CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001489

WSAS WATER STEWARDSHIP ASSURANCE SERVICES

SITE DETAILS

Site: **Nestlé Waters Suisse: Henniez**
Address: Route de la Gare 1, 1525, Henniez, SWITZERLAND
Contact Person: Luca Guglielmetti
AWS Reference Number: AWS-000097
Site Structure: Single Site

CERTIFICATION DETAILS

Certification status: Certified Core
Date of certification decision: 2025-Jul-22
Validity of certificate: 2028-Jul-21

AUDIT DETAILS

Audited Service(s): AWS Standard v2.0 (2019)
Audit Type(s): Initial Audit
Audit Start Date: 2025-Mar-24
Audit End Date: 2025-Mar-26
Lead Auditor: Patrycja Romaniuk

Audit team participants:
Patrycja Romaniuk, Lead Auditor
Anasse Ait Lemkademe, Observer

Site Participants:
Camille Dessimond, Hydrogeologist
Luca Gugliemetti, Hydrogeologist
Artur Mlotek, Factory Director
Nathan Marquet, Water Resources Specialist
Dylan Vonlanthen, Water Resources Supervisor
Sonia Gourlot, Quality manager
Bertrand Reutenauer, Factory Engineer
Maxime Golagha, SHE Manager
Meike Schmidt, Communication and Sustainability Manager
Michel Marcuard, Water Resources Specialist
Alain Detrey, Production manager

CERTIFICATION REPORT

Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS)

Audit Number: AO-001489

ADDITIONAL INFO

Summary of Audit Findings: During the surveillance audit, 2 minor non-conformities and 7 observations were raised.

The Client is requested to perform a root cause analysis, define corrective actions for each non-conformity, and submit these to WSAS within 30 days of receipt of the audit report by 22/06/2025.

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

The audit team recommends certification of Nestlé Water Suisse at the Core level pending approval of the corrective actions plans.
CLOSURE OF FINDINGS AND CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN:

The Client has successfully resolved 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.

Scope of Assessment: The scope of services covers the Initial certification audit for assessing the conformity of Nestlé Waters Suisse against the AWS International Water Stewardship Standard Version 2.

Nestlé Waters Suisse (NWCH) in Henniez is located at Route de la Gare 1, 1525, Henniez, in the canton of Vaud, Switzerland. The facility is situated between the major cities of Lausanne and Bern in western Switzerland, along the right bank of the Broye River.

Surroundings
The site is located in a predominantly agricultural landscape where approximately 60% of the surrounding land is cultivated. Principal crops include beets, potatoes, cereals, and rapeseed. The facility borders small streams, including La Râpe and Trémule, important water bodies for the local ecosystem and water supply. The nearby village of Henniez provides a small residential presence in this otherwise rural setting, making it ideal for mineral water production due to the natural protection of water sources.

Site production:
Nestlé Waters Suisse operates a bottling facility that produces natural water under the "Henniez" brand, one of Switzerland's most recognized mineral water brands and beverages including Granini, Nestea, Hohes-C. The facility extracts mineral water from aquifers, and bottles it for distribution. The site also produces its labels through a printing process that uses minimal water (approximately 1 m^3/month for humidification).

Water-related infrastructure:
The site covers the area covered by the extraction points + the factory is 42 km2 and includes comprehensive water infrastructure:
- Water sources: 13 water extraction points: 7 for mineral water (Captage 35, Praz-Tsérére, Tranchée Litigieuse, Captage 57/58, Puits Neuchâtelois, Alcalina, Cuvy) and 6 for industrial water (Lovatens, Les Arzits, Marnand, Villarzel, Vernozet, Cerniaz);
- 8 piezometers for groundwater monitoring;
- connection to the CREB - "Connexion des Réseaux d'Eau de la rive droite de la Broye," eng. "Connection of Municipal Water Networks on the Right Bank of the Broye." This intercommunal association manages the drinking water supply for several municipalities on the right bank of the Broye River in Switzerland, ensuring a consistent and high-quality water supply across the member communes.

Water distribution system:
- Approximately 30 km of water pipelines owned by NWCH;
- water storage tanks and reservoirs.

Wastewater treatment:
- Access to the Henniez wastewater treatment plant (STEP), which also serves the commune of Henniez and the villages of Villars-Bramard, Cerniaz, and Seigneux;
- a mini wastewater treatment plant specifically for the Bains d'Henniez building;
- settling ponds to collect wastewater before discharge.

Stormwater management:
- Drainage systems to prevent flooding;
- infrastructure to avoid the contamination of stormwater runoff.

Wastewater and Stormwater Discharge:
The site's wastewater is treated and discharged into the Broye River. In 2024, the site's annual discharge was approximately 101,670 m^3, representing only about 0.03% of the river's yearly flow (315,360,000 m^3). The site maintains strict quality control of its wastewater to ensure compliance with

regulatory standards and regularly monitors parameters such as pH, conductivity, biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), and chemical oxygen demand (COD).
Domestic wastewater from office areas, the canteen (estimated at 10 m³/month), and sanitary facilities is directed to the municipal sewage system. Stormwater is collected through drainage systems and managed to prevent contamination before discharge into local streams.

Site Description:
The facility includes several operational areas: bottling facilities, water extraction points, a printing house for label production, logistics, quality control, IT, water resource management, and administrative offices.
The site provides comprehensive WASH facilities for all employees, including toilets, washbasins, showers, and changing rooms that comply with Swiss sanitary regulations (Articles 31 and 32 of Ordinance 3 relative to the Labour Act).
The facility operates under multiple management system certifications, including ISO 9001:2015 (valid until January 18, 2027), ISO 14001:2015 (valid until May 23, 2027), ISO 45001:2018 (valid until May 23, 2027), and FSSC 22000 (valid until June 10, 2027), demonstrating its commitment to quality, environmental management, occupational health and safety, and food safety standards.
Adjacent to the site, on NWCH parcels, are biogas digesters operated by EnGreen. These represent a circular economy initiative that the site has supported.

The audit was conducted onsite on 24-26/03/2025.
The on-site site visit included an in-person assessment of water-related infrastructure and facilities, such as spaces for chemicals storage on-site, IWRAs both on-site and off-site, a WWTP in Henniez, and one of the water sources (Alcalina).

FINDINGS

NUMBER OF FINDINGS PER LEVEL	
Observation	7
Minor	2

FINDING DETAILS

Finding No:	TNR-018210
Checklist Item No:	1.1.1
Status:	In Progress - CA plan approved
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Mar-26
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	The definition of physical scope indicates that physical scope should incorporate the relevant catchment(s) However, the site's defined AWS physical scope, bounded by local administrative borders and immediate watershed boundaries, does not encompass the complete La Broye catchment. While the site has mapped its immediate operational area and local streams (La Râpe and Trémule), the defined perimeter excludes significant portions of the broader La Broye River catchment that are connected to the site's 13 water extraction points and ultimate discharge location.
Corrective action:	We understand that the physical scope should include a broader area and we will expand the physical scope to in include relevant regions by the follow-up audit in march 2026. We also propose to align with WSAS on Q4 2025 about the updated physical scope, in preparation of the new audit.
Evidence of implementation:	Maps modified during the audit according to the comments of the auditors

Finding No:	TNR-018213
Checklist Item No:	1.5.1
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	To strengthen conformity, the site could: More explicitly present conclusions coming from the existing river basin management plans Provide additional detail on current water initiatives in the catchment Further clarify how identified governance frameworks present opportunities for collective action The existing documentation provides a solid foundation for understanding water governance that can be built upon in the site's water stewardship journey.
Corrective action:	We will make a slide summarizing the document at this link: https://www.bafu.admin.ch/bafu/fr/home/themes/eaux/publications/publications-eaux/gestion-bassin-versant-guide.html No water initiatives other than those carried out in collaboration with NWCH are on going into the physical scope and it will be investigated on a regular basis

Finding No:	TNR-018212
Checklist Item No:	1.5.2
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.
Findings:	At the subsequent audit, it will be important for the site to present current operational data demonstrating ongoing compliance with the Puits des Neuchâtelois concession parameters (Canton Vaud permit active since February 7, 2003).
Corrective action:	Puits Neuchatelois is operated under autorisation, not a concession. All flowrate data available on Aquassay show that PN never exceeded 300l/min and never impacted the municipal point as Municipality never complained about

Finding No:	TNR-018214
Checklist Item No:	1.5.3
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	The catchment water-balance, and where applicable, scarcity, shall be quantified, including indication of annual, and where appropriate, seasonal, variance.
Findings:	To strengthen conformity, the site should aim to understand the status of water balance for the broader La Broye catchment.
Corrective action:	No water balance for Broye is available. However the Broye watershed is part of the Aare-Bern - Aare, Brugg watershed which data from 2023 are available at these links: https://www.bafu.admin.ch/bafu/fr/home/themes/eaux/eaux-et-changements-climatiques/bilan-hydrique-actuel.html https://atlashydrologique.ch/produits/version-imprimee/bilan-hydrique/planche-6-6

Finding No:	TNR-018216
Checklist Item No:	1.5.5
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	The site has identified IWRAs within their AWS physical scope. The site should extend IWRA identification and status assessment to the catchment level through stakeholder engagement, as important wetlands, floodplains, or other ecologically significant areas beyond the site perimeter may contribute to catchment health, flood risk management.
Corrective action:	We will contact the Direction Générale de l'Environnement and ask our stakeholders during the next meetings/interviews/poll surveys

Finding No:	TNR-017882
Checklist Item No:	4.1.1
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.
Findings:	The targets in the Water Stewardship Plan are formulated in ways that make quantitative evaluation challenging. Several targets lack specific numerical endpoints or clear baseline values from which to measure progress. The evaluation column indicates "0% reduction in phytosanitary products, target not reached," but without clarity on what percentage reduction was expected. The current target formulation makes it difficult to objectively determine the degree of progress toward achievement.
Corrective action:	The AgrEauConseil project aim at reducing the use of pesticides by implementing several practices which have been identified every year according to farmers needs and requirements. The setup aimed at not fixing a % as this would have generated stress among project partners. We are aware that with the current setup of the project would be challenging to quantify results of the ""reduction of pesticides"" KPI, and we are working on improving if the project will be extended after 2026. We are also monitoring surface water quality and we actually see an improvement, which is a new KPI that we are introducing now after 2 years of data collection. We currently see an improvement in the quality of the water of the two streams () and we are deep diving on the correlation between actions of the project and water quality. For the drip irrigation project we are also at a early stage of the project and we need more time for establishing a reliable target. For the water treatment plant we do not have KPI as we deliver waste water to the plant according to our yearly operation configuration. We operate this project under a financial lump sum agreement

Finding No:	TNR-017885
Checklist Item No:	4.2.1
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	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.
Findings:	Regarding the diesel fuel leak incident from a vehicle on the site premises (documented in indicator 4.2.1), it's important to acknowledge that while the site took appropriate response measures after the incident occurred, there is a responsibility to implement preventive measures to minimize the risk of similar incidents in the future. The site should document specific actions taken to prevent recurrence, such as enhanced vehicle inspection protocols, containment measures in vehicle operation areas, or improved driver training requirements for on-site contractors. Without these documented preventive actions, similar incidents could potentially escalate into compliance violations if contaminants were to reach waterways or if the site's emergency response proved insufficient to contain the impact. While this observation does not constitute a non-conformity at this time, it represents an opportunity to strengthen the site's preventive approach to environmental risk management, particularly for vehicle-related incidents that could affect water quality
Corrective action:	The car which caused the accident was dismissed, we bought a new 4x4 vehicle only for off road operation which undergoes annual maintenance

Finding No:	TNR-017883
Checklist Item No:	5.3.1
Status:	Closed
Finding level:	Minor
Due date:	2026-Mar-26
Checklist item:	A summary of the site's water stewardship performance, including quantified performance against targets, shall be disclosed annually at a minimum.
Findings:	However, there are some limitations in the documentation that prevent full conformity. The communication does not clearly specify which period the performance data relates to, making it difficult to establish a temporal context for the reported information. Additionally, while the document provides an overview of water stewardship activities, it does not communicate performance against specific quantified targets as required by the indicator.
Corrective action:	NWCH improved the document with the needed information. Start date, End date and %of avancement (cf file attached)

Finding No:	TNR-017542
Checklist Item No:	5.5.1
Status:	Open
Finding level:	Observation
Checklist item:	Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.
Findings:	While the site has demonstrated engagement with regulatory authorities regarding water quality matters, the site should show how the information about compliance and deviations or violations is made accessible to stakeholders upon request
Corrective action:	Information about compliance and deviations or violations are discoled to Swiss authorities. Subject to exceptions (in particular the existence of a pending procedure), citizens can request access to the relevant information (Federal LTreans 152.3 and cantonal LInfo BLV 170.21laws on transparency).

