United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, Washington 98101

# Authorization to Discharge under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §1251 *et seq*., as amended by the Water Quality Act of 1987, P.L. 100-4, the "Act",

## Aquaculture Facilities in Idaho, subject to Wasteload Allocations under Selected Total Maximum Daily Loads

which are described in Part I of this general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit are authorized to discharge to waters of the United States, in accordance with discharge points, effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth herein.

**A copy of this General Permit shall be kept at the facility where discharges occur. See Part V.F of the permit.**

This permit shall become effective ***December 1, 2007.***

This permit and the authorization to discharge shall expire at midnight, ***November 30, 2012.***

Each permittee shall reapply for a reauthorization to discharge on or before ***June 3, 2012***, 180 days before the expiration of this permit, if the permittee intends to continue operations and discharges at the facility beyond the term of this permit.

Signed this 25th day of October, 2007

/s/ Christine Psyk for
Michael F. Gearheard, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

**This minor permit modification will become effective on December 21, 2009.** See pages 32, 33, 39, and 76 (Appx. D).

Signed this 21st day of December, 2009,

/s/
Michael A. Bussell, Director
Office of Water and Watersheds

*This page was modified on December 21, 2009.*

proportionally to their respective flows. Only the composite sample must be analyzed. Facilities using spring water as influent sources may elect to take grab samples instead of composite, when influent water quality is shown to not vary during the course of the day.

[18] All influent and effluent samples and flow measurements must be taken on the same day.

[19] See Appendix D (Effluent Calculations) for guidance on calculating loads.

[20] Temperature monitoring is only required for discharges from warm-water facilities and those Big Lost River facilities with temperature limits in this permit.

[21] Only when using chelated copper compounds or copper sulfate.

[22] Quarterly monitoring is required by calendar quarters and must begin in the first full calendar quarter after permit issuance.

[23] Monitoring of total inorganic nitrogen (total ammonia plus nitrate and nitrite) is required only for Batise Springs Trout Farm.

[24] Monitoring of total nitrogen (total Kjeldahl nitrogen plus nitrate and nitrite) is required only for Springfield Hatchery.

4. Off-Line Settling Basin Additional Limitations. These limitations and monitoring requirements apply to any discharge directly to waters of the U.S. from an offline settling basin. See Table 13. The permittee must collect effluent samples from the effluent stream just prior to discharge into the receiving waters.

**Table 13**
**Off-Line Settling Basin Discharge[25]**
**Monitoring Requirements**

| Parameter | Units | Monitoring Requirements | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Sample Frequency | Sample Type | Sample Location |
| Flow | cfs | 1/month[26] | Approved method[27] | Effluent or Influent[28] |
| Total Suspended Solids | mg/l | 1/month[26, 29] | Composite[30] | Influent & Effluent[31] |
| | lbs/day[32] | | | |
| | % Removal | 1/month[26, 29] | Composite[30] | Effluent & Influent[33] |
| Total Phosphorus | mg/l | 1/month[26, 29] | Composite[30] | Influent & Effluent[31] |
| | lbs/day[32] | | | |
| pH | s.u. | 1/quarter[34] | Grab[35] | Effluent |
| Temperature | ºCelsius | 1/quarter[34] | Grab[35] | Effluent |
| Total ammonia as N | mg/l | 1/quarter[34] | Composite[30] | Effluent |

*Notes continue on next page.*

[25] Offline settling basin influent and effluent samples must be collected during quiescent zone cleaning.

[26] Monitoring must begin in the first full calendar month of permit coverage.

[27] Flow measurement method must be one of those specified in Appendix E, § I. A, unless IDWR authorizes a non-standard device as allowed in § I.B. This requirement applies to measuring flow at each point where pollutants are measured. Alternatively to an IDWR approved method, the total volume discharged can be calculated by multiplying the pump time and the pump rate during cleaning.

[28] OLSB effluent or influent: Flow measurement must be taken concurrently with pollutant sampling, when applicable; it may be taken on either the OLSB influent or effluent as long as the measurement at that location accurately reflects the discharge flow to the receiving water.
[29] For facilities that produce between 100,000 and 500,000 pounds of harvestable weight of fish per year, this monitoring is only required once per calendar quarter, beginning in the first full calendar quarter after the permit's effective date. For facilities that produce less than 100,000 pounds of harvestable weight of fish per year, this monitoring is only required twice per calendar year, once in January – June and once in July – December, beginning in the first full calendar half year after the permit's effective date.
[30] Composite samples must consist of four (4) or more discrete samples taken at one-half hour intervals or greater in a 24-hour period. Facilities with multiple effluent discharge points and/or influent points must either composite same day samples from all points proportionally to their respective flows and report the analysis of the composite sample or sample and report analytical results of each separate discharge. If multiple OLSB discharges occur on different days, sample results either must be averaged when calculating the average monthly concentration and load or must be reported separately. Facilities using spring water as influent sources for determining net pollutant discharges may elect to take grab samples instead of composite, when influent water quality is shown to not vary during the course of the day.
[31] Facility influent and OLSB effluent. The collection and analysis of facility influent samples is optional for this calculation only. If an influent sample is not collected and analyzed, then the influent concentration must be considered to be equal to zero.
[32] Lbs/day = mg/l * effluent flow (cfs) * 5.4
[33] OLSB effluent and OLSB influent. See Appendix D for guidance on the calculation.
[34] Quarterly monitoring is required by calendar quarters and must begin in the first full calendar quarter after permit issuance.
[35] Temperature and pH readings must be taken in conjunction with each grab sample taken for the composite ammonia sample; the temperature results must be averaged and reported, and the maximum and minimum of pH values must be reported on the monthly discharge monitoring reports (DMRs).

