

NPDES authorization to discharge to waters of the United States, Permit No. NM0030139

The applicant's mailing address is:

State of New Mexico Department of Game & Fish
Los Ojos State Fish Hatchery
P.O. Box 25112 Santa Fe, NM 87504

The Los Ojos State Fish Hatchery is located at 29 Hatchery Road in the town of Los Ojos, Rio Arriba County, New Mexico. The locations of the two outfalls based on the flow diagram in the application package are:

Outfall 001 - Latitude 36° 43' 9.01" North, Longitude 106° 34' 39.02" West

Outfall 002 - Latitude 36° 43' 2.13" North, Longitude 106° 34' 36.01" West

Under the SIC Code 0921, the applicant operates a cold-water finfish hatchery raising Rainbow Trout and Kokanee Salmon for stocking in lakes and/or streams. In addition, as part of an experimental pilot study, Los Ojos Hatchery has been raising Brook Trout since January 2018. This pilot study is currently slated to continue for three years. A maximum harvestable total weight of 82,025 pounds of Rainbow Trout, Kokanee Salmon and Brook Trout per year is proposed in the renewal application. The operation described in the application consists of spring water feeding 64 production raceways, and sedimentation settling basins. No chlorine is used for disinfection in the hatchery operation.

This is a renewal of an NPDES permit issued September 25, 2013 with an effective date of November 1, 2013 and an expiration date of October 31, 2018. The following are changes from the previous permit:

1. Outfall 001 to operate as an emergency discharge. Outfall 002 has been relocated and will be the primary discharge for the facility
2. NMDGF in its final interim report stated that the *first/interim* reporting and limits set out in the previous permit (see footnotes 6, 8 and 9) for E. coli bacteria, total Nitrogen and total Phosphorus have been met. Therefore, the *first/interim* limits for E. coli bacteria, total Nitrogen and total Phosphorus have been removed from the proposed permit.
3. Compliance sampling is changed to grab from composite grab since there is only one primary discharge, Outfall 002.
4. Per NMIP, used the highest monthly average flow for the past 24 months (3.7761 MGD) to estimate the Daily Maximum E. coli bacteria loading.

A fact sheet is available for review.

State Certification:

This notice also serves as Public Notice of the intent of the New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau to consider issuing Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Certification. The purpose of such certification is to reasonably ensure that the permitted activities will be conducted in a manner that will comply with applicable New Mexico water quality standards, including the anti-degradation policy, and the statewide water quality

management plan. The NPDES permit will not be issued until the certification requirements of Section 401 have been met. If you want to comment on State Certification submit written comments within the 30-day period to:

Sarah Holcomb, Program Manager
Surface Water Quality Bureau
Point Source Regulation Section
New Mexico Environment Department
P.O. Box 5469, 1190 Saint Francis Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87502-5469
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