BM TRADA

Alliance for Water Stewardship

Site Level

Client Name:	Renmark Irrigation Trust
Audit date(s):	28-29 November 2017
Audit location:	149 Murray Ave, Renmark SA 5341
Audit report completed by:	Kevin OGrady (Lead auditor) Rod Knight (reviewing auditor) Julian Whiting (Catchment expert)
Report issue date:	This is the date that the report is issued to the client
Proposed date of next audit:	October 2018

Introduction to the Alliance for Water Stewardship

The AWS Standard ("the Standard") is intended to drive water stewardship, which is defined as *the use of water that is socially equitable, environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial, achieved through a stakeholder-inclusive process that involves site- and catchment-based actions.* Good water stewards understand their own water use, catchment context and shared concerns in terms of water governance, water balance, water quality and Important Water-Related Areas, then engage in meaningful individual and collective actions that benefit people and nature.

The Standard outlines a series of actions, criteria and indicators for how oneshould manage water at the site level and how water management should bestewarded beyond the boundaries of a site. In this Standard, the "site" refers to theimplementing entity that is responsible for fulfilling the criteria. The site includesthe facility and the property over which the implementer that is using or managingwater (i.e., withdrawing, consuming, diverting, managing, treating and/ordischarging water or effluent into the environment) has control.

Disclaimer

The BM TRADA audit was based on a sampling approach and therefore non conformities may exist which have not been identified.

A copy of this report shall be distributed to the certified client and to BM TRADA.

The ownership of this audit report is maintained by BM TRADA.

BM TRADA shall keep confidential all information relating to the audit and your organisation and shall not disclose such information to any third party except as required by law of by Accreditation Bodies.

BM TRADA assumes no responsibility (legal or otherwise) or accepts no liability to

any person(s) for any loss, damage or expense caused by reliance on information provided in this audit report.

Guidance on BM TRADA nonconformities issued against the AWS standard requirements

Details of all nonconformities issued at the audit are contained in separate nonconformity reports and should have been presented to you at the closing meeting.

Please send all nonconformity response to your local BM TRADA office. Once we have received responses they will be forwarded to your auditor for review. We will contact you if further submission is required.

Audit finding shall be assigned (or 'graded') into one of three categories: major non-conformity, minor non-conformity, and observation.

Major Non-Conformities

A major non-conformity is raised if:

The issue represents a systematic problem of substantial consequence;

The issue is a known and recurring problem that the client has failed to resolve;

The issue fundamentally undermines the intent of the AWS Standard; or

The nature of the problem may jeopardize the credibility of AWS.

All major non-conformities must satisfactorily addressed by the client within thirty **(30) days.**

Minor Non-Conformities

Where the audit team has evaluated an audit finding and determines that the seriousness of the issue does not meet the any of the criteria for Major non-compliance the audit team shall grade the finding as a minor non-conformity.

All minor non-conformities must satisfactorily addressed by the client within thirty **(90) days** unless an alternative timeframe, supported by written justification, has otherwise been agreed with the CAB.

2.9.3 For certificate holders, the CAB shall require that minor non-conformities are satisfactorily addressed within ninety (90)

If corrective actions are inadequate to resolve a minor non-conformity by the time of the next scheduled audit, the CAB shall upgrade the audit finding to a major non-conformity.

All other finding that are not major or minor non – conformities can be raised as observations.

BM TRADA is unable to issue / reissue an AWS certificate of approval until all non-conformities are verified and closed.

Failure to address and close nonconformities within required timescales will result in suspension of certification.

Your auditor will clarify at the closing meeting if you require a follow up audit to verify

correction and corrective action implementation or if documentary evidence will be acceptable to close the nonconformity.

Note: non-conformity will hereinafter be referred to as NCR.

1. Client and Certificate Details

Client & Site Details

Address of certified operation:	149 Murray Ave, Renmark SA 5341
Management representative:	Rosalie Auricht Business Manager Renmark Irrigation Trust
Contact email address:	Rosalie Auricht<rauricht@rit.org.au>
Contact phone number:	Ph: (08) 8586 6911
Website address:	www.inghams.com

BM TRADA Certificate Details

Type of certificate holder:	Single Site		
Certificate Number:	NA	**Date of first certification:**	NA
Current Certificate start date:	NA	**Current Certificate expiry date**	NA
Contact phone number:	(08) 8586 6911		
Website address:	http://www.rit.org.au/		

2. Details of Audit and Scope of Certification

Audit Details

Audit type: Initial X Surveillance ☐ Scope Extension ☐

Important – The site can only use the same supply chain model as its supplier or go to a less strict system. Declassification/ downgrading can only be done in the following order: Identity preserved → Segregation→ Mass balance.

Audit team and roles:	Kevin OGrady (Lead auditor) Rod Knight (review auditor) Julian Whiting (Catchment expert)
Standard:	The AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Version V1.0 April 8th 2014

Scope of Certification

Scope of Certification:	Water Stewardship in supply of water for irrigation and other purposes.
Operations covered by scope of certification:	Supply water to irrigators, industrial and domestic customers. Facilitating environmental watering. Participation in salinity control schemes.
Other certification scheme(s) this company is certified for:	

Outsourcing:
Does the client outsource operations or activities within the scope to independent third parties?***No**

*Activities of suppliers to the operation are not considered outsourcing.

3. Executive Summary

Main Items / Critical Control Points / Places Inspected

Main items / Critical Control Points / Places inspected (including names & affiliations of people consulted	**Number of NCRs**
Commit - Rosalie Aurich BarrySchier	
Gather and Understand - Rosalie Aurich BarrySchier	2
Plan - Rosalie Aurich	1
Implement - Rosalie Aurich , Megan McLeod - AWS Asia Pacific (Observer)	
Monitor - Rosalie Aurich, Megan McLeod - AWS Asia Pacific (Observer)	
Disclose and communicate. - Rosalie Aurich, Megan McLeod - AWS Asia Pacific (Observer)	
Total number of nonconformities issued at this audit:	3

Previous NCR(s)

Were there any NCR(s) issued at the previous audit? Yes ☐ No X

Allocation of points and Lead Auditor Recommendations

Core Criteria: Subject to NCRs being closed out the recommendation is to award all points under core certification criteria.

Points allocated against Advanced Criteria

1.3 3
1.4 3
1.5 1

Subtotal: 7 (13 possible)

2.8 4
2.12 10

Subtotal: 14

4.9 8
4.11 8
4.13 0
4.14 6
4.15 0
4.17 3

Subtotal: 25

6.7 4

Subtotal: 4

TOTAL: 50

Note: the above recommendation is subject to review and (continued) Certification / Recertification decision.

Allocation of Points

The audit team shall complete the allocation of points within thirty (30) days of completion of the on-site audit and, in any event, before finalizing the assessment report

Where a client has one or more unresolved major nonconformity, the audit team shall not allocate points to any advanced-level indicators.

Prior to allocating points, the audit team shall review the assessment results to confirm that the client has met all core indicators.

Where one or more minor non-conformity has been raised against core indicators, the audit team should consider the adequacy of corrective action plans submitted by the client when applying

Audit teams shall award points in accordance with the indicator-specific point allocation system given in the AWS Standard.

Certification level shall be determined based on the total sum of points awarded, in any combination, to all advanced-level indicators.

Thresholds for the three (3) AWS certification levels are given in Table 2.

Table 2. Thresholds for AWS Certification Levels.

Point Total	AWS Certification Level
0 to 39	AWS Core Certified
40 to 79	AWS Gold Certified
80 or greater	AWS Platinum Certified

4. Audit Observations, Findings and Conclusions

Description of Operation

Renmark was established by the Chaffey Bros. in 1887 as an irrigation settlement, after having developed similar developments in California. Later that year negotiations were completed to develop another irrigation area in Mildura. Relatives of the Chaffey Brothers still reside within the Sunraysia area today.

