

Producer Plain-language guidance - Alliance for Water Stewardship Standard v. 2.0 and the Alberta Environmental Farm Plan

AWS: The Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) is a global certification standard for water stewardship in industry, agriculture, commercial business and institutions. The AWS Standard involves a comprehensive water management framework

AWF: Agriculture's Water Future (AWF)

EFP: The Alberta Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)

AWS Step	AWS Criterion	AWS Indicator	AWS Indicator	Interpreted for an agriculture producer
1				
	1.1			
	Gather information to define the site's physical scope for water stewardship purposes, including: its operational boundaries; the water sources from which the site draws; the locations to which the site returns its discharges; and the catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and upon which it is reliant.	1.1.1	1.1.1 - The physical scope of the site shall be mapped, considering the regulatory landscape and zone of stakeholder interests, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site boundaries; • Water-related infrastructure, including piping network, owned or managed by the site or its parent organization; • Any water sources providing water to the site that are owned or managed by the site or its parent organization; • Water service provider (if applicable) and its ultimate water source; • Discharge points and waste water service provider (if applicable) and ultimate receiving water body or bodies; • Catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and is reliant upon for water. 	Map the farmstead sites and the field groups - include all water-related physical attributes on the map (e.g. water bodies, dugouts, irrigation equipment, drainage ditches, culverts, berms, irrigation canals and pumps). Map the farm within the catchment from which it receives water and where drainage or runoff flows back to. Identify the source(s) of water to the farm.
	1.2			
	Understand relevant stakeholders, their water-related challenges, and the site's ability to influence beyond its boundaries.	1.2.1	1.2.1 - Stakeholders and their water-related challenges shall be identified. The process used for stakeholder identification shall be identified. This process shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusively cover all relevant stakeholder groups including vulnerable, women, minority, and Indigenous people; - Consider the physical scope identified, including stakeholders, representative of the site's ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body or bodies; - Provide evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges; - Note that the ability and/or willingness of stakeholders to participate may vary across the relevant stakeholder groups; - Identify the degree of stakeholder engagement based on their level of interest and influence. 	Make a list of which other producers and businesses in your immediate area that use the same water source(s). If water is provided by an irrigation district or management authority identify that organization as well. Make a list of communities that are upstream or downstream of the farm in the catchment identified in 1.1.1. Identify if there is an organization that does stewardship work for your local river or lake, and the source of water to the farm.
		1.2.2	1.2.2 - Current and potential degree of influence between site and stakeholder shall be identified, within the catchment and considering the site's ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body for wastewater.	Review the list from 1.2.1 and clearly identify the organizations that you interact with most for your farming operation.
	1.3			
	Gather water-related data for the site, including: water balance; water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, water governance, WASH; water-related costs, revenues, and shared value creation.	1.3.1	1.3.1 - Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.	Identify emergency response planning documents.
		1.3.2	1.3.2 - Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped.	Identify on a map where the water used on your farm comes from and where wastewater and drainage water goes, the location of outflow/runoff/drainage points leaving the farm.
		1.3.3	1.3.3 - Site water balance, inflows, losses, storage, and outflows, including indication of annual variance in water usage rates, shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water balance for people or environment, an indication of annual high and low variances shall be quantified.	Calculate how much water is used by the farm in a year. Calculate roughly how much wastewater is produced and how it is treated (where it goes). Highlight which water use will change a lot from year to year and note why.

