



State of Washington Department of Ecology  
**WASTEWATER TREATMENT  
 COMPLIANCE INSPECTION REPORT**

Central Regional Office  
 1250 W Alder ST  
 Union Gap, WA 98903  
 ph: (509) 575-2490  
 fax: (509) 575-2809  
 (rev. 7-17-18)

**Section A: General Information**

Report Version	PERMIT #	mm/dd/yy	Inspection Type	Inspector Code	Facility Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Changed <input type="checkbox"/> Deleted	<b>ST0009272</b>	3/15/2023	C	S	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private

Remarks  
 N/A

Inspection work days 1.0	Facility Self-Monitoring	Photos Taken <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Samples Taken <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	BI N	QA N
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Lead Ecology Inspector(s)  
 Stephanie Giesin

**Section B: Facility Data**

Name, Location, and Phone of Facility Inspected Desert Wind Holdings LLC dba Desert Wind Winery 2258 Wine Country Road Prosser, WA 99350	Entry Time 9:53 AM	Permit Effective Date 1/01/2021
	Exit Time 10:52 AM	Permit Expiration Date 12/31/2025

Name(s)/Title(s) of On-Site Representative(s) Ben Hieb – Enologist	Ecology Staff On-Site Stephanie Giesin- Permit Developer/Permit Manager
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Name, Address, Title, Phone, and Fax Number of Responsible Official Josh Lawrence 13000 Road D SW Royal City, WA 99357-9776  Phone Number 509-346-2585   Fax N/A   Contacted? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Other Facility Data N/A
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**Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection (Check only those areas evaluated)**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Flow Measurement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operations & Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> CSO/SSO (Sewer Overflow)
<input type="checkbox"/> Records/Reports	<input type="checkbox"/> Effluent Receiving Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Sludge Handling/Disposal	<input type="checkbox"/> Pollution Prevention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facility Site Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliance Schedules	<input type="checkbox"/> Pretreatment	<input type="checkbox"/> Multimedia
<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Monitoring Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/> Storm Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

**Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments**

The purpose of this inspection was to get a general walk through of the facility, discuss Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) violations and violation reporting, and discuss Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual. The last inspection for this facility was on August 22, 2019.

I arrived at the facility at 9:53 am called Ben and he met me outside in the parking lot. I introduced myself and gave him a background of my time at Ecology as a general permit manager and now managing and writing individual permits. I said I would like to get a walkthrough of the facility and see where their wastewater goes. We also discussed the O&M manual that was due January 1, 2022. An O&M manual was submitted to Ecology but was not accepted before the permit was transferred to Desert Wind in March 2021. In email correspondence, I provided the WAC for O&M requirements and other plans that were required.

We discussed a reporting violation submission from March 14, 2023 that was submitted through the Portal that was DMR data from the City of Prosser. No data was highlighted to show or explain any violations, so I was unclear on the reason for document submission. For February DMR, there was one violation for missing flow values that were not recorded by the City of Prosser. I told Ben he should call or send me an email with the dates and what the violations were in addition to providing a comment on the DMR.

We also discussed broken pipe issues that occurred in 2021 where wine wastewater was seeping up through the ground. I received an email from the City of Benton with photos about the incident regarding the Winery General Permit. Ben said that problem was resolved, and new pipes were installed.

Ben showed me the drains at the crush pad. Solid waste from processing at the crush pad is taken to the landfill. There is a storm drain near the crush pad. Ben said there is a pipe inside that drains down into the vault where their wastewater from production goes. He walked me through the inside with winery tanks. They use caustic acid to clean out tanks. All the wastewater goes to a sump near the back parking lot behind the production and warehouse that pumps down to the tasting room. The City of Prosser samples the wastewater 2/week from the sampler shed with a flow meter on the wall.

I asked Ben if pH is checked after cleaning a wine tank since there is no pretreatment of wastewater before discharge to the POTW. Ben said they will use pH strips to check pH, anything being drained is neutralized before it is discharged. They do have a pH probe if there was a large amount of wastewater that was planning to be discharged.

