

**Client Name:** BlueTriton Brands – Mecosta, MI  
**AWS Registration Number:** AWS-000068  
**Client Representative:** Brandon Kienenberger, Sustainability Analyst  
**Audit Team:** Rae Mindock/Lead Auditor  
 Isabella Polenghi-Gross/Technical Specialist  
**Audit Dates:** June 24, 2021 (Site Visit), September 20, 2021  
**Stakeholder Notification:** AWS Website, SCS Website, Local Newspaper  
**Site Location:** 19275 8 Mile Rd., Stanwood, MI 49346  
**Report Date:** October 10, 2021

**Standard:** AWS International Water Stewardship Standard - Version 2.0, March 22, 2019

Audit Type	<input type="checkbox"/> Gap Analysis	<input type="checkbox"/> Initial Certification	<input type="checkbox"/> Surveillance
	<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-assessment		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recertification

Level of Certification	<input type="checkbox"/> Core	<input type="checkbox"/> Gold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Platinum
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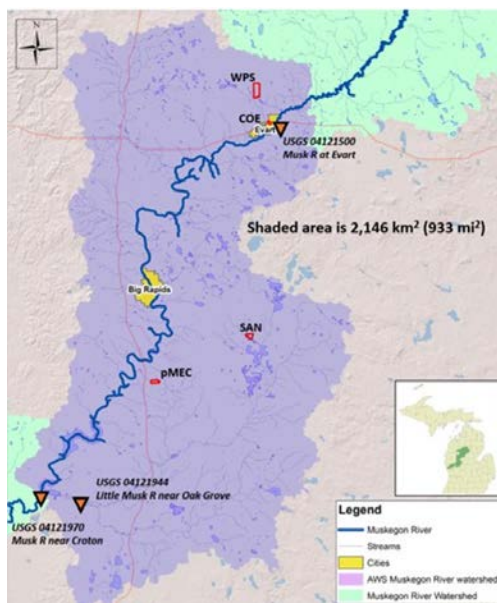
## Site Information

### Site Description

The Mecosta Factory is a water bottling facility, producing bottled water products under the brand names of Ice Mountain 100% Natural Spring Water and Pure Life. The factory produces a variety of different bottle types ranging from 8 oz to 2.5 gallon from ten bottling lines. The geographic scope of the site is limited to the property boundary of the facility. The facility is located in a rural setting. Water for the bottling facility comes from several sources, including two on-site groundwater wells to produce bottled purified water and sanitary services, and spring water delivered by pipe or tanker from one of three regional springs: Sanctuary Springs, Evert Springs, and White Pine Springs. Wastewater services are provided by on-site discharge and/or Big Rapids WWTP.

### Catchment Description

The Mecosta Factory is located in the Muskegon River Watershed which is located in the central portion of the Muskegon River Watershed (HUC 04060102). The catchment is approximately 597,000 acres and includes the primary water sources (two on-site wells, White Pines Springs, Evert Springs and Sanctuary Springs), bottling operations (Mecosta site), and the discharge recipient (on-site and Big Rapids WWTP). The site wetlands receive process wastewater and there is an on-site septic system which receives sanitary wastewater. The water sources and discharges are within the catchment. There are three major dams/ponds within the catchment including the Rodgers Dam Pond, Hardy Dam Pond, and the Croton Dam Pond. The primary source of water for the catchment is precipitation within the Muskegon River Watershed. The ultimate discharge of the Muskegon River is Lake Michigan.



Mecosta Catchment is 597,000 acres and includes the Factory, Springs, and Big Rapids WWTP.

## Shared Water Challenges

Shared water challenges are catchment water related issues shared by the site and stakeholders. A prioritized list of shared water challenges addressing the outcomes was provided. The shared water challenge that was identified and had the highest priority was Public/Consumer Education. Other shared water challenges include water quality concerns (associated with wellhead protection) and water quantity.

To better understand catchment issues and opportunities, regular meetings are held with catchment authorities including the Muskegon River Watershed Assembly (MRWA), City of Evart, Morton and Osceola Townships. The Factory has become the first industry data provider to the National Groundwater Monitoring Network by sharing long-term groundwater monitoring data as part of a national groundwater database available to the public. The Factory has provided local presentations on water stewardship through AWS, participated in Adopt-A-Highway (2 locations), Muskegon River Trash Bash and established/contributed to the Ice Mountain Environmental Stewardship Fund (IMESF). The most significant accomplishment was the development of the Twin Creek Nature Center benefiting area schools, children’s organizations, local townships, community groups, and the environment.



### Audit Attendees

Title	Opening Meeting	Document Review	Site Inspection	Closing Meeting
Sustainability Analyst	X	X		X
Natural Resources Manager	X	X	X	X
Factory Manager	X		X	X
Operations Manager	X		X	X
Internal Stakeholders: Factory Manager and Natural Resources Manager				
External Stakeholders: Twin Creek Nature Area Volunteer, Osceola Township Clerk, Natural Resources Policy Expert				
<p><b>Supporting Documentation:</b>            The Mecosta Factory provided documentation using SharePoint file share to support conformity with the AWS Standard v2.0 including: Stakeholder Outreach Log, Community Relations Process (CRP) Summary, Factory AWS Presentation, Water Map, Catchment Water Balance, and Water Stewardship Plan. The Water Stewardship Plan is a working document which is continually updated with information regarding how shared water challenges are being addressed including progress, performance evaluation and stakeholder feedback. Other supporting documentation were also provided as evidence.</p>				

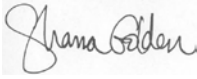
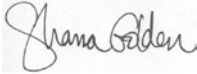
### Summary of Findings

Step	Major	Minor	Observations	Advanced Criteria Total Points
1. Gather & Understand				25
2. Commit & Plan				15
3. Implement				74
4. Evaluate				6
5. Communicate & Disclose				
TOTAL	0	0	0	120