Step 1 - Gather and Understand

1.3.4	1.3.4 - Water quality of the site's water source(s), provided waters, effluent and receiving water bodies shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be quantified.	Identify if the quality of water used on farm is good for its purpose, and if there are any concerns about specific parameters. List any water quality tests that are done on the farm. Identify the quality of wastewater leaving the farm and/or runoff water.
1.3.5	1.3.5 - Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.	Identify, and if applicable, map the locations of potential risk of contamination and other water-related risks, including chemicals used or stored on site.
1.3.6	1.3.6 - On-site Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified and mapped, including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values.	Identify natural waterbodies (e.g. wetlands, creeks, rivers) on the map of the site (indicator 1.1.1) and note if they are used by other people or animals, or if they are of cultural significance.
1.3.7	1.3.7 - Annual water-related costs, revenues, and a description or quantification of the social, cultural, environmental, or economic water-related value generated by the site shall be identified and used to inform the evaluation of the plan in 4.1.2.	Tally the estimated total annual water-related costs and revenues on your operation. If you have a wetland or environmental easement area on your property note the rough acreage.
1.3.8	1.3.8 - Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.	Describe if drinking water and sanitation facilities are available on the farm for all family and employees, and note if they comply with Alberta provincial Operational Health & Safety regulations.
1.4		
Gather data on the site's indirect water use, including: its primary inputs; the water use embedded in the production of those primary inputs, the status of the waters at the origin of the inputs (where they can be identified); and water used in outsourced water-related services.		
1.4.1	1.4.1 - The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.	List the primary inputs for the farm (e.g. fertilizer, diesel fuel, livestock feed) and if they are sourced from your local area, or far away. Also note if they require a lot of water for production.
1.4.2	1.4.2 - The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site's catchment, quantified.	List the outsourced services for the farm and if they are sourced from your local area or far away. Note if those services require a lot of water.
1.4.3	1.4.3 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - The embedded water use of primary inputs in catchment(s) of origin shall be quantified.	<i>Advanced indicator</i> : Calculate how much water is used to produce all the primary inputs your farm relies on.
1.5		
Gather water-related data for the catchment, including: water governance, water balance, water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, infrastructure, and WASH.		
1.5.1	1.5.1 - Water governance initiatives shall be identified, including catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly-led initiatives under way, and relevant goals to help inform site of possible opportunities for water stewardship collective action.	Identify any water management and planning documents in place for your local waterways. If possible, contact the local water stewardship organization and ask if they are doing any agriculture-related initiatives for improving water use or water quality.
1.5.2	1.5.2 - Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.	Know the local water-related legal and regulatory requirements relevant to your operation.
1.5.3	1.5.3 - The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.	Contact the local water stewardship organization and ask about the status of the local waterway(s) in terms of available water, water scarcity, and healthy ecosystems.

	1.5.4	1.5.4 - Water quality, including physical, chemical, and biological status, of the catchment shall be identified, and where possible, quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be identified.	Contact the local water stewardship organization and ask about the status of the local waterway(s) in terms of water quality.
	1.5.5	1.5.5 - Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified, and where appropriate, mapped, and their status assessed including any threats to people or the natural environment, using scientific information and through stakeholder engagement.	Understand if your local area has key wildlife areas centred around water, or reservoirs/lakes that are economically important. Understand if these waterbodies are considered healthy, declining, or unhealthy.
	1.5.6	1.5.6 - Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be identified, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events.	Understand what water infrastructure is upstream of the farm and what, if any, water infrastructure is used to convey water to the farm. Understand if any of these assets are nearing the end of their life-span or is at risk from extreme events.
	1.5.7	1.5.7 - The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.	Note if any communities in your local area do not have access to drinking water or sanitation servicing, and if this is a challenge for the community.
	1.5.8	1.5.8 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Efforts by the site to support and undertake catchment level water-related data collection shall be identified.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Note the type of support you provide to help collect data about local waterbodies.
	1.5.9	1.5.9 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - The adequacy of WASH provision within the catchments of origin of primary inputs shall be identified.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Note if the catchments where primary inputs come from have good drinking water and sanitation widely available.
1.6			
Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the water challenges identified by stakeholders with the site's water challenges.	1.6.1	1.6.1 - Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.	List the broad concerns and challenges related to water that water users in your area share.
	1.6.2	1.6.2 - Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be identified.	Identify at least one action that can be done, on your operation or in the local area, that addresses or partly addresses each challenge listed in 1.6.1.
	1.6.3	1.6.3 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Future water issues shall be identified, including anticipated impacts and trends	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Circle the water challenges on the list from 1.6.1 that are expected to get worse in the future. Note the main impacts you expect from that happening.
	1.6.4	1.6.4 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Potential water-related social impacts from the site shall be identified, resulting in a social impact assessment with a particular focus on water.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Describe the ways that water coming to your farm or wastewater or runoff water leaving your property can impact the neighbouring properties or the neighbouring communities. If there are notable positive impacts to the community (economic? recreational?) from water or irrigation on your property, describe those.
1.7			
Understand the site's water risks and opportunities: Assess and prioritize the water risks and opportunities affecting the site based upon the status of the site, existing risk management plans and/or the issues and future risk trends identified in 1.6.	1.7.1	1.7.1 - Water risks faced by the site shall be identified, and prioritized, including likelihood and severity of impact within a given timeframe, potential costs and business impact.	Evaluate the risks on your farm site, score and rank them. Determine your prioritization for risk management.
	1.7.2	1.7.2 - Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.	Identify the water-related opportunities for your operation. This may include where water efficiencies would result in cost saving or energy efficiency, changing practices could improve water quality and therefore long-term profits, or reducing impacts of flooding or drought, etc.
1.8			
Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes: Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.	1.8.1	1.8.1 - Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be identified.	Understand the way decisions are made by the entity that manages the water source for your operation.
	1.8.2	1.8.2 - Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be identified.	Identify the best practices for water efficiency for your type of farming operation (e.g. low pressure pivot irrigation, drip irrigation, automated livestock watering troughs) and for managing runoff to reduce the flood risk downstream.