The Renmark Irrigation Trust (R.I.T.) was constituted by a Statute of the South Australian Parliament which was assented to on 23rd of December 1893, becoming the area's first local government authority. The main purpose of the Trust was to facilitate the putting into operation of the water rights to which the ratepayers were entitled under the terms of the Chaffey Bros. Irrigation Works Act of 1887.

Currently, the Renmark Irrigation Trust infrastructure serves over 600 properties covering more than 4500 hectares throughout the Renmark District.

Facilities: Single pump station at the Murray River and a network of pumps and pipes to deliver water to clients as metered flow.

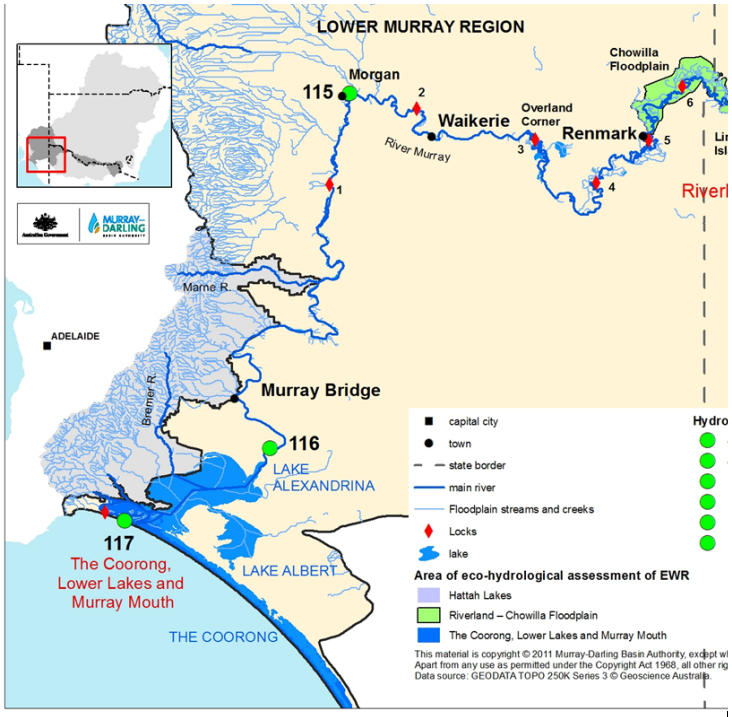
Number of Employees: 27 FTE

Catchment narrative

Catchments relevant to the RIT are:

- Water supply catchment: Lower Murray(-Darling) catchment, Murray-Darling Basin
  (see http://www.mdba.gov.au/about-basin/how-river-runs/lower-murray-catchment and http://www.environment.gov.au/water/cewo/catchment/lower-murray-darling)

- Physical location:
  - Riverland district, SA Murray-Darling Basin NRM Region
    (see http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/samurraydarlingbasin/about-us/our-regions-plan)
  - Upper Murray sub-region, Regional Action Plan
    (see http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/samurraydarlingbasin-rap/Subregions/Upper-Murray)



The overarching catchment plan is the Murray Darling Basin Plan covering the whole Murray Darling Catchment across 4 states.

The SA Entitlement Flow represents a “minimum” flow as prescribed in the Murray Darling Basin Agreement (incorporated into the Water Act 2007) to provide for irrigation, dilution and environmental flows and critical human water needs. However flows passing into South Australia (and past Renmark) will generally be higher than this with the addition of unregulated flows

The project area is within the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse (PWC), to which a Water Allocation Plan (WAP) applies. The WAP is a statutory instrument, and is written in line with the legal requirements of the Natural Resources Management Act 2004 (South Australia) (hereafter the ‘NRM Act’). The WAP provides for the sustainable management of water resources in the River Murray in South Australia in accordance with the requirements in the NRM Act and sets out the policies for a range of water allocation provisions, including:

- managing consumptive pools;
- principles for allocating during dry conditions;
- water entitlements;
- water allocations; and
- water trading.

The amount of water available for users in a year varies according to rainfall, inflows into storages and how water in storage is managed by the Basin states. At the start of each water year (1 July), each Basin state makes water allocation announcements based on seasonal availability. In regulated river systems, allocations are reviewed throughout the year. If water conditions and storage levels improve, the allocation can be increased if it is less than 100%.

The wetlands, floodplains, anabranches and main river channel of the River Murray are part of the River Murray Prescribed Water Resource. They provide critical ecosystem services to the social, economic and ecological systems of the Riverland district. The section of the Murray within the Riverland district contains the internationally significant Riverland Ramsar site and Banrock Station Ramsar Wetland Complex. It encompasses Chowilla Floodplain and Lindsay–Wallpolla Islands Icon Site, and the River Murray Channel, which are Living Murray Icon Sites. The River Murray also contains a number of protected areas that are managed for nature conservation, including the Murray River National Park, Calperum Station, Maize Island Conservation Park, Hogwash Bend, Clark’s Floodplain and Katarapoko Conservation Park. The River Murray ecosystems rely on appropriate timing, duration and volume of water delivery from upstream (Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria), and effectively managed local water delivery infrastructure.

The NRM Act requires that a water allocation plan (WAP) undertake a range of assessments including the needs of ecosystems dependent on water from the prescribed resource. The WAP aims to meet the requirements of the NRM Act through summarising the environmental water requirements for representative water-dependent ecosystems of the River Murray PWC based on the current level of scientific knowledge and understanding.

Aboriginal values: This region supported large populations of Aboriginal people, who flourished with fertile hunting grounds. The lakes, rivers, wetlands were highly valued as a food source and life line for Aboriginal people. Along these areas are traditional hunting and camping grounds, the abundance of good food and water allowed for rich cultural practices to develop, the animals in this region are significant to traditional owners through a totem connection, there are many middens, burial sites, scar trees and gathering sites throughout the region. Many of these cultural practices continue to this day.

Documented Procedures

Step 1 – COMMIT

Step 1 ensures that there is sufficient leadership support to enact the rest of the criteria within the Standard. This step also relates to commitments to legal/regulatory compliance and rights-related issues, which underpin water stewardship.

Core criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Core Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
1.1 Establish a leadership commitment on water stewardship: Have the senior-most manager at the site, and if necessary a suitable individual within the corporate head office, sign and publicly disclose a commitment to: • Uphold the AWS water stewardship outcomes (good water governance, sustainable water balance, good water quality status and healthy status of Important Water-Related Areas); • Engage stakeholders in an open and transparent manner; • Strive to comply with legal and regulatory requirements • Respect water-related rights, including ensuring appropriate access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene for all workers in all premises under the site's control; • Support and coordinate with public sector agencies in the implementation of plans and policies,	**1.1.1 Signed and publicly disclosed statement that explicitly covers all requirements (see details in Criterion 1.1).**	**The leadership commitment is publicly available on the RIT web site** http://www.rit.org.au/RIT_AWS_Leadership_Commitment.pdf **Obs 01.17 The Leadership commitment does not specifically state that RIT will:** ***"Support water-related national and international treaties"*** RIT does commit to comply with all legal and water related rights. The site, through its regulatory obligations are bound to State and Commonwealth water-related national and international treaties. however, the organisation may consider a more explicit Statement of Support for water-related national and international treaties.

including working together towards meeting the human right to water and sanitation. • Continually improve and adapt the site's water stewardship actions and plans; • Maintain the organizational capacity necessary to successfully implement the AWS Standard, including ensuring that staff have the time and resources necessary to undertake the implementation; • Support water-related national and international treaties; • Disclose material on water-related information to relevant audiences.		
1.2 Develop a water stewardship policy: Develop aninternally agreed-upon and communicated and publiclyavailable water stewardship policy that references the concept of water stewardship (as informed by the AWS Standard, outcomes and criteria).	**1.2.1 Publicly available policy that meets all requirements (see Guidance)**	**The Policy is documented in the Water Stewardship Plan dated 24/11/2017 section 1.2. This policy meets the requirements of the standards and related guidance.**

