Pursuant to Conditions of Licenses, 38 M.R.S. §414 –A, Water Classification Program, 38 M.R.S. §464 – 470 and applicable rules of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEPARTMENT), the Department has considered the application of the MAINE WILD BLUEBERRY COMPANY (Licensee), with its supportive data, agency review comments, and other related materials on file and FINDS THE FOLLOWING FACTS:

APPLICATION SUMMARY

On April 5, 2021 the Department accepted as complete for processing an application from Maine Wild Blueberry Company for the renewal of Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W008236-5P-C-R issued by the Department on June 1, 2016, for a five-year term. The 6/1/16 WDL authorized the operation of a surface wastewater (spray irrigation) system to dispose up to a maximum of 1,167,450 gallons per week of blueberry process wastewater and wash-down wastewater. Treatment is achieved by screening, solids separation in settling tanks and storage in one 3-acre, clay-lined lagoon with seasonal disposal via a 21.5-acre spray irrigation site located on land in Jonesboro, Maine. By utilizing the entire 21.5-acre spray irrigation area over the entire 31 week spray irrigation season, the total amount of wastewater that could be applied to the site under ideal conditions is 36,190,950 gallons (1,167,450 gallons per week X 31 weeks). With an annual wastewater generation of 4,652,000 gallons, the spray irrigation system is sufficiently sized and provides ample flexibility to treat and dispose of the amount of wastewater generated. A map of the spray irrigation site is included as Fact Sheet Attachment A.

The licensee states that this spray irrigation facility is used only as an emergency back up to other operations. When not in use the lagoon fills with rainwater requiring the licensee to pump out the lagoon, resulting in unnecessary financial costs. The licensee has requested that a drain be installed to keep the lagoon empty of process waters when the facility is not in use.
LICENSE SUMMARY

This licensing action is carrying forward all the terms and conditions of the June 1, 2016 WDL except that this license is;

1. Granting the request to install a drain on the lagoon to keep it empty during periods of non-use

2. Revises Special Condition L Pesticides and requires the permittee to submit a list of pesticides used during the previous season and institute sampling January 1st–May 31st following the use of Propiconazole or Methoxyfenozide during the previous season.
CONCLUSIONS

BASED on the findings in the attached Fact Sheet dated September 1, 2022, and subject to the Conditions listed below, the Department makes the following conclusions:

1. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any classified body of water below such classification.

2. The discharge, either by itself or in combination with other discharges, will not lower the quality of any unclassified body of water below the classification which the Department expects to adopt in accordance with state law.

3. The provisions of the State’s antidegradation policy, 38 MRS Section 464(4)(F), will be met, in that:
   
   (a) Existing water uses and the level of water quality necessary to protect and maintain those existing uses will be maintained and protected;

   (b) Where high quality waters of the State constitute an outstanding natural resource, that water quality will be maintained and protected;

   (c) Where the standards of classification of the receiving water body are not met, the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet the standards of classification;

   (d) Where the actual quality of any classified receiving water body exceeds the minimum standards of the next highest classification, that higher water quality will be maintained and protected; and

   (e) Where a discharge will result in lowering the existing quality of any water body, the Department has made the finding, following opportunity for public participation, that this action is necessary to achieve important economic or social benefits to the State.

4. The discharge will be subject to effluent limitations that require application of best practicable treatment as defined in Conditions of Licenses, 38 M.R.S. § 414-A(1)(D).
ACTION

THEREFORE, the Department APPROVES the above noted application of the MAINE WILD BLUEBERRY COMPANY, to operate a surface wastewater disposal system to discharge 1,167,450 gallons per week of treated wastewater to soil above groundwater, Class GW-A, via a 21.5-acre spray irrigation area, SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS, and all applicable standards and regulations including:

1. Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit Standard Conditions Applicable To All Permits, revised July 1, 2002, copy attached.

2. The attached Special Conditions, including effluent limitations and monitoring requirements.

3. This permit and the authorization to discharge become effective upon the date of signature below and expire at midnight five (5) years from the effective date. If a renewal application is timely submitted and accepted as complete for processing prior to the expiration of this permit, the authorization to discharge and the terms and conditions of this permit and all modifications and minor revisions thereto remain in effect until a final Department decision on the renewal application becomes effective. [Maine Administrative Procedure Act, 5 M.R.S. § 10002 and Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters, 06-096 CMR 2(21)(A) (amended June 9, 2018)].

PLEASE NOTE ATTACHED SHEET FOR GUIDANCE ON APPEAL PROCEDURES

DONE AND DATED AT AUGUSTA, MAINE, THIS _____ DAY OF ________________ 2022.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY:_____________________________________________________________________
   Melanie Loyzim, Commissioner

Date of initial receipt of application:  April 5, 2021
Date of application acceptance:    April 5, 2021

Date filed with Board of Environmental Protection ________________________________

This Order prepared by Rod Robert, BUREAU OF WATER QUALITY
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

1. The licensee is authorized to operate a surface wastewater treatment and disposal system. The STORAGE LAGOON EFFLUENT (OUTFALL 001) \(^{(1)}\) must be limited and monitored as specified below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Daily Maximum as specified</th>
<th>Measurement Frequency as specified</th>
<th>Sample Type as specified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biochemical Oxygen Demand ([00310])</td>
<td>Report, mg/L ([19])</td>
<td>1/Month(^{(2)}) ([01/30])</td>
<td>Grab ([GR])</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate-Nitrogen ([00620])</td>
<td>Report, mg/L ([19])</td>
<td>1/Month(^{(2)}) ([01/30])</td>
<td>Grab ([GR])</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH (Standard Units) ([00400])</td>
<td>Report S.U. ([12])</td>
<td>1/Month(^{(2)}) ([01/30])</td>
<td>Grab ([GR])</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The bracketed italicized numeric values in the table above and tables that follow are code numbers that the Department personnel utilize to code the monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports.

