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California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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28 September 2010

CERTIFIED MAIL

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Linda Radford
State of California, Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY; GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR COLD WATER CONCENTRATED AQUATIC ANIMAL PRODUCTION FACILITY DISCHARGES TO SURFACE WATERS; DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME, MOUNT SHASTA FISH HATCHERY, SISKIYOU COUNTY

The State of California Department of Fish and Game (hereafter Discharger) owns and operates the Mount Shasta Fish Hatchery (hereafter Facility). The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Water Board) has reviewed the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) dated 14 May 2008 for renewal of existing Order No. R5-2004-0116 (NPDES No. CA0004596) for the Facility. The ROWD was deemed complete on 17 June 2008.

On 29 January 2010, General Order No. R5-2010-0018, (NPDES No. CAG135001), Waste Discharge Requirements for Cold Water Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production Facility Discharges to Surface Waters (General Order) was adopted by the Central Valley Water Board. The General Order regulates the discharge of pollutants from Cold Water Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production facilities (CAAP facilities) to surface waters in the Central Valley Region. The Facility discharge meets the conditions for coverage under the General Order. The Central Valley Water Board has determined that discharges from your CAAP facility are more appropriately regulated under the General Order than by the existing individual permit. Therefore, the existing Order No. R5-2004-0116 (NPDES No. CA0004596) is scheduled for rescission by a separate action of the Central Valley Water Board at a future regularly scheduled Board meeting.

The Discharger has been assigned an enrollee number of R5-2010-0018-010. Administrative information for the Facility is provided in Attachment A, a part of this Notice of Applicability (NOA).

The CAAP facility operations and discharge shall be managed in accordance with the requirements contained in the General Order, this NOA, and with the information submitted by the Discharger. The General Order (enclosed) may also be viewed at the following web address:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/general_orders/r5-2010-0018_npdes.pdf

You are urged to familiarize yourself with the contents of the entire General Order. Attachment C of the General Order prescribes mandatory monitoring requirements.

FACILITY INFORMATION/DISCHARGE DESCRIPTION

The Facility is located in the city of Mount Shasta, in Section 17, T40N, R4W, MDB&M as shown in Attachment B, a part of this NOA. The Facility is located within the Box Canyon Hydrologic Area (HA) No. 525.22. The property is owned by the Discharger and is on Assessor's Parcel Nos. 35-190-200, 36-200-140, and 36-200-160. Fish rearing facilities consist of two egg incubation buildings (Buildings B and E), 10 ponds, two earthen and four concrete raceways, and 260 troughs. Additional structures include two spawning houses, a meat house, shop/garage, seven private residences, a museum and public rest rooms. Based on information in the ROWD the Facility has an annual production of 115,000 pounds (lbs) of cold water species (rainbow trout, brown trout, and brook trout).

The Facility utilizes water from Big Springs Creek. The water supply enters a settling pond for pretreatment prior to hatchery use. The Discharger reports that upstream activities create sediment and turbid conditions that impact the water supply to the Facility requiring the pretreatment. The Discharger discharges an average of 11.64 million gallons per day (mgd) of flow-through wastewater with a design maximum flow of 13.8 mgd. Wastewater is discharged from the Facility as shown in the Facility schematic, Attachment C, a part of this NOA and described as follows:

Discharge Point 001 – Flow-through wastewater from Building B, the Spawning Buildings, and the earthen and concrete raceways, enters one of two settling ponds prior to discharge to an unnamed tributary to Cold Creek (Discharge Point 001). An average of 10.67 mgd is discharged from the settling basins. Water from the settling basins also feeds a rearing pond (Pond X). The wastewater flows through private property with grazing, private impoundments, and other agriculture uses before entering Cold Creek approximately one-half mile downstream.

Discharge Point 002 – Wastewater from Hatchery Building E, overflow water from nursery tanks, and water from Pond X, enters a settling pond (Pond 38) prior to discharge to Wagon Creek (Discharge Point 002). Approximately 0.97 mgd of wastewater flows across private agricultural property prior to discharge to a private impoundment called Browns Lake.

