. Submit **monthly** DMRs by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the following month.

### **S3.B. Permit Submittals and Schedules**

The Permittee must use the Water Quality Permitting Portal – Permit Submittals application (unless otherwise specified in the permit) to submit all other written permit-required reports by the date specified in the permit.

When another permit condition requires submittal of a paper (hard-copy) report, the Permittee must ensure that it is postmarked or received by Ecology no later than the dates specified by this permit. Send these paper reports to Ecology at **Water Quality Program, Department of Ecology, Eastern Regional Office, 4601 N. Monroe Street, Spokane, WA 99205.**

### **S3.C. Records retention**

The Permittee must retain records of all monitoring information for a **minimum of 3 years**. Such information must include all calibration and maintenance records and all original recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit. The Permittee must extend this period of retention during the course of any unresolved litigation regarding the discharge of pollutants by the Permittee or when requested by Ecology.

The Permittee must retain all records pertaining to the monitoring of sludge for a **minimum of five years**.

### **S3.D. Recording of results**

For each measurement or sample taken, the Permittee must record the following information:

1. The date, exact place and time of sampling.
2. The individual who performed the sampling or measurement.
3. The dates the analyses were performed.
4. The individual who performed the analyses.
5. The analytical techniques or methods used.
6. The results of all analyses.

### **S3.E. Additional monitoring by the Permittee**

If the Permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by Special Condition S2 of this permit, then the Permittee must include the results of such monitoring in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the Permittee's DMR unless otherwise specified by Special Condition S2.

### **S3.F. Reporting permit violations**

The Permittee must take the following actions when it violates or is unable to comply with any permit condition:

1. Immediately take action to stop, contain, and cleanup unauthorized discharges or otherwise stop the noncompliance and correct the problem.
2. If applicable, immediately repeat sampling and analysis. Submit the results of any repeat sampling to Ecology within 30 days of sampling.

#### **a. Immediate reporting**

The Permittee must immediately report to Ecology (at the number listed below), all:

- Failures of the disinfection system.
- Collection system overflows.
- Plant bypasses resulting in a discharge.
- Any other failures of the sewage system (pipe breaks, etc.).
- Overflows or leaks of transmission or irrigation pipelines that discharge to a waterbody used as a source of drinking or irrigation water.

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#### **b. Twenty-four-hour reporting**

The Permittee must report the following occurrences of noncompliance by telephone, to Ecology at the telephone number listed above, within 24 hours from the time the Permittee becomes aware of any of the following circumstances:

1. Any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment, unless previously reported under immediate reporting requirements.
2. Any unanticipated bypass that causes an exceedance of an effluent limit in the permit (See Part S5.F., "Bypass Procedures").
3. Any upset that causes an exceedance of an effluent limit in the permit. Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology-based permit effluent limits because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the Permittee. An upset does not include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation.
4. Any violation of a maximum daily or instantaneous maximum discharge limit for any of the pollutants in Section S1.A of this permit.
5. Any overflow prior to the treatment works, whether or not such overflow endangers health or the environment or exceeds any effluent limit in the permit.

**c. Report within five days**

The Permittee must also submit a written report within five days of the time that the Permittee becomes aware of any reportable event under subparts a or b, above. The report must contain:

1. A description of the noncompliance and its cause.
2. Maps, drawings, aerial photographs, or pictures to show the location and cause(s) of the noncompliance.
3. The period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times.
4. The estimated time the Permittee expects the noncompliance to continue if not yet corrected.
5. Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent recurrence of the noncompliance.
6. If the noncompliance involves an overflow prior to the treatment works, an estimate of the quantity (in gallons) of untreated overflow.

**d. Waiver of written reports**

Ecology may waive the written report required in subpart c, above, on a case-by-case basis upon request if the Permittee has submitted a timely oral report.

**e. All other permit violation reporting**

The Permittee must report all permit violations, which do not require immediate or within 24 hours reporting, when it submits monitoring reports for S3.A ("Reporting"). The reports must contain the information listed in subpart c, above.