**Footnotes:** See pages 9 – 10 of this license.
A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)

2. Application of treated wastewater to the land via a spray irrigation system must be limited to the time period **April 15th to November 15th of each calendar year**. The SPRAY-IRRIGATION FIELDS, SF-W (Spray Field-West contains 13.8 acres), and SF-E (Spray Field-East contains 7.7 acres) must be limited and monitored as specified below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Monthly Total</th>
<th>Weekly Maximum</th>
<th>Minimum Measurement Frequency</th>
<th>Sample Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Application Rate (Weekly)&lt;sup&gt;(3)&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>749,340 gal/week</td>
<td>1/Week</td>
<td>Calculate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF-W</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>418,110 gal/week</td>
<td>1/Week</td>
<td>Calculate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF-E</td>
<td>[51128]</td>
<td>[57]</td>
<td>[01/07]</td>
<td>[CA]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flow – Total Gallons&lt;sup&gt;(3)&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Report (Gallons)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1/Month</td>
<td>Calculate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF-W</td>
<td>Report (Gallons)</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>1/Month</td>
<td>Calculate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SF-E</td>
<td>[82220]</td>
<td>[8D]</td>
<td>[01/30]</td>
<td>[CA]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes: See pages 9 – 10 of this license.
A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)

3. GROUND WATER MONITORING WELLS MW008A (the easterly most monitoring well and downgradient of lagoon #2), MW008C (located westerly and upgradient of lagoon #1 and considered a lagoon background well), MW-SFW (located in the westerly spray irrigation area) and MW-SFE (located in the easterly spray irrigation field), must be limited and monitored as specified below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Daily Maximum as specified</th>
<th>Measurement Frequency as specified</th>
<th>Sample Type as specified</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate-Nitrogen</td>
<td>10 mg/L</td>
<td>2/Year</td>
<td>Grab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depth to Water Level Below Landsurface</td>
<td>Report (feet)</td>
<td>2/Year</td>
<td>Measure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specific Conductance</td>
<td>Report (umhos/cm)</td>
<td>2/Year</td>
<td>Grab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature</td>
<td>Report (Fahrenheit)</td>
<td>2/Year</td>
<td>Grab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PH (Standard Units)</td>
<td>Report (S.U.)</td>
<td>2/Year</td>
<td>Grab</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Footnotes: See pages 9 – 10 of this license.
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)

Footnotes – [Special Conditions A(1), A(2), and A(3)]

Sampling

The permittee must conduct sampling and analysis in accordance with; a) methods approved by 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 136, b) alternative methods approved by the Department in accordance with the procedures in 40 CFR Part 136, or c) as otherwise specified by the Department. Samples that are sent out for analysis must be analyzed by a laboratory certified by the State of Maine’s Department of Health and Human Services for wastewater. Samples that are sent to a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) pursuant to Waste discharge licenses, 38 M.R.S. § 413 are subject to the provisions and restrictions of Maine Comprehensive and Limited Environmental Laboratory Certification Rules, 10-144 CMR 263 (effective December 19, 2018). Laboratory facilities that analyze compliance samples in-house are subject to the provisions and restrictions of 10 – 144 CMR 263. If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or as specified in this permit, the results of this monitoring must be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the discharge monitoring report (DMR).

Storage Lagoon Effluent

(1) Storage lagoon effluent must be sampled at a point in the lagoon furthest from the truck off-load location or at a sampling port on the discharge pipe leading to the spray irrigation area and must be representative of what is actually sprayed on the fields. Any change in sampling location must be approved by the Department in writing.

(2) Sampling must be conducted in the months of April, May, August, and October of each calendar year in accordance with approved methods for sampling, handling and preservation. The licensee is not required to test for these parameters during a month where no wastewater was disposed of via the spray irrigation system.

Spray-Irrigation Fields

(3) A field’s weekly application rate is the total gallons sprayed over the applicable period of time divided by the size of the wetted area of the spray-irrigation field or the area in acres of that portion of the field utilized. Note: 54,300 gallons is equivalent to two inches per acre. The licensee must measure the flow of wastewater to the irrigation area by the use of a flow measuring device that is checked for calibration at least once per calendar year. Weekly is defined as Sunday through Saturday.
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

A. LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)

Footnotes – [Special Conditions A(1), A(2), and A(3)]

(4) For Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) reporting purposes, the licensee must report the highest weekly application rate for the month in the applicable box on the form. Compliance with weekly reporting requirements must be reported for the month in which the calendar week ends.

Ground Water Monitoring

(5) Measured to the nearest one-tenth (1/10th) of a foot as referenced from the surface of the ground at the base of the monitoring well.

(6) Depth to Water Level Below the Land Surface must be conducted in the months of May and October of each calendar year.

(7) Sampling must be conducted the months of May and October of each year. Sampling, handling and preservation must be conducted in accordance with federally approved methods. Temperature and pH are considered to be “field” parameters and are to be measured in the field via instrumentation. Specific conductance (calibrated to 25.0°C) may be measured either in the field or the laboratory pursuant to sampling guidance above. Specific Conductance values indicating a statistically significant trend upwards or sudden spikes from previous levels may necessitate the need for additional groundwater testing requirements to determine causes and effects as related to spray irrigation activities. The licensee is required to test for these parameters whether wastewater was disposed of via the spray-irrigation system or not.

B. TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

The person who has the management responsibility over the treatment facility must hold a Maine Grade SITS-II certificate or higher (or Registered Maine Professional Engineer) pursuant to Title 32 M.R.S. §4171 et seq. and Regulations for Wastewater Operator Certification, 06-096 CMR 531 (effective May 8, 2006). All proposed contracts for facility operation by any person must be approved by the Department before the permittee may engage the services of the contract operator.
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

C. AUTHORIZED DISCHARGES

The licensee is authorized to discharge treated wastewater only in accordance with: 1) the licensee’s General Application for Waste Discharge License, accepted for processing on April 5, 2021, 2) the terms and conditions of this license, 3) and only to the existing spray-irrigation field [Outfall SF-W and SF-E] and, 4) from those sources as indicated in the Waste Discharge License application accepted for processing on April 5, 2021. Discharges of wastewater from any other point source are not authorized under this license and must be reported in accordance with Standard Condition D(1)(f), Twenty-four hour reporting, of this license.

D. NARRATIVE EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

1. The licensee must not discharge effluent that contains materials in concentrations or combinations which would impair the uses designated by the classification of the ground water.

2. The licensee must not discharge effluent that contains materials in concentrations or combinations which are hazardous or toxic to aquatic life, or which would impair the usages designated for the classification of the receiving waters (ground water is a classified body of water under Standards for Classification of Fresh Surface Waters, 38 M.R.S 465-C) below such classification, or lowers the existing quality of any body of water if the existing quality is higher than the classification.

E. NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

In accordance with Standard Condition D, the licensee must notify the Department of the following:

1. Any substantial change in the volume or character of pollutants being introduced into the treatment system.

2. For the purposes of this section, notice regarding substantial change must include information on:
   a. the quality and quantity of wastewater introduced to the treatment system; and
   b. any anticipated impact caused by the change in the quantity or quality of the wastewater to be introduced into the treatment system.
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

F. GENERAL OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

1. All wastewaters must receive treatment through a properly designed, operated and maintained screen, settling tank and lagoon system prior to land irrigation.

2. The spray-irrigation facilities must be effectively maintained and operated at all times so that there is no discharge to surface waters, nor any contamination of ground water which will render it unsatisfactory for usage as a public drinking water supply.

3. The surface wastewater disposal system must not cause the lowering of the quality of the ground water, as measured in the ground water monitoring wells specified by this license, below the State Primary and Secondary Drinking Water Standards specified in the Maine State Drinking Water Regulations pursuant to Drinking Water Regulations 22 M.R.S. § 2611. In the event that ground water monitoring results indicate lowering of the existing groundwater quality, the licensee may be required to take immediate remedial action(s), which may include but not limited to, adjustment of the irrigation schedule or application rates, a reduction of the pollutant loading, ground water remediation, or ceasing operation of the system until the groundwater attains applicable standards.

4. The Department must be notified as soon as the licensee becomes aware of any threat to public health, unlicensed discharge of wastewater, or any malfunction that threatens the proper operation of the system. Notification must be made in accordance with the attached Standard Condition D of this license.

5. The licensee must maintain a file on the location of all system components and relevant features. System components including collection pipes, tanks, manholes, pumps, pumping stations, spray disposal fields, and monitoring wells must be identified and referenced by a unique identifier (alphabetical, numeric or alpha-numeric) in all logs and reports. Each component must be mapped and field located sufficiently to allow adequate inspections and monitoring by both the licensee and the Department.
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

G. SPRAY IRRIGATION OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS, LOGS AND REPORTS

1. Wastewater may not be applied to areas without sufficient vegetation or ground cover as to prevent erosion or surface water runoff within or outside the designated boundaries of the spray fields. There must be no significant runoff within or out of the spray irrigation area due to the spray irrigation events.

2. At least 10 inches of separation from the ground surface to the groundwater table must be present prior to each spray irrigation event.

3. No wastewater must be applied to the site following a rainfall accumulation exceeding 1.0 inches within the previous 24-hour period. A rain gauge must be located on site to monitor daily precipitation. The licensee must also manage application rates by taking into consideration the forecast for rain events in the 48-hour period in the future.

4. No wastewater must be applied where there is snow present on the surface of the ground.

5. No wastewater must be applied when there is any evidence of frost or frozen ground within the upper 10 inches of the soil profile.

6. No traffic or equipment must be allowed in the spray-irrigation field except where installation occurs or where normal operations and maintenance are performed.

7. Prior to the commencement of spray irrigation for the season, the licensee must notify the Department’s compliance inspector that they have verified that site conditions are appropriate (frozen ground, soil moisture, etc.) for spray irrigation.

8. The licensee must install and maintain the equivalent of one groundwater level inspection well per spray field to verify that 10 inches of separation from the ground surface to the observed groundwater level is present each day prior to spraying.

9. The licensee must at all times maintain in good working order and operate at maximum efficiency all wastewater collection, treatment and/or control facilities. Should significant malfunctions or leaks be detected, the licensee must shut down the malfunctioning portion of the spray system and make necessary repairs before resuming operation. The licensee must cease irrigation if runoff is observed outside the designated boundaries of the spray field.
G. SPRAY IRRIGATION OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS, LOGS AND REPORTS
(cont’d)

10. The licensee must maintain a daily log of all spray irrigation operations which records
the date, weather, rainfall, areas irrigated, volume sprayed (gallons), application rates (daily
and weekly), and other relevant observations/comments from daily inspections. The log
must be in accordance with the general format of the “Monthly Operations Log” provided as
Attachment A of this license, or other similar format approved by the Department. Weekly
application rates must be reported in accordance with the general format of the “Spray
Application Report by Week” provided as Attachment B of this license or other format as
approved by the Department. The Monthly Operations Log, and Spray Application Report
by Week, for each month must be submitted to the Department as an attachment to the
monthly Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) in a format approved by the Department.
Copies must be maintained on site for operation maintenance purposes and made available to
Department personnel upon request during normal business hours.

H. VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

1. The licensee must remove grasses and other vegetation such as shrubs and trees if
necessary so as not to impair the operation of the spray-irrigation system, ensure uniform
distribution of wastewater over the desired application area and to optimize nutrient uptake
and removal.

2. The vegetative buffer zones along the perimeter of the site must be maintained to
maximize vegetation and forest canopy density in order to minimize off-site drift of spray.

I. LAGOON MAINTENANCE

1. The integrity of the lagoons must be inspected periodically during the operating season and
properly maintained at all times. There must be no overflow through or over the lagoon
berms. Any signs of leaks or overflow must be repaired or corrected immediately.

2. The licensee must maintain freeboard of the lagoons at design levels or at least one (1)
foot, whichever is greater. The lagoons must be operated in such a way as to balance the
disposal of wastewater via spray irrigation and to ensure that design freeboard levels are
maintained.

3. The lagoons must be cleaned of solid materials as necessary to maintain the proper
operating depths that will provide best practicable treatment of the wastewater. All
material removed from the lagoons must be properly disposed of in accordance with all
applicable State and Federal rules and regulations.
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

J. INSPECTIONS AND MAINTENANCE

The licensee must periodically inspect all system components to ensure the facility is being operated and maintained in accordance with the design of the system. Maintenance logs must be maintained for each major system component including pumps, pump stations, storage tanks, spray apparatus, and pipes. At a minimum, the logs must include the unique identifier [alphabetic, numeric or alpha-numeric -see Special Condition F(5)], the date of maintenance, type of maintenance performed, names or person performing the maintenance, and other relevant system observations.

K. GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELLS

1. All monitoring wells must be equipped and maintained with a cap and lock to limit access and must be maintained in a secured state at all times.

2. The Department reserves the right to require increasing the depth and or relocating any of the groundwater monitoring wells if the well is perennially dry or is determined not to be representative of groundwater conditions.

L. PESTICIDES

By December 31st [ICIS ANNRP] submit a list of pesticides used during the previous season. Between January 1st and May 31st [ICIS code 07099], following the use of Propiconazole or Methoxyfenozide during the previous season, the permittee must sample for these parameters in one groundwater monitoring well that is downgradient of the wastewater storage lagoon(s) at a frequency of once in a 5-year permit cycle. Propiconazole will be sampled and analyzed via USEPA Environmental Chemistry Method (ECM) MRID 48697002 for water samples. Methoxyfenozide will be sampled and analyzed via USEPA ECM MRID 49525703 for water samples. Alternatives to the stated methodology or use of a laboratory that is not certified by the State of Maine’s Department of Health and Human Services must be approved by the Department.

The permittee must report sample results to the Department by June 15th, as an attachment to the May Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR). The Department, in conjunction with the Maine Department of Agriculture’s Board of Pesticide Control, or other State and/or federal agency/organization with expertise in pesticides will evaluate the information submitted and determine if further testing is necessary.
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

M. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O & M) PLAN AND SITE PLAN(S)

This facility must have a current written comprehensive Operation & Maintenance (O & M) Plan. The plan must provide a systematic approach by which the licensee must at all times, properly operate and maintain all facilities and the systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the licensee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this license.

By December 31 of each year, or within 90 days of any process changes or minor equipment upgrades, the licensee must evaluate and modify the O& M Plan including site plan(s) and schematic(s) for the wastewater treatment facility to ensure that it is up-to-date. The O& M Plan must be kept on-site at all times and made available to the Department personnel upon request.

Within 90 days of completion of new and substantial upgrades of the wastewater treatment facility, the licensee must submit the updated O&M Plan to their Department inspector for review and comment.

N. PUBLIC ACCESS TO LAND APPLICATION SITES AND SIGNAGE

Access to the land application sites must be limited during the season of active site use. The licensee must install signs measuring at least 8 ½” x 11”, in areas of concern around the perimeter of the lagoon and spray irrigation site that inform the general public that the area is being used to dispose of blueberry processing wastewaters. The signs must be constructed of materials that are weather resistant. The licensee must annually inspect and make any necessary repairs to the signage to comply with this condition.

O. MONITORING AND REPORTING

Electronic Reporting
NPDES Electronic Reporting, 40 C.F.R. 127, requires MEPDES permit holders to submit monitoring results obtained during the previous month on an electronic discharge monitoring report to the regulatory agency utilizing the USEPA electronic system.

Electronic Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) submitted using the USEPA NetDMR system, must be:

1. Submitted by a facility authorized signatory; and

2. Submitted no later than midnight on the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period.
SPECIAL CONDITIONS

O. MONITORING AND REPORTING (cont’d)

Documentation submitted in support of the electronic DMR may be attached to the electronic DMR. Toxics reporting must be done using the DEP toxsheet reporting form. An electronic copy of the Toxsheet reporting document must be submitted to your Department compliance inspector as an attachment to an email. In addition, a hardcopy form of this sheet must be signed and submitted to your compliance inspector, or a copy attached to your NetDMR submittal will suffice. Documentation submitted electronically to the Department in support of the electronic DMR must be submitted no later than midnight on the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period.

A signed copy of the DMR and all other reports required herein must be submitted to the Department assigned compliance inspector (unless otherwise specified) following address:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Quality
Eastern Maine Regional Office
106 Hogan Road
Bangor, Maine 04401

P. REOPENING OF LICENSE FOR MODIFICATIONS

In accordance with 38 M.R.S. § 414-A(5) and upon evaluation of the tests results or monitoring requirements specified in Special Conditions of this licensing action, new site specific information, or any other pertinent test results or information obtained during the term of this permit, the Department may, at any time and with notice to the permittee, modify this permit to: 1) include effluent limits necessary to control specific pollutants or whole effluent toxicity where there is a reasonable potential that the effluent may cause water quality criteria to be exceeded, (2) require additional monitoring if results on file are inconclusive; or (3) change monitoring requirements or limitations based on new information.

