



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

Howie C. Morales
Lt. Governor

**NEW MEXICO
ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Harold Runnels Building
1190 Saint Francis Drive, PO Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469
Telephone (505) 827-2855
www.env.nm.gov



James C. Kenney
Cabinet Secretary

Jennifer J. Pruett
Deputy Secretary

Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested

October 10, 2019

Michael B. Sloane, Director
New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
One Wildlife Way
P.O. Box 25112
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504

Re: New Mexico Department of Game and Fish; Red River State Fish Hatchery; Minor Non-Municipal Individual Permit; SIC 0921; NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection; NM0030147; September 11, 2019

Dear Mr. Sloane:

Enclosed please find a copy of the report and check list for the referenced inspection that the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) conducted at your facility on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). This inspection report will be sent to the USEPA in Dallas for their review. These inspections are used by USEPA to determine compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program in accordance with requirements of the federal Clean Water Act.

Introduction, treatment scheme, and problems noted during this inspection are discussed in the “Further Explanations” section of the inspection report. You are encouraged to review the inspection report, required to correct any problems noted during the inspection, and advised to modify your operational and/or administrative procedures, as appropriate. If you have comments on or concerns with the basis for the findings in the NMED inspection report, please contact us (see the address below) in writing within 30 days from the date of this letter. Further, you are encouraged to notify in writing both the USEPA and NMED regarding modifications and compliance schedules at the addresses below:

NPDES Enforcement Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 6 Water Enforcement Branch (6ECDWM)
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75202

Program Manager
New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau (N2050)
Point Source Regulation Section
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

David Long (Long.David@epa.gov) is USEPA Region 6’s Acting NPDES Enforcement Coordinator at the above address. If you have any questions about this inspection report, please contact Erin Shea at 505-827-0418 or at erin.shea@state.nm.us.

Mr. Sloane, Red River State Fish Hatchery, NM0030147
October 10, 2019
Page 2 of 2

Sincerely,

/s/Shelly Lemon

Shelly Lemon, Chief
Surface Water Quality Bureau

cc: Carol Peters-Wagnon, USEPA (6ECDWM) by e-mail
David Long, USEPA (6ECDWM) by e-mail
Nancy Williams, USEPA (6ECDWA) by e-mail
Amy Andrews, USEPA (6ECDWM) by e-mail
David Esparza, USEPA (6ECDWM) by e-mail
Brent Larsen and Tung Nguyen, USEPA (6WDPE) by e-mail
Robert Italiano, NMED District II by e-mail
Kirk Patten, Chief, Fisheries Management Division, NMDGF by e-mail
Roderick Gallegos, Assistant Chief, Fisheries Management Division, NMDGF by e-mail
Samantha Ferguson, NMDGF Environmental Compliance Specialist by e-mail



Form Approved
OMB No. 2040-0003
Approval Expires 7-31-85

NPDES Compliance Inspection Report

Section A: National Data System Coding

Transaction Code	NPDES	yr/mo/day	Inspec. Type	Inspector	Fac Type
1 N 2 5 3 N M 0 0 3 0 1 4 7 11 12 1 9 0 9 1 1 17 18 C 19 S 20 2					
Remarks					
S T A T E F I S H H A T C H E R Y					
Inspection Work Days	Facility Evaluation Rating	BI	QA	Reserved	
67 69	70 3	71 N	72 N	73	74 75 80

Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number) New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF), Red River State Fish Hatchery, P.O. Box 410, Questa, NM 87556. From Taos, New Mexico, travel north on US 64, continue north on New Mexico State Highway (NM) 522, turn northwest onto NM 515, travel approximately 2 miles to hatchery. Taos County.	Entry Time /Date ~1045 hours / 09/11/2019	Permit Effective Date November 1, 2017
	Exit Time/Date ~1350 hours / 09/11/2019	Permit Expiration Date October 31, 2022
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) -Paul Erker, Hatchery Manager, Red River State Fish Hatchery, 575-586-0222 -Coby Miller, Assistant Manager, Red River State Fish Hatchery, 575-586-0222	Other Facility Data Outfalls (Latitude, Longitude) 001= 36.683767°, -105.651953° 002= 36.683281°, -105.652931° 003= 36.682942°, -105.653872°	
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number Michael B. Sloane, Director, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, One Wildlife Way, P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504 / 505-476-8148	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> * Contacted	SIC 0921 (Fish Hatcheries)