### Audit Non-conformities and Observations

Non-Conformity (Major or Minor) or Observation	Citation	Criteria/ Indicator	Due Date	Detail and Corrective Action
				Root Cause Analysis and Corrective Action
				Root Cause Analysis and Corrective Action

### Certification Decision

<i>Auditor's recommendation for initial, continued or re-certification based on compliance with requirements:</i>	X	Recommended
		Not Recommended
<i>Level of Certification recommended</i>		AWS Core
		AWS Gold
	X	AWS Platinum
<i>SCS Certification Decision:</i>	X	Approved
		Denied
<i>Certification Decision by:</i>		 Shana Golden
<i>Technical Review by:</i>		 Shana Golden
<i>Date of Decision:</i>		October 22, 2021
<i>Surveillance Schedule:</i>		Next audit is scheduled for: February 2023, 18 Month Surveillance

**AWS International Water Stewardship Standard, Version 2.0, March 22, 2019**

*Surveillance audits shall cover at a minimum those requirements highlighted in light green.*

**STEP 1: Gather and Understand**

Criteria	Indicator	Yes	No	NA	Objective Evidence/Finding	Points
1.1 Gather information to define the site’s physical scope for water stewardship purposes, including: its operational boundaries; the water sources from which the site draws; the locations to which the site returns its discharges; and the catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and upon which it is reliant.	1.1.1 The physical scope of the site shall be <b>mapped</b> , considering the regulatory landscape and zone of stakeholder interests, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Site boundaries;</li> <li>- Water-related infrastructure, including piping network, owned or managed by the site or its parent organization;</li> <li>- Any water sources providing water to the site that are owned or managed by the site or its parent organization;</li> <li>- Water service provider (if applicable) and its ultimate water source;</li> <li>- Discharge points and waste water service provider (if applicable) and ultimate receiving water body or bodies;</li> <li>- Catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and is reliant upon for water.</li> </ul>	Yes			The Mecosta factory is located near Big Rapids, MI. The factory may receive spring water from a dedicated pipeline from Sanctuary Springs and/or brought by tanker truck from Evert Springs or White Pine Springs. Water is also obtained from two on-site wells used for purified water and domestic use. The water-related infrastructure at the factory was mapped including: layout of bottling lines, locations of water pipelines, water supply wells, wastewater management areas, and stormwater ponds.  The factory receives water from two on-site wells used for bottled water and facility sanitary water supply. Sanitary discharge is sent to the septic system. Process wastewater is applied to the onsite absorption wetland. Industrial wastewater may be sent to Big Rapids WWTP for treatment and is ultimately discharged to the Muskegon River. Stormwater discharge is managed on-site in ponds. Mecosta Catchment (597,000 acres) is defined and mapped. The catchment is located within the Muskegon River Watershed.	
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 <b>identified</b> . The process used for stakeholder identification shall be <b>identified</b> . This process shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inclusively cover all relevant stakeholder groups including vulnerable, women, minority, and Indigenous people;</li> </ul>	Yes			The stakeholder map created during the Community Relations Process (CRP) was reviewed. The CRP includes identification of local population, authorities (municipalities), businesses (economic neighbors), and NGOs. Stakeholders identified include Fire Departments, School Officials, Business Owners, local suppliers, manufacturers, school districts, community outreach programs, and regional and state representatives. The CRP was updated to include additional stakeholders associated with the Twin Creek Nature Center.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consider the physical scope identified, including stakeholders, representative of the site’s ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body or bodies;</li> <li>- Provide evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges;</li> <li>- Note that the ability and/or willingness of stakeholders to participate may vary across the relevant stakeholder groups;</li> <li>- Identify the degree of stakeholder engagement based on their level of interest and influence.</li> </ul>				<p>The Outreach log included individuals and organizations consulted with, including notes on conversations which provided information on water-related interests/challenges. The summary includes actions, follow-up and feedback.</p> <p>The CRP includes ranking of stakeholder influence and interest with levels of influence and interest defined; suggested engagement based on characterization provided.</p>	
	1.2.2 Current and potential degree of influence between site and stakeholder shall be <b>identified</b> , within the catchment and considering the site’s ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body for wastewater.	Yes			Stakeholders are related to the site's catchment and documentation identifies the stakeholders' ability to influence or be influenced. Influence/Interest is characterized (low to critical) and further describe opinions towards BlueTriton.	
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 <b>identified</b> .	Yes			The Water Stewardship Plan, Spill Prevention Control Countermeasure Plan (SPCC) and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) were reviewed. Incident response was addressed in the plans.	
	1.3.2 Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be <b>identified</b> and <b>mapped</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton prepared and provided water maps containing inputs and outputs of water at this facility. Data showing monthly water inflows, outflows, and losses were reviewed. The site utilizes a Water Withdrawal Ratio (WWR) to evaluate efficiency, measuring Liters of water used to produce a Liter of product.	
	1.3.3 Site water balance, inflows, losses, storage, and outflows, including indication of annual variance in water usage rates, shall be <b>quantified</b> . Where there is a water-related challenge that would be a threat to good water balance for people or environment, an indication of annual	Yes			BlueTriton provided water maps containing inputs and outputs of water at this facility. BlueTriton utilizes a Water Withdrawal Ratio (WWR) to evaluate efficiency, measuring Liters of water used to produce a Liter of product. The goal for 2020 was 1.272 l/l with an actual 1.274 l/l. BlueTriton provided WWR on a monthly basis for 2020 with high and low variance, compared to 2019 values.	

