



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333

DEPARTMENT ORDER

IN THE MATTER OF

JASPER WYMAN & SONS INC.)	MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE
CHERRYFIELD, WASHINGTON COUNTY)	ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
OVERBOARD DISCHARGE)	AND
ME0037265)	WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE
W008084-5C-D-R)	RENEWAL
APPROVAL		

In compliance with the applicable provisions of *Pollution Control*, 38 M.R.S. §411 – 424-B, *Water Classification Program*, 38 M.R.S. §464 – 470 and *Federal Water Pollution Control Act*, Title 33 U.S.C. § 1251, and applicable rules of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEPARTMENT), the Department has considered the application of JASPER WYMAN & SONS INC. (JWS/permittee hereinafter), with its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

APPLICATION SUMMARY

On March 2, 2021, the permittee submitted an application to the Department for the renewal of Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) W008084-5C-C-R, which was issued by the Department on October 16, 2015. The 10/16/15 permit authorized the daily maximum year-round discharge of 3,000 gallons per day (gpd) of secondary treated sanitary wastewater from a food processing facility to the Narraguagus River, Class SB, in Cherryfield, Maine.

PERMIT SUMMARY

This permitting action is carrying forward all the terms and conditions of the previous permit, except that this permit is:

1. Establishing year- round Fecal Coliform bacteria limits with 2/month monitoring and reporting requirements.
2. Establishing limits with 1/month monitoring and reporting requirements for Enterococci bacteria from April 15th -October 31st.
3. Establishing Special Condition, I Septic Tanks
4. Amending Special Condition, H Site Evaluation for Transferred and Renewed Permits.

CONCLUSIONS

BASED on the findings in the attached Fact Sheet dated October 5, 2022, and subject to the Conditions listed below, the Department makes the following CONCLUSIONS:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.
2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with State law.
3. The provisions of the State's antidegradation policy, 38 M.R.S. §464(4)(F), will be met, in that:
 - (a) Existing in-stream water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected;
 - (b) Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding national resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;
 - (c) Where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet the standards of classification;
 - (d) Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification that higher water quality will be maintained and protected; and
 - (e) Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing water quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.
4. The discharges will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment as defined in *Conditions of Licenses*, 38 M.R.S., §414-A(1)(D).
5. The overboard discharge system was in continuing existence for the 12 months preceding June 1, 1987.
6. A non-discharging subsurface wastewater disposal system could not be installed in compliance with the Maine Subsurface Wastewater Disposal Rules at the time the renewal application was accepted by the Department.
7. A publicly owned sewer line is not located on or abutting land owned or controlled by the permittee or is not available for the permittee's use.
8. The discharge is not located within the boundaries of a sanitary district or sewer district.

ACTION

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted application of JASPER WYMAN & SONS INC. to discharge a daily maximum flow of 3,000 gallons per day (gpd) of secondary treated sanitary wastewater from a food processing facility to the Narraguagus River, Class SB, in Cherryfield, Maine, SUBJECT TO THE ATTACHED CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations including:

1. *“Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Standard Conditions Applicable To All Permits,”* revised July 1, 2002, copy attached.
2. The attached Special Conditions, including any effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.
3. This permit and the authorization to discharge become effective upon the date of signature below and expire at midnight five (5) years from the effective date. If a renewal application is timely submitted and accepted as complete for processing prior to the expiration of this permit, the authorization to discharge and the terms and conditions of this permit and all modifications and minor revisions thereto remain in effect until a final Department decision on the renewal application becomes effective. [*Maine Administrative Procedure Act*, 5 M.R.S. §10002 and *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters*, 06-096 CMR 2(21)(A) (last amended June 9, 2018)].

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES.

DONE AND DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE THIS 5 DAY OF October 2022.

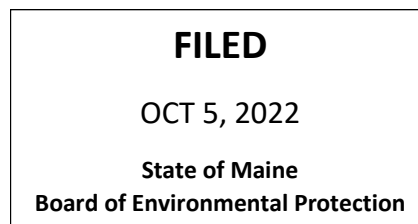
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY: 
for MELANIE LOYZIM, COMMISSIONER

Date of initial receipt of application: March 2, 2021

Date of application acceptance: March 16, 2021

Date file with the Board of Environmental Protection _____



This Order prepared by Rod Robert, BUREAU OF WATER QUALITY

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. The permittee is authorized to discharge secondary treated sanitary wastewater from **Outfall #002B** to the Narraguagus River. Such discharges must be limited and monitored by the permittee as specified below⁽¹⁾:

Effluent Characteristic	Discharge Limitations						Minimum Monitoring Requirements	
	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Weekly Average</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Weekly Average</u>	<u>Daily Maximum</u>	<u>Measurement Frequency</u>	<u>Sample Type</u>
Flow [50050]	---	---	3,000 gpd [07]	---	---	---	Continuous [99/99]	Metered [MT]
BOD₅ [00310]	1.0 lbs/day [26]	1.1 lbs/day [26]	1.2 bs/day [26]	30 mg/L [19]	45 mg/L [19]	50 mg/L [19]	1/Month [01/30]	Grab [GR]
BOD₅ Percent Removal⁽²⁾ [81010]	---	---	---	85% [23]	---	---	1/Month [01/30]	Calculate [CA]
TSS [00530]	1.0 lbs/day [26]	1.1 lbs/day [26]	1.2 bs/day [26]	30 mg/L [19]	45 mg/L [19]	50 mg/L [19]	1/Month [01/30]	Grab [GR]
TSS Percent Removal⁽²⁾ [81011]	---	---	---	85% [23]	---	---	1/Month [01/30]	Calculate [CA]
Settleable Solids [00545]	---	---	---	---	---	0.3 ml/L [25]	1/Month [01/30]	Grab [GR]
Fecal Coliform Bacteria⁽³⁾ [31616]	---	---	---	14/100 ml ⁽⁴⁾ [13]	---	31/100 ml [13]	2/Month [02/30]	Grab [GR]
Enterococci Bacteria⁽⁴⁾ (April 1st – Oct 31st), [31639]				8 CFU/100 mL ⁽⁴⁾ [13]	---	54 CFU /100 mL [13]	1/Month [01/30]	Grab [GR]
Total Residual Chlorine⁽⁵⁾ [50060]	---	---	---	Report mg/L [19]	---	1.0 mg/L [19]	2/Week [02/07]	Grab [GR]
pH [00400]	---	---	---	---	---	6.0 – 9.0 SU [12]	1/Year [1/YR]	Grab [GR]

Footnotes: See Page 6 of this permit for applicable footnotes.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

Footnotes:

1. **Sampling** - All effluent monitoring must be conducted at a location following the last treatment unit in the treatment process as to be representative of end-of-pipe effluent characteristics. Sampling and analysis must be conducted in accordance with; a) methods approved by 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 136, b) alternative methods approved by the Department in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR Part 136, or c) as otherwise specified by the Department. Samples that are sent out for analysis must be analyzed by a laboratory certified by the State of Maine's Department of Health and Human Services for wastewater testing. Samples that are sent to another POTW licensed pursuant to *Waste discharge licenses*, 38 M.R.S. § 413 or laboratory facilities that analyze compliance samples in-house are subject to the provisions and restrictions of *Maine Comprehensive and Limited Environmental Laboratory Certification Rules*, 10-144 CMR 263 (last amended December 19, 2018). If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures approved under 40 CFR part 136 or as specified in this permit, the results of this monitoring must be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the Discharge Monitoring Report.
2. **Percent Removal** – The treatment facility must maintain a minimum of 85 percent removal of both BOD₅ and TSS for all flows receiving secondary treatment. The percent removal must be calculated based on an assumed influent concentration of 286 mg/L and measured effluent concentration values.
3. **Fecal Coliform Bacteria Reporting** – The monthly average fecal coliform bacteria limitation is a geometric mean limitation and sample results must be reported as such.
4. **Enterococcus Bacteria Reporting** – Enterococcus bacteria limits are a geometric mean and monitoring requirements are seasonal running from April 15th – October 31st.
5. **TRC Monitoring** – Limitations and monitoring requirements are applicable whenever elemental chlorine or chlorine-based compounds are being used to disinfect the discharge. The permittee must utilize approved test methods that are capable of bracketing the TRC limitation in this permit.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

B. ANNUAL DISCHARGE FEES

Pursuant to *Annual Waste Discharge License Fees*, 38 M.R.S. §353-B, the permittee is required to pay an applicable annual fee for discharges authorized by this permit. Failure to pay an annual fee within 30 days of the anniversary date of a license/permit is sufficient grounds for revocation of the license, permit or privilege under *Board Responsibilities and Duties*, 38 M.R.S. §341-D, subsection 3.

C. NARRATIVE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

1. The permittee must not discharge effluent that contains a visible oil sheen, foam or floating solids at any time which would impair the uses designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
2. The permittee must not discharge effluent that contains materials in concentrations or combinations which are hazardous or toxic to aquatic life, or which would impair the uses designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
3. The permittee must not discharge effluent that causes visible discoloration or turbidity in the receiving waters which would impair the uses designated by the classification of the receiving waters.
- 4.
5. The permittee must not discharge effluent that lowers the quality of any classified body of water below such classification or lowers the existing quality of any body of water if the existing quality is higher than the classification.

D. TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

The person who has the management responsibility over the treatment facility must hold a **Maine Grade I** certificate (or higher) or must be a Maine Registered Professional Engineer pursuant to *Sewage Treatment Operators*, 32 M.R.S., §4171-4182 and *Regulations for Wastewater Operator Certification*, 06-096 CMR 531 (effective May 8, 2006). All proposed contracts for facility operation by any person must be approved by the Department before the permittee may engage the services of the contract operator.

E. AUTHORIZED DISCHARGES

The permittee is authorized to discharge only in accordance with 1) the permittee's General Application for Waste Discharge Permit, accepted for processing on March 16, 2021; 2) the terms and conditions of this permit; and 3) only from Outfall #002B. Discharges of wastewater from any other point source are not authorized under this permit and must be reported in accordance with Standard Condition D(1)(f), *Twenty-four-hour reporting*, of this permit.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

F. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

In accordance with Standard Condition D, the permittee must notify the Department of the following.

1. Any substantial change or proposed change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the wastewater collection and treatment system by a source introducing pollutants into the system at the time of permit issuance.
2. For the purposes of this section, notice regarding substantial change must include information on:
 - (a) the quality and quantity of wastewater introduced to the wastewater collection and treatment system; and
 - (b) any anticipated impact caused by the change in the quantity or quality of the wastewater to be discharged from the treatment system.