Q. SEVERABILITY

In the event that any provision, or part thereof, of this license is declared to be unlawful by a reviewing court, the remainder of the license must remain in full force and effect and must be construed and enforced in all respects as if such unlawful provision, or part thereof, had been omitted, unless otherwise ordered by the court.
# Monthly Operations Log

**Spray Field #_____________**  
**Weekly Application Rate:** _______ gallons/week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Precipitation Previous 24 hours (inches)</td>
<td>Air Temp (°F)</td>
<td>Weather</td>
<td>Wind-Direction Speed (mph)</td>
<td>Depth To GW in Observation well (inches)</td>
<td>Total Gallons Pumped (gallons)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Signature of Responsible Official:** ________________________________  
**Date** ______________________
## Attachment B

### Spray Application Report by Week

**Maine Wil Blueberry** (WDL #W008236)  
(Month/Year) ____________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spray Field #</th>
<th>Weekly Limit (Gallons/Week)</th>
<th>Spray Application Rates (Gallons/Week)</th>
<th>Monthly Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Week 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Signature of Responsible Official: ____________________________  
Date ____________________________
MAINE WASTE DISCHARGE LICENSE

FACT SHEET

Date: September 1, 2022

INTEGRATED COMPLIANCE INFORMATION SYSTEM (ICIS) NUMBER: MEU508236

LICENSE NUMBER: #W008236-5P-D-R

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF APPLICANT:

MAINE WILD BLUEBERRY COMPANY
PO Box 128
Cherryfield, Maine 04622

COUNTY: Washington County

NAME AND ADDRESS OF FACILITY:

MAINE WILD BLUEBERRY COMPANY
Jonesboro, Maine 04648

RECEIVING WATER/CLASSIFICATION: Groundwater/Class GW-A

COGNIZANT OFFICIAL AND TELEPHONE NUMBER:

Daniel Bowker, Environmental Coordinator
(207) 546-1780
dbowker@cherryfieldfoods.com

1. APPLICATION SUMMARY

a. Application: On April 5, 2021 the Department of Environmental Protection (Department) accepted as complete for processing an application from Maine Wild Blueberry Company for the renewal of Waste Discharge License (WDL) #W008236-5P-C-R issued by the Department on June 1, 2016, for a five-year term. The 6/1/16 WDL authorized the operation of a surface wastewater (spray irrigation) system to dispose up to a maximum of 1,167,450 gallons per week of blueberry process wastewater and wash-down wastewater. Treatment is achieved by screening, solids separation in settling tanks and storage in one 3-acre, clay-lined lagoon with seasonal disposal via a 21.5-acre spray irrigation site located on land in Jonesboro, Maine. By utilizing the entire 21.5 acre spray irrigation area over the entire 31 week spray irrigation season, the total amount of wastewater that could be applied to the site under ideal conditions is 36,190,950 gallons (1,167,450 gallons per week X 31 weeks). With an annual wastewater generation of 4,652,000 gallons, the spray irrigation system is sufficiently sized and provides ample flexibility to treat and dispose of the amount of wastewater generated. A map of the spray irrigation site is included as Fact Sheet Attachment A.
1. APPLICATION SUMMARY (cont’d)

b. **Source Description:** The licensee generates blueberry processing wastewater and clean-up water primarily associated with the handling and packaging of cranberries and blueberries. Fresh fruit and frozen berries are processed year-round between early January and late December. The plant has the capacity to process up to 400,000 pounds of Individually Quick-Frozen (IQF) berries per day during the fresh fruit harvest season (July, August, September), with generation of a maximum of 100,000 gallons of wastewater per day. During normal repackaging operations (September – June), a maximum of 45,000 pounds of berries may be processed, with up to 20,000 gallons of wastewater being generated. During the processing of sugar-infused blueberries (September – June), a maximum of 150,000 pounds of berries may be processed, with up to 20,000 gallons of wastewater generated. During the processing of pureed blueberries (June – September), a maximum of 8,500 pounds of berries may be processed, with up to 5,000 gallons of wastewater generated. The wastewater from the processing operations contains dissolved and suspended organic matter and other materials and solids. No pesticides are applied to the berries for 25 days prior to the fresh berry season.

Chemicals used for sanitation and disinfection are Brandguard F-375, sodium hypochlorite and Foam Safe (3% maximum sodium hypochlorite). Chemicals used in processing are potassium sorbate, malic acid and tartaric acid. Noncontact cooling water is discharged to the Machias River under MEPDES Permit #ME0023051.

c. **Wastewater Treatment:** All process wastewater is conveyed to a holding tank in the basement of the pretreatment building. All wastewater and debris pumped from the holding tank are filtered through a hydrosieve. Green berries, twigs, leaves and solids measuring greater than 1/16” are hauled away for composting. The filtered wastewater is conveyed to aerated storage basins identified as “Storage Basin No.1 and Storage Basin No. 2” where further clarification occurs. Settled solids from the storage basins are dewatered using a belt filter press and a batch polymer mixing system. The dewatered solids are hauled offsite for agronomic use. The wastewater is pumped from the storage basins to the Stackpole Road spray irrigation/snowmaking site in Machias or to the 3-acre, clay-lined lagoon at the Jonesboro spray irrigation site (Outfall #001). The licensee intends to greatly reduce the amount of wastewater flow that will be sent to the Jonesboro site, given the need for trucking to that location. An aerial photo of the lagoon and layout of the spray irrigation system including the monitoring well locations is included as Fact Sheet Attachment B of this Fact Sheet.