Compliance with these requirements does not relieve the Permittee from responsibility to maintain continuous compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit or the resulting liability for failure to comply.

**S3.G. Other reporting**

**a. Spills of Oil or Hazardous Materials**

The Permittee must report a spill of oil or hazardous materials in accordance with the requirements of RCW 90.56.280 and chapter 173-303-145. You can obtain further instructions at the Ecology [Report a Spill webpage](https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-involved/Report-an-environmental-issue/Report-a-spill) at <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-involved/Report-an-environmental-issue/Report-a-spill>.

**b. Failure to submit relevant or correct facts**

Where the Permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application, or in any report to Ecology, it must submit such facts or information promptly.

**S3.H. Maintaining a copy of this permit**

The Permittee must keep a copy of this permit at the facility and make it available upon request to Ecology inspectors.

**S4. Facility loading**

**S4.A. Design criteria**

The flows or waste loads for the permitted facility must not exceed the following design criteria:

Monthly Average Flow	16,000 gpd
BOD5 Influent Loading for Maximum Month	50 lbs/day
TSS Influent Loading for Maximum Month	13 lbs/day

#### **S4.B. Plans for maintaining adequate capacity**

##### **a. Conditions triggering plan submittal**

The Permittee must submit a plan and a schedule for continuing to maintain capacity to Ecology when:

1. The actual flow or waste load reaches 85 percent of any one of the design criteria in S4.A for three consecutive months.
2. The projected plant flow or loading would reach design capacity within five years.

##### **b. Plan and schedule content**

The plan and schedule must identify the actions necessary to maintain adequate capacity for the expected population growth and to meet the limits and requirements of the permit. The Permittee must consider the following topics and actions in its plan.

1. Analysis of the present design and proposed process modifications.
2. Reduction or elimination of excessive infiltration and inflow of uncontaminated ground and surface water into the sewer system.
3. Limits on future sewer extensions or connections or additional waste loads.
4. Modification or expansion of facilities.
5. Reduction of industrial or commercial flows or waste loads.

Engineering documents associated with the plan must meet the requirements of WAC 173-240-060, "Engineering Report," and be approved by Ecology prior to any construction.

#### **S4.C. Duty to mitigate**

The Permittee must take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this permit that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

#### **S4.D. Notification of new or altered sources**

1. The Permittee must submit written notice to Ecology whenever any new discharge or a substantial change in volume or character of an existing discharge into the wastewater treatment plant is proposed which:
  - a. Would interfere with the operation of, or exceed the design capacity of, any portion of the wastewater treatment plant.

- b. Is not part of an approved general sewer plan or approved plans and specifications.
  - c. Is subject to pretreatment standards under 40 CFR Part 403 and Section 307(b) of the Clean Water Act.
2. This notice must include an evaluation of the wastewater treatment plant's ability to adequately transport and treat the added flow and/or waste load, the quality and volume of effluent to be discharged to the treatment plant, and the anticipated impact on the Permittee's effluent [40 CFR 122.42(b)].

## **S5. Operation and maintenance**

The Permittee must, at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities or systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances), which are installed to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit.

Proper operation and maintenance also includes keeping a daily operation logbook (paper or electronic), adequate laboratory controls, and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision of the permit requires the Permittee to operate backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit.

### **S5.A. Certified operator**

An operator certified for at least a Class 1 plant by the State of Washington must be in responsible charge of the day-to-day operation of the wastewater treatment plant. An operator certified for at least a Class 1 plant must be in charge during all regularly scheduled shifts. The Permittee must do the following:

1. Submit an electronic copy of operator certification renewal card for the current operator in responsible charge by May 15<sup>th</sup> each year.
2. **Immediately notify Ecology** when the facility does not have a properly certified operator in responsible charge or if the current properly certified operator in responsible charge loses their certification.
3. **Notify Ecology within 30 days** when the operator in responsible charge at the facility changes.
  - a. Permittee must provide the new operators' name, certification number and certification level.
  - b. Provide a current copy of the contract if a contract operator is used.