G. OPERATION & MAINTENANCE (O&M) PLAN

The permittee must maintain a current written comprehensive Operation & Maintenance (O&M) Plan. The plan must provide a systematic approach by which the permittee must at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit.

By December 31 of each year, or within 90 days of any process changes or minor equipment upgrades, the permittee must evaluate and modify the O&M Plan including site plan(s) and schematic(s) for the wastewater treatment facility to ensure that it is current. The O&M Plan must be kept on-site at all times and made available to Department and USEPA personnel upon request.

Within 90 days of completion of new and or substantial upgrades of the wastewater treatment facility, the permittee must submit the updated O&M Plan to their Department inspector for review and comment.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

H. SITE EVALUATION FOR TRANSFERRED AND RENEWED PERMITS

The owners of the overboard discharges subject to this permit are required to install a technologically proven alternative and properly abandon the overboard discharges when any of the following actions are initiated.

1. Transfer of Ownership of Property or Significant Action – Prior to transfer of ownership of property containing an overboard discharge (i.e., change in the legal entity that owns a property, facility or structure that is the subject of a permit), the parties to the transfer must determine the feasibility of technologically proven alternatives¹ to the overboard discharge. Prior to completing a significant action (i.e., single construction project performed on a primary residence with an overboard discharge when the total material and labor cost of the construction project exceeds \$50,000), the owner must determine the feasibility of technologically proven alternatives to the overboard discharge.

a) If an alternative to the overboard discharge is available, the alternative system must be installed within 90 days of property transfer or significant action, unless otherwise provided by *Waste Discharge Licenses*, 38 M.R.S. § 413(3-A).

b) If an alternative to the overboard discharge is not available, the new owner must, no later than two weeks after any transfer of ownership, submit an application to the Department for transfer of this permit.

¹ Feasibility of technologically proven alternatives are based on determinations by a licensed site evaluator's application of plumbing standards adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Title 22, section 42.

2. Permit Renewal – Waste Discharge Permits for overboard discharges are issued for a five-year term. The permittee must submit a complete application for permit renewal prior to the expiration date of this permit to continue the discharge beyond the expiration date of this permit. If a technologically proven alternative system is available and.

a) The overboard discharge owner is eligible for grant funding², the alternative system must be installed within 180 days of written notification from the Department, unless otherwise provided by *Conditions of licenses*, 38 M.R.S. § 414-A(1-B); or

b) The overboard discharge owner is not eligible for grant funding, the alternative system must be installed prior to the expiration date of this permit.

3. Abandonment of Overboard Discharge – When an overboard discharge is no longer necessary or is replaced by technologically proven alternative system, it must be properly abandoned within 90 days following the requirements of Overboard discharges: licenses and abandonment, 06-096 CMR 596(8), including submission of Overboard Discharge Abandonment Certification Form #DEPLW0653A.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

I. SEPTIC TANKS

1. Septic tanks and other treatment tanks must be regularly inspected (at least once per calendar year) and maintained to ensure that they are providing best practicable treatment. The permittee must maintain logs of inspections/maintenance that records the date, notes on observations, repairs conducted etc. The logs must be maintained on site at all times and made available to Department personnel upon request.
2. Tank contents must be removed whenever the sludge and scum occupies one-third of the tank's liquid capacity or whenever levels approach maximum design capacity. Following pumping, the tanks must be checked for damage at key joints and the inlet and outlet baffles, and repaired promptly if damaged. The permittee must keep a pumping log including the date of pumping, quantity of material.

J. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Electronic Reporting

NPDES Electronic Reporting, 40 C.F.R. 127, requires MEPDES permit holders to submit monitoring results obtained during the previous month on an electronic discharge monitoring report to the regulatory agency utilizing the USEPA electronic system.

Electronic Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) submitted using the USEPA NetDMR system, must be:

1. Submitted by a facility authorized signatory; and
2. Submitted no later than midnight on the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period.

Documentation submitted in support of the electronic DMR may be attached to the electronic DMR. Toxics reporting must be done using the DEP toxsheet reporting form. An electronic copy of the Toxsheet reporting document must be submitted to your Department compliance inspector as an attachment to an email. In addition, a hardcopy form of this sheet must be signed and submitted to your compliance inspector, or a copy attached to your NetDMR submittal will suffice. Documentation submitted electronically to the Department in support of the electronic DMR must be submitted no later than midnight on the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period.

A signed copy of the DMR and all other reports required herein must be submitted to the Department assigned compliance inspector (unless otherwise specified) following address:

Department of Environmental Protection
Eastern Maine Regional Office
Bureau of Water Quality
Division of Water Quality Management
106 Hogan Road
Bangor, Maine 04401

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

K. REOPENING OF PERMIT FOR MODIFICATIONS

In accordance with 38 M.R.S. § 414-A(5) and upon evaluation of the tests results or monitoring requirements specified in Special Conditions of this permitting action, new site specific information, or any other pertinent test results or information obtained during the term of this permit, the Department may, at any time and with notice to the permittee, modify this permit to: (1) include effluent limits necessary to control specific pollutants or whole effluent toxicity where there is a reasonable potential that the effluent may cause water quality criteria to be exceeded; (2) require additional effluent or ambient water quality monitoring if results on file are inconclusive; or (3) change monitoring requirements or limitations based on new information.

L. SEVERABILITY

In the event that any provision, or part thereof, of this permit is declared to be unlawful by a reviewing court, the remainder of the permit must remain in full force and effect and must be construed and enforced in all respects as if such unlawful provision, or part thereof, had been omitted, unless otherwise ordered by the court.

**MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
AND
WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE**

FACT SHEET

Date: **October 5, 2022**

MEPDES PERMIT: **ME0037265**
WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE: **W008084-5C-D-R**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

**JASPER WYMAN & SONS INC.
P.O. Box 100
Milbridge, ME. 04658**

COUNTY: **Washington**

NAME AND ADDRESS WHERE DISCHARGE OCCURS:

**178 Main Street
Cherryfield, ME. 04658**

RECEIVING WATER / CLASSIFICATION: **Narraguagus River / Class SB**

COGNIZANT OFFICIAL AND TELEPHONE NUMBER: **Mr. Adam West
(207) 546-3381
e-mail: awest@wymans.com**

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY

On March 2, 2021, the permittee submitted an application to the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) for the renewal of Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) W008084-5C-C-R, which was issued by the Department on October 16, 2015. The 10/16/15 permit authorized the daily maximum year-round discharge of up to 3,000 gallons per day (gpd) of secondary treated sanitary wastewater from a food processing facility to the Narraguagus River, Class SB, in Cherryfield, Maine. See **Attachment A** of this Fact Sheet for a location map.

2. PERMIT SUMMARY

- a. Terms and conditions: This licensing action carries forward all the terms and conditions of the previous license except that this license is:
1. Establishing year- round Fecal Coliform bacteria limits with 2/month monitoring and reporting requirements.
 2. Establishing limits with 1/month monitoring and reporting requirements for Enterococci bacteria from April 15th -October 31st.
 3. Establishing Special Condition I Septic Tanks
 4. Amending Special Condition H Site Evaluation for Transferred and Renewed Permits.
- b. Facility History: This section provides a summary of significant licensing/permitting actions, as well as other significant milestones that have been completed.

March 17, 1987 – The Department issued WDL #W000645-42-A-R for a five-year term.

September 7, 1993 – The Department issued WDL #W000645-WA-D-R for a five year term.

August 28, 2000 - The Department issued WDL #W008084-5C-A-R for a ten-year term. It is noted a new WDL number was assigned to the sanitary wastewater discharge as the discharge of blueberry process wastewater remains regulated via WDL #W000645.

August 2, 2010 – The Department accepted the permittee’s General Application for renewal of WDL #W008084-5C-A-R. The application was assigned WDL #5C-B-R

October 4, 2010 – The Department issued WDL #W008084-5C-B-R/MEPDES #ME0037265 for a five-year term.

September 1, 2015 – The Department accepted the permittee’s General Application for renewal of WDL #W008084-5C-B-R. The application was assigned WDL #W008084-5C-C-R

March 16, 2015 – The Department issued WDL #W008084-5C-C-R/MEPDES #ME0037265 for a five-year term.

March 16, 2021 – The Department accepted the permittee’s General Application for renewal of WDL #W008084-5C-C-R. The application was assigned WDL #W008084-5C-D-R

- c. Source Description: The discharge is sanitary wastewater from a blueberry processing facility. The processing facility building has nine toilets and eight sinks, with a maximum number of 150 employees per day during August, the busiest month. Wastewater volume is calculated by totaling the readings of the flow meters located on each of the domestic water lines serving the facility’s restrooms. The discharge occurs for more than six months of the year.

2. PERMIT SUMMARY

- d. Wastewater Treatment: The wastewater currently receives a secondary level of treatment from an overboard discharge system consisting of a 3,000-gallon septic tank and a 35' X 75' sand filter, with chlorine disinfection. The treated wastewater is collected in a vault where it is pumped to the wastewater lagoon or discharged into the receiving waterbody via an outfall pipe measuring four (4) inches in diameter which extends out into the receiving water at or just short of the center of the channel.
- e. Replacement options: Pursuant to 38 M.R.S. §414-A(1-B), the Department finds that the discharge from an OBD meets the requirements of best practicable treatment for purposes of licensing when it finds that there are no technologically proven alternative methods of wastewater disposal consistent with the plumbing code adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Title 22, section 42 that will not result in an overboard discharge. The Department's finding must be based on documentation from a licensed site evaluator (LSE) having experience in designing replacement systems for overboard discharges and provided by the overboard discharge owner.

3. CONDITIONS OF PERMIT

Conditions of licenses, 38 M.R.S. §414-A, requires that the effluent limitations prescribed for discharges, including, but not limited to, effluent toxicity, require application of best practicable treatment (BPT), be consistent with the U.S. Clean Water Act, and ensure that the receiving waters attain the State water quality standards as described in Maine's Surface Water Classification System. In addition, 38 M.R.S. §420 and Department rule 06-096 CMR Chapter 530, *Surface Water Toxics Control Program*, require the regulation of toxic substances not to exceed levels set forth in Department rule 06-096 CMR Chapter 584, *Surface Water Quality Criteria for Toxic Pollutants*, and that ensure safe levels for the discharge of toxic pollutants such that existing and designated uses of surface waters are maintained and protected.

4. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Classifications of Estuarine and Marine Waters, 38 M.R.S. §469, classifies all estuarine and marine waters lying within the boundaries of the State and which are not otherwise classified as Class SB, which includes the tidewaters of the Narraguagus River. *Standards for Classification of Estuarine and Marine waters*, 38 M.R.S. §465-B(2) describes the standards for Class SB waters.

5. RECEIVING WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS

The State of Maine 2022 Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report, prepared by the Department pursuant to Sections 303(d) and 305(b) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, lists the segment of the Narraguagus River in the vicinity of the JWS discharge in several categories indicating impairment of water quality standards. The categories are as follows:

Category 2: Estuarine and Marine Waters Attaining Some Non-Shellfish Harvesting Designated Uses – Insufficient Information for Other Uses..

Category 5-D: Estuarine and Marine Waters Impaired by Legacy Pollutants states all marine and estuarine waters are listed in Category 5-D, partially supporting fish (fish and shellfish consumption) due to elevated levels of PCB's, and other persistent, bioaccumulating substances in lobster tomally.

The Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR) assesses information on shellfish growing areas to ensure that shellfish harvested are safe for consumption. The Maine Department of Marine Resources has authority to close shellfish harvesting areas wherever there is a pollution source, a potential pollution threat, or poor water quality. The DMR traditionally closes shellfish harvesting areas if there are known sources of discharges with unacceptable bacteria levels (in-stream thresholds established in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program) or maintains shellfish harvesting closure areas due to lack of updated information regarding ambient water quality conditions. In addition, the DMR prohibits shellfish harvesting in the immediate vicinity of all wastewater treatment outfall pipes as a precautionary measure in the event of a failure in the treatment plant's disinfection system. Thus, shellfish harvesting Area #53 is closed to the harvesting of shellfish due to insufficient or limited ambient water quality data to determine that the area meets the standards in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program. The shellfish closure area can be found at <https://www.maine.gov/dmr/shellfish-sanitation-management/maps/index.html>.

The Department is making the determination that compliance with the fecal coliform bacteria and other secondary wastewater treatment limits established in this permitting action ensure that the discharge of secondary treated wastewater from the JWS facility will not cause or contribute to the failure of the receiving waters to meet the standards of its designated classification.

The 2022 305(b) report also lists all estuarine and marine waters in a category entitled, *Category 5-D: Estuarine and Marine Waters Impaired by Legacy Pollutants*. The waters are listed as partially supporting fishing (shellfish consumption) due to elevated levels of PCBs and other persistent, bioaccumulating substances in lobster tomally. Department rule Chapter 519, *Interim Effluent Limitations and Controls for the Discharge of Mercury* establishes controls on the discharge of mercury to the surface waters of the State through interim effluent limits and implementation of pollution prevention plans. However, Section 1(A)(1) of the Chapter 519 rule states in part:

6. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

- a. Best Practicable Treatment (BPT) - The Department finds that the discharge meets the requirements of best practicable treatment pursuant to 38 M.R.S. § 414-A(1-B) for purposes of licensing when it finds that there are no technologically proven alternative methods of wastewater disposal consistent with the plumbing code adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Title 22, section 42 that will not result in an overboard discharge. Pursuant to Overboard Discharges: Licensing and Abandonment, 06-096 CMR 596(9), Criteria and Standards for Waste Discharge Licenses 06-96R 524(2) (effective January 12, 2001) and 06-096 CMR 525(3)(III), BPT for overboard discharges is secondary treatment. The secondary treatment regulation establishes technology-based effluent limitations for BOD₅, TSS, and pH which are discussed in more detail in the individual parameter sections below.

The discharge from the permittee's facility meets all the aforementioned criteria as a HHE 200 form dated July 28, 2010, from a licensed site evaluator indicates an on-site soil investigation has resulted in the LSE making the determination that there are no viable alternatives to the overboard discharge system. Therefore, the discharge is being permitted for another five-year term.

- b. Flow: The previous permitting action established monthly average and daily maximum discharge flow limitations of 3,000 gpd respectively, based on the dry weather design capacity of the treatment system. The previous permitting action also carried forward the requirement that effluent flow must be measured continuously via a meter to ensure that representative discharge flow data are obtained. This permitting action carries forward all these conditions. A review of the monthly Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the period March 2015 – March 2021 indicate the values reported as follows:

Flow (DMRs=38)

Value	Limit (gpd)	Range (gpd)	Mean (gpd)
Daily Maximum	3,000	423 - 1480	741

- c. Dilution Factors: The Department establishes applicable dilution factors for the discharge in accordance with freshwater protocols established in Department Rule Chapter 530, Surface Water Toxics Control Program, October 2005. Though the facility discharges to a Class SB waterbody, the Department has made a best professional judgment that at the point of discharge, the receiving water is dominated by fresh water and therefore dilution factors must be calculated in accordance with freshwater protocols. With a discharge flow limit of 3,000 gpd (0.003 MGD) and rapid and complete mixing with the receiving water, dilution factors associated with the discharge from the facility may be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Acute: } 1Q_{10} = 22.8 \text{ cfs} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{(22.8 \text{ cfs})(0.6464) + 0.003 \text{ MGD}}{0.003 \text{ MGD}} = 4,914:1$$

$$\text{Chronic: } 7Q_{10} = 31.7 \text{ cfs} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{(31.7 \text{ cfs})(0.6464) + 0.003 \text{ MGD}}{0.003 \text{ MGD}} = 6,831:1$$

$$\text{Harmonic Mean} = 95.1 \text{ cfs} \quad \Rightarrow \frac{(95.1 \text{ cfs})(0.6464) + 0.003 \text{ MGD}}{0.003 \text{ MGD}} = 20,492:1$$

6. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

- d. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD₅) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS): The previous permitting action established, and this permitting action carries forward technology-based monthly average and daily maximum BOD₅ and TSS concentration limits of 30 mg/L and 50 mg/L, respectively. The monthly average concentration limit is based on secondary treatment requirements as defined in Department rule, 06-096 CMR Chapter 525(3)(III). The daily maximum BOD₅ and TSS concentration limits of 50 mg/L were based on a Department best professional judgment (BPJ) of best practicable treatment (BPT). In addition, pursuant to Department rule, 06-096 CMR Chapter 525(3)(III), the previous permitting action established a weekly average BPT concentration limit of 45 mg/L.

The previous licensing action established mass limitations for BOD₅ and TSS. Department rule Chapter 523, *Waste Discharge License Conditions*, Section 6, *Calculating NPDES permit conditions*, sub-section f(1) states that, "all pollutants limited in permits must have limitations, standards or prohibitions expressed in terms of mass...." This permitting action carries forward monthly average, weekly average and daily maximum BOD₅ and TSS mass limitations based on calculations using the design flow for the facility of 3,000 gpd (0.003 MGD) and the applicable concentration limits as follows:

Monthly Average Limit: (30 mg/L)(8.34 lbs./gallon)(0.003 MGD) = 1.0 lbs/day

Weekly Average Limit: (45 mg/L)(8.34 lbs./gallon)(0.003 MGD) = 1.1 lbs/day

Daily Maximum Limit: (50 mg/L)(8.34 lbs./gallon)(0.003 MGD) = 1.2 lbs/day

This permitting action also carries forward the requirement for a minimum of 85% removal of BOD₅ and TSS pursuant to Chapter 525(3)(III)(a)(3) and (b)(3) of the Department's rules. The permittee's wastewater treatment system does not have an influent sampling port location that is representative of raw wastewater conditions. According to the USEPA's Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Manual, dated February 2002, table 3-7 entitled "*Constituent Mass Loadings and Concentrations in Typical Residential Wastewater*" a reasonable influent value for BOD₅ and TSS may be assumed to be 286 mg/L. Therefore, this permitting action authorizes the permittee to assume an influent BOD₅ and TSS concentration value of 286 mg/L when calculating the monthly percent removal rate.

A review of the monthly Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the period March 2015-March 2021 indicate the values reported as follows:

BOD Concentration (DMRs=38)

Value	Limit (mg/L)	Range (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)
Monthly Average	30	<1.6 - 43	<7.63
Daily Maximum	50	1.6 - 43	7.70

TSS concentration (DMRs=38)

Value	Limit (mg/L)	Range (mg/L)	Average (mg/L)
Monthly Average	30	<2 - 22	6.44
Daily Maximum	50	2 - 22	6.44

6. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

- e. Settleable Solids: The previous permitting action established a daily maximum technology-based concentration limit of 0.3 ml/L for settleable solids and a minimum monitoring frequency of 1/Month. This permitting action carries forward these limits and monitoring frequency. A review of the monthly Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the period March 2015-March 2021 indicate that the permittee has been in compliance with the 0.3 ml/L limit 100% of the time.
- f. Fecal Coliform Bacteria: The 8/28/00 permitting action established seasonal (April 15th – October 31st) monthly average and daily maximum concentration limits of 64 colonies/100 ml and 427 colonies/100 ml (instantaneous level) respectively, for the indicator organism *E. coli* bacteria. Though at the point of discharge the receiving water is dominated by freshwater, the non-attainment status for shellfish harvesting cited in Section 5, *Water Quality Conditions*, of this Fact Sheet is based on most probable numbers for fecal coliform bacteria. Therefore, to be consistent with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP). The 2010 permitting action modified the indicator organism to fecal coliform bacteria and established seasonal monthly average and daily maximum concentration limits of 15 colonies/100 ml and 50 colonies/100 ml (instantaneous level) respectively, to be consistent with the NSSP. This permitting action is establishing a seasonal monthly average and daily maximum concentration limits of 14 colonies/100 ml and 31 colonies/100 ml, respectively, for fecal coliform bacteria, which are consistent with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program. A review of monthly DMR data for the period March 2015-March 2021 indicates values reported as follows:

Fecal Coliform Bacteria (DMRs=7)

Value	Limit (col/100 ml)	Range (col/100 ml)	Mean (col/100 ml)
Monthly Average	15	No data reported	-
Daily Maximum	50	No data reported	-

6. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

- g. Total Residual Chlorine (TRC): The previous permitting action carried forward a daily maximum technology-based concentration limit of 1.0 mg/L along with a monitoring frequency of 2/Week for TRC. Limitations on TRC are specified to ensure that ambient water quality standards are maintained and that BPT technology is being applied to the discharge. Department permitting actions impose the more stringent of either a water quality-based or BPT-based limit. With dilution factors as determined above, end-of-pipe (EOP) water quality-based concentration thresholds for TRC may be calculated as follows:

Acute (A) Criterion	Chronic (C) Criterion	A & C Dilution Factors	Calculated	
			Acute Threshold	Chronic Threshold
0.013 mg/L	0.0075 mg/L	4,914:1 (A) 6,813:1 (C)	64 mg/L	51 mg/L

The Department has established a daily maximum BPT limitation of 1.0 mg/L for facilities that disinfect their effluent with elemental chlorine or chlorine-based compounds. For facilities that dechlorinate the discharge in order to meet water quality-based thresholds, the Department has established daily maximum and monthly average BPT limits of 0.3 mg/L and 0.1 mg/L, respectively.