Advanced criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Advanced Criteria	Indicators	Response Area

1.3 Further the alliance for Water Stewardship Commit to an AWS training programme or commit to AWS membership or get a commitment from one or more other sites to implement an AWS programme (membership, standard & certification or training).	**1.3.1 Official registration with AWS**	**RIT chair Peter Duggan and Board Director Caren Martin have attended 3 days of AWS training.** **Obs 02.17 Although it is dependent on the outcome of this audit, the overall plan is for RIT to involve other Irrigation Trusts in a wider AWS project for South Australian irrigation districts and to involve irrigation clients in AWS.**
1.4 Commit to other initiatives that advance effective water stewardship Commit to additional, voluntary and complementary water-related initiatives. Qualifying initiatives must: • Be voluntary in nature; • Be commonly accepted as best practices or processes for effective water management; • Explicitly contain references to water (even if this is not their primary purpose); • Contain a time-bounded commitment for taking action to improve use of water resources; • Not be redundant with existing requirements from the AWS Standard (i.e., the site cannot get credit for commitments that would have been already required by the AWS Standard); • Intend to deliver additional social or environmental benefits, keeping with the definition of water stewardship.	**1.4.1 Formal commitment to qualifying initiative(s), including a timeline for completion**	RIT has entered into an agreement with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) to utilise RIT infrastructure in the off peak irrigation season for environmental watering purposes, to deliver Commonwealth environmental water to wetland and floodplain areas near Renmark Evidence http://www.environment.gov.au/system/files/resources/3b3f1e09-3b50-4640-b205-08464e77aec8/files/rit-partnership-agreement-2016-19.pdf Environmental watering can rehabilitate areas affected by salt from rising groundwater levels, increase abundance of vegetation and native fish populations, and promote sustainability in the Renmark irrigation district. This partnership is the first of its kind between the CEWH and an irrigation water provider. It is not legally binding or legally required (Section 4) and complies with the qualifying initiatives requirements of the Standard. Positive support of the weir pool manipulation programme involved in using environmental flows to mimic natural variations in the river system to support river systems health.

1.5 Secure a water stewardship commitment from the organization's senior most executive or the organization's governance body The site's commitment in 1.1 is also signed off by the senior-most executive in the organization or the overarching governance body that oversees the site's organization.	**1.5.1 Appropriately signed and publicly available statement that explicitly covers all requirements (see details in Criterion 1.1)**	The commitment document has been approved and adopted by the Board of Directors and is signed off by Peter Duggan who is the chairman of the Board of RIT
1.6 Prioritize communities' rights to water The site publicly commits that if the human right to water and sanitation is unmet, and if requested by the community, the site will provide direct assistance from its own allocations of 20L per person to assist communities for their water-related needs.	**1.6.1 Signed and publicly disclosed statement that explicitly covers all requirements**	Not assessed Comment: This is unlikely to be in place for an area (mainly developed countries) where human rights to water and sanitation is routinely met by existing infrastructures.

Step 2 – GATHER AND UNDERSTAND

Step 2 ensures that the site gathers data on its water use and its catchment context and that the site employs these data to understand its shared water challenges as well as its contributions (both negative and positive) to these challenges and to water-related risks, impacts and opportunities. This information also informs the development of the site's water stewardship plan (Step 3) and guides the actions (Step 4) necessary to deliver upon the commitments (Step 1).

Core criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Core Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
2.1 Define the physical scope Identify the site's operational boundaries, the sources the site draws its water from, the locations where the site returns its discharge to, and the catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and is reliant upon.	**2.1.1 Documentation or map of the site's boundaries** **2.1.2 Names and location of water sources, including both water service provider (if applicable) and ultimate source water** **2.1.3 Names and location of effluent discharge points, including both water service provider (if applicable) and ultimate receiving water body** **2.1.4 Geographical description or map of the catchment(s)**	**2.1.1 Maps of the sites and boundaries were inspected at the audit.** **2.1.2 By the nature of the business (Irrigation water supply) the only source of supply is the Murray River. There is a single pumping station on James Avenue Renmark. The Water Stewardship Plan also mentions town water supply to the office.** **2.1.3. The business supplies irrigation water so there are no effluent discharge points and the water does not return to the river. RIT do have an involvement in a salt interception scheme and intercept saline ground water to a series of 13 Caissons (underground tanks) that divert saline water to an evaporation point at Dishes creek which is managed by the state government.** **The Water Stewardship Plan also mentions that the office waste goes to municipal waste collection and that Renmark uses recycled water for public watering of parks and gardens.** **2.1.4 The water stewardship plan has catchment maps and location description. The water supply catchment is the Lower Murray(-Darling) catchment and is part of the Southern basin part of the Murray-Darling Basin.**
2.2 Identify stakeholders, their water-related challenges and the site's sphere of influence Identify stakeholders, document their water-related challenges and explain how the stakeholders are within the site's sphere of influence.	**2.2.1 List of stakeholders, descriptions of prior engagements and summaries of their water-related challenges** **2.2.2 Description of the site's sphere of influence**	**2.2.1 and 2.2.2 The Water Stewardship plan SS 2.2 *RIT Stakeholders' Water Related Challenges & Sphere of Influence* covers both points in the standard however the description of the Sphere of Influence does not meet the intent of the guidance.** **NCR 01.17 The description of the Sphere of Influence does not meet the intent of the guidance.**
2.3 Gather water-related data for the catchment Gather credible and temporally relevant data on the site's catchment: • Water governance, including catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly led initiatives under way, relevant goals, and all water-related legal, regulatory requirements;	**2.3.1 List of relevant aspects of catchment plan(s), significant publicly led initiatives and/or relevant water related public policy goals for the site** **2.3.2 List, and description of relevance, of all applicable water-related legal and regulatory**	**2.3.1 The Water Stewardship plan SS 2.3 contains a list that meets the requirements:** • **MDBA Basin annual environmental watering priorities (http://www.mdba.gov.au/managing-water/environmental-water/basin-annual-environmental-watering-priorities)** • **CEWO Restoring and Protecting the Lower Murray-Darling 2017-18 (https://www.environment.gov.au/water/cewo/publications#restoring-17)**

Commented [WU1]: Not sure this is an NCR. The table in the WSP contains exactly the 6 dot points in the guidance (top of p67 after 'To conform with this criterion, the site must...' Might be better as an Obs that a discussion of the sphere of influence could be useful?

• Water balance for all sources while considering future supply and demand trends; • Water quality for all sources while considering future physical, chemical and biological quality trends; Important Water-Related Areas, including their identification and current status, while considering future trends; • Infrastructure's current status and exposure to extreme events while considering expected future needs	**requirements, including legally defined and customary water rights and water-use rights** **2.3.3 Catchment water balance by temporally relevant time unit and commentary on future supply and demand trends** **2.3.4 Appropriate and credibly measured data to represent the physical, chemical and biological status of the site's water source(s) by temporally relevant time unit, and commentary on any anticipated future changes in water quality** **2.3.5 Documentation identifying Important Water Related Areas, including a description of their current status and commentary on future trends** **2.3.6 Existing, publicly available reports or plans that assess water-related infrastructure, preferably with content exploring current and projected sufficiency to meet the needs of water uses in the catchment, and exposure to extreme events**	• **South Australian River Murray Sustainability Program:** **(http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/sarms-iiip)** **SA Murray-Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Plan:** **(http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/samurraydarlingbasin/about-us/regional-action-planning)** • **The Renmark Paringa Landcare (RP Landcare), formerly known as Renmark to the Border Local Action Planning,** **(https://www.renmarkparinga.sa.gov.au/rplandcare)** **2.3.2 The WSP lists catchment water-related legal and regulatory requirements as** • **Water Allocation Plan for the River Murray Prescribed Watercourse:** **o salinity management** **o managing consumptive pools** **o principles for allocating during dry conditions** **o water entitlements** **o water allocations** **o water trading** **http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/samurraydarlingbasin/water/water-allocation-plans/river-murray-wap** • **South Australia's River Murray water access entitlement holders will receive a 100 per cent water allocation in 2017-18, thanks to last spring's highest inflows in 23 years** **http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/river-murray/water-allocations** • **Environment Protection (Water Quality) Policy 2015 provides the structure for regulation and management of water quality in South Australian inland surface waters, marine waters and ground waters:** **o what constitutes environmental harm** **o what are the general environmental duty requirements** **o what are the mandatory provisions which constitute offences** **http://www.epa.sa.gov.au/data_and_publications/standards_and_laws/environment_protection_water_quality_policy** • **Protecting threatened ecological communities** **http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/plants-and-animals/Threatened_species_ecological_communities/threatened-ecological-communities** **2.3.3 Data used by RIT is publicly collected data, mainly used by the Relevant authorities to manage water allocation. RIT makes records of local water use and feeds this back to the authority as part of the future allocation process.** **The data thus collected is publicly available and is sent to RIT at least weekly and RIT can access more data if needed.** **The future trends are monitored by the authorities and factored into planning:** **https://www.mdba.gov.au/news/mdb-fact-climate-change-basin-plan**

