Sanitary Visual Inspections (explenation)



- Sanitary visual inspections are an essential element of assessing the microbial safety of water for athletes.
- A well conducted sanitary inspection can identify sources of microbiological hazards, while the microbiological data confirms the presence of hazards, and the two together allow for an estimation of the risk of illness to athletes and staff.
- The inspections should not only look at areas within the competition area, but also outside. The water flows, tides and weather should also form part of the selection of inspection sites.

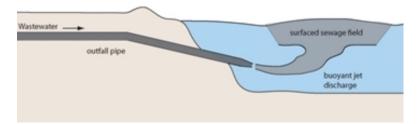


- The sanitary inspections should form part of the pre-event site inspection and the daily water quality procedures. On-site morning inspection must take place 3 hours before the first event on each competition day.
- If during the pre-event site visit inspection there is a moderate or high suspicion of faecal influence, the LOC will need to perform additional tests, following approval from World Triathlon.

Attention should be paid to the presence of:

- sewage disposal facilities, including long sea outfalls,
- freshwater drainage outflows into the water,
- industrial outfalls,
- seabird colonies,
- sanitary sewers or agricultural runoff and any rivers,











Attention should be paid to the presence of:

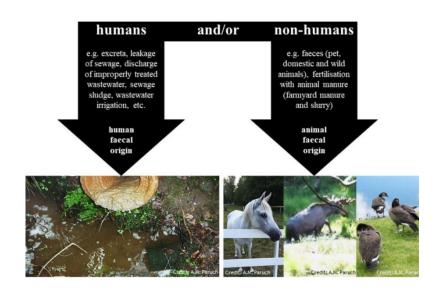
- algal bloom,
- visibility of the water of more than one metre (this may only be less when this is caused by natural circumstances),
- tributaries, streams or ditches that receive any form of storm water runoff or sewage.





Attention should be paid to the presence of:

- Adjacent industries should be identified, and their impact assessed.
- Visual faecal pollution (including sanitary plastics),
- sewage odour and
- suspicious water colour should also be considered as an immediate indication of unacceptable water quality.





- The impact of local geography and meteorological conditions on water quality should also be evaluated and built into the assessment.
- In certain circumstances, some non-toxic fluorescent tracer dyes, bacteriophages or faecal sterol biomarkers may also be helpful to identify sources and flows of contamination.
- World Triathlon reporting form should be used.



Photographs of non-toxic fluorescent dye tracer (pink water) (A) one hour after continual surfzone dye release at Imperial Beach California (Hally-Rosendahl et al. 2014), and (B) 1.5 hours after continual tidal inlet dye release during ebb tidal flow at New River Inlet, North Carolina. In both cases, dye serves as a mock pollutant and study of its transport and dilution will inform how pollutants from pathogens to chemical contaminants evolve in nearshore waters. (Image from Clark et al. 2014).

Thank you!



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