The calculated acute water quality-based threshold of 64 mg/L is less stringent than the technology-based standard of 1.0 mg/L. Therefore, this permitting action is carrying forward the technology-based limit of 1.0 mg/L and the monitoring frequency of 2/Week. TRC monitoring is required any time chlorine-based compounds are in use for effluent disinfection. For instances when the permittee has not utilized chlorine-based compounds for effluent disinfection for an entire reporting period, the permittee must report "NODI-9" for this parameter on the monthly discharge monitoring report (DMR).

A review of the monthly Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) data for the period March 2015 – March 2021 indicates the permittee has not reported data for Total Residual Chlorine and has reported NODI-9, indicating use of a non-chlorine based effluent disinfectant, in 65 instances.

- h. pH: The previous permitting action established, and this permitting action carries forward a pH range limit of 6.0 – 9.0 standard units (SU), and a monitoring frequency of 1/yr in compliance with 06-096 CMR 523(5)(i)(2) and 06-096 CMR 523(5)(i)(5). A review of DMRs for the period since the last permitting action indicates that permittee has been in compliance with established pH range limitations 100% of the time.

6. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS & MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

- i. Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) & Chemical Specific Testing: 38 M.R.S., §414-A and §420, prohibit the discharge of effluents containing substances in amounts that would cause the surface waters of the State to contain toxic substances above levels set forth in Federal Water Quality Criteria as established by the USEPA. Department rule, 06-096 CMR Chapter 530, *Surface Water Toxics Control Program* (toxics rule) sets forth effluent monitoring requirements and procedures to establish safe levels for the discharge of toxic pollutants such that existing and designated uses of surface waters are maintained and protected, and narrative and numeric water quality criteria are met. Department rule 06-096 CMR Chapter 584, *Surface Water Quality Criteria for Toxic Pollutants*, sets forth ambient water quality criteria (AWQC) for toxic pollutants and procedures necessary to control levels of toxic pollutants in surface waters.

WET monitoring is required to assess and protect against impacts upon water quality and designated uses caused by the aggregate effect of the discharge on specific aquatic organisms. Acute and chronic WET tests are performed on both invertebrate and vertebrate species. Priority pollutant monitoring is required to assess the levels of individual toxic pollutants in the discharge, comparing each pollutant to acute, chronic, and human health water quality criteria. Analytical chemistry refers to a suite of chemical tests for ammonia-nitrogen, total aluminum, total cadmium, total chromium, total copper, total hardness (fresh water only), total lead, total nickel, total silver, total zinc, total arsenic, total cyanide (amenable to chlorination) and total residual chlorine.

Chapter 530 Section 2.A specifies the criteria for exemption of certain discharges from toxics testing as follows:

- (1) *Discharges from individual discharge points licensed to discharge less than 50,000 gallons per day of solely domestic wastewater and with a chronic dilution factor of at least 50 to 1, provided no holding tank wastes containing chemicals are accepted by the facility;*
- (2) *Discharges from residential overboard discharge systems; or*
- (3) *Discharges from combined sewer overflow discharge points, provided the owner of the sewerage system is conducting or participating in a discharge abatement program.*

The JWS facility is permitted to discharge a flow of less than 50,000 gallons per day and has a chronic dilution factor of at least 50:1. Therefore, the facility is categorically exempt from the Chapter 530 testing requirements.

7. DISCHARGE IMPACT ON RECEIVING WATER QUALITY

As permitted, the Department has determined the existing water uses will be maintained and protected, and that the discharge as permitted will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet standards for Class SB waters.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public notice of this application was made in the Ellsworth American newspaper on February 25, 2021. The Department receives public comments on an application until the date a final agency action is taken on the application. Those persons receiving copies of draft permits must have at least 30 days in which to submit comments on the draft or to request a public hearing, pursuant to *Application Processing Procedures for Waste Discharge Licenses*, 06-096 CMR 522 (effective January 12, 2001)

9. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Additional information concerning this permitting action may be obtained from, and written comments sent to:

Rodney Robert
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Water Quality
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017 Telephone: (207) 680-0576
e-mail: rodney.robert@maine.gov

10. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

During the period from September 1, 2022 through the issuance of this permit, the Department solicited comments from the public and other interested parties. Comments received and the Department's responses are listed below.

Comments from John Pond, Executive Vice President, Environmental Service Line Director at Haley Ward Inc.

1. Proposed MEPDES Permit #ME0037265/WDL W008084-5C-D-R establishes year-round fecal coliform bacteria limits with 2/month monitoring and reporting requirements for Outfall #002B (Department Order, p. 1/8). Wyman's requests that the proposed Permit be revised to align with the current Permit, the terms of which are sufficient to protect water quality in the Narraguagus River and reestablish seasonal fecal coliform bacteria limits with 2/month monitoring and reporting requirements from May 15th through September 30th, annually.

10. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS (cont'd)

Response:

The Narraguagus River at the point of discharge is a Class SB water. On 5/7/2019 the Department issued to Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System / Waste Discharge License (MEPDES/WDL) dischargers in marine waters, Class SB/SC, a letter providing background information for the Department's decision and outlining the summary of changes to bacteria limits for both Fecal Coliform and Enterococcus Bacteria. The Department has included the letter as Attachment B of this Fact Sheet.

2. The effluent limitations for fecal coliform that were established in Wyman's previous Permit are sufficient to meet current National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP) bacteriological criteria. Accordingly, we request that the MDEP amend fecal coliform discharge requirements identified in Wyman's 2022 Preliminary Draft WDL, as follows:

Effluent Characteristic Discharge Limitations

Fecal Coliform

Monthly Average =15 col/100 mL

Daily Maximum =50 col/100 mL

38 M.R.S.A. 465-B states that the number of "coliform bacteria... in shellfish harvesting areas may not exceed the criteria recommended under the [NSSP], United States Food and Drug Administration." It is therefore understood that the MDEP used NSSP bacteriological criteria to establish the monthly average and daily maximum discharge requirements for fecal coliform identified in Wyman's current Permit. NSSP criteria are published in the NSSP Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish (Guide). Although the Guide has been revised over time, the microbiological standards associated with fecal coliform have remained unchanged for at least the past decade. Given that Wyman's current WDL was written to comply with State law and NSSP criteria and that the bacteriological requirements established by the Guide have not changed since issuance of the previous WDL, we request that MDEP carry previous fecal coliform discharge requirements into the 2022 Final Permit.

Response:

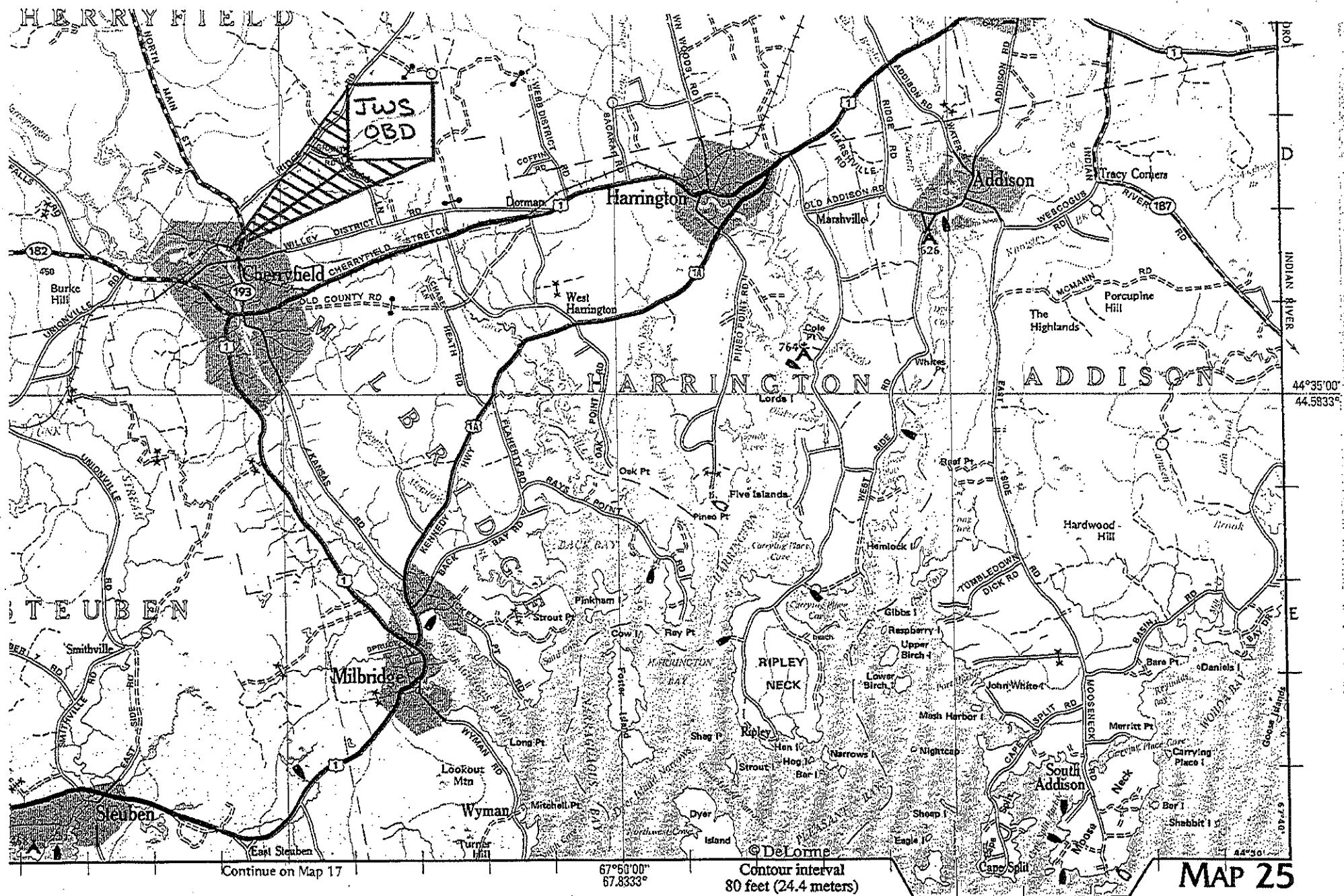
Please refer to the Department's response to the previous comment. Attachment C of the Fact Sheet outlines the Department's position on bacteria limits.