		1.8.3	1.8.3 - Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be identified, including rationale for data source.	Identify the best practices for your type of farming operation for maintaining good water quality (e.g. cover-cropping, no-till, buffer strips)
		1.8.4	1.8.4 - Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.	Identify the best practices for your type of farming operation for wetland health and maintenance.
		1.8.5	1.8.5 - Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be identified.	Note the Operational Health and Safety guidelines related to drinking water and sanitation for farms.
	2			
	2.1			
Step 2 - Commit and Plan	Commit to water stewardship by having the senior-most manager in charge of water at the site, or if necessary, a suitable individual within the organization head office, sign and publicly disclose a commitment to water stewardship, the implementation of the AWS Standard and achieving its five outcomes, and the allocation of required resources.	2.1.1	2.1.1 - A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document shall be identified. The statement or document shall include the following commitments: - That the site will implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes - That the site implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans - That the site's stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way - That the site will allocate resources to implement the Standard.	Write and sign a Statement of Commitment to stewarding water within your operation. The Statement should focus on minimizing the impact on water and how it will be done through specific actions, and that resources will be allocated to completing those actions.
		2.1.2	2.1.2 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - A statement that explicitly covers all requirements set out in Indicator 2.1.1 and is signed by the organization's senior-most executive or governance body and publicly disclosed shall be identified.	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> : the written statement from Indicator 2.1.1 is signed by the senior decision-maker for the operation and is publicly disclosed.
	2.2			
	Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance.	2.2.1	2.2.1 - The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including: - Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure - Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.	Identify the documentation for regulatory compliance for water use and farm water management.
	2.3			
	Create a water stewardship strategy and plan including addressing risks (to and from the site), shared catchment water challenges, and opportunities.	2.3.1	2.3.1 - A water stewardship strategy shall be identified that defines the overarching mission, vision, and goals of the organization towards good water stewardship in line with this AWS Standard.	Draft a water stewardship strategy that defines the overarching mission, vision, and goals of the organization towards good water stewardship.
		2.3.2	2.3.2 - A water stewardship plan shall be identified, including for each target: - How it will be measured and monitored - Actions to achieve and maintain (or exceed) it - Planned timeframes to achieve it - Financial budgets allocated for actions - Positions of persons responsible for actions and achieving targets - Where available, note the link between each target and the achievement of best practice to help address shared water challenges and the AWS outcomes.	Create a plan with concrete actions to manage water-related risks and water challenges in the local area.
	2.3.3	2.3.3 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - The site's partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites within the same catchment (which may or may not be under the same organisational ownership) shall be identified and described.	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> : Describe what partnerships, water-sharing agreements, land-use agreements etc. you have with other operations or organizations. For example, a partnership with Ducks Unlimited.	

