

Alliance for Water Stewardship Assessment Report

Prepared for SOCIEDAD AGROPECUARIA PIMOCHA C.A. – SAPICA

Prepared by: SGS SGS Ref.: PE-WAT 038 Version: 2 Date: 15/01/2020

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WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

REPORT DETAILS

REFERENCE	AWS REFERENCE: AWS-000181				
CERTIFICATE No					
REPORT TITLE	ALLIANCE FOR WATER STEWARDSHIP ASSESSMENT REPORT				
DATE SUBMITTED:	December 04-05 th , 2019				
CLIENT:	Sociedad Agropecuaria Pimocha S.A. – SAPICA – ELBA FARM Site 01: Elba Farm: Field and Packaging Plant Km. 8.5 Vía Babahoyo – San Juan, entrando por Sector Cuatro Varas - Babahoyo - Los Ríos – Ecuador				
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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The scope of services covers the conformity assessment in compliance with the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Standard Version 2.0 for Sociedad Agropecuaria Pimocha S.A. – SAPICA – ELBA FARM stated at Site 01: Elba Farm: Field and Packaging Plant located in Km. 8.5 Vía Babahoyo – San Juan, entrando por Sector Cuatro Varas - Babahoyo - Los Ríos – Ecuador The assessment has been completed in compliance with AWS Certification requirements, Version 2, March 2019.

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The Scope reviewed was:

- Campo y Planta Empacadora. Cultivo y empaque en cajas de Banano convencional para exportación
- Field and packing plant. Cultivation and packaging in conventional banana boxes for export

Given the document review undertaken, verification of evidence and site visit inspections performed, SGS recommends that Sociedad Agropecuaria Pimocha S.A. – SAPICA – ELBA FARM is awarded AWS Core Certified status with a surveillance audit interval of annual frequency.

A total of 08 minor non-conformances were raised during the course of the audit process. Sociedad Agropecuaria Pimocha S.A. – SAPICA – ELBA FARM responded to the findings raised with appropriate root cause analysis and action plans as evidence for each, so the certification could be granted. The actions for the minor non-conformities taken will be followedup at the first annual surveillance visit.

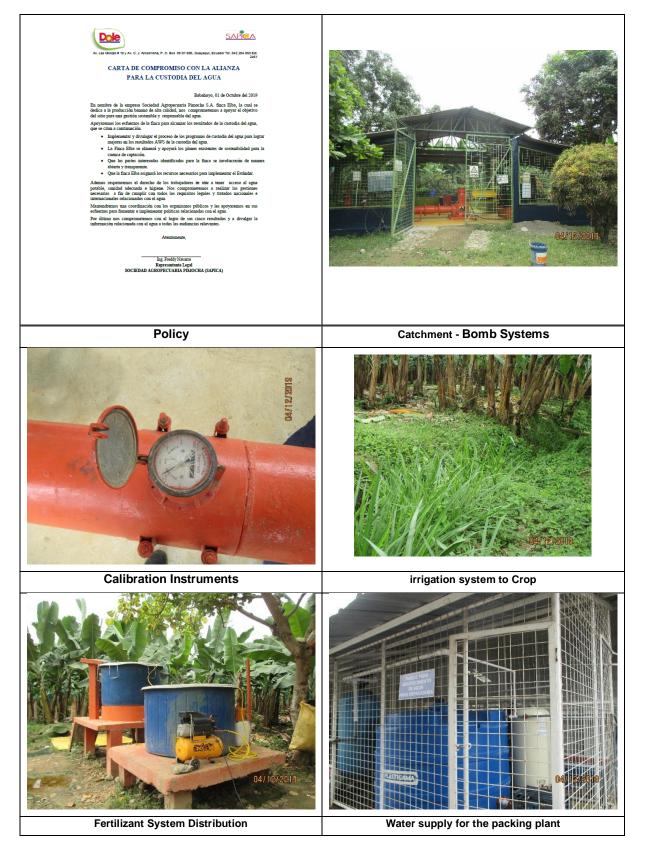
2 SCOPE OF ASSESSMENT

The scope of services covers the conformity assessment in compliance with the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Standard Version 2. The assessment has been completed in compliance with AWS Certification requirements, Version 2, March 2019. The assessment was conducted during into 2 man-days, from the 04th y 05th december, 2019. The geographical scope has been Field and packing plant; include Adminsitrative Office.

