MARK D. WALTER

Senior Operations & Maintenance Specialist

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior wastewater operations and maintenance specialist with more than 30 years of experience spanning hands-on operation, plant management, and O&M consulting. Oregon Grade IV certified in both treatment and collections. Founder of Waterdude Solutions, LLC, providing municipalities and design engineering firms with O&M program development, startup and commissioning support, process optimization, and staff training — guiding facilities from design through commissioning to steady-state operation.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- O&M manuals & SOP development
- Startup, commissioning & operator readiness
- Asset management & CMMS implementation
- Unit-process operating strategies
- Process optimization & troubleshooting
- Preventive maintenance planning
- Activated sludge / ICEAS / SBR
- Nitrification & ammonia control
- Anaerobic digestion & solids handling
- NPDES compliance & DMR/NetDMR
- Condition assessment & O&M audits
- Staffing & workload studies (FTE)

CERTIFICATIONS & REGISTRATIONS

- **Wastewater Treatment System Operation —** Oregon Grade IV, #7091
- **Wastewater Collection System Operation —** Oregon Grade IV, #12219
- **Oregon Emerging Small Business Certification —** #10792 (Waterdude Solutions, LLC)

SELECTED PROJECT EXPERIENCE — WATERDUDE SOLUTIONS, LLC

Engineering partners: Tetra Tech, Jacobs, Brown & Caldwell, Stantec, Consor, Windsor, West Yost, Civil West.

- **Portland BES, Columbia Boulevard WWTP — Secondary Treatment Expansion Program (STEP), with Jacobs.** Developed unit-process operating strategies through 60/90/100% design (secondary clarifiers, RAS/mixed-liquor pumping, thickening/dewatering, HVAC, electrical distribution, and auxiliary systems); authored the foundation for the STEP Process Operations Manual and SOPs supporting startup and O&M staff training.
- **City of Coos Bay, Water Quality Division — long-term O&M advisor (since 2017).** Supported the DEQ Pre-Enforcement Notice response and the transition from 25-year contract operation to city self-performance (2021); authored the 2025 O&M Audit Report and delivered operator training in activated sludge/WAS-SRT control, anaerobic digestion, and NetDMR reporting.
- **City of Sandy WWTP — stress testing and process evaluation (with Stantec).** Served as WWTP stress-testing coordinator; performed process analysis and developed repair and replacement strategies.
- **Interim system supervision — Stayton, Newport, and Lafayette.** Provided interim operations oversight for municipal wastewater systems: developed operations strategies and staffing plans and directed day-to-day O&M.
- **City of Gresham WWTP — Upper Plant Improvements, with Brown and Caldwell.** Produced the system-level O&M manual and process control descriptions for the nitrification-driven Aeration Basin 4 secondary upgrade and disinfection systems.
- **City of Cannon Beach WWTP — Biolac two-basin-to-one aeration transition (with Windsor).** Authored the operating plan and task plan to transition the Biolac activated sludge process from two aeration basins to one, defining seasonal triggers, process-control testing (SRT, MLSS, F:M, DO), and RAS/WAS operating strategies; supports NPDES thermal-load compliance with ongoing DMR and PLC troubleshooting.

- **Municipal WWTP & pump station condition assessments — Seaside, Dallas, Tillamook, and Newport (with Civil West, Jacobs, and Consor).** Led facility inspections, staff interviews, and asset criticality and condition rating to prioritize repair and capital-improvement projects for facility planning.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior O&M & Management Specialist, Owner *Waterdude Solutions, LLC*

- O&M manual, SOP, and unit-process operating strategy development for municipal and industrial wastewater facilities.
- Startup and commissioning planning, operator readiness, and hands-on training.
- Asset condition and operational status assessment; CMMS and process-data management implementation.
- Unit-process optimization, program development, and alternatives analysis in support of facility planning.

Operations Manager *Oak Lodge Sanitary District, Oak Grove, OR*

- Directed WWTP, collections, and stormwater O&M with a staff of 16.
- Coordinated operations through multiyear WWTP improvements; developed and updated SOPs for new and existing systems.

Maintenance Division Manager *Clean Water Services, Hillsboro, OR*

- Managed facilities and mechanical maintenance for WWTPs, 42 pump stations, and offices.
- Evaluated and prioritized repairs and replacements; implemented CMMS, maintenance, and capital-planning improvements.

Manufacturer's Equipment Representative *Beaver Equipment Specialty Co. (VP) • Goble Sampson Associates (Sales Engineer)*

- Evaluated equipment applications and developed comparative lifecycle-cost reports; performed commissioning and training services.

Project Manager / Operations Supervisor *CH2M Hill / Operations Management International (OMI)*

- Managed two water and three wastewater systems (Lebanon, Philomath, Freeway Properties); supervised operations at the Gresham WWTP and developed O&M programs and staff training.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator *Clackamas County • Orange County Sanitation District • Michelson Water Reclamation Plant*

- Operated conventional and advanced treatment facilities in Oregon and California.

EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Clackamas Community College & Chemeketa College, Oregon — coursework in Water Quality, Management, Human Relations, and Business Law.

Professional development: EPA Advanced Asset Management; Project Management; Managing Multiple Projects; Emergency Response Planning; Conflict Resolution; Effective Negotiating; Coaching & Teambuilding; Building Better Training Programs; Technology of Participation (ToP) Facilitation; Core Value Index (CVI) Facilitation.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP & AFFILIATIONS

- Presenter and trainer at regional and national technical and operations conferences.
- Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association (PNCWA) — Life Member; Past President, Operations Challenge Chair, Awards Committee Chair, Plant O&M Committee Chair, Oregon Region Director, and Lower Columbia Section President.
- Oregon Water Education Foundation — Past Director and Chair, Water Environment School.

MILITARY SERVICE

- U.S. Army — 82nd Airborne Division, 1/325 Infantry.
- U.S. Army Reserve — 104th Training Division, Infantry Instructor.