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RYAN FLYNN
Cabinet Secretary
BUTCH TONGATE
Deputy Secretary

Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested

August 18, 2015

Mr. Michael Sloane
Chief of Fisheries Division
New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
P.O. Box 25112
Santa Fe, NM 87504

Re: Minor Non Municipal Inspection, SIC 0921, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Seven Springs Trout Hatchery, NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection, NM0030112, August 6, 2015

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:

Racquel Douglas
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region VI
Enforcement Branch (6EN-WM)
1445 Ross Avenue
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Bruce Yurdin
New Mexico Environment Department
Surface Water Quality Bureau
Point Source Regulation Section
P.O. Box 5469
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

If you have any questions about this inspection report, please contact Sarah Holcomb at 505-827-2798 or at sarah.holcomb@state.nm.us.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bruce Yurdin

Bruce Yurdin

Surface Water Quality Bureau

Cc: Carol Peters-Wagnon (6EN-AS) by email
Everett Spencer, USEPA (6EN-AS) by email
Darlene Whitten-Hill, USEPA (6EN-AS) by email
Racquel Douglas, USEPA (6EN-WM) by email
Bill Chavez, NMED District 1 Manager, by email



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 1 2 11 12 1 2 0 3 1 4 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 4	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) NMDGF SEVEN SPRINGS HATCHERY, FENTON LAKE, NM, SANDOVAL COUNTY; FROM FENTON LAKE, TRAVEL ABOUT 2 MILES NORTH ON NM 126 (ROAD WILL TURN TO DIRT). HATCHERY WILL BE ON THE RIGHT.	Entry Time /Date 0945/8-6-2015	Permit Effective Date 10-1-2013
	Exit Time/Date 1110/8-6-2015	Permit Expiration Date 9-30-2018
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) MR. JEFF LASKIE, FISH CULTURIST (575) 829-3740	Other Facility Data SIC 0921 OUTFALL 001: N. 35° 55 33.70 W. -106° 42 21.18 OUTFALL 002: N. 35° 55 34.42 W. -106° 42 17.82	
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number MR. MICHAEL SLOANE, CHIEF OF FISHERIES DIVISION, NMDGF P.O. BOX 25112 SANTA FE, NM 87504	Contacted Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection

(S = Satisfactory, M = Marginal, U = Unsatisfactory, N = Not Evaluated)

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

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

- INSPECTOR ARRIVED ON SITE AT 0945 HOURS ON AUGUST 6, 2015. AN ENTRANCE INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED WITH MR. JEFF LASKIE, FISH CULTURIST, WHERE INTRODUCTIONS WERE MADE, CREDENTIALS WERE PRESENTED AND THE PURPOSE OF THE INSPECTION WAS DISCUSSED.
- PLEASE SEE REPORT FOR FURTHER EXPLANATIONS.

Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s) Sarah Holcomb /s/ Sarah Holcomb	Agency/Office/Telephone/Fax 505-827-2798	Date 8-17-2015
Signature of Management QA Reviewer Bruce Yurdin /s/ Bruce Yurdin	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers 505-827-2795	Date 8-17-2015

SECTION A - PERMIT VERIFICATION

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

- 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. DETAILS: S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED _NO_)

- 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 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. Y N NA

SECTION C - OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

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

- 1. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY OPERATED. S M U NA
- 2. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY MAINTAINED. 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. 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 ____).
 DETAILS:

1. SAMPLES TAKEN AT SITE(S) SPECIFIED IN PERMIT. Y N NA

2. LOCATIONS ADEQUATE FOR REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLES. 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. 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. Y N NA

c) CONTAINERS AND SAMPLE HOLDING TIMES CONFORM TO 40 CFR 136.3. 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 NO.)
 DETAILS:

1. PRIMARY FLOW MEASUREMENT DEVICE PROPERLY INSTALLED AND MAINTAINED. Y N NA
 TYPE OF DEVICE Flow measured by ruler – height over the weir

2. FLOW MEASURED AT EACH OUTFALL AS REQUIRED. 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 ____).
 DETAILS:

1. EPA APPROVED ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES USED (40 CFR 136.3 FOR LIQUIDS, 503.8(b) FOR SLUDGES) Y N NA

**Compliance Evaluation Inspection
NMDGF Seven Springs Trout Hatchery
NPDES Permit NM0030112
August 6, 2015**

Introduction

On August 6, 2015, a Compliance Evaluation Inspection (CEI) was conducted at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Seven Springs Trout Hatchery by Sarah Holcomb of the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB). The Seven Springs Hatchery is located two miles north of Fenton Lake and has a design flow of 0.913 million gallons per day (MGD) and is classified as a minor industrial discharger under the federal Clean Water Act, Section 402 National Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program and is assigned permit number NM0030112.

This permit allows discharges to receiving waters named Rio Cebolla, thence to the Jemez River, thence to the Rio Grande in segment number 20.6.4.108 NMAC of the Rio Grande Basin. Designated uses of this segment are domestic water supply, fish culture, high quality coldwater aquatic life, irrigation, livestock watering, wildlife habitat and primary contact.

