March 2022

ALLIANCE FOR WATER STEWARDSHIP
Audit Report

CONFIDENTIAL

Client name	Renmark Irrigation Trust
Audit date/s	6th to 9th April 2021
Audit location	149 Murray Ave, Renmark SA 5341
Audit report completed by	Graeme Lea – Lead Auditor
Proposed date of next audit:	March/April 2022

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 one should manage water at the site level and how water management should be stewarded beyond the boundaries of a site. In this Standard, the "site" refers to the implementing entity that is responsible for fulfilling the criteria. The site includes the facility and the property over which the implementer that is using or managing water (i.e., withdrawing, consuming, diverting, managing, treating and/or discharging water or effluent into the environment) has control.

The current AWS Standard is Version 2.0 launched on 22nd March 2019.

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 responses 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 address 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 address 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)** days

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 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

Address of certified operation	149 Murray Ave, Renmark SA 5341		
Management representative	James John	**Job title**	Legal and Project Manager
Email address	Jjohn@rit.com.au	**Phone number**	+61 8 8586 6911
AWS Registration #	AWS-000155		
Certificate Number	BMT-AWS-006	**Date of first certification**	5/3/18
Current Certificate start date:	5/3/18	**Current Certificate expiry date**	30/4/21

2. Details of Audit & Scope of Certification

Audit type:	☐ Certification ☐ Surveillance ☒ Recertification
Audit team and roles:	Graeme Lea (Lead Auditor) Julian Whiting (Catchment expert)
Standard:	The AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Version V 2.0
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:	No other certifications

Outsourcing:

Does the client outsource operations or activities within the scope to independent third parties? *

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

☐ Yes ☒ No

3. Executive Summary

Main items / Critical Control Points / Places inspected (including names & affiliations of people consulted)	**Number of NCRs**
Step 1: Gather and Understand - James John (Legal and Project Manager)	1 Observation
Step 2: Commit and Plan - James John (Legal and Project Manager)	0
Step 3 Implement - James John (Legal and Project Manager) Tim Botten (Operations Manager) Rosalie Auricht – (General Manager) Site visits to Environmental Water sites: Plushes Bend, Nelwart Street, 26th Street, Warrego Street and Johnsons.	1 Minor
Step 4 Evaluate - James John (Legal and Project Manager)	0
Step 5 Communicate and Disclose - James John (Legal and Project Manager)	1 Observation

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

Allocation of points and Lead Auditor Recommendations

Total number of points awarded to site	107
Recommended level of certification	Platinum

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 below.

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 and Catchment

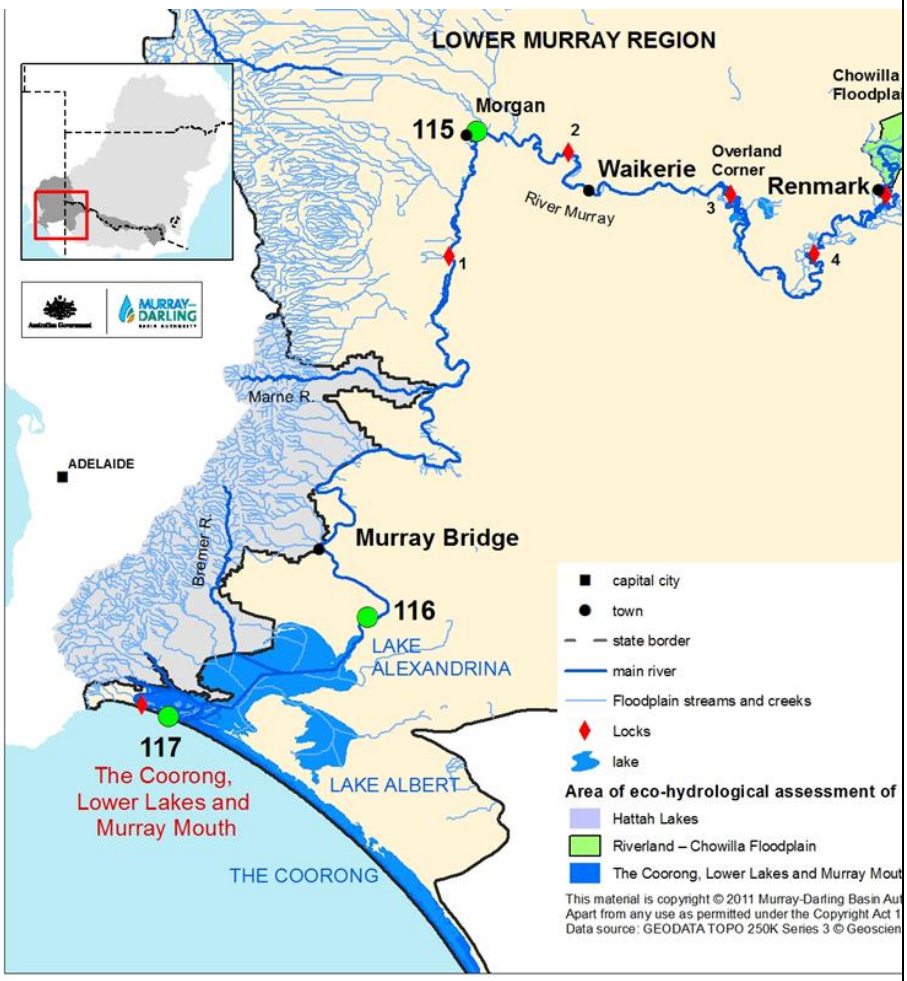
Company History	Renmark was established by the Chaffey Brothers in 1887 as an irrigation settlement, after the brothers had developed similar developments in California. Later that year negotiations were completed to develop another irrigation area in Mildura. Relatives of the Chaffey Brothers still 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 23 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 Brothers Irrigation Works Act of 1887.
Processes	Currently, the Renmark Irrigation Trust infrastructure serves over 600 properties covering more than 5000 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	20.7 FTE equivalent (23 staff total)
Other Information	

Catchment Narrative (from discussions with catchment expert)

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.

STEP 1: GATHER AND UNDERSTAND

Gather data to understand shared water challenges and water risks, impacts and opportunities

Intent: To ensure that the site gathers data on its water use and its catchment context and that the site uses these data to understand its shared water challenges as well as its contributions (both positive and negative) to these challenges, water risks, impacts, and opportunities. This information also informs the development of the site's water stewardship strategy and plan (Step 2) and guides the actions (Step 3) necessary to fulfil the site's commitments.

Criteria		Indicators	Response Area
1.1 Gather information to define the site's physical scope for water stewardship purposes, including: • its operational boundaries; • the water sources from which the site draws; • the locations to which the site returns its discharges; the catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and upon which it is reliant.	1.1.1	The physical scope of the site shall be mapped, considering the regulatory landscape and zone of stakeholder interests, including: Site boundaries; Water-related infrastructure, including piping network, owned or managed by the site or its parent organization; Any water sources providing water to the site that are owned or managed by the site or its parent organization; Water service provider (if applicable) and its ultimate water source; Discharge points and waste water service provider (if applicable) and ultimate receiving water body or bodies; Catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and is reliant upon for water.	The Legal and Project Manager confirmed that there is no change in physical scope, and that this has not been changed in 125 years since it is a defined area under a State Act. Maps of the sites and boundaries were inspected at the evaluation audit. Catchment boundaries and pipeline maps reviewed at audit. By the Confirmed that by 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. This also originates from the Murray river following filtration and treatment by SA Water. This indicator again remains unchanged. The business supplies irrigation water so there are no effluent discharge points and the water does not return to the river. Drainage for the salinity program is gravity fed into 13 caissons in the district to an evaporative basin near Loxton (Noora Drainage Disposal Basin). RIT do, however, 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). This involvement is still working well and has been operational for 60 years and forms part of the informal partnership with DEW (Department of Environment and Water) and the supporting of populations of the endangered Murray Hardyhead - *Craterocephalus fluviatilis (*a species of fish endemic to inland parts of south eastern Australia). The Water Stewardship Plan V4 29 March 2021 also mentions that the office waste goes to municipal waste collection and that Renmark uses recycled water for public watering of parks and gardens after treatment The Water Stewardship Plan has catchment map links and location descriptions which were reviewed by the auditor. The water supply catchment is the Lower Murray-Darling catchment and is part of the Southern basin part of the Murray-Darling Basin which stretches across 4 states (Victoria, NSW, Queensland and South Australia)