Report Details

Report	Value
Report prepared by	Patrycja Romaniuk
Report approved by	Lorenzo Brioschi
Report approved on (Date)	23/05/2025

Surveillance

Proposed date for next audit
2026-Mar-23

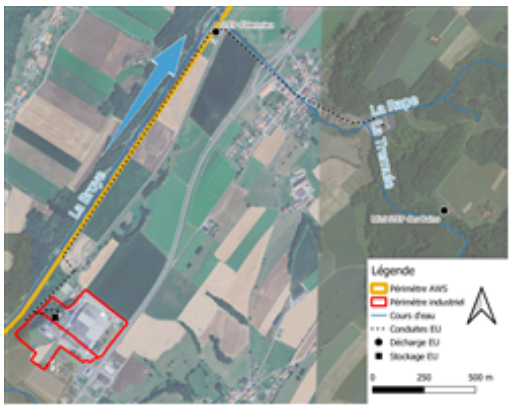
Comment 23-24/03/2026

Stakeholder Announcements

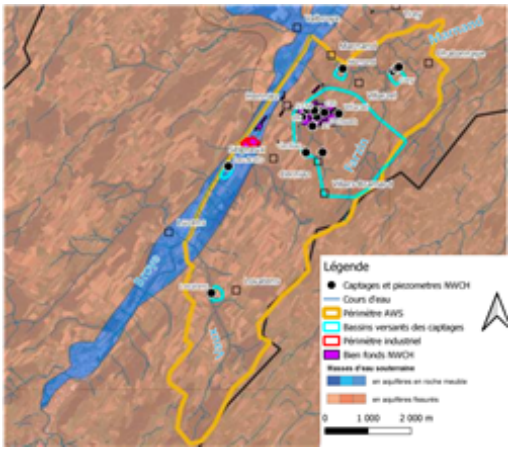
Date of publication	Location
27/01/2025	Website of Nestlé Waters Suisse
01/01/2025	https://a4ws.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/AWS-000097_Nestle-Waters-Suisse-Henniez-_StakeholderAnnouncement_Month01_V3.0.pdf
01/01/2025	https://watersas.org/stakeholder-announcements/

Comment The Stakeholder Announcement in the local language was published on the company's website.

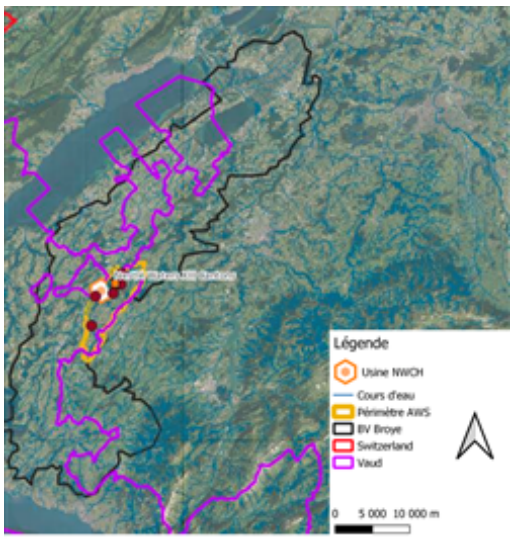
Catchment Information



Site boundaries.png



AWS Perimeter.png



Catchment of La Broye.png

Catchment Information

The Nestlé Waters Suisse facility at Henniez is located in the Broye River catchment in Switzerland. The site's AWS physical scope covers an area of 4,245 hectares, bounded by the Broye River to the northwest, the Vaux stream to the south, the administrative border of Canton Vaud to the southeast, and the watersheds of the Marnard and Sedeilles streams to the north.

Water supply & discharge catchment
The site relies on local groundwater sources within the defined physical scope, with 13 water extraction points: 7 for mineral water and 6 for "industrial" water. The primary aquifer is the Sillon d'Henniez, with the Puits des Neuchâtelois being the only well that actively pumps from this aquifer (operating under a Canton Vaud permit active since February 7, 2003). All other extractions are gravity-based boreholes that don't actively pump from the aquifer.
For wastewater discharge, the site's effluent is treated at the Henniez wastewater treatment plant (STEP), which also processes wastewater from the Henniez commune and villages of Villars-Bramard, Cerniaz, and Seigneux from the Valbroye commune. The treated water is ultimately discharged into the Broye River, with the site's annual discharge (101,670 m³ in 2024) representing only about 0.03% of the river's annual flow (315,360,000 m³).

Groundwater aquifers
The site is located in the Broye Plain, which consists of Quaternary alluvial deposits. The region is characterized by morainic and fluvioglacial deposits overlying the Burdigalian and Aquitanian Molasse formations. The hydrogeological context includes:
- Alluvial gravels related to glacial scours with medium to high permeability;
- fine-grained sands, silts, and clays with low to very low permeability;
- moraines with heterogeneous permeability;
- underlying marls, clays, alternating marls, schists, and sandstones form a low-per permeability aquiclude.
The Henniez scour is a key hydrogeological feature that influences groundwater flow direction in the area. According to hydrological studies, the impact of current water withdrawals on the aquifer system is considered low, with extraction volumes well balanced against natural recharge rates.

Catchment water service providers
The local communities (Henniez, Valbroye, Villarzel) are connected to the right bank of the Broye River water network (CREB - Connexion des Réseaux d'Eau de la rive droite de la Broye). This intercommunal association ensures water supply continuity across member communes.
The site collaborates with these providers and has arrangements to support local water needs. For instance, Nestlé Waters has an agreement with the Commune of Henniez to provide bottled water during emergencies, as demonstrated during the November 2024 flooding event when they supplied bottled water to the affected Gare quarter.
Additionally, the site has installed a mini wastewater treatment plant for the Bains d'Henniez building, which is not connected to the municipal sewage system. This plant provides treatment for approximately 10 inhabitants.
The CREB system serves as a backup water source for Nestlé Waters Suisse at Henniez. The site has a connection to the municipal water network through CREB, though their primary water source are their own groundwater sources.

Catchment features
Water shortage: While the region generally has adequate water resources, periodic droughts have been identified as a water-related challenge. The site has implemented water efficiency measures (the current Water Use Ratio target is 1.80 L/L by 2028) and supports agricultural water conservation through initiatives like promoting drip irrigation systems for farmers.

Flooding: The area experienced significant flooding in November 2023, damaging the La Râpe stream and requiring restoration work. The site participated in these restoration efforts, including installing monitoring stations for flow rate, temperature, and conductivity.

Agricultural influence: Agriculture dominates land use in the catchment, with approximately

60% of land under cultivation. Main crops include beets, potatoes, cereals, and rapeseed. This intensive agriculture creates significant water quality challenges, particularly regarding pesticide and nitrate runoff.

Water quality challenges: Agricultural runoff poses the catchment's most significant water quality risk. The site addresses this through programs like AgrEauConseil (initiated in 2021), which works with 21 local farmers to implement practices that reduce pesticide use through innovative technologies and machinery. Monitoring the Râpes and Tremules streams helps evaluate the effectiveness of these interventions.

Important Water-Related Areas (IWRAs): The catchment contains several IWRAs, including the Broye River, multiple streams (Râpe, Trémeules, Vauban, Seigneux, Vaux), municipal water extraction points, and on-site wastewater treatment settling ponds. The site actively monitors and works to improve these water bodies, mainly through the RC613 project, which aims to modify road drainage systems to prevent contamination of the Râpes and Tremules streams.

Transportation infrastructure risks: Several roads cross the AWS physical scope, including national highways (N9) and cantonal routes (RC613), posing potential contamination risks from accidents involving pollutants like hydrocarbons. The site collaborates with municipalities (Villarzel and Valbroye) and cantonal authorities (DGMR) to modify road drainage systems currently discharged into sensitive streams.

Governance structure: Water management follows the Swiss federal and cantonal regulatory framework. Multiple stakeholders are involved in water governance, including communes (Henniez, Valbroye, Villarzel), cantonal authorities (DGE, DGMR), and water management associations.

Through stakeholder engagement and initiatives like Eco-Broye, Nestlé Waters Suisse works collaboratively to address these catchment features and shared water challenges.

Summary of Shared Water Challenges

Summary of Shared Water Challenges
Shared Water Challenges:
1. Agricultural Impact on Water Quality
- Surface and groundwater quality is significantly affected by agricultural activities.
- Specific concerns include: • Pesticide runoff • Presence of agricultural chemical metabolites in water sources • Nitrate contamination.
2. Water Scarcity and Climate Change
- Increasing frequency and intensity of droughts.
- Broye River (used for irrigation) experiencing reduced flow during dry periods.
- Potential water resource constraints during summer months.
- Climate projections indicate: • 77% decrease in summer water flows by 2070-2099 • 14% increase in nitrate concentrations due to reduced dilution • Potential impacts on crop production and agricultural practices.
3. Flooding Risks
- Flooding events affecting: • Residential areas • Water catchments • Streams like Râpe and Trémeule.
- Potential infrastructure and ecological damage.
- Need for stream restoration and flood mitigation strategies.
The site addresses these challenges through initiatives like the AgrEauConseil program, stream restoration projects, and collaborative water management approaches with local stakeholders and authorities.

Client Description and Site Details

Site map.png

Client/Site Background

Nestlé Waters Suisse (NWCH) in Henniez is located at Route de la Gare 1, 1525, Henniez, in the canton of Vaud, Switzerland. The facility is situated between the major cities of Lausanne and Bern in western Switzerland, along the right bank of the Broye River.
Surroundings
The site is located in a predominantly agricultural landscape where approximately 60% of the surrounding land is cultivated. Principal crops include beets, potatoes, cereals, and rapeseed. The facility borders small streams, including La Râpe and Trémule, important water bodies for the local ecosystem and water supply. The nearby village of Henniez provides a small residential presence in this otherwise rural setting, making it ideal for mineral water production due to the natural protection of water sources.

Site production:
Nestlé Waters Suisse operates a bottling facility that produces natural water under the "Henniez" brand, one of Switzerland's most recognized mineral water brands and beverages including Granini, Nestea, Hohes-C. The facility extracts mineral water from local aquifers, and bottles it for distribution. The site also produces its labels through a printing process that uses minimal water (approximately 1 m^3/month for humidification).

Water-related infrastructure:
The site covers approximately 11.5 hectares and includes comprehensive water infrastructure:
- Water sources: 13 water extraction points: 7 for mineral water (Captage 35, Praz-Tsérére, Tranchée Litigieuse, Captage 57/58, Puits Neuchâtelois, Alcalina, Cuvy) and 6 for industrial water (Lovatens, Les Arzits, Marnand, Villarzel, Vernozet, Cerniaz);
- 8 piezometers for groundwater monitoring;
- connection to the municipal water network through CREB - "Connexion des Réseaux d'Eau de la rive droite de la Broye," eng. "Connection of Municipal Water Networks on the Right Bank of the Broye." This intercommunal association manages the drinking water supply for several municipalities on the right bank of the Broye River in Switzerland, ensuring a consistent and high-quality water supply across the member communes.

Water distribution system:
- Approximately 30 km of water pipelines owned by NWCH;
- water storage tanks and reservoirs.

Wastewater treatment:
- Access to the Henniez wastewater treatment plant (STEP), which also serves the commune of Henniez and the villages of Villars-Bramard, Cerniaz, and Seigneux;
- a mini wastewater treatment plant specifically for the Bains d'Henniez building;
- settling ponds to treat stormwater before discharge and retain the surplus of the water taken from the gravitational sources..

Stormwater management:
- Drainage systems to prevent flooding;
- infrastructure to avoid the contamination of stormwater runoff.

Wastewater and Stormwater Discharge:
The site's wastewater is treated in the WWTP and discharged into the Broye River. In 2024, the site's annual discharge was approximately 101,670 m^3, representing only about 0.03% of the river's yearly flow (315,360,000 m^3). The site maintains strict quality control of its wastewater to ensure compliance with regulatory standards and regularly monitors parameters such as pH, conductivity, biochemical oxygen demand (BOD), and chemical oxygen demand (COD).
Domestic wastewater from office areas, the canteen (estimated at 10 m^3/month), and sanitary facilities is directed to the municipal sewage system. Stormwater is collected through drainage systems and managed to prevent contamination before discharge into local streams that ultimately recharges La Broye. The receiving body of the municipal wastewater treatment plant’s effluent is La Broye.

Site Description:
The facility includes several operational areas: bottling facilities, water extraction points, a printing house for label production, logistics, quality control, IT, water resource management, and administrative offices.
The site provides comprehensive WASH facilities for all employees, including toilets, washbasins, showers, and changing rooms that comply with Swiss sanitary regulations (Articles 31 and 32 of Ordinance 3 relative to the Labour Act).
The facility operates under multiple management system certifications, including ISO 9001:2015 (valid until January 18, 2027), ISO 14001:2015 (valid until May 23, 2027), ISO 45001:2018 (valid until May 23, 2027), and FSSC 22000 (valid until June 10, 2027), demonstrating its commitment to quality, environmental management, occupational health and safety, and food safety standards.
Adjacent to the site, on NWCH parcels, are biogas digesters operated by EnGreen. These represent a circular economy initiative that the site has supported.