Discharge Point 003 – The upper Nursery Ponds have an overflow channel, which during periods of extremely high flows, discharges an unknown amount of overflow directly to Big Springs Creek. Discharge via this point was allowed in the previous permit but no overflow discharge was necessary during that permit cycle. Big Springs Creek is a tributary to Wagon Creek.

Chemicals currently used at the Facility include sodium chloride (salt), PVP Iodine (Argentyne[®]), hydrogen peroxide, formalin, and oxytetracycline. Tricaine methanesulfonate (MS-222) is used to anesthetize fish. Oxytetracycline (Terramycin[®]) is used during periods of disease outbreak. The Discharger reports that copper sulfate is no longer used at the Facility. Additional chemicals, antibiotics and other therapeutic drugs listed in the General Order may be used during periods of disease outbreaks.

Domestic sewage from the hatchery buildings and private residences is discharged to septic tank/leachfield systems. Hatchery Building B and the shop have separate septic tanks with a common leachfield. The museum and an adjacent residence share a common septic tank/leachfield. The private residence adjacent to Pond X has a separate septic tank/leachfield. The remaining five residences and meat house have three septic tanks with service to a common leachfield.

Fish mortalities are collected daily from the ponds, frozen and picked up by North State Rendering Company on an as-needed basis.

MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

The General Order requires that dischargers comply with the Monitoring and Reporting Program that is incorporated as Attachment C to the General Order. Influent, effluent, and receiving water monitoring requirements are based on the pounds of fish produced. This Facility is in the category of production greater than 100,000 lbs of fish.

The Discharger conducted priority pollutant metals monitoring on 4 February 2009. The data show that there is no reasonable potential for priority pollutant metals to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives. The Discharger reports that the Facility does not use copper sulfate or chelated copper compounds. The receiving waters are not listed under the Clean Water Act 303(d) List of impaired water bodies; therefore, no additional monitoring requirements will be required.

Site-specific monitoring locations for influent, effluent and receiving water monitoring are shown in Attachment C to this NOA (Facility schematic), and as described in the following table:

Monitoring Location Descriptions

Point Name	Monitoring Location Name	Monitoring Location Description
Influent	INF-001	At a location representative of influent water from Big Springs Creek to the Facility.
Discharge Point 001	EFF-001	At a location representative of effluent discharges from the settling basins to the unnamed tributary to Cold Creek.
Discharge Point 002	EFF-002	At a location representative of effluent discharge from Pond 38 to the unnamed tributary to Wagon Creek.
Discharge Point 003	EFF-003	At a location representative of the overflow from the Nursery Ponds. It will be necessary to monitor at EFF-003 only when the overflow from the Nursery Ponds discharges directly to Big Springs Creek.
Receiving Water Upstream	RSW-001	In lieu of upstream receiving water monitoring in Cold Creek and Wagon Creek the Discharger may monitor Big Springs Creek at Monitoring Location INF-001 for the parameters normally sampled in the upstream receiving water for Cold Creek and Wagon Creek.
Receiving Water Downstream	RSW-002	The wastewater discharge when it leaves the Facility from the settling ponds (Discharge Point 001) under control of the Discharger, passes through private property, which may contain animals and other uses not under control of the Discharger. In lieu of downstream receiving water monitoring in Cold Creek the Discharger may monitor at Monitoring Location EFF-001 for the parameters normally sampled in the downstream receiving water in Cold Creek.
Receiving Water Downstream	RSW-003	The wastewater discharge when it leaves the Facility from Pond 38 (Discharge Point 002) under control of the Discharger, passes through private property, which may contain animals and other uses (including Browns Lake) not under control of the Discharger. In lieu of downstream receiving water monitoring in Wagon Creek the Discharger may monitor at Monitoring Location EFF-002 for the parameters normally sampled in the downstream receiving water in Wagon Creek.

