WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

November 2016

GENERAL USE LEVEL DESIGNATION FOR BASIC (TSS), ENHANCED, PHOSPHORUS & OIL TREATMENT

For

Americast Filterra®

Ecology's Decision:

Based on Americast's submissions, including the Final Technical Evaluation Reports, dated March 27, 2014 and December 2009, and additional information provided to Ecology dated October 9, 2009, Ecology hereby issues the following use level designations:

1. A General Use Level Designation for Basic, Enhanced, Phosphorus, and Oil Treatment at the following water quality design hydraulic loading rates:

Treatment	Hydraulic Conductivity* (in/hr) for use in Western Washington Sizing	Infiltration Rate (in/hr) for use in eastern Washington Sizing
Basic	70.92	100
Phosphorus	70.92	100
Oil	35.46	50
Enhanced	24.82	35

*****calculated based on listed infiltration rate and a hydraulic gradient of 1.41 inch/inch (2.55 ft head with 1.80 ft media).

2. The Filterra® unit is not appropriate for oil spill-control purposes.
3. Ecology approves the Filterra® units for treatment at the hydraulic loading rates listed above, to achieve the maximum water quality design flow rate. Calculate the water quality design flow rates using the following procedures:

- Western Washington: for treatment installed upstream of detention or retention, the water quality design flow rate is the peak 15-minute flow rate as calculated using the sand filter module in the latest version of the Western Washington Hydrology Model or other Ecology-approved continuous runoff model. The model must indicate the unit is capable of processing 91 percent of the influent runoff file.
- Eastern Washington: For treatment installed upstream of detention or retention, the water quality design flow rate is the peak 15-minute flow rate as calculated using one of the three flow rate based methods described in Chapter 2.2.5 of the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington (SWMMEW) or local manual.

- Entire State: For treatment installed downstream of detention, the water quality design flow rate is the full 2-year release rate of the detention facility.

4. This General Use Level Designation has no expiration date but Ecology may revoke or amend the designation, and is subject to the conditions specified below.

Ecology's Conditions of Use:

Filterra® units shall comply with these conditions shall comply with the following conditions:

1. Design, assemble, install, operate, and maintain the Filterra® units in accordance with applicable Americast Filterra® manuals, document, and the Ecology Decision.
2. Each site plan must undergo Americast Filterra® review before Ecology can approve the unit for site installation. This will ensure that site grading and slope are appropriate for use of a Filterra® unit.
3. Filterra® media shall conform to the specifications submitted to and approved by Ecology.
4. Maintenance includes removing trash, degraded mulch, and accumulated debris from the filter surface and replacing the mulch layer. Use inspections to determine the site-specific maintenance schedules and requirements. Follow maintenance procedures given in the most recent version of the Filterra® Operation and Maintenance Manual.
5. Maintenance: The required maintenance interval for stormwater treatment devices is often dependent upon the degree of pollutant loading from a particular drainage basin. Therefore, Ecology does not endorse or recommend a "one size fits all" maintenance cycle for a particular model/size of manufactured filter treatment device.

   - Filterra® designs their systems for a target maintenance interval of 6 months. Maintenance includes removing accumulated sediment and trash from the surface area of the media, removing the mulch above the media, replacing the mulch, providing plant health evaluation, and pruning the plant if deemed necessary.
   - Conduct maintenance following manufacturer's guidelines.

6. Filterra® units come in standard sizes.
7. The minimum size filter surface-area for use in western Washington is determined by using the sand filter module in the latest version of WWHM or other Ecology approved continuous runoff model for western Washington. Model inputs include
   a) Filter media depth: 1.8 feet
   b) Effective Ponding Depth: 0.75 feet (This is equivalent to the 6-inch clear zone between the top of the mulch and the bottom of the slab plus 3-inches of mulch.)
   c) Side slopes: Vertical
   d) Riser height: 0.70 feet
   e) Filter Hydraulic Conductivity: Use the Hydraulic Conductivity as listed in the table above (use the lowest applicable hydraulic conductivity depending on the level of treatment required) under Ecology's Decision, above.