Figure 2.1: Map of Location of SAPICA



Table 2.1: Photos Visit







3 DESCRIPTION OF CATCHMENT

Finca ELBA, is located at kilometer 8.5 via Babahoyo- San Juan, entering through sector Cuatro Varas of the canton Babahoyo belonging to the province of Los Ríos in the Republic of Ecuador with 324 hectares dedicated to the cultivation and production of conventional bananas of the Cavendish variety

The farm uses water resources from the Guayas River basin, Rio Babahoyo subseasquent and aquifer -Babahoyo- Ventanas, is currently used for irrigation and packaging of water of underground origin.

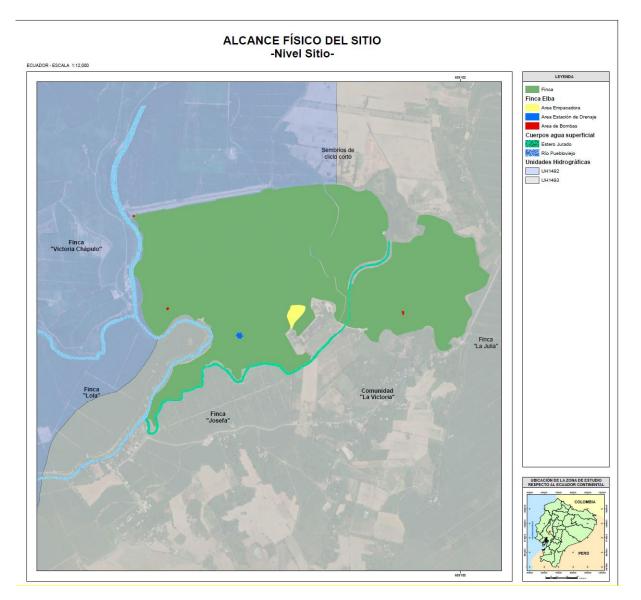


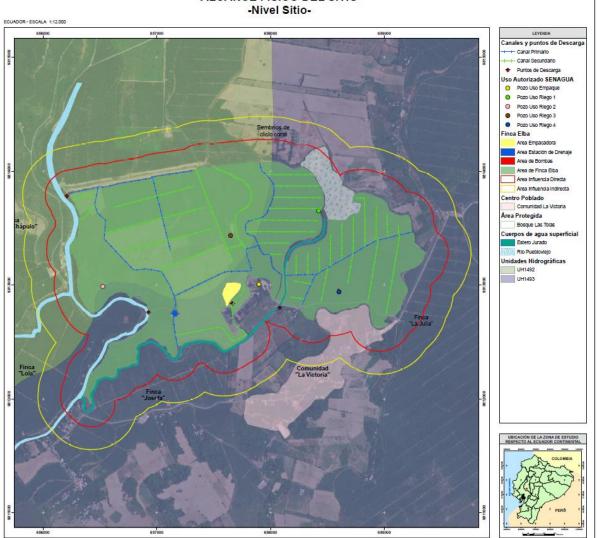
Figure 3.2 Map of Site

The site is located in the taura river watershed, with a distributed water network of the Bulubulu rivers, Pueblo Viejo river in the northern part of the basin and in the central part of the basin

with minor drains such as small rivers and Esros that drain the waters until the Taura River reaches.

In addition, it can be noted that groundwater is influenced by the waters coming from the Aquifer Milagro- Naranjito where it is noted that it is linked to alluvial deposits consisting of gravel and sands.