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection (S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)

S	Permit	S	Flow Measurement	M	Operations & Maintenance	N	CSO/SSO
M	Records/Reports	M	Self-Monitoring Program	N	Sludge Handling/Disposal	N	Pollution Prevention
N	Facility Site Review	N	Compliance Schedules	N	Pretreatment	N	Multimedia
M	Effluent/Receiving Waters	M	Laboratory	N	Storm Water	N	Other:

Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments (Attach additional sheets if necessary)

1. SEE ATTACHED CHECKLIST REPORT WITH FURTHER EXPLANATIONS AND PHOTO LOG.

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s) Erin Shea /s/Erin Shea (f/k/a Erin S. Trujillo)	Agency/Office/Telephone/Fax NMED/SWQB/505-827-0418	Date 10/09/2019
Signature of Management QA Reviewer Jennifer Foote /s/Jennifer Foote	Agency/Office/Telephone/Fax NMED/SWQB/505-827-2795	Date 10/10/2019

SECTION A - PERMIT VERIFICATION

PERMIT SATISFACTORILY ADDRESSES OBSERVATIONS DETAILS: S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED Yes).

- 1. CORRECT NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF PERMITTEE. Y N NA
- 2. NOTIFICATION GIVEN TO EPA/STATE OF NEW, DIFFERENT OR INCREASED DISCHARGES. Y N NA
- 3. NUMBER AND LOCATION OF DISCHARGE POINTS AS DESCRIBED IN PERMIT. Y N NA
- 4. ALL DISCHARGES ARE PERMITTED. Y N NA

SECTION B - RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING EVALUATION

RECORDS AND REPORTS MAINTAINED AS REQUIRED BY PERMIT. S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED Yes).

DETAILS: **Last inspection on 06/30/2016. Permittee submits Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs) into USEPA electronic NetDMR system. Permit requires self-monitoring for pH, Total Suspended Solids (TSS), Settleable Solids (SS), Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) during Chloramine-T use, Whole Effluent Toxicity and Aldrin. NMED does not have copy of correspondence documenting BMP plan was submitted to EPA per deadline in Part II.D of the Permit (See Section C).**

- 1. ANALYTICAL RESULTS CONSISTENT WITH DATA REPORTED ON DMRs. Y N NA
- 2. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES DATA ADEQUATE AND INCLUDE. S M U NA
 - a) DATES, TIME(S) AND LOCATION(S) OF SAMPLING. **TRC times = N (see below)** Y N NA
 - b) NAME OF INDIVIDUAL PERFORMING SAMPLING. Y N NA
 - c) ANALYTICAL METHODS AND TECHNIQUES. Y N NA
 - d) RESULTS OF ANALYSES AND CALIBRATIONS. Y N NA
 - e) DATES AND TIMES OF ANALYSES. Y N NA
 - f) NAME OF PERSON(S) PERFORMING ANALYSES. Y N NA
- 3. LABORATORY EQUIPMENT CALIBRATION AND MAINTENANCE RECORDS ADEQUATE. S M U NA
- 4. PLANT RECORDS INCLUDE SCHEDULES, DATES OF EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR. S M U NA
- 5. EFFLUENT LOADINGS CALCULATED USING DAILY EFFLUENT FLOW AND DAILY ANALYTICAL DATA. **TSS** Y N NA

SECTION C - OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

TREATMENT FACILITY PROPERLY OPERATED AND MAINTAINED. S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED Yes).