1.2 Understand relevant stakeholders, their water related challenges, and the site's ability to influence beyond its boundaries.	1.2.1	Stakeholders and their water-related challenges shall be identified. The process used for stakeholder identification shall be identified. This process shall: Inclusively cover all relevant stakeholder groups including vulnerable, women, minority, and Indigenous people; Consider the physical scope identified, including stakeholders, representative of the site's ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body or bodies; Provide evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges; Note that the ability and/or willingness of stakeholders to participate may vary across the relevant stakeholder groups; Identify the degree of stakeholder engagement based on their level of interest and influence.	The Water Stewardship Plan 2021 Section 2.2 *RIT Stakeholders' Water Related Challenges & Sphere of Influence* covers influence and complexities around water policies. One of the significant challenges is around water scarcity, RIT is using seminars and partnerships to advocate water security. RIT also uses a Facebook link as community notice board, now also uses this for partnership announcements. The RIT Water Stewardship Plan is readily available from the company website. RIT Developing inhouse training and was active with the ACCC investigation. Stakeholders are identified via industry groups, government departments ministerial invitations and First nations contacts. RIT is hoping to undertake a First Nations Cultural Heritage assessment of the environmental sites and Important water Related Sites. A DEW representative reported on 17/3/21 (Environmental water Committee Meeting) that an Aboriginal assessment is to occur at Disher Creek. RIT awaiting confirmation that they can attend

	1.2.2	Current and potential degree of influence between site and stakeholder shall be identified, within the catchment and considering the site's ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body for wastewater.	There continues to be only one point of contact (Kingsley Abdulla) from the Jerard Aboriginal area. These people being involved with the nature foundation with some cultural assessments of the environmental watering. No other change to stakeholders in the audit period RIT is hoping to undertake a First Nations Cultural Heritage assessment of the environmental sites and Important water Related Sites. A DEW representative reported on 17/3/21 (Environmental water Committee Meeting) that an Aboriginal assessment is to occur at Disher Creek. RIT awaiting confirmation that they can attend. The Environmental committee is also exploring Aboriginal "cold burning" processes at selected sites (Plushers Bend) Covid 19 has had significant stakeholder consultations impacts in 2020
1.3 Gather water-related data for the site including: • water balance • water quality • important water related areas • water governance • WASH (water related costs, revenues and shared value creation)	1.3.1	Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.	The Incident Record and Response Plan is in the Water Stewardship Plan and covers all currently known or anticipated incidents as well as mitigations. Section 2.4.1 (page 12) shows no incidents in the 2020 audit period.
	1.3.2	Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped.	The Water Stewardship Plan 2021 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. See Pump Station and MDBA **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 (DEW responsible in SA) makes water allocation announcements based on seasonal availability **http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/managing-natural-resources/river-murray/water-allocations** Accurate assessment of water balances by stakeholders and members is key to the business of the trust.
	1.3.3	Site water balance, inflows, losses, storage, and outflows, including indication of annual variance in water usage rates, shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water balance for people or environment, an indication of annual high and low variances shall be quantified.	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. Current water diversion allocation for RIT for 2019/20 showed Total annual water Supply Efficiencies of 99.25% and 32.65 Gigalitres total water take.

			The data collected as stated above is publicly available and is sent to RIT at least weekly. RIT can access more data if needed and monitor MDBA data monthly for the RIT Board meetings. This information is then available on the RIT website to members
	1.3.4	Water quality of the site's water source(s), provided waters, effluent and receiving water bodies shall be quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be quantified.	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 collected data is publicly available and is sent to RIT at least weekly who can access more data if needed. RIT take salinity readings across the system and report these to DEW (See 2.4.2 of the plan) There is no regulatory requirement for RIT to publicise water quality monitoring, however the company representative stated they are very willing to share the data if required. The River Murray water quality monitoring program consists of a monitoring network of 36 sites located on the river and its tributaries which have been routinely monitoring using physicochemical 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** .
	1.3.5	Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and if applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.	The Water Stewardship Plan dated 29/1/21 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. Organic growths are noted in the water system and Fact Sheets have been published, however this is not considered a pollution.
	1.3.6	On-site Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified and mapped, including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values.	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** and includes an overview of Aboriginal cultural heritage issues taken from the NRM Plan. Specific documents exist that list the values are:

			Management Guidelines 2019, section: Environmental Watering Sites adjacent to Renmark Irrigation District has again been updated in 2020, adding more environmental water site priorities and the regenerations after active targeted watering. The guidelines identified 15 showed potential sites and RIT is looking at how those sites can be watered over the next 3-5 years. Two sites were activated in the 2019 audit period (Plushes Bend, Paroo St and Begara/Namoi St,in 2019/2020. This year RIT added Warrego, Pony Club, Ral Ral Bridge, Bookmark Creek NW and Bookmark Creek Main basin). Note: not all the sites are in the range of RIT irrigation infrastructure and in those cases, infrastructure is added, or other infrastructure is used for environmental watering where not feasible for RIT to provide it. Evidence of shared challenge. Map of the Commonwealth environmental water delivery sites in SA – Riverland Region involving RIT, Banrock station wines, Water for nature, NRM SA, SA Govt, Australian Landscape Trust. • The auditor reviewed the Environmental Committee meeting minutes 17/3/21 in relation to Renmark North Primary school being keen to participate in monitoring of Warrego Street watering site, and participation in the tree planting on the Johnson's Waterhole
	1.3.7	Annual water-related costs, revenues, and a description or quantification of the social, cultural, environmental, or economic water-related value generated by the site shall be identified and used to inform the evaluation of the plan in 4.1.2.	The Water Stewardship Plan references the RIT Annual Report 2020 provided to South Australian Minister for Environment and Water containing Financial Statement of Profit or Loss. This document deals with water related costs and revenues since all costs and benefits are water related. Annual water related costs, revenues and value generation are described in the Water Stewardship Plan section 2.4.6, reviewed by the auditor In the 2021 Water Stewardship Plan there is considerable description/quantification of social, environmental or economic value generated by the site to the catchment. Eg contribution to SEE Renmark 2024 which is a collaborative committee to progress the region, modernisation of irrigation etc i.e. Rehabilitation of the Floodplain Estimates of value consideration are included in section 2.4.6 of the Water Stewardship Plan. At the audit a manual calculation was done demonstrating an actual $ per ha value creation by reinstatement of exit blocks and includes calculations from PIRSA est 2015. This is now outdated and requires updating, which will be undertaken by RIT.

