



AUTHORIZATION TO DISCHARGE UNDER THE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER FACILITIES

NPDES PERMIT NO: PA0037915

In compliance with the provisions of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. Section 1251 *et seq.* ("the Act") and Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Law, as amended, 35 P.S. Section 691.1 *et seq.*,

PA Fish & Boat Commission
Benner Spring Fish Research Station
1735 Shiloh Road
State College, PA 16801-8495

is authorized to discharge from a facility known as **Tionesta Fish Culture Station (Tionesta State Fish Hatchery)**, located in **Tionesta Borough, Forest County**, to **Allegheny River (WWF, MF)** in Watershed(s) **16-F** in accordance with effluent limitations, monitoring requirements and other conditions set forth in Parts A, B and C hereof.

THIS PERMIT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON DECEMBER 1, 2025

THIS PERMIT SHALL EXPIRE AT MIDNIGHT ON NOVEMBER 30, 2030

The authority granted by this permit is subject to the following further qualifications:

1. If there is a conflict between the application, its supporting documents and/or amendments and the terms and conditions of this permit, the terms and conditions shall apply.
2. Failure to comply with the terms, conditions or effluent limitations of this permit is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or for denial of a permit renewal application. (40 CFR 122.41(a))
3. A complete application for renewal of this permit, or notice of intent to cease discharging by the expiration date, must be submitted to DEP at least 180 days prior to the above expiration date (unless permission has been granted by DEP for submission at a later date), using the appropriate NPDES permit application form. (40 CFR 122.41(b), 122.21(d)(2))

In the event that a timely and complete application for renewal has been submitted and DEP is unable, through no fault of the permittee, to reissue the permit before the above expiration date, the terms and conditions of this permit, including submission of the Discharge Monitoring Reports (DMRs), will be automatically continued and will remain fully effective and enforceable against the discharger until DEP takes final action on the pending permit application. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.7 (b), (c))

4. This NPDES permit does not constitute authorization to construct or make modifications to wastewater treatment facilities necessary to meet the terms and conditions of this permit.

DATE PERMIT ISSUED November 18, 2025

ISSUED BY Justin C. Dickey
Justin C. Dickey, P.E.
Environmental Program Manager
Northwest Regional Office

PART A - EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS, MONITORING, RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

I. A. For Outfall 001, Latitude 41° 30' 33.37", Longitude 79° 27' 1.68", River Mile Index 153.9, Stream Code 42122

Receiving Waters: Allegheny River

Type of Effluent: IW Process Effluent without ELG

1. The permittee is authorized to discharge during the period from **December 1, 2025**, through **November 30, 2030**.
2. Based on the anticipated wastewater characteristics and flows described in the permit application and its supporting documents and/or amendments, the following effluent limitations and monitoring requirements apply (see also Additional Requirements and Footnotes).

Parameter	Effluent Limitations						Monitoring Requirements	
	Mass Units (lbs/day) ⁽¹⁾		Concentrations (mg/L)				Minimum ⁽²⁾ Measurement Frequency	Required Sample Type
	Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Minimum	Average Quarterly	Daily Maximum	Instant. Maximum		
Flow (MGD)	Report	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	1/week	Measured
pH (S.U.)	XXX	XXX	6.0 Daily Min	XXX	9.0	XXX	1/week	Grab
Dissolved Oxygen	XXX	XXX	6.0 Daily Min	XXX	XXX	XXX	1/month	Grab
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD5)	XXX	XXX	XXX	6.0	10.0	12	1/quarter	24-Hr Composite
Total Suspended Solids	XXX	XXX	XXX	10.0	20.0	20	1/quarter	24-Hr Composite
Total Nitrogen	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	20.0	XXX	1/quarter	24-Hr Composite
Ammonia-Nitrogen Nov 1 - Apr 30	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/month	24-Hr Composite
Ammonia-Nitrogen May 1 - Oct 31	197	XXX	XXX	15.0 Avg Mo	XXX	30	1/month	24-Hr Composite
Total Phosphorus	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/quarter	24-Hr Composite
Chloride	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/quarter	24-Hr Composite
Total Copper	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/quarter	24-Hr Composite

Outfall 001, Continued (from December 1, 2025 through November 30, 2030)

Parameter	Effluent Limitations						Monitoring Requirements	
	Mass Units (lbs/day) ⁽¹⁾		Concentrations (mg/L)				Minimum ⁽²⁾ Measurement Frequency	Required Sample Type
	Average Monthly	Average Weekly	Minimum	Average Quarterly	Daily Maximum	Instant. Maximum		
Total Nickel	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/quarter	24-Hr Composite
Total Zinc	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/quarter	24-Hr Composite
PFOA (ng/L) ⁽⁴⁾	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/year	Grab
PFOS (ng/L) ⁽⁴⁾	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/year	Grab
PFBS (ng/L) ⁽⁴⁾	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/year	Grab
HFPO-DA (ng/L) ⁽⁴⁾	XXX	XXX	XXX	XXX	Report	XXX	1/year	Grab

Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements specified above shall be taken at the following location(s):

at Outfall 001

**PART A - EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS, MONITORING, RECORDKEEPING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
(Continued)**

Additional Requirements

The permittee may not discharge:

1. Floating solids, scum, sheen or substances that result in observed deposits in the receiving water. (25 Pa Code § 92a.41(c))
2. Oil and grease in amounts that cause a film or sheen upon or discoloration of the waters of this Commonwealth or adjoining shoreline, or that exceed 15 mg/l as a daily average or 30 mg/l at any time (or lesser amounts if specified in this permit). (25 Pa. Code § 92a.47(a)(7), § 95.2(2))
3. Substances in concentration or amounts sufficient to be inimical or harmful to the water uses to be protected or to human, animal, plant or aquatic life. (25 Pa Code § 93.6(a))
4. Foam or substances that produce an observed change in the color, taste, odor or turbidity of the receiving water, unless those conditions are otherwise controlled through effluent limitations or other requirements in this permit. For the purpose of determining compliance with this condition, DEP will compare conditions in the receiving water upstream of the discharge to conditions in the receiving water approximately 100 feet downstream of the discharge to determine if there is an observable change in the receiving water. (25 Pa Code § 92a.41(c))

Footnotes

- (1) When sampling to determine compliance with mass effluent limitations, the discharge flow at the time of sampling must be measured and recorded.
- (2) This is the minimum number of sampling events required. Permittees are encouraged, and it may be advantageous in demonstrating compliance, to perform more than the minimum number of sampling events.
- (3) Exceedances of the Maximum Daily limitation for this parameter is subject to 24-hour reporting as specified in Part A III.C.4.b.(i).
- (4) The permittee may discontinue monitoring for PFOA, PFOS, HFPO-DA, and PFBS if the results in 4 consecutive monitoring periods indicate non-detect results at or below Quantitation Limits of 4.0 ng/L for PFOA, 3.7 ng/L for PFOS, 3.5 ng/L for PFBS and 6.4 ng/L for HFPO-DA. When monitoring is discontinued, permittees must enter a No Discharge Indicator (NODI) Code of "GG" on DMRs.

Supplemental Information

The effluent limitations for Outfall 001 were determined using an effluent discharge rate of 1.5571 MGD.

II. DEFINITIONS

At Outfall (XXX) means a sampling location in outfall line XXX below the last point at which wastes are added to outfall line (XXX), or where otherwise specified.

Average refers to the use of an arithmetic mean, unless otherwise specified in this permit. (40 CFR 122.41(l)(4)(iii))

Benchmark Value means the concentration of a pollutant that serves as the threshold for the determination of whether existing site best management practices are effective in controlling stormwater pollution. Benchmark values are not effluent limitations. Two or more consecutive monitoring period exceedances of benchmark values triggers the requirement to develop and submit a corrective action plan, implement additional controls, or apply for an individual permit if notified in writing by DEP.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) means schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollutant loading to surface waters of the Commonwealth. The term also includes treatment requirements, operating procedures and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage. The term includes activities, facilities, measures, planning or procedures used to minimize accelerated erosion and sedimentation and manage stormwater to protect, maintain, reclaim, and restore the quality of waters and the existing and designated uses of waters within this Commonwealth before, during and after earth disturbance activities. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

Bypass means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. (40 CFR 122.41(m)(1)(i))

Calendar Week is defined as the seven consecutive days from Sunday through Saturday, unless the permittee has been given permission by DEP to provide weekly data as Monday through Friday based on showing excellent performance of the facility and a history of compliance. In cases when the week falls in two separate months, the month with the most days in that week shall be the month for reporting.

Clean Water Act means the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended. (33 U.S.C.A. §§ 1251 to 1387).

Chemical Additive means a chemical product (including products of disassociation and degradation, collectively "products") introduced into a waste stream that is used for cleaning, disinfecting, or maintenance and which may be detected in effluent discharged to waters of the Commonwealth. The term generally excludes chemicals used for neutralization of waste streams, the production of goods, and treatment of wastewater.

Composite Sample (for all except GC/MS volatile organic analysis) means a combination of individual samples (at least eight for a 24-hour period or four for an 8-hour period) of at least 100 milliliters (mL) each obtained at spaced time intervals during the compositing period. The composite must be flow-proportional; either the volume of each individual sample is proportional to discharge flow rates, or the sampling interval is proportional to the flow rates over the time period used to produce the composite. (EPA Form 2C)

Composite Sample (for GC/MS volatile organic analysis) consists of at least four aliquots or grab samples collected during the sampling event (not necessarily flow proportioned). A separate analysis should be performed for each sample and the results should be averaged.

