

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE APPROVAL

NUMBER 9079-DGM5ED

Issue Date: May 26, 2025

Bluewater Anglers
Post Office Box, No. 174
Sarnia, Ontario
N7T 7H9

Site Location: Part 1 Reference Plan 25
Part 1, Plan 25
Point Edward Village, County of Lambton

You have applied under section 20.2 of Part II.1 of the Environmental Protection Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E. 19 (Environmental Protection Act) for approval of:

the establishment of Works for the collection, transmission, treatment and disposal of approximately 1,473 cubic metres per day of process wastewater from an aquaculture facility, producing up to 4,500 kilograms of fish annually, consisting of the following:

Two Aeration Towers: aerates the pumped well water (groundwater) and trickle the water into the north and south head tanks by gravity described below.

North and South Head Tanks: moulded fiberglass or equivalent tanks, with rounded corners having dimensions of 4 metres length, 4 metres wide and 0.8 metres height, with a volume of approximately 12,800 litres serving as large storage tanks for the rest of the tanks in the hatchery. Both tanks drain into the raceways 1 to 5, incubators 1 to 5, and tanks 6, 6A, 6B by gravity pipes and to tanks 7, 8, 9 and 10 via gravity and overflow pipes.

Tanks 1 – 5 (raceway tanks): The raceways 1 to 5 are all rectangular tanks having dimensions of each of 6.2 metres long, 1.5 metres wide and 0.8 metres deep with a nominal capacity of approximately 7000 litres. These tanks receive their water flows from Head Tanks described above and their air flows from the air supply system. The raceways are drained into the public viewing and feeding collection pond through a drain trench (D.T.01). These tanks are normally used for holding all fish types in the hatchery as they eat well and grow. Chinook salmon are only in the hatchery for 6 months, so they are much smaller and normally remain in these tanks until they are released.

Towers 1- 5 (incubator tanks): The incubators are fed through the gravity flow pipe (G.F.01) from the Head Tanks described above and drain through the ditch trench (D.T.01) into the public viewing and feeding collection pond.

Tank 6: This tank is a 2 metres long, 2 metres wide and 0.5 metre height square tank with a nominal capacity of approximately 2000 litres, is also fed by gravity flow pipe (G.F.01) from the Head Tanks described above. This tank also drains into the drain trench, D.T.01, to the public viewing and feeding collection pond. The Tank 6 is primarily used for early rearing, and occasionally used for short-term basis such as for sorting fish sizes prior to stocking, and holding fishes during school March and Christmas breaks from the School Aquarium Program.

Tanks 6A and 6B: these tanks are fed water through a gravity pipe (G.F.02) from the Head Tanks described above and drain through the ditch trench (D.T.01) to the public viewing and feeding collection pond. These tanks are cylindrical in shape, each with a length of 2.9 metres and a diameter of 0.9 metres, having a nominal capacity of roughly 750 litres. These smaller tanks are used for the early rearing or starter tanks, which receive the newly hatched fish from the incubator tanks, after most of their egg sac is used up and the fish are ready to begin eating food. The fish only remain in these tanks for a few months before transfer to the larger tanks.

Tanks 7 & 8: these are aerated tanks that receive their air supply from the air supply system through air supply pipes (A.S.01 and A.S.03). These square tanks are 4 meters long, 4 metres wide and 0.8 metres deep with a capacity of approximately 12,800 litres each. Tank #7 receives its water from Head Tanks described above via a gravity pipe (G.F.04) and an overflow pipe (O.F.07), while tank #8 receives its flows from the Head Tanks via a gravity feed pipe (G.F.08) and overflow pipe (O.F.08). Both tanks drain into the drain trench (D.T.02) to the public viewing and feeding collection pond. These tanks normally hold rainbow trout, which grow in the hatchery for 12 months, after they have outgrown the raceway tanks, and remain here until they are released.