		2.3.4	2.3.4 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - The site's partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites in another catchment(s) (either under same corporate structure or with another corporate site) shall be identified.	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> : Describe any partnerships or water stewardship activities you do with a landowner or organization that is in another water catchment.
		2.3.5	2.3.5 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Stakeholder consensus shall be sought on the site's water stewardship plan. Consensus should be achieved on at least one target. A list of targets that have consensus and in which stakeholders are involved shall be identified.	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> : Confirm that the farm's neighbours and the other entities using the same water source think the actions identified in 2.3.2 are good ideas.
	2.4			
	Demonstrate the site's responsiveness and resilience to respond to water risks.	2.4.1	2.4.1 - A plan to mitigate or adapt to identified water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.	Identify the actions in the Environmental Farm Plan that are related to emergency response processes related to water, if appropriate conduct a response drill.
		2.4.2	2.4.2 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - A plan to mitigate or adapt to water risks associated with climate change projections developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> : Coordinate with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies to develop a plan for the farm to adapt to a water risk expected from climate change.
3				
	3.1			
	Implement plan to participate positively in catchment governance.	3.1.1	3.1.1 - Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance shall be identified.	Support good water governance and water management in the local watershed, this could be through communication with the local water stewardship organizations or any entity that manages water locally.
		3.1.2	3.1.2 - Measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, that are not part of 3.2 shall be implemented.	Respect the rights of other water users, including Indigenous peoples.
		3.1.3	3.1.3 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Evidence of improvements in water governance capacity from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified.	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> : Identify evidence of improvements in water governance ability on the farm.
		3.1.4	3.1.4 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to the good water governance of the catchment shall be identified.	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> : Identify evidence that the farm's neighbours and other water users in the area see the farm as positively contributing to water governance.
	3.2			
	Implement system to comply with water-related legal and regulatory requirements and respect water rights.	3.2.1	3.2.1 - A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance shall be implemented.	Implement changes (if necessary) and follow processes to be fully compliant with regulations for the farm.
		3.2.2	3.2.2 - Where water rights are part of legal and regulatory requirements, measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, shall be implemented.	Implement changes (if necessary) and follow process to be fully compliant with water licence(s).
	3.3			
	Implement plan to achieve site water balance targets.	3.3.1	3.3.1 - Status of progress towards meeting water balance targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.	Identify water conservation actions for the short term, and (if possible) document the result.
		3.3.2	3.3.2 - Where water scarcity is a shared water challenge, annual targets to improve the site's water use efficiency, or if practical and applicable, reduce volumetric total use shall be implemented.	If water scarcity was identified as a risk, implement actions or changes on farm to improve drought resilience and/or water use efficiency.
		3.3.3	3.3.3 - Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be identified.	If any legal agreement (e.g. with Ducks Unlimited for a wetland, or conservation agreement or easements) protecting part of your farm, list documentation of it.
		3.3.4	3.3.4 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - The total volume of water voluntarily re-allocated (from site water savings) for social, cultural and environmental needs shall be quantified.	<i>Advanced Indicator</i> : If a volume of water is conserved or reallocated through any of the actions, estimate and note the volume of water.
	3.4			