Daily Average Temperature means the average of all temperature measurements made, or the mean value plot of the record of a continuous automated temperature recording instrument, either during a calendar day or during the operating day if flows are of a shorter duration.

Daily Discharge means the discharge of a pollutant measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the average measurement of the pollutant over the day. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2, 40 CFR 122.2)

Daily Maximum Discharge Limitation means the highest allowable "daily discharge."

Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) means the DEP or EPA supplied form(s) for the reporting of self-monitoring results by the permittee. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2, 40 CFR 122.2)

Estimated Flow means any method of liquid volume measurement based on a technical evaluation of the sources contributing to the discharge including, but not limited to, pump capabilities, water meters and batch discharge volumes.

Geometric Mean means the average of a set of n sample results given by the nth root of their product.

Grab Sample means an individual sample of at least 100 mL collected at a randomly selected time over a period not to exceed 15 minutes. (EPA Form 2C)

Hazardous Substance means any substance designated under 40 CFR Part 116 pursuant to Section 311 of the Clean Water Act. (40 CFR 122.2)

Hauled-In Wastes means any waste that is introduced into a treatment facility through any method other than a direct connection to the wastewater collection system. The term includes wastes transported to and disposed of within the treatment facility or other entry points within the collection system.

Immersion Stabilization (i-s) means a calibrated device is immersed in the wastewater until the reading is stabilized.

Instantaneous Maximum Effluent Limitation means the highest allowable discharge of a concentration or mass of a substance at any one time as measured by a grab sample. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

Measured Flow means any method of liquid volume measurement, the accuracy of which has been previously demonstrated in engineering practice, or for which a relationship to absolute volume has been obtained.

Monthly Average Discharge Limitation means the highest allowable average of "daily discharges" over a calendar month, calculated as the sum of all "daily discharges" measured during a calendar month divided by the number of "daily discharges" measured during that month. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

Municipal Waste means garbage, refuse, industrial lunchroom or office waste and other material, including solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous material resulting from operation of residential, municipal, commercial or institutional establishments and from community activities; and sludge not meeting the definition of residual or hazardous waste under this section from a municipal, commercial or institutional water supply treatment plant, waste water treatment plant or air pollution control facility. (25 Pa. Code § 271.1)

Non-contact Cooling Water means water used to reduce temperature which does not come in direct contact with any raw material, intermediate product, waste product (other than heat), or finished product.

Residual Waste means garbage, refuse, other discarded material or other waste, including solid, liquid, semisolid or contained gaseous materials resulting from industrial, mining and agricultural operations and sludge from an industrial, mining or agricultural water supply treatment facility, wastewater treatment facility or air pollution control facility, if it is not hazardous. The term does not include coal refuse as defined in the Coal Refuse Disposal Control Act. The term does not include treatment sludges from coal mine drainage treatment plants, disposal of which is being carried on under and in compliance with a valid permit issued under the Clean Streams Law. (25 Pa Code § 287.1)

Severe Property Damage means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities that causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that can reasonably be expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production. (40 CFR 122.41(m)(1)(ii))

Stormwater means the runoff from precipitation, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

Stormwater Associated With Industrial Activity means the discharge from any conveyance that is used for collecting and conveying stormwater and that is directly related to manufacturing, processing, or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant, and as defined at 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14) (i) - (ix) & (xi) and 25 Pa. Code § 92a.2.

Total Dissolved Solids means the total dissolved (filterable) solids as determined by use of the method specified in 40 CFR Part 136.

Toxic Pollutant means those pollutants, or combinations of pollutants, including disease-causing agents, which after discharge and upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation or assimilation into any organism, either directly from the environment or indirectly by ingestion through food chains may, on the basis of information available to DEP cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutations, physiological malfunctions, including malfunctions in reproduction, or physical deformations in these organisms or their offspring. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.2)

III. SELF-MONITORING, REPORTING AND RECORDKEEPING

A. Representative Sampling

1. Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring shall be representative of the monitored activity (40 CFR 122.41(j)(1)). Representative sampling includes the collection of samples, where possible, during periods of adverse weather, changes in treatment plant performance and changes in treatment plant loading. If possible, effluent samples must be collected where the effluent is well mixed near the center of the discharge conveyance and at the approximate mid-depth point, where the turbulence is at a maximum and the settlement of solids is minimized. (40 CFR 122.48, 25 Pa. Code § 92a.61)

2. Records Retention (40 CFR 122.41(j)(2))

Except for records of monitoring information required by this permit related to the permittee's sludge use and disposal activities which shall be retained for a period of at least 5 years, all records of monitoring activities and results (including all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation and calibration and maintenance records), copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit shall be retained by the permittee for 3 years from the date of the sample measurement, report or application, unless a longer retention period is required by the permit. The 3-year period shall be extended as requested by DEP or the EPA Regional Administrator.