3. The "Cognizant Official and Telephone Number" identified in proposed MEPDES Permit #ME0037265/WDL W008084-5C-D-R (Fact Sheet, p.1) should be revised to reflect Wyman's current operations manager. We request that the Department revise "Cognizant Official and Telephone Number" as follows: Cognizant Official and Telephone Number: Mr. Adam West (207)546-3381 awest@wymans.com.

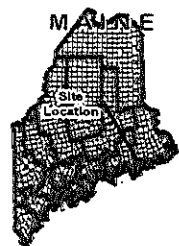
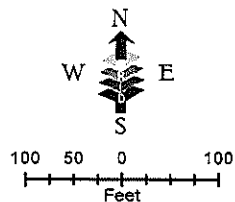
Response:

The correct information for the Cognizant Official has been included in the final permit.

ATTACHMENT A



Treated Sanitary Wastewater Discharge Location Map

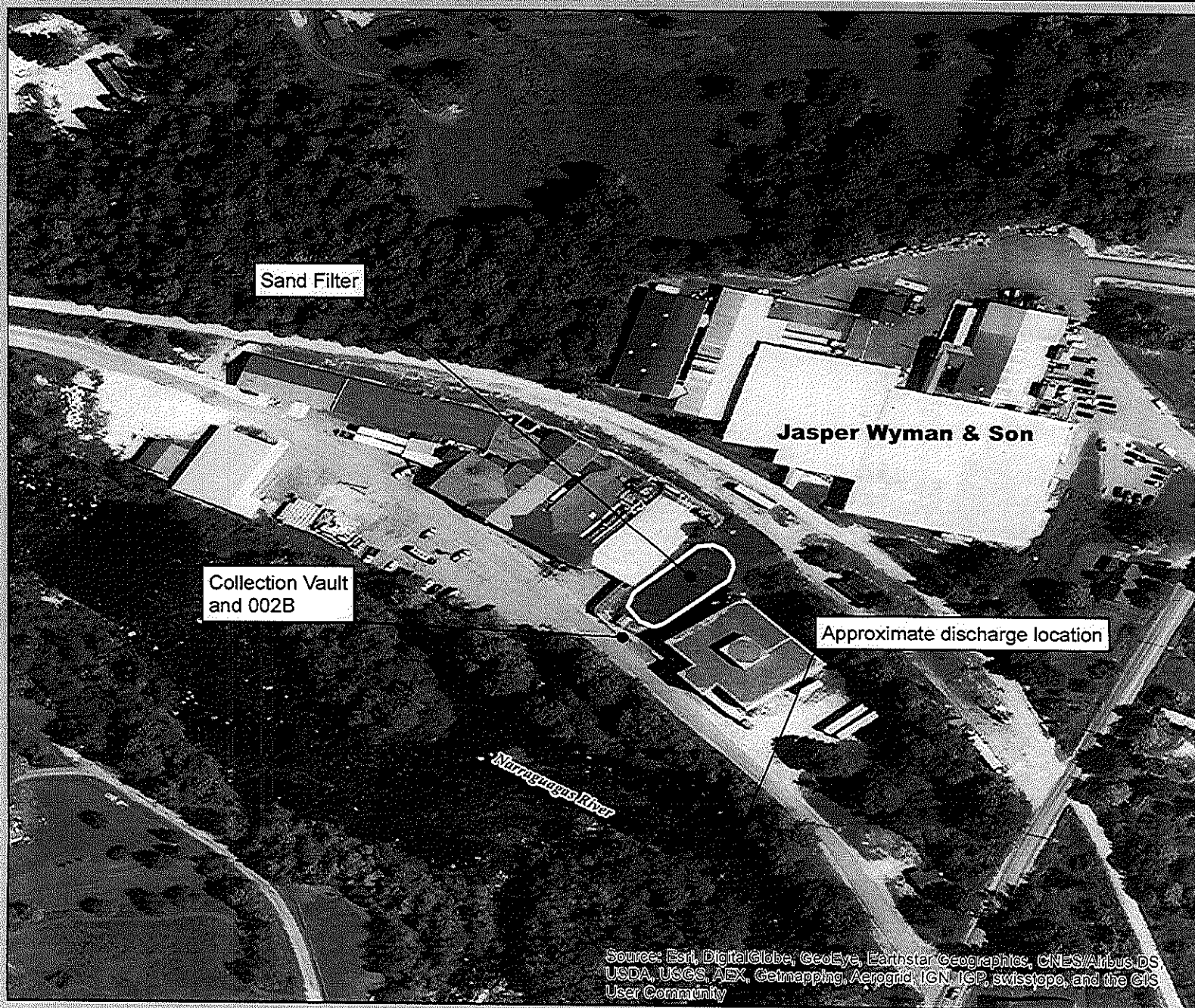


Jasper Wyman & Son
Treated Sanitary Wastewater
Discharge Location Map
Project No.: 10030.006.2015
Updated: 8/20/2015 [Iladd]

MAP NOTES:

- 1: SITE DATA DEVELOPED BY CES, INC. MAPPING IS INTENDED FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY.
- 2: AERIAL IMAGES ARE AUGUST 2013 1-METER IMAGERY, PART OF THE NATIONAL AERIAL IMAGERY PROGRAM (NAIP). COURTESY OF USDA FSA, ACQUIRED FROM ESRI, 2015.
- 3: MAP IS PROJECTED USING THE UNIVERSAL TRANSVERSE MERCATOR (UTM) PROJECTION, ZONE 19 NORTH, METERS AND REFERENCES THE NORTH AMERICAN DATUM OF 1983 (NAD83).
- 4: NORTH ARROW IS REFERENCED TO GRID NORTH.

CES INC
 Engineers • Environmental Scientists • Surveyors



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community

ATTACHMENT B

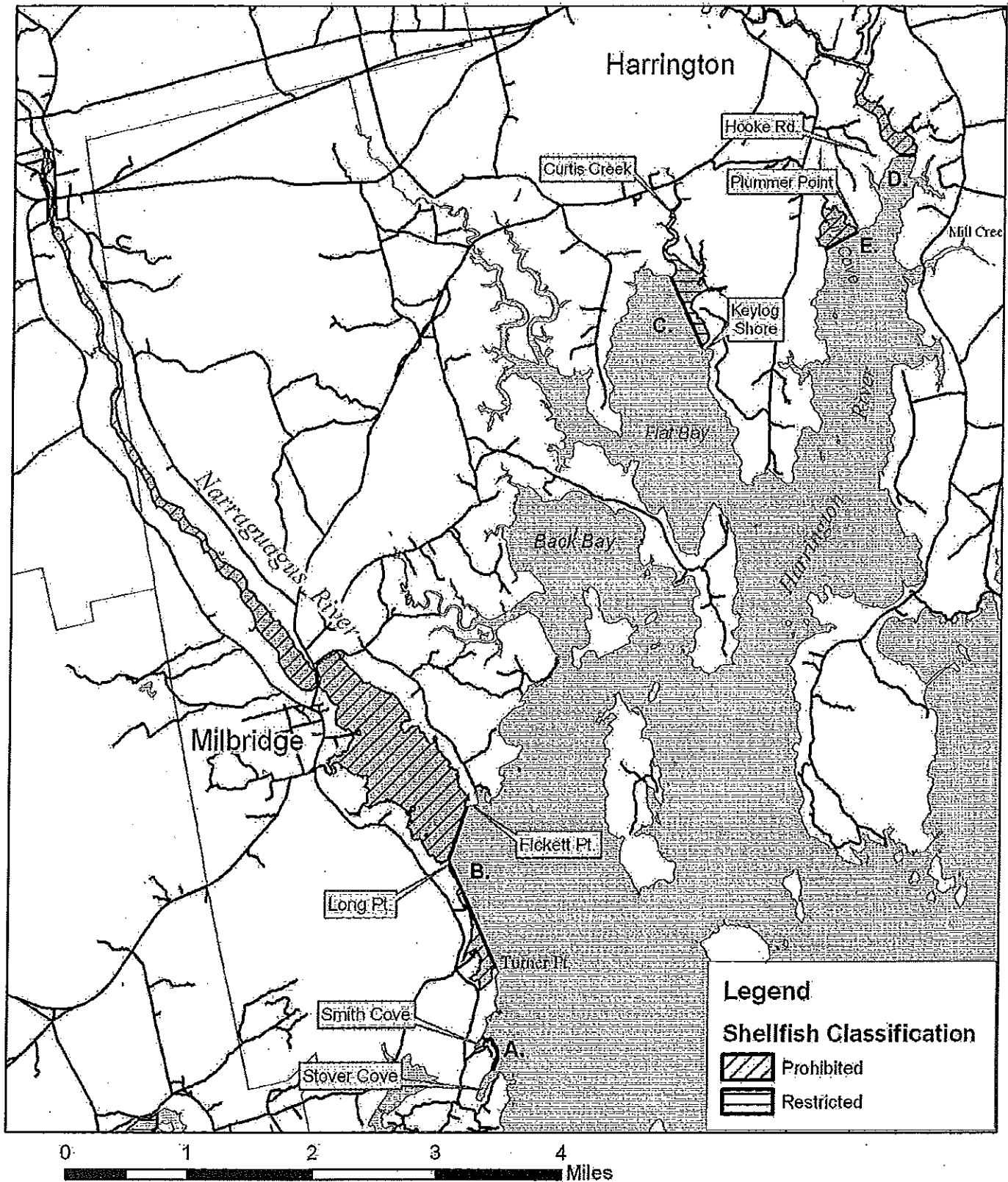
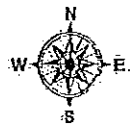


Maine Department of Marine Resources

Pollution Area No. 53

Narraguagus River and vicinity to Harrington River
(Cherryfield, Milbridge, Harrington)

1/22/09



ATTACHMENT C



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



GERALD D. REID
COMMISSIONER

May 7, 2019

RE: Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/Waste Discharge License (MEPDES/WDL) Permit Limits for Marine Dischargers - Fecal coliform & Enterococcus bacteria

To all MEPDES/WDL marine discharges,

On January 30, 2018, the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) issued a letter to the Maine Rural Water Association (MRWA) and the Maine Water Environment Association (MeWEA) informing the associations of updates to then proposed revisions to Maine water quality standards. The letter (attached) provided information on potential changes to bacteria standards for fresh waters and marine waters as well as how the Department would implement those changes in future MEPDES/WDL permit renewals. Changes to the water quality standards were formally promulgated into State law (38 M.R.S. §465 and §465-B) in the fall of 2018. This letter provides more information on how and why the Department is incorporating bacteria limits into MEPDES/WDL for dischargers to marine waters. This letter also provides information related to changes for the establishment of bacteria limits based on recent comments from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that are unrelated to the statutory changes noted above.