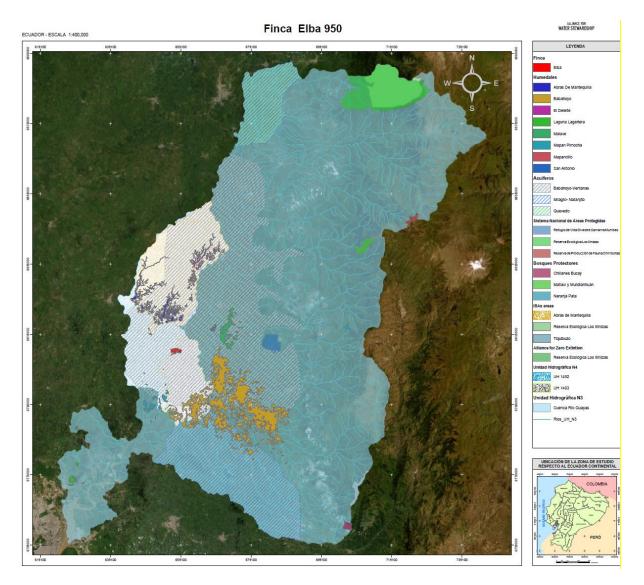
Figure 3.2 Map of Catchment



ALCANCE FÍSICO DEL SITIO

A buffer has been defined that are affected and/or benefited by the operations of the Encarnación estate with a radius of 200 meters according to the guidelines of the environmental licenses issued for the banana industry and in the guidelines technical guidance for the definition of areas of influence of the Under-Secretary for Environmental Quality-SCA of the Ministry of Environment

Figure 3.3 Influence Area



For the irrigation process 4 deep wells have been built, with an authorized volume by SENAGUA

The infraestructure consists of 46 irrigation modules distributed in five farms and this is controlled with the help of a flow meter with daily readings in application.

The water used for process activities is supplied with 1 source of groundwater from a 60-meter deep well for the extraction of water from the Babahoyo-Windows Aquifer according to studies of the Polytechnic School of the Littoral (ESPOL). For fruit processing, 2 vats have been built for the fruit process

For domestic activities, groundwater from the packer is extracted from the packer

There has a 3 discharge points per gravity of water resulting from surface runoff in rainy season have been identified which are transported by secondary channels. In addition, it has 1 point of discharge of the process water resulting from the processing of the fruit during the week the mimas that are discharged into the torrent of the Estero Jurado.

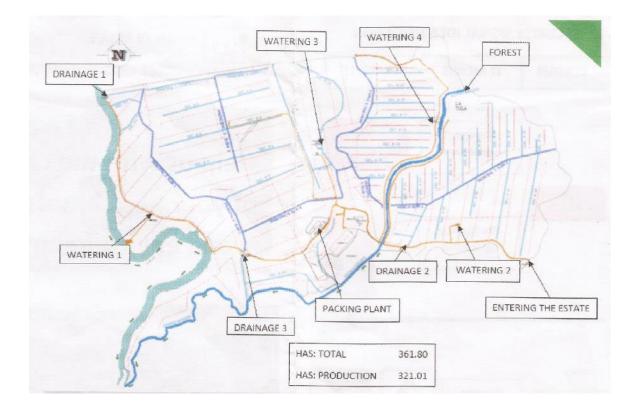


Figure 3.4 Water sources and effluent discharge points

4 SUMMARY OF SHARED WATER CHALLENGES

They has identified the shared water challenges and prepared the document "Identification of relevant actors and issues" which details the water challenges being mainly:

- Granting of concessions for the use of the resource.
- Good channel water quality
- Possible floods.
- Available water for irrigation and industrial process. Permanent availability of the resource for agricultural use in the sector
- Problems in the bad management of wastewater Water supply for domestic use.

5 INDICATORS CHECKLIST

The checklist was aligned to the clauses / indicators of the AWS standard Version 2.0.

- 1. Promote spaces for dialogue with stakeholders at the basin level in the area of direct and indirect influence.
- 2. Conserve the water resource used during fruit processing with recirculating systems
- 3. Avoid eutrophication contamination of surface water bodies by applied fertilizers.
- 4. Conserve the water used resource during irrigation
- 5. Reduce the risk of farm flooding
- 6. Avoid contamination of aquifers that are influenced by the farm.
- 1. Raise awareness of the water quality issues of the workers and communities identified in the catch area.
- 7. Reduce air spray pollution
- 8. Maintain a good water quality for human consumption for all workers on the farm.
- 9. Identify the relevant water needs referred by stakeholders
- 10. Keep WASH services available within the estate's instlations

January 15, 2020

6 AUDIT FINDINGS

The findings raised during the audit were provided to SOCIEDAD AGROPECUARIA PIMOCHA S.A. – SAPICA, who responded afterwards to the findings through an action plan sent to SGS for review. Once the action plan was approved by the Lead Auditor the reports were then reviewed by the Certifier.