Commented [WU2]: This is commentary on current conditions, not the requirements. Not needed.

Commented [WU3]: The report is identical to the WSP but the list is incomplete.

		The Water Stewardship plan addresses catchment water balance, future supply and demand trends as follows: • **The Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) provide updates on rainfall, inflows, salinity and river operations weekly. http://www.mdba.gov.au/river-information** • **The amount of water available for users in a year varies according to rainfall, inflows into storages and how water in storage is managed by the Basin states. At the start of each water year (1 July), each Basin state (DEWNR responsible in SA) makes water allocation announcements based on seasonal availability http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/river-murray/water-allocations** **2.3.4 Data used by RIT is publicly collected data mainly used by the Relevant authorities to manage water quality issues like salinity and pollution. .** **The data thus collected is publicly available and is sent to RIT at least weekly and can access more data if needed.** **The River Murray water quality monitoring program is a monitoring network of 36 sites located on the river and its tributaries, which has been routinely monitoring physico-chemical parameters of water since 1978.In the context of future climate change and other changes (including the Murray–Darling Basin Plan), the importance of this long-term monitoring data is considered.** **See https://www.mdba.gov.au/managing-water/water-quality/river-murray-water-quality-monitoring-program** **The Water Stewardship plan date 24/11/17 outlines salinity and pollution monitoring by the authorities and access to the data by RIT was demonstrated by weekly water quality reports by the Murray Darling Basin Authority.** **2.3.5 The Water Stewardship Plan gives the overall context of the IWRA environment by reference to the local NRM plan http://www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/samurraydarlingbasin/about-us/our-regions-plan including an overview of Aboriginal cultural heritage.** **Specific documents exist that list the values are:** • **Management guidelines environmental watering sites adjacent to Renmark Irrigation District. August 2016 AM and MJ Harper.** • **E mail from District Manager Natural Resources SA dates 9 Dec 2016 as part of a consent application following a search of the cultural heritage sites register informing RIT that there are no sites in the areas they are working.**

		2.3.5 There is no public infrastructure involved. The infrastructure is owned and managed by RIT and the Murray river is the source of the off take. **RIT infrastructure has an operating capacity to manage current water needs and allocations plus projected allocations. Previous flood events have demonstrated the ability of the infrastructure to cope with extreme events.**
2.4 Gather water-related data for the site Gather credible and temporally relevant data on the site's: • Governance (including water stewardship and incident response plan); • Water balance (volumetric balance of water inputs and outputs); • Water quality (physical, chemical and biological quality of influent and effluent) and possible sources of water pollution; • Important Water-Related Areas (identification and status); • Water-related costs (including capital investment expenditures, water procurement, water treatment, outsourced water-related services, water-related R&D and water-related energy costs), revenues and shared value creation (including economic value distribution, environmental value and social value).	**2.4.1 Copies of existing water stewardship and incident response plans** **2.4.2 Site water balance (in Mm3 or m3) by temporally relevant time unit and water-use intensity metric (Mm3 or m3 per unit of production or service)** **2.4.3 Appropriate and credibly measured data to represent the physical, chemical and biological status of the site's direct and outsourced water effluent by temporally relevant time unit, and possible pollution sources (if noted)** **2.4.4 Inventory of all material water-related chemicals used or stored on-site that are possible causes of water pollution** **2.4.5 Documentation identifying existing, or historic, onsite Important Water-Related Areas, including a description of their status** **2.4.6 List of annual water-related costs, revenues and description/quantification of social, environmental or economic value generated by the site to the catchment**	**2.4.1 The Incident Record and Response Plan is in the Water Stewardship plan and covers all currently known or anticipated incidents.** **2.4.2 The site treats records of water used (by clients) vs allocated off take as the water balance. Water off take is metered and water use by clients is metered and check manually or by telemetric data. Water off take data is fed back to the authorities and forms part of the data used in water allocation.** **Obs The table in S 2.4.2 provides columns of Total Take, Metered Usage and % Efficiency but could include a column of the calculated water balance in kL.** **2.4.3 Salinity is measured by the site and the data is fed back to the authority charged with measuring and controlling salinity. No other Measurements are taken by the site BUT the authorities do make measurements of pollution levels.** **2.4.4 No water related chemical are used. There are no additions to the water.** **Chemicals that are stored on site are detailed in the Water Stewardship plan SS2.4.4 Possible causes of water pollution** **2.4.5 Specific documents exist that list the values are:** • **Management guidelines environmental watering sites adjacent to Renmark Irrigation District. August 2016 AM and MJ Harper.** • **Email from District Manager Natural Resources SA dates 9 Dec 2016 as part of a consent application following a search of the cultural heritage sites register informing RIT that there are no sites in the areas they are working.** **2.4.6 The Water Stewardship plan references the RIT Annual Report 2016/2017 provided to South Australian Minister responsible for water containing Financial Statement of Profit or Loss. This documents deals with water related costs and revenues since all costs and benefits are water related.** **NCR 02/01 There is no description/quantification of social, environmental or economic value generated by the site to the catchment.**
2.5 Improve the site's understanding of its indirect water use Identify and continually improve the site's understanding of:	**2.5.1 List of primary inputs with their associated embedded annual (or better) water use and**	**2.5.1 The primary input is river water. Water Embedded in other inputs is minimal and unquantifiable eg water in manufacture of plant and equipment or in power generation.**

• Its primary inputs, the water use embedded in the production of those primary inputs and, where their origin can be identified, the status of the waters at the origin of the inputs; • Water used in outsourced water-related services within the catchment.	**(where known) their country/region/or catchment of origin with its level of water stress** **2.5.2 List of outsourced services that consume water or affect water quality and both (A) estimated annual (or better) water withdrawals listed by outsourced services (Mm3 or m3) and (B) appropriate and credibly measured data to represent the physical, chemical and biological status of the outsourced annual (or better) water effluent**	**2.5.2 There are no outsourced services that impact on water quality.**
2.6 Understand shared water-related challenges in the catchment Based upon the status of the catchment and stakeholder input, identify and prioritize the shared water-related challenges that affect the site and that affect the social, environmental and/or economic status of the catchment(s). In considering the challenges, the drivers of future trends and how these issues are currently being addressed by public-sector agencies must all be noted.	**2.6.1 Prioritized and justified list of shared water challenges that also considers drivers and notes related to public-sector agency efforts**	**2.6.1The shared water-related challenges affecting the catchments Based on the Catchment Analysis (Section 2.3, Attachment B) and stakeholder engagements to date (Section 2.2) are listed in the Water Stewardship Plan and it also lists the public agency drivers and efforts involved.**
2.7 Understand and prioritize the site's water risks and opportunities Based upon the status of the site, existing risk management plans and/or the issues identified in 2.6, assess and prioritize the water risks and opportunities affecting the site.	**2.7.1 Prioritized list of water risks facing the site, noting severity of impact and likelihood within a given time frame** **2.7.2 Prioritized list of water-related opportunities for the site** **2.7.3 Estimate of potential savings/value creation**	**The Water Stewardship Plan has a narrative and tables outlining:** **2.7.1 Prioritized list of water risks with a risk considering severity and likelihood. The time frame for each risk varies, e.g. loss of power (on any given day), extreme flood event (as a 1 in x year event).** **2.7.2 Water-related Opportunities for the site (e.g. social license to operate, revitalisation of adjacent floodplains).** **2.7.3 Estimates of potential savings and value consideration are included in S 2.7.1 of the WSP.** **Obs 04/17 Consideration could be given to refining the priority of risks events indicating a typical timeframe/frequency that the risk may occur in.** **Obs 05/17 RIT may consider if savings and value creations could be refined and in some cases quantified.**