			Land opportunities via growers expanding mean that areas are increasing as is value added through the local tourism industry ($18.6 million in 2010/11 to $ 25.4 million in 2018/2019 (latest statistics at the 2021 audit)
	1.3.8	Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.	There are no unmet needs to safe drinking water and sanitation, however, the AWS Plan V4-0 does not consider (WASH) inputs or outputs Water for drinking, hygiene and sanitation is supplied by SA Water and waste goes to municipal waste collection or that Renmark uses recycled water for public watering of parks and gardens after treatment. Confirmed in interview with the legal and Projects Manager as unchanged in the 2020 period. **Observation 2021.1**
1.4 Gather data on the site's indirect water use, including: its primary inputs; the water use embedded in the production of those primary inputs the status of the waters at the origin of the inputs (where they can be identified); and water used in out-sourced water-related services.	1.4.1	The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.	The primary input is river water. Water embedded in other inputs is minimal and unquantifiable e.g., water in manufacture of plant and equipment or in power generation.
	1.4.2	The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site's catchment, quantified.	Confirmed in interview with the RIT representative that there are no outsourced services that impact on water quality or embedded water.
	1.4.3	**Advanced Indicator** The embedded water use of primary inputs in catchment(s) of origin shall be quantified.	This indicator is not available to RIT as RIT is a water supplier that supplies water to end users where it become "embedded" in the final product, RIT however measure input quantities and quality (salinity).
1.5 Gather water-related data for the catchment, including: water governance, water balance, water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, infrastructure, and WASH	1.5.1	Water governance initiatives shall be identified, including catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly-led initiatives under way, and relevant goals to help inform site of possible opportunities for water stewardship collective action.	The following water governance initiatives were reviewed during the audit: SEE Renmark 2024 all goals established by Trust (Rejuvenation of floodplains) have been met. Environmental Watering Committee – Aboriginal waterways assessment and cultural Values assessment underway Relationships with DEW and CEWH in Agreement of environmental water delivery to environmental site until 2024 Agreement with Renmark Paringa Council to complete ecological monitoring of environmental Watering sites. Promotion of the AWS Group scheme to Renmark Paringa Council, also promotion via radio and conference presentations. Cooperative planting of 700 trees with schoolchildren near to Jane Eliza Floodplain
	1.5.2	Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.	Reviewed section 3.1 of Water Stewardship Plan, RIT Water-Related Legal compliance System which includes the following: • Water licence with DEW • DEW requires volume usage readings supplied by RIT.

			• ACCC reporting annually as part of the compliance and disclosure supplied to ACCC 27/11/20. • Infrastructure Works Planning Approval (Local government) • Noted there are no customary water related rights.
	1.5.3	The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.	State governments set water allocations annually, setting RIT total water rights over volumes removed from the catchment (Murray River). Members water licences allow delivery allowable volumes of water managed by RIT
	1.5.4	Water quality, including physical, chemical, and biological status, of the catchment shall be identified, and where possible, quantified. Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water quality status for people or environment, an indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, high and low variances shall be identified	Confirmed in interview that RIT has no influence on water quality and there is no effluent.
	1.5.5	Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified, and where appropriate, mapped, and their status assessed including any threats to people or the natural environment, using scientific information and through stakeholder engagement.	IWRA are identified in the Stewardship Plan (section 2.3.5) IWARA are also identified on the Environmental Watering Sites map reviewed by the auditor updated 16/10/21.
	1.5.6	Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be identified, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events.	Infrastructure is seen on the Drainage Pipelines Map and the irrigation Pipelines maps. Exposure to extreme events is planned for (See section 2.4.1)
	1.5.7	The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.	The auditor confirmed that RIT Office sites have safe water, sanitation and protective hygiene on site. Office water is supplied by SA Water only. No other WASH water identified in the catchment
	1.5.8	**Advanced Indicator** Efforts by the site to support and undertake catchment level water-related data collection shall be identified.	The site voluntarily collects weather data for the Bureau of Meteorology. There is also rainfall data collected at the main pump station on the river is available to the public via the website, as well as water salinity measurements taken for DEW and the wider public if interested. Data is used by a wide audience for planning and is available online. RIT also is a partner with the Agreement with Renmark Paringa Council to complete ecological monitoring of environmental Watering sites.
	1.5.9	**Advanced Indicator** The adequacy of WASH provision within the catchments of origin of primary inputs shall be identified.	This indicator is N/A to RIT as no WASH identified in primary inputs (river water)
1.6 Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the	1.6.1	Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.	The shared water-related challenges affecting the catchments are set out in section (Section 2.2, RIT Stakeholders Water related Challenges and

water challenges identified by stakeholders with the site's water challenges.			Sphere of Influence) and stakeholder engagements to date (Section 2.2) both listed in the Water Stewardship Plan which it also lists the public agency drivers and efforts involved. No additional challenges noted, but progress continued in a number of areas e.g prioritising environmental watering. Also continuing improvements in Bookmark Creek water quality e.g.removal of a pit regulator in Bookmark Creek (flow restrictor).
	1.6.2	Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be identified.	Water security and scarcity is an increasing issue for members, addressed by increasing and policy discussions with government and government bodies on behalf of the RIT members. Long term concern is noted regarding droughts and maintaining a sustainable irrigation industry
	1.6.3	**Advanced Indicator** Future water issues shall be identified, including anticipated impacts and trends	RIT continues to collect long term Irrigation Type trend data and Crop Type survey data tracking changes in crop types to changes in irrigation types. Primary Industries and Regions SA use this data for analysis of production, water efficiency, high level economic modelling of irrigation types and biosecurity planning. Evidence: 2005- 2018 irrigation types and crop survey maps which show a significant change from flood irrigation to drip or sprinkler irrigation systems in the period (latest evidence at the 2021 audit). This evidence is currently being updated to provide a resource of growers of different crops and crop types Working relationships with PIRSA have increased due to the Fruit Fly outbreak in SA. RIT has been a significant data provider to PIRSA and significantly assisted PIRSA by promoting awareness of the fruit fly outbreak, as well as allowing PIRSA water for on ground spraying.
	1.6.4	**Advanced Indicator** Potential water-related social impacts from the site shall be identified, resulting in a social impact assessment with a particular focus on water.	RIT was one of the first irrigation providers in Australia to introduce drainage pipes to collect irrigation seepage and reduce land salinization 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. This now continues through to 2024. IWRA's are being continually increased to promote eco-tourism, stakeholder involvement and education (Warrego St) Where the auditor was informed that 15 students belonging to the "Young Environmental

			Leaders Group" will be carrying out an ongoing school project on the watering of the Warrego Street IWRA that will include setting up photo monitoring points and evaluating vegetation condition and growth and bird populations. There is continued positive support of the weir pool manipulation programme involved in using environmental flows to mimic natural variations to support river systems health that became operational in 2019.
1.7 Understand the site's water risks and opportunities: Assess and prioritize the water risks and opportunities affecting the site based upon the status of the site, existing risk management plans and/or the issues and future risk trends identified in 1.6	1.7.1	Water risks faced by the site shall be identified, and prioritized, including likelihood and severity of impact within a given timeframe, potential costs and business impact.	Section 2.7.1 of the RIT Water Stewardship Plan 2021 references water scarcity, power outages, damage to infrastructure, exceeding allocation and flooding all as water related risks. The plan also comments on climate change for the Renmark district, impacts of temperature on water up to 2030.
	1.7.2	Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.	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 The agreement with CEWH is continuing until 2024, evidenced by PSP monitoring and the Operational Monitoring Report 2019-2020. The auditor confirmed that CEWH received 227.2 ML with an inundation area of 25 hectares (expected to be an increasing figure increasing as more sites come online but 2020 was scheduled to be a "dry" year - watered biannually). This partnership is the first of its kind between the CEWH and an irrigation water provider. RIT also cite Water stewardship certification, reinstatement of abandoned blocks from exit grant, social licence to operate and revitalisation of adjacent floodplains as water related opportunities. The auditor visited several environmental watering sites (IWRA) during the audit (Plushes Bend, Nelwart St, 26th Street, Warrego Street and Johnsons Water Hole. Plushes Bend was currently being watered at the time of the visit.
1.8 Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes:	1.8.1	Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be identified.	The auditor confirmed from the RIT website that the Water Stewardship Policy and the Leadership Commitment are both publicly available.

Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.			RIT achieved a high commendation in the Innovation in Small to Medium Enterprises 2019 Smart industry alliance Smart Water Awards for their work on flood plain restorations delivering positive environmental and economic benefits for the community. RIT also entered a submission into SA Climate Leaders Award 2020 The auditor also confirmed a reference by Inspector General of the MDBWR of the efforts by RIT to achieve platinum certification by AWS, and partnership with CEHW for environmental watering
	1.8.2	Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be identified.	RIT achieved a high commendation in the Innovation in Small to Medium Enterprises 2019 Smart industry alliance Smart Water Awards for their work on flood plain restorations delivering positive environmental and economic benefits for the community. Current water diversion allocation for RIT for 2019/20 showed total annual water supply efficiencies of 99.25% and 32.65 Gigalitres total water take.
	1.8.3	Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be identified, including rationale for data source.	Water quality is N/A as the only input is river water, no chemical added.
	1.8.4	Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.	• 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. This now continues through to 2024. • IWRA are being continually increased to promote eco-tourism, stakeholder involvement and education (Warrego St) • Continued positive support of the weir pool manipulation programme involved in using environmental flows to mimic natural variations to support river systems health that became operational in 2019.
	1.8.5	Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be identified.	This indicator is N/A to RIT as no WASH identified in primary inputs (river water)

STEP 2: COMMIT AND PLAN

Commit to be a responsible water steward and develop a water stewardship plan

Intent: To ensure there is sufficient leadership support, site authority, and allocated resources for the site to implement the AWS Standard. It focuses on how a site will act on shared water challenges and improve its performance and the status of its catchment in terms of the AWS water stewardship outcomes. Step 2 links the information gathered in Step 1 to the actions implemented in Step 3, by describing who will do what and when.

Criteria		Indicators	Response Area
2.1 Commit to water stewardship by having the senior-most manager in charge of water at the site, or if necessary, a suitable individual within the organization head office, sign and publicly disclose a commitment to water stewardship, the implementation of the AWS Standard and achieving its five outcomes, and the allocation of required resources.	2.1.1	A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document shall be identified. The statement or document shall include the following commitments: That the site will implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes; That the site implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans; That the site's stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way ; That the site will allocate resources to implement the Standard.	The leadership Commitment is publicly available on the RIT web site http://www.rit.org.au/RIT_AWS_Leadership_Commitment.pdf The Water Stewardship Leadership Commitment document has been approved and adopted by the Board of Directors and is signed off by Humphrey Howie, Presiding Member, a new representative elected to the chair on 16/12/19.There was also new board member appointed (Jasvinda Kor appointed January 2021) In 2019 The board made organisational resources available for the management of the AWS programme, being the Legal and Project Manager James John.
	2.1.2	**Advanced Indicator** A statement that explicitly covers all requirements set out in Indicator 2.1.1 and is signed by the organization's senior-most executive or governance body and publicly disclosed shall be identified.	No change in the publicly available statement since last year however there is a new Trust Presiding Member and the opportunity to update the leadership commitment will be taken. Both the Policy and Commitment are updated 21/12/20 and available on the company website
2.2 Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance.	2.2.1	The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including: Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure; Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.	In 2019 the board made additional organisational resources available for the management of the AWS programme, being the Legal and Project Manager James John . The Water Stewardship Plan outlines RIT Water-Related Legal Compliance System and indicates the General Manager is responsible for water-related compliance requirements. James John, Legal and Project Manager and Rosalie Auricht GM receive updates and new legislation from various websites. Other government websites also provide legislative updates.

			Compliance consists of reporting to ACCC (reviewed report 27/11/20 for the 2019/20 audit year. RIT also report to PIRSA/DEW in South Australia for compliance with licence requirements submitted to DEW. In turn, DEW carry out annual verifications of the intake point at the pump station.
2.3 Create a water stewardship strategy and plan including addressing risks (to and from the site), shared catchment water challenges, and opportunities	2.3.1	A water stewardship strategy shall be identified that defines the overarching mission, vision, and goals of the organization towards good water stewardship in line with this AWS Standard.	There is a published strategy in section 3.3 (RIT Water Stewardship Plan and its Implementation to date) of the RIT Water Stewardship Plan. The Policy is documented in the Water Stewardship Plan dated 29/1/21 V4-0, section 1.2. This policy meets the requirements of the standards and related guidance. The Water Stewardship Policy is publicly available on the company website.
	2.3.2	A water stewardship plan shall be identified, including for each target: How it will be measured and monitored; Actions to achieve and maintain (or exceed) it; Planned timeframes to achieve it; Financial budgets allocated for actions; Positions of persons responsible for actions and achieving targets; Where available, note the link between each target and the achievement of best practice to help address shared water challenges and the AWS outcomes.	The Water Stewardship Plan outlines RIT Water-Related Legal Compliance System and indicates the General Manager is responsible for water-related compliance requirements. The Plan meets all the requirements including costs and benefits are described in section 2.4.6. RIT maintain a Profit and Loss Budget completed on a monthly basis, with an annual budget and review process also carried out, which includes plant maintenance an operational budget is provided to the board meeting as a standing item against the full year budget and a review of profit and loss against performance (YTD Budget and YTD expenses)
	2.3.3	**Advanced Indicator** The site's partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites within the same catchment (which may or may not be under the same organisational ownership) shall be identified and described.	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. In 2019 this agreement was extended until June 2024. The number of environmental "active watered sites" has also been increased from 5 in 2019 to 15 proposed in 2021 adding more environmental water site priorities and the regeneration after active targeted watering. The guidelines identified 15 showed potential sites and RIT is looking at how those sites can be watered over the next 3-5 years. Two sites were activated in the 2019 audit period (Plushes Bend, Paroo St and Begara/Namoi St,in 2019/2020. This year RIT added Warrego, Pony Club, Ral Ral Bridge, Bookmark Creek NW and Bookmark Creek Main basin). Note: not all the sites are in the range of RIT irrigation infrastructure and in those cases, infrastructure is added, or other infrastructure is used for environmental watering where not feasible for RIT to provide it.

			The auditor confirmed in interview that environmental watering assists with rehabilitation of areas affected by salt from rising groundwater levels, increases abundance of vegetation and native fish populations, and promotes 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 continues to comply with the qualifying initiatives requirements of the Standard. In 2019 RIT also worked with the South Australia Department of Environment and Water to divert saline water to a backwater creek and also to undertake water salinity monitoring to support populations of the endangered Murray Hardy heads (*Craterocephalus fluviatilis).* The pipeline was extended on 28th St to facilitate flushes to assist with the brazoa crustacea in the pipline and to assist with the Murray Hardy head by refreshing the water in low flow periods. IWRA's are being continually increased to promote eco-tourism, stakeholder involvement and education. Promotion of the AWS Group Scheme by RIT with the Renmark Council Stakeholder consultation also confirmed the importance of RIT and the environmental watering. "RIT is a big part of Renmark being seen as a long term innovative environmental centre"
	2.3.4	**Advanced Indicator** The site's partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites in another catchment(s) (either under same corporate structure or with another corporate site) shall be identified.	RIT continues to collect long term Irrigation Type trend data and Crop Type survey data tracking changes in crop types to changes in irrigation types. Primary Industries and Regions SA use this data for analysis of production, water efficiency, high level economic modelling of irrigation types and biosecurity planning. Evidence: 2005- 2018 irrigation types and crop survey maps which show a significant change from flood irrigation to drip or sprinkler irrigation systems in the period (latest evidence at the 2021 audit). This information is being updated at the time of the 2021 to provide a resource of growers of different crops and crop types. Working relationships with PIRSA have increased due to the Fruit Fly outbreak in SA. RIT has been a significant data provider to PIRSA and