Tanks 9 & 10: each tank is 3 metres long, 3 metres wide and 1.2 metres height square tanks with an approximate capacity of 11,000 litres. Both aerated tanks receive their air supply from the air supply system through an airflow pipe (A.S.06). Both tanks also receive their water from Head Tanks via a gravity pipe (G.F.03) and an overflow pipe (O.F.08). The tanks drain into the drain trench (D.T.03) to the public viewing and feeding collection pond. These tanks normally hold the brown trout and sometimes rainbow trout after they have outgrown the raceway tanks and remain here until they are released.

Outside Public Feeding and Viewing Pond: is a square pond with dimensions of 11 meters long, 11 metres wide, and 1 metre deep and approximately 120,000 litres capacity, receives flows, fish wastes and excess foods from all the tanks described above via three drain trenches (D.T.01, D.T.02 and D.T.03). The pond normally has several hundred mature rainbow and brown trout for the public to observe and feed food pellets purchased from vending machines. The water flows from the pond into a catch basin (CB) that drains into the **St. Clair River** through a 10-inch diameter pipe (R.D.01).

all other controls, electrical equipment, instrumentation, piping, pumps, valves and appurtenances essential for the proper operation of the aforementioned Works;

all in accordance with the following submitted supporting documents:

1. Application for Approval of Industrial Sewage Works submitted by Robert (Bob) Daly, Treasurer, Bluewater Anglers, dated August 28, 2024

For the purpose of this environmental compliance approval, the following definitions apply:

1. "Approval" means this entire document and any schedules attached to it, and the application;
2. "Director" means a person appointed by the Minister pursuant to section 5 of the EPA for the purposes of Part II.1 of the EPA;
3. "District Manager" means the District Manager of the Sarnia District Office;
4. "EPA" means the *Environmental Protection Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.E.19, as amended;
5. "Equivalent Equipment" means a substituted equipment or like-for-like equipment that meets the required quality and performance standards of a named equipment;
6. "Ministry" means the ministry of the government of Ontario responsible for the EPA and OWRA and includes all officials, employees or other persons acting on its behalf;
7. "Owner" means Bluewater Anglers and its successors and assignees;
8. "OWRA" means the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.40, as amended
9. "Regional Director" means the Regional Director of the South West Region of the Ministry;
10. "Source Protection Plan" means a drinking water source protection plan prepared under the *Clean Water Act, 2006*; and
11. "Works" means the sewage works described in the Owner's application, and this Approval.

You are hereby notified that this environmental compliance approval is issued to you subject to the terms and conditions outlined below:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. GENERAL CONDITION

- (1) The Owner shall ensure that any person authorized to carry out work on or operate any aspect of the Works is notified of this Approval and the conditions herein and shall take all reasonable measures to ensure any such person complies with the same.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided by these conditions, the Owner shall design, build, install, operate and maintain the Works in accordance with the description given in this Approval, and the application for approval of the Works.
- (3) Where there is a conflict between a provision of any document in the schedule referred to in this Approval and the conditions of this Approval, the Conditions in this Approval shall take precedence, and where there is a conflict between the documents in the schedule, the document bearing the most recent date shall prevail.
- (4) Where there is a conflict between the documents listed in the Schedule submitted documents, and the application, the application shall take precedence unless it is clear that the purpose of the document was to amend the application.
- (5) The Conditions of this Approval are severable. If any Condition of this Approval, or the application of any requirement of this Approval to any circumstance, is held invalid or unenforceable, the application of such condition to other circumstances and the remainder of this Approval shall not be affected thereby.

2. CHANGE OF OWNER

- (1) The Owner shall notify the District Manager and the Director, in writing, of any of the following changes within thirty (30) days of the change occurring:
 - (a) change of Owner or operating authority, or both;
 - (b) change of address of Owner or operating authority or address of new owner or operating authority;
 - (c) change of partners where the Owner or operating authority is or at any time becomes a partnership, and a copy of the most recent declaration filed under the *Partnerships Registration Act* ;
 - (d) change of name of the corporation where the Owner or operator is or at any time becomes a

corporation, and a copy of the most current "Initial Notice or Notice of Change" (Form 1, 2 or 3 of O. Reg. 189, R.R.O. 1980, as amended from time to time), filed under the *Corporations Information Act* shall be included in the notification to the District Manager;

(2) In the event of any change in ownership of the Works, the Owner shall notify in writing the succeeding owner of the existence of this Approval, and a copy of such notice shall be forwarded to the District Manager.

