

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)



Audit Number: AO-001456

### SITE DETAILS

Site: **AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico**  
Address: Payo Km 2.5 Vía Marcelino Maridueña, Guayas, ECUADOR  
Contact Person: Sadi Saltos  
AWS Reference Number: AWS-000367  
Site Structure: Single Site

### CERTIFICATION DETAILS

Certification status: Certified Core  
Date of certification decision: 2025-Jul-18  
Validity of certificate: 2028-Jul-17

### AUDIT DETAILS

Audited Service(s): AWS Standard v2.0 (2019)  
Audit Type(s): Re-Certification Audit  
Audit Start Date: 2025-Feb-17  
Audit End Date: 2025-Feb-19  
Lead Auditor: Juan Carlos Cerón Vinueza  
Audit team participants:  
Juan Carlos Cerón, Lead Auditor  
  
Site Participants:  
Sadi Saltos, Certification Officer  
Roberto Ron, Certifications Specialist  
Carlos Galvez, Farm Manager  
Segundo Jara, Warehouse Manager  
Jose Lopez, Plant Manager  
Wimper Ortiz, Plant Manager

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### ADDITIONAL INFO

**Summary of Audit Findings:** During the certification audit, 3 major non-conformities, 23 minor non-conformities, and 4 observations were raised.

The Client is requested to perform a root cause analysis and define corrective actions for each of the non-conformities and to submit these to WSAS within 30 days of receipt of the audit report by 18 May 2025.

The major non-conformities must be closed within 90 days of receipt of the report. In order to meet this timeline evidence is to be submitted to WSAS (within 75 days) by 02 July 2025.

Minor non-conformities must be closed out by the time of the next annual audit.

The audit team recommends re-award of certification of AGRIPEPASA Agricola del Pacifico at Core level pending approval of the corrective actions plan for all non-conformities and closure of the major non-conformities.

#### CLOSURE OF FINDINGS AND CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN:

The Client has successfully resolved the major non-conformities and submitted the corrective action plans addressing all findings.

Proof of implementation has been requested for the Minors and this will be evaluated during the Surveillance Audit. The client is requested to upload evidence of implementation prior to the Surveillance Audit.

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**Scope of Assessment:** The scope of services covers the recertification audit for assessing conformity of AGRIPASA Agrícola del Pacífico against the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Version 2.

FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO is a banana farm with a total area of 477 hectares, of which 436.31 hectares are in production. It is in the province of Guayas, Municipality of Yaguachi, Pedro J Montero Parish, Km 2.5 of Payo-Marcelino Maridueña Av. approximately 50 km from the city of Guayaquil

FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has the following general infrastructure for its production processes:

- 4 sectors of "Musa acuminata" banana plantations
- 4 banana packing areas
- Storage areas for chemicals and organic fertilizers
- Support areas such as automotive and mechanical maintenance workshops
- Administrative areas

The estimated annual production of the farm in boxes of bananas for export is confidential.

FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO is sharing 2 hydrological basins of the Taura and Chimbo Rivers, with a distributed hydrological network of the Bulubulu and Chimbo rivers in the northern part of the basin and in the central part of the basin with minor drainages such as small rivers and estuaries that drain the waters until reaching the Taura River and Milagro River, respectively.

In addition, it can be noted that groundwater is influenced by water from the Milagro-Naranjito aquifer, where its alluvial deposits are made up of gravel and sand. Its extension is 2108.59 km<sup>2</sup>; These units are considered primary porosity, with materials of intergranular porosity and extremely high permeability. In this aquifer structure, the static level of the wells is between 0.5 and 25 m, with a depth between 4 and 130 m.

The Taura River basin is the fourth largest contributor to the Guayas River, it has a total area of 2,354 km<sup>2</sup>. Its main tributaries are the Barranco Alto and Culebras rivers. The amount of water resources in the Taura basin is 1969 hm<sup>3</sup>, with a production module of 0.84 hm<sup>3</sup>/km<sup>2</sup> and the per capita water resource is 5711 m<sup>3</sup>

The Chimbo River basin has a surface area of 4,588 km<sup>2</sup> and runoff is concentrated in the main Chimbo River, which originates in Loma Lozan, in the Andes, northeast of the Bolívar province. The river flows from north to south and crosses the cities of Guaranda, San José de Chimbo and Cumandá, where the course runs from east to west, and empties into its largest tributary, the Chanchan River, in the town of Coronel Marcelino Maridueña. In the confluence section of the Yaguachi and Milagro rivers it takes the name of the Yaguachi river, 9 km downstream it contributes the flows to the Guayas River. The annual volume of water resources in the basin is 2,171 hm<sup>3</sup>, with a water production module of 0.47 hm<sup>3</sup>/km<sup>2</sup> and per capita water availability of 4,963 m<sup>3</sup>.

FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO is located near the rivers Chimbo (Yaguachi Basin), Barranco Alto (Taura Basin) & Bulubulu (Taura Basin), also Bypass River (an artificial River that is available only in wintertime) passes through the farm from north to south.

The audit was conducted onsite from 17-02-2025 to 19-02-2025.

The on-site visit included the assessment of visit water extraction well, water catchment facilities, water purification area, product packing area, Sector 1 of banana plantation, wastewater treatment system, water drains, water recirculation facilities, IWRA, stakeholder interviews and meetings to identify documents submitted as evidence

The following external stakeholders were interviewed during the audit:

- Carlos Bones / Municipality of Yaguachi / Head of Environment of the municipality of Yaguachi / Local Government / Authorization: YES

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- Gabriel Palma / AIFA / Agrochemical Application Officer / Supplier / Authorization: YES
- Margarita Mero / Canaveral Community / Representative of the Canaveral community / Neighbor / Authorization: YES

### FINDINGS

#### NUMBER OF FINDINGS PER LEVEL

Observation	4
Minor	23
Major	3

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FINDING DETAILS

Finding No:	TNR-016666
Checklist Item No:	1.1.1
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	<p>The physical scope of the site shall be mapped, considering the regulatory landscape and zone of stakeholder interests, including:</p> <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>
Findings:	<p>AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico does not have any information of Groundwater Aquifers</p> <p>Also, Waste water service provider (Francisco Cayambe) has not been mapped.</p>
Corrective action:	<p>Conduct a search for scientific documentation different from what is already included in the "Site Description" document and add new information.</p> <p>Include the wastewater service provider on the map.</p>

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## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

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Finding No:	TNR-016667
Checklist Item No:	1.2.1
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	Stakeholders and their water-related challenges shall be identified. The process used for stakeholder identification shall be identified. This process shall: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Inclusively cover all relevant stakeholder groups including vulnerable, women, minority, and Indigenous people;</li><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>
Findings:	FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has not provide evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges.
Corrective action:	Develop a consultation program with key stakeholders to address their interests and challenges related to water. During the first half of the year, a meeting will be held with at least two stakeholders from the farm.
Finding No:	TNR-016668
Checklist Item No:	1.3.1
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.
Findings:	The site has not identified a response plan for potential wastewater spills in transportation or treatment carried out by the supplier FRANCISCO CAYAMBE (HIDROCLEANER). As this is a repeat finding the non-conformity is a Major one.
Corrective action:	Include in the farm's Emergency and Contingency Plan the actions to be followed in case of sewage spills, as well as establish minimum criteria for the hiring of future suppliers, requiring the presentation of updated permits and emergency response plans.

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## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

Finding No:	TNR-016669
Checklist Item No:	1.3.3
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not quantified an indication of annual high and low variances. Also, AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico must fine-tune the mathematical model to reduce the error in the quantification of water at the inputs and outputs.
Corrective action:	Include in the water balance file the details of the annual high and low variations, according to the explanation of each graph.
Finding No:	TNR-016670
Checklist Item No:	1.3.4
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not presented information of the effluent quality of the waste water treated by FRANCISCO CAYAMBE (Hydrocleaner)
Corrective action:	Include a section in the farm's Emergency and Contingency Plan requiring suppliers to provide the results of monitoring and analyzing the quality of sewage effluent. This obligation should be included in future contracts, in addition to ensuring the training of responsible supplier personnel to guarantee effective information management.