	high and low variances shall be <b>quantified</b> .				
	1.3.4 Water quality of the site’s water source(s), provided waters, effluent and receiving water bodies shall be <b>quantified</b> . 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 <b>quantified</b> .	Yes			A summary of water quality tests conducted at the site on incoming source water and finished product was provided. To verify the internal water quality results, samples get sent once a year to an external accredited laboratory. Monthly or higher frequency data were provided for water quality of spring sources and effluent. BlueTriton water quality protocol includes pH, T, DO, TDS and other constituents. Water quality data is regularly compared to BlueTriton and MCL screening criteria. The records reviewed showed that no parameters exceeded any regulatory standards. The system is automated so that if a value is out of limits, the system shuts down. BlueTriton is notified and must respond if the effluent quality is out of required limits (e.g. if pH exceeds certain amount).
	1.3.5 Potential sources of pollution shall be <b>identified</b> and if applicable, <b>mapped</b> , including chemicals used or stored on site.	Yes			A list of all onsite chemicals stored at the site was provided. Chemical storage was inspected during the on-site audit of the facility.
	1.3.6 On-site Important Water-Related Areas shall be <b>identified</b> and <b>mapped</b> , including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values.	Yes			No on-site IWRAs were identified.
	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 <b>identified</b> and used to inform the evaluation of the plan in 4.1.2.	Yes			Site level costs were presented including costs to implement water stewardship actions and factory-related costs were provided and reviewed. Finances are prepared by BlueTriton corporate headquarters with revenues compiled at a company level. The shared value generated included examples such as donations to local food banks and during emergency situations, preserving and improvement catchment quality through environmental fund sponsorship, education provided to inform public, improved IWRAs, etc.
	1.3.8 Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			WASH is available on-site with potable water and toilets for employees and visitors. The Factory utilized “Self-Assessment Tool for Evaluating Access to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) at the Workplace”.
1.4 Gather data on the site’s indirect water use, including: its primary	1.4.1 The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and	Yes			A list of primary inputs for outsourced services was provided with designation of location. Information on water source with annual water consumption values, and origin for each input was provided by the



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 <b>identified</b> ); and water used in out-sourced water-related services.	level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be <b>identified</b> .			<p>vendors. Analysis conducted includes water use associated with packaging, transportation, cooling, end of life, and level of water stress.</p> <p>A report of the study "Cubes 2016" prepared for the US and Canada market was reviewed. It contained a detailed footprint analysis of the water embedded in all the products used. This analysis showed that there is a clear decreasing trend in greenhouse effects, water consumption and non-renewable energy use from 2010 to 2015.</p>	
	1.4.2 The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be <b>identified</b> , and where those services originate within the site's catchment, <b>quantified</b> .	Yes		Documentation provided shows values of water consumptions and availability. Calculations conducted provides the score of the water stress. Current Baseline Water Stress is generally low or medium to high for most vendors and outsourced services.	
	1.4.3 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> The embedded water use of primary inputs in catchment(s) of origin shall be <b>quantified</b> .	Yes		Available vendors' water use information was provided and reviewed, which included annual water volumes consumed to supply the Mecosta factory. Vendors were selected if accounting for over 5 % of the total weight of goods produced or representing over 5 % of the costs. In addition, the site provided the Cube Reports, prepared by RDC Environmental in 2016 which measures sustainability as assessed by GHG, water consumption, non-renewable energy including on-site impacts and supply chain.	7
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 <b>identified</b> , 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.	Yes		A list of significant publicly led initiatives and water related public policy goals for the catchment was provided at the state, regional, county, city, and district level. A description of the purpose and relevance of the water-related legal and regulatory requirements is included in the catchment plan review summary provided and discussed.	
	1.5.2 Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be <b>identified</b> , including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.	Yes		A list of federal, state, local permits and regulatory requirements was provided. List of relevant and applicable legal and other requirements were also provided.	

	1.5.3 The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be <b>quantified</b> , including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.	Yes			The catchment water balance with precipitation, point source flows, subsurface flow runoff, and ET data were provided for the Mecosta catchment. Data is presented as an average from a 30-year period and indicates seasonal fluctuation. In addition, catchment water balances were provided, which include average monthly water demand data and water supply values and future projections on population, annual water demand and supply data.	
	1.5.4 Water quality, including physical, chemical, and biological status, of the catchment shall be <b>identified</b> , and where possible, <b>quantified</b> . 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 <b>identified</b> .	Yes			Spring water undergoes the standard State required annual water quality testing performed by third party, accredited laboratories. Additionally, BlueTriton performs quarterly, monthly, and weekly water quality testing for specific constituents and parameters. Trending of all water quality sources is evaluated annually and compared to historical data and water quality goals. Publicly available water quality information was provided for the catchments.	
	1.5.5 Important Water-Related Areas shall be <b>identified</b> , and where appropriate, <b>mapped</b> , and their status assessed including any threats to people or the natural environment, using scientific information and through stakeholder engagement.	Yes			IWRAs have been identified by the Mecosta factory along with a description of their water-related issues. IWRAs include: Muskegon River, Rodgers Dam Pond, Hardy Dam Pond, Croton Dam Pond, Sanctuary Springs, Evert Springs and White Pine Springs.	
	1.5.6 Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be <b>identified</b> , including condition and potential exposure to extreme events.	Yes			A list of publicly available reports/data of water-related infrastructure with a description, exposure scenarios and opportunities. Infrastructure includes treatment plants, storage tanks, and pipelines.	
	1.5.7 The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			A Water Risk Filter map providing information on WASH was reviewed. WASH for the catchment is adequate based on WRI and demographic information. The Mecosta Factory supports local food banks and disaster relief organizations.	
	1.5.8 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> Efforts by the site to support and undertake catchment level water-related data collection shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			Annual monitoring report summaries and other documents were provided and reviewed for all spring sources, containing flow data and monitoring efforts conducted regularly and frequently at the water sources as well as in the adjacent environment. These data are reported	7