I thanked Ben for his time and provided him my business card. I left the facility at 10:53 am.

#### Photos:



Crush pad



Storm drain near crush pad



Effluent sampler

Name(s) and Signatures of Inspector(s)	Agency/Office/Telephone	Date
Stephanie Giesin 	WA Dept. of Ecology, CRO, (509) 504-0172	3/16/2023
Name and Signature of Management QA Reviewer	Agency/Office/Telephone	Date
Erik Van Doren 	WA Dept. of Ecology, CRO, (509) 571-0934	3/23/23

**ANNOUNCED** Inspection

**Section A: General Information**

**Report Version:** N for 1<sup>st</sup> version, C for Changed or amended, or D for Delete

**NPDES Permit No.:** Enter the facility's NPDES or State permit number.

**Inspection Date:** Insert the date entry was made into the facility. Use the month/day/year format (e.g., 06/30/04 = June 30, 2004).

**Inspection Type:** Use one of the codes listed below to describe the type of inspection:

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

**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)	N - NEIC Inspectors
E - Corps of Engineers	R - EPA Regional Inspector
J - Joint EPA/State Inspectors - EPA Lead	S - State Inspector
	T - Joint State/EPA Inspectors - State Lead

**Facility Type:** Use one of the choices 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

**Remarks:** These columns are reserved for remarks.

**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. This estimate includes the accumulative effort of all participating inspectors; any effort for laboratory analyses, testing, travel time and preparation time. This estimate does not require detailed documentation.

**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.

**Biomonitoring Information.** Enter D for static testing. Enter F for flow through testing. Enter N for no biomonitoring.

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

**Photos Taken:** Yes or No

**Samples Taken:** Yes or No

**Lead Ecology Inspector:** Enter lead inspector's name

**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), e-mail addresses...; and "Ecology Staff On-Site", which may include staff names, titles, phone numbers, or e-mail addresses.

**Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection**

Check only those areas evaluated by marking the appropriate box. Use Section D and additional sheets as necessary.

**Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments**

Support the findings, as necessary, in a narrative report. Use the headings given on the report form (staffing, back-up power) as appropriate. Reference a list of attachments, such as completed checklists, photos, lab reports, etc. Use extra sheets as necessary.

LINKS AND INFORMATION:

“Informational Manual for Treatment Plant Operators”; February 2004; by the Department of Ecology  
Publication Number 04-10-020:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/0410020.html>

The manual was prepared to help wastewater treatment plant operators complete and submit their Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) and other annual reports to the Department of Ecology. The manual is available in hard copy. To request a copy, contact the Department of Ecology, Publications Distribution Center at P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 or by Telephone: (360) 407-7472. Updates to the manual are included on the website version.

Ecology’s Wastewater and Reuse website:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-quality/Reclaimed-water>

Ecology’s Operator Certification website:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Wastewater-operator-certification>

Ecology’s Laboratory Accreditation website:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Laboratory-Accreditation>

Ecology’s Biosolids website:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/Reducing-recycling-waste/Organic-materials/Biosolids>

Ecology’s Operator Outreach: Andy O’Neil (509) 710-3676; [andy.oneill@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:andy.oneill@ecy.wa.gov)

Ecology’s Municipal Compliance Specialist (Central Regional Office): Lindsay Hunsperger (509) 208-1285;

[lindsay.hunsperger@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:lindsay.hunsperger@ecy.wa.gov)

Ecology’s Wastewater Operator Certification Coordinator: Poppy Carre (360) 407-6449; 1-800-633-6193 (within the state)

[Poppy.carre@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Poppy.carre@ecy.wa.gov)

Ecology’s Regional Biosolids Program Coordinator: Ruby Irving-Hewey (509) 379-4737: [ruby.irving-hewey@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ruby.irving-hewey@ecy.wa.gov)

Reporting Spills/Overflows/Upsets/Bypasses/Loss of Disinfection IMMEDIATELY:

Regional Ecology Office number for spill reporting: (509) 575-2490 to report a spill