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Finding No:	TNR-016671
Checklist Item No:	1.3.5
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and if applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.
Findings:	AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not identified and mapped potential sources of pollution.
Corrective action:	Create an exclusive map of all the contamination sources on the farm.
Finding No:	TNR-016673
Checklist Item No:	1.3.7
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	The site has not consider costs of: Cost of drinking water (Supplier: NORMA PESANTES), Cost of wastewater treatment (Supplier: FRANCISCO CAYAMBE), Cost of IWRA maintenance
Corrective action:	Update the "Water-Related Costs" document to include the relevant information on drinking water, wastewater treatment, and the maintenance of the IWRA system.
Finding No:	TNR-016674
Checklist Item No:	1.5.3
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.
Findings:	AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not presented information of the water aquifer
Corrective action:	Perform an analysis of the basin's inputs and outputs to update the water balance.



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## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

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Finding No:	TNR-016675
Checklist Item No:	1.5.4
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	For Chimbo and Taura basin, there is no evidence of the estimation of the maximum and minimum annual variations.
Corrective action:	Repeated NC from SV2 Perform an analysis of the results between the 2010 data (secondary information) and 2023 on water quality in the Chimbo and Taura River sub-basin.
Finding No:	TNR-016676
Checklist Item No:	1.5.7
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.
Findings:	The site may update its WASH-related information with the latest census from 2021
Finding No:	TNR-016677
Checklist Item No:	1.7.1
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not identified potential costs and business impact of its risks.
Corrective action:	Properly identify the potential costs and commercial impact of water risks at the site.

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Finding No:	TNR-016678
Checklist Item No:	1.7.2
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.
Findings:	For the identified opportunities, the site has not identified potential savings and business opportunities.
Finding No:	TNR-016697
Checklist Item No:	2.2.1
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure</li><li>- Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.</li></ul>
Findings:	The site has not identified a Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.
Corrective action:	Develop a legal compliance schedule that includes the preparation and submission of the required documents to the relevant regulatory agencies.
Finding No:	TNR-016701
Checklist Item No:	2.4.1
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	A plan to mitigate or adapt to identified water risks developed in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies shall be identified.
Findings:	AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has not identified a plan to mitigate or adapt to the identified water risks and has not make contact with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies about such plan.
Corrective action:	Repeated finding from SV2 Establish mitigation measures for the identified risks in coordination with the selected stakeholders.

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Finding No: TNR-016702  
Checklist Item No: 3.1.1  
Status: In Progress - CA plan approved  
Finding level: Minor  
Due date: 2026-Feb-17  
Checklist item: Evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance shall be identified.  
Findings: AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has not presented evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance  
Corrective action: Generate activities that allow for the establishment of real actions for good governance of the basin. Include these activities in the Water Stewardship Plan.

Finding No: TNR-016704  
Checklist Item No: 3.3.1  
Status: In Progress - CA plan approved  
Finding level: Minor  
Due date: 2026-Feb-17  
Checklist item: Status of progress towards meeting water balance targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.  
Findings: The site has not presented information on actions planned and completed on water balance.  
Corrective action: Modify the activity in the Water Custody Plan, along with its indicator, to ensure it is achievable and measurable effectively, and conduct the respective evaluation of the objective based on the AWS results

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Finding No:	TNR-016706
Checklist Item No:	3.4.1
Status:	Closed
Finding level:	Major
Due date:	2025-Jul-17
Checklist item:	Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.
Findings:	<p>The site has not evidence for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Maintain coverage in primary channels to prevent the entry of drift from aerial spraying. Indicator: meters of planted canals/meters of canals to be planted Status: no evidence of compliance analysis of the indicator</li><li>- Carry out waste collection in two neighboring communities to prevent river pollution Indicator: executed collections/scheduled collections Status: no evidence of compliance analysis of the indicator</li><li>- Maintain the ban on the application of herbicides throughout the property, areas close to bodies of water and protection areas. Indicator: 8 cycles carried out / 8 Cycles of programmed sheet metal Status: no evidence of compliance analysis of the indicator</li></ul>
Corrective action:	Redesign the site's Water Custody Plan, ensuring the correct linkage between objectives, indicators, and the established goals for each action, supporting each element with the corresponding evidence.
Finding No:	TNR-016707
Checklist Item No:	3.4.2
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not identified continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site's effluent: evidence of implementing the previous finding was not provided.
Corrective action:	<p>Conduct an analysis of water quality at the watershed level, indicating the parameters where there may be a challenge vs. compliance with standards, emphasizing the result of the challenging parameter.</p> <p>Review laboratory analyses to check if there are any parameters out of compliance.</p> <p>Update document 1.8.3.</p>

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Finding No: TNR-016708  
Checklist Item No: 3.5.1  
Status: In Progress - CA plan approved  
Finding level: Minor  
Due date: 2026-Feb-17  
Checklist item: Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site's Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.  
Findings: The site has not presented evidence for:

- Maintain a buffer zone next to the Chimbo River, Barranco Alto and Estero Cabo de Vela, 25 m away, Activities: planting plan  
Indicator: meters of planted canals/meters of canals to be planted  
Status: no evidence of compliance analysis of the indicator

Corrective action: Repeated finding from SV1 and SV2  
Redesign the activities, considering that some did not progress during 2024.

Finding No: TNR-016709  
Checklist Item No: 3.6.1  
Status: In Progress - CA plan approved  
Finding level: Minor  
Due date: 2026-Feb-17  
Checklist item: 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.  
Findings: The site has not presented information of:

Ensure bottled water supply points in strategic areas of the farm, following best practice recommendations from the sector and the basin to ensure availability and quality.  
Indicator: # of farm sectors/# of sectors with water supply  
Status: no evidence of compliance of the indicator

Corrective action: Management for the installation of a water well for the Soledad community  
Indicator: # communications executed / # communications scheduled  
Status: no evidence of compliance of the indicator  
Redefine the indicator for each activity to ensure it reflects the evidence generated to support compliance.

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## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

Finding No:	TNR-016710
Checklist Item No:	3.7.1
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.
Findings:	The site has not included indirect water use targets in the water stewardship plan or presented actions implemented or progress.
Corrective action:	Repeated finding from SV2 Include within the PCA an objective related to indirect water use aligned with document 1.4.1.
Finding No:	TNR-016712
Checklist Item No:	3.9.3
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be implemented.
Findings:	Site has not provided evidence of: - Maintain the prohibition of the application of herbicides throughout the farm, areas close to bodies of water and protection areas.
Corrective action:	Include within the PCA a more objective indicator to demonstrate compliance with the activity of maintaining zero herbicide application in fields and areas near water bodies and protected areas.
Finding No:	TNR-016713
Checklist Item No:	3.9.4
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of the site's maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.
Findings:	Site has not presented evidence of: - Establish a maintenance program to preserve the integrity of the buffer zones to ensure their effectiveness against polluting runoff. - Reforest with native and/or appropriate species for the protection of bodies of water.
Corrective action:	Redesign the activities, considering that some did not progress during 2024.

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Finding No:	TNR-016714
Checklist Item No:	3.9.5
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be implemented.
Findings:	Site has not presented evidence of: - Management for the installation of a water well for the Soledad community - Implement a wastewater collection and treatment system (e.g. improved septic tanks, artificial wetlands) aligned with local and sector best practices, minimizing environmental impact.
Corrective action:	Redesign the activity and indicator within the scope of the PCA, with the scope: Elevated tank for the use of the Soledad community.
Finding No:	TNR-016716
Checklist Item No:	4.1.3
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.
Findings:	AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not presented any information related to the identification of the shared value benefits in the catchment
	Repeated finding.
Corrective action:	Report the activities carried out at the watershed level, highlighting their contribution as shared value initiatives.
Finding No:	TNR-016717
Checklist Item No:	4.3.1
Status:	Closed
Finding level:	Major
Due date:	2025-Jul-17
Checklist item:	Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.
Findings:	AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has not provided information on the consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance
	Repeated finding
Corrective action:	Engage with stakeholders to inform and analyze the performance of the previously communicated PCA.

