



Commonwealth of Virginia

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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David L. Bulova
Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources

Michael S. Roland, PE, PWD, PWS Emeritus
Director

March 4, 2026

George Miller, Jr.
Nelson County Service Authority
Sent by email (gmler@ncsava.com)

Re: Reconnaissance Inspection Report, Wintergreen Mountain WWTP, VPDES Permit Number VA0031011

Dear Mr. Miller:

I have attached a copy of the Reconnaissance Inspection Report for the DEQ inspection of Wintergreen Mountain WWTP on February 25, 2026. Please review the attached report.

Please direct follow-up correspondence and any questions you may have to my attention at the Valley Regional Office (telephone: 540-217-7174, email: noel.thomas@deq.virginia.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Noel D. Thomas".

Noel D. Thomas
Water Compliance Supervisor

Enclosures

cc. File VA0031011
Jennifer Fitzgerald (jfitzgerald@ncsa.com)
Massie Huffman (mhuffman@ncsa.com)
Kelli Burnett

VA DEQ Recon Inspection Report
Virginia Department of Environmental Quality

RECON INSPECTION REPORT

FACILITY NAME: Wintergreen Mountain WWTP		INSPECTION DATE: February 25, 2026	
PERMIT No.: VA0031011		INSPECTOR Noel Thomas	
TYPE OF FACILITY: ☒ Municipal ☐ Major ☐ Industrial ☒ Minor ☐ Federal ☐ Small Minor ☐ HP ☐ LP		REPORT DATE:	
		TIME OF INSPECTION:	11:00 Arrival 12:30 Departure
		TOTAL TIME SPENT (including prep & travel)	6 hours
PHOTOGRAPHS: ☒ Yes ☐ No		UNANNOUNCED INSPECTION? ☒ Yes ☐ No	
REVIEWED BY / Date: BDK / March 3, 2026			
PRESENT DURING INSPECTION: Brandon Kiracofe (DEQ), Massie Huffman (NCSA)			

INSPECTION OVERVIEW AND CONDITION OF TREATMENT UNITS

DEQ conducted a Reconnaissance Inspection to evaluate the current conditions of the receiving stream given the overflows from the equalization (EQ) basin since December 21, 2025. The EQ basin was overflowing during the site visit. The overflowing wastewater from the EQ basin flows through a culvert under the EQ basin access road into a wooded area. The majority of the wastewater solids observed were dispersed in this wooded area with a minimal amount of wastewater reaching the unnamed tributary (UT) to the South Fork Rockfish River at the time of inspection. At several locations between the point where the EQ basin overflow enters the UT to the area just downstream of the WWTP outfall area, small pockets of light settled solids were observed as well as some minimal solids deposition on leaves in the stream.

The South Fork Rockfish River was observed at four locations downstream of the point where the UT enters the river. No evidence of wastewater solids was observed at any of these locations. The water was running clear with a large rock and gravel bottom.

Noel Thomas and Brandon Kiracofe spoke with Massie Huffman during the inspection. Ovivo was on site and in the process of completing the membrane cleaning for the upcoming membrane reactor testing.

VA DEQ Recon Inspection Report

Permit #

VA0031011

EFFLUENT FIELD DATA:

Flow	MGD	Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	TRC (Contact Tank)	mg/L
pH	S.U.	Temperature	°C	TRC (Final Effluent)	mg/L
Was a Sampling Inspection conducted? ☐ Yes (See Sampling Inspection) ☒ No					

CONDITION OF OUTFALL AND EFFLUENT CHARACTERISTICS:

1. Type of outfall: ☒Shore Based ☐Submerged Diffuser? ☐Yes ☒No

2. Are the outfall and supporting structures in good condition? ☒Yes ☐No

3. Final Effluent (evidence of following problems): ☐Sludge Bar ☐Grease
☐Turbid effluent ☐Visible foam ☐Unusual color ☐Oil sheen

4. Is there a visible effluent plume in the receiving stream? ☐Yes ☒No

5. Receiving stream: ☐No observed problems ☒Indication of problems (explain below)

Comments: See comments of stream observations above due to EQ basin overflows.

REQUEST for CORRECTIVE ACTION:

Continue sending daily status updates for the system to include the overflow status information for the EQ basin and details on any pump and haul activities conducted for the same day.

NOTES and COMMENTS:

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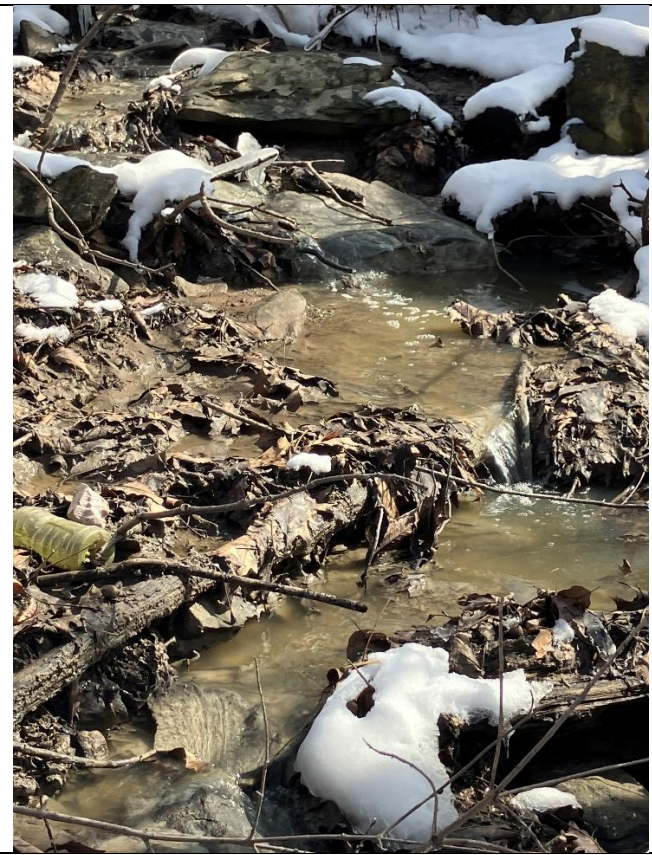
Photos Taken During Recon Inspection on 2/25/2026 (Wintergreen Mountain WWTP - VA0031011)



1 – Points of Discharge from Equalization Basin (EQ)



2 – Ditch next to Equalization Basin conveys overflowed wastewater to the wooded area downgradient of the basin.



3 – In woods below access road to Equalization Basin



4 – In woods below access road to Equalization Basin

Photos Taken During Recon Inspection on 2/25/2026 (Wintergreen Mountain WWTP - VA0031011)



5 – In woods below access road to Equalization Basin



6 – In woods below access road to Equalization Basin



7 – In woods below access road to Equalization Basin



8 – In woods below access road to Equalization Basin



9 – In woods below access road to Equalization Basin



10 – In woods below access road to Equalization Basin



11 – Primary point at which sewage enters South Fork Rockfish River, UT



12 – Primary point at which sewage enters South Fork Rockfish River, UT



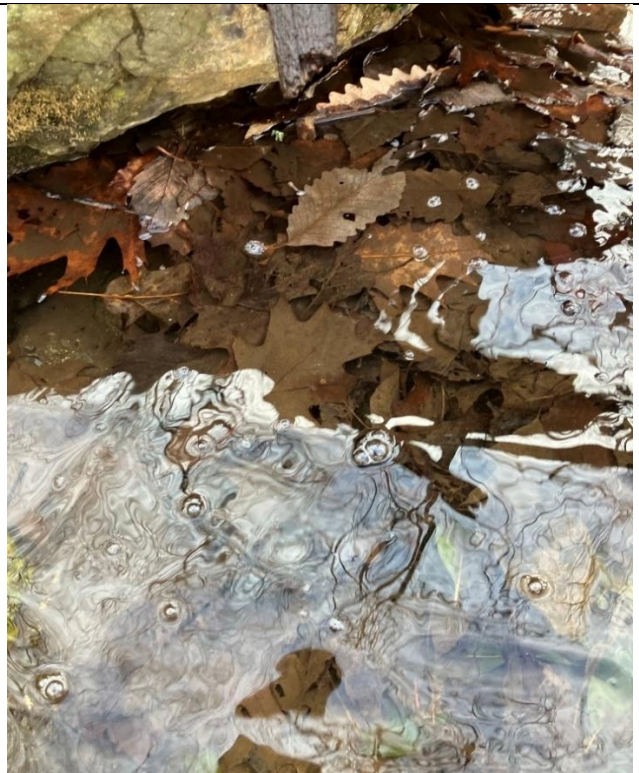
13 – South Fork Rockfish River, UT looking upstream



14 – South Fork Rockfish River, UT looking downstream



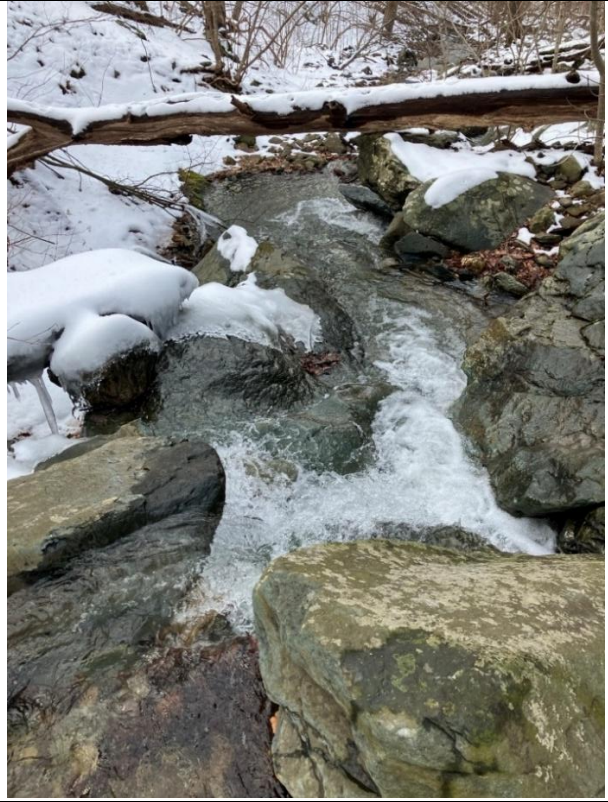
15 – South Fork Rockfish River, UT just above Wintergreen Mountain WWTP Outfall 001, observed settled solids.