Summary of Changes:

Future MEPDES/WDL will now contain limits for both fecal coliform (as is current practice) to protect the designated use of “propagation and harvesting of shellfish”, and newly established limits for enterococcus bacteria, based on current Maine criteria, to protect the designated use of “recreation in and on the water”. The seasonality of these limits may be different than previous permits as noted below.

Background Information on Bacteria:

Specific types of non-pathogenic bacteria, such as enterococcus bacteria and fecal coliform, are indicator organisms, or surrogates, for waterborne pathogens (bacteria, viruses, etc.) which enter surface waters from a variety of sources, including human sewage and the feces of warm-blooded wildlife. These pathogens can pose a risk to human health due to gastrointestinal illness through different exposure routes, including contact with and ingestion of waters and consumption of shellfish. These indicator bacteria also highlight the efficacy of disinfection of wastewater.

AUGUSTA
17 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD, SUITE 6
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

Recent EPA Decisions:Enterococcus bacteria

The EPA is reissuing NPDES permits for eight-primary treatment [301(h)] wastewater treatment plants in Maine.¹ These permits will include seasonal monthly average (geometric mean) and daily maximum limitations and monitoring requirements for enterococcus bacteria based on current Maine criteria. Within these permits, the EPA takes the position that for discharges to Class SB and SC waters, in addition to fecal coliform limits to protect the designated use of “propagation and harvesting of shellfish”, it is appropriate to require end-of-pipe limits for enterococcus bacteria, based on current Maine criteria, to protect the designated use of “recreation in and on the water”.

The EPA is establishing permit limits as follows:

Class SB: (38 M.R.S. §465-B, sub-§2(B))		
enterococcus bacteria		
Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Season
8 CFU/100 ml	54 CFU/100 ml	April 15 th – October 31 st

Class SC: (38 M.R.S. §465-B, sub-§3(B))		
enterococcus bacteria		
Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Season
14 CFU/100 ml	94 CFU/100 ml	April 15 th – October 31 st

The EPA is establishing a deadline of April 15, 2020, for compliance with the enterococcus limitations and monitoring requirements in the eight NPDES permits for the 301(h) facilities.

The effective date of the enterococcus bacteria limits has been delayed to April 15, 2020 due to the limited number of laboratories capable of evaluating enterococcus bacteria in Maine. The Department has submitted a bill (currently pending) to the state legislature to include enterococcus bacteria to the list of exceptions in Maine law at 22 M.R.S. §567, sub (1). This change will allow laboratories operated by wastewater discharge facilities licensed pursuant to *Waste Discharge Licenses*, 38 M.R.S. §413, to test for enterococcus bacteria. If passed, the law will become effective 90 days after the close of the legislative session (approximately late September/early October 2019.)

EPA has informed the Department that we must also include the above enterococcus bacteria limits in MEPDES/WDL to Class SB and SC waters upon renewal. The Department intends to do so.

¹ Although Maine is authorized to implement Clean Water Act requirements, EPA retains permitting authority for these 301h waiver facilities.

Fecal coliform bacteria

Also included in the pending renewal NPDES permits for the eight-primary treatment [301(h)] wastewater treatment plants, the EPA takes the position that for discharges to Class SB and SC waters, it is appropriate to require year-round disinfection for the protection of the designated use of “propagation and harvesting of shellfish”. The EPA is establishing permit limits in accordance with the most current National Shellfish Sanitation Program guidelines (2017) as follows:

Class SB & SC		
fecal coliform bacteria		
Monthly Average	Daily Maximum	Season
14 CFU/100 ml	31 CFU/100 ml	Year round

These limits differ slightly from the limits currently used in MEPDES/WDL of 15 CFU/100 mL as a monthly average (geometric mean) and 50 CFU/100 ml as a daily maximum. EPA has informed the Department that we must also include the above limits in MEPDES/WDL to Class SB and SC waters upon renewal. The Department intends to do so consistent with Maine law.²

It is noted that shellfish areas around regulated outfalls are closed by the Maine Department of Marine Resources as a precaution regardless of the bacteria levels in the discharge. These closures are based on the requirements of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP). The EPA takes the position that states have a responsibility to set fecal coliform bacteria limits in the permits to protect the designated use of “propagation and harvesting of shellfish” regardless of the closure status and that establishment of year-round fecal coliform limits to protect the designated use is appropriate. EPA has informed the Department that we must also include the above limits year-round in MEPDES/WDL to Class SB and SC waters upon renewal. The Department intends to do so.

Compliance schedules to meet new bacteria and/or extended season bacteria limits:

The Department is aware these new requirements may not be able to be implemented by permittee’s immediately due to the need for new analytical equipment and/or complications with dechlorination associated with cold weather operations.

If a permittee believes that a compliance schedule is necessary to make modifications to the facility, the Department will work with each permittee independently to determine an appropriate schedule that is as short as possible, based on consideration of the

² 38 M.R.S. §465-B, sub-§2(B) & 38 M.R.S. §465-B, sub-§3(B) both state in part, “The number of total coliform bacteria or other specified indicator organisms in samples representative of the waters in restricted shellfish harvesting areas may not exceed the criteria recommended under the NSSP, United States Food and Drug Administration.”

technological, economic and environmental impact of the steps necessary to come into compliance with the requirements.³

Closing Summary:

Upon renewal of MEPDES/WDL for SB and SC waters:

- Numerical limits for both enterococcus and fecal coliform bacteria will be established as noted above.
- Enterococcus limits will be in effect from April 15 to October 30 unless otherwise specified.
- Fecal coliform limits will be in effect year-round.
- Compliance schedules may be granted as noted above.

If you have questions regarding these matters feel free to contact permit writers Gregg Wood at 287-7693, gregg.wood@maine.gov, or Cindy Dionne at 287-7823, cindy.l.dionne@maine.gov.

As always, thank you for your good work to protect and improve the waters of the great State of Maine.

Sincerely,



BRIAN KAVANAH
Director, Bureau of Water Quality

Cc: Sterling Pierce, Pam Parker, John True, Don Witherill, Susanne Meidel – DEP
Kohl Kanwit – DMR
Stacy Thompson – MeWEA
Kirsten Hebert - MRWA

³ 38 M.R.S. §414(2) *Schedules of Compliance*, and Department Regulation, Ch. 523, Sec. 7.

MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

STANDARD CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL PERMITS

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MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

STANDARD CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL PERMITS

A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. General compliance. All discharges shall be consistent with the terms and conditions of this permit; any changes in production capacity or process modifications which result in changes in the quantity or the characteristics of the discharge must be authorized by an additional license or by modifications of this permit; it shall be a violation of the terms and conditions of this permit to discharge any pollutant not identified and authorized herein or to discharge in excess of the rates or quantities authorized herein or to violate any other conditions of this permit.

2. Other materials. Other materials ordinarily produced or used in the operation of this facility, which have been specifically identified in the application, may be discharged at the maximum frequency and maximum level identified in the application, provided:

- (a) They are not
 - (i) Designated as toxic or hazardous under the provisions of Sections 307 and 311, respectively, of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act; Title 38, Section 420, Maine Revised Statutes; or other applicable State Law; or
 - (ii) Known to be hazardous or toxic by the licensee.
- (b) The discharge of such materials will not violate applicable water quality standards.

3. Duty to comply. The permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of State law and the Clean Water Act and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application.

- (a) The permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act, and 38 MRSA, §420 or Chapter 530.5 for toxic pollutants within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement.
- (b) Any person who violates any provision of the laws administered by the Department, including without limitation, a violation of the terms of any order, rule license, permit, approval or decision of the Board or Commissioner is subject to the penalties set forth in 38 MRSA, §349.

4. Duty to provide information. The permittee shall furnish to the Department, within a reasonable time, any information which the Department 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 shall also furnish to the Department upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

5. Permit actions. This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit condition.

6. Reopener clause. The Department reserves the right to make appropriate revisions to this permit in order to establish any appropriate effluent limitations, schedule of compliance or other provisions which may be authorized under 38 MRSA, §414-A(5).

MAINE POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT

STANDARD CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL PERMITS

7. Oil and hazardous substances. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject under section 311 of the Federal Clean Water Act; section 106 of the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980; or 38 MRSA §§ 1301, et. seq.

8. Property rights. This permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

9. Confidentiality of records. 38 MRSA §414(6) reads as follows. "Any records, reports or information obtained under this subchapter is available to the public, except that upon a showing satisfactory to the department by any person that any records, reports or information, or particular part or any record, report or information, other than the names and addresses of applicants, license applications, licenses, and effluent data, to which the department has access under this subchapter would, if made public, divulge methods or processes that are entitled to protection as trade secrets, these records, reports or information must be confidential and not available for public inspection or examination. Any records, reports or information may be disclosed to employees or authorized representatives of the State or the United States concerned with carrying out this subchapter or any applicable federal law, and to any party to a hearing held under this section on terms the commissioner may prescribe in order to protect these confidential records, reports and information, as long as this disclosure is material and relevant to any issue under consideration by the department."

10. Duty to reapply. If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for and obtain a new permit.

11. Other laws. The issuance of this permit does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other property rights, nor does it relieve the permittee of its obligation to comply with other applicable Federal, State or local laws and regulations.

12. Inspection and entry. The permittee shall allow the Department, or an authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as a representative of the EPA Administrator), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

- (a) Enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- (b) Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
- (c) Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and
- (d) Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act, any substances or parameters at any location.

B. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF FACILITIES

1. General facility requirements.

- (a) The permittee shall collect all waste flows designated by the Department as requiring treatment and discharge them into an approved waste treatment facility in such a manner as to

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- maximize removal of pollutants unless authorization to the contrary is obtained from the Department.
- (b) The permittee shall at all times maintain in good working order and operate at maximum efficiency all waste water collection, treatment and/or control facilities.
 - (c) All necessary waste treatment facilities will be installed and operational prior to the discharge of any wastewaters.
 - (d) Final plans and specifications must be submitted to the Department for review prior to the construction or modification of any treatment facilities.
 - (e) The permittee shall install flow measuring facilities of a design approved by the Department.
 - (f) The permittee must provide an outfall of a design approved by the Department which is placed in the receiving waters in such a manner that the maximum mixing and dispersion of the wastewaters will be achieved as rapidly as possible.