(3) The Owner shall ensure that all communications made pursuant to this condition will refer to this Approval's number.

3. OPERATIONS MANUAL

(1) The Owner shall prepare an operations manual for the Works within 90 days of the issuance of the approval that includes, but not necessarily limited to, the following information:

- (a) operating procedures for routine operation of the Works;
- (b) inspection programs, including frequency of inspection, for the Works and the methods or tests employed to detect when maintenance is necessary;
- (c) repair and maintenance programs, including the frequency of repair and maintenance for the Works;
- (d) contingency plans and procedures for dealing with potential spill, bypasses and any other abnormal situations and for notifying the District Manager; and
- (e) complaint procedures for receiving and responding to public complaints.

(2) The Owner shall maintain the operations manual up to date through revisions undertaken from time to time and retain a copy at the location of the Works. Upon request, the Owner shall make the manual available for inspection and copying by Ministry personnel.

4. EFFLUENT OBJECTIVES

(1) The Owner shall use best efforts to design, construct and operate the Works with the objective that the concentrations of the materials named below as effluent parameters are not exceeded in the effluent from the Works.

Table 1 - Effluent Objectives	
Effluent Parameter	Concentration Objective (milligrams per litre unless otherwise indicated)
Total Suspended Solids	10
Total Phosphorus	0.1

(2) The Owner shall include in all reports a summary of the efforts made and results achieved under this Condition.

5. EFFLUENT LIMITS

(1) The Owner shall design, construct and operate the Works such that the concentrations of the materials named below as effluent parameters are not exceeded in the effluent from the Works.

Table 2 - Effluent Limits	
Effluent Parameter	Concentration Limit (milligrams per litre unless otherwise indicated)
Column 1	Column 2
Total Suspended Solids	15
Total Phosphorus	0.15

(2) For the purposes of determining compliance with and enforcing subsection (1), non-compliance with respect to a Concentration Limit is deemed to have occurred when any single (composite, grab) sample analyzed for a parameter named in Column 1 of subsection (1) is greater than the corresponding maximum concentration set out in Column 2 of subsection (1).

6. SLUDGE MANAGEMENT

(1) Solid waste materials accumulating in the treatment and/or solids retention ponds shall be periodically removed from the pond and disposed.

(2) In the event that inadequate sludge storage capacity is available, additional capacity must be provided by the Owner or the excess sludge must be transported off-site for disposal through an approved waste management system.

(3) The Owner may use other reasonable, practicable alternatives not described in subsections (1) and (2), but is presented in writing and found to be acceptable by the District Manager.

7. EFFLUENT MONITORING AND RECORDING

The Owner shall, upon commencement of operation of the Works, carry out the following monitoring program:

(1) All samples and measurements taken for the purposes of this Approval are to be taken at a time and in a location characteristic of the quality and quantity of the effluent stream over the time period being monitored.

(2) Samples shall be collected and analyzed at the following sampling point(s), at the sampling frequencies and using the sample type specified for each parameter listed:

Table 3 - Effluent Monitoring (Effluent Discharge to St. Clair River)	
Frequency	Once per Month
Sample Type	Grab
Parameters	Total Suspended Solids and Total Phosphorus

(3) The methods and protocols for sampling, analysis, toxicity testing, and recording shall conform, in order of precedence, to the methods and protocols specified in the following:

(a) the Ministry's publication "Protocol for the Sampling and Analysis of Industrial/Municipal Wastewater" (January 1999), ISBN 0-7778-1880-9, as amended from time to time by more recently published editions; and,

(b) the publication "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater" (21st edition) as amended from time to time by more recently published editions.