DETAILS: **Cleaning wastewater flows to settling pond prior to discharge. Facility's Best Management Practices (BMP) plan titled Hatchery Management Plan dated May 2, 2018 was provided to NMED following the inspection.**

- 1. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY OPERATED. S M U NA
- 2. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY MAINTAINED. **Overgrown vegetation and some algal growth at settling ponds** S M U NA
- 3. STANDBY POWER OR OTHER EQUIVALENT PROVIDED. S M U NA
- 4. ADEQUATE ALARM SYSTEM FOR POWER OR EQUIPMENT FAILURES AVAILABLE. S M U NA
- 5. ALL NEEDED TREATMENT UNITS IN SERVICE S M U NA
- 6. ADEQUATE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED OPERATORS PROVIDED. S M U NA
- 7. SPARE PARTS AND SUPPLIES INVENTORY MAINTAINED. S M U NA
- 8. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL AVAILABLE. Y N NA
 - STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES AND SCHEDULES ESTABLISHED **See Further Explanations for Settling Ponds.** Y N NA
 - PROCEDURES FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT CONTROL ESTABLISHED. Y N NA

SECTION C - OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (CONT'D)

9. HAVE BYPASSES/OVERFLOWS OCCURRED AT THE PLANT OR IN THE COLLECTION SYSTEM IN THE LAST YEAR? Y N NA
 IF SO, HAS THE REGULATORY AGENCY BEEN NOTIFIED? Y N NA
 HAS CORRECTIVE ACTION BEEN TAKEN TO PREVENT ADDITIONAL BYPASSES/OVERFLOWS? Y N NA
10. HAVE ANY HYDRAULIC OVERLOADS OCCURRED AT THE TREATMENT PLANT? Y N NA
 IF SO, DID PERMIT VIOLATIONS OCCUR AS A RESULT? Y N NA

SECTION D - SELF-MONITORING

- PERMITTEE SELF-MONITORING MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED Yes).
 DETAILS:
1. SAMPLES TAKEN AT SITE(S) SPECIFIED IN PERMIT. Y N NA
2. LOCATIONS ADEQUATE FOR REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLES. **Composite grab of each outfall required in Part I of Permit** Y N NA
3. FLOW PROPORTIONED SAMPLES OBTAINED WHEN REQUIRED BY PERMIT. Y N NA
4. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES COMPLETED ON PARAMETERS SPECIFIED IN PERMIT. **N = Aldrin in 2017 (1st Qtr of Permit)** Y N NA
5. SAMPLING AND ANALYSES PERFORMED AT FREQUENCY SPECIFIED IN PERMIT. Y N NA
6. SAMPLE COLLECTION PROCEDURES ADEQUATE Y N NA
- a) SAMPLES REFRIGERATED DURING COMPOSITING. Y N NA
- b) PROPER PRESERVATION TECHNIQUES USED. **Cooling preservation used / See Further Explanations for WET Holding times for WET in 2018** Y N NA
- c) CONTAINERS AND SAMPLE HOLDING TIMES CONFORM TO 40 CFR 136.3. **Holding times not documented for TRC** Y N NA
7. IF MONITORING AND ANALYSES ARE PERFORMED MORE OFTEN THAN REQUIRED BY PERMIT, ARE THE RESULTS REPORTED IN PERMITTEE'S SELF-MONITORING REPORT? Y N NA

SECTION E - FLOW MEASUREMENT

- PERMITTEE FLOW MEASUREMENT MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED Yes).
 DETAILS: **Part I of the Permit requires "Weir Collection System Total Flow" subject to accuracy and reliability conditions in Part III.C.6 of the Permit. Flow is calculated using measurements at raceway C weirs due to turbulence at Outfall 001.**
1. PRIMARY FLOW MEASUREMENT DEVICE PROPERLY INSTALLED AND MAINTAINED. Y N NA
 TYPE OF DEVICE **weirs**
2. FLOW MEASURED AT EACH OUTFALL AS REQUIRED. **Measured for each outfall / See Further Explanations** Y N NA
3. SECONDARY INSTRUMENTS (TOTALIZERS, RECORDERS, ETC.) PROPERLY OPERATED AND MAINTAINED. Y N NA
4. CALIBRATION FREQUENCY ADEQUATE. Y N NA
 RECORDS MAINTAINED OF CALIBRATION PROCEDURES. Y N NA
 CALIBRATION CHECKS DONE TO ASSURE CONTINUED COMPLIANCE. Y N NA
5. FLOW ENTERING DEVICE WELL DISTRIBUTED ACROSS THE CHANNEL AND FREE OF TURBULENCE. Y N NA
6. HEAD MEASURED AT PROPER LOCATION. Y N NA
7. FLOW MEASUREMENT EQUIPMENT ADEQUATE TO HANDLE EXPECTED RANGE OF FLOW RATES. Y N NA

