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**NEW MEXICO
 ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT**

Resource Protection Division

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Certified Mail – Return Receipt Requested

March 20, 2012

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

DAVE MARTIN
 Cabinet Secretary
BUTCH TONGATE
 Deputy Secretary
JAMES H. DAVIS, Ph.D.
 Division Director

Re: Minor Non Municipal Inspection, SIC 0921, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Seven Springs Trout Hatchery, NPDES Compliance Evaluation Inspection, NM0030112, March 14, 2012

Dear Mr. Sloane:

Enclosed, please find a copy of the report 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 requirements of the federal Clean Water Act.

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 to modify your operational and/or administrative procedures, as appropriate.

I would like to thank Mr. Tony Jacobson for his assistance during this inspection. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above address or by telephone at (505) 222-9587.

Sincerely,
 /s/ Sarah Holcomb
 Sarah Holcomb
 Surface Water Quality Bureau

Xc: Marcia Gail Adams, USEPA (6EN-AS)
 Samuel Tates, USEPA (6EN-AS) by email
 Carol Peters-Wagnon, USEPA (6EN-WM) by email
 Diana McDonald, USEPA (6EN-WM) by email
 Larry Giglio, USEPA (6EN-P) by email
 Hannah Branning, USEPA (6EN-WC) by email
 Sonia Hall, USEPA (6EN-WC) by email
 NMED, District I Albuquerque by email
 Shaun Green, NMDGF, by email



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						70	4							71	N	72	N	73											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 1300/3-14-2012	Permit Effective Date 11-1-2007
		Exit Time/Date 1415/3-14-2012	Permit Expiration Date 10-31-2012
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s) MR. TONY JACOBSON, HATCHERY MANAGER (575) 829-3740 MR. JEFF LASKIE, FISH CULTURIST		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 SLOAN 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 1300 HOURS ON MARCH 14, 2012. AN ENTRANCE INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED WITH MR. TONY JACOBSON, HATCHERY MANAGER, 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 505-222-9587	Date 3-20-2012
Signature of Management QA Reviewer Richard Powell /s/ Richard Powell	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers 505-827-2798	Date 3-20-2012

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 YES)

- 1. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY OPERATED. S M O U NA
- 2. TREATMENT UNITS PROPERLY MAINTAINED. S M O U NA
- 3. STANDBY POWER OR OTHER EQUIVALENT PROVIDED. S M O U NA
- 4. ADEQUATE ALARM SYSTEM FOR POWER OR EQUIPMENT FAILURES AVAILABLE. S M O U NA
- 5. ALL NEEDED TREATMENT UNITS IN SERVICE S M O U NA
- 6. ADEQUATE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED OPERATORS PROVIDED. S M O 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 O 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 no).
 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 is measured by ruler – height of water 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 YES)
 DETAILS:

NMDGF Seven Springs Hatchery

PERMIT NO: NM0030112

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 O M U NA

4. QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES ADEQUATE. S M U NA

5. DUPLICATE SAMPLES ARE ANALYZED. 10 % OF THE TIME. Y N NA

6. SPIKED SAMPLES ARE ANALYZED. % OF THE TIME. Y N NA

7. COMMERCIAL LABORATORY USED. Y N NA

LAB NAME HUTHER AND ASSOCIATES STATE OF NEW MEXICO SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY DIVISION

LAB ADDRESS 1156 N. BONNIE BRAE ST., DENTON, TX 76201 1101 CAMINO DE SALUD NE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102

PARAMETERS PERFORMED TOXICITY TSS

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	NONE	NONE	CLEAR	
002	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	CLEAR	

RECEIVING WATER OBSERVATIONS

SECTION H - SLUDGE DISPOSAL

SLUDGE DISPOSAL MEETS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. DETAILS: S M U NA (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED NO).

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: N/A (e.g., FOREST, AGRICULTURAL, PUBLIC CONTACT SITE)

SECTION I - SAMPLING INSPECTION PROCEDURES (FURTHER EXPLANATION ATTACHED).

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

NMDGF Seven Springs Hatchery

PERMIT NO: NM0030112

9. SAMPLES COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PERMIT.

Y N NA

**Compliance Evaluation Inspection
NMDGF Seven Springs Trout Hatchery
NPDES Permit NM0030112
March 14, 2012**

Introduction

On March 14, 2012, 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. Tony Jacobson, Hatchery Manager, at approximately 1300 hours on March 14, 2012. 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 1400 hours on March 14, 2012 with Mr. Jacobson 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, 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. The water flows from the oxygenation system through one of two drum filters in a second building. 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 dredged the sedimentation pond a few years prior to this inspection. The dredged material was placed behind the adjacent fire station building.

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 C – Operations and Maintenance – Overall rating of *Satisfactory*

The permit states in Part III, B.3.a:

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 the 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.

Findings for Operations and Maintenance:

On the date of this inspection, one of the two drum filters to remove solids from the water was down for repairs. The facility representative indicated that it was not critical to the water treatment process because the solids were still being removed, but one of the hatchery staff instead must take the time to manually remove the solids from the unit instead of it being done automatically. Mr. Jacobson indicated that the drum filter had been out of service for two months but that they should be getting it back into service shortly.

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.

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 4, then pH buffer 7, then pH buffer 10. Standard Methods 4500 H+ (which is the only approved method for pH analysis at this time) states that the expected pH of the sample must be bracketed during a two point calibration. 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. The permittee can check the calibration with the 4 buffer if they would like. 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, and then a check may be performed with the 10.

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

The permit states in Part I.A.1:

<i>Effluent Characteristics</i>		<i>Discharge Limitations</i>		<i>Monitoring Requirements</i>	
		<i>Standard Units</i>			
<i>POLLUTANT</i>	<i>STORET CODE</i>	<i>MINIMUM</i>	<i>MAXIMUM</i>	<i>MEASUREMENT FREQUENCY</i>	<i>SAMPLE TYPE</i>
<i>PH</i>	<i>00400</i>	<i>6.6</i>	<i>8.8</i>	<i>2/Month</i>	<i>Grab</i>

Findings for Effluent/Receiving Waters Observations:

During the records review, the inspector noted that there were 5 pH excursions reported on DMRs from 2009 to present. Four of those excursions were from Outfall 002 (the sedimentation pond) and were high – above the 8.8 SU limit. The last excursion was from Outfall 001 (the kids' pond) and was low – below the 6.6 SU limit.

The facility representative indicated that his theory was that the excursions were due to the drought that New Mexico is currently experiencing and that less water running through the pond was causing the problem.