			significantly assisted PIRSA by promoting awareness of the fruit fly outbreak, as well as allowing PIRSA water for on ground spraying. 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. In 2019 this agreement was extended until June 2024. Continued positive support of the weir pool manipulation programme involved in using environmental flows to mimic natural variations to support river systems health that became operational in 2019. Promotion of the AWS Group scheme to Renmark Paringa Council, also promotions via radio and conference presentations. The auditor visited a site of cooperative planting of 700 trees with schoolchildren, RIT staff and Renmark Paringa Council staff near to Jane Eliza Floodplain IWRA's are being continually increased to promote eco-tourism, stakeholder involvement and education (Warrego St) Where the auditor was informed that 15 students belonging to the "Young Environmental Leaders Group" will be carrying out an ongoing school project on the watering of the Warrego Street IWRA that will include setting up photo monitoring points and evaluating vegetation condition and growth and bird populations.
	2.3.5	**Advanced Indicator** Stakeholder consensus shall be sought on the site's water stewardship plan. Consensus should be achieved on at least one target. A list of targets that have consensus and in which stakeholders are involved shall be identified.	The auditor reviewed the Sphere of influence in the RIT Water Stewardship plan which includes feedback from stakeholders. Stakeholder feedback received by the auditor during outreach was extremely positive, also evidenced by emails regarding environmental watering impacts, magazine article (https://www.farmonline.com.au/story/6245443/environment-watering-deal-a-win-win-for-irrigators-commonwealth/). Reference by Inspector General of the MDBWR of efforts from RIT to achieve platinum certification by AWS, and partnership with CEHW for environmental watering. Email from the MDBA regarding the visit by the Air Chief Marshall.
2.4 Demonstrate the site's responsiveness and resilience to respond to water risks	2.4.1	A plan to mitigate or adapt to identified water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.	RIT Water related Risks are identified in the Water Stewardship plan (2.7.1) which references water scarcity, power outages, damage to infrastructure, exceeding allocation and flooding all as water related risks. The plan also comments on climate change for the Renmark district, impacts of temperature on water up to 2030.

	2.4.2	**Advanced Indicator** A plan to mitigate or adapt to water risks associated with climate change projections developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.	RIT efforts to mitigate or adapt water risks is stated as “Water Related opportunities” identified in the Water Stewardship plan (2.7.2) and are: Water stewardship certification, reinstatement of abandoned blocks from exit grant, social licence to operate and revitalisation of adjacent floodplains as water related opportunities.

STEP 3: IMPLEMENT
Implement the site's stewardship plan and improve impacts

Intent: To ensure that the site is implementing the plan outlined in Step 2, mitigating risks and driving actual improvements in performance.

Criteria		Indicators	Response Area
3.1 Implement plan to participate positively in catchment governance.	3.1.1	Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance shall be identified.	The auditor confirmed that RIT has supported good catchment governance by: RIT participation in the weir's manipulation initiative, RIT participation in an environmental watering forum. RIT involvement with the Renmark Environment Committee to rehabilitate Bookmark creek as part of the SEE Renmark 2024 plan. Rosalie Auricht (General Manager RIT) sits on the Katarapko Advisory Group Reference by Inspector General of the MDBWR of efforts from RIT to achieve platinum certification by AWS, and partnership with CEHW for environmental watering. Report Operational Monitoring report – active wetlands improvements, and monitoring data gathered. The auditor reviewed the RIT 2019-2020 Operational Monitoring Report that included statistical data and photographic evidence.
	3.1.2	Measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, that are not part of 3.2 shall be implemented.	Confirmed in interview with the Legal and Project Manager this remains unchanged in the 2020 period and RIT will respect the water rights of others
	3.1.3	**Advanced Indicator** Evidence of improvements in water governance capacity from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified.	Water is legally withdrawn from the Murray Darling river under the RIT Act. Reviewed the Operational Monitoring Report – reviewed active wetlands improvements, baseline and monitoring data gathered. The auditor reviewed the RIT 2019 -2020 Operational Monitoring Report to confirm this that Included PSP photos and ecological monitoring. The auditor also carried out onsite visits that evidenced improvements, and also interviewed the Environmental officer from the Renmark Paringa Council in relation to monitoring.
	3.1.4	**Advanced Indicator** Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is	Evidenced by emails regarding environmental watering, stakeholder feedback received by the auditor during outreach was extremely positive, also evidenced by emails regarding environmental watering impacts,

		seen as positively contributing to the good water governance of the catchment shall be identified.	magazine article (https://www.farmonline.com.au/story/6245443/environment-watering-deal-a-win-win-for-irrigators-commonwealth/). Reference by Inspector General of the MDBWR of efforts from RIT to achieve platinum certification by AWS, and partnership with CEHW for environmental watering. Email from the MDBA regarding the visit by the Air Chief Marshall. Reference by Inspector General of the MDBWR of efforts from RIT to achieve platinum certification by AWS, and partnership with CEHW for environmental watering. Partnership with the Renmark Paringa Council to develop and implement and AWS Group Management Scheme
3.2 Implement system to comply with water-related legal and regulatory requirements and respect water rights.	3.2.1	A process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance shall be implemented.	Confirmed during the 2021 audit that the RIT business revolves around legislative instruments and planning for water use in the Murray Darling basin and related sub catchments. RIT is governed by the RIT Act 2009 and the RIT Regulations 2009. Rules were passed at the December 2020 AGM. Compliance to these regulations is required as a condition of doing business. 100% water allocation has been reconfirmed by the Department of Environment and Water (First announcement April 2020) for 2020/21 and announced by Board to members. Auditor reviewed RIT website to confirm this (100% confirmed 17 August 2020) **Nonconformance 2021.2** The RIT act and RIT Regulations or links to them, are not currently listed in the Water Stewardship Plan "2.3.2 Catchment water-related legal and regulatory requirements".
	3.2.2	Where water rights are part of legal and regulatory requirements, measures identified to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, shall be implemented.	Ongoing efforts to contribute to catchment governance is part of the regulatory requirements on the business by (the Murray Darling Basin Authority and the SA NRM and DEWNR requirements). RIT continues to be a member of the NRM Board, River Murray Advisory Committee and the South Australian Weir Pool Manipulation Advisory Committee, as well as the South Australia Murray Irrigators Committee. There are 2 RIT Directors sitting in this committee. Rosalie Auricht (General Manager RIT) sits on the Katarapko Advisory Group

			RIT worked with the Renmark Environment Committee to rehabilitate Bookmark creek as part of the SEE Renmark 2024 plan The auditor also noted further participation in AWS efforts and continued positive public consultation in the audit period.
3.3 Implement plan to achieve site water balance targets.	3.3.1	Status of progress towards meeting water balance targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.	Collective actions required by this indicator included: RIT participation in the weir's manipulation initiative, RIT participation in an environmental watering forum, RIT worked with the Renmark Environment Committee to rehabilitate Bookmark creek as part of the SEE Renmark 2024 plan. Delivery efficiencies have been maintained between 2011 and 2020 (Reviewed Annual Water Supply Efficiencies chart in the Water Stewardship Plan 2.4.2). Also reviewed the Water Diversion and Losses spreadsheet, with the lowest recorded efficiency being 96.95% in 2007/08.
	3.3.2	Where water scarcity is a shared water challenge, annual targets to improve the site's water use efficiency, or if practical and applicable, reduce volumetric total use shall be implemented.	Water scarcity is seen as a stated shared water challenge. RIT manage this by infrastructure management and maintaining a very high-water efficiency (99.25% for 2019-20 water year. CEWH deliver environmental water for environmental watering to RIT who are responsible for delivery to the sites. Environmental watering is ongoing. Reviewed Operational Monitoring Report 2019-20 report. Environmental watering in 2020 was 223.7 ml with an estimated inundation of 25.8 ha.
	3.3.3	Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be identified.	During the 2020 audit the auditor reviewed an executed copy of the RIT CEWH Deed of Variation to partnership Agreement for 5 actively watered sites (Twenty sixth St, Nelwart St, Jane Eliza Woodlot, Johnsons waterhole and Namoi St) covering a total of 84 hectares. See the RIT internet website for photographic evidence.
	3.3.4	**Advanced Indicator** The total volume of water voluntarily re-allocated (from site water savings) for social, cultural and environmental needs shall be quantified.	RIT has delivery efficiency targets to irrigator clients (less than 5% loss) since 2011. Currently 99.25%. These figures 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. Reviewed Operational Monitoring Report 2019-20 report. Environmental watering in 2020 was 223.7 ml with an estimated inundation of 25.8 ha. Environmental watering is an ongoing process and becoming more significant as further IWRA are identified and become managed.