Step 3 - Implement	Implement plan to achieve site water quality targets.	3.4.1	3.4.1 - Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.	Identify water quality improvement actions for the short term, and (if possible) document the result.
		3.4.2	3.4.2 - Where water quality is a shared water challenge, continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site's effluent shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.	If water quality was identified as a risk, implement actions or changes on farm to improve quality of nearby or receiving waterbodies.
	3.5			
	Implement plan to maintain or improve the site's and/or catchment's Important Water-Related Areas.	3.5.1	3.5.1 - Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site's Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.	If risks to wetland or other water-related areas on the farm were identified, implement actions to put in place the best management practices for your type of farming operation for wetland health and maintenance.
		3.5.2	3.5.2 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Evidence of completed restoration of non-functioning or severely degraded Important Water-Related Areas including where appropriate cultural values from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified. Restored areas may be outside of the site, but within the catchment.	<i>Advanced Indicator:</i> If a wetland, creek, or water-related area was protected by an action, and environmental health improved, note the evidence of this.
		3.5.3	3.5.3 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to the healthy status of Important Water-Related Areas in the catchment shall be identified.	<i>Advanced Indicator:</i> Identify evidence that the farm's neighbours and other water users in the area see the farm as doing positive work on wetlands or other water-related areas, on or off the farm property.
	3.6			
	Implement plan to provide access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers at all premises under the site's control.	3.6.1	3.6.1 - Evidence of the site's provision of adequate access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers onsite shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.	List the locations of drinking water, washrooms, and safety equipment available to all people working on the farm.
		3.6.2	3.6.2 - Evidence that the site is not impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations, and that traditional access rights for Indigenous and local communities are being respected, and that remedial actions are in place where this is not the case, and that these are effective.	Evidence that the site is not impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations, and that traditional access rights for Indigenous and local communities are being respected.
		3.6.3	3.6.3 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - A list of actions taken to support the provision to stakeholders in the catchment of access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene awareness shall be identified.	<i>Advanced Indicator:</i> List actions that were done in the catchment that improved people being able to access safe drinking water.
		3.6.4	3.6.4 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - In catchments where WASH has been identified as a shared water challenge, evidence of efforts taken with relevant public-sector agencies to share information and to advocate for change to address access to safe drinking water and sanitation shall be identified.	<i>Advanced Indicator:</i> If access to safe drinking water was identified as a challenge in the catchment, indicate evidence of effort taken to improve the situation.
	3.7			
	Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment.	3.7.1	3.7.1 - Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.	Quantify the evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable..
		3.7.2	3.7.2 - Evidence of engagement with suppliers and service providers, as well as, when applicable, actions they have taken in the catchment as a result of the site's engagement related to indirect water use, shall be identified.	Quantify the evidence of engagement with suppliers and service providers, as well as, when applicable, actions they have taken in the catchment as a result of the site's engagement related to indirect water use.

	3.7.3	3.7.3 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Actions taken to address water related risks and challenges related to indirect water use outside the catchment shall be documented and evaluated.	<i>Advanced Indicator:</i> Document actions taken to address water related risks and challenges for the areas where the main inputs to the farm come from. This links to 1.4.
	3.8		
Implement plan to engage with and notify the owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns the site may have.	3.8.1	3.8.1 - Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt, shall be identified.	Identify evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt.
	3.9		
Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: continually improve towards achieving sectoral best practice having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.	3.9.1	3.9.1 - Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance, as applicable, shall be implemented.	Implement water stewardship actions related to water supply and coordination between users.
	3.9.2	3.9.2 - Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance shall be implemented.	Implement water stewardship actions related to water efficiency on farm.
	3.9.3	3.9.3 - Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be implemented.	Implement water stewardship actions related to water quality.
	3.9.4	3.9.4 - Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.	Implement water stewardship actions related to wetlands, creeks and rivers.
	3.9.5	3.9.5 - Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be implemented.	Implement water stewardship actions related to drinking water and sanitation for employees.
	3.9.6	3.9.6 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of good water governance shall be quantified.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Quantify achievement against targets for improving water governance.
	3.9.7	3.9.7 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of sustainable water balance shall be quantified.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Quantify achievement against targets for improving water efficiency.
	3.9.8	3.9.8 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of water quality shall be quantified.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Quantify achievement against targets for water quality improvement.
	3.9.9	3.9.9 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas have been implemented.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Quantify achievement against targets for maintaining or improving wetlands, creeks, or river health.
	3.9.10	3.9.10 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be quantified.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Quantify achievement against targets for people accessing good drinking water.
	3.9.11	3.9.11 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - A list of efforts to spread best practices shall be identified.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> List the efforts to spread best management practices.
	3.9.12	3.9.12 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - A list of collective action efforts, including the organizations involved, positions of responsible persons of other entities involved, and a description of the role played by the site shall be identified.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Describe actions that were done in partnership with other groups and note who the main contact is.
	3.9.13	3.9.13 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Evidence of the quantified improvement that has resulted from the collective action relative to a site-selected baseline date shall be identified and evidence from an appropriate range of stakeholders linked to the collective action (including both those implementing the action and those affected by the action) that the site is materially and positively contributing to the achievement of the collective action shall be identified.	<i>Advanced indicator:</i> Provide evidence of the improvements that resulted from actions identified in 3.9.12. Have perspectives provided by those affected positively by the action.
4			
4.1			