16 – South Fork Rockfish River, UT just above Wintergreen Mountain WWTP Outfall 001, observed settled solids.



17 – South Fork Rockfish River, UT just above Wintergreen Mountain WWTP Outfall 001, solids deposition on leaves.



18 – South Fork Rockfish River, UT looking downstream from area near Wintergreen Mountain WWTP Outfall 001

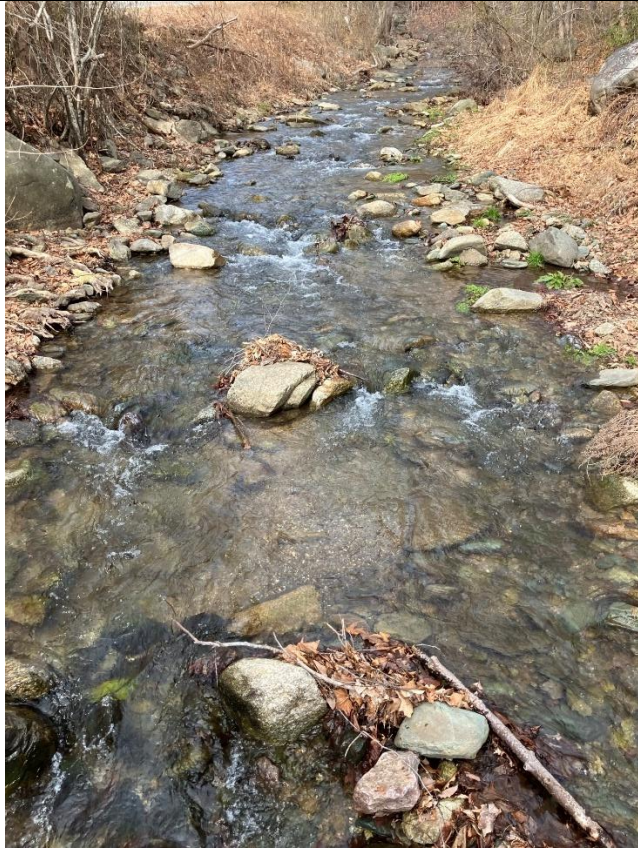


19 – South Fork Rockfish River, UT looking upstream from area near Wintergreen Mountain WWTP Outfall 001

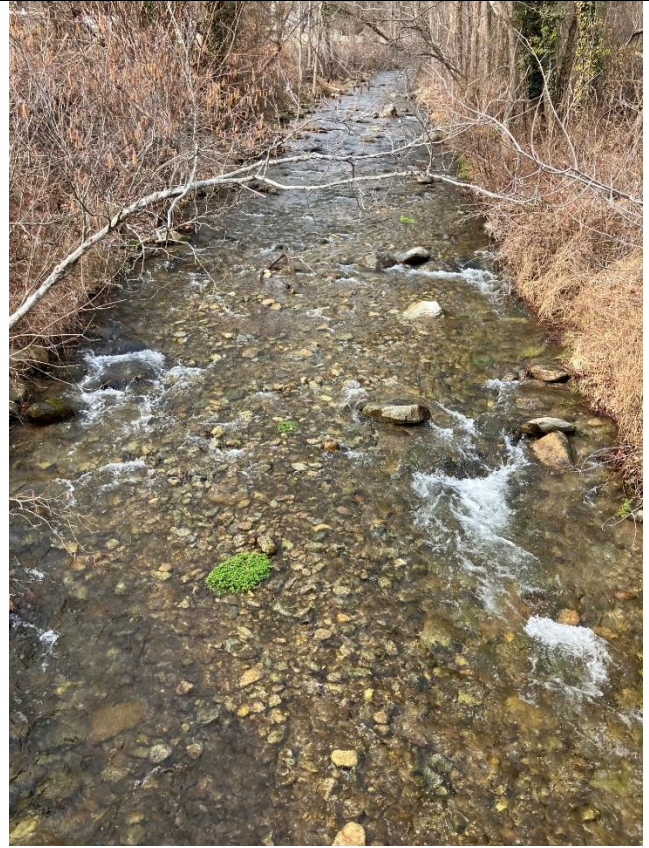


20 – South Fork Rockfish River at 4304 Beech Grove Road, Roseland

Photos Taken During Recon Inspection on 2/25/2026 (Wintergreen Mountain WWTP - VA0031011)



21 – South Fork Rockfish River at 3308 Beech Grove Road, Roseland



22 – South Fork Rockfish River at intersection of Beech Grove Road and Moses Hughes Lane



23 – South Fork Rockfish River at 721 Rockfish Valley Highway, Nellysford

Locations of Photos Taken During Recon Inspection on 2/25/2026 (Wintergreen Mountain WWTP - VA0031011)



Locations of Photos Taken During Recon Inspection on 2/25/2026 (Wintergreen Mountain WWTP - VA0031011)