(4) The Owner shall record the volume of flow each week at the sampling points identified in subsection (2).

(5) After one (1) year, the Director may alter the frequencies and locations of sampling and parameters for analysis required by the Approval if he/she considers it necessary for proper assessment of the quality of the effluent or if he/she is requested to do so in writing by the operating authority and considers it acceptable by the evidence of information submitted in support of the request.

(6) The Owner shall keep a log book of operations of the Works. This book shall contain, but not be limited to the following:

(a) the frequency of cleaning of the settling facilities;

(b) dates of cleaning the ponds or rearing tanks;

(c) the results of all analytical and flow monitoring including sample collection dates;

(d) operational problems and corrective measures taken by the operating authority that had a bearing on effluent quality;

(e) sludge volumes generated and a description of the methods used for spreading or disposal of the accumulated sludge;

(f) a summary of any weather information recorded during periods of heavy rainfall and snow melt.

(7) The Owner shall retain for a minimum of five (5) years from the date of their creation, all records and information related to or resulting from the monitoring activities required by this Approval.

8. REPORTING

(1) The Owner shall report to the District Manager or designate, any exceedance of any parameter specified in Condition 5 orally, as soon as reasonably possible, and in writing within seven (7) days of the exceedance.

(2) In addition to the obligations under Part X of the *Environmental Protection Act*, the Owner shall, within ten (10) working days of the occurrence of any reportable spill as defined on Ontario Regulation 675/98, bypass or loss of any product, by-product, intermediate product, oil, solvent, waste material or any other polluting substance into the environment, submit a full written report of the occurrence to the District Manager describing the cause and discovery of the spill or loss, clean-up and recovery measures taken, preventative measures to be taken and schedule of implementation.

(3) The Owner shall prepare and submit an annual performance report to the District Manager within 90 days following the end of each reporting period. The reporting period spans from April 1 to March 31 of the following year, making the submission deadline June 30 annually. The first report is due by June 30, 2026, with subsequent reports to be submitted annually for each successive reporting period thereafter. The reports shall contain, but shall not be limited to, the following information:

(a) a summary of weight or numbers of fish for each species handled during the period reported upon. In addition, the amount of fish food used during the period and during peak months shall be reported;

(b) a summary and interpretation of the water quality monitoring results and a discussion of the results of the investigations for each reported exceedance related to Conditions 4 and 5. A statement shall also be included in this section to indicate the measures the operating authority proposes to take to prevent any future exceedance of the compliance limits, if applicable. A schedule of implementation shall also be reported;

(c) a summary of any weather information recorded during periods of heavy rainfall and snow melt. A description of any correlation between effluent suspended solids or other characteristic and any recorded weather condition shall also be reported;

(d) assessment of the effectiveness of cleaning and maintenance operations to improve or maintain the desirable effluent quality;

(e) sludge volume generated and a description of the methods used during the year for spreading or disposal of the accumulated sludge;

(f) operational problems and corrective measures taken by the operating authority that had a bearing on effluent quality;

(g) proposals for other structural or operational changes and proposed time frame for implementation. It should be noted that major changes may require a new application for approval to be filed with the Ministry; and

(h) any other operational aspects relating to waste quality or quantity (such as type and quantity of feed on a monthly basis; chemicals used for algae and disease control, etc);

(4) After two (2) years, the reporting programs under this section may be altered on the written authorization of the District Manager.