8. The minimum size filter surface-area for use in eastern Washington is determined by using the design water quality flow rate (as determined in item 3, above) and the Infiltration Rate from the table above (use the lowest applicable Infiltration Rate depending on the level of treatment required). Calculate the required area by dividing the water quality design flow rate (cu-ft/sec) by the Infiltration Rate (converted to ft/sec) to obtain required surface area (sq ft) of the Filterra unit.
9. Discharges from the Filterra® units shall not cause or contribute to water quality standards violations in receiving waters.

Approved Alternate Configurations

Filterra® Internal Bypass - Pipe (FTIB-P)

1. The Filterra® Internal Bypass – Pipe allows for piped-in flow from area drains, grated inlets, trench drains, and/or roof drains. Design capture flows and peak flows enter the structure through an internal slotted pipe. Filterra® inverted the slotted pipe to allow design flows to drop through to a series of splash plates that then disperse the design flows over the top surface of the Filterra® planter area. Higher flows continue to bypass the slotted pipe and convey out the structure.
2. To select a FTIB-P unit, the designer must determine the size of the standard unit using the sizing guidance described above.

Filterra® Internal Bypass – Curb (FTIB-C)

1. The Filterra® Internal Bypass –Curb model (FTIB-C) incorporates a curb inlet, biofiltration treatment chamber, and internal high flow bypass in one single structure. Filterra® designed the FTIB-C model for use in a "Sag" or "Sump" condition and will accept flows from both directions along a gutter line. An internal flume tray weir component directs treatment flows entering the unit through the curb inlet to the biofiltration treatment chamber. Flows in excess of the water quality treatment flow rise above the flume tray weir and discharge through a standpipe orifice; providing bypass of untreated peak flows. Americast manufactures the FTIB-C model in a variety of sizes and configurations and you may use the unit on a continuous grade when a single structure providing both treatment and high flow bypass is preferred. The FTIB-C model can also incorporate a separate junction box chamber to allow larger diameter discharge pipe connections to the structure.
2. To select a FTIB-C unit, the designer must determine the size of the standard unit using the sizing guidance described above.

Filterra® Shallow

1. The Filterra® Shallow provides additional flexibility for design engineers and designers in situations where there is limited depth and various elevation constraints to applying a standard Filterra® configuration. Engineers can design this system up to six inches shallower than any of the previous Filterra unit configurations noted above.

2. Ecology requires that the Filterra® Shallow provide a contact time equivalent to that of the standard unit. This means that with a smaller depth of media, the surface area must increase.
3. To select a Filterra® Shallow System unit, the designer must first identify the size of the standard unit using the modeling guidance described above.
4. Once you establish the size of the standard Filterra® unit using the sizing technique described above, use information from the following table to select the appropriate size Filterra® Shallow System unit.

Shallow Unit Basic, Enhanced, and Oil Treatment Sizing

Standard Depth	Equivalent Shallow Depth
4x4	4x6 or 6x4
4x6 or 6x4	6x6
4x8 or 8x4	6x8 or 8x6
6x6	6x10 or 10x6
6x8 or 8x6	6x12 or 12x6
6x10 or 10x6	13x7

Notes:
1. Shallow Depth Boxes are less than the standard depth of 3.5 feet but no less than 3.0 feet deep (TC to INV).

Applicant: Filterra® Bioretention Systems, division of Contech Engineered Solutions, LLC.

Applicant's Address: 11815 NE Glenn Widing Drive
Portland, OR 97220

Application Documents:

- State of Washington Department of Ecology Application for Conditional Use Designation, Americast (September 2006)
- Quality Assurance Project Plan Filterra® Bioretention Filtration System Performance Monitoring, Americast (April 2008)
- Quality Assurance Project Plan Addendum Filterra® Bioretention Filtration System Performance Monitoring, Americast (June 2008)
- Draft Technical Evaluation Report Filterra® Bioretention Filtration System Performance Monitoring, Americast (August 2009)
- Final Technical Evaluation Report Filterra® Bioretention Filtration System Performance Monitoring, Americast (December 2009)
- Technical Evaluation Report Appendices Filterra® Bioretention Filtration System Performance Monitoring, Americast, August 2009
- Memorandum to Department of Ecology Dated October 9, 2009 from Americast, Inc. and Herrera Environmental Consultants