3. Recording of Results (40 CFR 122.41(j)(3))

For each measurement or sample taken pursuant to the requirements of this permit, the permittee shall record the following information:

- a. The exact place, date and time of sampling or measurements.
- b. The person(s) who performed the sampling or measurements.
- c. The date(s) the analyses were performed.
- d. The person(s) who performed the analyses.
- e. The analytical techniques or methods used; and the associated detection level.
- f. The results of such analyses.

4. Test Procedures

- a. Facilities that test or analyze environmental samples used to demonstrate compliance with this permit shall be in compliance with laboratory accreditation requirements of Act 90 of 2002 (27 Pa. C.S. §§ 4101-4113) and 25 Pa. Code Chapter 252, relating to environmental laboratory accreditation.
- b. Test procedures (methods) for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters shall be those approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR Chapter I, Subchapters N or O, unless the method is specified in this permit or has been otherwise approved in writing by DEP. (40 CFR 122.41(j)(4), 122.44(i)(1)(iv))
- c. Test procedures (methods) for the analysis of pollutants or pollutant parameters shall be sufficiently sensitive. A method is sufficiently sensitive when 1) the method minimum level is at or below the level of the effluent limit established in the permit for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or 2) the method has the lowest minimum level of the analytical methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or required under 40 CFR Chapter I, Subchapters N or O, for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter; or 3) the method is specified in this permit or has been otherwise approved in writing by DEP for the measured pollutant or pollutant parameter. Permittees have the option of providing matrix or sample-specific minimum levels rather than the published levels. (40 CFR 122.44(i)(1)(iv))

5. Quality/Assurance/Control

In an effort to assure accurate self-monitoring analyses results:

- a. The permittee, or its designated laboratory, shall participate in the periodic scheduled quality assurance inspections conducted by DEP and EPA. (40 CFR 122.41(e), 122.41(i)(3))
- b. The permittee, or its designated laboratory, shall develop and implement a program to assure the quality and accurateness of the analyses performed to satisfy the requirements of this permit, in accordance with 40 CFR Part 136. (40 CFR 122.41(j)(4))

B. Reporting of Monitoring Results

1. The permittee shall effectively monitor the operation and efficiency of all wastewater treatment and control facilities, and the quantity and quality of the discharge(s) as specified in this permit. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.44, 92a.61(i) and 40 CFR §§ 122.41(e), 122.44(i)(1))
2. The permittee shall use DEP's electronic Discharge Monitoring Report (eDMR) system to report the results of compliance monitoring under this permit (see www.dep.pa.gov/edmr). Permittees that are not using the eDMR system as of the effective date of this permit shall submit the necessary registration and trading partner agreement forms to DEP's Bureau of Clean Water (BCW) within 30 days of the effective date of this permit and begin using the eDMR system when notified by DEP BCW to do so. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.61(g) and 40 CFR § 122.41(l)(4))
3. Submission of a physical (paper) copy of a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) is acceptable under the following circumstances:
 - a. For a permittee that is not yet using the eDMR system, the permittee shall submit a physical copy of a DMR to the DEP regional office that issued the permit during the interim period between the submission of registration and trading partner agreement forms to DEP and DEP's notification to begin using the eDMR system.
 - b. For any permittee, as a contingency a physical DMR may be mailed to the DEP regional office that issued the permit if there are technological malfunction(s) that prevent the successful submission of a DMR through the eDMR system. In such situations, the permittee shall submit the DMR through the eDMR system within 5 days following remedy of the malfunction(s).
4. DMRs must be completed in accordance with DEP's published DMR instructions (3800-FM-BCW0463). DMRs must be received by DEP no later than 28 days following the end of the monitoring period. DMRs are based on calendar reporting periods and must be received by DEP in accordance with the following schedule:
 - Monthly DMRs must be received within 28 days following the end of each calendar month.
 - Quarterly DMRs must be received within 28 days following the end of each calendar quarter, i.e., January 28, April 28, July 28, and October 28.
 - Semiannual DMRs must be received within 28 days following the end of each calendar semiannual period, i.e., January 28 and July 28.
 - Annual DMRs must be received by January 28, unless Part C of this permit requires otherwise.
5. The permittee shall complete all Supplemental Reporting forms (Supplemental DMRs) attached to this permit, or an approved equivalent, and submit the signed, completed forms as attachments to the DMR, through DEP's eDMR system. DEP's Supplemental Laboratory Accreditation Form (3800-FM-BCW0189) must be completed and submitted to DEP with the first DMR following issuance of this permit, and anytime thereafter when changes to laboratories or methods occur. (25 Pa. Code §§ 92a.3(c), 92a.41(a), 92a.61(g) and 40 CFR § 122.41(l)(4))
6. The completed DMR Form shall be signed and certified by either of the following applicable persons, as defined in 25 Pa. Code § 92a.22:

- For a corporation - by a principal executive officer of at least the level of vice president, or an authorized representative, if the representative is responsible for the overall operation of the facility from which the discharge described in the NPDES form originates.
- For a partnership or sole proprietorship - by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.
- For a municipality, state, federal or other public agency - by a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.

If signed by a person other than the above and for co-permittees, written notification of delegation of DMR signatory authority must be submitted to DEP in advance of or along with the relevant DMR form. (40 CFR § 122.22(b))

7. If the permittee monitors any pollutant at monitoring points as designated by this permit, using analytical methods described in Part A III.A.4. herein, more frequently than the permit requires, the results of this monitoring shall be incorporated, as appropriate, into the calculations used to report self-monitoring data on the DMR. (40 CFR 122.41(l)(4)(ii))

C. Reporting Requirements

1. **Planned Changes to Physical Facilities** – The permittee shall give notice to DEP as soon as possible but no later than 30 days prior to planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. A permit under 25 Pa. Code Chapter 91 may be required for these situations prior to implementing the planned changes. A permit application, or other written submission to DEP, can be used to satisfy the notification requirements of this section.

Notice is required when:

- a. The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR 122.29(b). (40 CFR 122.41(l)(1)(i))
 - b. The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which are not subject to effluent limitations in this permit. (40 CFR 122.41(l)(1)(ii))
 - c. The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the permittee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. (40 CFR 122.41(l)(1)(iii))
 - d. The planned change may result in noncompliance with permit requirements. (40 CFR 122.41(l)(2))
2. **Planned Changes to Waste Stream** – Under the authority of 25 Pa. Code § 92a.24(a), the permittee shall provide notice to DEP as soon as possible but no later than 45 days prior to any planned changes in the volume or pollutant concentration of its influent waste stream, as specified in paragraphs 2.a. and 2.b., below. Notice shall be provided on the "Planned Changes to Waste Stream" Supplemental Report (3800-FM-BCW0482), available on DEP's website. The permittee shall provide information on the quality and quantity of waste introduced into the facility, and any anticipated impact of the change on the quantity or quality of effluent to be discharged from the facility. The Report shall be sent via Certified Mail or other means to confirm DEP's receipt of the notification. DEP will determine if the submission of a new application and receipt of a new or amended permit is required.
- a. **Introduction of New Pollutants** (25 Pa. Code § 92a.24(a))

New pollutants are defined as parameters that meet all of the following criteria:

- (i) Were not detected in the facilities' influent waste stream as reported in the permit application; and

- (ii) Have not been approved to be included in the permittee's influent waste stream by DEP in writing.

The permittee shall provide notification of the introduction of new pollutants in accordance with paragraph 2 above. The permittee may not authorize the introduction of new pollutants until the permittee receives DEP's written approval.

b. Increased Loading of Approved Pollutants (25 Pa. Code § 92a.24(a))

Approved pollutants are defined as parameters that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- (i) Were detected in the facilities' influent waste stream as reported in the permittee's permit application; or
- (ii) Have been approved to be included in the permittee's influent waste stream by DEP in writing; or
- (iii) Have an effluent limitation or monitoring requirement in this permit.

The permittee shall provide notification of the introduction of increased influent loading (lbs/day) of approved pollutants in accordance with paragraph 2 above when (1) the cumulative increase in influent loading (lbs/day) exceeds 20% of the maximum loading reported in the permit application, or a loading previously approved by DEP, or (2) may cause an exceedance in the effluent of Effluent Limitation Guidelines (ELGs) or limitations in Part A of this permit, or (3) may cause interference or pass through at the facility (as defined at 40 CFR 403.3), or (4) may cause exceedances of the applicable water quality standards in the receiving stream. Unless specified otherwise in this permit, if DEP does not respond to the notification within 30 days of its receipt, the permittee may proceed with the increase in loading. The acceptance of increased loading of approved pollutants may not result in an exceedance of ELGs or effluent limitations and may not cause exceedances of the applicable water quality standards in the receiving stream.