					to local and state agencies on a monthly, quarterly and/or annual basis and are available to agencies for water governance tracking and planning within the catchment. The Mecosta site shared groundwater monitoring data collected over 19 years within Osceola and Mecosta Counties, with Muskegon River Watershed Assembly, City of Evart, Morton and Osceola Townships, and the National Groundwater Monitoring Network to help the State of Michigan fill in their groundwater level data gaps for climate change models. The site has also partnered with USGS to identify data monitoring locations, worked with Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy to validate technical feasibility of monitoring programs, and funded other monitoring efforts.	
	<b>1.5.9 Advanced Indicator</b> The adequacy of WASH provision within the catchments of origin of primary inputs shall be <i>identified</i> .	Yes			The currently available Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for each of the eleven municipalities in and out of the catchment were provided and reviewed.	4
1.6 Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the water challenges <i>identified</i> by stakeholders with the site's water challenges.	<b>1.6.1</b> Shared water challenges shall be <i>identified</i> and prioritized from the information gathered.	Yes			A prioritized list with rationale of shared water challenges was provided and reviewed. Drivers and public-sector agency efforts are noted as well. Water education is prioritized as first, on a scale of 1-4. The challenges were prioritized based on stakeholder feedback and corporate initiatives.	
	<b>1.6.2</b> Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be <i>identified</i> .	Yes			A list of existing initiatives was provided and reviewed.	
	<b>1.6.3 Advanced Indicator</b> Future water issues shall be <i>identified</i> , including anticipated impacts and trends	Yes			Future water risks were summarized with initiatives in the Water Stewardship Plan.	3
	<b>1.6.4 Advanced Indicator</b> Potential water-related social impacts from the site shall be <i>identified</i> , resulting in a social impact assessment with a particular focus on water.	Yes			The Economic Contribution to Michigan, Statewide, Regional and Local Contribution report, dated June 2017 prepared by Public Sector Consultants was reviewed.	4
1.7 Understand the site's water risks and opportunities: Assess and	<b>1.7.1</b> Water risks faced by the site shall be <i>identified</i> , and prioritized, including likelihood and severity of impact within a	Yes			A prioritized list of water risks was provided and reviewed. Water risks matched shared water challenges. Water education is prioritized first, on a scale of 1-4.	

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 <b>identified</b> in 1.6.	given timeframe, potential costs and business impact.				
	1.7.2 Water-related opportunities shall be <b>identified</b> , including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.	Yes			A prioritized list of water-related opportunities for the site match the shared water challenges and water risks lists. First priority is based on water education and increasing the amount of well-educated water stewards. A prioritized list of projects, savings and value creation was submitted and reviewed. Value creation was quantified, as applicable.
1.8 Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes: Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.	1.8.1 Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton has identified multiple best practices toward achieving AWS outcomes at the site and in the catchment. The following best practices are examples for Indicators 1.8.1 - 1.8.5  BlueTriton identified the Pacific Institute/CEO Water Mandate, Setting Site Water Targets informed by Catchment Context, Case Study: Santa Ana River Watershed, CA. The study which references AWS, was supported by companies endorsing the CEO Mandate. BlueTriton engages with catchment authorities and other stakeholders to share information, practices and drive water stewardship practices.
	1.8.2 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton identified The Beverage Industry Continues to Drive Improvement in Water, Energy, and Emissions Efficiency, 2018 Benchmarking Study. BlueTriton uses the sector specific efficiency metric of water use ratio (liters of water used in the process/liter of bottled water) to track onsite efficiency and established a target to monitor continual improvement.
	1.8.3 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be <b>identified</b> , including rationale for data source.	Yes			BlueTriton identified Sector best practice for Processing and Bottling of Bottled Drinking Water is established in CFR Title 21, Part 129. BlueTriton exceeds requirements outlined with sampling frequency, parameters analyzed and consistency across the business unit.
	1.8.4 Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton identified 1) Assessment, management and monitoring of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) A practical guide for forest managers and 2) Good practice guidelines for High Conservation Value assessments, A practical guide for practitioners and auditors both by ProForest.

					BlueTriton follows practices described by ProForest by assigning Natural Resources Manager for each site who focuses on maintenance of springs and other IWRA's.	
	1.8.5 Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton identified the Water Aid Corporate engagement on water supply, sanitation and hygiene: Driving progress on Sustainable Development Goal 6 (SDG6) through supply-chains and voluntary standards. BlueTriton utilizes Guidelines on Respecting the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation, which is extended to suppliers.	
<b>Advanced Points Step 1</b>						<b>25</b>
<b>STEP 2: Commit and Plan</b>						
Criteria	Indicator	Yes	No	NA	Objective Evidence/Findings	Points
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 <b>disclosed</b> site statement OR organizational document shall be <b>identified</b> . 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.	Yes			A pledge was reviewed, signed by the site factory manager, containing all elements described in this criterion.	
	2.1.2 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> A statement that explicitly covers all requirements set out in Indicator 2.1.1 and is signed by the organization's senior-					This Advanced Indicator was not considered for this site.

	most executive or governance body and publicly <b>disclosed</b> shall be <b>identified</b> .				
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 <b>identified</b> , including: - Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure - Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.	Yes			The BlueTriton Compliance Matrix was provided and reviewed. Included in the matrix are the listed permits and responsible staff to ensure maintenance of compliance. A third-party is contracted to confirm compliance is maintained. In addition, the facility is ISO 14001 Certified (documentation for this certification were reviewed).
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 <b>identified</b> that defines the overarching mission, vision, and goals of the organization towards good water stewardship in line with this AWS Standard.	Yes			A water stewardship strategy statement signed by the factory manager was provided and reviewed. Mecosta’s strategy is a high-level document stating the overall strategy is in alignment with the AWS requirements.
	2.3.2 A water stewardship plan shall be <b>identified</b> , 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.	Yes			A detailed water stewardship plan was created as part of the AWS process. The plan is broken into objectives, targets, and actions. There are different actions corresponding to different targets, each with their own metrics, budget, responsible person, status, and other criteria. Public Consumer/Education, Water Efficiency, Water Quality, and Water Quantity are the water topics identified in this plan.

