

**Best Practices Score
Buckland
Spring 2025**

Category		O&M Scoring Criteria	Possible	Score	Explanation of Score	How to Improve Score	Contact
Technical	Operator Certification	Utility has more than one operator certified to the level of the water system	10	7	System Classification: Water Treatment 2 Primary Operator: <i>Evans Thomas Jr.</i> Certification Level: <i>WT 2</i> Backup Operator: <i>Darrell Kirk</i> Certification Level: <i>Small Treated</i>	Even Thomas needs 3.0 CEUs to renew in 2026. Darrell Kirk has the required CEUs to renew ST by 12/31/2025. Brandon Henry and Darrell Kirk need to take and pass the WT 1 exam. Please see the enclosed flyer with more information about certification.	ADEC Operator Certification Program 465-1139
		Primary operator is certified to the level of the water system and the backup operator holds some level of certification in water treatment or distribution	7				
		Primary operator is certified to the level of the water system and the backup operator holds no certification or there is no backup operator	5				
		Utility has one or more operators certified at some level in water treatment or distribution	3				
		Utility has no certified operators	0				
	Preventive Maintenance Plan	Utility has a written PM plan; PM is performed on schedule; records of completion are submitted on a quarterly basis and have been verified	25	25	The operator is performing important maintenance on a regular basis and keeping records. Each month, the operator is submitting maintenance records to the assigned RMW.	Full points have been awarded in this category. Continue to perform maintenance according to the PM plan and send monthly records to the assigned RMW.	Bruce Nelson MHC RMW 442-7042
		Utility has a written PM plan; performance of PM and record keeping are not consistent	15				
		Utility has no PM plan or performs no PM	0				
	Compliance	Utility had no Monitoring and Reporting violations during the past year	10	0	The utility had 10 Drinking Water Monitoring and Reporting violations in 2024.	The Drinking Water Program provides you with an Annual Monitoring Summary with all of the required samples for your water system. All samples and reports must be collected and submitted in a timely manner.	Mike Sharp ADEC Drinking Water Program 451-2178
		Utility had up to five Monitoring and Reporting violations during the past year	5				
Utility had more than five Monitoring and Reporting violations during the last year		0					
Managerial	Utility Management Training	A person who holds a position of responsibility for management of the utility has completed a DCRA approved Utility Management course or other utility management training course within the last five years	5	0	No one associated with the utility has attended a RUBA training in the past five years.	RUBA provides free training several times per year. Contact your assigned LGS for more information.	Patricia Sullivan DCRA RUBA Program 269-4549
	Meetings of the Governing Body	The utility owner's governing body meets routinely consistent with the local ordinance/bylaw requirements and receives a current report from the operator	5	0	The governing body needs to meet according to local ordinance/bylaw and submit meeting minutes to RUBA. The minutes should document that a report to the council was made by the operator. Contact your assigned LGS for assistance.	The governing body needs to meet according to local ordinance/bylaw and submit meeting minutes to RUBA. The minutes should document that a report to the council was made by the operator. Contact your assigned LGS for assistance.	
		The utility owner's governing body meets routinely consistent with the local ordinance/bylaw requirements	2				
		The utility owner's governing body does not meet	0				
Financial	Budget	Utility owner and the Utility have each adopted a realistic budget and budget amendments are adopted as needed; Accurate monthly budget reports are prepared and submitted to the governing body	15	10	The third-party utility manager has adopted an overall realistic and balanced budget, but accurate monthly financial reports have not been documented in the meeting minutes.	To receive additional points in this category, provide RUBA with the utility owner's balanced and realistic budget. RUBA can provide assistance with this effort if needed.	Patricia Sullivan DCRA RUBA Program 269-4549
		Either the Utility or the Utility owner has adopted and implemented a budget, the other has not	13				
		Either the Utility or the Utility owner has adopted a budget, but it is not being implemented	10				
		Utility owner and the Utility have not adopted a budget	0				
	Revenue	Utility is collecting revenue sufficient to cover the Utility's operating expenses and to contribute to a repair and replacement account	20	5	Financial reports show the utility is not collecting sufficient revenue to cover expenses; a fee schedule or collection policy is on file with RUBA.	The utility needs to provide accurate monthly financial reports to RUBA and demonstrate sufficient revenue to cover the utility's expenses. Contact your assigned LGS for advice and assistance.	
		Utility is collecting revenue sufficient to cover expenses	15				
		Utility has a fee schedule and a collection policy that is followed	5				
		Utility has no fee structure or collection policy	0				
	Worker's Compensation Insurance	Utility has had a worker's compensation policy for all employees for the past two years and has a current policy in place	5	2	Current coverage for utility owner was confirmed on 12/31/24, but the insurance provider reported a break in coverage prior to 11/08/24.	Full points can be awarded after the utility owner demonstrates that a workers' compensation policy has been in place for all employees for two full years.	
		Utility has a current worker's compensation policy in place for all employees	2				
Utility has no worker's compensation policy		0					
Payroll Liability Compliance	Utility has no past due tax liabilities and is current with all tax obligations	5	5	Utility owner has no past due State of Alaska payroll tax liabilities and is current with all ESC tax obligations.	Full points have been awarded. Continue to submit timely reports and payments to maintain these points.		
	Utility owes back taxes, but has a signed payment agreement, is current on that agreement, and is up-to-date with all other tax obligations	2					
	Utility is not current with its tax obligations and/or does not have a signed repayment agreement for back taxes owed	0					
CIP O&M Score	0				TOTAL SCORE	54	