Relating to this Audit

As a result, 08 minor non-conformances were raised during the audit process detailed at the Table below 6.1. Some observations were raised during the audit which are for future improvement, but no action is necessary during this audit period, however, these issues would most likely come under scrutiny during a surveillance audit scenario.

No.	Туре	Ref.	Details	Causes	Action Proposed by Client
1	Minor Non- Conformance	1.1.1	The standard indicates that the physical scope of the site, basin, or basins that the site affects and depends on to obtain water will be mapped. The organization has set Location Maps for the boundary description. However; during the review; you can't find a description of the Babahoyos aquefero to which it belongs. The organization indicates that no information is available. It should be noted; that neither such gaps have been identified as challenges or challenges to be taken with an Action Plan in the management system. El estándar señala que se mapeará el alcance físico del sitio, cuenca o cuencas a las que afecta el sitio y de las que depende para obtener agua. La organización ha establecido Mapas de ubicación para la descripción de los límites. Sin embargo; durante la revisión; no se encuentra descripción de el acufero Babahoyos al que pertenece. Se indica que no hay información disponible. Cabe señalar; que tampoco dichas brechas se han identificado como desafios o retos para ser tomados con un Plan de acción en el sistema de gestión.	The methodology for identifying catchment(s) and pipe network is not standardized No se tiene estandarizada la metodología para identificación cuenca y la infrastreuctura	 Ask Senagua for information from the underground fountain "Windows - Babahoyo" if it feeds the water wells used by the farm. Ask the Prefecture of Los Rios for information from the underground fountain "Windows - Babahoyo" if it is the one that feeds the water wells used by the farm. Add the need to be clear about the underground source that feeds the water wells of the Elba estate in the shared water challenges criterion 1.6.1 Solicitar a Senagua información de la fuente subterranea "Ventanas - Babahoyo" si es la que alimenta a los pozos de agua que utiliza la finca. Solicitar a la Prefectura de Los Rios información de la fuente subterranea "Ventanas - Babahoyo" si es la que alimenta a los pozos de agua que utiliza la finca. Añadir la necesidad de tener claro la fuente subterranea que alimenta a los pozos de agua de la finca Elba en los desafios compartidos en materia de agua criterio 1.6.1
2	Minor Non- Conformance	1.2.1	Stakeholders The standard states that "stakeholders and their water-related challenges will be identified. The process used for stakeholder identification will be identified." During the audit; although some relevant stakeholders such as the authorities have identified; community etc; it cannot be evidenced that methodology has been used to identify relevant issues. Partes Interesadas	The methodology for identifying stakeholders, their challenges / relevant issues is not standardized No se tiene estandarizada la metodología para identificación de partes interesadas y sus desafíos / temas relevantes	 Establish the methodology for identifying stakeholders including vulnerable groups, women, minorities and indigenous peoples. This subjectology will establish the area of influence for the identification of these stakeholders. Establecer la metodología para la identificación de partes interesadas donde se incluiran los grupos vulnerables, las mujeres, las minorías y pueblos indígenas.