3.4 Implement plan to achieve site water quality targets.	3.4.1	Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.	The Water Stewardship Plan 2021 references salinity monitoring at discharge points using an EC meter. The report states: Salinity (EC) is measured at various points in the irrigation area using an RIT EC meter. • The river EC is measured daily at the main pump station and published on our website • Two sites on Ral Ral Creek are measured weekly and published on our website • The EC of discharge water in Caissons / sumps are measured monthly and reported to the Board at their monthly meetings. RIT field staff continue to monitor salinity at 13 different caisson points on a monthly basis, with the information provided to DEW. Other than salinity monitoring, the issue of water quality is managed by the regulator (DEW) as part of government salinity and pollution control schemes. RIT contributes to this management with salinity monitoring and data. Confirmed at the 2020 audit (April 2021) that the site produces no effluent**.**
	3.4.2	Where water quality is a shared water challenge, continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site's effluent shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.	See above – water quality is not a shared water challenge – refer to salinity monitoring.
3.5 Implement plan to maintain or improve the site's and/or catchment's Important Water-Related Areas.	3.5.1	Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site's Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.	Section 3.3 Improved health of IWRA describes enhancement of IWRA. The report also states: *Environmental value is being created through the Renmark Environmental Watering program, facilitated by the RIT. This program has been established to rehabilitate the River Murray floodplains adjacent to Renmark and to maintain them for both future generations and the long-term health of the River ecosystem. The regenerated floodplains are increasing wetland habitat available to frog and bird populations and focussing attention on improving fish passage ways. At 30 June 2020, individual RIT members have returned 7.2GL of water for the environment through a number of government programs including on farm efficiencies. The Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder continues to provide some of this water to the RIT to support the rehabilitation and maintenance of the floodplains in the area (as per the Partnership Agreement between the two parties, which was extended to 30 June 2024).* 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. There were no changes noted in 2019

	3.5.2	**Advanced Indicator** Evidence of completed restoration of non-functioning or severely degraded Important Water-Related Areas including where appropriate cultural values from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified. Restored areas may be outside of the site, but within the catchment.	Review 2019-20 Monitoring report – 3 years of data 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 The agreement with CEWH is continuing until 2024, evidenced by PSP monitoring and the Operational Monitoring Report 2019-2020. The auditor confirmed that CEWH received 227.2 ML with an inundation area of 25 hectares (expected to be an increasing figure increasing as more sites come online but 2020 was scheduled to be a “dry” year - watered biannually). This partnership is the first of its kind between the CEWH and an irrigation water provider. The auditor visited several environmental watering sites (IWRA) during the audit (Plushes Bend, Nelwart St, 26th Street, Warrego Street and Johnsons Water Hole. Plushes Bend was currently being watered at the time of the visit.
	3.5.3	**Advanced Indicator** Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to the healthy status of Important Water-Related Areas in the catchment shall be identified.	Review of stakeholder consultation records as well as consultations carried out by the auditor confirmed that RIT is very active in the Renmark Paringa area, undertaking environmental watering of 15 sites. The auditor also carried out onsite visits that evidenced improvements, and also interviewed the Environmental officer from the Renmark Paringa Council in relation to monitoring. Stakeholder feedback received by the auditor during outreach was extremely positive, also evidenced by emails regarding environmental watering impacts, magazine article (https://www.farmonline.com.au/story/6245443/environment-watering-deal-a-win-win-for-irrigators-commonwealth/). Reference by Inspector General of the MDBWR of efforts from RIT to achieve platinum certification by AWS, and partnership with CEHW for environmental watering. Stakeholder consultation also confirmed the importance of RIT and the environmental watering. “RIT is a big part of Renmark being seen as a long term innovative environmental centre”

3.6 Implement plan to provide access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers at all premises under the site's control.	3.6.1	Evidence of the site's provision of adequate access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all workers onsite shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.	All staff have access to adequate drinking water, effective sanitation and protective hygiene. Evidenced by inspection of facilities during the audit. Confirmed in interview with the Legal and Projects Manager as unchanged in the 2020 period. RIT provide filtered water for all staff on site. Protective hygiene and very adequate sanitation is also provided at the RIT offices. Evidenced by the auditor. However see Observation 2021.1
	3.6.2	Evidence that the site is not impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities through their operations, and that traditional access rights for Indigenous and local communities are being respected, and that remedial actions are in place where this is not the case, and that these are effective.	There are no unmet needs to safe drinking water and sanitation. RIT supply agricultural irrigation water to end users only. Confirmed in interview with the legal and Projects Manager as unchanged in the 2020 period.
	3.6.3	**Advanced Indicator** A list of actions taken to support the provision to stakeholders in the catchment of access to safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and hygiene awareness shall be identified.	This indicator is not available to RIT there is no WASH water supplied by the company. RIT provide filtered water for all staff on site. Protective hygiene and very adequate sanitation is also provided at the RIT offices. Evidenced by the auditor.
	3.6.4	**Advanced Indicator** In catchments where WASH has been identified as a shared water challenge, evidence of efforts taken with relevant public-sector agencies to share information and to advocate for change to address access to safe drinking water and sanitation shall be identified.	This indicator is not available to RIT as WASH is not identified as a shared water challenge as water for public consumption is supplied to all RIT sites (pump station. Depot and offices)
3.7 Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment.	3.7.1	Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.	There are several targets, the Department of Environment and Water (DEW) sets allocations based on current water ability (water balance). Data shared with the Department indicate targets have been met**.** DEW carry out final meter readings verified against RIT meter telemetry. The Water Stewardship Plan section 2.4.2 shows RIT water efficiencies at 99.25% for the audit period. Delivery efficiencies have been maintained between 2011 and 2020 (Reviewed Annual Water Supply Efficiencies chart in the Water Stewardship Plan 2.4.2). Also reviewed the Water Diversion and Losses spreadsheet, with the lowest recorded efficiency being 96.95% in 2007/08. RIT has delivery efficiency targets to irrigator clients (5% variance). These are compared with other states via Australian Bureau of statistics (ABS) data on irrigation delivery targets.

	3.7.2	Evidence of engagement with suppliers and service providers, as well as, when applicable, actions they have taken in the catchment as a result of the site's engagement related to indirect water use, shall be identified.	Refer to section 3.3 Maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment RIT have engaged engaged Pipelex to define and assist in the elimination of the Bryozoa issue as well as pipe breaks due to earth movement. This is an ongoing engagement. RIT carried out as much engineering and maintenance works as possible and maintains regular suppliers in and around Renmark. SA Water divers are used to carry out underwater surveys and maintenance during routine shutdowns at the pumping station.
	3.7.3	**Advanced Indicator** Actions taken to address water related risks and challenges related to indirect water use outside the catchment shall be documented and evaluated.	RIT Water related Risks are identified in the Water Stewardship plan (2.7.1) which references water scarcity, power outages, damage to infrastructure, exceeding allocation and flooding all as water related risks. The plan also comments on climate change for the Renmark district, impacts of temperature on water up to 2030. RIT Water Related opportunities are also identified in the Water Stewardship plan (2.7.2) and are: Water stewardship certification, reinstatement of abandoned blocks from exit grant, social licence to operate and revitalisation of adjacent floodplains as water related opportunities. Section 3.3 (RIT Water Stewardship Plan and its implementation to date) sets out the objectives, targets, implementation and shows several objects classified as "ongoing" (Target: Maintain drainage system as per Salt Interception Scheme and EC Monitoring – Metrics: Volume of saline water drained adjusted for volume from CIT area and rain events - Action/Implementation: Install meters at CIT drainage point and at end of RIT system. Link to catchment risks/opportunities. Catchment salinity managed by DEW:compliance – ongoing)
3.8 Implement plan to engage with and notify the owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns the site may have.	3.8.1	Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt, shall be identified.	No shared water related infrastructure as RIT owns its own infrastructure
3.9 Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: continually improve towards achieving sectoral best practice having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.	3.9.1	Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance, as applicable, shall be implemented.	See 3.3 RIT is active on a number of committees and boards, and has "participate positively In catchment governance" as an Objective in the RIT Water Stewardship Plan and its implementation to date table and lists this as "ongoing".
	3.9.2	Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance shall be implemented.	RIT 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). This involvement is still working well and has been