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	Two key water-related facilities were visited during the on-site audit to verify water management practices. The Alcalina source located in the Domaine d'Henniez was inspected. This natural mineral water source, one of seven mineral water extraction points operated by the site, demonstrated proper protection measures and flow monitoring equipment consistent with the site's documentation. The auditor observed the source's infrastructure, including the spring catchment structure, monitoring systems, and the surrounding protected area. The Henniez wastewater treatment plant (STEP) was also visited, which processes effluent from both the Nestlé Waters facility and surrounding communities, including the Henniez commune and villages of Villars-Bramard, Cerniaz, and Seigneux. The audit confirmed the proper operation of treatment processes and verified that discharge quality monitoring was being conducted as reported in site documentation.
0.1.1.1	*The site(s) occupy one catchment OR an exception has been granted.* — Yes
0.1.1.2	*The scope of the proposed certification shall be under the control of a single management system.* — Yes
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

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

The site's term used in documents for the catchment (as understood by AWS) is „Périmètre AWS". The site uses the term „catchment" specifically for water sources' aquifers, determined based on hydrogeological data. The „Périmetrè AWS" was defined by including surface and groundwater flows, the physical scope of the site, water sources, wastewater treatment plants (WWTP, fr. „STEP"), IWRAs on-site and in the catchment, and water discharges. This was done by the team led by the site's hydrogeologist.

The site has uploaded a comprehensive set of documents that effectively fulfill AWS requirements by mapping the physical scope of their water stewardship activities:
- The factory piping plan and infrastructure synthesis document clearly define site boundaries, water-related infrastructure, the ultimate receiving water body, wastewater treatment connections, and the surrounding geological context. The wastewater infrastructure documentation from April 2024 completes the water pathway mapping from source to discharge.
- Legal documentation (notarial deeds) establishes Nestlé's land ownership of specific parcels in Valbroye commune and details agreements with Groupe EnGreen SA regarding water-related infrastructure, including access to Nestlé's industrial water network.
- The hydrogeological study provides scientific analysis of water resources, mapping water sources, catchment areas, and flow dynamics while quantifying extraction volumes (approximately 3.8% of groundwater recharge).
- The "Water balance in the watershed of Village d'Henniez" infographic effectively visualizes the 37 km² catchment area with quantified metrics and demonstrates the relationship between site operations and watershed resources.

Wastewater goes to the Henniez wastewater treatment plant; the site doesn't have an on-site wastewater treatment plant. Stormwater is managed on-site (see the description of the relevant infrastructure above) and released into the environment. The site only has a buffer tank on the premises, which helps prevent pH and conductivity spikes during transport to the treatment facility.
Nestlé owns all water-related infrastructure that it uses, including all piping that connects water sources with the site, except for CREB - Connection of Municipal Water Networks on the Right Bank of the Broye (the intercommunal association that manages the drinking water supply for several municipalities located on the right bank of the Broye River in Switzerland, ensuring a consistent and high-quality water supply across the member communes) and municipal WWTP in Henniez. The site uses CREB water for sanitary purposes, etc.; it also serves as a fire protection reserve.

Shared water infrastructure comprises CREB, WWTP in Henniez, an infrastructure shared with EnGreen SA in the industrial symbiosis cooperation, and the tank for drip irrigation. However, irrigation is operated entirely from the site, and farmers receive water from it.

The site also operates two „water houses," one on-site and one close to most water sources. „Water house is a term Nestlé uses for a specialized facility that houses water equipment, monitoring systems, and control infrastructure for its water operations. Two "water house" are a central control point for managing the water resources essential to Nestlé Henniez's operations, ensuring consistent water quality and properly handling the water before it enters the bottling process. Different types of water arrive at these collection points and are then transported onward; this is its primary function.

Parts of the piping that seem disconnected in the documentation constitute the autonomous mini WWTP in the Bain d'Henniez building (provided and operated by Nestlé). This building cannot be connected to the municipal sewage network, and it houses about 10 permanent residents.

The site provided the dilution calculation (0.03% of river flow), demonstrating a relatively small volumetric contribution to the Broye River (discharged in WWTP in Henniez). WWT regularly monitors the quality and discharge of the water that enters WWTP.

Self-monitoring dominates in the Swiss system, even if unheralded inspections are performed by the authorities. There's a foundation of trust, but when someone does violate that trust, the consequences are severe.

Finding No: TNR-018210

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

1.2.1 *Stakeholders and their water-related challenges shall be identified. The process used for stakeholder identification shall be identified. This process shall:*
- Inclusively cover all relevant stakeholder groups including vulnerable, women, minority, and Indigenous people;
- Consider the physical scope identified, including stakeholders, representative of the site's ultimate water source and ultimate receiving water body or bodies;
- Provide evidence of stakeholder consultation on water-related interests and challenges;
- Note that the ability and/or willingness of stakeholders to participate may vary across the relevant stakeholder groups;
- Identify the degree of stakeholder engagement based on their level of interest and influence.

Yes

Comment

The site has provided thorough documentation for indicator 1.2.1 that demonstrates a comprehensive stakeholder identification and engagement process:
The "Synthesis of Community Relations Process in 2024" presents a well-structured stakeholder mapping approach that identifies key water-related stakeholders and their relationship with the site. The mapping includes a nuanced classification system showing favorable, neutral, and tense relationships, allowing for targeted engagement strategies.

The "CRP 2.0 Tutorial" documents their formal stakeholder identification methodology, showing a systematic rather than ad hoc approach. At the same time, the tutorial does not explicitly outline procedures to ensure the inclusion of vulnerable groups, women, minorities, and Indigenous people; the "CRP pool" survey allows all catchment residents to submit feedback. No comments were received suggesting exclusion from their cooperation and communication efforts. In recognition of potential gaps, the site has committed to incorporating a specific question addressing inclusive representation in the next survey edition.

The stakeholder list distinguishes between stakeholders within and outside the catchment area, demonstrating awareness of geographical relevance as required by the indicator. This differentiation helps prioritize engagement with stakeholders directly impacting the site's water use.

The process behind the attached interviews is that the company conducts 10 interviews every three years with various stakeholders. These include people with whom they collaborate or maintain relationships—not always positive relationships, but individuals who raise significant issues. A dedicated team of 3-4 staff members is responsible for conducting these interviews.

Their stakeholder identification methodology appropriately considers the defined physical scope, including relevant representatives from the ultimate water source and receiving water bodies.

Multiple examples of stakeholder interviews validate that consultation has occurred. The documented concerns align with the shared water challenges identified in the Water Stewardship Plan, showing integration between stakeholder input and planning.

The 2024 local survey results provide quantitative feedback from community stakeholders, with the site transparently acknowledging both favorable and unfavorable opinions.

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

Comment

The site has provided substantiated evidence of stakeholder consultation regarding water-related interests and challenges while acknowledging the varying degrees of stakeholder willingness and capacity to participate across different groups. The site clearly analyzes the current influence between itself and its stakeholders. Identifying potential degrees of influence is sufficient for this indicator unless specific circumstances at the site indicate such analysis would add value.

1.3 *Gather water-related data for the site, including: water balance; water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, water governance, WASH; water-related costs, revenues, and shared value creation.*

1.3.1 *Existing water-related incident response plans shall be identified.*

Yes

Comment

The site has provided comprehensive documentation that adequately identifies existing water-related incident response plans:
- The "Summary 1.3" document consolidates key information from multiple water-related areas, including Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) Standard Operating Procedures, providing an overview of incident response preparedness.
- The "Pollution Intervention Plan" details specific protocols for responding to pollution incidents, demonstrating readiness for water quality emergencies that could affect on-site operations and the surrounding watershed.
- The SHE SOP document outlines procedures for chemical product management, which are essential for preventing and responding to potential chemical contamination of water resources.
- The "Accident Intervention Plans" provide comprehensive accident response protocols, showing that the site has formalized procedures for addressing water-related emergencies and incidents.
- Fflowcharts demonstrating water-related incident response plans. They include detailed protocols for managing coliform contamination alerts in water sources, responding to weather events (heavy rainfall, stream level changes), monitoring water quality parameters with specific decision pathways, and clear procedures for shutting down and restarting operations.

All documents establish defined responsibilities and specific actions for various water incident scenarios.

For water supply interruption, the site maintains multiple water sources (13 extraction points: 7 for mineral water and 6 for industrial water). In the worst-case scenario, the production is stopped; connection to the CREB municipal water network serves as a backup drinking water source.

During drought conditions, the site adapts production levels. In case of flooding, the site implements comprehensive water quality management procedures (especially for microbiological concerns). The site utilizes a multi-criteria system that monitors meteorological conditions, with water catchments connected to sensors. This forms part of a complete decision-making process. Currently, the site is working to automate this entire system.

In the case of infrastructure failure, the site has standard operating procedures for chemical management and accidental releases, and the site maintains environmental management system certifications (such as ISO 14001:2015), which include infrastructure failure response protocols;
Quality Management System (QMS) for water networks systematically oversees water infrastructure.

RED ONLINE system helps track regulatory requirements and compliance measures.

1.3.2 *Site water balance, including inflows, losses, storage, and outflows shall be identified and mapped*

Yes

Comment

The Nestlé Waters Suisse facility in Henniez demonstrates a comprehensive approach to water balance management through detailed documentation and advanced monitoring systems. The site's water balance documentation provides a comprehensive overview of water flows across its entire operational landscape, meticulously tracking water inputs, internal movements, and outputs.

The facility's water balance calculations incorporate multiple water sources, including mineral water, industrial water, precipitation and evapotranspiration. These calculations comprehensively map water usage across various operational contexts, from production processes and storage to treatment and auxiliary uses. Monthly reports capture total water capture and discharge, enabling precise water movement and efficiency tracking.

The water balance documentation goes beyond standard accounting, encompassing a wide range of water-related aspects such as administrative buildings, staff facilities, fire protection systems, production processes, and stormwater management. The site creates a holistic picture of its water ecosystem by identifying and quantifying overflows and water losses.

Technological innovation plays a significant role in the site's water balance management. While some older meters have been decommissioned (labeled as "compteurs HS"), the facility has transitioned to the Aquassay monitoring system, ensuring real-time and accurate water flow measurement. This approach reflects a commitment to continuous improvement in water resource management.

The site calculates its water use efficiency ratio by comparing the total water captured to the volume produced, providing a key performance indicator for water stewardship. This method allows for ongoing assessment and optimization of water usage across the facility's operations.

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.*

Yes

Comment

The site has comprehensively documented its water balance from 2019-2024, with evidence of consistent tracking and quantification of water flows. The Water Use Ratio (WUR) trends show current performance ranging between 1.98 and 2.24 m^3/m^3, with a long-term target set at 1.80 L/L by 2028. The documentation demonstrates both seasonal variations and year-over-year trends in water usage.

The monthly water balance documentation is robust, capturing all water inputs, including mineral water sources, industrial water sources, and precipitation. It meticulously tracks internal water flows such as storage, treatment processes, and production usage, as well as water outputs, including bottled products, wastewater treatment, direct discharges, and losses.

The site has implemented a multi-faceted improvement strategy to address water balance challenges. A sophisticated risk prediction system has been developed to manage microbiological and water loss risks at the catchment level. In the production facility, a project launched at the end of 2024 focuses on improving SKU loading to reduce water losses. Additionally, the site is pursuing a reverse osmosis project to optimize industrial water intake and management.
Despite current WUR fluctuations, the site remains confident in achieving its 2028 target through ongoing technological and process-oriented improvements.

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.*

Yes

Comment

The site has uploaded comprehensive water quality documentation, including systematic monitoring records for source waters, effluent, and receiving bodies. Key evidence includes the 2023 Autocontrol Report, which shows daily analyses of pH, conductivity, BOD, and COD, with identified conductivity challenges and mitigation measures. The "Eaux Sources du site" spreadsheet demonstrates regular sampling across multiple water sources with threshold indicators. Documents show detailed chemical profiles, including heavy metals and microbial contaminants, while the QMS documentation establishes protocols for deviation management. This structured monitoring system effectively captures seasonal and annual variations in water quality parameters.

The site monitors water quality through three main areas:
1. Mineral content compliance - The site ensures compliance with the labeling of mineral content of bottles following regulations;
2. microbiological quality - the site maintains a standardized sampling and monitoring program for microbial parameters;
3. Chemical analysis—pesticide monitoring is a particular focus. All water sources are sampled weekly, and comprehensive testing is conducted monthly.

The site goes beyond compliance requirements by sharing data with authorities approximately every 3-4 months. This transparency builds trust and ensures authorities receive information directly rather than through media channels, which the cantonal chemist particularly values. The site has developed excellent relationships with authorities who understand the challenges involved.

Regarding pesticides, trace amounts detected in bottled water are not from current agricultural practices but represent metabolites from pesticides used as far back as the 1980s (such as chlorothalonil and chloridazone).

The quality of waste waters delivered by NWCH to the water treatment plant of the municipality of Henniez is monitored by NWCH and the results are shared with the cantonal authorities every year (e.g. "Rapport d'autocontrôle des rejets d'eaux usées du site de 13-Cantons") indicating sporadically deviations in pH and Conductivity with respect to the regulatory limits.
The site states that: (1) the cantonal environmental authority (DGE) is aware of the quality of the waste waters from NWCH and that DGE delivered a derogation in order to ensure the optimal functioning of the water treatment plant, (2) discussions are ongoing to update the discharge authorization, and (3) the wastewater treatment plant capacity and performances has not been impacted. As a remedial measure, the site is implementing a major project to eliminate water softeners to reduce salt concentration, which has reportedly been communicated to the DGE.
The 2024 effluent quality data will need to be verified as well as all communications from NWCH to DGE at the next audit to assess improvement trends and confirm the effectiveness of implemented corrective measures.