The Jonesboro spray irrigation site consists of a 5.5 million gallon, 3-acre lagoon and a 21.5-acre spray field. The licensee is currently using 11.1 acres for spray irrigation. Of the 21.5 acres permitted, there are two outfalls. One outfall is described as Spray Field East (SF-E) which is 7.7 acres and the other is Spray Field West (SF-W) which is 13.8 acres. An 8” main line runs from the pump located at the lagoon to the upper spray field. The 8” line has 6” feeder lines connecting to the 3” lateral sprinklers, each having 5/32” nozzles. All areas used for irrigation are well above the natural water table, in most cases greater than 4’ above the natural water table.
1. APPLICATION SUMMARY (cont’d)

It is noted that all wastewater has to be trucked to the lagoon from the processing facility. The truck operator is required to observe the lagoon freeboard levels and is not to off-load the truck tank volume if there is less than two feet of freeboard in the lagoons, thus providing safeguards against the possibility of the lagoon overtopping.

The topography of the site indicates that the lagoons are downgradient from the railbed and also from the spray irrigation area. Therefore, any wastewater that has been discharged to the lagoon cannot flow toward the rail bed thus alleviating the possibility of saturating the rail bed or causing erosion of the rail bed embankments. Therefore, the Department finds that the applicant has made satisfactory provisions to ensure the lagoon waters will not overtop lagoon embankments or cause or contribute to saturated soil conditions.

The spray site is on or near the top of a northwest to southeast oriented glacial moraine ridge with glacial till in the uplands, glaciolacustrine and marine sediments in the lowlands and along the moraine toe slopes. The glacial moraine ridge is dominated by very deep, well drained, loamy over sandy and gravelly deposits. The lower topographic positions on the southeast side slope of the moraine are dominated by very deep, moderately well drained, loamy over sandy and gravelly deposits. The toe slopes and lowlands, southeast of the site are dominated by very deep, somewhat poorly drained and poorly drained silty glaciolacustrine and marine deposits.

Soils in the spray irrigation area are characterized as Monadnock to Waumbek glacial till. Monadnock and Waumbek have a well-drained to moderately well-drained soil drainage class. Slopes are gently sloping to moderately steep on the ridge and gently sloping along the toe slopes and in the lowlands. The site is currently forested with a mixed growth of spruce, fir, ash and maple trees and is undeveloped, except for a railroad bed that runs between the lagoon area to the southeast and the spray irrigation area to the northwest.

The licensee states that this spray irrigation facility is used only as an emergency back up to other operations. When not in use the lagoon fills with rainwater requiring the licensee to pump out the lagoon, resulting in unnecessary financial costs. The licensee has requested that a drain be installed to keep the lagoon empty of rainwater when the facility is not in use.
2. LICENSE SUMMARY

a. Terms and Conditions - This licensing action is carrying forward all the terms and conditions of the June 1, 2016 WDL except that this license is:

1. Granting the request to install a drain on the lagoon to keep it empty during periods of non-use

2. Revises Special Condition L Pesticides and requires the permittee to submit a list of pesticides used during the previous season and institute sampling January 1st–May 31st following the use of Propiconazole or Methoxyfenozide during the previous season.

b. History: Recent Department licensing actions include the following:

April 14, 2006 – The licensee’s application for a new spray irrigation Waste Discharge License (WDL) was accepted for processing by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. The application was assigned WDL #W008236-5P-A-N.

July 26, 2006 – The Department issued WDL #W008236-5P-A-N for a five-year term.

September 15, 2011 – The Department issued WDL #W008236-5P-B-R for a five-year term.

February 4, 2016 - The licensee submitted a timely and complete application to the Department to renew WDL#W008236-5P-B-R.

June 1, 2016 – The Department issued WDL #W008236-5P-C-R for a five-year term.

April 5, 2021 - The licensee submitted a timely and complete application to the Department to renew WDL#W008236-5P-C-R.

3. CONDITIONS OF LICENSE

Conditions of licenses, 38 M.R.S. § 414-A, requires that the effluent limitations prescribed for discharges, including, but not limited to, effluent toxicity, require application of best practicable treatment (BPT), be consistent with the U.S. Clean Water Act, and ensure that the receiving waters attain the State water quality standards as described in Maine's Surface Water Classification System. In addition, Certain deposits and discharges prohibited, 38 M.R.S. § 420 and Surface Water Toxics Control Program, 06-096 CMR 530 (effective October 9, 2005) require the regulation of toxic substances not to exceed levels set forth in Surface Water Quality Criteria for Toxic Pollutants, 06-096 CMR 584 (effective February 16, 2020), and that ensure safe levels for the discharge of toxic pollutants such that existing and designated uses of surface waters and ground waters are maintained and protected.
4 RECEIVING WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Classification of Groundwater, 38 M.R.S. § 470, indicates the groundwater at the point of discharge is classified as Class GW-A receiving waters. Standards of Classification of Groundwater, 38 M.R.S. §465-C, describes the standards for Class GW-A waters.

5. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

Effluent and Groundwater Monitoring

Slow rate land irrigation treatment is an environmentally sound and appropriate technology for best practicable treatment and disposal of wastewater. The theory behind surface wastewater disposal systems is to utilize the top 10-12 inches of organic matter and in-situ soils to attenuate the pollutant loadings in the applied wastewaters. The soils and vegetation within the spray field area will provide adequate filtration and absorption to preserve the integrity of the soil, and both surface and ground water quality in the area.

