

NPDES Wastewater Inspection Report

National Database Information	
Inspection Date: June 13, 2022	Inspection Type: Reconnaissance Inspection
Entry/Exit Time: 13:00 / 14:00	NPDES ID Number: MTU000712
NAICS Code: 22132-Sewage Treatment Facility	Inspection ID: 202206 MTU000712
Lead inspector and affiliation: Lisa-kay Prideaux, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
Inspector and affiliation:	
Inspector and affiliation:	

Facility Location Information	
Site/Facility Name & Location: Mission Valley Shrimp Flathead Reservation Charlo, Montana 47.384288°N; -114.205923°W	Mail Report to: Jim Vaughan Mission Valley Shrimp 61596 Mount Hwy 212 Charlo, Montana 59824

Contact Information	
	Name(s)/Title
Facility Contacts:	Jim Vaughan, Mission Valley Shrimp (present)
Person/Company meeting definition of "Operator" per the <i>permit type and relevant citation here</i>	Jim Vaughan, Owner, Mission Valley Shrimp (present)
Authorized Official(s)	Jim Vaughan, Owner, Mission Valley Shrimp (present)
Tribe Representative(s)	Evan Smith, Water Quality Regulatory Specialist, Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (present)
Indian Health Service Representative(s)	None present

Permit Information		
Is the permit on site and available? N/A	Lagoon Category: No discharge	Monitoring Frequency: N/A
Effective Date: Unpermitted	Expiration Date: Unpermitted	Is the Facility under a compliance schedule? N/A
Is correct contact information indicated on ICIS? N/A	Indicate correct contact information:	
Receiving Water(s): Non-discharging facility		
Discharge point location (longitude, latitude): N/A		
Regulatory Inspector's source of information: Aerial imagery, facility personnel, site review.		

Areas Evaluated During Inspection		
<u>Permit</u>	<u>Effluent/Receiving Waters</u>	<u>Compliance Schedule</u>
<u>Records/Reports</u>	<u>Flow Measurement</u>	<u>Discharge Monitoring Reports</u>
<u>Facility Site Review</u>	<u>Monitoring Program</u>	<u>Lift Station Operation and Maintenance</u>
<u>Collection System Review</u>	<u>Lagoon Self- Inspections</u>	<u>Preventive and Emergency Operation and Maintenance</u>

Report Review and Signature		
Drafter Signature/Name	Address/Phone Number	Date
	U.S. EPA Region 8, Montana Operations Office 10 West 15th Street, Suite 3200 Helena, Montana 59626	07.26.2022
Lisa-kay Prideaux	406-457-5022	
Management Signature/Name	Address/Phone Number	Date
Boeglin, Michael Digitally signed by Boeglin, Michael Date: 2022.07.31 22:02:35 -06'00'	U.S. EPA Region 8 1595 Wynkoop Street 8ENF-W-NP Denver, Colorado 80202	07/31/2022
Michael Boeglin	303-312-6250	

Inspection Narrative and Site Description

On Monday, June 13, 2022, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) inspector Lisa-kay Prideaux, and the Water Quality Regulatory Specialist for the Confederated Salish Kootenai Tribes, Evan Smith, conducted an unannounced inspection to evaluate compliance with the Clean Water Act and EPA regulations. The inspection commenced at approximately 13:00, when Lisa-kay and Evan arrived at the facility and presented credentials and identification to Jim Vaughan, owner of Mission Valley Shrimp (facility). Throughout the inspection, observations and photograph descriptions were documented. All photographs taken during the inspection are included in the attached photo log.

Mission Valley Shrimp is a saltwater shrimp farm where white pacific shrimp are raised for market. The facility consists of six (6) 8,000 gallon above ground tanks containing various size and age shrimp (photo 519). No chemicals, antibiotics, or hormones are used in the rearing process. The tanks are monitored for temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, nitrates, ammonia, and other parameters for internal regulation of the tanks. The tanks are cleaned after shrimp in that tank have been sold. The process includes draining the tank into a clean empty tank until there is only approximately 4-6 inches of water in the bottom. A fine mesh net is used to scoop out the remaining shrimp, and the shrimp sheds which are disposed of as normal refuse. Once cleaned, water is transferred back into the tank from the 'holding tank', and a new batch of shrimp are added into the tank.

The site inspection included a guided walk through the facility by Mr. Vaughan as he explained the process. Mr. Vaughan stated the site was an old dairy farm, and the building retrofitted from a cattle stall building. Mr. Vaughan stated there is a well on-site, which he adds approximately 50-gallons of water a week to the pools (combined) due to the loss from evaporation/humidity. Mr. Vaughan indicated the food pellets are organic and that he adds molasses to the tanks at a one-to-one ratio with certain size shrimp. To keep the food/waste ratio, Mr. Vaughan adds a biofloc bacteria to the tanks. The bacteria eat the waste of the shrimp, and the shrimp eat the bacteria. The amounts vary based on the number and size of shrimp in each tank. It was noted there is a floor drain in the middle of the tank building, Mr. Vaughan stated it was used during the dairy cow days and it is constructed as a drywell. Mr. Vaughan stated the drain has not been specifically used since his operation started, collecting only minimal slop during tank transfers and netting. We walked to the back of the building and outside where a tank is located to help with the transfer/cleaning of inside tanks (photo 517). Mr. Vaughan stated the water in the tank is fresh and is to keep the tank stable. It was noted the tank had significant algae within, and Mr. Vaughan stated he uses a light bleach solution to kill the algae and then rinses the tank with water. The water is then pumped into the old retention pond (approximately 50-75 gallons). Mr. Vaughan also stated he would like to construct a building for additional shrimp and cleaning tanks to the south of the current production building. To the east of the building is an old pond from the dairy farm days, which now holds and infiltrates water after a storm event (photo 518). To the south and southeast of the facility is an irrigation ditch (F-ditch). The irrigation ditch is elevated several feet above ground level and therefore no runoff would enter the ditch (photo 518).

Mr. Vaughan has stated the facility does not discharge and does not plan to change facility operations where a discharge would occur, and no discharge was observed, nor evidence of a past discharge. Therefore, as the facility stands, unless there are changes to the process of water and/or wastewater on-site, Mission Valley Shrimp will no longer be considered a location of interest to the EPA.