2. Proper operation and maintenance. The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.

3. Need to halt or reduce activity not a defense. It shall not be a defense for a permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

4. Duty to mitigate. The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

5. Bypasses.

- (a) Definitions.
 - (i) Bypass means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility.
 - (ii) Severe property damage means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes 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. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.
- (b) Bypass not exceeding limitations. The permittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions of paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section.
- (c) Notice.
 - (i) Anticipated bypass. If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible at least ten days before the date of the bypass.

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- (ii) Unanticipated bypass. The permittee shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required in paragraph D(1)(f), below. (24-hour notice).
- (d) Prohibition of bypass.
 - (i) Bypass is prohibited, and the Department may take enforcement action against a permittee for bypass, unless:
 - (A) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage;
 - (B) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance; and
 - (C) The permittee submitted notices as required under paragraph (c) of this section.
 - (ii) The Department may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the Department determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above in paragraph (d)(i) of this section.

6. Upsets.

- (a) Definition. Upset means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations 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.
- (b) Effect of an upset. An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the requirements of paragraph (c) of this section are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.
- (c) Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset. A permittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:
 - (i) An upset occurred and that the permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;
 - (ii) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated; and
 - (iii) The permittee submitted notice of the upset as required in paragraph D(1)(f) , below. (24 hour notice).
 - (iv) The permittee complied with any remedial measures required under paragraph B(4).
- (d) Burden of proof. In any enforcement proceeding the permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

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C. MONITORING AND RECORDS

1. General Requirements. This permit shall be subject to such monitoring requirements as may be reasonably required by the Department including the installation, use and maintenance of monitoring equipment or methods (including, where appropriate, biological monitoring methods). The permittee shall provide the Department with periodic reports on the proper Department reporting form of monitoring results obtained pursuant to the monitoring requirements contained herein.

2. Representative sampling. Samples and measurements taken as required herein shall be representative of the volume and nature of the monitored discharge. If effluent limitations are based wholly or partially on quantities of a product processed, the permittee shall ensure samples are representative of times when production is taking place. Where discharge monitoring is required when production is less than 50%, the resulting data shall be reported as a daily measurement but not included in computation of averages, unless specifically authorized by the Department.

3. Monitoring and records.

- (a) Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity.
- (b) Except for records of monitoring information required by this permit related to the permittee's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five years, the permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart 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, for a period of at least 3 years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Department at any time.
- (c) Records of monitoring information shall include:
 - (i) The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;
 - (ii) The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
 - (iii) The date(s) analyses were performed;
 - (iv) The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
 - (v) The analytical techniques or methods used; and
 - (vi) The results of such analyses.
- (d) Monitoring results must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR part 136, unless other test procedures have been specified in the permit.
- (e) State law provides that any person who tampers with or renders inaccurate any monitoring devices or method required by any provision of law, or any order, rule license, permit approval or decision is subject to the penalties set forth in 38 MRSA, §349.

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D. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Reporting requirements.

- (a) Planned changes. The permittee shall give notice to the Department as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only when:
 - (i) The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR 122.29(b); or
 - (ii) The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements under Section D(4).
 - (iii) The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan;
- (b) Anticipated noncompliance. The permittee shall give advance notice to the Department of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.
- (c) Transfers. This permit is not transferable to any person except upon application to and approval of the Department pursuant to 38 MRSA, § 344 and Chapters 2 and 522.
- (d) Monitoring reports. Monitoring results shall be reported at the intervals specified elsewhere in this permit.
 - (i) Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) or forms provided or specified by the Department for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices.
 - (ii) If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures approved under 40 CFR part 136 or as specified in the permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the Department.
 - (iii) Calculations for all limitations which require averaging of measurements shall utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified by the Department in the permit.
- (e) Compliance schedules. Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this permit shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date.
- (f) Twenty-four hour reporting.
 - (i) The permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance

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has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.

- (ii) The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph.

- (A) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.

- (B) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit.

- (C) Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the Department in the permit to be reported within 24 hours.

- (iii) The Department may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis for reports under paragraph (f)(ii) of this section if the oral report has been received within 24 hours.

- (g) Other noncompliance. The permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) of this section, at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports shall contain the information listed in paragraph (f) of this section.

- (h) Other information. 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 the Department, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

2. Signatory requirement. All applications, reports, or information submitted to the Department shall be signed and certified as required by Chapter 521, Section 5 of the Department's rules. State law provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation or certification in any application, record, report, plan or other document filed or required to be maintained by any order, rule, permit, approval or decision of the Board or Commissioner is subject to the penalties set forth in 38 MRSA, §349.

3. Availability of reports. Except for data determined to be confidential under A(9), above, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Department. As required by State law, effluent data shall not be considered confidential. Knowingly making any false statement on any such report may result in the imposition of criminal sanctions as provided by law.

4. Existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural dischargers. In addition to the reporting requirements under this Section, all existing manufacturing, commercial, mining, and silvicultural dischargers must notify the Department as soon as they know or have reason to believe:

- (a) That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in the discharge, on a routine or frequent basis, of any toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":

- (i) One hundred micrograms per liter (100 ug/l);

- (ii) Two hundred micrograms per liter (200 ug/l) for acrolein and acrylonitrile; five hundred micrograms per liter (500 ug/l) for 2,4-dinitrophenol and for 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol; and one milligram per liter (1 mg/l) for antimony;

- (iii) Five (5) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with Chapter 521 Section 4(g)(7); or

- (iv) The level established by the Department in accordance with Chapter 523 Section 5(f).

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- (b) That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a non-routine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in the permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels":
 - (i) Five hundred micrograms per liter (500 ug/l);
 - (ii) One milligram per liter (1 mg/l) for antimony;
 - (iii) Ten (10) times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application in accordance with Chapter 521 Section 4(g)(7); or
 - (iv) The level established by the Department in accordance with Chapter 523 Section 5(f).

5. Publicly owned treatment works.

- (a) All POTWs must provide adequate notice to the Department of the following:
 - (i) Any new introduction of pollutants into the POTW from an indirect discharger which would be subject to section 301 or 306 of CWA or Chapter 528 if it were directly discharging those pollutants.
 - (ii) Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into that POTW by a source introducing pollutants into the POTW at the time of issuance of the permit.
 - (iii) For purposes of this paragraph, adequate notice shall include information on (A) the quality and quantity of effluent introduced into the POTW, and (B) any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the POTW.
- (b) When the effluent discharged by a POTW for a period of three consecutive months exceeds 80 percent of the permitted flow, the permittee shall submit to the Department a projection of loadings up to the time when the design capacity of the treatment facility will be reached, and a program for maintaining satisfactory treatment levels consistent with approved water quality management plans.

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. Emergency action - power failure. Within thirty days after the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall notify the Department of facilities and plans to be used in the event the primary source of power to its wastewater pumping and treatment facilities fails as follows.

- (a) For municipal sources. During power failure, all wastewaters which are normally treated shall receive a minimum of primary treatment and disinfection. Unless otherwise approved, alternate power supplies shall be provided for pumping stations and treatment facilities. Alternate power supplies shall be on-site generating units or an outside power source which is separate and independent from sources used for normal operation of the wastewater facilities.
- (b) For industrial and commercial sources. The permittee shall either maintain an alternative power source sufficient to operate the wastewater pumping and treatment facilities or halt, reduce or otherwise control production and or all discharges upon reduction or loss of power to the wastewater pumping or treatment facilities.

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2. Spill prevention. (applicable only to industrial sources) Within six months of the effective date of this permit, the permittee shall submit to the Department for review and approval, with or without conditions, a spill prevention plan. The plan shall delineate methods and measures to be taken to prevent and or contain any spills of pulp, chemicals, oils or other contaminants and shall specify means of disposal and or treatment to be used.

3. Removed substances. Solids, sludges trash rack cleanings, filter backwash, or other pollutants removed from or resulting from the treatment or control of waste waters shall be disposed of in a manner approved by the Department.

4. Connection to municipal sewer. (applicable only to industrial and commercial sources) All wastewaters designated by the Department as treatable in a municipal treatment system will be cosigned to that system when it is available. This permit will expire 90 days after the municipal treatment facility becomes available, unless this time is extended by the Department in writing.

F. DEFINITIONS. For the purposes of this permit, the following definitions shall apply. Other definitions applicable to this permit may be found in Chapters 520 through 529 of the Department's rules

Average means the arithmetic mean of values taken at the frequency required for each parameter over the specified period. For bacteria, the average shall be the geometric mean.

Average monthly discharge limitation means the highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all daily discharges measured during a calendar month divided by the number of daily discharges measured during that month. Except, however, bacteriological tests may be calculated as a geometric mean.

Average weekly discharge limitation 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.

Best management practices ("BMPs") means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the State. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures, and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

Composite sample means a sample consisting of a minimum of eight grab samples collected at equal intervals during a 24 hour period (or a lesser period as specified in the section on monitoring and reporting) and combined proportional to the flow over that same time period.

Continuous discharge means a discharge which occurs without interruption throughout the operating hours of the facility, except for infrequent shutdowns for maintenance, process changes, or other similar activities.

Daily discharge means the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day.

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Discharge Monitoring Report ("DMR") means the EPA uniform national form, including any subsequent additions, revisions, or modifications for the reporting of self-monitoring results by permittees. DMRs must be used by approved States as well as by EPA. EPA will supply DMRs to any approved State upon request. The EPA national forms may be modified to substitute the State Agency name, address, logo, and other similar information, as appropriate, in place of EPA's.

Flow weighted composite sample means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of aliquots collected at a constant time interval, where the volume of each aliquot is proportional to the flow rate of the discharge.

Grab sample means an individual sample collected in a period of less than 15 minutes.

Interference means a Discharge which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, both:

- (1) Inhibits or disrupts the POTW, its treatment processes or operations, or its sludge processes, use or disposal; and
- (2) Therefore is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation) or of the prevention of sewage sludge use or disposal in compliance with the following statutory provisions and regulations or permits issued thereunder (or more stringent State or local regulations): Section 405 of the Clean Water Act, the Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA) (including title II, more commonly referred to as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), and including State regulations contained in any State sludge management plan prepared pursuant to subtitle D of the SWDA), the Clean Air Act, the Toxic Substances Control Act, and the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

Maximum daily discharge limitation means the highest allowable daily discharge.