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## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

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Finding No:	TNR-017747
Checklist Item No:	5.2.1
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to relevant stakeholders.
Findings:	Although the site showed how the water stewardship plan was communicated to stakeholders, according to the interviewed stakeholder, the AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO Water Stewardship Plan for 2024 has not been communicated. This indicates the communication method used by the site may not have been sufficiently effective and the site should consider other means of communication.
Corrective action:	Communicate the custody plan to the defined stakeholders and document the management.
Finding No:	TNR-017748
Checklist Item No:	5.3.1
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	A summary of the site's water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum.
Findings:	The site showed how the water stewardship performance summary was disclosed to stakeholders. Yet according to the interviewed stakeholder, water stewardship performance has not been disclosed. This indicates the disclosure method used by the site may not have been sufficiently effective and the site should consider other means of disclosure.
Corrective action:	Disseminate the site's performance on water management to the defined stakeholders and document the management.
Finding No:	TNR-016721
Checklist Item No:	5.4.1
Status:	Closed
Finding level:	Major
Due date:	2025-Jul-17
Checklist item:	The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.
Findings:	The site did not provide information how shared water challenges were disclosed.
Corrective action:	Communicate shared challenges with defined stakeholders and document management through emails, official letters with acknowledgment of receipt, and meeting minutes.



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Finding No:	TNR-016722
Checklist Item No:	5.4.2
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Feb-17
Checklist item:	Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.
Findings:	Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public sector bodies have not been identified.
Corrective action:	Establish an active participation mechanism with stakeholders.

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Report Details

Report	Value
Report prepared by	Juan Carlos Cerón Vinuesa
Report approved by	Ozge Gokmen
Report approved on (Date)	21/03/2025

Surveillance

Proposed date for next audit  
2026-Feb-16

Comment      RC audit was carried out according to the audit plan, the opening meeting of the event was held with staff from the organization in which the guidelines of the process were indicated, the closing meeting was held with staff from the organization in which the findings and next steps were communicated. Throughout the process, the auditor team complied with health and safety issues.

Stakeholder Announcements

Comment      According to the person responsible for the site, the public announcement has not been communicated. A Nc has been identified in 1.2.1

Catchment Information

Catchment Information

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### Catchment Name

AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico is located in two hydrological basins: Taura and Chimbo Rivers

### For Taura River Basin

#### Water Supply & Discharge Catchment

AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico are supplied with well water and surface water. The sites does not discharge water to the environmentt, they control excess of water via drainage

#### Groundwater Aquifers

AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico does not have any information of Groundwater Aquifers (a NC has been identified)

#### Catchment Water Service Providers

No water services has been used by the sites.

#### Catchment Features

According to the information provided by the client, the basin area is expected to be subject to water shortage or deficit for six to seven months (june to December). There are not risk of flooding in the winter. There are protected areas such as: Churute Mangrove Wetland. No water transfer has been detected between the Taura River Basin and another basin. The basin has a tropical climate for the most part. In addition, there is intensive use of water for intensive agriculture, livestock, heavy industry and forestry activities.

### For Chimbo River Basin

#### Water Supply & Discharge Catchment

AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico are supplied with well water and surface water. The sites does not discharge water to the environmentt, they control excess of water via drainage

#### Groundwater Aquifers

AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico does not have any information of Groundwater Aquifers (a NC has been identified)

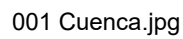
#### Catchment Water Service Providers

No water services has been used by the sites.

#### Catchment Features

According to the information provided by the client, the basin area is expected to be subject to water shortage or deficit for six to seven months (june to December). There are not risk of flooding in the winter. There are protected areas such as: Chillanes Bucay Protective Forest, Chillicay and Manuelita Protective Forest. No water transfer has been detected between the Taura River Basin and another basin. The basin has a tropical climate for the most part. In addition, there is intensive use of water for intensive agriculture, livestock, heavy industry and forestry activities.

Audit Number: AO-001456



Comment	FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO is sharing 2 hydrological basins of the Taura and Chimbo Rivers
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# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

### Client Description and Site Details

#### Client/Site Background

FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO is part of COMPANIA AGRICOLA PECUARIA DEL PACIFICO S.A. AGRIPPEPASA which is dedicated to the cultivation and packaging of Cavendish-type bananas.

The farm has 4 production sectors in 436.31 hectares of production with a total dimension of 477 total hectares. The organization has an environmental license 152-LA-DMA-GPG issued by the Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition (MAATE) dated 13-05-2015, in addition to having permits related to the use of surface water and groundwater through wells. The farm shares 2 hydrological basins of the Taura and Chimbo Rivers

The rivers found in the sector are:

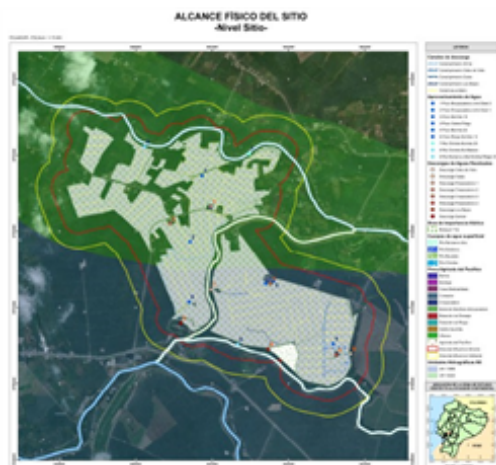
- Chimbo River – Yaguachi Basin
- Barranco Alto River – Taura Basin
- Bulubulu River – Taura Basin
- Rio By Pass (artificial work available only in winter which crosses the farm from north to south)

At the time of the audit, the organization has 80 people in the packing process and 200 in the field

Stakeholders close to the site are: Enmita de la Nube Farm (Bananas) / Gamaunion (Sugar Cane) / Sr Polo Farm (Bananas) / San Jose Farm (Bananas) / Soledad Community / Cañaveral Community

The organization has the following infrastructure on site

- For irrigation: Surface collection station (2 surface collection from the Barranco Alto Rive & 1 from Chimbo River) & Underground water collection wells (4 for the preparation of chemical products & Sigatoka control sector)
- For packaging: 4 underground water collection well
- Water storage: no applicable
- Process wastewater discharges: 4 of packing site and 4 water drains
- Wastewater Infrastructure: Septic tanks in the required places with on-site treatment / 5 septic tanks



002 Mapa del sitio.jpg

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

### Summary of Shared Water Challenges

#### Summary of Shared Water Challenges


The following challenges have been identified:

- Waste management and pollution prevention in water bodies
- Access to water (Wash)
- Water stress in the Basin
- Water quality


#### 0.1 General Requirements for Single Sites, Multi-Sites and Groups

##### 0.1.1 Eligibility Criteria


##### 0.1.2

**0.1.2.1** *Have any water source locations and water-related discharge locations been visited during the audit, if so, which and where? If none were visited please provide justification.*  Yes


Comment The Barranco Alto intake and the Sector 1 packing plant well were visited. In addition, the Sector 4 drainage system was visited.

**0.1.1.1** *The site(s) occupy one catchment OR an exception has been granted.*  Yes

Comment FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO is sharing two hydrological basins of the Taura and Chimbo Rivers, with a distributed hydrological network of the Bulubulu and Chimbo rivers in the northern part of the basin and in the central part of the basin with minor drainages such as small rivers and estuaries that drain the waters until reaching the Taura River and Milagro River, respectively.

**0.1.1.2** *The scope of the proposed certification shall be under the control of a single management system.*  Yes

Comment FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO operates under a single management system

**0.1.1.3** *The scope of the proposed certification shall be homogeneous with respect to primary production system, water management, product or service range, and the main market structures.*  Yes

Comment FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO is dedicated to the cultivation and packaging of Cavendish-type bananas. Water management, products range, and the main market structures are homogeneous.