## E. Receiving Water Monitoring

1. All permittees with offline settling basins that discharge directly to receiving water must conduct receiving water monitoring quarterly for ammonia, pH, and temperature upstream from the outfall.

2. All facilities that use chelated copper compounds or copper sulfate must monitor total recoverable copper and hardness immediately upstream of the outfall at least once in any quarter when these compounds are applied; such monitoring should be roughly at the same time as the copper and hardness effluent monitoring.

3. All receiving water samples must be grab samples and must be collected during the time when effluent composite samples are being collected for the same parameters; multiple grab samples are not required.

4. All receiving water samples must be analyzed using EPA approved methods capable of achieving method detection limits (MDLs) that are equivalent to or less than those listed in Table 15. The permittee may request different MDLs if its results have consistently been above the required MDLs. Such a request must be in writing and must be approved by EPA before the permittee may use the revised MDLs.

5. Receiving water monitoring may be conducted jointly with nearby dischargers in cases where the background (upstream) monitoring would be located in similar locations, e.g. where both discharge into the same lake. Such discharge locations

This information must also be summarized in the annual report as required in Part IV.D below.

2. Investigational New Animal Drug (INAD) and Extralabel Drug Usage.

The following written and oral reports must be provided to EPA and IDEQ when an INAD or extralabel drug is used for the first time at a facility and when an INAD or extralabel drug is used at a higher dosage than previously approved by FDA for a different aquatic animal species or disease:

a. Anticipated INAD Study participation and Extralabel drug usage:

Written Report: A permittee must provide a written report to EPA and IDEQ within seven days of agreeing or signing up to participate in an INAD drug study, or receiving a prescription for extralabel drug use. The report must include the information specified in Appendix G.

b. Actual Use of INADs or Extralabel Drug Use:

(1) Oral report:

For INAD and extralabel drug uses, the permittee must provide an oral report to EPA (206-553-1846) and the responsible IDEQ office (see Part I.C. above) as soon as possible during business hours, preferably in advance of use, but no later than 7 days after initiating use of the drug. The report must include the information specified in Appendix G.

(2) Written report:

For INADs and extralabel drug uses, the permittee must provide to EPA and IDEQ a written report within 30 days after initiating use of the drug. The report must include the information specified in Appendix G.

**B. Structural failure or damage to the facility**

Failure or damage to the facility must be reported to EPA and IDEQ orally within 24 hours and in writing within five days when there is a resulting discharge of pollutants to waters of the U.S. Reports must include the identity and quantity of pollutants released. (See Representative Sampling and Noncompliance Reporting in Parts V.A and G.)

**C. Spills of feed, drugs, pesticides or other chemicals**

The permittee must monitor and report to EPA and IDEQ any spills that result in a discharge to waters of the United States; these must be reported orally within 24 hours and in writing within five days. Reports must include the identity and quantity of pollutants released. (See Representative Sampling and Noncompliance Reporting in Parts V.A. and G.)

***Therefore:*** **mg/l × cfs × 5.4 = lbs/day**

**d. Total facility loading** (in pounds/day) is calculated by adding the loading from the raceways and the loading from the off-line settling basins.

*Raceway loading (lbs/day) + OLSB loading (lbs/day) = Total facility loading (lbs/day)*

## 3. Calculating Per Cent Removal of TSS for OLSBs

$$\frac{\text{OLSB influent concentration - OLSB effluent concentration}}{\text{OLSB influent concentration}} \times 100 = \%\ \text{removal}$$

## 4. DMR Reporting

a. Values greater than the method detection limit (MDL): the permittee must report the actual value.

b. Influent or effluent value less than the MDL: the permittee must report "less than {numeric MDL}" on the DMR, but use one-half the MDL when calculating the net value.

c. Both influent and effluent values less than the MDL: the permittee must report "less than {numeric MDL}" on the DMR, but use one-half the MDL for calculating monthly averages.