



Staff Report

February 2nd, 2026 Council Workshop Meeting

Professional Services Agreement Task Order 9 for Camas National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit (NPDES) Support Outfall and Sediment Study
Presenter: Rob Charles, Utilities Manager
Time Estimate: 5 minutes

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BACKGROUND: The City of Camas was issued a new National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) on August 1, 2025. The permit establishes updated treatment requirements and monitoring frequencies for the solids and liquids treatment processes at the facility and includes several new conditions that must be completed during the current permit cycle.

Among these requirements are Permit Conditions S10.B and S11, which require the City to complete a Sediment Data Report (SDR) and an Outfall Evaluation for the WWTP's discharge to the Columbia River. These studies are intended to assess sediment conditions near the discharge location and evaluate the structural condition and performance of the outfall pipe and diffuser system that conveys treated effluent to the river. Sediment sampling will occur upstream and downstream of the outfall to determine whether contaminants are present and to confirm that the discharge is not creating localized water quality impacts.

HDR Engineering has been supporting the City on WWTP planning, permitting, and upgrade projects under a Professional Services Agreement awarded through a competitive Request for Proposal process in 2022. Previous task orders (1-7) have focused on treatment process improvements, plant design, and construction management for a total cost to date \$1,780,286. Task Order No. 9 is intended to complete an outfall and sediment study required by the current NPDES permit and to support the City in meeting permit compliance.

SUMMARY: To satisfy the sediment study requirement of the current NPDES permit, HDR Engineering will complete the work under Task Order No. 9 of their existing Professional Services Agreement. HDR's scope focuses on the technical execution of the study, including field sampling, laboratory testing, infrastructure condition assessment, and preparation of the Sediment Data Report for submittal to the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Key components of the scope include:

- Project management and coordination with City staff

- Condition assessment of the WWTP outfall and diffuser system, including underwater inspection, video documentation, and preparation of a Condition Assessment Report
- Sediment sampling upstream and downstream of the WWTP outfall in the Columbia River
- Laboratory analysis of sediment samples in accordance with permit requirements
- Preparation and submittal of the Sediment Data Report to Ecology
- A small management reserve to address permit-related follow-up services if authorized by the City



Figure 1: WWTP and Proposed Sediment Study Sampling Points and Outfall Location



Figure 2: Duckbill check valve which discharges from the outfall structure to the river

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY: Completion of this study supports responsible operation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and helps ensure that the City's discharge to the Columbia River remains protective of water quality and aquatic habitat. The results will confirm whether any additional monitoring or treatment adjustments are needed as the City moves through the current NPDES permit cycle. This work helps the City stay ahead of regulatory expectations, avoid potential compliance issues, and make informed decisions about future investments in the treatment plant and outfall infrastructure.

STRATEGIC PLAN: This work aligns with the Strategic Plan Goal of Stewardship of City Assets.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES: If results indicate contaminants above allowable levels, the City may need to complete additional evaluation to determine appropriate follow-up actions or treatment adjustments. If the outfall structure or pipe to the outfall structure shows any corrosion or wear, these will have to be repaired.

BUDGET IMPACT: The proposed Professional Services Agreement amendment with HDR Engineering is in an amount not to exceed \$327,784 and will be funded from the Sewer Fund. Sufficient funds are available within the current budget:

Budget:

WWTP Upgrades/R&R (2026 Capital Budget)	\$2,000,000
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Expenses:

Existing Commitments

Jacobs Local Limits Study (Administrative Approval)	\$ 74,729
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Proposed Expense:
HDR engineering Amendment

\$327,784

Total Expenses to Date **\$402,513**

RECOMMENDATION: Staff would recommend this item be placed on the February 17th, 2026, Regular Meeting Consent Agenda for Council's consideration.