### **S5.B. O & M program**

The Permittee must:

1. Institute an adequate operation and maintenance program for the entire sewage system.
2. Keep maintenance records on all major electrical and mechanical components of the treatment plant, as well as the sewage system and pumping stations. Such records must clearly specify the frequency and type of maintenance recommended by the manufacturer and must show the frequency and type of maintenance performed.
3. Make maintenance records available for inspection at all times.

### **S5.C. Short-term reduction**

The Permittee must schedule any facility maintenance, which might require interruption of wastewater treatment and degrade effluent quality, during non-critical water quality periods and carry this maintenance out according to the approved O&M manual or as otherwise approved by Ecology.

If a Permittee contemplates a reduction in the level of treatment that would cause a violation of permit discharge limits on a short-term basis for any reason, and such reduction cannot be avoided, the Permittee must:

1. Give written notification to Ecology, if possible, 30 days prior to such activities.
2. Detail the reasons for, length of time of, and the potential effects of the reduced level of treatment.

This notification does not relieve the Permittee of its obligations under this permit.

### **S5.D. Electrical power failure**

The Permittee must ensure that adequate safeguards prevent the discharge of untreated wastes or wastes not treated in accordance with the requirements of this permit during electrical power failure at the treatment plant and/or sewage lift stations. Adequate safeguards include, but are not limited to alternate power sources, standby generator(s), or retention of inadequately treated wastes.

### **S5.E. Prevent connection of inflow**

The Permittee must strictly enforce its sewer ordinances and not allow the connection of inflow (roof drains, foundation drains, etc.) to the sanitary sewer system.

## **S5.F. Bypass procedures**

This permit prohibits a bypass, which is the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. Ecology may take enforcement action against a Permittee for a bypass unless one of the following circumstances (1, 2, or 3) applies.

1. Bypass for essential maintenance without the potential to cause violation of permit limits or conditions.

This permit authorizes a bypass if it allows for essential maintenance and does not have the potential to cause violations of limits or other conditions of this permit, or adversely impact public health as determined by Ecology prior to the bypass. The Permittee must submit prior notice, if possible, at least 10 days before the date of the bypass.

2. Bypass which is unavoidable, unanticipated, and results in noncompliance of this permit.

This permit authorizes such a bypass only if:

- a. Bypass is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage. "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which would cause them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass.
  - b. No feasible alternatives to the bypass exist, such as:
    - The use of auxiliary treatment facilities.
    - Retention of untreated wastes.
    - Maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime, but not if the Permittee should have installed adequate backup equipment in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass.
    - Transport of untreated wastes to another treatment facility.
  - c. Ecology is properly notified of the bypass as required in Special Condition S3.F of this permit.
3. If bypass is anticipated and has the potential to result in noncompliance of this permit.
    - a. The Permittee must notify Ecology at least 30 days before the planned date of bypass. The notice must contain:
      - A description of the bypass and its cause.
      - An analysis of all known alternatives which would eliminate, reduce, or mitigate the need for bypassing.

- A cost-effectiveness analysis of alternatives including comparative resource damage assessment.
  - The minimum and maximum duration of bypass under each alternative.
  - A recommendation as to the preferred alternative for conducting the bypass.
  - The projected date of bypass initiation.
  - A statement of compliance with SEPA.
  - A request for modification of water quality standards as provided for in WAC 173-201A-410, if an exceedance of any water quality standard is anticipated.
  - Details of the steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the bypass.
- b. For probable construction bypasses, the Permittee must notify Ecology of the need to bypass as early in the planning process as possible. The Permittee must consider the analysis required above during the project planning and design process. The project-specific engineering report or facilities plan as well as the plans and specifications must include details of probable construction bypasses to the extent practical.

In cases where the Permittee determines the probable need to bypass early, the Permittee must continue to analyze conditions up to and including the construction period in an effort to minimize or eliminate the bypass.