New source means any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is or may be a discharge of pollutants, the construction of which commenced:

- (a) After promulgation of standards of performance under section 306 of CWA which are applicable to such source, or
- (b) After proposal of standards of performance in accordance with section 306 of CWA which are applicable to such source, but only if the standards are promulgated in accordance with section 306 within 120 days of their proposal.

Pass through means a discharge which exits the POTW into waters of the State in quantities or concentrations which, alone or in conjunction with a discharge or discharges from other sources, is a cause of a violation of any requirement of the POTW's NPDES permit (including an increase in the magnitude or duration of a violation).

Permit means an authorization, license, or equivalent control document issued by EPA or an approved State to implement the requirements of 40 CFR parts 122, 123 and 124. Permit includes an NPDES general permit (Chapter 529). Permit does not include any permit which has not yet been the subject of final agency action, such as a draft permit or a proposed permit.

Person means an individual, firm, corporation, municipality, quasi-municipal corporation, state agency, federal agency or other legal entity.

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Point source means any discernible, confined and discrete conveyance, including, but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation or vessel or other floating craft, from which pollutants are or may be discharged.

Pollutant means dredged spoil, solid waste, junk, incinerator residue, sewage, refuse, effluent, garbage, sewage sludge, munitions, chemicals, biological or radiological materials, oil, petroleum products or byproducts, heat, wrecked or discarded equipment, rock, sand, dirt and industrial, municipal, domestic, commercial or agricultural wastes of any kind.

Process wastewater means any water which, during manufacturing or processing, comes into direct contact with or results from the production or use of any raw material, intermediate product, finished product, byproduct, or waste product.

Publicly owned treatment works ("POTW") means any facility for the treatment of pollutants owned by the State or any political subdivision thereof, any municipality, district, quasi-municipal corporation or other public entity.

Septage means, for the purposes of this permit, any waste, refuse, effluent sludge or other material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, vault privy or similar source which concentrates wastes or to which chemicals have been added. Septage does not include wastes from a holding tank.

Time weighted composite means a composite sample consisting of a mixture of equal volume aliquots collected over a constant time interval.

Toxic pollutant includes any pollutant listed as toxic under section 307(a)(1) or, in the case of sludge use or disposal practices, any pollutant identified in regulations implementing section 405(d) of the CWA. Toxic pollutant also includes those substances or combination of substances, including disease causing agents, which after discharge or upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation or assimilation into any organism, including humans either directly through the environment or indirectly through ingestion through food chains, will, on the basis of information available to the board either alone or in combination with other substances already in the receiving waters or the discharge, cause death, disease, abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutations, physiological malfunctions, including malfunctions in reproduction, or physical deformations in such organism or their offspring.

Wetlands means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

Whole effluent toxicity means the aggregate toxic effect of an effluent measured directly by a toxicity test.



DEP INFORMATION SHEET

Appealing a Department Licensing Decision

Dated: August 2021

Contact: (207) 314-1458

SUMMARY

This document provides information regarding a person's rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal of a licensing decision made by the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) Commissioner.

Except as provided below, there are two methods available to an aggrieved person seeking to appeal a licensing decision made by the DEP Commissioner: (1) an administrative process before the Board of Environmental Protection (Board); or (2) a judicial process before Maine's Superior Court. An aggrieved person seeking review of a licensing decision over which the Board had original jurisdiction may seek judicial review in Maine's Superior Court.

A judicial appeal of final action by the Commissioner or the Board regarding an application for an expedited wind energy development ([35-A M.R.S. § 3451\(4\)](#)) or a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project ([38 M.R.S. § 480-HH\(1\)](#)) or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project ([38 M.R.S. § 636-A](#)) must be taken to the Supreme Judicial Court sitting as the Law Court.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TO THE BOARD

LEGAL REFERENCES

A person filing an appeal with the Board should review Organization and Powers, [38 M.R.S. §§ 341-D\(4\)](#) and [346](#); the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, 5 M.R.S. § [11001](#); and the DEP's [Rule Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters \(Chapter 2\)](#), 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 2.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

Not more than 30 days following the filing of a license decision by the Commissioner with the Board, an aggrieved person may appeal to the Board for review of the Commissioner's decision. The filing of an appeal with the Board, in care of the Board Clerk, is complete when the Board receives the submission by the close of business on the due date (5:00 p.m. on the 30th calendar day from which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board, as determined by the received time stamp on the document or electronic mail). Appeals filed after 5:00 p.m. on the 30th calendar day from which the Commissioner's decision was filed with the Board will be dismissed as untimely, absent a showing of good cause.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD

An appeal to the Board may be submitted via postal mail or electronic mail and must contain all signatures and required appeal contents. An electronic filing must contain the scanned original signature of the appellant(s). The appeal documents must be sent to the following address.

Chair, Board of Environmental Protection
c/o Board Clerk
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0017
ruth.a.burke@maine.gov

The DEP may also request the submittal of the original signed paper appeal documents when the appeal is filed electronically. The risk of material not being received in a timely manner is on the sender, regardless of the method used.

At the time an appeal is filed with the Board, the appellant must send a copy of the appeal to: (1) the Commissioner of the DEP (Maine Department of Environmental Protection, 17 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333-0017); (2) the licensee; and if a hearing was held on the application, (3) any intervenors in that hearing proceeding. **Please contact the DEP at 207-287-7688 with questions or for contact information regarding a specific licensing decision.**

REQUIRED APPEAL CONTENTS

A complete appeal must contain the following information at the time the appeal is submitted.

1. *Aggrieved status.* The appeal must explain how the appellant has standing to bring the appeal. This requires an explanation of how the appellant may suffer a particularized injury as a result of the Commissioner's decision.
2. *The findings, conclusions, or conditions objected to or believed to be in error.* The appeal must identify the specific findings of fact, conclusions of law, license conditions, or other aspects of the written license decision or of the license review process that the appellant objects to or believes to be in error.
3. *The basis of the objections or challenge.* For the objections identified in Item #2, the appeal must state why the appellant believes that the license decision is incorrect and should be modified or reversed. If possible, the appeal should cite specific evidence in the record or specific licensing criteria that the appellant believes were not properly considered or fully addressed.
4. *The remedy sought.* This can range from reversal of the Commissioner's decision on the license to changes in specific license conditions.
5. *All the matters to be contested.* The Board will limit its consideration to those matters specifically raised in the written notice of appeal.
6. *Request for hearing.* If the appellant wishes the Board to hold a public hearing on the appeal, a request for hearing must be filed as part of the notice of appeal, and it must include an offer of proof regarding the testimony and other evidence that would be presented at the hearing. The offer of proof must consist of a statement of the substance of the evidence, its relevance to the issues on appeal, and whether any witnesses would testify. The Board will hear the arguments in favor of and in opposition to a hearing on the appeal and the presentations on the merits of an appeal at a regularly scheduled meeting. If the Board decides to hold a public hearing on an appeal, that hearing will then be scheduled for a later date.
7. *New or additional evidence to be offered.* If an appellant wants to provide evidence not previously provided to DEP staff during the DEP's review of the application, the request and the proposed supplemental evidence must be submitted with the appeal. The Board may allow new or additional evidence to be considered in an appeal only under limited circumstances. The proposed supplemental evidence must be relevant and material, and (a) the person seeking to add information to the record must show due diligence in bringing the evidence to the DEP's attention at the earliest possible time in the licensing process; or (b) the evidence itself must be newly discovered and therefore unable to have been presented earlier in the process. Requirements for supplemental evidence are set forth in [Chapter 2 § 24](#).

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS IN APPEALING A DECISION TO THE BOARD

1. *Be familiar with all relevant material in the DEP record.* A license application file is public information, subject to any applicable statutory exceptions, and is made accessible by the DEP. Upon request, the DEP will make application materials available to review and photocopy during normal working hours. There may be a charge for copies or copying services.

2. *Be familiar with the regulations and laws under which the application was processed, and the procedural rules governing the appeal.* DEP staff will provide this information upon request and answer general questions regarding the appeal process.
3. *The filing of an appeal does not operate as a stay to any decision.* If a license has been granted and it has been appealed, the license normally remains in effect pending the processing of the appeal. Unless a stay of the decision is requested and granted, a licensee may proceed with a project pending the outcome of an appeal, but the licensee runs the risk of the decision being reversed or modified as a result of the appeal.

WHAT TO EXPECT ONCE YOU FILE A TIMELY APPEAL WITH THE BOARD

The Board will acknowledge receipt of an appeal, and it will provide the name of the DEP project manager assigned to the specific appeal. The notice of appeal, any materials admitted by the Board as supplementary evidence, any materials admitted in response to the appeal, relevant excerpts from the DEP's administrative record for the application, and the DEP staff's recommendation, in the form of a proposed Board Order, will be provided to Board members. The appellant, the licensee, and parties of record are notified in advance of the date set for the Board's consideration of an appeal or request for a hearing. The appellant and the licensee will have an opportunity to address the Board at the Board meeting. The Board will decide whether to hold a hearing on appeal when one is requested before deciding the merits of the appeal. The Board's decision on appeal may be to affirm all or part, affirm with conditions, order a hearing to be held as expeditiously as possible, reverse all or part of the decision of the Commissioner, or remand the matter to the Commissioner for further proceedings. The Board will notify the appellant, the licensee, and parties of record of its decision on appeal.

II. JUDICIAL APPEALS

Maine law generally allows aggrieved persons to appeal final Commissioner or Board licensing decisions to Maine's Superior Court (see [38 M.R.S. § 346\(1\)](#); 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 2; [5 M.R.S. § 11001](#); and M.R. Civ. P. 80C). A party's appeal must be filed with the Superior Court within 30 days of receipt of notice of the Board's or the Commissioner's decision. For any other person, an appeal must be filed within 40 days of the date the decision was rendered. An appeal to court of a license decision regarding an expedited wind energy development, a general permit for an offshore wind energy demonstration project, or a general permit for a tidal energy demonstration project may only be taken directly to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. See 38 M.R.S. § 346(4).

Maine's Administrative Procedure Act, DEP statutes governing a particular matter, and the Maine Rules of Civil Procedure must be consulted for the substantive and procedural details applicable to judicial appeals.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal process, for administrative appeals contact the Board Clerk at 207-287-2811 or the Board Executive Analyst at 207-314-1458 bill.hinkel@maine.gov, or for judicial appeals contact the court clerk's office in which the appeal will be filed.

Note: This information sheet, in conjunction with a review of the statutory and regulatory provisions referred to herein, is provided to help a person to understand their rights and obligations in filing an administrative or judicial appeal. The DEP provides this information sheet for general guidance only; it is not intended for use as a legal reference. Maine law governs an appellant's rights.