The Department has established lagoon effluent, spray irrigation and groundwater monitoring parameters to provide consistency across similar facilities now licensed by the Department. The licensee must periodically monitor the lagoon effluent, spray irrigation fields and groundwater monitoring locations on site at the specified frequencies and locations as called for in Special Condition A of this license.

a. **Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5)** – BOD5 is the rate at which organisms use the oxygen in wastewater while stabilizing decomposable organic matter under aerobic conditions. BOD5 measurements indicate the organic strength of wastes in water. Monitoring for BOD5 yields an indication of the effectiveness of the lagoon treatment process and the condition of the wastewater being applied.

b. **Total Suspended Solids (TSS)** – TSS monitoring consists of both settleable and non-settleable solid materials contained in the groundwater. Monitoring for TSS is used in groundwater monitoring to verify the integrity of the monitoring wells.

c. **pH** – The daily maximum pH limit of 6.0 – 8.5 standard units is a best practicable treatment standard incorporated into similar waste discharge licenses issued by the Department. pH is considered a “field” parameter meaning that it is measured directly in the field via instrumentation and does not require laboratory analysis. It is considered a surveillance level monitoring parameter that is used as an early-warning indicator of potential ground water contamination.
5. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)

d. Specific Conductance – Specific conductance is considered a “field” parameter, meaning that it is measured directly in the field via instrumentation and does not require laboratory analysis. It is considered a surveillance level monitoring parameter that is used as an early-warning indicator of potential ground water or surface water contamination and is being carried forward from the previous licensing action.

e. Depth to Water Level Below Land Surface – Measuring the distance from the ground level to the ground water surface in monitoring wells will be used to monitor representative groundwater conditions.

f. Temperature – Temperature is considered a “field” parameter, meaning that it is measured directly in the field via instrumentation and does not require laboratory analysis. It is considered a surveillance level monitoring parameter that is used as an early-warning indicator of potential ground water contamination and is being utilized to calibrate specific conductance values.

g. Application Rates (Weekly) – The weekly maximum rate of 54,300 gallons per acre (2.0 inches per week) is being carried forward from the previous licensing action. The weekly limit is based on the characteristics of in-situ soils and provides protection against hydraulically overloading and preventing runoff from the spray irrigation area.

h. Nitrate-nitrogen – Nitrogen assumes different forms depending upon the oxidation-reduction conditions in the soil and ground water. The presence of a particular form of nitrogen indicates the nutrient attenuation capacity of the spray site. Nitrogen compounds can indicate human health concerns if elevated in a drinking water supply. The 10 mg/L limit for nitrate nitrogen in monitoring wells is based on state and federal drinking water standards.

i. Insecticides, Fungicides, Herbicides (collectively referred to as pesticides) – Farmers may utilize insecticides such as (phosmet), fungicides (chlorothalonil, propiconazole), and other pesticides on the crop at various times during berry producing years. Based on the varying persistence of these and other pesticides in water and soil, the Maine Board of Pesticide Control has recommended that it may be necessary to monitor pesticides in storage tank/lagoon effluent, groundwater monitoring locations, and spray irrigation site soils.
5. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)

Because farmers are regularly changing pesticides, this permit is requiring the permittee to report to the December 31st a list of pesticides used during the previous season. Between January 1st and May 31st, following the use of Propiconazole or Methoxyfenozide during the previous season, the permittee must sample for these parameters in one groundwater monitoring well that is downgradient of the wastewater storage lagoon(s) at a frequency of once in a 5-year permit cycle. Propiconazole will be sampled and analyzed via USEPA Environmental Chemistry Method (ECM) MRID 48697002 for water samples. Methoxyfenozide will be sampled and analyzed via USEPA ECM MRID 49525703 for water samples. Alternatives to the stated methodology or use of a laboratory that is not certified by the State of Maine’s Department of Health and Human Services must be approved by the Department. The permittee must report sample results to the Department by June 15th, as an attachment to the May Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR). The Department, in conjunction with the Maine Department of Agriculture’s Board of Pesticide Control, or other State and/or federal agency/organization with expertise in pesticides will evaluate the information submitted and determine if further testing is necessary.

j. Groundwater Monitoring Wells

The four monitoring wells being carried forward in this licensing action are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring Wells</th>
<th>PCS Code</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW-008A</td>
<td>008A</td>
<td>Located at the southeast down gradient of both lagoons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-008C</td>
<td>008C</td>
<td>Located westerly of Lagoon No. 1 and up gradient of both Lagoons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-SFE (Outfall #MWEA)</td>
<td>MWSFE</td>
<td>Located in the East Spray Irrigation Field.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-SFW (Outfall #MWWA)</td>
<td>MWSFW</td>
<td>Located in the West Spray Irrigation Field.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)

A summary of groundwater monitoring well results for the period June 2016 – March 2022 is as follows:

Nitrate-Nitrogen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring Well</th>
<th>Limit (mg/L)</th>
<th>Range (mg/L)</th>
<th>Average (mg/L)</th>
<th>Number of DMRs</th>
<th>Compliance Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW-008A</td>
<td>10 mg/L</td>
<td>&lt;0.05 – &lt;1.3</td>
<td>0.59</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-008C</td>
<td>10 mg/L</td>
<td>&lt;0.05 – &lt;1.0</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>MW-SFE</td>
<td>10 mg/L</td>
<td>0.1 – 0.28</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>MW-SFW</td>
<td>10 mg/L</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100%</td>
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</table>

This licensing action is carrying forward the monitoring requirements for Nitrate nitrogen from the previous licensing action.

j. Groundwater Monitoring Wells

Depth to Water Level Below Landsurface

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring Well</th>
<th>Limit (Feet)</th>
<th>Range (Feet)</th>
<th>Average (Feet)</th>
<th>Number of DMRs</th>
<th>Compliance Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW-008A</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>4.9 – 14.5</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>MW-008C</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>10.3 – 14.3</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-SFE</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>2.9 – 15</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-SFW</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>4.1 – 11.7</td>
<td>8.9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

This licensing action is carrying forward the monitoring requirements for depth to water level below landsurface from the previous licensing action.