The NMED performs a certain number of CEIs for the USEPA each year. The purpose of this inspection is to provide USEPA with information to evaluate the permittee's compliance with the NPDES permit. This report is based on review of files maintained by the permittee and NMED, on-site observation by NMED personnel, and verbal information provided by the permittee's representatives.

An entrance interview was conducted with Mr. Jeff Laskie, Fish Culturist, at approximately 0945 hours on August 6, 2015. The inspector made introductions, presented her credentials and discussed the purpose of the inspection. An exit interview to discuss the preliminary findings of this inspection was conducted at approximately 1100 hours on August 6, 2015 with Mr. Laskie at the hatchery office.

Treatment Scheme

The Seven Springs Hatchery is a production facility for the Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout with an estimated annual production rate of 24,500 pounds of fish. On site are a kids' fishing pond and one solids sedimentation pond. The water source for this hatchery is from four natural springs, which flow through the facility to the kids' ponds or to the settling pond, thence to the Rio Cebolla. Primarily, when the water enters the facility from the Calavera spring, nitrogen gas is flushed from the incoming spring water through a series of six 7,000 gallon tanks and oxygen is added by passive oxygenation. A vacuum degasser is also employed to remove nitrogen gas when needed (typically in the months of March and April). This water then enters the juvenile section of the facility. The water flows from the oxygenation system through one of two drum filters in a second building, where water from the Seven spring and the Cold spring are also introduced. In the third building, there are 19 individual rearing units where the fish are kept for up to a year. Hatchery fry are also maintained in this building, although there were none at the time of this inspection. During cleaning, the water from the rearing units is directed to the sedimentation pond. In the next (fourth) building are the brood tanks. There are six tanks that typically contain fish that are about 3-4 years old. From there, the water flows out to the kids' pond through an old raceway outdoors – this is no longer used for fish production.

The facility has a generator which is exercised every Tuesday and is capable of handling the drum filters and the pumps within the hatchery, as well as powering the office building. Audible alarms along with a call out system comprise the alarm system for the facility.

The facility has two permitted outfalls. Outfall 001 is a square weir box that flows from the brood tanks into the kids' pond. Overflow from the solids settling pond discharges to a square weir box, thence to Outfall 002.

Further Explanations

Section F – Laboratory – Overall rating of Marginal

The permit states in Part III, C.5.a:

Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures approved under 40 Part 136, unless other test procedures have been specified in this permit or approved by the Regional Administrator.

Standard Methods 4500H+ B-2000 states:

In each case follow manufacturer's instructions for pH meter and for storage and preparation of electrodes for use.

...place in initial buffer solution, and set the isopotential point. Select a second buffer within 2 pH units of sample pH and bring sample and buffer to same temperature...

Findings for Laboratory:

During the review of the facility's procedures, the facility representative indicated that the calibrations for the pH tests are always done by calibrating the meter in order of pH buffer 7, then pH buffer 4. Standard Methods 4500 H+ states that the expected pH of the sample must be bracketed during a two point calibration. At this facility, the pH is normally above 7.0 SU, and for calibration, it would be expected that the pH buffers used would be a 7 and a 10, instead of a 7 and a 4. For example, if the expected pH of the sample is 8.0 Standard Units, then the meter must be calibrated using a 7 buffer and a 10 buffer. Conversely, if the expected pH of the sample is 6.0 Standard Units, then the calibration must be performed with the 4 and 7 buffers.

Section G – Effluent/Receiving Waters Observations – Overall rating of Satisfactory

Findings for Effluent/Receiving Waters Observations:

Although there is not a permit requirement to control algae, the inspector noted that there was excessive algae in both the settling pond leading to Outfall 002, and in the kids' pond receiving the discharge from Outfall 001. However, there did not appear to be an effect on the Rio Cebolla, as shown in Photo #4 in this report.

NMED/SWQB

Official Photograph Log

Photo # 1

Photographer: Sarah Holcomb	Date: 8-6-2015	Time: 1020 hours
City/County: Sandoval County		
Location: Seven Springs Fish Hatchery		
Subject: Outfall 001 to the kids' fishing pond. Note the amount of algae.		



NMED/SWQB

Official Photograph Log

Photo # 2

Photographer: Sarah Holcomb	Date: 8-6-2015	Time: 1020 hours
City/County: Sandoval County		
Location: Seven Springs Fish Hatchery		
Subject: Overview of the kids' fishing pond. Note the amount of algae.		



NMED/SWQB

Official Photograph Log

Photo # 3

Photographer: Sarah Holcomb	Date: 8-6-2015	Time: 1023 hours
City/County: Sandoval County		
Location: Seven Springs Fish Hatchery		
Subject: Outfall 002		



NMED/SWQB

Official Photograph Log

Photo # 4

Photographer: Sarah Holcomb	Date: 8-6-2015	Time: 1025 hours
City/County: Sandoval County		
Location: Seven Springs Fish Hatchery		
Subject: Rio Cebolla downstream of Outfall 002.		