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

### 1 STEP 1: GATHER AND UNDERSTAND

**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 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.

 in progress

Comment

FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has presented:

- 111 a Criterio 1.1 MAPAs-2025
- 111 b 1.1.1 DESCRIPCIÓN DE ALCANCE FÍSICO
- 111 c Mapa criterio 1.1.1 - 1 (nivel sitio)
- 111 d Mapa criterio 1.1.1 - 2 (nivel cuenca)

- 1- Site boundaries and nearby communities (Doc 111 b pag 11)
- 2- Water-related infrastructure, including infrastructure on site (Doc 11 b pag 10, pag 6 to 9 water related infrastructure per sector):
  - For irrigation: Surface collection station (2 surface collection from the Barranco Alto River & 1 from Chimbo River) & Underground water collection wells (4 for the preparation of chemical products & Sigatoka control sector)
  - For packaging: 4 underground water collection well (1 for each packing plant)
  - Water storage: not applicable
  - Process wastewater discharges: four of packing site and four water drains
  - Wastewater Infrastructure: Septic tanks in the required places with on-site treatment / 5 septic tanks
- 3- Water sources providing water to the site; which include: water weels and superficial water (Doc 111 b)
- 4- Discharge points and wastewater treatment infrastructure (Doc 111 b pag 12)
- 5- Catchment(s) that the site affect(s) and is reliant upon for water: The Site's has identified two water catchment: Rio Yaguachi and Rlo Taura Basin. Sanitary wastewater is treated on site. (Doc 111 b)
- 7- Waste water service provider (Francisco Cayambe) and ultimate receiving water body or bodies (Doc 111 d and Doc 111 b pag 15)

AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico does not have any information of Groundwater Aquifers  
**Finding No: TNR-016666**

**1.2** *Understand relevant stakeholders, their water related challenges, and the site's ability to influence beyond its boundaries.*

# CERTIFICATION REPORT


## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

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.*

 in progress

Comment

Abroad range of stakeholders with water-related interests, influence, and responsibilities has been identified and engaged, through a systematic process. (Document 121). These include water and wastewater service providers, regulatory bodies, NGOs, large water consumers in the area (neighbors with short period crops) and communities. The stakeholder register includes contact information, a log of responses, and the water-related challenges shared with each stakeholder. A matrix of interested parties is verified in the document "Stakeholders and degree of influence" Date Jan 2025

Sample:

- Rio Viejo Campus Water Board / Interest: Water Care and Supply
- Prefecture of Guayas / Interest: Legal compliance
- José María Egas School / Interest: Legal compliance

Minor NC closing evidence:

AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has identified the following stakeholders:

- AIFA / Fumigation supplier
- Norma Pesantes / Drinkable Water supplier
- Municipality of Yaguachi / Government body
- Hidrocleaner / Supplier

FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has not provide evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges

According to the person responsible for the site, the public announcement has not been communicated.

**Finding No: TNR-016667**

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.*



 Yes



# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

Comment	<p>AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has included different methods of influence in Document 121 columns F to G:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Partner: Work together as equal partners to address a common water challenge</li><li>- Involve: Where the site takes a lead on an initiative and involves other organizations or groups with a common interest</li><li>- Consult: Actively meet or discuss proposed actions</li><li>- Inform: Let stakeholders know what you are doing, allowing them to respond if they have questions or concerns</li><li>- Reciprocate: Explore if there is action you can take in return</li></ul> <p>The Site has presented the assessment on a matrix of interested parties registered in the document 121.</p> <p>Sample:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Rio Viejo Campus Water Board / Water Care and Supply / Type of actor: State institution / Commitment: The level of commitment is unknown / Degree of influence: 1 / Interest: 2 / Action: They are kept informed</li><li>- MAATE / Legal compliance / Type of actor: State institution / Commitment: Inspection and monitoring of laws / Degree of influence: 1 / Interest: 2 / Action: Attend needs</li><li>- Local Water Water / Legal compliance / Type of actor: State institution / Commitment: Inspection and monitoring of laws / Degree of influence: 1 / Interest: 2 / Action: Action: Attend needs</li></ul>	
1.3	<i>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.</i>	
1.3.1	<i>Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.</i>	 in progress
Comment	<p>AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 131 a PLAN DE EMERGENCIA Y CONTIGENCIA 2024</li><li>- 131 b PLAN DE CONTINGENCIAS PARA LA PREVENCION DE DERRAMES DE COMBUSTIBLE</li></ul> <p>Identified situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Spills: Chemical products, lubricants and fuels (Doc 131 a / pag 39)</li></ul> <p>Water-related Incident plan: Specific steps that will be taken during and after a water-related incident are listed. Also, water main shut-off locations, communication related to the emergency and assembly points.</p> <p>However, the site has not identified a response plan for potential wastewater spills in transportation or treatment carried out by the supplier FRANCISCO CAYAMBE (HIDROCLEANER)</p>	<p><b>Finding No: TNR-016668</b></p>
1.3.2	<i>Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped</i>	 Yes

Audit Number: AO-001456

Comment GRUPO UBESA has presented Water Balances for each farm.
- 132 BH\_Agrícola\_del\_Pacífico\_2024
For AGRIPASA Agrícola del Pacífico
Inflows: rainwater (precipitation) + irrigation water (water well + Surface water) + human consumption water (supplier) + Production process water (well for packing plant) + fumigation water
Outflows: evapotranspiration + water exported with fruit + surface drainage + water infiltrated into the underground layers + wastewater and production process discharge
Storage: no storage on site
Period: according to the banana calendar / 2024 / with 13 periods in 2024
The Water balance 2024 includes variances for Items a through in Section 132 is tracked periodically (13 periods in one year) by the Site and available in the Site's Water Balance electronic file.

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.
in progress

Comment AGRIPASA Agrícola del Pacífico (Document 132) includes variances for Items a through in Section 132 is tracked periodically (13 periods in one year) by the Site and available in the Site's Water Balance electronic file.
The document includes data for:
For water intake, there are flowmeters which are verified by the maintenance area. Data is recorded periodically to keep track of access to well water.
For the water outlet, there are a method of estimation of the pumped water. Data is recorded periodically to keep track the water discharge.
AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO For 2024:
Inflows: 9.6 MM m3
Storage: 0 m3
Outflow: 7.7 MM m3
Balance: 1.9 MM m3
AGRIPASA Agrícola del Pacífico must fine-tune the mathematical model to reduce the error in the quantification of water at the inputs and outputs.
According to the information presented by AGRIPASA Agrícola del Pacífico there is a water-related challenge related to Water availability (scarcity).
AGRIPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not quantified an indication of annual high and low variances.

Finding No: TNR-016669

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.
in progress

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

**Comment**      AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO Water Quality Monitoring Plan applies to:

- Irrigation water
- Packaging plant water
- Drinking potable water
- Packaging plant discharge water

For all the Water Quality Parameters the local legal requirements are applied. Sampled are collected annually or semi-annually by an external laboratory accredited for water analysis for the local Accreditation Organism (SAE).

Water quality monitored parameters and local legislation are:

- Surface water withdrawals / Irrigation water - Table 3 AM097A / Frequency: Semi-annual
- Well for irrigation and packing house / Table 1 Annex 1 of AM097 / Frequency: Annual
- Recirculating tank / Table 9 Annex 1 of AM097 / Frequency: Annual

Sample of water quality analysis in 2024

Irrigation water / Table 3 AM097A / Status: complies with all microbiological parameters (ZIP folder 134 b)

Well water / Table 1 Annex 1 of AM097 and INEN 1108 / Status: meets all parameters (Doc 134 c)

Supplier drink water / Table 1 Annex 1 of AM097 and INEN 1108 / Date: 24-01-2024 / Status: meets all parameters (ZIP folder 134 d)

Discharge water / Table 9 Annex 1 of AM097 / not presented

All parameters comply with local regulations

AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not presented information of the water quality of the waste water treated by FRANCISCO CAYAMBE (Hydrocleaner)

**Finding No: TNR-016670**

**1.3.5**      *Potential sources of pollution shall be identified and if applicable, mapped, including chemicals used or stored on site.*



in progress

**Comment**      AGRIPESA Agrícola del Pacífico has not identified and mapped potential sources of pollution

During the visit of the site, the important H&S measures, which are rigorously implemented, could be observed and there are no reports of accidents. In the chemical and agrochemical storage areas the MSDS are stored and the responsible was trained to comply with local regulations. Hazardous Waste and waste storage areas are identified with risk signals to comply with local regulations. Diesel storage tanks were identified with risk signals, there is a secondary containment bucket to avoid potential spills into bodies of water. During the visit of the key areas, the audit team was required to wear safety equipment and always was accompanied by staff.