3. Reporting Requirements for Hauled-In Wastes

a. Receipt of Residual Waste

- (i) The permittee shall document the receipt of all hauled-in residual wastes (including but not limited to wastewater from oil and gas wells, food processing waste, and landfill leachate), as defined at 25 Pa. Code § 287.1, that are received for processing at the treatment facility. The permittee shall report hauled-in residual wastes on a monthly basis to DEP on the "Hauled In Residual Wastes" Supplemental Report (3800-FM-BCW0450) as an attachment to the DMR. If no residual wastes were received during a month, submission of the Supplemental Report is not required.

The following information is required by the Supplemental Report. The information used to develop the Report shall be retained by the permittee for five years from the date of receipt and must be made available to DEP or EPA upon request.

- (1) The dates that residual wastes were received.
- (2) The volume (gallons) of wastes received.
- (3) The license plate number of the vehicle transporting the waste to the treatment facility.
- (4) The permit number(s) of the well(s) where residual wastes were generated, if applicable.
- (5) The name and address of the generator of the residual wastes.
- (6) The type of wastewater.

The transporter of residual waste must maintain these and other records as part of the daily operational record (25 Pa. Code § 299.219). If the transporter is unable to provide this information or the permittee has not otherwise received the information from the generator, the residual wastes shall not be accepted by the permittee until such time as the permittee receives such information from the transporter or generator.

- (ii) The following conditions apply to the characterization of residual wastes received by the permittee:
 - (1) If the generator is required to complete a chemical analysis of residual wastes in accordance with 25 Pa. Code § 287.51, the permittee must receive and maintain on file a chemical analysis of the residual wastes it receives. The chemical analysis must conform to the Bureau of Waste Management's Form 26R except as noted in paragraph (2), below. Each load of residual waste received must be covered by a chemical analysis if the generator is required to complete it.
 - (2) For wastewater generated from hydraulic fracturing operations ("frac wastewater") within the first 30 production days of a well site, the chemical analysis may be a general frac wastewater characterization approved by DEP. Thereafter, the chemical analysis must be waste-specific and be reported on the Form 26R.

b. Receipt of Municipal Waste

- (i) The permittee shall document the receipt of all hauled-in municipal wastes (including but not limited to septage and liquid sewage sludge), as defined at 25 Pa. Code § 271.1, that are received for processing at the treatment facility. The permittee shall report hauled-in municipal wastes on a monthly basis to DEP on the "Hauled In Municipal Wastes" Supplemental Report (3800-FM-BCW0437) as an attachment to the DMR. If no municipal wastes were received during a month, submission of the Supplemental Report is not required.

The following information is required by the Supplemental Report:

- (1) The dates that municipal wastes were received.
- (2) The volume (gallons) of wastes received.
- (3) The BOD₅ concentration (mg/l) and load (lbs) for the wastes received.
- (4) The location(s) where wastes were disposed of within the treatment facility.
- (ii) Sampling and analysis of hauled-in municipal wastes must be completed to characterize the organic strength of the wastes, unless composite sampling of influent wastewater is performed at a location downstream of the point of entry for the wastes.

4. Unanticipated Noncompliance or Potential Pollution Reporting

- a. Immediate Reporting - The permittee shall immediately report any incident causing or threatening pollution in accordance with the requirements of 25 Pa. Code §§ 91.33 and 92a.41(b).
 - (i) If, because of an accident, other activity or incident a toxic substance or another substance which would endanger users downstream from the discharge, or would otherwise result in pollution or create a danger of pollution or would damage property, the permittee shall immediately notify DEP by telephone of the location and nature of the danger. Oral notification to the Department is required as soon as possible, but no later than 4 hours after the permittee becomes aware of the incident causing or threatening pollution.

- (ii) If reasonably possible to do so, the permittee shall immediately notify downstream users of the waters of the Commonwealth to which the substance was discharged. Such notice shall include the location and nature of the danger.
 - (iii) The permittee shall immediately take or cause to be taken steps necessary to prevent injury to property and downstream users of the waters from pollution or a danger of pollution and, in addition, within 15 days from the incident, shall remove the residual substances contained thereon or therein from the ground and from the affected waters of this Commonwealth to the extent required by applicable law.
- b. The permittee shall report any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 122.41(l)(6). These requirements include the following obligations:
 - (i) 24 Hour Reporting - The permittee shall orally report any noncompliance with this permit which may endanger health or the environment within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The following shall be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph:
 - (1) Any unanticipated bypass which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit;
 - (2) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit; and
 - (3) Violation of the maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed in the permit as being subject to the 24-hour reporting requirement. (40 CFR 122.44(g))
 - (ii) Written Report - A written submission shall also be provided within 5 days of the time the permittee becomes aware of any noncompliance which may endanger health or the environment. The written submission shall contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.
 - (iii) Where the written report specified in paragraph (ii) above relates to wastewater overflows or anticipated/unanticipated bypass events, the permittee shall submit the report to DEP electronically by an EPA-approved alternative compliance deadline in accordance with 40 CFR Part 127 or upon receipt of written notification from DEP, whichever occurs first.
 - (iv) Waiver of Written Report - DEP may waive the written report on a case-by-case basis if the associated oral report has been received within 24 hours from the time the permittee becomes aware of the circumstances which may endanger health or the environment. Unless such a waiver is expressly granted by DEP, the permittee shall submit a written report in accordance with this paragraph. (40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)(iii))