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

Yes

Comment

The site demonstrates strong conformity with indicator 1.3.5 through comprehensive documentation of potential pollution sources. Their approach includes detailed chemical inventories with expiration tracking, product mapping with storage locations, and department-specific environmental impact analyses that are updated annually. These are supported by formal Safety, Health, and Environment SOPs for chemical management. The site has implemented practical pollution prevention measures, including diverting stormwater from high-risk areas (waste collection) to the wastewater system and installing continuous pH monitoring at retention ponds for real-time detection of abnormal discharges. This documentation serves as an operational guide for pollution prevention rather than just a compliance exercise, showing the site's commitment to identifying and managing potential water pollution risks.

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

Comment

The site provided comprehensive documentation of Important Water-Related Areas (IWRAs). It includes a detailed inventory of on-site and catchment IWRAs with thorough descriptions for each area, consultation records with relevant stakeholders, and classification of value types. Each IWRA is systematically evaluated, clearly documenting its importance, potential impacts, and planned actions. This information is complemented by a spatial representation in the form of a map showing the location and distribution of these IWRAs across the site and catchment. This approach demonstrates the site's understanding of water-dependent ecosystems and cultural areas within their operational boundaries.

The site's classification system for IWRAs follows the AWS guidance. It uses a 6-point status scale (0-5) and categorizes values as Environmental, Community, Cultural, or Economic. The specific rating of "4" for the on-site IWRA was determined based on monitoring data from the pH sensor installed at the location.
The on-site IWRA is considered significant despite being part of the water-related infrastructure because it receives clear water discharges (eau claire) and supports diverse flora and fauna. However, a formal biodiversity inventory has not yet been conducted.

The "clear water" discharged to this area consists of stormwater (fr. „eau pluviale") and surplus water (primarily industrial water, but also some mineral water). The surplus occurs because some gravity-fed springs produce more water than can be utilized, and excess must be discharged.

The primary concerns regarding possible site impacts on this IWRA relate to the quality and quantity of discharges. Site operations could affect water quality through pH variations or introduce contaminants, while the volume of water discharged could alter hydrological conditions within the IWRA.

The document indicates consultation with cantonal authorities (DGE) regarding this IWRA. These consultations are primarily formal procedures to communicate any exceedances in quality parameters, particularly pH. More comprehensive stakeholder discussions about this IWRA are planned for the future.

1.3.7	*Annual water-related costs, revenues, and a description or quantification of the social, cultural, environmental, or economic water-related value generated by the site shall be identified and used to inform the evaluation of the plan in 4.1.2.*	Yes

Comment

The provided water-related costs for the 2024 document effectively address AWS requirements by providing a comprehensive breakdown of water-related financial data and value creation at the Nestlé Waters Suisse Henniez site. It follows the structure recommended in the AWS guidance, systematically presenting costs, revenues, and social/environmental value creation. This analysis was prepared specifically for this audit, and procedures for future updates will be developed. All identified costs and benefits are appropriately tied to water stewardship activities.

It systematically identifies all relevant water-related expenses, including staff costs, maintenance, and program investments. The "Total amount spent to procure water" covers pumping operations. Zero values appear where specific cost categories don't apply to the site's operations. The site doesn't incur water treatment costs, as the document shows. This seems appropriate given the natural mineral water operations that require minimal treatment. Costs include maintenance of production lines and wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Revenue figures from Henniez brand water sales are clearly stated. The document identifies economic value, social initiatives (factory tours with water awareness education), and environmental benefits through the AgrEauConseil project.

The AgrEauConseil project has both a cost and an environmental benefit. The ecological benefit relates to reducing agricultural inputs, and implementation involves stream monitoring twice monthly and the Treatment Frequency Index (which is weather-dependent). The molecular levels remain unchanged despite these efforts, indicating the complexity of environmental improvement measurement.

1.3.8 *Levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site shall be identified.*

Yes

Comment

The site demonstrates conformity through thorough documentation of WASH facilities and standards. Their approach begins with a detailed mapping of on-site WASH facilities, showing their distribution. This practical implementation is guided by multiple regulatory and best practice frameworks, including specific Articles (31 and 32) from Swiss Labour Act Ordinance 3 that outline legal requirements for washbasins, showers, and workplace toilets. The site has adopted the WBCSD WASH Pledge Self-Assessment Tool to evaluate its facilities against international standards, complementing Nestlé's corporate guidelines on respecting water and sanitation human rights. Regular water quality testing (documented through laboratory results from August and September 2023) verifies the compliance to the Swiss regulation of water provided to workers. The documentation demonstrates that the site has systematically identified and assessed all WASH facilities, ensuring they meet regulatory requirements and international best practices. The combination of mapping, regulatory compliance, corporate guidelines, and water quality testing provides a robust framework for identifying the levels of access and adequacy of WASH at the site.

1.4 *Gather data on the site's indirect water use, including: its primary inputs; the water use embedded in the production of those primary inputs the status of the waters at the origin of the inputs (where they can be identified); and water used in out-sourced water-related services.*

1.4.1 *The embedded water use of primary inputs, including quantity, quality and level of water risk within the site's catchment, shall be identified.*

Yes

Comment	The site demonstrates conformity by comprehensively assessing embedded water use in primary inputs. Documentation includes a detailed supplier list with geographic locations, revealing that all bottle component suppliers are located outside the catchment. The site has thoroughly evaluated internal water-using processes, identifying label production as the only significant primary input produced within the catchment, which is handled internally by Nestlé Waters Suisse. This printing process uses minimal water (approximately 1 m³/month for humidification), with the site appropriately assessing the associated water risk as low since industrial water undergoes reverse osmosis treatment. Additional on-site activities with embedded water use are also quantified, including the canteen (10 m³/month) and cleaning team (2 m³/month), though these are relatively minor compared to production volumes. The systematic approach to identifying water-embedded inputs, their locations relative to the catchment, and associated quality and risk levels demonstrates thorough compliance with this indicator.

1.4.2 *The embedded water use of outsourced services shall be identified, and where those services originate within the site's catchment, quantified.* — Yes

Comment	The site complies with indicator 1.4.2 through systematic documentation of outsourced services and their embedded water use. Their assessment covers four service providers operating within the facility, clearly establishing that these contractors utilize the site's own water resources while on-site, with no additional off-site water consumption in the catchment. The impact of each service provider is systematically assessed as low, with established communication channels for all providers. Supporting documentation includes a comprehensive summary of suppliers and their main activities, complemented by email correspondence from October 2024 confirming that providers responsible for mechanical and electrical maintenance of forklift trucks and green space maintenance (except watering) do not consume water from external sources. This thorough approach to identifying and quantifying embedded water use in outsourced services, with specific attention to catchment location, demonstrates complete compliance with the indicator requirements.

1.5 *Gather water-related data for the catchment, including water governance, water balance, water quality, Important Water-Related Areas, infrastructure, and WASH*

1.5.1 *Water governance initiatives shall be identified, including catchment plan(s), water-related public policies, major publicly-led initiatives under way, and relevant goals to help inform site of possible opportunities for water stewardship collective action.* — Obs.

Comment	The site complies with indicator 1.5.1 by identifying water governance initiatives at multiple levels. Their documentation effectively outlines Switzerland's three-tiered water governance structure: federal (Confederation) level establishing legal frameworks and general quality/quantity monitoring through OFEV; cantonal level ensuring compliance with federal laws through bodies like DGE and SCAV while defining regional policies; and municipal level responsible for infrastructure operation within legal requirements. The site has also identified specific ongoing strategic projects relevant to the catchment, including Lucens' initiative to connect the municipal water network to CREB and/or AEBCCS (sourcing from Lake Neuchâtel) and a Canton-led regional wastewater treatment plant consolidation project that aims to modernize treatment methods and combine collection systems from multiple municipalities. The site has provided comprehensive documentation of water governance structures at multiple levels: - Thoroughly documented water governance in Switzerland, including federal and cantonal laws and ordinances that establish the three-tiered governance structure (Confederation, Cantons, Communes); - clear identification of specific authorities, including the Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV) and the Direction Générale de l'Environnement (DGE) of Canton Vaud; - recognition of strategic projects, including the regional wastewater treatment plant project and connection to the CREB network; - documented collaboration with the municipalities of Villarzel and Valbroye, as well as cantonal authorities DGMR (Direction Générale de la Mobilité et des Routes - General Directorate for Mobility and Roads), to address risks related to road traffic and water protection; - identification of initiatives addressing agricultural runoff and pesticide contamination, including the Confederation-led "Pestired" project. The site has effectively identified the primary water governance initiatives in the catchment, providing a solid foundation for informing potential collective action.	
1.5.2	*Applicable water-related legal and regulatory requirements shall be identified, including legally-defined and/or stakeholder-verified customary water rights.*	Obs.

Comment

Nestlé Waters Suisse has compiled comprehensive documentation demonstrating their understanding of Switzerland's water-related legal and regulatory requirements, focusing on the Canton of Vaud, where the Henniez facility operates.

The legal framework encompasses multiple layers of regulation, beginning with federal-level legislation, including the Federal Law on Water Protection and various ordinances governing drinking water, public facilities, and civil protection. Industry-specific guidelines further refine these regulations, with detailed directives addressing issues like chlorothalonil metabolites in drinking water and managing anthropogenic substances in natural mineral water.

The documentation reveals the intricate complexity of water rights in the Swiss legal system. Dating back to legislation from the 1940s, water resource management distinguishes between public domain and private use, with specific flow rate thresholds determining regulatory approach. Water tables or aquifers with flow rates exceeding 300 liters per minute are considered public domain, while private use is restricted to 50 liters per minute, with higher volumes requiring specific concessions.

These regulations translate into carefully managed water extraction practices for the Henniez facility. Most of the site's extraction points are gravity-based boreholes that do not actively pump from the aquifer. The Puits des Neuchâtelois well operates under a specific permit from the Canton of Vaud, issued in February 2003, with authorization to pump up to 150 liters per minute. An inspection report from the Cantonal Laboratory confirms ongoing compliance with these regulations.

Local agreements further complement the regulatory framework. A formal arrangement with the Commune of Henniez governs water resource exploitation and management, demonstrating the site's commitment to transparent and collaborative water stewardship.

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

Obs.

Comment

The site demonstrates conformity by documenting the catchment water balance and potential scarcity conditions. The documentation effectively quantifies all aspects of the water cycle while analyzing seasonal variations.

the water balance was analyzed for the AWS perimeter. The site's analysis reveals annual precipitation of 1001.4 mm across the 37 km² area of interest, resulting in 37.1 million m³ of total water input. With an effective groundwater recharge rate of 30%, approximately 11.1 million m³ replenishes the aquifer system annually. Current extraction practices are well within sustainable limits, with Nestlé Waters withdrawing 429,000 m³ (just 2.3% of available recharge) and all users combined extracting only 10.4% of the annual recharge.

The site has thoroughly documented seasonal variations through monthly precipitation and temperature data, showing fluctuations from 59.4 mm precipitation in March to 100.3 mm in June and temperature cycles from 1.0°C in January to 19.4°C in July. These variations are essential for understanding potential seasonal stress periods, though the data confirms that no significant water scarcity issues exist in the catchment.

Supporting hydrogeological studies provide detailed characterization of the aquifers and catchments used by Nestlé Waters, establishing a strong foundation for the water balance calculations. The site has also engaged with local stakeholders to address potential risks such as agricultural runoff and contamination, demonstrating a comprehensive approach to catchment water management beyond simple quantification.

Details on water extraction impacts and monitoring at Nestlé's facilities are as follows: Henniez facility's catchments extract approximately 2.3% of the aquifer's natural recharge (down from a previously estimated 3.8-4%, as about half the extracted water returns directly to the environment). The impact of these withdrawals is considered minimal, with a hydrological study updated every five years by external consultants.

Other water users in the catchment include agricultural use (estimated at 270,000 m³, roughly equivalent to the facility's usage) and challenges with municipal water infrastructure (CREB), including limited pipe capacity and recent price increases of 0.30 francs per cubic meter.

The Aqueduct indicates low physical water stress in the area.

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.*

Yes

Comment

The water quality monitoring system is comprehensive, with daily sampling of mineral water sources and regular industrial water testing. Parameters measured include microbiological factors (with regulatory limits of under 100 germs per milliliter and no E. coli or enterococci in 250ml samples), chemical composition, and pesticide/metabolite levels. This data is regularly shared with cantonal authorities to maintain transparency.

Regional wastewater treatment infrastructure is being consolidated into a regional system, though the Nestlé facility will remain connected to the Henniez treatment plant. According to cantonal risk maps, flood risk in the area is low.

The site obtained data on river flow rates, infiltration rates from streams such as La Râpe, and the overall hydrological regime. For groundwater, it gathered information on piezometric levels, flow directions, aquifer properties like permeability and porosity, recharge estimates, and water quality including physico-chemical parameters and nitrate concentrations.

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.*

Obs.

Comment

The site has provided comprehensive documentation for identifying and assessing Important Water-Related Areas (IWRAs) in the catchment.
The site provided a detailed IWRA list with short descriptions, stakeholder consultation evidence, value type classification, status assessment using a 6-point scale, opportunities and importance rationale, and impact analysis and planned actions.

The site has also included IWRA maps offering spatial representation of all identified important water-related areas in the catchment.