A list of chemicals used on site has been presented (Doc 135)

**Finding No: TNR-016671**

**1.3.6**      *On-site Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified and mapped, including a description of their status including Indigenous cultural values.*



Yes

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)




Audit Number: AO-001456

Comment	<p>The IWRA on-site has been identified in doc 136. Also, the organization has identified and evaluate the IWRA on his site.</p> <p>Sample (Doc 136):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Montañita / Limited on the map of Agrícola del Pacífico in sector 1 with a dimension of 7.5 ha</li> <li>Type: conservation area</li> <li>Status: Preserved</li> <li>Indigenous cultural values: Not applicable</li> <li>- Rio Barranco Alto / Limited on the map of Agrícola del Pacífico to the south of the adjoining farm at 1721m</li> <li>Type: adjacent river</li> <li>Status: Preserved</li> <li>Indigenous cultural values: Not applicable</li> <li>- Chimbo River / Limited on the map of Agrícola del Pacífico to the north of the farm adjoining at 1098 m</li> <li>Type: adjacent river</li> <li>Status: Preserved</li> <li>Indigenous cultural values: Not applicable</li> <li>- Rio By pass / Crossing the property of Agrícola del Pacífico from south to north of the farm adjoining at 3732 m</li> <li>Type: river that crosses the property</li> <li>Status: Preserved</li> <li>Indigenous cultural values: Not applicable</li> <li>- Estero Cabo de Vela / Limiting the property of Agrícola del Pacífico to the east by 928 m</li> <li>Type: adjoining estuary</li> <li>Status: Preserved</li> <li>Indigenous cultural values: Not applicable</li> </ul> <p>The site has indicated that the areas of IWRA identified on the farm have no relationship with any indigenous community to date, so a cultural value cannot be included.</p>	
1.3.7	<p><i>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.</i></p>	<p>in progress</p>
Comment	<p>Union de Bananeros Ecuatorianos S.A. (UBESA) has presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 137 Costo relacionados con el agua which includes:</li> </ul> <p>Total amount used to source water, Total amount used to ensure water is treated, Cash payments made outside the organization for water-related materials, product components, purchased facilities and services, Total amount used on water infrastructure, Payments to government for water-related matters (e.g. water-related permits or property taxes), Payment of salaries to staff in relation to water management and handling activities</p> <p>However, the site has not consider costs of: Cost of drinking water (Supplier: NORMA PESANTES), Cost of wastewater treatment (Supplier: FRANCISCO CAYAMBE), Cost of IWRA maintenance</p>	
		<p><b>Finding No: TNR-016673</b></p>
1.3.8	<p><i>Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.</i></p>	<p>Yes</p>

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

Comment	AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacifico) self-assessment tool ensures access to water, sanitation and hygiene (Doc 138) The organization has complied with access to potable water and access to sanitation (In the interview carried out with the production personnel, it is verified that there is drinking water at the work site and that the workers uses the nearby bathrooms), also the site has ensure WASH infrastructure according to local legislation	
1.4	<i>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.</i>	
1.4.1	<i>The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The products used as inputs for production are not manufactured in the basin of origin "Rio Yaguachi & Rio Taura Basin" as is presented in Document 141, site of origin in column D	
1.4.2	<i>The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site's catchment, quantified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO have identified in document 142:  - Aerial fumigation / AIFA / Origin: Sector Via a el Triunfo Pacific agricultural 2024/ 52 m3  - Drinking water / Heavenly Water / Origin: El Triunfo Sector Pacific agricultural 2024 / 247 m3  - Container washing / R9 / Origin: Perimetral - Guayaquil 2024 / 150 m3	
1.5	<i>Gather water-related data for the catchment, including water governance, water balance, water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, infrastructure, and WASH</i>	
1.5.1	<i>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.</i>	 Yes

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

**Comment** FINCA AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has identified key policy and planning documents from service providers and public agencies engaged in water supply, wastewater collection, treatment and re-use, stormwater management, and integrated water resources management in Document 151. It shows a limited understanding of the complex institutional arrangements in the catchment, and of the medium-term plans and initiatives of those institutions.

Water governance initiatives / 2023 / AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO

- Management of the Chimbo basin Management Plan
- Life Fund for Chimborazo
- Conservation of the National System of Protected Areas

Local Water governance initiatives have been identified, including basin plan(s), water-related public policies, major ongoing public initiatives, and relevant targets to help inform the site of potential opportunities for action Collective for sustainable water management.

Sample:

PJ MONTERO Territorial planning development plan Initiative: Training and training for respect for the environment

YAGUACHI Territorial Planning Development Plan Initiative:

- Create spaces for dialogue and consultation, with the following institutions; Ministry of Environment and Water, Water Secretariat, Provincial GAD of Guayas and Parish GAD's of the Canton
- Regulate the use of banks and river beds for economic purposes, without discrimination against the environment. Propose ordinance projects to the plenary session of the Cantonal Council, for the use of banks and river beds.

REGIONAL HYDRAULIC PLAN OF THE GUAYAS HYDROGRAPHIC DEMARCATION

Initiative:

Build vegetation buffer zones in coastal agricultural cultivation areas at a closer distance from the Daule River, the main stream of the Vines River and the main stream of the Babahoyo River; intensively treat wastewater produced by livestock farming in the cantons and then discharge; also clean the garbage in the rivers.

**1.5.2** *Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.*



Yes

**Comment** Legal requirements identification is presented in legal matrix (Doc 152) – last update January 2025 The identification of the applicable legal and regulatory bodies related to water belonging to Ecuador and Guayas is verified.

Water supply requirements:

The organization uses water from its surface collection and its collection from wells for its use. Payment rates are verified for the use of water from these sources

In Ecuador, the customary water rights is documented in the Organic Law of Water Resources, Uses and Exploitation of water

**1.5.3** *The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.*

in progress

**Comment** Based on the information on the catchment the site has gathered qualitative and quantitative data on the catchment water balance Chimbo Basin and Taura Basin Balance document is verified / Date: January 2025 / Document 153

For Taura Basin: scarcity has been detected, so an indication of annual and monthly variance is presented.

For Chimbo Basin: scarcity has been detected, so an indication of annual and monthly variance is presented.


For Aquifer: No information has been presented

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

**Finding No: TNR-016674**

- 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.* in progress 

**Comment** The document Water quality at the basin level Date: 2023 (Document 154) is reviewed.

For Chimbo Basin

16 monitoring stations of the hydrographic demarcation of the Chimbo river basin are analyzed. The stations indicate that the requirements of the water quality standard are NOT met, coliforms, BOD, iron, aluminum, turbidity, heavy metals are exceeded. There is a challenge related to water in the quality aspect. There is a challenge related to water in the quality aspect.


For Taura Basin

10 monitoring stations of the hydrographic demarcation of the Taura river basin are analyzed. The stations indicate that the requirements of the water quality standard are NOT met, coliforms, BOD, iron, aluminum, turbidity, heavy metals are exceeded. There is a challenge related to water in the quality aspect. There is a challenge related to water in the quality aspect.

NC MAJOR

For Chimbo and Taura basin, there is no evidence of the estimation of the maximum and minimum annual variations.

**Finding No: TNR-016675**

- 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.* Yes 

**Comment** The organization has made a review of its IWRA at the level of the Chimbo and Taura basin (Document 155 - 1). Ecological areas close (IWRA) to the organization have been identified:


Chimbo basin

- Chilanes Bucay protective forest
- Hda Shishimbe Protective Forest
- Chicay and Manuelita protective forest
- KBA Tiquibuzo

Taura Basin

Churute Mangrove Ecological Reserve  
Santay Island National Recreation Area  
KBA Ciénegas de Guayaquil  
El Salado Mangrove Fauna Production Reserve  
Los Samanes National Recreation Area

The site has assessed the basin IWRA, including any threats to people or the natural environment, using scientific information (WWF method) and through stakeholder engagement.

- 1.5.6** *Existing and planned water-related infrastructure shall be identified, including condition and potential exposure to extreme events.* Yes 




**Comment** The existing water-related infrastructure status in the basin is dated October 2021. Document 156 - 1) is verified. The organization shares water infrastructure related to municipal water related to the Bypass River (Bypass).



# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456





<b>1.5.7</b>	<i>The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.</i>	 Obs.
Comment	<p>The suitability of Wash services is reviewed in the document "Basin Level WASH Services to January 2025" (Document 157)</p> <p>The data analyzed were taken from the INEC 2010 census on access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water demand</li> <li>- Access to sewerage</li> <li>- Water coverage</li> </ul> <p>The following analysis is verified:</p> <p>For Chimbo Basin: :</p> <p>The access of the urban and rural population of the Chimbo basin to the water service for human consumption is on average 40%, of which 53.5% treat the water before drinking it; Similarly, 27.6% of the population has access to sewerage service and 41% with access to solid waste collection service.</p> <p>For Taura Basin:</p> <p>There and analysis of: Population, Poverty rate according to unmet basic needs, Demand for water for domestic use, Water deficit among urban residents, Demand for water for agricultural use, Deficit in irrigation water for export, Education and health services. Also, there is ana analysis of water and WASH access per parish</p>	
<b>1.6</b>	<i>Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the water challenges identified by stakeholders with the site's water challenges.</i>	
<b>1.6.1</b>	<i>Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The organization has reviewed its Shared Water Challenges (Document 161)</p> <p>The following challenges have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Waste management and pollution prevention in water bodies</li> <li>- Access to water (Wash)</li> <li>- Water stress in the Basin</li> <li>- Water quality</li> </ul>	
<b>1.6.2</b>	<i>Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>The organization has presented its Shared Water Challenges initiatives (Document 161)</p> <p>The following challenges and initiatives have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Waste management and pollution prevention in water bodies</li> </ul> <p>Meeting with the Municipality of Yaguachi, Department of Environment, to address waste management in communities and offer training</p> <p>Training on Environmental Care issues in the Soledad Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Access to water (Wash)</li> </ul> <p>Establish a dialogue with the Municipality of Yaguachi for the construction of a water catchment well for the benefit of the families of the community of Soledad</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water stress in the Basin</li> </ul> <p>Meeting with the Municipality of Yaguachi, Department of Environment, to report on the activities carried out by the farm in terms of water saving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water quality</li> </ul> <p>With the support of WWF, it is proposed that MAATE carry out a new analysis of water quality in the Guayas basin, in order to obtain updated data.</p>	



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<b>1.7</b>	<i>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.</i>	
<b>1.7.1</b>	<i>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.</i>	 in progress
Comment	<p>The site applied WWF's Water Risk Filter's Operation Risk assessment module (Document 171 - 1)</p> <p>The methodology analyzes the basin risks:</p> <p>Site Physical Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lack of water</li> <li>- Water quality</li> </ul> <p>Site regulatory risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conductive environment</li> <li>- Institutions and Governance</li> </ul> <p>Site reputational risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Media scrutiny</li> <li>- Conflict</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Finding No: TNR-016677</b></p>	
<b>1.7.2</b>	<i>Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.</i>	 No
Comment	<p>AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has presented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 172 Oportunidades 575-2024</li> </ul> <p>The site has presented the following opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Raising awareness about the existing vulnerability to adverse weather conditions and their possible effects</li> <li>- Maintaining communications with Stakeholders to address water care issues</li> <li>- Positioning a favorable image through an information system on the actions being carried out, such as protection strips, water reuse, waste collection in the community, and job creation</li> </ul> <p>The site has not identified potential savings, and business opportunities.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Finding No: TNR-016678</b></p>	
<b>1.8</b>	<i>Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes: Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.</i>	
<b>1.8.1</b>	<i>Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Site has presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Engage with peer organizations and stakeholders to promote sustainable water management</li> <li>- Hold meetings with stakeholders identified by the organization, with the goal of conserving the water resources of the basin</li> <li>- Implement and maintain Rainforest Alliance Certification - Raise awareness among staff</li> </ul> <p>Training program for workers and communities</p>	
<b>1.8.2</b>	<i>Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be identified.</i>	 Yes

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Comment	<p>Site has presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training / Maintain training for on-site workers on how to improve efficiency in water use and management, leak detection and control, valve closure, etc.</li> <li>- Efficient irrigation management on the farm (Conduct weather monitoring to determine optimal irrigation needs and thereby facilitate more pragmatic irrigation recommendations. / Implement the activities established in the Irrigation Improvement Plan / Daily records of water consumption according to hydrometers, linked to weather information, to determine if the crop's needs are covered / Identification of leaks and other water loss mechanisms in order to establish the relevant corrective measures)</li> <li>- Water saving systems in process (Keep water recirculation systems running for processing / Reduce water consumption in fruit washing activities / Implement valve closures for washing bunches in the yard)</li> </ul>	
<b>1.8.3</b>	<i>Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be identified, including rationale for data source.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Site has presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maintain coverage in primary canals, in order to prevent the entry of drift from aerial spraying.</li> <li>- Maintain the prohibition of the application of herbicides throughout the farm, areas close to bodies of water and protection areas.</li> <li>- Manage, in coordination with MAATE, a periodic monitoring program of water quality in the basin.</li> </ul>	
<b>1.8.4</b>	<i>Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Site has presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Establish a maintenance program to preserve the integrity of the buffer zones to ensure their effectiveness against polluting runoff.</li> <li>- Continue the sustainability project in partnership with WWF to strengthen the conservation and restoration of aquatic ecosystems according to guidelines and best practices in the sector.</li> <li>- Implement a recovery strategy to control invasive species (cauca, betilla) in the buffer zones and in aquatic ecosystems, based on locally recognized restoration methods.</li> <li>- Reforest with native and/or appropriate species for the protection of bodies of water.</li> </ul>	
<b>1.8.5</b>	<i>Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	<p>Site has presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Conduct training workshops (in person or online) on handwashing, water care, and proper waste disposal.</li> <li>- Community training to promote the adoption of hygiene habits</li> <li>- Ensure drinking water supply points in strategic areas of the farm, following recommendations of best practices in the sector and the basin to ensure availability and quality.</li> <li>- Periodically monitor water quality and volume to detect necessary improvements</li> <li>- Adaptation of toilets for men and women; these adaptations must also consider the presence of people with disabilities, older adults, etc.</li> <li>- Management for the installation of a water well for the Soledad community</li> <li>- Implement a wastewater collection and treatment system (e.g. improved septic tanks, artificial wetlands) aligned with local and sector best practices, minimizing environmental impact.</li> </ul>	

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2	STEP 2: COMMIT & PLAN - Commit to be a responsible water steward and develop a Water Stewardship Plan	
2.1	<i>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.</i>	
2.1.1	<i>A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document shall be identified. The statement or document shall include the following commitments:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- That the site will implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes</li><li>- That the site implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans</li><li>- That the site's stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way</li><li>- That the site will allocate resources to implement the Standard.</li></ul>	<div> Yes</div>
Comment	Declaration of commitment AGRIPESA Agrícola del Pacifico / Date: 03-03-2020 / Signed by Miguel Mosquera – Legal Representative AGRIPESA / Complies with the requirements of the standard (Document 211)	
2.2	<i>Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance.</i>	
2.2.1	<i>The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure</li><li>- Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.</li></ul>	<div> in progress</div>
Comment	<p>The site has identified Doc 221 "INTERNAL GOVERNANCE RELATED TO WATER OF AGRIPESA"</p> <p>The document states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure / 6 positions</li></ul> <p>Site has not identified a Process for submissions to regulatory agencies</p>	
Finding No: TNR-016697		
2.3	<i>Create a water stewardship strategy and plan including addressing risks (to and from the site), shared catchment water challenges, and opportunities.</i>	
2.3.1	<i>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.</i>	<div> Yes</div>
Comment	<p>It is verified in the sustainable water management plan (Document 232, rows 5 - 6 - 7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mission: Care of its natural resources, especially water</li><li>- Vision: To be world-class banana producers</li><li>- Strategy: Water resources management</li></ul>	

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### 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.



Yes

#### Comment

AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico (232 Plan\_de\_gestion\_sostenible\_del\_agua\_Rev.5 ) in which the site includes the following information: Objective, Actions, GOAL, Indicator, Evidence, AWS Outcome, Responsible, Social/Environmental Assessment, Valued Schedule, Measurement 2024

The plan has 6 objectives related to 5 outcomes. All the targets accomplishes with the requirement

Sample:

Objectives: Maintain the commitment to produce socially and environmentally responsible bananas for our stakeholders

Activities: Practices

Indicator: Implemented practices/Applicable practices

Desired Outcome: Good Water Governance / Water Balance / Water Quality / AIRA / WASH

Measurement: 80% of meetings / 80% of workers training

Monitoring: by percentage of progress

Terms: annual

Budget: valued in dollars

Positions of those responsible for the actions and the achievement of the objectives: YES

Relate to each objective and the achievement of best practices: YES

Advance 2024: No evidence

Objectives: Obtain water consumption indicators and monitor groundwater levels on the farm

Activities: Optimization of water use in packaging processes "Interannual indicator m3/box", irrigation "m3/bunch".