Step 4 - Evaluate	Evaluate the site's performance in light of its actions and targets from its water stewardship plan and demonstrate its contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes.	4.1.1	4.1.1 - Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.	A year or two later evaluate the success of the actions that were implemented.
		4.1.2	4.1.2 - Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated.	Summarize the value to the farm created from the water stewardship work.
		4.1.3	4.1.3 - The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.	Summarize the value to the watershed created from the water stewardship work.
		4.1.4	4.1.4 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - A governance or executive-level review, including discussion of shared water challenges, water risks, and opportunities, and any water-related cost savings or benefits realized, and any relevant incidents shall be identified.	Advanced indicator: Describe the overall improvement for water governance, shared water challenges, overall improvements and other relevant commentary of the water stewardship work.
	4.2			
	Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine the effectiveness of corrective and preventative measures.	4.2.1	4.2.1 - A written annual review and (where appropriate) root cause analysis of the year's emergency incident(s) shall be prepared and the site's response to the incident(s) shall be evaluated and proposed preventative and corrective actions and mitigations against future incidents shall be identified.	Evaluate the effectiveness of emergency response for any emergencies experienced on your farm.
	4.3			
	Evaluate stakeholders' consultation feedback regarding the site's water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of the site's engagement process.	4.3.1	4.3.1 - Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.	Get feedback from stakeholders regarding the water stewardship actions that were done and the overall effectiveness.
		4.3.2	4.3.2 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - The site's efforts to address shared water challenges shall be evaluated by stakeholders. This shall include stakeholder reviewing of the site's efforts across all five outcome areas, and their suggestions for continual improvement.	<i>Advanced indicator</i> : Get the farm's external and internal stakeholders to evaluate the success of the farm's efforts and their suggestions for continual improvement.
	4.4			
Evaluate and update the site's water stewardship plan, incorporating the information obtained from the evaluation process in the context of continual improvement.	4.4.1	4.4.1 - The site's water stewardship plan shall be modified and adapted to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from the evaluations in this step and these changes shall be identified.	A year or two later review your EFP+ action plan and update and edit the actions that have not been done to ensure they align well with the effectiveness you have seen for completed actions on your farm.	
5				
Step 5 - Communicate and Disclose	5.1			
	Disclose water-related internal governance of the site's management, including the positions of those accountable for legal compliance with water-related local laws and regulations.	5.1.1	5.1.1 - The site's water-related internal governance, including positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations shall be disclosed.	Disclose the legal compliance and the processes that ensure it.
	5.2			
	Communicate the water stewardship plan with relevant stakeholders.	5.2.1	5.2.1 - The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to relevant stakeholders.	Send the overall water stewardship action plan update to relevant stakeholders.
	5.3			
	Disclose annual site water stewardship summary, including the relevant information about the site's annual water stewardship performance and results against the site's targets.	5.3.1	5.3.1 - A summary of the site's water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum.	Disclose a summary of water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets.
	5.3.2	5.3.2 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - The site's efforts to implement the AWS Standard shall be disclosed in the organization's annual report.	<i>Advanced indicator</i> : Release an annual report with a summary of the AWS Standard and the farm's work implementing it.	
	5.3.3	5.3.3 - <i>Advanced Indicator</i> - Benefits to the site and stakeholders from implementation of the AWS Standard shall be quantified in the organization's annual report.	<i>Advanced indicator</i> : Include quantification of the benefits to the site and the stakeholders in the annual report.	

	5.4			
	Disclose efforts to collectively address shared water challenges, including: associated efforts to address the challenges; engagement with stakeholders; and co-ordination with public-sector agencies.	5.4.1	5.4.1 - The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.	The farm's water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.
		5.4.2	5.4.2 - Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.	Disclose a summary of the stakeholder engagement and coordination for water stewardship actions.
	5.5			
	Communicate transparency in water-related compliance: make any site water-related compliance violations available upon request as well as any corrective actions the site has taken to prevent future occurrences.	5.5.1	5.5.1 - Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.	Disclose any site-related compliance violations and associated corrections.
		5.5.2	5.5.2 - Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable.	Disclose actions by the site to prevent future violations or occurrences.
5.5.3		5.5.3 - Any site water-related violation that may pose significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health shall be immediately communicated to relevant public agencies and disclosed.	Any site water-related violation that may pose significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health shall be immediately communicated to relevant public agencies and disclosed.	