- Quality Assurance Project Plan Filterra® Bioretention System Phosphorus treatment and Supplemental Basic and Enhanced Treatment Performance Monitoring, Americast (November 2011)
- Filterra® letter August 24, 2012 regarding sizing for the Filterra® Shallow System.
- University of Virginia Engineering Department Memo by Joanna Crowe Curran, Ph. D dated March 16, 2013 concerning capacity analysis of Filterra® internal weir inlet tray.
- Terraphase Engineering letter to Jodi Mills, P.E. dated April 2, 2013 regarding Terraflume Hydraulic Test, Filterra® Bioretention System and attachments.
- Technical Evaluation Report, Filterra® System Phosphorus Treatment and Supplemental Basic Treatment Performance Monitoring. March 27th, 2014.

Applicant's Use Level Request:

General Level Use Designation for Basic, Enhanced, Phosphorus, and Oil Treatment.

Applicant's Performance Claims:

Field-testing and laboratory testing show that the Filterra® unit is promising as a stormwater treatment best management practice and can meet Ecology's performance goals for basic, enhanced, phosphorus, and oil treatment.

Findings of Fact:

Field Testing 2013

1. Filterra® completed field-testing of a 6.5 ft x 4 ft. unit at one site in Bellingham, Washington. Continuous flow and rainfall data collected from January 1, 2013 through July 23, 2013 indicated that 59 storm events occurred. The monitoring obtained water quality data from 22 storm events. Not all the sampled storms produced information that met TAPE criteria for storm and/or water quality data.
2. The system treated 98.9 percent of the total 8-month runoff volume during the testing period. Consequently, the system achieved the goal of treating 91 percent of the volume from the site. Stormwater runoff bypassed during four of the 59 storm events.
3. Of the 22 sampled events, 18 qualified for TSS analysis (influent TSS concentrations ranged from 25 to 138 mg/L). The data were segregated into sample pairs with influent concentration greater than and less than 100 mg/L. The UCL95 mean effluent concentration for the data with influent less than 100 mg/L was 5.2 mg/L, below the 20-mg/L threshold. Although the TAPE guidelines do not require an evaluation of TSS removal efficiency for influent concentrations below 100 mg/L, the mean TSS removal for these samples was 90.1 percent. Average removal of influent TSS concentrations greater than 100 mg/L (three events) was 85 percent. In addition, the system consistently exhibited TSS removal greater than 80 percent at flow rates at a 100 inches per hour [in/hr] infiltration rate and was observed at 150 in/hr.

4. Ten of the 22 sampled events qualified for TP analysis. Americast augmented the dataset using two sample pairs from previous monitoring at the site. Influent TP concentrations ranged from 0.11 to 0.52 mg/L. The mean TP removal for these twelve events was 72.6 percent. The LCL95 mean percent removal was 66.0, well above the TAPE requirement of 50 percent. Treatment above 50 percent was evident at 100 in/hr infiltration rate and as high as 150 in/hr. Consequently, the Filterra® test system met the TAPE Phosphorus Treatment goal at 100 in/hr. Influent ortho-P concentrations ranged from 0.005 to 0.012 mg/L; effluent ortho-P concentrations ranged from 0.005 to 0.013 mg/L. The reporting limit/resolution for the ortho-P test method is 0.01 mg/L, therefore the influent and effluent ortho-P concentrations were both at and near non-detect concentrations.