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY REQUIREMENTS

Based on the information provided in the ROWD, the Discharger is hereby authorized to discharge to Big Springs Creek, Cold Creek and Wagon Creek under the terms and conditions of General Order R5-2010-0018. In addition to the requirements contained in the General Order, the following shall also apply:

1. The discharge from the Facility from Discharge Points 001 and Discharge Points 002 shall not exceed 13.8 mgd during the effective period of the General Order.
2. The Discharger is required to comply with all the Monitoring and Reporting Requirements contained in Attachment C to the General Order for facilities with production greater than 100,000 lbs of fish.
3. The Discharger shall electronically submit Self-Monitoring Reports (SMRs) using the State Water Board's California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Program website (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/index.html>). The CIWQS website will provide directions for SMR submittal in the event there will be service interruption for electronic submittal.

4. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has determined that individual or general permits for aquaculture activities defined in 40 CFR 122.25(b) will be subject to the same annual fee, which currently is \$1,000 (State Water Board Resolution 2002-0150), but may be subject to change.
5. The General Order expires on 1 January 2015, and enrollees will continue to be authorized to discharge until coverage becomes effective under a reissued Order or until Central Valley Water Board staff formally terminates your coverage. Only those CAAP facilities authorized to discharge and who submit a Notice of Intent at least 180 days prior to the expiration date of General Order No. R5-2010-0018 will remain authorized to discharge under administratively continued permit conditions.

Failure to comply with the General Order and this NOA may result in enforcement actions, which could include administrative civil liability. Effluent limitation violations and some late reporting violations are subject to a Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) of \$3,000 per violation [California Water Code Sections 13385(h) and (i)]. If you have no discharge during a monitoring period, you must submit a report indicating that no discharge occurred. You must notify the Central Valley Water Board staff within 24 hours of noncompliance or anticipated noncompliance.

Please reference your enrollee number, R5-2010-0018-010, in all your correspondence and submitted documents.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA, monitoring reports submittals, discharge notifications, compliance and enforcement, please contact, Kevin Kratzke at (530) 224-4850, or kkratzke@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Robert A. Crandall

(for) PAMELA C. CREEDON
Executive Officer

KEK: knr

NOA Attachments: Attachment A - Administrative Information
Attachment B – Location Map
Attachment C – Facility Schematic