5. Other Noncompliance

The permittee shall report all instances of noncompliance not reported under paragraph C.4 of this section or specific requirements of compliance schedules, at the time DMRs are submitted, on the Non-Compliance Reporting Form (3800-FM-BCW0440). The reports shall contain the information listed in paragraph C.4.b.(ii) of this section. (40 CFR 122.41(l)(7))

- D. Specific Toxic Pollutant Notification Levels (for Manufacturing, Commercial, Mining, and Silvicultural Direct Dischargers) - The permittee shall notify DEP as soon as it knows or has reason to believe the following: (40 CFR 122.42(a))

1. That any activity has occurred, or will occur, which would result in the discharge of any toxic pollutant which is not limited in this permit, if that discharge on a routine or frequent basis will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels": (40 CFR 122.42(a)(1))
 - a. One hundred micrograms per liter.
 - b. Two hundred micrograms per liter for acrolein and acrylonitrile.
 - c. Five hundred micrograms per liter for 2,4-dinitrophenol and 2-methyl-4,6-dinitrophenol.
 - d. One milligram per liter for antimony.
 - e. Five times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in this permit application.
 - f. Any other notification level established by DEP.
 2. That any activity has occurred or will occur which would result in any discharge, on a nonroutine or infrequent basis, of a toxic pollutant which is not limited in this permit, if that discharge will exceed the highest of the following "notification levels": (40 CFR 122.42(a)(2))
 - a. Five hundred micrograms per liter.
 - b. One milligram per liter for antimony.
 - d. Ten times the maximum concentration value reported for that pollutant in the permit application.
 - e. Any other notification level established by DEP.
- E. Annual Fee (25 Pa. Code § 92a.62)
- The facility is exempt from the annual fee.

PART B

I. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

A. Compliance

1. The permittee shall comply with all conditions of this permit. If a compliance schedule has been established in this permit, the permittee shall achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit within the time frames specified in this permit. (40 CFR 122.41(a)(1))
2. The permittee shall submit reports of compliance or noncompliance, or progress reports as applicable, for any interim and final requirements contained in this permit. Such reports shall be submitted no later than 14 days following the applicable schedule date or compliance deadline. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.51(c), 40 CFR 122.47(a)(4))

B. Permit Modification, Termination, or Revocation and Reissuance

1. This permit may be modified, terminated, or revoked and reissued during its term in accordance with 25 Pa. Code § 92a.72 and 40 CFR 122.41(f).
2. The filing of a request by the permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition. (40 CFR 122.41(f))
3. In the absence of DEP action to modify or revoke and reissue this permit, the permittee shall comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the Clean Water Act for toxic pollutants within the time specified in the regulations that establish those standards or prohibitions. (40 CFR 122.41(a)(1))

C. Duty to Provide Information

1. The permittee shall furnish to DEP, within a reasonable time, any information which DEP may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit, or to determine compliance with this permit. (40 CFR 122.41(h))
2. The permittee shall furnish to DEP, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit. (40 CFR 122.41(h))
3. Other Information - Where the permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to DEP, it shall promptly submit the correct and complete facts or information. (40 CFR 122.41(l)(8))

D. Proper Operation and Maintenance

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 to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance includes, but is not limited to, adequate laboratory controls including appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision also includes the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by the permittee, only when necessary to achieve compliance with the terms and conditions of this permit. (40 CFR 122.41(e))

E. Duty to Mitigate

The permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge, sludge use or disposal in violation of this permit that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment. (40 CFR 122.41(d))