SECTION F - LABORATORY

- PERMITTEE LABORATORY PROCEDURES MEET PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED Yes).
 DETAILS: **Contract laboratories not inspected. Monitoring for pH, TRC and SS conducted on-site.**
1. EPA APPROVED ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES USED (40 CFR 136.3 FOR LIQUIDS, 503.8(b) FOR SLUDGES) Y N NA

SECTION F - LABORATORY (CONT'D)

2. IF ALTERNATIVE ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES ARE USED, PROPER APPROVAL HAS BEEN OBTAINED Y N NA
3. SATISFACTORY CALIBRATION AND MAINTENANCE OF INSTRUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT. S M U NA
4. QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES ADEQUATE. **See Further Explanations** S M U NA
5. DUPLICATE SAMPLES ARE ANALYZED. **TSS 100 (Source: Hatchery Management Plan, May 2, 2018)** % OF THE TIME. Y N NA
6. SPIKED SAMPLES ARE ANALYZED. **pH (buffers) = 100** % OF THE TIME. Y N NA
7. COMMERCIAL LABORATORY USED. Y N NA

-NM Dept. of Health, Scientific Laboratory Div., 1101 Camino de Salud NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102, 505-383-9000 (TSS)
-ALS, 1317 S. 13th Ave., Kelso, WA 98626, 360-577-7222 (Aldrin)
-Huther & Associates, Inc. 1156 North Bonnie Brac, Denton, TX 76201, 940-387-1025 (WET)

SECTION G - EFFLUENT/RECEIVING WATERS OBSERVATIONS. S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED **Yes**).

OUTFALL NO.	OIL SHEEN	GREASE	TURBIDITY	VISIBLE FOAM	FLOAT SOL.	COLOR	OTHER
001	None	None	None	Some	None	Clear	None
002	None	None	None	None	None	Clear	None
003	None	None	None	None	None	Clear	None

RECEIVING WATER OBSERVATIONS: **Reported TRC effluent concentration exceeded permit limitation in November 2017. WET testing results of samples collected April 24, 26 and 30, 2018 passed; however, cooling preservation and holding times not met. Red River flow was slightly cloudy on day of this inspection (see Photo Log).**

SECTION H - SLUDGE DISPOSAL

- SLUDGE DISPOSAL MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED **No**).
- DETAILS: **NA = Not Applicable (Facility does not treat domestic sewage sludges)**
1. SLUDGE MANAGEMENT ADEQUATE TO MAINTAIN EFFLUENT QUALITY. S M U NA
2. SLUDGE RECORDS MAINTAINED AS REQUIRED BY 40 CFR 503. S M U NA
3. FOR LAND APPLIED SLUDGE, TYPE OF LAND APPLIED TO: _____ (e.g., FOREST, AGRICULTURAL, PUBLIC CONTACT SITE)

SECTION I - SAMPLING INSPECTION PROCEDURES (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED **No**).