Advanced criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Advanced Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
2.8 Support and undertake joint water-related data collection: Engage in data gathering with two or more other organizations in the catchment or join a public-sector-led effort to gather the information required in Criterion 2.3.	**2.8.1 Evidence of water-related data that was jointly gathered**	**2.8.1 The site voluntarily collects weather data for the Bureau of Meteorology. That data is used by a wide audience for planning and is available online.**
2.9 Gather additional, detailed water-related data: Gather additional data that goes beyond the core requirements with respect to the site or the catchment, or generate core data in highly data deficient environments, to further refine the site's understanding of its water stewardship context.	**2.9.1 Water-related data sets that go beyond core requirements – See Guidance for details**	**No assessed**
2.10 Review a formal study on future water resources scenarios: Gather detailed information that explores water usability (quantity and quality) under future scenarios (including extreme events, population and urbanization changes, economic development, possible climate change impact scenarios, and anticipated infrastructure needs) within the catchment and comment on the scenarios' impacts upon the site's growth strategy.	**2.10.1 Copy of a study that details projected future state conditions relative to current quantity and quality parameters and a comment on potential impacts upon the site's growth strategy**	**Not Assessed**
2.11 Conduct a detailed, indirect water use evaluation: Complete an advanced evaluation of indirect water use related to the site's primary products/services (including outsourced, downstream services) that identifies the location of water use within the site's supply chain and clarifies the site's ability to influence the management of its suppliers' water use.	**2.11.1 Detailed description of the site's water-related supply chain with indirect water use amounts (for water quantity and quality) and the site's engagement efforts to date for each**	**Not Assessed**
2.12 Understand groundwater status or environmental flows and the site's potential contributions: Gather data on either groundwater status or environmental flows and identify the site's potential contribution. In all cases, coordination with relevant government agencies is required.	**2.12.1 Conclusions about the site's potential contributions to groundwater recharge or environmental flows restoration**	**2.12.1 Relevant projects include:** • **RIT was one of the first irrigation providers in Australia to introduce drainage pipes to collect irrigation seepage and reduce land salinisation caused by rising groundwater tables. The earliest drainage works were built in the district in 1936.** • **RIT has entered into an agreement with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) to utilise RIT infrastructure in the off peak irrigation season for environmental watering purposes**

		• **Positive support of the weir pool manipulation programme involved in using environmental flows to mimic natural variations to support river systems health.**
2.13 Complete a voluntary Social Impact Assessment: Complete a voluntary Social Impact Assessment for the site, with a particular focus on water.	**2.13.1 Social impact assessment report**	**Not assessed**

Step 3 – PLAN

Step 3 focuses on how a site will improve its performance and the status of its catchment in terms of the AWS water stewardship outcomes. Step 3 needs to explicitly link the information gathered in Step 2 to the performance noted in Step 4 by describing who will be doing what and when. The monitoring methods in Step 5 should also reflect the plan.

Core criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Core Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
3.1 Develop a system that promotes and evaluates water-related legal compliance: Develop, or refer to, a system that promotes and periodically evaluates compliance with the legal and regulatory requirements identified in Criterion 2.3.	**3.1.1 Documented description of system, including the processes to evaluate compliance and the names of those responsible and accountable for legal compliance**	**3.1 The Water stewardship plan outlines RIT Water-Related Legal Compliance System and indicates the General Manager is responsible for Water-related compliance requirements.** **Obs 06/17 The compliance system is documented but the systems for review and update of legislation is not clear.**
3.2 Create a site water stewardship strategy and plan: Develop an internally available water stewardship strategy and plan for the site that addresses its shared water challenges, risks and opportunities identified in Step 2 and that contains the following components (see Guidance for plan template): A **strategy** that considers the shared water challenges within the catchment, water risks for the site (noting in particular where these are connected to existing public-sector agency catchment goals) and the site's general response (from Criteria 2.6 and 2.7) A**plan** that contains: • A list of targets (based upon Criterion 2.7) to be achieved, including how these will be measured and monitored. Note:	**3.2.1 Available water stewardship strategy** **3.2.2 Available plan that meets all component requirements and addresses site risks, opportunities and stakeholder shared water challenges**	**3.2.1 There is a published strategy in S3.3 of the site Plan.** **3.2.2 The Plan (S3.3) meets all the requirements except that to include a budget. Costs and benefits are described but these are not quantified.**

where identified as a shared water challenge, these targets must be continually improving for the four water stewardship outcomes until such time as best practice is achieved; • A list of annual actions that links to the list of targets; • A budget for the proposed actions with cost/benefit financial information (based, in part, upon financial data from 2.7); • An associated list indicating who will undertake the actions (i.e., who is responsible for carrying out the work) and who will ensure that the work is completed (i.e., who is accountable for achieving the target), including actions of other actors in the catchment; • A brief explanation that speaks to how the proposed actions will affect: (A) water-risk mitigation, (B) water stewardship outcomes and (C) shared water challenges.		
3.3 Demonstrate responsiveness and resilience to water-related risks into the site's incident response plan: Add to or modify the site's incident response plan to be both responsive and resilient to the water-related risks facing the site.	**3.3.1 A description of the site's efforts to be responsive and resilient to water-related issues and/or risks in an appropriate plan**	**3.3.1Since the site's product is water supply dependent on external regulation, there are relatively few issues or opportunities for responsiveness and resilience.** **Obs 06/17 regular maintenance of plant and equipment is an additional resilience measure not mentioned in the plan.**
3.4 Notify the relevant (catchment) authority of the site's water stewardship plans: Contact the appropriate catchment authority/agency (if any) and inform them of the site's plans to contribute to the water stewardship objectives of their catchment plan as identified in Criterion 2.3.	**3.4.1 Documented evidence of communicating the site's plan to the relevant catchment authority/agency**	**3.4.1** **The site has just completed the plan. The relevant authorities have all been involved with the development of the plan and the authorities on the reference group are aware of the contents.** **NCR 03/17 The finished plan has not been to formally consult with the authorities and how the objectives contribute to their catchment plan.**

Advanced criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Advanced Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
3.5 Gain stakeholder consensus on the site's water stewardship targets: Achieve a consensus amongst stakeholders around at least one of the site's targets to address shared water challenges.	**3.5.1 A list that indicates which targets achieved consensus along with a list of stakeholders involved**	

3.6 Develop a formal plan for climate change adaptation: In coordination with relevant public sector agencies and infrastructure management entities, develop a plan with detailed and explicit water-related adaptation strategies to mitigate risks of projected climate change impacts, including for shared water infrastructure.	**3.6.1 A set of plans that speak to the site's risk mitigation with respect to projected climate change impacts including for shared water infrastructure**	

Step 4 – IMPLEMENT

Step 4 is intended to ensure that the site is executing the plan outlined in Step 3, mitigating risks and driving actual improvements in performance.