Indicator: 1 updated water matrix in One Drive system

Desired Outcome: Water Balance

Measurement: 1 document

Monitoring: by percentage of progress

Terms: annual

Budget: valued in dollars

Positions of those responsible for the actions and the achievement of the objectives: YES

Relate to each objective and the achievement of best practices: YES

Advance 2024: No documents

Objectives: Create, conserve and maintain Water Important Areas adjacent to banana production areas Activities: Implement and maintain aquatic ecosystem protection zones at least 25 meters wide

Indicator: ##protection zones implemented / #protection zones required

Desired outcome: IWRA

Measurement: 1 area / 1 area requested

Monitoring: by percentage of progress

Terms: annual

Budget: valued in dollars

Positions of those responsible for the actions and the achievement of the objectives: YES

Relate to each objective and the achievement of best practices: YES

Advance 2024: 100% of recovery strategy to control invasive species (cauca, betilla)

- Inspection


- Species veneer

- Crowning

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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.	 in progress
Comment	AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has not identified a plan to mitigate or adapt to the identified water risks The site has identified some actions to control the risk, but has not developed a plan in co-ordination with relevant public-sector and infrastructure agencies. <b>Finding No: TNR-016701</b>	

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3 STEP 3: IMPLEMENT - Implement the site's stewardship plan and improve impacts	
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. <span style="float: right;">in progress</span>
Comment	AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has not presented evidence that the site has supported good catchment governance <b>Finding No: TNR-016702</b>
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. <span style="float: right;">Yes</span>
Comment	The organization does not limit the right of access to water of other organizations. Surface water use is available through an ARCA concession since 2018
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. <span style="float: right;">Yes</span>
Comment	AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has presented: - 321 a Procedimiento Cumplimiento de Legal - 321 b Leyes Banano - Environmental licenses (Document 321 d) - Water concession permits (Document 321 c) - Waste generating records (Document 321 f)
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. <span style="float: right;">Yes</span>
Comment	The organization does not limit the right of access to water of other organizations. Surface water use is available through an ARCA concession (Document 321c) since 2018
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. <span style="float: right;">in progress</span>
Comment	The site has presented:  - In the plan, there was a target "Reduce water consumption in fruit washing activities" // Indicator: m3/box. // Status 2024: consumption target of 0.079 m3/box // Status 2023: 0.054 m3/box It has not met the 10% water consumption reduction target set out in the WSP The site has not presented information on actions planned and completed. <b>Finding No: TNR-016704</b>
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. <span style="float: right;">Yes</span>

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Comment	The site has presented:  - Reduce water consumption in fruit washing activities // Indicator: m3/box. // Status 2024: consumption target of 0.079 m3/box // Status 2023: 0.054 m3/box  Finding is identified in 3.3.1	
<b>3.3.3</b>	<i>Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	There is no legally binding document that obliges the organization to reallocate water to social, cultural, or environmental needs.	
<b>3.4</b>	<i>Implement plan to achieve site water quality targets</i>	
<b>3.4.1</b>	<i>Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.</i>	 closed
Comment	The site has presented:  - Maintain coverage in primary channels to prevent the entry of drift from aerial spraying. Activities: Indicator: meters of planted canals/meters of canals to be planted Status: no evidence of compliance analysis of the indicator  - Carry out waste collection in two neighboring communities to prevent river pollution Activities: waste collection Indicator: executed collections/scheduled collections Status: no evidence of compliance analysis of the indicator  - Maintain the ban on the application of herbicides throughout the property, areas close to bodies of water and protection areas. Activities: application record Indicator: 8 cycles carried out / 8 Cycles of programmed sheet metal Status: no evidence of compliance analysis of the indicator	<b>Finding No: TNR-016706</b>
<b>3.4.2</b>	<i>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.</i>	 in progress
Comment	AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not identified continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site's effluent	<b>Finding No: TNR-016707</b>
<b>3.5</b>	<i>Implement plan to maintain or improve the site's and/or catchment's Important Water-Related Areas.</i>	
<b>3.5.1</b>	<i>Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site's Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.</i>	 in progress



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**Comment** The site has presented:

- Maintain a buffer zone next to the Chimbo River, Barranco Alto and Estero Cabo de Vela, 25 m away, Activities: planting plan  
Indicator: meters of planted canals/meters of canals to be planted  
Status: no evidence of compliance analysis of the indicator
- Implement a recovery strategy to control invasive species (cauca, betilla) in buffer zones and aquatic ecosystems, based on locally recognized restoration methods.  
Activities: Implement a recovery strategy  
Indicator: #Implemented strategies/Planned strategies  
Status: 3 strategies implemented / 3 planned strategies

**Finding No: TNR-016708**

**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.*

 in progress

**Comment** The site has presented:

- Conduct training workshops (in person or online) on handwashing, water care, and proper waste disposal.  
Activities: training  
Indicator: Trained workers/Scheduled workers  
Status: 84% (Doc 361 a)
- Ensure bottled water supply points in strategic areas of the farm, following best practice recommendations from the sector and the basin to ensure availability and quality.  
Activities: bottled water supply  
Indicator: # of farm sectors/# of sectors with water supply  
Status: no evidence of compliance of the indicator
- Management for the installation of a water well for the Soledad community  
Activities: Communications  
Indicator: # communications executed / # communications scheduled  
Status: no evidence of compliance of the indicator

**Finding No: TNR-016709**

**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

**Comment** The responsibility for the delivery of drinking water belongs to the government. The organization has made an analysis of the quantity of water used vs the governmental concession, the result shows that AGRIPASA Agrícola del Pacífico) does not impinging on the human right to safe water.

The Site has never received any concerns or complaints from internal or external sources that their operations are impinging on the human right to safe water and sanitation of communities, or that traditional access rights for indigenous and local communities are not being respected.

**3.7** *Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment:*



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<b>3.7.1</b>	<i>Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.</i>	 in progress
Comment	The site has not quantified indirect water use targets in the water stewardship plan	<b>Finding No: TNR-016710</b>
<b>3.7.2</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	The site has presented (sample) - The commitment letter between LUBRIMAR, AGUA CELESTIAL and IFA with AGRIPESPA Agrícola del Pacífico is verified for agreements related to information issues and project support	
<b>3.8</b>	<i>Implement plan to engage with and notify the owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns the site may have.</i>	
<b>3.8.1</b>	<i>Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt, shall be identified.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Evidence of commitment and key messages conveyed with plan acknowledgment to engage and notify owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns that may exist at the site have been identified. AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO shares the CANAL BY-PASS with the PUBLIC WATER COMPANY A letter from 20-02-2024 has been sent with the communication of the maintenance and issues presented in the area has been presented (Doc 381).	
<b>3.9</b>	<i>Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: continually improve towards achieving sectoral best practice having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.</i>	
<b>3.9.1</b>	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance, as applicable, shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Site has presented: - Engage with peer organizations and stakeholders to promote sustainable water management (Doc 391 a) - Hold meetings with stakeholders identified by the organization, with the goal of conserving the water resources of the basin / Doc 391 a - Implement and maintain Rainforest Alliance Certification - Raise awareness among staff Training program for workers and communities / Doc 391 b	
<b>3.9.2</b>	<i>Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance shall be implemented.</i>	 Yes
Comment	Site has presented: - Training / Maintain training for on-site workers on how to improve efficiency in water use and management, leak detection and control, valve closure, etc. / Doc 392 a - Conduct weather monitoring to determine optimal irrigation needs and thereby facilitate more pragmatic irrigation recommendations. / Doc 392 b - Implement the activities established in the Irrigation Improvement Plan / Doc 392 c - Daily records of water consumption according to hydrometers, linked to weather information, to determine if the crop's needs are covered / Doc 392 d - Identification of leaks and other water loss mechanisms in order to establish the relevant corrective measures) / Doc 392 e - Water saving systems in process (Keep water recirculation systems running for processing) / Doc 392 f - Implement valve closures for washing bunches in the yard) / Doc 392 g	

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**3.9.3** *Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water quality shall be implemented.*  in progress