	<p><b>2.3.3 Advanced Indicator</b> The site’s partnership/water stewardship activities with other sites within the same catchment (which may or may not be under the same organizational ownership) shall be <b>identified</b> and described.</p>	Yes			<p>The following documentation was provided and reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USGS Current Conditions at four USGS Gages (installation and operation funded by BlueTriton)</li> <li>• City of Ewart Remediation Project (re: fireworks)</li> <li>• Twin Creek Nature Area (construction and operation)</li> </ul> <p>The site is open and available to share AWS-related experience, contacts, lessons learned and consultation for the benefit of others who want to embark in similar AWS efforts.</p>	4
	<p><b>2.3.4 Advanced Indicator</b> 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 <b>identified</b>.</p>	Yes			<p>The following documentation was provided and reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ice Mountain Environmental Stewardship Fund</li> <li>• Muskegon River Clean-Up</li> <li>• Muskegon River Watershed Assembly – Muskegon River Dam Evaluation</li> <li>• Michigan Chamber of Commerce, Sustainability Conference</li> <li>• Michigan Manufacturers Association, Environmental and Regulatory Policy Meeting</li> </ul>	4
	<p><b>2.3.5 Advanced Indicator</b> 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 <b>identified</b>.</p>	Yes			<p>Documentation of stakeholder consensus on the dam removal project and the Ice Mountain Environmental Stewardship Fund included meeting notes and photographs of various activities with catchment stakeholders. This was also confirmed through stakeholder interviews.</p>	7
<p>2.4 Demonstrate the site’s responsiveness and resilience to respond to water risks.</p>	<p>2.4.1 A plan to mitigate or adapt to <b>identified</b> water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be <b>identified</b>.</p>	Yes			<p>Mecosta provided their current SWPPP/SPCC documents which included a description of their required responses and resilience operations to water related issues and risks. Modifications to the plans are captured through revision/amendment comments. Additionally, an annual review is part of standard procedures to evaluate the plan’s effectiveness.</p>	

					In addition, the Water Stewardship Plan is a working document which documents identification of water risks through performance, evaluation, and stakeholder consultation. Stakeholders include the relevant public-sector agencies responsible for infrastructure.	
	2.4.2 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> 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 <i>identified</i> .				This Advanced Indicator was not considered for this site.	
<b>Advanced Points Step 2</b>						<b>15</b>
<b>STEP 3: Implement</b>						
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Objective Evidence/Findings</b>	<b>Points</b>
3.1 Implement plan to participate positively in catchment governance.	3.1.1 Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance shall be <i>identified</i> .	Yes			The factory provided documentation of their efforts to support good catchment governance through participation with the local governing agencies, sharing information with agencies and through continuing to expand education on AWS and outcomes toward good water governance.	
	3.1.2 Measures <i>identified</i> to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, that are not part of 3.2 shall be <i>implemented</i> .	Yes			Site abides by <i>Guidelines on Respecting the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation</i> as one tool to access the impact of operations on communities to access water (water rights) and sanitation. Additional tools and efforts complementing the Guidelines include the Community Relations Process and water-related outreach. Excluded water rights have not been identified through stakeholder engagements, including with key water agencies. As part of a continued dialog with the community, the site continues to pursue feedback on this topic.	
	3.1.3 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> Evidence of improvements in water governance capacity from a site-selected baseline date shall be identified.	Yes			Evidence was provided and reviewed for the USGS Gaging program supporting regional groundwater database used for climatic modeling.	2
	3.1.4 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> Evidence from a representative range of stakeholders showing consensus that the site is seen as positively contributing to	Yes			Documentation of conversations with stakeholders specifically addressing consensus with Indicators 3.1.4, 3.5.3, 3.6.2 and 4.3.2 were provided for review and confirmed through interview.	2



	the good water governance of the catchment shall be <b>identified</b> .					
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 <b>implemented</b> .	Yes			The BlueTriton Compliance Matrix was provided and reviewed. Included in the matrix are the listed permits and responsible staff to ensure maintenance of compliance. Additionally, a third-party is contracted to confirm compliance is maintained.	
	3.2.2 Where water rights are part of legal and regulatory requirements, measures <b>identified</b> to respect the water rights of others including Indigenous peoples, shall be <b>implemented</b> .	Yes			The Factory's water use is within identified water rights. Spring water provided for Factory use is within water rights identified by the State of Michigan. Excluded water rights have not been identified.	
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 <b>identified</b> .	Yes			Water withdrawal, water withdrawal rates, energy consumption and production volume are tracked monthly and compared to previous years monthly values. The site continues to work to improve water efficiency as per its targets, by implementing the following new measures: valve redesign on one line; installation of quality assurance camera systems at fillers on five lines, and continued use of the site water map to identify water saving opportunities. The site achieved a WWR of 1.274 versus target of 1.272 for 2020.	
	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 <b>implemented</b> .	Yes			Water scarcity is not a shared water challenge.	
	3.3.3 Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			The site is not re-allocating water savings.	
	3.3.4 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> The total volume of water voluntarily re-allocated (from site water savings) for social, cultural and environmental needs shall be <b>quantified</b> .				This Advanced Indicator was not considered for this site.	