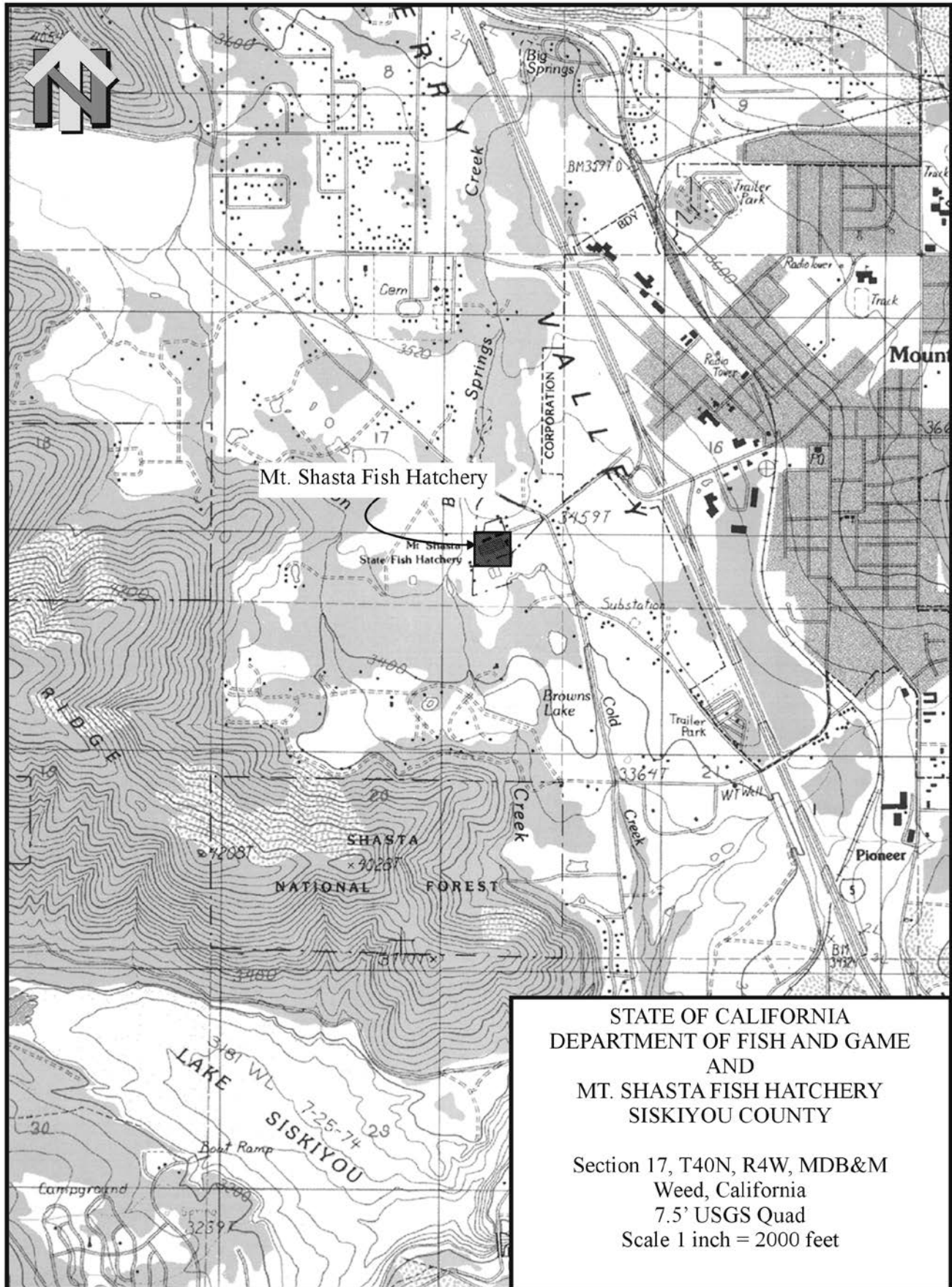
Enclosure: General Order No. R5-2010-0018 (Discharger only)

Distribution List: Mr. David Smith, U.S. EPA, Region IX, San Francisco
Mr. Phil Isorena, State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento
Mr. Eric Jones, Department of Fish and Game, Mt. Shasta

ATTACHMENT A – FACILITY ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Name of Facility	Mount Shasta Fish Hatchery
Type of Facility	Cold Water Aquaculture Facility, SIC Code 0921
WDID	5A470803001
General Order NOA Enrollee Number	R5-2010-0018-010
Discharger	State of California Department of Fish and Game
Facility Address	3 North Old State Road Mount Shasta, CA 96067
Land Owner (Address)	State of California Department of Fish and Game 601 Locust Street Redding, CA 96001
Facility Contact, Title and Phone	Eric Jones, Fish Hatchery Manager II, 530-926-2215
Authorized Person to Sign and Submit Reports	Linda Radford, Senior Fish Hatchery Manager, 530-225-2369
Mailing Address	601 Locust Street Redding, CA 96001
Billing Address	601 Locust Street Redding, CA 96001
Total Weight Produced (Annual)	115,000 lbs
Major or Minor Facility	Minor
Threat to Water Quality	2
Complexity	B
Facility Permitted Flow	13.8 mgd
Watershed	Sacramento River Basin
Receiving Water	Wagon and Cold Creeks, tributary to Lake Siskiyou
Receiving Water Type	Inland surface water

ATTACHMENT B – LOCATION MAP



ATTACHMENT C – FACILITY SCHEMATIC