Comment Site has presented:

- Maintain coverage in primary canals, in order to prevent the entry of drift from aerial spraying. / Doc 393 a
- Maintain the prohibition of the application of herbicides throughout the farm, areas close to bodies of water and protection areas. / No evidence provided
- Manage, in coordination with MAATE, a periodic monitoring program of water quality in the basin. / Doc 393 c


**Finding No: TNR-016712**

**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.*  in progress

Comment Site has presented:

- Establish a maintenance program to preserve the integrity of the buffer zones to ensure their effectiveness against polluting runoff. / No evidence is presented
- Continue the sustainability project in partnership with WWF to strengthen the conservation and restoration of aquatic ecosystems according to guidelines and best practices in the sector. / Doc 394 b
- Implement a recovery strategy to control invasive species (cauca, betilla) in the buffer zones and in aquatic ecosystems, based on locally recognized restoration methods. / Doc 394 a
- Reforest with native and/or appropriate species for the protection of bodies of water. / No evidence is presented

**Finding No: TNR-016713**

**3.9.5** *Actions towards achieving best practice related to targets in terms of WASH shall be implemented.*  in progress

Comment Site has presented:

- Conduct training workshops (in person or online) on handwashing, water care, and proper waste disposal. / Doc 395 a
- Community training to promote the adoption of hygiene habits / Doc 395 b
- Ensure drinking water supply points in strategic areas of the farm, following recommendations of best practices in the sector and the basin to ensure availability and quality. / Doc 395 c
- Periodically monitor water quality and volume to detect necessary improvements / Doc 395 d
- Adaptation of toilets for men and women; these adaptations must also consider the presence of people with disabilities, older adults, etc. / Doc 395 e
- Management for the installation of a water well for the Soledad community / No evidence is provided
- Implement a wastewater collection and treatment system (e.g. improved septic tanks, artificial wetlands) aligned with local and sector best practices, minimizing environmental impact. / No evidence is provided

**Finding No: TNR-016714**

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4 STEP 4: EVALUATE - Evaluate the site's performance.	
4.1	<i>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.</i>
4.1.1	<i>Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.</i> <span>✓ Yes</span>
Comment	<p>AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has presented a YTD analysis (December 2024):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Of all the activities detailed in the sustainable water plan, those related to Good Governance have a 83% performance of the objectives.</li> <li>- Of all the activities detailed in the sustainable water plan, those related to Water Balance have a 94% performance of the objectives.</li> <li>- Of all the activities detailed in the sustainable water plan, those related to water quality have a 89% performance of the objectives.</li> <li>- Of all the activities detailed in the sustainable water plan, those related to areas of water importance have a 93 performance of the objectives.</li> <li>- Of all the activities detailed in the sustainable water plan, those related to areas of water importance have a 92% performance of the objectives.</li> </ul>
4.1.2	<i>Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated.</i> <span>✓ Yes</span>
Comment	According to the site analysis, AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has presented an analysis of environmental and social value creation per target
4.1.3	<i>The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.</i> <span>➔ in progress</span>
Comment	<p>AGRIPEPASA Agrícola del Pacífico has not presented any information related to the identification of the shared value benefits in the catchment</p> <p><b>Finding No: TNR-016716</b></p>
4.2	<i>Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine the effectiveness of corrective and preventative measures.</i>
4.2.1	<i>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.</i> <span>✓ Yes</span>
Comment	It is indicated by the audited team that there have been no accidents or incidents related to their emergency situations in 2024
4.3	<i>Evaluate stakeholders' consultation feedback regarding the site's water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of the site's engagement process.</i>
4.3.1	<i>Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.</i> <span>✓ closed</span>
Comment	<p>AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has not identified the consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance</p> <p><b>Finding No: TNR-016717</b></p>

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4.4	<i>Evaluate and update the site's water stewardship plan, incorporating the information obtained from the evaluation process in the context of continual improvement.</i>	
4.4.1	<i>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.</i>	<div> Yes</div>
Comment	The planning of the modifications for the period 2024 is verified with version 5 of the site water stewardship plan (doc 441)	

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5	STEP 5: COMMUNICATE & DISCLOSE - Communicate about water stewardship and disclose the site's stewardship efforts	
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.	Yes
Comment	<p>Site has presented a chart (Doc 511 b) where the internal governance, including positions of those accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations is identified</p> <p>AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has disclosed the site's water-related internal governance with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Internal workers and suppliers (Doc 511 c)</li> <li>- Canaveral and Soledad Communities (Doc 511 d)</li> </ul>	
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.	Obs.
Comment	<p>The Water Stewardship Plan including initial information on how it contributes to AWS Standard outcomes were shared with relevant stakeholders via meetings.</p> <p>Also, the site has presented evidence of meetings for communicate WSP:</p> <p>Sample:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Supplier Celestial Water / Doc 521 a</li> <li>- WWF / Doc 521 b</li> <li>- Municipio de Yaguachi / Doc 521 c</li> <li>- Supplier LUBRIMAR / Doc 521 d</li> <li>- Supplier AIFA / Doc 521 e</li> </ul> <p>However, according to the interviewed stakeholder (3) the AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO Water Stewardship Plan for 2024 has not been communicated</p>	
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.	Obs.
Comment	<p>The site has prepared a Water Stewardship Summary and has presented to his stakeholders. AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO has disclosed the quantified performance against targets in 2024.</p> <p>However, according to the interviewed stakeholder (3) AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets has not been disclosed</p>	
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.	

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

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<b>5.4.1</b>	<i>The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.</i>	 closed
Comment	The site did not provide information how shared water challenges were disclosed. <b>Finding No: TNR-016721</b>	
<b>5.4.2</b>	<i>Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.</i>	 in progress
Comment	Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public sector bodies have not been identified. <b>Finding No: TNR-016722</b>	
<b>5.5</b>	<i>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.</i>	
<b>5.5.1</b>	<i>Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.</i>	 Yes
Comment	As indicated by the audited team, there have been no breaches related to water regulations in 2024. It is verified in the environmental compliance audits that there are no communications related to non-compliance in legal matters. In addition, the audited stakeholders indicate that they have not filed any type of complaint related to the use and management of water by AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO	
<b>5.5.2</b>	<i>Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable.</i>	 Yes
Comment	In general, a Complain or equivalent issued by a regulatory agency does require a written response – among other items it requires information on corrective actions taken to prevent future occurrences. Moreover, AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO management system requires violations to be entered in the internal corrective action process.	
<b>5.5.3</b>	<i>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.</i>	 Yes
Comment	According to the local legislation, a method of presenting evidence and treatment of the complaint must be presented within 10 days after your notification. As indicated by the audited team, there have been no breaches related to water regulations in 2024.	



# CERTIFICATION REPORT

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Photographic Evidence from Audit

  
Yes

Comment

Photographic Evidence from Audit to AGRICOLA DEL PACIFICO farms  
Visit performed on 18-02-2025 according to audit plan.



600 AGRIPASA Cobertura de canal Primario Sector 4.jpeg



600 AGRIPASA Cobertura de canal Primario Sector 4..jpeg

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## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

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600 AGRIPASA Montañita - Bosque2.jpeg



600 AGRIPASA Montañita - Bosque.jpeg



600 AGRIPASA Area de Regeneacion Natural Estero Cabo de Vela.jpeg



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## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

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600 AGRIPASA Montañita - Bosque.jpeg



600 AGRIPASA Montañita - Bosque1.jpeg



600 AGRIPASA Area de Regeneracion Natural Sector 4.jpeg



**WSAS**

2 Quality Street North Berwick, EH39 4HW, UNITED KINGDOM

# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456

600 AGRIPEPASA Estacion de riego Barranco Alto Sector 1.jpeg



600 AGRIPEPASA Estacion de drenaje Caiza Sector 1.jpeg



600 AGRIPEPASA Estacion de drenaje Sector 4.jpeg


# CERTIFICATION REPORT

## Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001456



600 AGRIPESA Medidor de Agua Bomba de Pozo Gamarriego (riego).jpeg

Previous Findings		
	<i>All non-conformities raised in the previous audit have been satisfactorily closed.</i>	 No
Comment	For SV2: 6 minor NC and 20 MAJOR NC has been identified  All findings have been reopened as the site has not accomplished with the indicator	