Core criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Core Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
4.1 Comply with water-related legal and regulatory requirements and respect water rights: Meet all applicable legal and regulatory requirements related to water balance, water management and Important Water-Related Areas as well as water-related rights. As noted in Criteria 1.1 and 3.2, where, through its water use, the site is contributing to an inability to meet the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, the site must also continually work with relevant public sector agencies until this basic human right to water and sanitation is fulfilled.	**4.1.1 Documentation demonstrating compliance** **4.1.2 (Catchments with stakeholders who have an unmet human right to safe drinking water and sanitation) Documentation of efforts to work with relevant public sector agencies to fulfil human right to safe drinking water and sanitation.**	**4.1.1 The business of RIT revolves around legislative instruments and planning for water use in the Murray Darling basin and related sub catchments. Compliance to these regulations is required as a condition of doing business.** **There are listed in the Water Stewardship Plan "2.3.2 Catchment water-related legal and regulatory requirements"** **4.1.2 There are no unmet needs to safe drinking water and sanitation.**
4.2 Maintain or improve site water balance: Meet the site's water balance targets. As noted in Criterion 3.2., where water scarcity is a shared water challenge, the site must also continually decrease its water withdrawals until best practices are met and work with relevant public sector agencies to address the imbalance and shared water challenge. Note: if a site wishes to increase its water use in a water scarce context, the site must cause no overall increase in water scarcity in the catchment and depletion of the site's water source(s) and encourage relevant public sector agencies to address the unlawful water use contributing to the imbalance in the catchment.	**4.2.1 Measurement-based evidence showing that targets have been met** **4.2.2 (Water scarce catchments only) Evidence of continual decrease or best practice** **4.2.3 (Sites wishing to increase withdrawals in water scarce catchments only) Evidence of no net increase in water scarcity**	**4.2.1 There are several targets. The Department of Environment Water and Natural Resources (DEWNR) sets allocations based on current water ability (water balance). Data shared with the Department indicate if targets have been met.** **Evidence DEWNR report on water use dated 26th October 2017.** **RIT has delivery efficiency targets to irrigator clients (less than 5% loss). These are compared with other states via Australian Bureau of statistics (ABS) data on irrigation delivery targets.**

		Evidence: Annual report to Australian Customer and Consumer Commission (ACCC) Report dated 24th November 2017 from Barry Schier (General manager RIT) **4.2.2 RIT achieves best practice by delivering water via pipes rather than open channels and consequently has delivery efficiency targets to irrigator clients (less than 5% loss). These are compared with other states via Australian Bureau of statistics data on irrigation delivery targets.** **4.2.3 In the event of an increase in off take the management of allocations to all users and therefore the management of water scarcity is managed at part of the regulatory system**
4.3 Maintain or improve site water quality: Meet the site's water quality targets. As noted in Criterion 3.2., where water quality stress is a shared water challenge, the site must also continually improve its effluent for the parameters of concern until best practices are met and work with relevant public sector agencies to address the imbalance and shared water challenge. Note: if a site wishes to increase its water use in a water stressed context, the site must cause no overall increase in the degradation of water quality in the catchment and degradation of the site's water source(s) and encourage relevant public sector agencies to address the unlawful water use contributing to the degradation in the catchment.	**4.3.1 Measurement-based evidence showing that targets have been met** **4.3.2 (Water quality-stressed catchments only) Evidence of continual improvement or best practice** **4.3.3 (Sites wishing to increase effluent levels of water quality parameters of concern in water quality-stressed catchments only) Evidence of no net degradation in water quality in the catchment**	**4.3.1 The issue of water quality is managed by the regulator as part of salinity and pollution control schemes. RIT contributes with salinity monitoring and data.** **The site produces Nil effluent.** **4.3.2 RIT contribute to best practice salinity management programme of the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources and SA Water by operating a voluntary salt interception scheme that links to the programme through capture of saline groundwater.** **4.3.3 Increase in off take (allocation) has no impact on water quality.**
4.4 Maintain or improve the status of the site's Important Water-Related Areas: Meet the site's targets for Important Water-Related Areas at the site. As noted in Criterion 3.2., where Important Water-	**4.4.1 Documented evidence showing that targets have been met** **4.4.2 (Degraded Important Water-Related Area catchments only) Evidence of continual improvement or best practice**	**4.4.1 Under the agreement with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) there are objectives set in the**

Related Area degradation is a shared water challenge, the site must also continually improve its Important Water-Related efforts until best practices are met, and the site must not knowingly cause any further degradation of such areas on site.		**management guidelines dated August 2016.** **4.4.2 Monitoring will report by 30 June 2018 on the impact of these areas. Early indications are that these previously degraded IWRA are being improved significantly.** **Evidence: Site visit to Site 8 Johnsons Water Hole.** **Obs 07/17 .Results of monitoring when available could form part of the Water Stewardship Plan.**
4.5 Participate positively in catchment governance: Continually coordinate and cooperate with any relevant catchment management authorities' efforts. As noted in Criterion 3.2, where water governance is a shared water challenge, the site must also continually improve its efforts until best practices are met.	**4.5.1 Documented evidence of the site's ongoing efforts to contribute to good catchment governance** **4.5.2 (Weak water governance catchments only) Evidence of continual improvement or best practice**	**4.5.1 Ongoing efforts to contribute to catchment governance is part of the regulatory requirements on the business (the Murray darling Basin Authority and the SA NRM and DEWNR requirements).** **Additional evidence is RIT membership of the NRM Board, River Murray Advisory Committee and the South Australian Weir pool manipulation advisory committee.** **Obs nn/17 RIT membership of the River Murray and South Australian Weir Pool Advisory Committees could be included in the site Plan.**
4.6 Maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment: Contact the site's primary product suppliers and water-related service providers located in the catchment and request that they take actions to help contribute to the desired water stewardship outcomes.	**4.6.1 List of suppliers and service providers, along with the actions they have taken as a result of the site's engagement relating to indirect water use**	**4.6.1 The site has no outsourced suppliers except for the production of energy and water supply to the site.** **The indirect water use in energy production can be significant but varies according to the means of production. No efforts have been made to reach out to energy providers on water use.** **The indirect water use associated with the water supply (e.g. transmission loss upstream) is complex due to the large scale of the Murray Darling basin and the range of**

		regulatory arrangements and types of commercial use. **Obs 08/17 RIT should approach energy suppliers to ask what they are doing in terms of the 4 water stewardship principles.**
4.7 Provide access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene awareness (WASH) for workers on-site: Ensure appropriate access to safe water, effective sanitation and protective hygiene for all workers in all premises under the site's control.	**4.7.1 List of actions taken to provide workers access to safe water, effective sanitation and protective hygiene (WASH) on-site**	**4.7.1 Office sites have safe water and sanitation and protective Hygiene on site.** **Evidence: observed on site tour.**
4.8 Notify the owners of shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns: Contact the owners of shared water-related infrastructure and actively highlight any concerns the site may have in light of its risks and shared water challenges.	**4.8.1 List of individuals contacted and key messages relayed**	**4.8.1 There is no shared water infrastructure. All plant equipment and installations are owned by RIT.** **Evidence: 2 schematic plans viewed on site showing all Pumps, Drainage, Irrigation pipes and other structures. Plans dated 22 November 2017.**

Advanced criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Advanced Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
4.9 Achieve best practice results on site water balance: Achieve best practice results with respect to the site's water balance targets as informed by stakeholder consensus or industryspecific benchmarks.	**4.9.1 Quantified improvement in water balance from site-set baseline date** **4.9.2 Evidence showing that actions meet best practice expectations**	**4.9.1 RIT has delivery efficiency targets to irrigator clients (less than 5% loss). These are compared with other states via Australian Bureau of statistics data on irrigation delivery targets showing the South Australia region as best practice at 10% state average. The baseline date is not specified but relates to long term use of a piped delivery system.** **4.9.2: ABS data on Water Distribution losses for South Australia indicate water losses at 10%. . RIT's own losses is 3% (target 5% or less) as reported to ACCC and DEWNR. However the site has not demonstrated a consensus among stakeholders that this constitutes best practice (see guidance).**

