

Reference: 416687

July 16, 2025

Huguette Allen BeeSAFE Cherryville Water Stewards Mid-Shuswap Lumby Water Stewards

Sent via email: huguette.allen@qmail.com

Dear Huguette Allen:

Thank you for your email of June 23, 2025, addressed to the Honourable David Eby, Premier; the Honourable Tamara Davidson, Minister of Environment and Parks; and the Honourable Randene Neill, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, regarding water quality in the Middle Shuswap River watershed. As your enquiry falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment and Parks, I am pleased to have this opportunity to respond.

Manure, and other agricultural by-products and materials, are regulated through the *Code of Practice for Agricultural Environmental Management (AEM Code)* under the *Environmental Management Act*. These regulations apply to all agricultural operations in B.C., from hobby farms to large commercial operations.

The Ministry has a variety of tools to address non-compliance and achieve compliance, as well as ensure that the environment and public are protected from pollution. These tools are identified in legislation under the *Environmental Management Act* and in the Ministry's policies and procedures. The application of these tools is based on risks to the environment as well as a person's ability or willingness to comply.

As you are aware, the Ministry most recently inspected the KT Ranches operation on May 27, 2024, and issued an inspection report on July 24, 2024. The outcome of that inspection was a warning for unauthorized waste discharge. I understand that during your June 20, 2025, meeting, Ministry staff explained our risk-based approach to inspection planning, complaint response and confirmed that KT Ranches is scheduled for re-inspection in the coming weeks.

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Telephone: 778 698-4908 Facsimile: 250 387-6003 Website: www.gov.bc.ca/env Copies of all inspection records are publicly available through the <u>Natural Resource</u> <u>Compliance and Enforcement Database</u> (keyword search: 'Carson' for KT Ranches) but the Ministry will send you a copy of the next KT Ranches inspection report once it is finalized.

If you have specific information regarding pollution or non-compliance occurring, I recommend you continue to contact the RAPP (Report All Poachers and Polluters) line at 1-877-952-7277 or report the incident <u>online</u>.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Forge

Assistant Deputy Minister

Environmental Protection Division

cc: Honourable David Eby, Premier

Honourable Tamara Davidson, Minister of Environment and Parks

Honourable Randene Neill, Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship

Harwinder Sandu, MLA Vernon-Lumby

Steve Morisette, MLA Kootenay-Monashee