- c. Ecology will consider the following prior to issuing an administrative order for this type of bypass:
- If the bypass is necessary to perform construction or maintenance-related activities essential to meet the requirements of this permit.
  - If feasible alternatives to bypass exist, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, stopping production, maintenance during normal periods of equipment down time, or transport of untreated wastes to another treatment facility.
  - If the Permittee planned and scheduled the bypass to minimize adverse effects on the public and the environment.

After consideration of the above and the adverse effects of the proposed bypass and any other relevant factors, Ecology will approve or deny the request. Ecology will give the public an opportunity to comment on bypass incidents of significant duration, to the extent feasible. Ecology will approve a request to bypass by issuing an administrative order under RCW 90.48.120.

## **S5.G. Operations and maintenance manual**

### **a. O&M manual submittal and requirements**

The Permittee must:

1. Review the O&M Manual at least annually and confirm this review by electronic letter to Ecology **by February 28, 2022**.
2. Submit to Ecology for review substantial changes or updates to the O&M Manual whenever it incorporates them into the manual.
3. Keep the approved O&M Manual at the permitted facility.
4. Follow the instructions and procedures of this manual.

### **b. O&M manual components**

In addition to the requirements of WAC 173-240-080(1) through (5), the O&M Manual must be consistent with the guidance in Table G1-3 in the Criteria for Sewage Works Design (Orange Book), 2008. The O&M manual must include:

1. Emergency procedures for plant shutdown and cleanup in event of wastewater system upset or failure.
2. Wastewater system maintenance procedures that contribute to the generation of wastewater.
3. Reporting protocols for submitting reports to Ecology to comply with the reporting requirements in the discharge permit.
4. Any directions to maintenance staff when cleaning, or maintaining other equipment or performing other tasks which are necessary to protect the operation of the wastewater system (for example, defining maximum allowable discharge rate for draining a tank, blocking all floor drains before beginning the overhaul of a stationary engine).
5. Treatment plant process control monitoring schedule.
6. Wastewater sampling protocols and procedures for compliance with the sampling and reporting requirements in the wastewater discharge permit.

## **S6. Pretreatment**

### **S6.A. General requirements**

The Permittee must work with Ecology to ensure that all commercial and industrial users of the publicly owned treatment works (POTW) comply with the pretreatment regulations in 40 CFR Part 403 and any additional regulations that the Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) may promulgate under Section 307(b) (pretreatment) and 308 (reporting) of the Federal Clean Water Act.

### **S6.B. Duty to enforce discharge prohibitions**

1. Under federal regulations (40 CFR 403.5(a) and (b)), the Permittee must not authorize or knowingly allow the discharge of any pollutants into its POTW which may be reasonably expected to cause pass through or interference, or which otherwise violate general or specific discharge prohibitions contained in 40 CFR Part 403.5 or WAC 173-216-060.
2. The Permittee must not authorize or knowingly allow the introduction of any of the following into their treatment works:
  - a. Pollutants which create a fire or explosion hazard in the POTW (including, but not limited to waste streams with a closed cup flashpoint of less than 140 degrees Fahrenheit or 60 degrees Centigrade using the test methods specified in 40 CFR 261.21).
  - b. Pollutants which will cause corrosive structural damage to the POTW, but in no case discharges with pH lower than 5.0, or greater than 11.0 standard units, unless the works are specifically designed to accommodate such discharges.
  - c. Solid or viscous pollutants in amounts that could cause obstruction to the flow in sewers or otherwise interfere with the operation of the POTW.
  - d. Any pollutant, including oxygen-demanding pollutants, (BOD<sub>5</sub>, etc.) released in a discharge at a flow rate and/or pollutant concentration which will cause interference with the POTW.
  - e. Petroleum oil, non-biodegradable cutting oil, or products of mineral origin in amounts that will cause interference or pass through.
  - f. Pollutants which result in the presence of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes within the POTW in a quantity which may cause acute worker health and safety problems.
  - g. Heat in amounts that will inhibit biological activity in the POTW resulting in interference but in no case heat in such quantities such that the temperature at the POTW headworks exceeds 40 degrees Centigrade (104 degrees Fahrenheit) unless Ecology, upon request of the Permittee, approves, in writing, alternate temperature limits.