4.10 Achieve best practice results on site water quality: Achieve best practice results with respect to the site's water quality targets as informed by stakeholder consensus or industry-specific benchmarks.	**4.10.1 Quantified improvement in water quality from site-set baseline date** **4.10.2 Evidence showing that actions meet best practice expectations**	**Not assessed.** **The site has no influence on water quality and there is no effluent.**
4.11 Achieve best practice results on Important Water-Related Areas through restoration: Achieve best practice results with respect to the site's Important Water-Related targets and complete restoration of non-functioning or severely degraded Important Water-Related Areas as informed by stakeholder consensus or credible expert opinion.	**4.11.1 Evidence of completed restoration of non-functioning or severely degraded Important WaterRelated Areas** **4.11.2 Evidence showing that actions meet best practice expectations**	**4.11.1 RIT has entered into an agreement with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) to utilise RIT infrastructure in the off peak irrigation season for environmental watering purposes, environmental watering can rehabilitate areas affected by salt from rising groundwater levels, increase abundance of vegetation and native fish populations, and promote sustainability in the Renmark irrigation district** **This partnership is the first of its kind between the CEWH and an irrigation water provider.** **4.11.2 The requirement is met.** **Evidence:** • **Commonwealth Environmental watering partnership.** • **Public Brochure showing Before and After photographs on 3 sites.** • **Site visit to site 8 Johnsons waterhole.** • **Certificate (award) from Nature Foundation SA, to RIT as a "Water for Nature Champion" November 2017.**
4.12 Achieve best practice results and strengthen capacity in water governance: Achieve best practice results with respect to the site's water governance targets, including transparently strengthening governance capacity, as informed by stakeholder consensus and public-sector leadership recognition.	**4.12.1 List of efforts to positively engage and strengthen water governance capacity from a site-set baseline date** **4.12.2 Evidence showing that actions meet best practice expectations**	**Not assessed**
4.13 Advance regionally specific industrial water-related benchmarking: Contribute to or participate in the development of regionally specific industrial water-related benchmarking and spreading best practices.	**4.13.1 List of efforts to contribute to regionally specific benchmarking and spread best practices**	**4.13.1 The site contributes to ABS water waste benchmarking data but this does not extend to engagement with other industry players and the spread of best practice (e.g. by engagement with other**

		irrigation trusts). The requirement is not met.
4.14 Re-allocate saved water for social or environmental needs: Ensure that any water saved by the site's actions under 4.2 is voluntarily re-allocated for social or environmental purposes that are recognized needs in the catchment.	**4.14.1 Total volume of water officially re-allocated for social and environmental needs (in m3 or Mm3)** **4.14.2 Documentation of legal contracts for the reallocation of water to social or environmental needs**	**4.14.1 In the period 2009-2017 reductions in water off take due to Infrastructure efficiency, on farm efficiency and irrigator exit packages returned an additional 10.4 Giga Litres to the environment.** **4.14.2 Contracts that resulted in this additional water were:** • **39 Irrigators exit the industry and surrendered 2.4 GL under contract to the Government.** • **52 irrigators implemented on farm efficiency under contract to Government and surrendered 3.1 GL** • **RIT under contract to Government implemented infrastructure efficiency and surrendered 4.9 GL Evidence: Deed of grant with RIT and the Minister of Agriculture and Food and Fisheries dated 12th August 2015.**
4.15 Engage in collective action to address shared water challenges: Work with other interested entities in the catchment to advance or improve water stewardship outcomes. For the additional recognition (6 points), quantifiably improve the shared water challenge and be recognized by stakeholders as having played a material role in the improvement.	**4.15.1 List of collective action efforts, including a description of the role played by the site** **4.15.2 Quantified improvement in outcome(s) or shared water challenge(s) from site-set baseline date** **4.15.3 (For extra points only) Stakeholder-based evidence recognizing that the site played a material role in the improvement**	**4.15.1 Participation in the weirs manipulation initiative.** **Participation in an environmental watering forum.** **Worked with the Renmark Environment Committee to rehabilitate BookMark creek as part of the SEE Renmark 2024 plan.** **4.15.2 Not yet commenced** **4.15.3 Not yet commenced**
4.16 Drive reduced indirect water use throughout the site's supply chain and outsourced water-related service providers: Contact the site's primary product suppliers and water-related service providers located outside the site's catchment and request they take actions to help contribute to the desired water stewardship outcomes in their catchments. For the additional recognition (2 points), quantify the improvements that the site's intervention	**4.16.1 List of suppliers with details on engagement efforts** **4.16.2 Quantified improvement by the supplier as a result of this engagement** **4.16.3 (For extra points only) Supplier-based evidence recognizing that the site played a material role in prompting the change**	**Not assessed**

generated and be recognized by the site's supplier as having played a material role in prompting that improvement.		
4.17 Complete implementation of water-related initiatives: Complete implementation of one or more of the initiatives committed to in 1.4.	**4.17.1 Appropriate documentation or evidence of completion of initiative**	**4.17.1 Environmental watering is ongoing.** **SARMS 3IP (infrastructure improvement).** **Evidence: Final report acknowledgement From Rural Solutions SA (Government of SA) date 16 November 2017.** **Bookmark Creek**
4.18 Provide access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene awareness offsite: In coordination with relevant public authorities, directly assist in the provision of appropriate access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene awareness for individuals off-site within the catchment.	**4.18.1 List of actions taken to provide catchment stakeholders with access to off-site access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene awareness.**	Not assessed.

Step 5 – EVALUATE

Step 5 is intended to review performance against the actions taken in Step 4, learn from the outcomes – both intended and unintended – and inform the next iteration of the site's water stewardship plan. The expectation is that such an evaluation takes place at least annually, with more frequent evaluation encouraged as feasible.

Core criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Core Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
5.1 Evaluate the site's water stewardship performance, risks and benefits in the catchment context: Periodically review the site's performance in light of its actions and targets from its water stewardship plan to evaluate: • General performance in terms of the water stewardship outcomes (considering context and water risks), positive contributions to the catchment, and water-related costs and benefits to the site.	**5.1.1 Post-implementation data and narrative discussion of performance and context (including water risk)** **5.1.2 Total amount of water-related costs, cost savings and value creation for the site based upon the actions outlined in 3.2 (drawn from data gathered in 2.4.6)** **5.1.3 Updated data for indicator 2.4.7 on catchment shared value creation based upon the actions outlined in 3.2**	**5.1.1 The evaluation of the sites water use is part of the annual regulatory process that sets allocations.** **Water risks are outlined in the Water Stewardship plan but these have yet to be formally reviewed since the plan is new.** **Obs09/17 At a review period stated in the plan the post implementation performance data and update of water risk needs to be considered.** **5.1.2 Water related costs and cost savings are shown in the annual report but there is no review of social and environmental benefits/shared value creation (see also NCR 02/17)**