The "De Source Sûre" Surface Water Quality Report by Canton Vaud contributes a scientific assessment identifying key waterways, including La Broye, La Râpe, and La Trémeule. This report uses color-coded water quality indicators and ecological status metrics based on IBCH biological assessment. It documents protected areas under federal inventories, such as alluvial zones and marshes, while identifying threats from wastewater discharge, water extraction, and hydroelectric installations.

Additionally, the 2019 Climate Change Impact Study provides a forward-looking threat assessment for the Broye catchment. It projects significant flow changes, including a 77% decrease in summer flows and a 65% increase in winter flows by 2070-2099. The study forecasts water quality impacts, including a 14% increase in summer nitrate concentrations due to reduced dilution despite less leaching. It addresses agricultural production changes, soil erosion projections, and adaptation requirements for the catchment.

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

Yes

Comment

The site has thoroughly documented key water-related infrastructure within their catchment, including 13 water extraction points (7 for mineral water, 6 for industrial use), the CREB municipal water network (Connection of Municipal Water Networks on the Right Bank of the Broye), wastewater treatment facilities (STEP), underground piping networks, and cadastral information.

NWCH has provided a mapping of water-related infrastructure in the catchment and a network diagram of the CREB system, offering a clear visualization of the water infrastructure landscape. The site has also established access to detailed infrastructure data through authorized portals (VIAGEO, plans-reseaux.ch), demonstrating a commitment to maintaining up-to-date information on infrastructure status.

The documentation acknowledges recent extreme events, particularly the November 2024 flooding, which shows awareness of potential vulnerabilities. The site has begun gathering information about how infrastructure responded to this event, contributing to their understanding of resilience in extreme conditions.

The documentation demonstrates coordination with municipal authorities regarding shared water infrastructure, particularly the CREB network and emergency water provision arrangements with the Commune of Henniez. This demonstrates proactive infrastructure management across organizational boundaries.

While the current documentation provides a solid foundation, NWCH has identified opportunities to strengthen its infrastructure assessment by gathering additional details on infrastructure conditions, maintenance schedules, and vulnerability analyses. This demonstrates a commitment to continuous improvement in its water stewardship practices.

1.5.7 *The adequacy of available WASH services within the catchment shall be identified.*

Yes

Comment

Nestlé Waters Suisse (NWCH) at Henniez has identified several key aspects of WASH services availability in their catchment:
Most communities in the catchment have access to municipal water supplies through local water catchments and the CREB network (Connection of Municipal Water Networks on the Right Bank of the Broye).
However, some rural properties in forested areas lack access to potable water and sewage infrastructure. This includes the Bains d'Henniez building (owned by NWCH), where approximately 10 people live.

NWCH has taken action to address these WASH gaps by:
- Installing and maintaining a small-scale wastewater treatment plant for the Bains d'Henniez building;
- establishing an agreement with the Commune of Henniez to provide water to residents during emergencies;
- supplying bottled mineral water to communities during water quality issues or emergencies (as demonstrated during flooding in November 2024).

The documentation shows NWCH is aware of WASH service adequacy in its catchment and has implemented measures to address gaps, particularly for properties it owns. However, the documentation would be strengthened by including more comprehensive data on the percentage of the catchment population with access to adequate WASH services, which could be sourced from regional or national statistics.

1.6 *Understand current and future shared water challenges in the catchment, by linking the water challenges identified by stakeholders with the site's water challenges.*

1.6.1 *Shared water challenges shall be identified and prioritized from the information gathered.*

Yes

Comment

Nestlé Waters Suisse has developed a sophisticated and participatory approach to identifying shared water challenges, integrating rigorous internal analysis with comprehensive stakeholder engagement. The process began with an internal workshop, during which the site team meticulously organized and analyzed potential water-related difficulties using an advanced matrix methodology.

The Community Relations Process (CRP) is crucial in systematically incorporating diverse stakeholder perspectives. Draft shared water challenges were carefully documented and circulated through a strategic newsletter, inviting stakeholder feedback. The positive responses received not only validated the identified challenges but also provided nuanced insights into local water resource dynamics. Follow-up bilateral discussions with key stakeholders allowed for further refinement and validation of the shared water challenges, ensuring a collaborative and inclusive approach to water stewardship.

The resulting Water Stewardship Plan articulates three primary shared water challenges that reflect the Swiss plateau's complex environmental and economic landscape. The first challenge addresses the significant impact of farming activities on surface and groundwater quality, recognizing the intricate relationship between agricultural practices and water resource management. The second challenge highlights the increasing water scarcity during more frequent and intense drought periods, with particular emphasis on the economic implications, especially for farming communities relying on the increasingly vulnerable Broye River for irrigation. The third challenge focuses on flooding risks threatening residential areas and critical water catchments.

Each challenge is methodically linked to AWS outcomes, providing comprehensive contextual analysis and tracing the root causes with exceptional depth. The documentation demonstrates a holistic approach by identifying associated public-sector agency initiatives and explaining the multifaceted relevance for stakeholders and the site. The prioritization of each shared water challenge is presented with convincing justification, reflecting a nuanced understanding of local water resource complexities.

1.6.2	*Initiatives to address shared water challenges shall be identified.*	Yes

Comment

The site has conducted a thorough assessment of the catchment and confirmed that there are no additional stakeholder-led water-related initiatives beyond those in which the site is already actively participating. The comprehensive stakeholder engagement process and water catchment analysis have enabled the site to identify all relevant initiatives.

The site is currently leading water-related initiatives in the catchment, which include AgrEauConseil, the phyto épuration project on the Râpe, the project to modify the collector of Route Cantonale RC613, drip irrigation collaboration with partner farmers, and the restoration of the Râpe and Trémeule streams.

Regular communication with local authorities, agricultural partners, environmental agencies, and community representatives confirms that no other stakeholder-led water initiatives in the catchment would be relevant to the site's water stewardship efforts.

1.7	*Understand the site's water risks and opportunities: Assess and prioritize the water risks and opportunities affecting the site based upon the status of the site, existing risk management plans and/or the issues and future risk trends identified in 1.6.*	
1.7.1	*Water risks faced by the site shall be identified, and prioritized, including likelihood and severity of impact within a given timeframe, potential costs and business impact.*	Yes

Comment

Nestlé Waters Suisse has developed a comprehensive approach to water risk identification and prioritization, as demonstrated in their Water Stewardship Plan. The documentation reveals a sophisticated assessment methodology that meticulously examines the likelihood and severity of potential impacts, considering both immediate and long-term business implications.

The water risk assessment encompasses a wide range of environmental and operational challenges. Water quality degradation emerges as a high-priority concern, particularly concerning nitrates, phytosanitary products, and metabolites. Regulatory changes pose a significant threat, potentially restricting the facility's water availability and creating complex operational challenges.

Discharge management represents another critical area of focus, with close monitoring of pH levels at both natural environment discharge points and treatment plant outlets. The site proactively approaches potential non-compliance risks, implementing rigorous tracking and mitigation strategies.

Hydrogeological challenges form a significant component of the risk assessment. The documentation explores potential diminished aquifer recharge and emerging water usage tensions, though the site currently maintains sufficient water resources. Particular attention is given to environmental vulnerabilities, including the potential for dry riverbeds, wetland degradation, and potential withdrawal restrictions, especially concerning the Broye River's critical irrigation role.

Flooding risks present another complex challenge, impacting urbanized areas and water catchments classified as medium to high priority. The site's analysis extends beyond immediate operational concerns, considering broader implications for municipalities located in flood-prone zones.
The risk assessment methodology is notably sophisticated. It categorizes risks across multiple dimensions, including physical, regulatory, reputational, social, and financial perspectives.
The site ensures a multifaceted understanding of potential challenges by incorporating data from comprehensive sources like the Water Risk Atlas (Aqueduct).

Each identified risk undergoes systematic evaluation, examining the severity of impact, occurrence likelihood, potential economic consequences, and broader business implications.
The documentation provides clear insight into current trends and future projections, enabling a forward-looking and adaptive approach to water resource management.

This structured and comprehensive risk assessment approach demonstrates Nestlé Waters Suisse's commitment to proactive water stewardship, balancing immediate operational needs with long-term environmental and social considerations.

1.7.2 *Water-related opportunities shall be identified, including how the site may participate, assessment and prioritization of potential savings, and business opportunities.*

Yes

Comment

The site has identified several key water-related opportunities addressing catchment and site-level challenges. These opportunities include implementing measures to reduce metabolite concentrations in water, which are prioritized as extremely high with significant economic impact at the catchment level. These measures aim to improve distributed water quality and ensure business continuity.

At the site level, the focus includes ensuring best quality and the optimal volume of the water supplied to the treatment plant and identifying new water resources to increase available volumes and ensure economic viability.

The catchment-level opportunities feature a drip irrigation project to reduce withdrawals from the Broye River during dry periods and a critical stream restoration initiative for the Râpe and Trémeule streams to protect boreholes and dwellings from current flood zones. Sustainable resource management and water efficiency strategies are prioritized at the site level to reduce water withdrawals.

Each opportunity has been carefully assessed considering scope, impact type, potential value creation, implementation timeline, and priority. The documentation demonstrates a strategic approach to water stewardship by clearly aligning these opportunities and the site's identified water risks. While the plan includes specific metrics for measuring success, quantifying potential savings and business opportunities remains incomplete.

1.8 *Understand best practice towards achieving AWS outcomes: Determining sectoral best practices having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.*

1.8.1 *Relevant catchment best practice for water governance shall be identified.*

Yes

Comment

The site has compiled comprehensive evidence of water governance practices through multiple complementary documents, including their "Best Practice Summary" document and the "Best Practices 2024 Henniez" file. These materials effectively document how Nestlé Waters Suisse implements water governance approaches relevant to their local context.

The documentation shows that the site has adopted a pragmatic, locally-focused approach to water governance best practices. Rather than applying generic corporate standards, they've identified practices that directly address specific challenges in the Broye River catchment. This includes transparent data sharing with stakeholders such as the Consumers' Office of the Vaud canton.

The site has incorporated guidance from authoritative sources, notably the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (OFEV) publication "Gestion par bassin versant" (Watershed Management), which provides localized best practice frameworks specifically relevant to Swiss watersheds.

While maintaining local focus, the site demonstrates knowledge exchange with other Nestlé operations in Belgium and France, particularly through programs like AgrEauConseil, showing a balanced approach to best practice identification.

This evidence shows the site has effectively identified relevant catchment-level water governance best practices tailored to their specific context while incorporating guidance from recognized authorities. The approach aligns with progressive water stewardship development, establishing strong local implementation as a foundation.

1.8.2 *Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water balance (either through water efficiency or less total water use) shall be identified.*

Yes

Comment

The site has provided several documents demonstrating their identification of best practices related to water balance at the catchment level:
The main document, "Best Practices 2024 Henniez" outlines how Nestlé Waters Suisse implements water data sharing with regional stakeholders, including the Consumers' Office of the Vaud canton. This transparent approach to water resource management constitutes a best practice that promotes sustainable water balance through collaborative oversight.

Supporting documentation includes formal correspondence with authorities regarding geophysical exploration for groundwater prospecting. The November 2024 response from the Cantonal Hydrogeologist demonstrates the regulatory framework for water resource investigation, requiring comprehensive hydrogeological reporting before exploration can proceed - a best practice that ensures sustainable groundwater management.
The site also provided evidence of engagement in data-sharing programs relevant to water balance management, showing their participation in knowledge exchange that supports balanced extraction practices.

The OFEV guide on monitoring for watershed management is an authoritative reference on best practices for tracking water resources in Swiss watersheds. It provides standardized approaches to maintaining sustainable water balance.

The site has established an approach to best practice identification and implementation that is appropriately focused on its immediate operational environment. Currently, the site primarily concentrates on local context and specific catchment challenges rather than taking a broader "top-down" perspective, which is understood to be more the role of corporate leadership.

The documentation indicates that the site works within its direct sphere of influence, implementing practices that address specific local water challenges. While some practices are exchanged between operations in Belgium, France, and Switzerland (such as the AgrEauConseil program), the site's approach is predominantly characterized by localized implementation rather than corporate-directed standardization.

This focused approach allows the site to develop targeted solutions that are directly relevant to the specific water issues in its catchment. The site has appropriately recognized that broader standardization and top-down implementation of best practices fall within the domain of corporate responsibility, while its role is to effectively implement and adapt these practices to local conditions.

The site's strategy aligns with the progressive development of water stewardship maturity, beginning with strong local implementation before expanding to broader best practice integration.