1. SAMPLES OBTAINED THIS INSPECTION. Y N NA
2. TYPE OF SAMPLE OBTAINED: GRAB _____ COMPOSITE SAMPLE _____ METHOD _____ FREQUENCY _____
3. SAMPLES PRESERVED. Y N NA
4. FLOW PROPORTIONED SAMPLES OBTAINED. Y N NA
5. SAMPLE OBTAINED FROM FACILITY'S SAMPLING DEVICE. Y N NA
6. SAMPLE REPRESENTATIVE OF VOLUME AND MATURE OF DISCHARGE. Y N NA
7. SAMPLE SPLIT WITH PERMITTEE. Y N NA
8. CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY PROCEDURES EMPLOYED. Y N NA
9. SAMPLES COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PERMIT. Y N NA

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish / Red River State Fish Hatchery
NPDES Permit No. NM0030147
Compliance Evaluation Inspection
September 11, 2019

Further Explanations

Introduction

On September 11, 2019, Erin Shea of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED), Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) conducted a Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF), Red River State Fish Hatchery approximately 20 miles north of Taos in Taos County, New Mexico. The permit is classified as a minor non-municipal (industrial) discharger under the federal Clean Water Act, Section 402, of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. It is assigned NPDES permit number NM0030147 which regulates the discharge of hatchery wastewater at Outfalls 001, 002 and 003 to the Red River described segment from its mouth on the Rio Grande upstream to the mouth of Placer Creek in Section 20.6.4.122 *State of New Mexico Standards for Interstate and Intrastate Surface Waters, 20.6.4 New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC)*. Designated uses for this segment of the Red River are coldwater aquatic life, fish culture, irrigation, livestock watering, wildlife habitat and primary contact. The 2018-2020 State of New Mexico Clean Water Act Section 303(d)/Section 305(b) Integrated Report indicates that the assessment unit does not attain aquatic life designated use with the listed cause Total Recoverable Aluminum. The 2006 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for dissolved aluminum was withdrawn in 2013. A draft TMDL for Total Recoverable Aluminum has not been drafted and published for public comment at this time.

The NMED performs a certain number of CEIs each year for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region VI. The purpose of this inspection is to provide the USEPA with information to evaluate the Permittee's compliance with the NPDES permit. This inspection report is based on information provided by the Permittee's representatives, observations made by the NMED inspector, and records and reports kept by the Permittee and/or NMED.

The inspector arrived at the hatchery at approximately 1045 hours on the day of this inspection. Ms. Shea made introductions, presented credentials and explained the purpose of the inspection to Paul Erker, Hatchery Manager and Coby Miller, Assistant Hatchery Manager. Ms. Shea, Mr. Erker and Mr. Miller toured the facility. After the tour, an exit interview to discuss preliminary findings was conducted with Mr. Erker and Mr. Miller. The inspector left the facility at approximately 1350 hours on the day of this inspection. Following the inspection, additional information was provided by Permittee representatives, Roddy Gallegos, NMDGF Assistant Chief, Fisheries Management Division on September 30, 2019 and Samantha Ferguson, NMDGF Environmental Compliance Specialist by telephone on October 7, 2019.

Facility Description/Treatment Scheme

A hatchery has been on site since 1941. The Red River State Fish Hatchery produces about 1.7 million rainbow trout a year, including more than 500,000 catchable 9 to 10-inch fish for stocking statewide. It is the state's largest production hatchery and raises triploid (sterile) trout to be stocked in waters where interbreeding with native fish is not desired.

The flow-through hatchery has a hatch house, three sets of covered raceways ("A", "B" and "C") and a public exhibition pond or "show pond." Rainbow trout eggs are incubated in the hatch house, then upon reaching certain size are transferred first to "A", then "B", then "C" raceways. A fourth un-covered raceway ("D") is no longer used. Fish mortalities are composted with wood chip or mulch materials in a separate lined pit north of the raceways approximately 550 feet from Red River.

Intake or source water from one cold water spring piped from an infiltration gallery located near Questa, NM and warm springs piped from the canyon upstream of the hatchery is gravity fed through the hatchery and three raceways in series and the “show pond.” Construction activities to replace water transmission line piping from the springs to the hatchery were in progress on the day of this inspection.

From the “A” then “B” then “C” raceways, flow from a drain line discharges at Outfall 001. A diversion is located after the “B” raceway to provide water to the “show pond” that has a drain line that discharges at Outfall 002. Each raceway is equipped with a standpipe that is closed except when the raceway is cleaned. Cleaning occurs daily with a schedule for raceways throughout the week that offsets the major feeding days. Intake flows are not diverted from the raceways during cleaning (scraping), but the standpipe in the raceways is removed. Removing the standpipe allows water and waste solids to flow to two settling ponds operated in series (first upper pond, then lower pond). The outlet pipe from the lower pond discharges at Outfall 003.