Field Testing 2008-2009

1. Filterra® completed field-testing at two sites at the Port of Tacoma. Continuous flow and rainfall data collected during the 2008-2009 monitoring period indicated that 89 storm events occurred. The monitoring obtained water quality data from 27 storm events. Not all the sampled storms produced information that met TAPE criteria for storm and/or water quality data.
2. During the testing at the Port of Tacoma, 98.96 to 99.89 percent of the annual influent runoff volume passed through the POT1 and POT2 test systems respectively. Stormwater runoff bypassed the POT1 test system during nine storm events and bypassed the POT2 test system during one storm event. Bypass volumes ranged from 0.13% to 15.3% of the influent storm volume. Both test systems achieved the 91 percent water quality treatment-goal over the 1-year monitoring period.
3. Consultants observed infiltration rates as high as 133 in/hr during the various storms. Filterra® did not provide any paired data that identified percent removal of TSS, metals, oil, or phosphorus at an instantaneous observed flow rate.
4. The maximum storm average hydraulic loading rate associated with water quality data is <40 in/hr, with the majority of flow rates < 25 in/hr. The average instantaneous hydraulic loading rate ranged from 8.6 to 53 inches per hour.
5. The field data showed a removal rate greater than 80% for TSS with an influent concentration greater than 20 mg/l at an average instantaneous hydraulic loading rate up to 53 in/hr (average influent concentration of 28.8 mg/l, average effluent concentration of 4.3 mg/l).
6. The field data showed a removal rate generally greater than 54% for dissolved zinc at an average instantaneous hydraulic loading rate up to 60 in/hr and an average influent concentration of 0.266 mg/l (average effluent concentration of 0.115 mg/l).
7. The field data showed a removal rate generally greater than 40% for dissolved copper at an average instantaneous hydraulic loading rate up to 35 in/hr and an average influent concentration of 0.0070 mg/l (average effluent concentration of 0.0036 mg/l).
8. The field data showed an average removal rate of 93% for total petroleum hydrocarbon (TPH) at an average instantaneous hydraulic loading rate up to 53 in/hr and an average influent concentration of 52 mg/l (average effluent concentration of 2.3 mg/l). The data

also shows achievement of less than 15 mg/l TPH for grab samples. Filterra® provided limited visible sheen data due to access limitations at the outlet monitoring location.

9. The field data showed low percentage removals of total phosphorus at all storm flows at an average influent concentration of 0.189 mg/l (average effluent concentration of 0.171 mg/l). We may relate the relatively poor treatment performance of the Filterra® system at this location to influent characteristics for total phosphorus that are unique to the Port of Tacoma site. It appears that the Filterra® system will not meet the 50 percent removal performance goal when you expect the majority of phosphorus in the runoff to be in the dissolved form.

Laboratory Testing

1. Filterra® performed laboratory testing on a scaled down version of the Filterra® unit. The lab data showed an average removal from 83-91% for TSS with influents ranging from 21 to 320 mg/L, 82-84% for total copper with influents ranging from 0.94 to 2.3 mg/L, and 50-61% for orthophosphate with influents ranging from 2.46 to 14.37 mg/L.
2. Filterra® conducted permeability tests on the soil media.
3. Lab scale testing using Sil-Co-Sil 106 showed percent removals ranging from 70.1% to 95.5% with a median percent removal of 90.7%, for influent concentrations ranging from 8.3 to 260 mg/L. Filterra® ran these laboratory tests at an infiltration rate of 50 in/hr.
4. Supplemental lab testing conducted in September 2009 using Sil-Co-Sil 106 showed an average percent removal of 90.6%. These laboratory tests were run at infiltration rates ranging from 25 to 150 in/hr for influent concentrations ranging from 41.6 to 252.5 mg/l. Regression analysis results indicate that the Filterra® system's TSS removal performance is independent of influent concentration in the concentration rage evaluated at hydraulic loading rates of up to 150 in/hr.

Contact Information:

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Date	Revision
December 2009	GULD for Basic, Enhanced, and Oil granted, CULD for Phosphorus
September 2011	Extended CULD for Phosphorus Treatment
September 2012	Revised design storm discussion, added Shallow System.
January 2013	Revised format to match Ecology standards, changed Filterra contact information
February 2013	Added FTIB-P system
March 2013	Added FTIB-C system
April 2013	Modified requirements for identifying appropriate size of unit
June 2013	Modified description of FTIB-C alternate configuration
March 2014	GULD awarded for Phosphorus Treatment. GULD updated for a higher flow-rate for Basic Treatment.
June 2014	Revised sizing calculation methods
March 2015	Revised Contact Information
June 2015	CULD for Basic and Enhanced at 100 in/hr infiltration rate
November 2015	Removed information on CULD (created separate CULD document for 100 in/hr infiltration rate)
June 2016	Revised text regarding Hydraulic conductivity value
November 2016	Revised Contech Contact information