			operational for 60 years and forms part of the informal partnership with DEW (Department of Environment and Water) and the supporting of populations of the endangered Murray Hardyhead - *Craterocephalus fluviatilis (*a species of fish endemic to inland parts of south eastern Australia).
	3.9.3	Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be implemented.	Water quality is not an issue as RIT only use natural river water but do not add any chemicals
	3.9.4	Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.	See Monitoring plan results
	3.9.5	Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be implemented.	WASH is not an identified issue
	3.9.6	**Advanced Indicator** Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of good water governance shall be quantified.	RIT also achieved a high commendation in the innovation in Small to Medium Enterprises 2019 Smart industry alliance Smart Water Awards for their work on flood plain restorations delivering positive environmental and economic benefits for the community. RIT also referred to the partnership with the Commonwealth environmental water holdings (CEWH)
	3.9.7	**Advanced Indicator** Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of sustainable water balance shall be quantified.	See above. Water efficiencies are mo Delivery efficiencies have been maintained between 2011 and 2020 (Reviewed Annual Water Supply Efficiencies chart in the Water Stewardship Plan 2.4.2). Also reviewed the Water Diversion and Losses spreadsheet, with the lowest recorded efficiency being 96.95% in 2007/08.nitored annually by RIT reviewed data from Monitoring results. RIT also continue to carry out advocacy for members to state government and other associate organisations
	3.9.8	**Advanced Indicator** Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of water quality shall be quantified.	Refer section 2.4.3 of the water Stewardship plan. This is evidenced by the salinity monitoring reported monthly to the board, the benefit of setting up the salinity drainage scheme in turn means end users do not have to implement salinity removal. Also refer to the water efficiencies stated in 3.9.7
	3.9.9	**Advanced Indicator** Achievement of identified best practices related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas have been implemented.	Refer to Monitoring Report – 3 years of data – RIT CEWH Operational Monitoring Report 2019-20 However the above information in the Monitoring report clearly demonstrates best practices in terms of actively watered sites to improve the following: 1) Halt the decline and possible death of mature long lived plant species (eg. River Red Gum, Black Box, Cooba & Lignum). **2**. Maintain existing regeneration and provide opportunities for future regeneration of long-lived plant species. **3**. Reduce soil salinity to disadvantage samphire and promote regeneration of less

			salt tolerant floodplain and aquatic species. **4**. Increase diversity and abundance of waterbirds and frogs through aquatic habitat improvements. **5**. Improve connectivity between watering sites and adjacent floodplain and waterways.
	3.9.10	**Advanced Indicator** Achievement of identified best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be quantified.	**This indicator is not available to RIT as WASH is not identified as part of the operation**
	3.9.11	**Advanced Indicator** A list of efforts to spread best practices shall be identified.	Discussions between RIT and ALCOA of Australia were to result in plans being made to shift a flood bank, (to be completed by ALCOA) associated with an active watered site which would have provided improved environmental watering in the Jane Eliza Woodlot (IWRA) have not eventuated, however RIT are continuing to actively water and monitor the site. The site is included in the list of IWRA (Jane Eliza Woodlot) This is also evidenced by the efficiencies stated in 3.9.7
	3.9.12	**Advanced Indicator** A list of collective action efforts, including the organizations involved, positions of responsible persons of other entities involved, and a description of the role played by the site shall be identified.	The auditor confirmed in interview that there are ongoing efforts to contribute to catchment governance is part of the regulatory requirements on the business by (the Murray Darling Basin Authority and the SA NRM and DEWNR requirements). RIT continues to be a member of the NRM Board, River Murray Advisory Committee and the South Australian Weir Pool Manipulation Advisory Committee, as well as the South Australia Murray Irrigators Committee. There are 2 RIT Directors currently involved with this committee. The auditor also noted further participation in AWS efforts and despite COVID 19 restrictions, continued positive public consultation in the audit period. Promotion of the AWS Group Scheme via presentation to local council and prospective members A five-year Watering Schedule with CEHW until 2024 under the Partnership Agreement. Some memberships are also currently included in the Water Stewardship Plan (I.e. AWS, SAMI -South Australia Murray Irrigators)
	3.9.13	**Advanced Indicator** Evidence of the quantified improvement that has resulted from the collective action relative to a site-selected baseline date shall be identified and evidence from an appropriate range of stakeholders linked to the collective	See above, the auditor also referred to the annual report, seminars with PPT presentations (Good practice in shared water challenges dated 4/7/20), Presentation at the Trust at World Water Week 2019 in Stockholm and online global events (International Water Centre Alumni Network). evidence etc memberships

		action (including both those implementing the action and those affected by the action) that the site is materially and positively contributing to the achievement of the collective action shall be identified.	Under the agreement with the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) there are objectives in the management guidelines set in August 2016 with RIT and these were confirmed to remain unchanged at the 2019 audit. The auditor Reviewed the CEWH Operational Monitoring Report 2019-2020. This report included specific information on each watered site and also included photographic evidence taken at permanent photo points at each site.

STEP 4: EVALUATE

Evaluate the site's performance

Intent: To review a site's performance against the actions taken in Step 3, learn from the results – both intended and unintended – and inform the next iteration of the site's water stewardship plan. This evaluation shall occur at least annually, but sites should consider more frequent evaluations.

Criteria		Indicators	Response Area
4.1 Evaluate the site's performance in light of its actions and targets from its water stewardship plan and demonstrate its contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes.	4.1.1	Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.	See section 4 of the Plan,(evaluation of Implementation of Water Stewardship Plan). This outcome is evidenced by the ongoing water efficiency of 99.25% at the time of the audit as well as:. • The Operational Monitoring Report 2019-20 • Continued partnership with CEWH • Compliance targets - licence compliance met. • IWRA improvements ongoing • IWRA monitoring • Stakeholder consultation *The RIT strategic vision acknowledges the critical role it plays in "underpinning the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the Renmark Community". The wellbeing of the Community is dependent on the RIT being leaders in water resource management. Evidence of social value creation is found in the lead role RIT took in the SEE Renmark 2024 process.*
	4.1.2	Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated.	100% water allocation has been reconfirmed by the Department of environment and Water (allocated 15 November 2019) for 2019/20 and announced by Board to members. Auditor reviewed RIT website to confirm this (rit.org.au/news). Value creation is seen in the RIT social licence to operate, evidenced by water partnerships with federal, local bodies, Value creation through IWRA watering, eco-tourism and the visit by Sir Angus Robertson to the MDBA
	4.1.3	The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.	Shared value benefit of environmental watering is evidence by council and trust land, inviting bodies catchment wide to observe and share throughout the catchment. The auditor referred to 2.4.6 of the Plan *Sources: 'Renmark Irrigation Trust 2004/2005 Crop Survey', M DeCol and C Alderton, July 2006; Economics of Almond Production, Table 1 Primary Financial Performance Indicators, growing.australianalmonds.com.au 21 April 2016; RIT Member growers; Riverland Wine Strategic Plan 2014 – 2019; 2018 Crop Survey, RIT generated GIS Crop Survey Area calculation.* • *Value add processes to some of the agricultural production from the area creates additional economic value. In particular: ▪ In 2019-20, Australian almond exports were worth $773m*