1.8.3 *Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for water quality shall be identified, including rationale for data source.*

Yes

Comment	The site complies with indicator 1.8.3 by identifying relevant sector and catchment best practices for water quality. Documentation includes the Eco-Broye project outline detailing strategies for sustainable water resource management in the Henniez region, specifically focusing on water quality risk mitigation and ecological preservation. Supporting evidence includes the site's Water Quality Management System, formal communications with environmental authorities (DGE), Nestlé's corporate environmental sustainability commitments, and multiple management system certifications (FSSC 22000, ISO 9001, 14001, and 45001). These materials collectively establish a comprehensive framework for water quality best practices, combining site-specific initiatives with internationally recognized management standards and corporate environmental policies. The site has established an approach to best practice identification and implementation that is appropriately focused on its immediate operational environment. Currently, the site primarily concentrates on local context and specific catchment challenges rather than taking a broader "top-down" perspective, which is understood to be more the role of corporate leadership. The documentation indicates that the site works within its direct sphere of influence, implementing practices that address specific local water challenges. While some practices are exchanged between operations in Belgium, France, and Switzerland (such as the AgrEauConseil program), the site's approach is predominantly characterized by localized implementation rather than corporate-directed standardization. This focused approach allows the site to develop targeted solutions that are directly relevant to the specific water issues in its catchment. The site has appropriately recognized that broader standardization and top-down implementation of best practices fall within the domain of corporate responsibility, while its role is to implement and adapt these practices to local conditions effectively. The site's strategy aligns with the progressive development of water stewardship maturity, beginning with strong local implementation before expanding to broader best practice integration.	
1.8.4	*Relevant catchment best practice for site maintenance of Important Water-Related Areas shall be identified.*	Yes

Comment

The site complies with indicator 1.8.4 by identifying relevant catchment best practices for IWRA maintenance. Documentation includes Switzerland's climate change adaptation plan (2020-2025) from the Federal Office for the Environment and a comprehensive set of Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting (VWBA) resources, including implementation guides and the Nestlé Waters VWBA Tool.

These materials establish a framework for quantifying water-related conservation benefits and align with national guidelines for water resource protection. The VWBA methodology represents sector best practices for measuring and enhancing watershed protection efforts through a standardized accounting approach.

The site has established an approach to best practice identification and implementation that is appropriately focused on its immediate operational environment. Currently, the site primarily concentrates on local context and specific catchment challenges rather than taking a broader "top-down" perspective, which is understood to be more the role of corporate leadership.

The documentation indicates that the site works within its direct sphere of influence, implementing practices that address specific local water challenges. While some practices are exchanged between operations in Belgium, France, and Switzerland (such as the AgrEauConseil program), the site's approach is predominantly characterized by localized implementation rather than corporate-directed standardization.

This focused approach allows the site to develop targeted solutions that are directly relevant to the specific water issues in its catchment. The site has appropriately recognized that broader standardization and top-down implementation of best practices fall within the domain of corporate responsibility, while its role is to implement and adapt these practices to local conditions effectively.

The site's strategy aligns with the progressive development of water stewardship maturity, beginning with strong local implementation before expanding to broader best practice integration.

1.8.5 *Relevant sector and/or catchment best practice for site provision of equitable and adequate WASH services shall be identified.*

Yes

Comment

Based on the documents provided for indicator 1.8.5, the site demonstrates appropriate identification of best practices for the provision of equitable and adequate WASH services.

The site has provided key documentation showing their understanding of best practices for WASH provision, including the "1.8.5 Best practices 2024 Henniez" file, which explicitly addresses challenges related to delivering sanitary water that complies with increasingly stringent regulatory requirements.
The site has incorporated Nestlé's corporate guidelines on "Respecting the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation," establishing a framework of best practices aligned with international standards. This demonstrates the site's recognition of sector-specific and globally recognized WASH best practices.

Taking a locally-focused approach, the site has identified WASH practices that directly address their catchment's specific needs and challenges rather than applying generic standards. This contextualized approach ensures that identified best practices are relevant and implementable within the local regulatory and environmental conditions.

The site's approach to WASH best practices balances corporate guidance and local implementation. Drawing on Nestlé's corporate framework for human rights to water and sanitation, the site has adapted these principles to address specific local water quality challenges and community needs.

2	STEP 2: COMMIT & PLAN - Commit to be a responsible water steward and develop a Water Stewardship Plan	
2.1	*Commit to water stewardship by having the senior-most manager in charge of water at the site, or if necessary, a suitable individual within the organization head office, sign and publicly disclose a commitment to water stewardship, the implementation of the AWS Standard and achieving its five outcomes, and the allocation of required resources.*	
2.1.1	*A signed and publicly disclosed site statement OR organizational document shall be identified. The statement or document shall include the following commitments:* *- That the site will implement and disclose progress on water stewardship program(s) to achieve improvements in AWS water stewardship outcomes* *- That the site implementation will be aligned to and in support of existing catchment sustainability plans* *- That the site's stakeholders will be engaged in an open and transparent way* *- That the site will allocate resources to implement the Standard.*	Yes
Comment	The site meets indicator requirements through its water stewardship statement "Ensemble, prenons soin de l'eau." This statement includes commitments to implement the AWS Standard, develop collective action plans, allocate resources, communicate annually with stakeholders, and maintain responsible water management. In the Swiss context, the commitment to collective action plans and stakeholder communication constitutes appropriate "engagement" as required by the indicator, as this approach is culturally understood and accepted by local stakeholders as a legitimate expression of commitment. The statement is correctly endorsed by site leadership. While there is no explicit alignment with the mentioned catchment sustainability plans, this is appropriate given that no formal catchment plan exists in this region.	
2.2	*Develop and document a process to achieve and maintain legal and regulatory compliance.*	
2.2.1	*The system to maintain compliance obligations for water and wastewater management shall be identified, including:* *- Identification of responsible persons/positions within facility organizational structure* *- Process for submissions to regulatory agencies.*	Yes

Comment

The site demonstrates effective compliance with water-related legal and regulatory requirements through a comprehensive monitoring and management system. Key evidence includes:

The RED ONLINE software implementation tracks legal requirements and site compliance specific to water and wastewater management. The site's organizational structure clearly assigns regulatory compliance to identified staff members.

The site maintains robust management systems certified by multiple relevant standards, including ISO 9001:2015 (Quality Management), ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental Management), ISO 45000:2018 (Occupational Health and Safety), and FSSC 22000 (Food Safety)—all of which are valid through 2027.
A detailed Quality Management System (QMS) for water networks and a control plan for factory infrastructure further support compliance management. The site's approach aligns with Swiss water governance expectations, which rely heavily on facility self-monitoring with immediate reporting requirements when non-conformities arise.

The site maintains appropriate relationships with regulatory authorities, including the Cantonal Hydrogeologist and the Office of Consumption (OFCo), adhering to the Swiss regulatory framework where continuous self-monitoring is prioritized over strict submission deadlines, with requirements to report immediately when non-conformities occur.

2.3 *Create a water stewardship strategy and plan including addressing risks (to and from the site), shared catchment water challenges, and opportunities.*

2.3.1 *A water stewardship strategy shall be identified that defines the overarching mission, vision, and goals of the organization towards good water stewardship in line with this AWS Standard.*

Yes

Comment

Nestlé Waters Suisse at Henniez has identified a water stewardship strategy through the corporate Nestlé Commitment on Water Stewardship document and the site-specific ECO-Broye program. The strategy demonstrates a catchment approach to maintaining water quality in the Broye basin.

Key Strategy Elements:
Mission: Long-term success built upon effective water stewardship in watersheds where raw materials are sourced, factories operate, and stakeholders live.
Vision: Prioritizing human right to water, ecosystem function, and efficient agricultural/industrial water use.
Goals: Six strategic pillars covering efficiency, policy advocacy, discharge treatment, supplier engagement, awareness, and transparent reporting.

The biogas project represents an essential circular economy initiative that contributes to water quality by preventing manure-related contamination of groundwater. By collecting 30,000 tons of farm manure and combining it with industrial waste, the biogas plant reduces water pollution risks while producing renewable energy.

The site demonstrates compliance with indicator 2.3.1, though the strategy operates more at the corporate than factory levels. The ECO-Broye program effectively localizes the corporate strategy, addressing water quality protection through nature preservation, integrated water protection approaches, and circular economy initiatives. The biogas project demonstrates how circular economy principles directly support water quality objectives within the catchment.

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: The site has uploaded The Water Stewardship Plan as evidence for this indicator. The Plan contains metrics to measure each target, actions to achieve each target, planned timeframes to reach them, financial budgets allocated, positions of persons responsible for actions and achieving targets, as well as links between each target and the achievement of best practices to help address shared water challenges and the AWS outcomes are proposed. The site plans to refine the target and KPI formulation further.

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.*

Yes

Comment: Through its Community Relations Process and Water Stewardship Plan, the site demonstrates a comprehensive approach to mitigating and adapting to water-related risks. The stakeholder mapping provides a detailed identification of relevant actors, including public sector agencies and infrastructure management bodies, which supports collaborative risk management.

The Water Stewardship Plan includes a dedicated column identifying specific stakeholders for each shared water challenge, showing a structured approach to understanding potential water-related risks. Documented email exchanges reveal an ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders, including the municipalities of Villarzel and Valbroye, cantonal authorities, and local agricultural partners.

Concrete evidence of collaborative engagement includes discussions with the Cantonal Hydrogeologist on geophysical exploration, water quality solution collaborations with the Valbroye commune, and data-sharing programs with local authorities. The site has implemented joint initiatives directly addressing water-related risks, such as stream restoration projects for the Râpes and Trémules streams, the AgrEauConseil agricultural water management program, phyto-purification systems, and established groundwater protection zones.

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.* ✓ Yes

Comment

The site demonstrates conformity with the requirement to provide evidence that it has supported good catchment governance.

The site has submitted extensive documentation showing active engagement in catchment governance activities focused on improving the ecological state of two important streams (Rapes and Tremules). The email exchanges and meeting minutes document the site's ongoing collaboration with public authorities, including the Direction Générale de l'Environnement (DGE), and local municipalities.

Key governance activities include participation in technical planning sessions for the RC613 project, which addresses collector sizing and drainage infrastructure affecting water quality. The site has also engaged in regular inspection visits and progress meetings for stream rehabilitation work, as evidenced by meeting reports from January and May 2024.

These documents confirm the site's meaningful contribution to catchment governance through direct involvement in collective decision-making, technical studies to support informed planning, and implementation of stream enhancement measures. The consistent participation in these governance processes demonstrates the site's commitment to supporting sustainable water resource management within the catchment.

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.* ✓ Yes

Comment

The site demonstrates conformity with the requirement to implement measures that respect the water rights of others.

The site has established a formal contract with Henniez Commune to provide potable water to local inhabitants during emergencies, demonstrating recognition of community water rights. Additionally, they've installed and maintained a mini wastewater treatment plant for the Bains d'Henniez building, confirming their commitment to protecting local water quality.

While the site hasn't explicitly documented an assessment of historical water rights beyond legal requirements, it conducts regular "Local acceptability" surveys and plans to address water rights specifically in the next edition.

These implemented measures show that the site respects community water rights through infrastructure investments and formal water-sharing agreements, fulfilling the requirements of indicator.

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.* ✓ Yes

Comment	The site demonstrates conformity with the requirement to implement a process for verifying full legal and regulatory compliance. The site has implemented a robust system to maintain and verify compliance with water-related legal and regulatory requirements. The RED ONLINE software serves as a comprehensive regulatory monitoring tool that tracks applicable legal requirements and site compliance status in real time. This system ensures the site remains aware of all relevant water and wastewater management obligations and can respond promptly to any changes in regulations. Supporting this digital monitoring system is the site's Quality Management System (QMS) specifically designed for water networks. This documented system establishes procedures for regular verification of compliance, including schedules for monitoring, testing, and reporting. The control plan for factory infrastructure further demonstrates how the site systematically monitors and maintains its water-related infrastructure to ensure operational compliance. The site's commitment to maintaining compliance is further evidenced by its multiple certifications, including ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, ISO 45000:2018, and FSSC 22000, all of which are current and valid until 2027. These certifications require regular third-party verification of compliance management systems, providing additional assurance that the site has implemented and maintains effective processes for regulatory compliance. While certifications alone don't guarantee compliance, they indicate the presence of mature management systems that include compliance verification processes. When combined with the specialized RED ONLINE monitoring system and water-specific QMS, these elements collectively demonstrate that the site has implemented a comprehensive process to verify full legal and regulatory compliance as required by indicator 3.2.1.

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.*	Yes
Comment	The site demonstrates compliance with indicator 3.2.2. While water rights are clearly defined in Swiss law through the federal and cantonal regulatory framework, the site has provided evidence of respecting water rights beyond mere legal compliance. This is demonstrated through their agreement with the Commune of Henniez to provide water to the local community in case of emergencies and through the installation of a small-scale wastewater treatment facility for the Bains d'Henniez building. These actions show the site's commitment to respecting community water rights, ensuring they do not impinge on local access to water resources, and actively supporting community water needs. The site's operations, which include careful monitoring of water extraction volumes and maintaining sustainable water balances, further demonstrate their adherence to respecting the water rights of others in the catchment.	
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.*	Yes

Comment

The site has provided documentation demonstrating its progress toward meeting the water balance targets established in its Water Stewardship Plan.
The site has uploaded several relevant documents, including detailed data regarding its water balance and quality, data showing water withdrawal and production volume history, and email exchanges documenting efforts to reduce water use by farmers in the catchment through Nestlé Waters Suisse's assistance with drip irrigation systems.

The water balance target in the Water Stewardship Plan aims to optimize water use, with a specific water intensity target of 1.80 L/L by 2028. The data shows that while there isn't significant progress on the Water Use Ratio (WUR) at the facility level, which appears to be increasing rather than decreasing, Camille will justify this trend in the updated WSP. Despite this challenge, the site's team maintains optimism about achieving the 2028 target because they continue implementing water consumption reduction measures at the plant.