Table 6.1. Current Minor Non-Conformances raised during the AWS audit process

			El estándar establece que "se identificarán las partes interesadas y sus desafíos relacionados con el agua. Se identificará el proceso utilizado para la identificación de las partes interesadas". Durante la auditoría; si bien se tiene identificadas algunas partes interesadas relevantes como las autoridades; comunidad etc; no se puede evidenciar que metodología se ha utilizado para identificar los temas relevantes.		 En esta metología se establecerá el área de influencia para la identificacion de estas partes interesadas.
3	Minor Non- Conformance	1.3.2.	Site water balance The standard states that "the water balance of the site, including inputs, losses, storage and outputs, will be identified and mapped." With respect to the water balance of the site, some partial deviations are evident in the data presented. • The percentage of moisture in the fruit has not been considered in the balance • It is observe that runoff has negative values Equilibrio del agua del sitio El estándar establece que "se identificará y mapeará el equilibrio hídrico del sitio, incluidas las entradas, perdidas, almacenamiento y salidas". Con respecto al balance hídrico del sitio, se evidencian algunas desviaciones parciales en la data presentada. • No se ha considerado en el balance el porcentaje de humedad de la fruta • Se evidencia que la escorrentia tiene valores negativos	The entire balance was not considered to add zero to the spreadsheet No se consideró que todo el balance debia sumar cero en la hoja de calculo	 Adapt the water balance spreadsheet to see all the variables of inflows, losses, storage and water outlets. Incorporating the % moisture of the fruit. Review of water balance calculation methodology, appropriate to the reality of the farm. To support for example: because the farm has negative values in runoff in a given period of time. Adecuar la hoja de calculo del Balance hídrico para que contemple todas las variables de entradas, perdidas, almacenamiento y salidas de agua. Incorporando el % humedad de la fruta. Revisión de metodología de calculo del balance hídrico, adecuado a la realidad de la finca. Para soportar por ejemplo: por que la finca presenta valores negativos en escorrentia en un periodo de tiempo determinado.
4	Minor Non- Conformance	1.5.2	Identifying legal requirements The Standard establishes "identify applicable legal and regulatory requirements related to water, including water rights defined and/or verified by interested parties". The organization has a detail where it has described the applicable legal requirements; however, this detail does not identify the following legal and regulatory requirements: — Book VI – Annex 1 – Environmental quality and effluent discharge standard: water resource. — Applicable ordinances determined by the Municipality of Pueblo Viejo. Despite this, the organization knows them and their compliance is evidenced. Identificación de requisitos legales EI Estándar establece "identificar los requisitos legales gales y reglamentarios aplicables relacionados con el agua, incluidos los derechos de agua definidos y / o verificados por las partes interesadas". La organización cuenta con un detalle en donde ha descrito los requisitos legales aplicables; sin embargo este detalle no identifica los siguientes requisitos legales y reglamentarios: — Libro VI – Anexo 1 – Norma de calidad ambiental y descarga de efluentes: <	Periodic update of matrix was not defined No se tenia definido la actualizacion periodica de lamatrix	 Collect the following regulations: Book VI - Annex 1 - Environmental quality and effluent discharge standard: water resource. Applicable ordinance determined by the Municipality of Puebloviejo." Update the matrix of legal requirements Recopilar la normativa siguiente: Libro VI - Anexo 1 - Norma de calidad ambiental y descarga de efluentes: recurso agua. Ordenanza aplicables determinados por la Municipalidad de Puebloviejo." Actualizar la matriz de requisitos legales