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 <b>identified</b> .	Yes			Measurement system is in place for water quality targets throughout the site, data from previous monitoring reports were reviewed. Annual review of data was found to be within historic values and regulatory limits. Wastewater results are within permitted values.	
	3.4.2 Where water quality is a shared water challenge, continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site's effluent shall be <b>identified</b> and where applicable, <b>quantified</b> .	Yes			Water quality is a shared water challenge and an AWS Outcome. Improvements to water quality are achieved through monitoring, and management.	
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 <b>implemented</b> .	Yes			No IWRAs are present at the Mecosta site. Catchment IWRAs have been identified together with their current status, future trends and site status. IWRAs are discussed in their AWS presentations to stakeholders. BlueTriton Mecosta has an established history of participating in clean-up efforts of the Muskegon River and funding the IMESF. Progress towards implementation of IWRA plans are identified and documented.	
	3.5.2 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> 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 <b>identified</b> . Restored areas may be outside of the site, but within the catchment.				This Advanced Indicator was not considered for this site.	
	3.5.3 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> 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 <b>identified</b> .	Yes			Documentation of conversations with stakeholders specifically addressing consensus with Indicators 3.1.4, 3.5.3, 3.6.2 and 4.3.2 were provided for review and confirmed through interview.	2
3.6 Implement plan to provide access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective	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	Yes			Mecosta uses a self-assessment tool to review access drinking water, sanitation and hygiene awareness (WASH). The nature of the product made at the facility requires strict adherence to these principals. Pledged compliance was achieved within the Mecosta facility.	

hygiene (WASH) for all workers at all premises under the site's control.	shall be <b>identified</b> and where applicable, <b>quantified</b> .					
	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.	Yes			Mecosta uses a self-assessment tool at each site to review access to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene awareness (WASH). Mecosta is not impacting WASH of communities. Discussions with stakeholders did not indicate actual or perceived concern that the site was impinging on human rights to safe water and sanitation in the catchment.	
	<b>3.6.3 Advanced Indicator</b> 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 <b>identified</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton Mecosta site provided documentation with evidence of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donation to Angels of Action and local hospitals of hand sanitizer (produced 26,000 bottles for use) and 6,000 gallons of distilled water</li> <li>• Hydration Stations for Bromley Park Music event and Maranda Park Parties</li> </ul>	5
	<b>3.6.4 Advanced Indicator</b> In catchments where WASH has been <b>identified</b> 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 <b>identified</b> .				This Advanced Indicator was not considered for this site.	
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 <b>quantified</b> .	Yes			Indirect water use targets in the Water Stewardship Plan include engaging with vendors in catchment. There are no suppliers located in the catchment. However, BlueTriton has contacted suppliers outside of the catchment with request for water use data and has received information from several vendors.	
	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	Yes			There are no suppliers located in the catchment. BlueTriton has contacted suppliers outside of the catchment with request for water use data and has received information from several vendors.	

	engagement related to indirect water use, shall be <b>identified</b> .					
	<b>3.7.3 Advanced Indicator</b> Actions taken to address water related risks and challenges related to indirect water use outside the catchment shall be documented and <b>evaluated</b> .				This Advanced Indicator was not considered for this site.	
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 <b>identified</b> .	Yes			Evidence indicated there are no concerns with any shared water related infrastructure. BlueTriton regularly shares aquifer and surface water information with stakeholders.	
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 <b>implemented</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton Mecosta team engages with catchment authorities and other stakeholders to share information, best practices and drive water stewardship efforts, one example is the data sharing and collaborative efforts with Michigan EGLE.	
	3.9.2 Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance shall be <b>implemented</b> .	Yes			Sector specific efficiency metric of water use ratio (liters of water used in the process/liter of bottled water) are used to track onsite efficiency and established a target to monitor continual improvement. The 2020 site WWR of 1.274 l/l was compared to the site goal of 1.272.	
	3.9.3 Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be <b>implemented</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton exceeds requirements outlined with sampling frequency, parameters analyzed and consistency across the business unit. Water quality data provided meets and exceeds regulatory requirements. Effluent is managed appropriately and in accordance with permit limits.	
	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 <b>implemented</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton follows practices described by ProForest by assigning Natural Resource Manager for each site who focuses on maintenance of springs and other IWRA's. BlueTriton follows good practice guidelines for High Conservation Value Assessments A practical guide for practitioners and auditors and Assessment, management and monitoring of High Conservation Value Forest A practical guide for forest managers, as set by ProForest.	