- h. Any trucked or hauled pollutants, except at discharge points designated by the Permittee.
  - i. Wastewaters prohibited to be discharged to the POTW by the Dangerous Waste Regulations (chapter 173-303 WAC), unless authorized under the Domestic Sewage Exclusion (WAC 173-303-071).
- 3. The Permittee must also not allow the following discharges to the POTW unless approved in writing by Ecology:
  - a. Noncontact cooling water in significant volumes.
  - b. Stormwater and other direct inflow sources.
  - c. Wastewaters significantly affecting system hydraulic loading, which do not require treatment, or would not be afforded a significant degree of treatment by the system.
- 4. The Permittee must notify Ecology if any industrial user violates the prohibitions listed in this section (S6.B), and initiate enforcement action to promptly curtail any such discharge.

#### **S6.C. Wastewater discharge permit required**

The Permittee must:

- 1. Establish a process for authorizing non-domestic wastewater discharges that ensures all SIUs in all tributary areas meet the applicable state waste discharge permit (SWDP) requirements in accordance with chapter 90.48 RCW and chapter 173-216 WAC.
- 2. Immediately notify Ecology of any proposed discharge of wastewater from a source, which may be a significant industrial user (SIU) [see fact sheet definitions or refer to 40 CFR 403.3(v)(i)(ii)].
- 3. Require all SIUs to obtain a SWDP from Ecology prior to accepting their non-domestic wastewater, or require proof that Ecology has determined they do not require a permit.
- 4. Require the documentation as described in S6.C.3 at the earliest practicable date as a condition of continuing to accept non-domestic wastewater discharges from a previously undiscovered, currently discharging and unpermitted SIU.
- 5. Require sources of non-domestic wastewater, which do not qualify as SIUs but merit a degree of oversight, to apply for a SWDP and provide it a copy of the application and any Ecology responses.
- 6. Keep all records documenting that its users have met the requirements of S6.C.

#### **S6.D. Identification and reporting of existing, new, and proposed industrial users**

1. The Permittee must take continuous, routine measures to identify all existing, new, and proposed SIUs and potential significant industrial users (PSIUs) discharging or proposing to discharge to the Permittee's sewer system (see **Appendix C** of the fact sheet for definitions).
2. Within 30 days of becoming aware of an unpermitted existing, new, or proposed industrial user who may be a significant industrial user (SIU), the Permittee must notify such user by registered mail that, if classified as an SIU, they must apply to Ecology and obtain a State Waste Discharge Permit. The Permittee must send a copy of this notification letter to Ecology within this same 30-day period.
3. The Permittee must also notify all Potential SIUs (PSIUs), as they are identified, that if their classification should change to an SIU, they must apply to Ecology for a State Waste Discharge Permit within 30 days of such change.

### **S7. Solid wastes**

#### **S7.A. Solid waste handling**

The Permittee must handle and dispose of all solid waste material in such a manner as to prevent its entry into state ground or surface water.

#### **S7.B. Leachate**

The Permittee must not allow leachate from its solid waste material to enter state waters without providing all known, available, and reasonable methods of treatment, nor allow such leachate to cause violations of the State Surface Water Quality Standards, Chapter 173-201A WAC, or the State Ground Water Quality Standards, Chapter 173-200 WAC. The Permittee must apply for a permit or permit modification as may be required for such discharges to state ground or surface waters.

### **S8. Application for permit renewal or modification for facility changes**

The Permittee must submit an application for renewal of this permit **by February 28, 2022**.

Mail the **original, signed application** to the Water Quality Permit Coordinator, Eastern Regional Office, Department of Ecology, 4601 N. Monroe Street, Spokane, Washington 99205.