			• *In 2018-19, Australian wine sales were $6.36b of which $2.9b was exported. In 2019, the value of Australian wine exports grew by 4 percent to $2.9 billion.* A large portion of the value add for almonds and wine grapes produced within the RIT area is undertaken within the region. *Environmental value is being created through the Renmark Environmental Watering program, facilitated by the RIT. This program has been established to rehabilitate the River Murray floodplains adjacent to Renmark and to maintain them for both future generations and the long-term health of the River ecosystem. The regenerated floodplains are increasing wetland habitat available to frog and bird populations and focussing attention on improving fish passageways. At 30 June 2020, individual RIT members have returned 7.2GL of water for the environment through a number of government programs including on farm efficiencies. The Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder continues to provide some of this water to the RIT to support the rehabilitation and maintenance of the floodplains in the area (as per the Partnership Agreement between the two parties, which was extended to 30 June 2024).*
	4.1.4	**Advanced Indicator** A governance or executive-level review, including discussion of shared water challenges, water risks, and opportunities, and any water-related cost savings or benefits realized, and any relevant incidents shall be identified.	RIT have engaged an external consultant to assist in creating the next 10-year strategic plan. The 2020 Water Stewardship Plan was approved after review by the board. The auditor referred to the Water Matters- item 7 of the Meeting Agenda Items for board meetings (January February and March 2021) describes consideration of shared water challenges. These are a standing Board meeting item
4.2 Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine the effectiveness of corrective and preventative measures.	4.2.1	A written annual review and (where appropriate) root-cause analysis of the year's emergency incident(s) shall be prepared and the site's response to the incident(s) shall be evaluated and proposed preventative and corrective actions and mitigations against future incidents shall be identified.	The Incident Record and Response Plan is in the Water Stewardship Plan and covers all currently known or anticipated incidents. E.g., the annual report states repair of 68 pipe breaks in the 2020 audit period, compared to 76 pipe breaks dealt with under the plan in 2019.
4.3 Evaluate stakeholders' consultation feedback regarding the site's water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of the site's engagement process.	4.3.1	Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.	Consultation efforts by RIT were verified by the auditor and consisted of stakeholder correspondence and a stakeholder consultation carried out as part of the 2021 audit process. Stakeholder feedback was overwhelmingly positive and included specific instances relating to RIT positive impacts on local community and also relating to environmental water impacts and benefits. The auditor also confirmed RIT has continued to progress presentations to Council re the AWS Group Scheme.

	4.3.2	**Advanced Indicator** The site's efforts to address shared water challenges shall be evaluated by stakeholders. This shall include stakeholder reviewing of the site's efforts across all five outcome areas, and their suggestions for continual improvement.	The shared water-related challenges affecting the catchments are described in 2.2 RIT Stakeholders Water related Challenges and Sphere of Influence. This sets out water related concerns (and level of interest). No additional challenges noted in the 2020 audit period, but progress continues to be ongoing in a number of areas e.g. prioritising environmental watering, water scarcity considerations for the future, (spoken about during s/h consultations) Continual improvements in Bookmark Creek water quality and expanding the number of environmental watering sites No feedback received to date on the Stewardship Plan but positive feedback received in relation to IWRA, environmental watering, water scarcity promotions and joint ventures.
4.4 Evaluate and update the site's water stewardship plan, incorporating the information obtained from the evaluation process in the context of continual improvement.	4.4.1	The site's water stewardship plan shall be modified and adapted to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from the evaluations in this step and these changes shall be identified.	RIT completed the Water Stewardship Plan on the 29th March 2021. The relevant authorities were involved with the development of the original plan and are invited to make comments of each new version. The plan has been approved by the RIT Board of directors 29/3/21. Groups invited to review and contribute to the plan included but were not limited to: DEW CEWH Aboriginal representative Group State Government Local Councils Also on the company Website

STEP 5: COMMUNCATE & DISCLOSE

Communicate about water stewardship and disclose the site's stewardship efforts

Intent: To encourage transparency and accountability through communication of performance relative to commitments, policies, and plans. The disclosure of relevant information allows others to make informed opinions on a site's operations and tailor their involvement to suit.

Criteria		Indicators	Response Area
5.1 Disclose water-related internal governance of the site's management, including the positions of those accountable for legal compliance with water-related local laws and regulations.	5.1.1	The site's water-related internal governance, including positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations shall be disclosed.	The leadership Commitment is publicly available on the RIT web site. http://www.rit.org.au/RIT_AWS_Leadership_Commitment.pdf Water related responsible persons accountable for compliance in sections 3,1 and 3,3 of the Water Stewardship plan and include the Water and Administration Manager, The Operations Manager, The General Manager , Trust Directors and the Legal and Projects Manager.

5.2 Communicate the water stewardship plan with relevant stakeholders.	5.2.1	The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to relevant stakeholders.	Ongoing efforts to contribute to catchment governance is part of the regulatory requirements on the business by (the Murray Darling Basin Authority and the SA NRM and DEWNR requirements). RIT continues to be a member of the NRM Board, River Murray Advisory Committee and the South Australian Weir Pool Manipulation Advisory Committee, as well as the South Australia Murray Irrigators Committee. There are 2 RIT Directors currently involved with this committee. The auditor also noted further participation in AWS efforts and continuous public consultation in the audit period. Some memberships are also currently included in the Water Stewardship Plan (I.e. AWS, SAMI) The Plan is publicly available on the RIT website and relevant stakeholders are invited to comment on each version as it is implemented.
5.3 Disclose annual site water stewardship summary, including the relevant information about the site's annual water stewardship performance and results against the site's targets.	5.3.1	A summary of the site's water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum.	The RIT Water Stewardship Plan contains a section titled" An Evaluation of the Water Stewardship Plan" which is available on the company internet website. This section "Periodic review of the RIT's performance in light of its actions and targets from its water stewardship plan to evaluate". Also, to the "Water Stewardship" section of the annual Report, presentations to online seminars, radio interviews and facebook notifications and the stakeholder ability to review the Water Stewardship plan
	5.3.2	**Advanced Indicator** The site's efforts to implement the AWS Standard shall be disclosed in the organization's annual report.	See above 5.3.1, also, efforts by RIT to implement the AWS standard referred to the "Water Stewardship" section of the annual Report,
	5.3.3	**Advanced Indicator** Benefits to the site and stakeholders from implementation of the AWS Standard shall be quantified in the organization's annual report.	Statement in Annual Report involvement in AWS, promoting AWS to state and federal government as well as local councils. Promoting AWS Group Scheme. Benefits to the site and stakeholders are clearly stated in the Annual Report (Water Stewardship) and includes the following statement: *The Board has discussed the water stewardship performance and efforts, with a focus on environmental watering and CEWH partnership. Upon reviewing strategies for increasing the Trust's participation in the water stewardship space, including on a governance level/at AWS organisation level, the Trust is now a paid-up Member of AWS Asia Pacific.*

			The Trust has also collaborated with AWS Asia-Pacific in developing a group certification scheme, to be rolled out in 2021 following the Trust's recertification audit.
5.4 Disclose efforts to collectively address shared water challenges, including: efforts to address the challenges; engagement with stakeholders; and co-ordination with public-sector agencies.	5.4.1	The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.	Water related challenges and efforts to meet these are described in section 2,2 (Water related Concerns) as well as engagement efforts and comments
	5.4.2	Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.	Collective actions required by this indicator are evidenced by: RIT participation in the weir's manipulation initiative. RIT participation in an environmental watering committee facilitated by RIT, See Renmark Environmental Watering Committee minutes 17 March 2021. RIT worked with the Renmark Environment Committee to rehabilitate Bookmark creek as part of the SEE Renmark 2024 plan. An RIT board member is on the Bookmark Creek committee and reports monthly Rosalie Auricht (General Manager RIT) sits on the Katarapko Advisory Group The auditor referred to, to the "Water Stewardship" section of the annual Report, and also reviewed evidence of presentations to online seminars, radio interviews and facebook notifications and the stakeholder ability to review the Water Stewardship plan. **Observation 2021.3**
5.5 Communicate transparency in water-related compliance: make any site water-related compliance violations available upon request as well as any corrective actions the site has taken to prevent future occurrences.	5.5.1	Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.	**None in the audit 2020 period**
	5.5.2	Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable.	**None in the audit 2020 period**
	5.5.3	Any site water-related violation that may pose significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health shall be immediately communicated to relevant public agencies and disclosed.	**None in the audit 2020 period**

END OF REPORT