Additionally, the site supports farmers with drip irrigation systems for catchment-level water balance improvements. The original KPI for this initiative measured the volume of water extracted from La Broye, which was 1.3 times greater than water provided to farmers by Nestlé. The KPI has been revised to measure the amount of water delivered to farmers through Nestlé's drip irrigation systems, providing a more direct measurement of the program's impact.
The uploaded documents confirm that the site is tracking progress toward reaching its water balance targets, even if the current metrics show challenges in achieving the desired rate of improvement.

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.*

Yes

Comment

The site demonstrates compliance with the requirement to implement annual targets to improve water use efficiency. Water scarcity has been identified as a shared water challenge in the catchment, primarily during drought periods, though it's noted that this is not considered highly critical.

The site has provided appropriate documentation, including a presentation, water extraction data, water use ratio tracking, and their Water Stewardship Plan.
The site focuses on reducing water losses in production lines rather than total volumetric water use. They have determined that targeting line losses is more feasible than solely pursuing overall water use ratio (WUR) improvements. This targeted approach allows for more precise measurement and management. The site reports that it has achieved approximately 80% of its goal, resulting in a 3.3% reduction in water losses. The deadline for meeting these reduction targets is set for the current year.

3.3.3 *Legally-binding documentation, if applicable, for the re-allocation of water to social, cultural or environmental needs shall be identified.*

Yes

Comment

The site has provided appropriate documentation demonstrating compliance with the requirement for legally-binding documentation related to water reallocation for social needs.
The site has uploaded a formal contract between Nestlé Waters Suisse and the Commune of Henniez that establishes a legal framework for providing potable water to local inhabitants. This agreement represents a legally binding commitment to reallocate water resources for community use, particularly in emergencies, fulfilling the social aspect of water stewardship required by this indicator.

3.4 *Implement plan to achieve site water quality targets*

3.4.1 *Status of progress towards meeting water quality targets set in the water stewardship plan shall be identified.*

Yes

Comment

The facility tracks its water performance primarily through the Water Use Ratio (WUR), which is calculated as total water withdrawal divided by production volume. Their target is to reach 1.8 by 2028, though recent measurements show fluctuations between 1.9 and 2.3, with the trend moving away from rather than toward their goal.

Additional water-related KPIs include:
Water line loss reduction, targeting decrease in production line water losses.
Drip irrigation water sharing with local farmers.

For water quality, their main targets are regulatory compliance for pH and conductivity in wastewater. They're experiencing conductivity spikes) and plan to install a second reverse osmosis system in 2025 to address this issue.

The facility shares water infrastructure with other entities, including a wastewater treatment plant owned by the local commune, the CREB municipal water network, and irrigation reservoirs. It has established formal agreements with the municipality and is developing conventions with farmers who use its water for irrigation.

The conversation indicates that the team is preparing for an audit and working to ensure their documentation of targets, measurements, and progress is evident and adequately supported with evidence.

3.4.2 *Where water quality is a shared water challenge, continual improvement to achieve best practice for the site's effluent shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.*

Yes

Comment

The site demonstrates continuous improvement in effluent quality through its comprehensive water quality management strategy, i.a., via the Eco-Broye program and targeted infrastructure investments. The Water Stewardship Plan and supporting documentation reveal a proactive approach to addressing water quality challenges, specifically reducing pH and conductivity variations.

A key initiative involves implementing a second reverse osmosis system for industrial water to replace existing water softeners. This technical intervention aims to reduce conductivity peaks, aligning with regulatory requirements and representing a targeted effort to improve effluent quality.

The site's monitoring data shows occasional quality deviations currently within tolerated regulatory limits. Furthermore, the proposed technical modifications demonstrate a commitment to continuous improvement beyond mere compliance to minimize effluent quality variability.

These documented efforts, including infrastructure upgrades and systematic monitoring, provide clear evidence of the site's ongoing commitment to achieving best practices in effluent management.

3.5 *Implement plan to maintain or improve the site's and/or catchment's Important Water-Related Areas.*

3.5.1 *Practices set in the water stewardship plan to maintain and/or enhance the site's Important Water-Related Areas shall be implemented.*

Yes

Comment

The site has implemented targeted practices to maintain and enhance Important Water-Related Areas (IWRAs) as outlined in its Water Stewardship Plan. Documentation demonstrates concrete actions taken to restore and monitor the La Râpe stream, which was damaged during weather events in November 2023.

Specific interventions include stream restoration work, installation of a monitoring station to measure flow rate, temperature, and conductivity, and comprehensive documentation of the restoration process. The site's response went beyond immediate repair, incorporating systematic monitoring capabilities that contribute to long-term IWRA management. Supporting evidence includes detailed invoices, purchase orders, and email correspondence confirming the scope and execution of restoration efforts. While initially triggered by an unforeseen event, these actions directly align with the site's water stewardship objectives for maintaining and improving water-related areas.

The documented work on the La Râpe stream demonstrates the site's proactive approach to IWRA management, combining immediate restoration with enhanced environmental monitoring capabilities.

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.*

Yes

Comment

The site conforms to this indicator by providing comprehensive evidence of adequate access to safe drinking water, effective sanitation, and protective hygiene (WASH) for all onsite workers. The documentation demonstrates a multi-layered approach to ensuring WASH facilities meet high standards.
The on-site WASH facilities map clearly overviews facility locations, ensuring comprehensive coverage for workers. Supporting documentation includes the Nestlé Guidelines on Respecting the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation, which establishes a robust framework for WASH provision.

Detailed water quality test reports substantiate the safety of drinking water, with extensive analysis of physicochemical parameters, metals, and potential contaminants. While the reports note that acetone and styrene require further investigation, they do not indicate non-compliance with safety standards.

The WBSCD's WASH at the Workplace Self-Assessment Tool further validates the site's commitment to maintaining high-quality WASH facilities. This documentation, detailed mapping, and water quality testing provide strong evidence of the site's comprehensive approach to providing safe and adequate WASH facilities for all workers.

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	Multiple supporting documents and actions demonstrate that the site demonstrates a comprehensive approach to respecting human rights related to water and sanitation. The Nestlé Guidelines on Respecting the Human Rights to Water and Sanitation provide a foundational framework for ensuring that site operations do not impede community water access. Specific actions highlighting the site's commitment include the agreement with the Commune of Henniez to provide potable water in emergencies, the installation of a mini-wastewater treatment plant for the Bains d'Henniez building, and proactive engagement with local communities through the AgrEauConseil program. The site's water stewardship documentation shows careful consideration of local water rights, mainly through collaborative projects with local stakeholders. The water extraction and discharge practices are managed with attention to maintaining community water access, as demonstrated by the low volumetric impact on the Broye River (0.03% of annual flow) and ongoing dialogue with local authorities. Moreover, the site's engagement with local agricultural communities, including water resource management initiatives and support for sustainable farming practices, further evidences its commitment to respecting traditional water access rights and community water needs.
3.7	*Implement plan to maintain or improve indirect water use within the catchment:*
3.7.1	*Evidence that indirect water use targets set in the water stewardship plan, as applicable, have been met shall be quantified.* — Yes
Comment	The site has not provided supporting documents for this indicator; it offered a comment, „Not in the Water Stewardship Plan.", meaning that there is no target on indirect water use set in the WSP, since the only indirect water use in the catchment is the in-house bottle label production. The indirect water use in the catchment hasn't raised any concerns among stakeholders so far.
3.7.2	*Evidence of engagement with suppliers and service providers, as well as, when applicable, actions they have taken in the catchment as a result of the site's engagement related to indirect water use, shall be identified.* — Yes
Comment	The site demonstrates engagement with suppliers and service providers regarding indirect water use through systematic documentation and communication. Internal correspondence reveals a comprehensive review of water consumption across various service-related activities, including label production, canteen operations, and maintenance services. The factory engineer's detailed email documents the water consumption of different auxiliary services, highlighting that these uses are minimal and integrated into the site's overall water management strategy. Communication with suppliers of mechanical and electrical maintenance services confirms their water usage patterns and potential collaboration opportunities. While the site acknowledges limited potential for further water use reduction in these services, the documentation shows an active approach to understanding and tracking indirect water consumption. The AgrEauConseil project and other stakeholder engagement initiatives further demonstrate the site's commitment to exploring water efficiency across its operational ecosystem.
3.8	*Implement plan to engage with and notify the owners of any shared water-related infrastructure of any concerns the site may have.*
3.8.1	*Evidence of engagement, and the key messages relayed with confirmation of receipt, shall be identified.* — Yes

Comment	Based on the documentation provided, the site demonstrates conformity with indicator 3.8.1. The evidence shows effective engagement with the owners of shared water-related infrastructure, specifically the wastewater treatment plant (STEP). The email exchange "TR_ Numeros PO pour facturation STEP" establishes the formal business relationship. At the same time, the communication "TR__Activation_Semaine_prochaine_" demonstrates proactive notification to STEP operators about higher-than-normal discharge loads, showing the site's commitment to transparent communication about potential operational impacts. The interview with Peter Widmer, the STEP manager, provides further evidence of a two-way dialogue between the site and the infrastructure owner. These documents confirm that the site has appropriately engaged with the shared infrastructure owners and communicated key concerns, confirming receipt as demonstrated through the ongoing communications and established relationship with the STEP management.

3.9 *Implement actions to achieve best practice towards AWS outcomes: continually improve towards achieving sectoral best practice having a local/catchment, regional, or national relevance.*

3.9.1 *Actions towards achieving best practice, related to water governance, as applicable, shall be implemented.*

Yes

Comment	Based on the documents provided, Henniez effectively implements best practices for water governance identified in indicator 1.8.1, satisfying indicator 3.9.1 requirements through comprehensive stakeholder engagement (active participation in AgrEauConseil and partnerships for watershed projects), transparent water management (publishing water balance studies and sharing monitoring data), watershed-level initiatives (collaborative wastewater treatment improvements and stream restoration projects), and exceeding regulatory compliance (maintaining federal and cantonal water regulations while implementing advanced treatment projects). These actions demonstrate the site's commitment to Switzerland's integrated water management framework and showcase responsible water governance at both site and watershed levels, addressing key areas including collaboration with local agricultural stakeholders, regular communication with authorities, stream restoration for the Rape and Trémeule waterways, and supporting municipal drinking water quality improvements throughout the catchment.

3.9.2 *Actions towards achieving best practice, related to targets in terms of water balance shall be implemented.*

Yes

Comment	Based on the documentation provided, the site demonstrates strong conformity with indicator 3.9.2 through the implementation of best practices related to water balance targets. The "Synthese best practices 2024 Henniez" presentation and supporting documents show comprehensive actions including advanced monitoring systems (Aquassay platform for daily water withdrawal tracking and real-time monitoring of spring flow rates), adaptive resource management (weekly water planning meetings with production teams and 6-week forecast plans with weekly revisions), water loss reduction (2024 study evaluating production line water losses with analysis of specific loss sources by line), and quality-quantity integration (multi-criteria tool combining water quantity and quality parameters with transition to resource-driven planning from 2025). The site's participation in the Natural Mineral Waters Europe (NMWE) industry benchmark provides external validation of their water use efficiency. The Eco-Broye program, which includes initiatives like AgrEauConseil and drip irrigation in farming, demonstrates catchment-level actions to improve water balance. These systematic approaches align with the water governance framework outlined in indicator 1.8.1 by implementing sustainable water resource management consistent with Switzerland's integrated water management approach.

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

Yes

Comment

The Henniez site has effectively implemented actions to achieve best practices for water quality, as identified in section 1.8.3. Implementation evidence includes:
- Comprehensive daily microbiological monitoring and weekly pesticide tracking systems that provide detailed quality data for decision-making;
- integration of the Eco-Broye program addressing agricultural, industrial, natural, and urban aspects of water quality protection;
- advanced physicochemical real-time monitoring with automated alert systems;
- weekly coordination meetings between water resources management and production planning;
- implementation of a multi-criteria evaluation tool combining catchment quantity and quality metrics;
- documented engagement with stakeholders, including local municipalities and agricultural partners;
- preventive water quality protection measures aligned with the best practices matrix in the water stewardship plan.

These implementations directly correspond to the best practices identified in 1.8.3, particularly in addressing the balance between production needs and environmental protection. The site demonstrates a systematic approach to water quality management that goes beyond compliance to address watershed-level quality challenges through both site-specific actions and stakeholder collaboration.

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.*

Yes

Comment

The site demonstrates effective implementation of best practices for maintaining Important Water-Related Areas:
The site has implemented comprehensive actions through the Eco-Broye project, which includes multiple initiatives to maintain and enhance Important Water-Related Areas (IWRAs) in the catchment. The "3.9.4 Synthese best practices 2024 Henniez" presentation provides a detailed overview of these activities, focusing on key local water bodies like the Râpe and Trémeule streams.

Financial documentation, including invoices for stream restoration work along the Râpe stream, purchase orders for interventions at both the Râpe and Trémeule sites, and email correspondence confirming completed work, provides concrete evidence of implementation. These documents verify that the site has moved beyond planning to the actual implementation of IWRA maintenance activities.

The site has adopted the Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting (VWBA) methodology, a recognized best practice framework developed by the World Resources Institute, as evidenced by multiple VWBA guidance documents. This methodology allows for a quantifiable assessment of water benefits resulting from restoration activities.