Send an electronic copy of the application (preferably as a PDF) by email to the Permit Coordinator at [stra461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:stra461@ecy.wa.gov). Scan any attachments to the application and submit them with the application.

The Permittee must also submit a new application or addendum at least 180 days prior to commencement of discharges, resulting from the activities listed below, which may result in permit violations. These activities include any facility expansions, production increases, or other planned changes, such as process modifications, in the permitted facility.



## **General Conditions**

### **G1. Signatory requirements**

All applications, reports, or information submitted to Ecology must be signed as follows:

1. All permit applications must be signed by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
2. All reports required by this permit and other information requested by Ecology must be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
  - a. The authorization is made in writing by the person described above and is submitted to Ecology at the time of authorization, and
  - b. The authorization specifies either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.
3. Changes to authorization. If an authorization under paragraph G1.2. above is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization must be submitted to Ecology prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.
4. Certification. Any person signing a document under this section must make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

### **G2. Right of entry**

Representatives of Ecology have the right to enter at all reasonable times in or upon any property, public or private for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to the pollution or the possible pollution of any waters of the state. Reasonable times include normal business hours; hours during which production, treatment, or discharge occurs; or times when Ecology suspects a violation requiring immediate inspection. Representatives of Ecology must be allowed to have access to, and copy at reasonable cost, any records required to be kept under terms and conditions of the permit; to inspect any monitoring equipment or method required in the permit; and to sample the discharge, waste treatment processes, or internal waste streams.

### **G3. Permit actions**

This permit is subject to modification, suspension, or termination, in whole or in part by Ecology for any of the following causes:

1. Violation of any permit term or condition;
2. Obtaining a permit by misrepresentation or failure to disclose all relevant facts;
3. A material change in quantity or type of waste disposal;
4. A material change in the condition of the waters of the state; or
5. Nonpayment of fees assessed pursuant to RCW 90.48.465.

Ecology may also modify this permit, including the schedule of compliance or other conditions, if it determines good and valid cause exists, including promulgation or revisions of regulations or new information.

### **G4. Reporting a cause for modification**

The Permittee must submit a new application at least 180 days before it wants to discharge more of any pollutant, a new pollutant, or more flow than allowed under this permit. The Permittee should use the State Waste Discharge Permit application, and submit required plans at the same time. Required plans include an Engineering Report, Plans and Specifications, and an Operations and Maintenance manual, (see Chapter 173-240 WAC). Ecology may waive these plan requirements for small changes, so contact Ecology if they do not appear necessary. The Permittee must obtain the written concurrence of the receiving POTW on the application before submitting it to Ecology. The Permittee must continue to comply with the existing permit until it is modified or reissued. Submitting a notice of dangerous waste discharge (to comply with Pretreatment or Dangerous Waste rules) triggers this requirement as well.

### **G5. Plan review required**

Prior to constructing or modifying any wastewater control facilities, an engineering report and detailed plans and specifications must be submitted to Ecology for approval in accordance with Chapter 173-240 WAC. Engineering reports, plans, and specifications should be submitted at least 180 days prior to the planned start of construction. Facilities must be constructed and operated in accordance with the approved plans.

### **G6. Compliance with other laws and statutes**

Nothing in this permit excuses the Permittee from compliance with any applicable federal, state, or local statutes, ordinances, or regulations.

## **G7. Transfer of this permit**

This permit is automatically transferred to a new owner or operator if:

1. A written agreement between the old and new owner or operator containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability is submitted to Ecology;
2. A copy of the permit is provided to the new owner and;
3. Ecology does not notify the Permittee of the need to modify the permit.

Unless this permit is automatically transferred according to Section 1. above, this permit may be transferred only if it is modified to identify the new Permittee and to incorporate such other requirements as determined necessary by Ecology.

## **G8. Payment of fees**

The Permittee must submit payment of fees associated with this permit as assessed by Ecology. Ecology may revoke this permit if the permit fees established under Chapter 173-224 WAC are not paid.