Chemicals used in hatchery or stocking disinfection operations include iodine, hydrogen peroxide (fungicide), and sodium thiosulfate. Sodium chloride (stress reducing agent) is used in stocking operations. Bleach solutions to disinfect equipment and stocking trucks are not discharged into the raceways or flow to the outfalls according to Permittee representatives. The hatchery does not use non-FDA approved drugs, medications and/or other chemicals (DMC) in the hatchery or raceways according to the Permittee representative.

A kids-fishing pond exists south of the Red River that is stocked by the hatchery. Surface water from Red River is diverted to the fishing pond then returns to Red River downstream. No chemicals are used in the fishing pond according to the Permittee on-site representative.

Flow measurements for each outfall are taken at the beginning of the work day (approximately 0800 hours). Flow measurement “Weir Collection System” includes the raceway C weirs located before Outfall 001, and the weirs at Outfall 002 and Outfall 003. Flows at Outfall 001 were observed to be too turbulent for accurate measurement on the day of this inspection. The Permittee letter dated July 8, 2019 to EPA with copy to NMED described above normal flows at the Hatchery during the 2nd Quarter of 2019 rising near the crest of the measuring weir reducing the gap (air space) between the crest of the weir and receiving water at Outfall 002. An air gap at Outfall 002 was observed during this inspection.

Section B – Recordkeeping and Reporting Evaluation – Overall Rating of “M = Marginal”

Permit Requirements and Findings for Recordkeeping and Reporting

- Part II.D.1 of the Permit (Best Management Practices, Implementation) requires *“A copy of the Plan shall be submitted to EPA and NMED within three (3) months of the effective date of the permit.”* Part II.6 (Best Management Practices, Documentation) of the Permit states *“The permittee shall maintain a copy of the BMP Plan at the facility...”* Part III.D.11 (Signatory Requirements) of the Permit states *“All applications, reports, or other information submitted to the Director Shall be signed and certified.”*

Documentation that the Permittee submitted a signed and certified BMP plan to EPA within three (3) months of the effective date, which was November 1, 2017, of the Permit was not provided. An undated copy of a plan based on requirements of the previous permit was provided during the inspection. Permittee representatives provided a copy of a “Hatchery Management Plan” for Red River State Fish Hatchery dated May 2, 2018 that includes Best Management Practices (BMPs) and self-monitoring procedures after the on-site inspection.

- Part I.A.1, including Footnote 8, of the Permit requires Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) effluent monitoring daily during Chloramine-T use. Part III.C.4 (Record Contents) of the permit states:

Records of monitoring information shall include:

- The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements;*
- The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;*
- The date(s) and times(s) analyses were performed;*
- The individual(s) who performed the analyses;*
- The analytical techniques or methods used; and*
- The results of such analyses.*

Reviewed TRC monitoring records did not provide both the time of sampling and time of analyses (see Section D Below) to document holding times.

Section C – Operations and Maintenance – Overall Rating of “M = Marginal”

Permit Requirements for Operations and Maintenance

- Part III.B.3.a (Standard Conditions, Proper Operation and Maintenance) of the Permit states *“The permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by permittee as efficiently as possible and in a manner which will minimize upsets and discharges of excessive pollutants and will achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit....”*
- Part II.D.5.a (Best Management Practices, Minimum Practices Required and Implemented, Solids Control) of the Permit states *“In order to minimize the discharge of accumulated solids from settling ponds and production systems, identify and implement procedures for routine cleaning of rearing units and off-line settling basins.”*

Findings for Operation and Maintenance

- Overgrown vegetation and algal growth exist at settling ponds (off-line settling basins).
- The provided “Hatchery Management Plan” / BMP plan dated May 2, 2018 did not provide procedures for routine cleaning of the settling ponds/basins.