	<p>3.9.5 Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be <b><i>implemented</i></b>.</p>	<p>Yes</p>		<p>There is adequate WASH in the catchment. BlueTriton provides bottled water donations to the community. A report is included with details of the donations made, which includes the organizations supported, the products and the amounts.</p>	
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	<p><b>3.9.6 Advanced Indicator</b>  Achievement of <i>identified</i> best practice related to targets in terms of good water governance shall be <i>quantified</i>.</p>	Yes		<p>BlueTriton team engages with catchment authorities and other stakeholders to share information, best practices, and drive water stewardship efforts within their catchment and beyond. This is well documented in the outreach log provided by the site, which shows evidence of water stewardship education events, including factory open houses and meeting with stakeholders to achieve a better understanding of their issues and opportunities.</p> <p>Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding and sharing data for a project which is part of the USGS “Groundwater Monitoring Network”, which was established to provide a more accurate assessment and status of the country’s water resources, assist in the determination of the quantity and quality of water available for beneficial uses, identify long-term trends in water availability, and improve the ability to forecast the availability of water for economic, energy production, and environmental uses (BlueTriton (Ice Mountain brand) was the first private industry to participate in this program)</li> <li>• Funding and actively participating in workgroups that assessed and prioritized dams for removal in the Muskegon River Watershed. The outcome was to get four dam removal plans completed.</li> <li>• Taking active part in the successful response program to remediate the perchlorate contamination of a public water supply system related to fireworks. Actions included investigation activities, the development of a restoration plan, protection of the municipal supply, installation of a new community water supply well, supporting permit issuance, and remediation of the aquifer; all actions conducted in close collaboration with the City of Evart and their consulting team.</li> </ul>	8
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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regularly participating at quarterly Operations and Assistance Committee with local authorities, industry partners, and other agencies to discuss water-related issues.</li> </ul>	
	<b>3.9.7 Advanced Indicator</b> Achievement of <i>identified</i> best practice related to targets in terms of sustainable water balance shall be <i>quantified</i> .	Yes			Mecosta factory provided documentation to support evidence of improvements in the WWR in the last ten years, despite a general increase in their production volume.	8
	<b>3.9.8 Advanced Indicator</b> Achievement of <i>identified</i> best practices related to targets in terms of water quality shall be <i>quantified</i> .	Yes			Annual monitoring report summaries and other documents were provided and reviewed for all spring sources used by the Mecosta Factory, containing flow datas and monitoring efforts conducted regularly and frequently at the water source as well as in the adjacent environment. These data, all in compliance with local and federal screening criteria, are reported to local and state agencies on a monthly, quarterly and/or annual basis and are available to agencies for water governance tracking and planning. Other examples of best practices include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborating with the City of Ewart and their consulting team during a successful project to restore the local public water supply system previously impacted by perchlorate contamination related to fireworks.</li> <li>Contributing to Ice Mountain Environmental Stewardship Fund for environmental conservation projects and programs throughout the Muskegon River watershed with the goal of preserving and improving IWRA health and supporting the long-term sustainability of the Muskegon River and its ecosystems.</li> <li>Valid wastewater permits and effluent water quality results showing compliance with applicable criteria.</li> <li>Annual review of incoming data to be within historic trends and values.</li> <li>Good CIP effluent management from the spring sites to the receiving factory.</li> <li>Volunteering at cleanup programs in local recharge areas (e.g.: Adopt-A-Highway and Muskegon River Trash Bash)</li> </ul>	8
	<b>3.9.9 Advanced Indicator</b> Achievement of <i>identified</i> best practices related to targets in terms of the site's	Yes			Several documents were reviewed with evidence of best practices achieved related to the Mecosta site maintenance of IWRA. Examples include:	8

	<p>maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas have been <b>implemented</b>.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twin Creek Nature Area, an area originally developed to collect stormwater from a public road, became a destination for educational and recreational activities, besides serving as a bioswale to filter the stormwater protecting both groundwater and the nearby Twin Creek. The project carried out by BlueTriton, was conducted in close collaboration with City of Evert, Osceola Township, MRWA, Evert Master Gardner Club, and Evert Public Schools. Currently BlueTriton manages this nature area in partnership with many stakeholders to protect water resources, preserve and enhance native habitat and ecosystems, and to serve as an outdoor education center.</li> <li>• Participation in Muskegon River Trash Bash</li> <li>• Contribution to Ice Mountain Environmental Stewardship Fund</li> <li>• Continued monitoring and evaluation of water data; compare values against precipitation measurements, and site-specific environmental conditions to preserve and improve IWRA health.</li> <li>• Active management of effluent discharges.</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>3.9.10 Advanced Indicator</b> Achievement of <b>identified</b> best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be <b>quantified</b>.</p>	Yes		<p>BlueTriton donations of bottled water to the community is documented and quantified monthly for 2020. In addition, BlueTriton contributed 26,000 blue bottles and 6,000 gallons of distilled water for hand sanitizer production during the pandemic.</p>	4
	<p><b>3.9.11 Advanced Indicator</b> A list of efforts to spread best practices shall be <b>identified</b>.</p>	Yes		<p>A list of several outreach efforts is compiled and provided containing specific names of different agencies, companies, foundations, points of contacts, and dates and notes of meetings. In addition, BlueTriton generates Monitoring and Community Reports in the form of brochures for each spring source. The brochures summarize BlueTriton activities and monitoring data within their spring source communities. These are great examples on how to promote best practices within the catchments and show BlueTriton’s commitment to being more transparent in their operations.</p> <p>BlueTriton works closely with catchment authorities on catchment best practice projects. The Factory hosts, supports, funds and participates and</p>	3



					several local education programs on topics including water quality and protection of natural resources.	
	<b>3.9.12 Advanced Indicator</b> 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 <i>identified</i> .	Yes			A list of several collective actions was provided and reviewed. The list contains information on parties and individuals involved, roles played by the BlueTriton Mecosta site, and references to the evidence of the change obtained through effective implementation of the actions. During the audit, additional information was provided regarding the multiple projects to improve water balance, quality, and/or governance within and outside the catchment. The common denominator of all their successful collaborations with different agencies and companies is the site's willingness to share their water stewardship experience, technology, contacts, hydrogeologic understanding and data, and ability to access funding.	14
	<b>3.9.13 Advanced Indicator</b> Evidence of the <i>quantified</i> improvement that has resulted from the collective action relative to a site-selected baseline date shall be <i>identified</i> and evidence from an appropriate range of stakeholders linked to the collective action (including both those implementing the action and those affected by the action) that the site is materially and positively contributing to the achievement of the collective action shall be <i>identified</i> .	Yes			Documentation was provided on evidence of the positive impact of collaborative efforts towards more efficient governmental policies, increased education and outreach, technical assistance, and increased project opportunities. The documentation also includes explicit acknowledgement from different stakeholders that the Mecosta site contributed to the positive outcome. Evidence of the successful collaborations includes: a publication on the restoration project of a perchlorate plume from fireworks in the City of Ewart and the related 2020 NGWA Outstanding Groundwater Remediation Project Award; nomination in news articles about BlueTriton's Twin Creek green infrastructure project for the City of Ewart; recognition of several funding contributions towards research, restoration, improvement, educational, and cleanup efforts to protect and enhance the environmental integrity of natural, fish, and wildlife habitats.	10
<b>Advanced Points Step 3</b>						<b>74</b>
<b>STEP 4: Evaluate</b>						
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>Objective Evidence/Findings</b>	<b>Points</b>
4.1 Evaluate the site's performance in light of its actions and targets from its water stewardship plan and	4.1.1 Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be <i>evaluated</i> .	Yes			BlueTriton has evaluated performance of the Stewardship Plan which is aligned with realizing the AWS Outcomes. Targets established in the Plan are tracked based on multiple actions with measurable metrics, documentation of stakeholder engagement, and evaluation of changes in	