		5.1.3 Shared value creations are outlined in the Water Stewardship plan but these have yet to be formally reviewed since the plan is new. **Obs10/17 At a review period stated in the plan the post implementation performance data and update of shared value creation needs to be considered.** **Comment: Indicator 2.4.7 referenced in indicator 5.1.3 does not exist. For the purpose of the audit it is assumed to mean 2.4.6.**
5.2 Evaluate water-related emergency incidents and extreme events: Evaluate impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine effectiveness of corrective and preventive measures. Factor lessons learned into updated plan.	**5.2.1 Documented evidence (e.g., annual review and proposed measures)**	**5.2.1 The incident response plan is detailed in the Water Stewardship Plan and notes that no water related emergencies have occurred.** **Historical events indicate that reviews of emergency events (when they occur) are in place e.g. 1956 post flood committee).**
5.3 Consult stakeholders on water-related performance: Request input from the site's stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance and factor the feedback/lessons learned into the updated plan.	**5.3.1 Commentary by the identified stakeholders**	**5.3.1 The current version of the plan has just been implemented.** **The first consultation is 30th November 2017.** **Obs11/17 RIT may consider a stakeholder engagement strategy including incorporating stakeholder feedback into the updated plan.**
5.4 Update water stewardship and incident response plans: Incorporate the information obtained into the next iteration of the site's water stewardship plan. Note: updating does not apply for initial round of Standard implementation.	**5.4.1 Modifications to water stewardship and incident response plans incorporating relevant information**	**5.4.1 The incident response plan is detailed in the water stewardship plan and notes that no water related emergencies have occurred.** **The plan is new so has not yet been reviewed and updated** **Obs 12/17 at a review period stated in the plan water related emergencies that have occurred needs to be considered.**

Advanced criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Advanced Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
5.5 Conduct an executive or governance body-level review of water stewardship efforts: Review the site's water stewardship performance, impacts and risks with either the organization's executive team (CEO/CFO or equivalent) or board (or equivalent).	**5.5.1 Agenda and minutes of executive team or governance body meeting noting water stewardship discussion**	**5.5.1 Not assessed.** **The plan has been approved by the Board but the site's Water Stewardship performance, impacts and risks not yet reviewed and reported to the board.**
5.6 Conduct a formal stakeholder evaluation: Undertake a formal review with the site's stakeholders on the site's efforts to address shared water challenges. This includes reviewing the site's contributions to maintaining good governance, adequate flows for all needs, good water quality status and functioning Important Water-Related Areas, and soliciting suggestions for continuous improvement.	**5.6.1 Documentation of formal stakeholder evaluation with recommendations for updated Criterion 3.5**	**Not assessed.** **The pilot group exists but have not yet been part of a review.**

Step 6 – COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE

Step 6 is intended to encourage transparency and accountability through communication of performance relative to commitments, policies and plans. Disclosure allows others to make informed decisions on a site's operations and tailor their involvement to suit.

Core criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Core Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
6.1 Disclose water-related internal governance: Publicly disclose the general governance structure of the site's management, including the names of those accountable for legal compliance with water-related laws and regulations.	**6.1.1 Disclosed and publicly available summary of governance at the site, including those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations**	**6.1.1 The Governance of RIT is prescribed by its own legislation, The "Renmark Irrigation Trust Act" SA. This says *The trust will appoint on Board of management of the trust to carry out the day to day operations of the trust and manage its affairs.*** **The annual report 2016-17 shows the current responsible directors and an organisational chart.** **Board minutes dated 31 October 2016 says that the Board is the governing body for water stewardship.** **Obs13/17 The Governance structure including the RIT Act should be part of the Water Stewardship Plan or some other public document.**
6.2 Disclose annual site water stewardship performance: Disclose the relevant information about the site's annual water stewardship performance,	**6.2.1 Disclosed summary of site's water stewardship results**	**6.2.1 A portion of the relevant results, e.g. water balance, are disclosed as part of the regulatory planning process leading to water allocations. There is evidence of disclosure of results in restoring IWRA e.g. as part of the environmental performance.**

including results against the site's targets.		**As part of the healthy rivers roadshow some results were disclosed to a wide audience see https://www.acf.org.au/healthy_rivers_roadshow** **This was also presented in the SA parliament and is recorded in Hansard.** **However, the programme has not completed a full year yet so annual performance reporting is not yet possible.** **Obs14/17 RIT may consider a strategy to annually disclose the relevant information about the site's annual water stewardship performance, including results against the site's targets.**
6.3 Disclose efforts to address shared water challenges: Publicly disclose the site's shared water challenges and report on the site's efforts to help address these challenges, including all efforts to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies.	**6.3.1 Disclosed and publicly available description of shared challenges and summary of actions taken to engage stakeholders (including public-sector agencies)**	**6.3.1 This has been circulated to a wide group of stakeholders in an initial form and this is also disclosed in the Water Stewardship Plan.** **Evidence: email dated 7th November to indigenous stakeholders.** **Obs 15/17 The site could consider a strategy to annually disclose/describe shared challenges and a summary of actions taken to engage stakeholders (including public-sector agencies).**
6.4 Drive 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. Note: any site-based violation that can pose an immediate material threat to human or ecosystem health from use of or exposure to site-related water must be reported immediately to relevant public agencies.	**6.4.1 Available list of water-related compliance violations with corresponding corrective actions**	**6.4.1 There have been no water related violations reported.** **If any noncompliance was recorded it would constitute a violation of statute including the Renmark Irrigation Trust Act 2009 and would be made public.**
6.5 Increase awareness of water issues within the site: Strive to raise the understanding of the importance of water issues at the site through active communications.	**6.5.1 Record of awareness efforts (dates and communication) and, if possible, level of awareness**	**6.5.1 As a provider of irrigation water and services ALL communication are about water and water related matters.** **Comment** **The guidance on this is poor. The stated intent is to 'broaden the appreciation of water issues to staff' but the statement of what MUST also happen includes referencing at least one of the 4 WS outcomes.**

Advanced criteria

Note: the guidance notes in the AWS standard should be used in evaluating compliance to the criterion and indicators.

Advanced Criteria	Indicators	Response Area
6.6 Disclose water risks to owners (in alignment with recognized disclosure frameworks): Disclose the site's material water risks to owners with additional recognition if it	**6.6.1 Written evidence of site-based material water risk information conveyed to owners** **6.6.2 (For extra points only) Disclosure to owners in a format that is consistent with the**	**Not assessed the trust is an entity in its own right with no ownership structure.**

is done according to a recognized global disclosure framework.	**requirements of a recognized disclosure framework**	**Comment This could be assessed. Under the guidance the owner for this site is its governance body. the guidance unclear.**
6.7 Implement a programme for water education: Implement a water education programme within the catchment to raise awareness and understanding of water stewardship issues and practices.	**6.7.1 Description of water-related education programme**	**6.7.1 As part of the on farm efficiency programme, RIT has promoted water issues and provided resources to members.** **There have been internal meetings on the Environmental watering programme.** **AWS Asia Pacific were invited to speak to the AGM.**
6.8 Discuss site-level water stewardship in the organization's annual report: Explicitly mention the site's efforts to implement AWS in its organization's annual report, including referencing the benefits to the site and stakeholders.	**6.8.1 Page number of annual report containing site based AWS reference**	**Not assessed.** **There are plans to do this at the next annual report.**

END OF REPORT

Annex A. Plan for Next AWS Audit

Audit type:	Survellance
Standard:	The AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Version V1.0 April 8th 2014
Audit location:	Renmark SA
Audit date(s):	October 2018
Audit team:	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.

Time	Areas for Consideration e.g. Business area / Process/ Project	Auditor(s)
	Opening Meeting	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	Opening Meeting	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	(Re) Confirmation of scope of certification – use of advanced criteria (if any)	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	Management System Requirements - Procedures, Management Representative, Document Control	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	COMMIT General 1.1 – 1.2 Advanced 1.3 – 1.6	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	GATHER AND UNDERSTAND General 2.1 – 2.7 Advanced 2.8 – 2.13	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	PLAN General 3.1 – 3.4 Advanced 3.5 – 3.6	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	IMPLEMENT General 4.1 – 4.8 Advanced 4.9 – 4.18	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	EVALUATE – Evaluate the site's performance	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local

		auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	(Re) Confirmation of scope of certification – use of advanced criteria (if any)	Rod Knight Lead Auditor, Kevin OGrady Local auditor, Julian Whiting Catchment expert.
	Closing Meeting	