Section D – Self-Monitoring – Overall Rating of “M = Marginal”

Permit Requirements and Findings for Self-Monitoring

- Part I and Part II of the Permit requires effluent monitoring and study of intake (source) waters, respectively, for the pesticide Aldrin at a frequency of *“Once/Quarter.”*

A review of EPA NetDMR electronic reporting summary report indicates that a discharge monitoring report (DMR) with Aldrin effluent concentration results in the quarter ending December 2017 were not received.

Note: The Permittee may contact USEPA Region 6 NetDMR staff if there are questions about electronic reporting.

- Part I.A.1 of the Permit requires Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing *“Once/Term.”* Part II.B.2.d (WET, Required Toxicity Testing Conditions, Samples and Composites) of the Permit states:

- i. *The permittee shall collect a minimum of three flow-weighted composite samples for the outfalls(s) listed....*
- ii. *The permittee shall collect second and third composite samples for the use during 24-hour renewals of each dilution concentration for each test...*
- iii. *The permittee must collect the composite samples so that the maximum holding time for any effluent sample shall not exceed 72 hours. The permittee must have initiated the toxicity test within 36 hours after the collection of the last portion of the first composite sample. Samples shall be chilled to 4 degrees Centigrade during collection, shipping, and/or storage.*

Recorded dates and times on the completed Chain of Custody forms in the contract laboratory WET report for the completion of the third composite sample collection were 4/27/2018 at 6:11 am and received at the laboratory were 4/30/2018 at 1:30 pm (over 79 hours).

The recorded temperatures on the completed Chain of Custody forms when the first, second and third composite samples arrived at the laboratory were over the 4 degree Centigrade temperature specified in the Permit (6.3, 4.1 and 17.8 degrees Celsius, respectively).

Note: The Permittee may contact USEPA Region 6 Permit Writer or Compliance staff if there are questions about electronic reporting of WET results that did not meet the cooling preservation and holding time and/or if additional monitoring is required.

Section F – Laboratory – Overall Rating of “M = Marginal”

Permit Requirements and Findings for Self-Monitoring

- o Part III.B.3.a of the Permit states “Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures.” Part III.C.5.a of the Permit states “Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136....”

The facility’s “Hatchery Management Plan” dated May 2, 2018 includes Appendix G (NPDES permit and Sampling Protocol). Clarifications, corrections or additional information appears needed in the provided written procedures. The Facility’s written procedure (Page G-3) states “If water sample analysis cannot be performed within 15 minutes of collection, preserve sample on ice.” Table II Footnote 2 of 40 CFR 136.3 states “Except where noted in this Table II and the method for the parameter, preserve each grab sample within 15 minutes of collection.” Specific WET testing sampling collection, holding and temperature procedures were not included in the provided written procedures. Recording the sampling times for TRC was not included in provided written procedures.

Section G – Effluent – Overall Rating of “M = Marginal”

Permit Requirements and Findings for Effluent

- o Part I.A.1 of the Permit requires a TRC effluent limitation concentration of 11 micrograms per Liter (µg/L). The reported TRC effluent concentration was 20 µg/L during November of 2017. There have been no reported exceedances of effluent limitations since November 2017.

**NMED/SWQB
Official Photograph Log
Photo # 1**

Photographer: Erin Shea	Date: 09/11/2019	Time: ~ 1115 hours
City/County: North of Taos and southwest of Questa / Taos County		State: New Mexico
Location: Red River State Fish Hatchery / NPDES Permit No. NM0030147		
Subject: Northern (Upper) Settling Pond had algal mat at waters edge. Vegetation around pond was overgrown.		



**NMED/SWQB
Official Photograph Log
Photo # 2**

Photographer: Erin Shea	Date: 09/11/2019	Time: ~ 1116 hours
City/County: North of Taos and southwest of Questa / Taos County		State: New Mexico
Location: Red River State Fish Hatchery / NPDES Permit No. NM0030147		
Subject: Southern (Lower) Settling Pond had algal mat. Vegetation around pond was overgrown.		