			A pesar de ello, la organización las conoce y se evidencia su cumplimiento.		
5	Minor Non- conformities	1.5.3	The Standard indicates that the water balance of the basin and, where appropriate, scarcity, indicating annual and, where appropriate, seasonal variance, will be quantified. A Hydrologic study of the 2015 basin is available; however, there is no evidence whether or not there is water scarcity (hydro stress) with respect to the Aquefero BabaHoyos. Such lack of information has not been seen as a challenge, risk or relevant issue La norma indica que se cuantificará el equilibrio hídrico de la cuenca y, cuando proceda, la escasez, con indicación de la varianza anual y, en su caso, estacional. Se tiene un estudio Hidrológico de la cuenca del 2015; sin embago, no se tiene evidencia si hay o no escasez de agua (stress hídrico) con respecto al Acufero BabaHoyos. Dicha falta de información no se ha contemplado como desafío, riesgo o tema relevante	No information is available from such data from water availability projections. The nearby authorities do not have access to data. No se tiene información disponible de dicha data de proyecciones de disponibilidad de agua. Las autoridades cercanas no tienen acceso a data.	 Consult the authority of the Guayas River river demarcation on the water stress levels of the basin. Add the need to be clear about the hydro estres of the basin in the shared water challenges criterion 1.6.1. Consultar a la autoridad de la demarcación hidrográfica del Río Guayas sobre los niveles de estrés hídrico que tiene la cuenca. Añadir la necesidad de tener claro el estres hidrico de la cuenca en los desafios compartidos en materia de agua criterio 1.6.1.
6	Minor Non- Conformance	1.8.1	The standard indicates that best practices relevant to water governance in the basin will be identified. However; you have a "best practices" document, but this is focused on proposals for action with respect to challenges; but not the best practices in the 5 outcomes for the agricultural sector. La norma indica que se identificarán las mejores prácticas pertinentes para la gobernanza del agua en la cuenca. Sin embargo; se tiene un documento de "mejores practicas" pero ello va enfoncado en propuestas de acción con respecto a los desafios; mas no las mejores practicas en los 5 outcomes para el sector agrícola.	It was not clear the concepts of the best practices was focused on the sector No se tenia claro los conceptos de las mejores practicas era enfocado al sector	Complement the document of best practices determined at the basin level also considering what applies to Elba farm in governance issues. Complementar el documento de mejores practicas determinadas a nivel cuenca considerando además lo que se aplica a finca Elba en temas de gobernanzas.
7	Minor Non- Conformance	2.3.2	The standard indicates that a sustainable water management plan will be identified, including for each objective: - How it will be measured and monitored; - Measures to achieve and maintain it (or overcome it); - The deadlines for achieving this;- The financial budgets allocated to the actions;- - The positions of those responsible for actions and the achievement of the objectives You have a "Water Custody Plan". However, you have the goals set; are actions but not the way to measure those goals. Case: • Objective: Reduce risk of flooding. Goal Develop a plan for infrastructure conditions. Actions: Design the plan. La norma indica que se identificará un plan de gestión sostenible del agua, que incluirá para cada objetivo: - La forma en que se medirá y supervisará; - Las medidas para lograrlo y mantenerlo (o superarlo);	Confusion in the drafting of the goals, I do not align with other objectives already edified by the organization in the strategic plans or the WWF Confusión en la redacción de las metas, No se alinieo con otros objetivos ya estabelcidos por la organizacion en los planes estratégicos o de la WWF	 Modify the objectives of the water custody plan for the site. Set the goals to be achieved for each goal set out in the site's water custody plan Establish the actions to be taken to achieve the goals set for each goal in the site's water custody plan Modificar los objetivos del plan de custodia de agua para el sitio. Establecer las metas a lograr para cada objetivo planteado en el plan de custodia de agua del sitio Establecer las acciones a ejecutar para lograr cumplimiento de las metas planteadas para cada objetivo en el plan de custodia de agua del sitio

			 -Los plazos previstos para lograrlo;- Los presupuestos financieros asignados a las acciones;- -Las posiciones de los responsables de las acciones y del logro de los objetivos Se tiene un "Plan de custodia del agua". Sin embargo; se tiene las metas planteadas; son acciones mas no la formade medir dichos objetivos. Caso: Objetivo: Reducir riesgo de inundacines. Meta Elaborar un plan de las condiciones de de infraestructura. Acciones: Diseñar el plan. 		
8	Minor Non- conformities	4.1.1	The standard states that performance will be assessed against the objectives of the site's sustainable water management plan and the contribution to achieving the results of sustainable water management. You have a "Water Care Plan" where the compliance assessment is carried out. However, it is denoted that the target is met at 100%; even though it is only the implementation of the action but not the level of achievement of the goal set Objective: Reduce risk of flooding. Indicated that it is a 100% performance level; but they are still in the process of building the barriers La norma establece que se evaluará el rendimiento con respecto a los objetivos del plan de gestión sostenible del agua del sitio y la contribución al logro de los resultados de la gestión sostenible del agua. Se tiene un "Plan de custoda del agua" en donde se lleva la evaluación del cumplimiento. Sin embargo, se denota que esta cumplido el objetivo al 100%; a pesar de que es solo la implementación de la accion mas no el niveldel logro del objetivo establecido Objetivo: Reducir riesgo de inundacines. Se indica que es un nivel de rendimiento del 100%; pero aún estan en proceso de construccion de las barreras	Lack of methodology to carry out the assessment of the objectives Falta de metodologia de realización de la evaluación de los objetivos	 Establish methodology to evaluate the progress of the actions implemented to achieve the achievement of the goals and / or objectives set. Establecer metodología para evaluar el progreso de las acciones implementadas para lograr el cumplimiento de las metas y/o objetivos planteados.