demonstrate its contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes.					water risk for each target. The evaluation also includes a cost/benefits review and describes shared value benefits for each target. Further evaluation will be conducted during the surveillance and renewal audits.	
	4.1.2 Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be <b>evaluated</b> .	Yes			BlueTriton has created value related to multiple efforts including WASH access in the catchment, water efficiency upgrades, and IWRA preservation. Knowledge gained through implementation is being shared with other water-related stakeholders in and out of the catchment.	
	4.1.3 The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be <b>identified</b> and where applicable, <b>quantified</b> .	Yes			Refer to 4.1.1	
	4.1.4 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> 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 <b>identified</b> .				This Advanced Indicator was not considered for this site.	
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 <b>evaluated</b> and proposed preventative and corrective actions and mitigations against future incidents shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			No water-related emergency events occurred since the last Surveillance Audit. No shutdown occurred that was water related. The annual environmental reviews would document these emergency events, if any. The facility has a current SWPPP and SPCC.	
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 <b>identified</b> .	Yes			Internal and external stakeholder outreach conducted through CRP. Responses covered the main topics of catchment areas, WASH, IWRA, water efficiency, water savings projects. Documented evidence via Outreach Log.	
	4.3.2 <b>Advanced Indicator</b> The site's efforts to address shared water challenges shall be <b>evaluated</b> by stakeholders. This shall include stakeholder reviewing of the site's efforts	Yes			Documentation of conversations with stakeholders specifically addressing consensus with Indicators 3.1.4, 3.5.3, 3.6.2 and 4.3.2 were provided for review and confirmed through interview.	6

	across all five outcome areas, and their suggestions for continual improvement.					
4.4 Evaluate and update the site's water stewardship plan, incorporating the information obtained from the evaluation process in the context of continual improvement.	4.4.1 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 <b>identified</b> .	Yes			The Water Stewardship Plan is a working document updated annually to reflect on-going actions and completed projects. The Plan tracks targets and actions tied to best practice and AWS outcomes addressed. Performance and stakeholder consultation with respect to the projects are included. Stakeholder consultation has led to sharing projects and adapting to stakeholder projects as requested. The site presents the updated plan indicating the progress or fulfillment of the established goals. COVID-19 has delayed goal progress related to tours and meetings.	
<b>Advanced Points Step 4</b>						<b>6</b>
<b>STEP 5: Communicate and Disclose</b>						
Criteria	Indicator	Yes	No	NA	Objective Evidence/Findings	Points
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 <b>disclosed</b> .	Yes			The Mecosta Factory posts the factory organization chart in the entry of the factory floor where it will be observed by staff and during factory open houses with operational tours. The organization chart includes the staff and relevant responsible personnel for water-related laws and regulations. Factory open houses also include presentations on the site's water stewardship projects and implementation of the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard.	
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.	Yes			Mecosta provided the outreach log and communication with catchment authorities about the AWS process. The AWS Presentation summarizes the water stewardship plan and outcomes. The Presentation was shared with visitors of the Factory tours and other stakeholders. Communication and outreach confirmed through stakeholder interviews.	
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 <b>quantified</b> performance against targets, shall be <b>disclosed</b> annually at a minimum.	Yes			The stakeholder presentation was reviewed, the presentation includes the site's water stewardship performance results. The factory conducted public/consumer education outreach through tours; distribution of stakeholder presentations and providing stakeholders presentations that reviewed the sites water challenges, stakeholder feedback, targets, with implementation outcomes.	
	<b>5.3.2 Advanced Indicator</b>				This Advanced Indicator was not considered for this site.	

	The site's efforts to <b>implement</b> the AWS Standard shall be <b>disclosed</b> in the organization's annual report.					
	<b>5.3.3 Advanced Indicator</b> Benefits to the site and stakeholders from implementation of the AWS Standard shall be <b>quantified</b> in the organization's annual report.				This Advanced Indicator was not considered for this site.	
5.4 Disclose efforts to collectively address shared water challenges, including: associated efforts to address the challenges; engagement with stakeholders; and co-ordination with public-sector agencies.	5.4.1 The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be <b>disclosed</b> .	Yes			The stakeholder presentation was reviewed. Presentation includes the site's water stewardship performance results. The presentation was provided to stakeholders prior to the onsite audit. List of attendees reviewed at the facility. The Mecosta Factory conducted public/consumer education outreach through tours; and providing stakeholders presentations that reviewed the sites water challenges, stakeholder feedback, targets, with implementation outcomes.	
	5.4.2 Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be <b>identified</b> .	Yes			See 5.4.1	
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 <b>disclosed</b> .	Yes			Violations are publicly available through state and federal reporting (ECHO/US EPA). There were no violations reported via ECHO. The document "BlueTriton Detailed Facility Report" is included as evidence, which shows that the factory did not commit any violation.	
	5.5.2 Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be <b>disclosed</b> if applicable.	Yes			See 5.5.1	
	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 <b>disclosed</b> .	Yes			Violations are publicly available through state and federal reporting (ECHO/US EPA). There were no violations reported via ECHO. The ECHO reporting system would include violations that pose a significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health.	
<b>Advanced Points Step 5</b>						<b>0</b>