**NMED/SWQB
Official Photograph Log
Photo # 3**

Photographer: Erin Shea	Date: 09/11/2019	Time: ~ 1125 hours
City/County: North of Taos and southwest of Questa / Taos County		State: New Mexico
Location: Red River State Fish Hatchery / NPDES Permit No. NM0030147		
Subject: Outfall 002		



**NMED/SWQB
Official Photograph Log
Photo # 4**

Photographer: Erin Shea	Date: 09/11/2019	Time: 1126 hours
City/County: North of Taos and southwest of Questa / Taos County		State: New Mexico
Location: Red River State Fish Hatchery / NPDES Permit No. NM0030147		
Subject: Outfall 003. Weir box had vegetation.		



**NMED/SWQB
Official Photograph Log
Photo # 5**

Photographer: Erin Shea	Date: 09/11/2019	Time: 1332 hours
City/County: North of Taos and southwest of Questa / Taos County		State: New Mexico
Location: Red River State Fish Hatchery / NPDES Permit No. NM0030147		
Subject: Outfall 001. Concrete box at weir had some discoloration and cracking. Vegetation around the box makes inspection difficult.		



**NMED/SWQB
Official Photograph Log
Photo # 6**

Photographer: Erin Shea	Date: 09/11/2019	Time: 1345 hours
City/County: North of Taos and southwest of Questa / Taos County		State: New Mexico
Location: Red River State Fish Hatchery / NPDES Permit No. NM0030147		
Subject: Red River looking upstream from hatchery entrance bridge between Outfall 001 and Outfall 002. Receiving water was slightly cloudy.		



Operator or Permittee Response

GOVERNOR
Michelle Lujan Grisham



DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY
TO THE COMMISSION
Michael B. Sloane

STATE OF NEW MEXICO
DEPARTMENT OF GAME & FISH

One Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, NM 87507
Post Office Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504
Tel: (505) 476-8000 | Fax: (505) 476-8123
For information call: (888) 248-6866

www.wildlife.state.nm.us

STATE GAME COMMISSION

JOANNA PRUKOP
Chair
Santa Fe
ROBERTA SALAZAR-HENRY
Vice-Chair
Las Cruces
JIMMY RAY BATES, SR.
Albuquerque
GAIL CRAMER
Mayhill
TIRZIO J. LOPEZ
Cebolla
DAVID SOULES
Las Cruces
JEREMY VESBACH
Placitas

October 30, 2019

David Long
NPDES Enforcement Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 6 Water Enforcement Branch (6ECDWM)
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75202

Sarah Holcomb
Program Manager
New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau (N2050)
Point Source Regulation Section
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Dear Mr. Long and Ms. Holcomb,

Please find below comments on the finding in the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Compliance Evaluation Inspection; NM 0030147; September 11, 2019 for the Red River State Fish Hatchery.

Section C- Operation and Maintenance- Treatment Units Properly Maintained

The inspector stated that the settling ponds were overgrown with vegetation and some algal growth. Vegetation around the settling ponds is an important component to the system as these plants (mostly wetland plants) absorb nutrients from wastewater. Algae growth is inevitable due to the settling of these nutrients. The hatchery monitors the settling ponds on a regular basis and routine cleaning is scheduled every 3-5 years or when necessary. The next cleaning is scheduled for the winter of 2020.

Further Explanations, Facility Description/ Treatment Scheme

As stated in this section flow measurements at outfall 001 are taken at raceway C weirs located before outfall 001. The Department is unsure why the statement "flows at outfall 001 were observed to be too turbulent for accurate measurement on the day of this inspection", is included since samples are not collected at the outfall.

RECEIVED

NOV 05 2019

SURFACE WATER
QUALITY BUREAU

The Department will address the items stated in the NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection.
We appreciate the opportunity to review and comment.

Sincerely,



Kirk Patten
Chief, Fisheries Management

Cc: Roderick Gallegos, Asst. Chief- Hatcheries, NM Department of Game and Fish
Lisboa Springs State Fish Hatchery, NM Department of Game and Fish
Samantha Ferguson, Compliance Specialist, NM Department of Game and Fish