## **G9. Penalties for violating permit conditions**

Any person who is found guilty of willfully violating the terms and conditions of this permit is guilty of a crime, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of up to \$10,000 and costs of prosecution, or by imprisonment in the discretion of the court. Each day upon which a willful violation occurs may be deemed a separate and additional violation.

Any person who violates the terms and conditions of a waste discharge permit incurs, in addition to any other penalty as provided by law, a civil penalty in the amount of up to \$10,000 for every such violation. Each and every such violation is a separate and distinct offense, and in case of a continuing violation, every day's continuance is considered a separate and distinct violation.

## **G10. Duty to provide information**

The Permittee must submit to Ecology, within a reasonable time, all information which Ecology may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit or to determine compliance with this permit. The Permittee must also submit to Ecology upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

## **G11. Duty to comply**

The Permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of chapter 90.48 RCW and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application.

## **G12. Service agreement review**

The Permittee must submit to Ecology any proposed service agreements and proposed revisions or updates to existing agreements for the operation of any wastewater treatment facility covered by this permit. The review is to ensure consistency with chapters 90.46 and 90.48 RCW as required by RCW 70.150.040(9). In the event that Ecology does not comment within a 30-day period, the Permittee may assume consistency and proceed with the service agreement or the revised/updated service agreement.

## Appendix A

The Permittee must use the specified analytical methods, detection limits (DLs) and quantitation levels (QLs) in the following table for permit and application required monitoring unless:

- Another permit condition specifies other methods, detection levels, or quantitation levels.
- The method used produces measurable results in the sample and EPA has listed it as an EPA-approved method in 40 CFR Part 136.

If the Permittee uses an alternative method, not specified in the permit and as allowed above, it must report the test method, DL, and QL on the discharge monitoring report or in the required report.

If the Permittee is unable to obtain the required DL and QL in its effluent due to matrix effects, the Permittee must submit a matrix-specific detection limit (MDL) and a quantitation limit (QL) to Ecology with appropriate laboratory documentation.

When the permit requires the Permittee to measure the base neutral compounds in the list of priority pollutants, it must measure all of the base neutral pollutants listed in the table below. The list includes EPA required base neutral priority pollutants and several additional polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). The Water Quality Program added several PAHs to the list of base neutrals below from Ecology's Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxics (PBT) List. It only added those PBT parameters of interest to Appendix A that did not increase the overall cost of analysis unreasonably.

Ecology added this appendix to the permit in order to reduce the number of analytical "non-detects" in permit-required monitoring and to measure effluent concentrations near or below criteria values where possible at a reasonable cost.

The lists below include conventional pollutants (as defined in CWA section 502(6) and 40 CFR Part 122.), toxic or priority pollutants as defined in CWA section 307(a)(1) and listed in 40 CFR Part 122 Appendix D, 40 CFR Part 401.15 and 40 CFR Part 423 Appendix A), and nonconventionals.

40 CFR Part 122 Appendix D (Table V) also identifies toxic pollutants and hazardous substances which are required to be reported by dischargers if expected to be present. This permit appendix A list does not include those parameters.

<b>Pollutant</b>	<b>Recommended Analytical Protocol</b>	<b>Detection (DL)<sup>1</sup> µg/L unless specified</b>	<b>Quantitation Level (QL)<sup>2</sup> µg/L unless specified</b>
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	SM5210-B		2 mg/L
Fecal Coliform	SM 9221E,9222	N/A	Specified in method - sample aliquot dependent
Total Suspended Solids	SM2540-D		5 mg/L

<b>Pollutant &amp; CAS No. (if available)</b>	<b>Recommended Analytical Protocol</b>	<b>Detection (DL)<sup>1</sup> µg/L unless specified</b>	<b>Quantitation Level (QL)<sup>2</sup> µg/L unless specified</b>
Flow	Calibrated device		
Nitrate + Nitrite Nitrogen (as N)	SM4500-NO3- E/F/H		100
Total Dissolved Solids	SM2540 C		20 mg/L