The site demonstrates a science-based approach to IWRA maintenance by implementing innovative techniques like phyto-purification systems on the Râpe stream, showing the application of advanced ecological restoration methods appropriate for the local context.

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

Yes

Comment

The evidence shows concrete actions, including installing and maintaining a mini wastewater treatment plant at the Bain d'Henniez building, which is supported by technical plans and a December 2023 maintenance report confirming its proper functioning. Additionally, the site has formalized its commitment to the local community through two agreements with the Commune of Henniez to provide mineral water during emergencies, as demonstrated during the November 2024 flood. These initiatives align with the best practices identified in section 1.8.5 and represent meaningful contributions to WASH access in the catchment beyond regulatory requirements. The formal agreements and technical documentation indicate a structured, long-term approach to WASH stewardship rather than ad-hoc interventions.

4	STEP 4: EVALUATE - Evaluate the site's performance.

4.1 *Evaluate the site's performance in light of its actions and targets from its water stewardship plan and demonstrate its contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes.*

4.1.1 *Performance against targets in the site's water stewardship plan and the contribution to achieving water stewardship outcomes shall be evaluated.* Obs.

Comment: The site has evaluated performance against targets in a dedicated column of its water stewardship plan. This evaluation includes clear target-to-performance comparisons using appropriate metrics for most objectives.
Key evaluations include quantified assessments ("0% reduction in phytosanitary products, target not reached"; "0 pH deviations in 2024, target reached") and status updates for in-progress projects. The site explicitly identifies which targets have been achieved and which have not.
For water efficiency, the site reports current metrics (WUR 2.34 L/L) but doesn't clearly compare this against the target (< 2 L/L by 2028).
The contribution of each target to water stewardship outcomes is systematically identified through checkmarks against the five AWS outcomes.

4.1.2 *Value creation resulting from the water stewardship plan shall be evaluated.* Yes

Comment: The site has evaluated value creation resulting from its water stewardship plan as evidenced in the "Value created for the site" column of the plan.
The evaluation includes several types of value:
- Improved stakeholder relationships with farmers and authorities;
- managed reputational risks through wastewater management and water provision to farmers;
- operational improvements including "reduction of line losses" and "optimization of WR data consolidation";
- flood risk management protecting operations and infrastructure.

While the site has documented qualitative value creation across most initiatives, the evaluation lacks quantitative financial metrics.
It's worth noting that the site is still in the early stages of their water stewardship journey, and they plan to incorporate more quantitative assessment of value creation as their programs mature.

4.1.3 *The shared value benefits in the catchment shall be identified and where applicable, quantified.* Yes

Comment

Key shared value benefits identified include:
- AgrEauConseil Program: In 2024, there is increased awareness among some farmers who are now ready to change their practices.
- Water infrastructure projects: For several projects (collector modification, municipal water improvement, and phyto-purification), the site indicates "no value created yet" as these projects are still in development phases.
- Wastewater management: Optimal functioning of the wastewater treatment plant has been achieved.
- Water resources knowledge: Improved knowledge of the region and its water resources.
- Sustainable water use: Rational use of Nestlé's excess water, which prevents pumping from surface waters that can become scarce during drought periods.
- Reduced environmental Impact: Decreased impact of withdrawals on the aquifer and improved efficiency in water resource management.
- Stream restoration: Benefits for biodiversity and flood risk management.

The site is conforming to the basic requirements of indicator 4.1.3 by identifying shared value benefits, though most benefits are qualitatively described rather than quantitatively measured. For ongoing projects where benefits haven't yet materialized, the site appropriately notes this status.
The site plans to enhance their approach to quantifying shared value benefits in the future by implementing Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting (VWBA) methodology. Additionally, they intend to focus more on outcome-based benefits rather than process measures. For example, instead of simply reporting "Optimal functioning of the wastewater treatment plant" as a benefit, they will work to quantify the actual environmental and community benefits resulting from this optimal operation. This evolution in their approach will strengthen the assessment of shared value creation in future reporting cycles.

4.2 *Evaluate the impacts of water-related emergency incidents (including extreme events), if any occurred, and determine the effectiveness of corrective and preventative measures.*

4.2.1 *A written annual review and (where appropriate) root-cause analysis of the year's emergency incident(s) shall be prepared and the site's response to the incident(s) shall be evaluated and proposed preventative and corrective actions and mitigations against future incidents shall be identified.*

Obs.

Comment

Based on the documentation provided, the site demonstrates conformity.

The Excel file „4.2.1_Extraction_SHEPM_Incidents_environnementaux_2024.xlsx," along with photographs, water sample test results, and emergency call protocols, show a comprehensive tracking system for environmental incidents. The April 2024 environmental incident involved a non-Nestlé supplier's truck - a third-party vehicle over which the site had no operational control. Given these circumstances, an extensive root cause analysis by Nestlé was appropriately deemed unnecessary, as the incident originated entirely from an external source outside the site's direct control or responsibility.

The flooding incident that caused quality deviations was appropriately analyzed, with the site identifying both unpredictable weather as the primary cause and contributing factors such as debris accumulation and blockages in the stream. In response, the site has proactively developed a forest management plan for the Henniez basin and undertaken stream maintenance work. Additionally, they've engaged with municipal authorities to address similar preventative measures across jurisdictional boundaries.

Given that the site is in the early stages of implementing the AWS standard and has experienced only one relevant incident directly related to its operations during the reporting period, its approach to incident documentation, analysis, and response demonstrates an appropriate level of water stewardship commitment and meets the essential requirements of the indicator.

4.3 *Evaluate stakeholders' consultation feedback regarding the site's water stewardship performance, including the effectiveness of the site's engagement process.*

4.3.1 *Consultation efforts with stakeholders on the site's water stewardship performance shall be identified.* ✓ Yes

Comment: It is clear from the evidence that the site shares quantified performance against targets with stakeholders engaged in specific projects where relevant.

4.4 *Evaluate and update the site's water stewardship plan, incorporating the information obtained from the evaluation process in the context of continual improvement.*

4.4.1 *The site's water stewardship plan shall be modified and adapted to incorporate any relevant information and lessons learned from the evaluations in this step and these changes shall be identified.* ✓ Yes

Comment: The Water Stewardship Plan shows dates of updates (08/2024, 11/2024, 02/2025), demonstrating a regular quarterly review process. The site conducts reviews of the WSP every three months to identify any significant changes and implement minor updates as needed.

Initial conclusions indicate that many projects are just beginning in 2024 and 2025, making it relatively early for comprehensive evaluations. However, the site anticipates more substantial evaluation activities in the coming year as these initiatives progress.

This quarterly review approach provides a structured mechanism for incorporating new information and lessons learned, which satisfies the intent of indicator 4.4.1. As projects mature, the site will have more opportunities to conduct deeper evaluations and make more significant adaptations to the plan based on implementation results and stakeholder feedback.

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: The internal governance structure is publicly disclosed on the company's website (https://www.henniez.ch/fr-ch/durabilite/protection-de-l-eau), providing transparency about the organization's water stewardship approach.
The disclosed information clearly specifies the positions accountable for compliance with water-related laws and regulations, enabling stakeholders to understand the site's management structure concerning water responsibilities. This transparency supports accountability and demonstrates the site's commitment to good water governance practices.

5.2 *Communicate the water stewardship plan with relevant stakeholders.*

5.2.1 *The water stewardship plan, including how the water stewardship plan contributes to AWS Standard outcomes, shall be communicated to relevant stakeholders.*

Yes

Comment: The site demonstrates conformity with indicator 5.2.1 through the document "5.3.1 - NWCH_Henniez_Commitment_letter_2024," which effectively communicates the water stewardship plan to relevant stakeholders. This comprehensive report clearly presents how the site's water stewardship initiatives contribute to AWS Standard outcomes. The document has been appropriately distributed to stakeholders and also published on the AWS website, ensuring broad accessibility.

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.*

closed

Comment: The site demonstrates partial conformity with indicator 5.3.1 through its commitment letter, which contains a detailed summary of water stewardship performance. The document effectively communicates the site's water stewardship approach through a clear commitment statement, comprehensive identification of water risks and opportunities in the Henniez catchment, thorough description of shared water challenges, explanation of governance structure, detailed overview of the AgrEauConseil project, and a summary table of the water stewardship action plan.

For agricultural initiatives like pesticide reduction programs, the site has adapted its approach based on stakeholder feedback, shifting from rigid percentage targets to focusing on implementing effective practices. This adjustment reflects the reality of weather-dependent agricultural outcomes and demonstrates responsiveness to stakeholder input.

While the significant investment has not yet produced measurable results that can be publicly quantified, the site has effectively managed expectations with external stakeholders (farmers) who understand the long-term nature of these initiatives. NWCH acknowledges that full transparency remains the ultimate goal and is working systematically with different stakeholders toward greater transparency and data sharing, with initial quantifiable results expected in the coming years.

Finding No: TNR-017883

5.4 *Disclose efforts to collectively address shared water challenges, including: associated efforts to address the challenges;engagement with stakeholders; and co-ordination with public-sector agencies.*

5.4.1 *The site's shared water-related challenges and efforts made to address these challenges shall be disclosed.* Yes

Comment: The provided document conforms well to indicator 5.4.1 requirements as it clearly identifies the shared water challenges in the Henniez catchment area (Water quality issues in surface and groundwater related to agricultural activities; Water stress due to climate change and resource scarcity and Flooding risks from the Trémeule and Râpe streams) and documents specific efforts to address these challenges. It is also clear how it was disclosed, thanks to the supplied confirmation of receiveing emails with the report („Commitment letter") attached.

5.4.2 *Efforts made by the site to engage stakeholders and coordinate and support public-sector agencies shall be identified.* Yes

Comment: The site complies with indicator 5.4.2 through comprehensive photographic evidence documenting their stakeholder engagement efforts and support for public-sector agencies. The documentation shows multiple structured engagement activities throughout 2024, including interviews with media outlets (24 Heures newspaper in February and Swiss Inside magazine in March), which help communicate water stewardship efforts to the broader public. The site hosted the SMS trade association's General Assembly in April 2024, using this opportunity to showcase the ECO-Broye program to industry peers and public officials. Most notably, the site's active participation in the AgrEauConseil program is evidenced through field demonstration events in June 2024, showing collaborative work with agricultural stakeholders and public authorities. Additional photos of water intake points for irrigation demonstrate the site's practical implementation of water resource-sharing initiatives. These diverse engagement activities reflect a systematic approach to stakeholder collaboration and support for public-sector water management objectives across multiple channels and stakeholder groups.

5.5 *Communicate transparency in water-related compliance: make any site water-related compliance violations available upon request as well as any corrective actions the site has taken to prevent future occurrences.*

5.5.1 *Any site water-related compliance violations and associated corrections shall be disclosed.* Obs.

Comment: Nestlé Waters Suisse is addressing a situation regarding pesticide concentrations in natural mineral water. Since January 2024, there has been media attention in France concerning Nestlé Waters France for the same reason, while the Swiss operation was already in the process of sharing information about water quality with relevant authorities (OFCO and DGE) within required timeframes.

Nestlé has taken corrective action by:
- Removal of the most vulnerable waters from the production;
- reclassifying certain water sources internally as "industrial water" rather than mineral water;
- working within timeframes established with authorities.

According to regulatory authorities, the water sources in question are still classified as natural mineral water despite the internal reclassification. There is no information about other stakeholders asking for the data.

5.5.2 *Necessary corrective actions taken by the site to prevent future occurrences shall be disclosed if applicable.* Yes

Comment	Based on the documentation provided, the site demonstrates conformity with indicator 5.5.2. The requirement to disclose necessary corrective actions taken to prevent future occurrences of compliance violations applies only when relevant violations have occurred that would necessitate such corrective measures. In this case, the site has appropriately determined that disclosure of corrective actions is not applicable as the primary incident recorded in the reporting period involved a third-party supplier's truck - an external vehicle over which the site had no operational control. Since the root cause of this incident was entirely external to the site's operations and responsibilities, implementing and disclosing corrective actions to prevent similar occurrences would not be rational or within the site's scope of influence. For the flooding incident that caused microbiological deviations, the site has already taken appropriate measures by developing a forest management plan for the Henniez basin and engaging with municipal authorities - actions that have been properly documented elsewhere in their water stewardship reporting. These responses to natural events rather than compliance violations wouldn't require specific disclosure under indicator 5.5.2. The site's approach to incident management and disclosure demonstrates a practical understanding of the AWS standard's requirements and appropriate judgment regarding when corrective action disclosure is warranted versus when it would be inapplicable due to the nature of the incidents.	
5.5.3	*Any site water-related violation that may pose significant risk and threat to human or ecosystem health shall be immediately communicated to relevant public agencies and disclosed.*	Yes
Comment	Based on the documentation, the site demonstrates conformity with this indicator. This indicator specifically requires immediate communication of water-related violations posing significant risks to human or ecosystem health. The incidents documented by the site were accidents (a third-party supplier truck incident and flooding effects) rather than regulatory compliance violations. Since these were accidental occurrences and not violations of water-related permits or regulations, the immediate communication requirements under indicator 5.5.3 are not applicable in these circumstances. The site has distinguished between accidents and violations in determining their disclosure obligations.	

Photographic Evidence from Audit

Yes

Previous Findings

All non-conformities raised in the previous audit have been satisfactorily closed.	N/A