Observations and improvements

1.3.7 OM Consider the inclusion of the costs of water monitoring and the cost of maintaining emergency systems (topography, machinery)

1.4.1 OM: Supplier analysis has been prioritized, only for the cost of suppliers. The organization could further make the assessment by the amount of raw material/inputs used for its production.

1.4.1 OM: The organization may consider keeping records of water extraction permits from the fumigation provider area; who use water for such a service. During the audit it is evident that the provider has such permission

1.6.1 OM: Consider standardizing the methodology to assess the priority water challenges

2.1.1 OM: Consider still strengthening training of commitment to sustainable water management for workers

2.2.1 OBS: The organization may verify the effectiveness of the method used to maintain compliance with its applicable legal requirements

3.0 OM: Consider implement a column into the water stewardship plan, to register the evidence of progress of the implementation of activities

4.1.1. OM: Consider including within the control of the organization's documents, the monitoring minutes and the annual revision of the sustainable water management system that include the targets

4.1.1. OBS: Although the monitoring of the Water Management Plan is evident; with the 05 outcomes, these objectives has not been transcribed numerically.

4.1.2. OBS: Consider standardize the methodology of the evaluation of the Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan

4.3.1: OM: Consider to generated in all case Act of meetings to evidence Consultation efforts with stakeholders

5.3.1 OM: Consider within the programme of activities the annual realization of the summary of the site's water stewardship performance

5.3.1 OBS: It is noted that although there is dissemination to some interested parties, of the summary of the annual results of sustainable water management, this has not specifically detailed the status of all challenges, only a partial

7 SUMMARY

In reviewing the evidence presented by SOCIEDAD AGROPECUARIA PIMOCHA S.A. – SAPICA, it is apparent that a considerable quantity of effort and work has been put into the preparation for the audit for Alliance for Water Stewardship Certification.

The minor non-conformances were all situations where SOCIEDAD AGROPECUARIA PIMOCHA S.A. – SAPICA was considered to have partially met the AWS Core criterion requirement but were requested to make some improvements to be considered fully compliant at the next surveillance visit. Also, some of them has been identified for the same organizations and consider as a "risk" and they proposed action plan.

Observations were made during the audit, these are to be considered as areas for improvement which will likely be reviewed in future surveillance audits, no action is required on behalf of SOCIEDAD AGROPECUARIA PIMOCHA S.A. – SAPICA during this audit cycle.

The action plan submitted to SGS in response to the findings was reviewed and evaluated for compliance to the AWS standard. All actions were accepted for implementation and the actions taken will be reviewed at the first surveillance.

8 **OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT**

The certification audit for SOCIEDAD AGROPECUARIA PIMOCHA S.A. – SAPICA against the AWS Standard is for the initial assessment and as such allows for many areas for improvement going forward.

This is specified in the observations and opportunities for improvement indicated in the previous item

9 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The organization has demonstrated effective involve of its management system and is capable of achieving its policy objectives, as well as the intended results of the respective management system

Given the evidence review and the site visit inspections performed, SGS recommends that, based on the results of this audit, Sociedad Agropecuaria Pimocha S.A. – SAPICA **Site 01: Elba Farm: Field and Packaging Plant** to awarded **AWS Core Certification** with yearly surveillance audits

10 REFERENCES

Documents that have been reviewed

- Dec 2019 Water Custody Plan
- Identificación_actores_Elba Farm
- Scope Finca Elba
- Criterion map (site level)
- Letter Commitment (AWS) Elba Farm
- Areas of water importance
- Stakeholder list
- Laws concerning water resource Elba farm
- Others