Specific Conductance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring Well</th>
<th>Limit (umhos/cm)</th>
<th>Range (umhos/cm)</th>
<th>Average (umhos/cm)</th>
<th>Number of DMRs</th>
<th>Compliance Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW-008A</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>37 - 115</td>
<td>70.8</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>MW-008C</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>209 - 518</td>
<td>365</td>
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<td>N/A</td>
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<td>MW-SFE</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>30 - 50</td>
<td>41.8</td>
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<td>MW-SFW</td>
<td>Report</td>
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</table>

This licensing action is carrying forward the monitoring requirements for specific conductance from the previous licensing action.
5. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)

Temperature

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring Well</th>
<th>Limit (Deg F)</th>
<th>Range (Deg F)</th>
<th>Average (Deg F)</th>
<th>Number of DMRs</th>
<th>Compliance Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW-008A Report</td>
<td>44 - 51</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>MW-008C Report</td>
<td>45 - 52</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-SFE Report</td>
<td>44 - 53</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-SFW Report</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This licensing action is carrying forward the monitoring requirements for temperature from the previous licensing action.

j. Groundwater Monitoring Wells

pH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring Well</th>
<th>Limit (S.U.)</th>
<th>Range (S.U.)</th>
<th>Average (S.U.)</th>
<th>Number of DMRs</th>
<th>Compliance Status</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MW-008A Report</td>
<td>5.2 – 6.6</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-008C Report</td>
<td>5.5 – 6.8</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MW-SFE Report</td>
<td>4.7 – 6.1</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<tr>
<td>MW-SFW Report</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This licensing action is carrying forward the monitoring requirements for pH from the previous licensing action.

k. Storage Lagoon Effluent

A summary of the storage lagoon effluent results for the period June 2012 – Oct 2015 is as follows:

BOD5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Limit (mg/L)</th>
<th>Range (mg/L)</th>
<th>Mean (mg/L)</th>
<th>Number of DMRs</th>
<th>Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Maximum</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>8.6 – 1,200</td>
<td>607.2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This licensing action is carrying forward the BOD monitoring requirements from the previous licensing action.
5. **EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS (cont’d)**

k. **Storage Lagoon Effluent**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nitrate-Nitrogen</th>
<th>Limit (mg/L)</th>
<th>Range (mg/L)</th>
<th>Mean (mg/L)</th>
<th>Number of DMRs</th>
<th>Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Maximum</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>0.05 – 0.25</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This licensing action is carrying forward the Nitrate nitrogen monitoring requirements from the previous licensing action.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>pH</th>
<th>Limit (S.U.)</th>
<th>Range (S.U.)</th>
<th>Mean (S.U.)</th>
<th>Number of DMRs</th>
<th>Compliance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily Maximum</td>
<td>Report</td>
<td>4.1 – 6.7</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This licensing action is carrying forward the pH monitoring requirements from the previous licensing action.

6. **DISCHARGE IMPACT ON RECEIVING WATER QUALITY**

As licensed, the Department has determined the existing water uses will be maintained and protected and the discharge will not cause or contribute to the failure of the water body to meet standards for Class GW-A classification.
7. SYSTEM CALIBRATION

Discharge rates, application rates and uniformity of application change over time as equipment gets older and components wear, or if the system is operated differently from the assumed design. Operating below design pressure greatly reduces the coverage diameter and application uniformity (resulting in increased ponding). For these reasons, the Department recommends field calibration of equipment on a regular basis to ensure proper application and uniformity and when operating conditions are changed from the assumed design.

Calibration involves collecting and measuring flow at several locations in the application area (typically a grid pattern of containers with uniform diameters). Rain gauges work best because they already have a graduated scale from which to read the application amount without having to perform additional calculations. It is recommended that a calibration report be submitted to the Department Compliance Inspector shortly after relicensing and annually thereafter, or whenever operating conditions are changed from assumed design parameters.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public notice of this application was made in the Machias Valley News Observer on or about March 31, 2021. The Department receives public comments on an application until the date a final agency action is taken on that application. Those persons receiving copies of draft permits must have at least 30 days in which to submit comments on the draft or to request a public hearing, pursuant to Application Processing Procedures for Waste Discharge Licenses, 06-096 CMR 522 (effective January 12, 2011).

9. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Additional information concerning this licensing action may be obtained from and written comments should be sent to:

Rod Robert
Division of Water Quality Management
Bureau of Water Quality
Department of Environmental Protection
17 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017            Tel: (207) 680-0576          Fax: (207) 287-3435
e-mail:  rodney.robert@maine.gov

10. RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Reserved until the end of the formal thirty-day comment period
All Water and debris is pumped from the holding tank in basement to a hydro sieve with 1/16" spacing

Holding tank in basement of pre-treatment building

Hydro-Sieve Screen 1/16" Classification

Berries, Twigs, Leaves, Solids Greater than 1/16"

Filtered water Flows to Basin No.1

To Composting

Settled solids for Agronomic Use TWP 25 DEP # S-020801-SF-B-N

during peak flows, high water levels & off season times excess water will be transported to the Jonesboro facility DEP # W008236-SP-A-N MEU508236

Storage Basin No.1

Storage Basin No.2

TO Stackpole Road Spray Irrigation Permit # MEU508236

MAINE WILD BLUEBERRY PRODUCTION FACILITY PRETREATMENT SCHEMATIC