The reasons for the imposition of these terms and conditions are as follows:

1. Condition 1 is imposed to ensure that the Works are built and operated in the manner in which they were described for review and upon which approval was granted. This condition is also included to emphasize the precedence of Conditions in the Approval and the practice that the Approval is based on the most current document, if several conflicting documents are submitted for review.
2. Condition 2 is included to ensure that the Ministry records are kept accurate and current with respect to approved Works and to ensure that subsequent owners of the Works are made aware of the Approval and continue to operate the Works in compliance with it.
3. Condition 3 is included to ensure that a comprehensive operations manual governing all significant areas of operation, maintenance and repair is prepared, implemented and kept up-to-date by the Owner and made available to the Ministry. Such a manual is an integral part of the operation of the Works. Its compilation and use should assist the Owner in staff training, in proper plant operation and in identifying and planning for contingencies during possible abnormal conditions. The manual will also act as a benchmark for Ministry staff when reviewing the owner's operation of the Works.
4. Condition 4 is imposed to establish non-enforceable effluent quality objectives which the Owner is obligated to use best efforts to strive towards on an ongoing basis. These objectives are to be used as a mechanism to trigger corrective action proactively and voluntarily before environmental impairment occurs and before the compliance limits of Condition 6 are exceeded.
5. Condition 5 is imposed to ensure that the effluent discharged from the Works to the St. Clair River meets the Ministry's effluent quality requirements thus minimizing environmental impact on the receiver.

6. Condition 6, 7, and 8 are included to require the owner to demonstrate on a continual basis that the quality of the effluent from the approved Works is consistent with the design objectives and effluent limits specified in the Approval and that the approved Works does not cause any impairment to the receiving watercourse. Also, so that any exceedances of the Ministry's effluent quality requirements may be interpreted and where possible correlated to either normal or abnormal operational or maintenance practices or design features that may require correction. Therefore the information reported should provide sufficient warning to the Ministry and the owner in the event that preventive measures have to be taken to prevent deterioration, loss, injury or damage to any person, property or the natural environment.

In accordance with Section 139 of the *Environmental Protection Act*, you may by written notice served upon me, the Ontario Land Tribunal and in accordance with Section 47 of the *Environmental Bill of Rights*, 1993, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, within 15 days after receipt of this notice, require a hearing by the Tribunal. The Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will place notice of your appeal on the Environmental Registry. Section 142 of the *Environmental Protection Act* provides that the notice requiring the hearing ("the Hearing") shall state:

- a. The portions of the environmental compliance approval or each term or condition in the environmental compliance approval in respect of which the hearing is required, and;
- b. The grounds on which you intend to rely at the hearing in relation to each portion appealed.

The Notice should also include:

1. The name of the appellant;
2. The address of the appellant;
3. The environmental compliance approval number;
4. The date of the environmental compliance approval;
5. The name of the Director, and;
6. The municipality or municipalities within which the project is to be engaged in.

And the Notice should be signed and dated by the appellant.

This Notice must be served upon:

Registrar*
Ontario Land Tribunal
655 Bay Street, Suite 1500
Toronto, Ontario
M5G 1E5
OLT.Registrar@ontario.ca

and

The Minister of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2J3

and

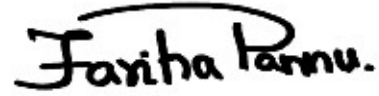
The Director appointed for the purposes of
Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*
Ministry of the Environment,
Conservation and Parks
135 St. Clair Avenue West, 1st Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M4V 1P5

*** Further information on the Ontario Land Tribunal's requirements for an appeal can be obtained directly from the Tribunal at: Tel: (416) 212-6349 or 1 (866) 448-2248, or www.olt.gov.on.ca**

This instrument is subject to Section 38 of the *Environmental Bill of Rights*, 1993, that allows residents of Ontario to seek leave to appeal the decision on this instrument. Residents of Ontario may seek leave to appeal within 15 days from the date this decision is placed on the Environmental Registry. By accessing the Environmental Registry at <https://ero.ontario.ca/>, you can determine when the leave to appeal period ends.

The above noted activity is approved under s.20.3 of Part II.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*.

DATED AT TORONTO this 26th day of May, 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fariha Pannu." with a horizontal line underneath.

Fariha Pannu, P.Eng.

Director

appointed for the purposes of Part II.1 of the
Environmental Protection Act

MK/

c: District Manager, MECP Sarnia
Avid Banihashemi, Dillon Consulting Limited