F. Bypassing

1. Bypassing Not Exceeding Permit Limitations - The permittee may allow a bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the provisions in paragraphs two, three and four of this section. (40 CFR 122.41(m)(2))
 2. Other Bypassing - In all other situations, bypassing is prohibited and DEP may take enforcement action against the permittee for bypass unless:
 - a. A bypass is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury or "severe property damage." (40 CFR 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A))
 - b. There are no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate backup equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance. (40 CFR 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B))
 - c. The permittee submitted the necessary notice required in F.4.a. and b. below. (40 CFR 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C))
 3. DEP may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if DEP determines that it will meet the conditions listed in F.2. above. (40 CFR 122.41(m)(4)(ii))
 4. Notice
 - a. Anticipated Bypass – If the permittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it shall submit prior notice, if possible, at least 10 days before the bypass. (40 CFR 122.41(m)(3)(i))
 - b. Unanticipated Bypass – The permittee shall submit oral notice of any other unanticipated bypass within 24 hours, regardless of whether the bypass may endanger health or the environment or whether the bypass exceeds effluent limitations. The notice shall be in accordance with Part A III.C.4.b.
- G. Termination of Permit Coverage (25 Pa. Code § 92a.74 and 40 CFR 122.64)
1. Notice of Termination (NOT) – If the permittee plans to cease operations or will otherwise no longer require coverage under this permit, the permittee shall submit DEP's NPDES Notice of Termination (NOT) for Permits Issued Under Chapter 92a (3800-BCW-0410), signed in accordance with Part A III.B.6 of this permit, at least 30 days prior to cessation of operations or the date by which coverage is no longer required.
 2. Where the permittee plans to cease operations, NOTs must be accompanied with an operation closure plan that identifies how tankage and equipment will be decommissioned and how pollutants will be managed, as applicable.
 3. The permittee shall submit the NOT to the DEP regional office with jurisdiction over the county in which the facility is located.

II. PENALTIES AND LIABILITY

A. Violations of Permit Conditions

Any person violating Sections 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the Clean Water Act or any permit condition or limitation implementing such sections in a permit issued under Section 402 of the Act is subject to civil, administrative and/or criminal penalties as set forth in 40 CFR 122.41(a)(2).

Any person or municipality, who violates any provision of this permit; any rule, regulation or order of DEP; or any condition or limitation of any permit issued pursuant to the Clean Streams Law, is subject to criminal and/or civil penalties as set forth in Sections 602, 603 and 605 of the Clean Streams Law.

B. Falsifying Information

Any person who does any of the following:

- Falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit, or
- Knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit (including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance)

Shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine and/or imprisonment as set forth in 18 Pa.C.S.A § 4904 and 40 CFR 122.41(j)(5) and (k)(2).

C. Liability

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance pursuant to Section 309 of the Clean Water Act or Sections 602, 603 or 605 of the Clean Streams Law.

Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or to relieve the permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities or penalties to which the permittee is or may be subject to under the Clean Water Act and the Clean Streams Law.

D. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity Not a Defense

It shall not be a defense for the permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit. (40 CFR 122.41(c))

III. OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Right of Entry

Pursuant to Sections 5(b) and 305 of Pennsylvania's Clean Streams Law, and Title 25 Pa. Code Chapter 92a and 40 CFR 122.41(i), the permittee shall allow authorized representatives of DEP and EPA, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law:

1. To enter upon the permittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit; (40 CFR 122.41(i)(1))
2. To have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit; (40 CFR 122.41(i)(2))
3. To inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices or operations regulated or required under this permit; and (40 CFR 122.41(i)(3))
4. To sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purposes of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Clean Water Act or the Clean Streams Law, any substances or parameters at any location. (40 CFR 122.41(i)(4))

B. Transfer of Permits

1. Transfers by modification. Except as provided in paragraph 2 of this section, a permit may be transferred by the permittee to a new owner or operator only if this permit has been modified or revoked and reissued, or a minor modification made to identify the new permittee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the Clean Water Act. (40 CFR 122.61(a))
2. Automatic transfers. As an alternative to transfers under paragraph 1 of this section, any NPDES permit may be automatically transferred to a new permittee if:
 - a. The current permittee notifies DEP at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer date in paragraph 2.b. of this section; (40 CFR 122.61(b)(1))
 - b. The notice includes the appropriate DEP transfer form signed by the existing and new permittees containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage and liability between them; (40 CFR 122.61(b)(2))
 - c. DEP does not notify the existing permittee and the proposed new permittee of its intent to modify or revoke and reissue this permit, the transfer is effective on the date specified in the agreement mentioned in paragraph 2.b. of this section; and (40 CFR 122.61(b)(3))
 - d. The new permittee is in compliance with existing DEP issued permits, regulations, orders and schedules of compliance, or has demonstrated that any noncompliance with the existing permits has been resolved by an appropriate compliance action or by the terms and conditions of the permit (including compliance schedules set forth in the permit), consistent with 25 Pa. Code § 92a.51 (relating to schedules of compliance) and other appropriate DEP regulations. (25 Pa. Code § 92a.71)
3. In the event DEP does not approve transfer of this permit, the new owner or operator must submit a new permit application.

C. Property Rights

The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege. (40 CFR 122.41(g))

D. Duty to Reapply

If the permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the permittee must apply for a new permit. (40 CFR 122.41(b))

E. Other Laws

The issuance of this permit does not authorize any injury to persons or property or invasion of other private rights, or any infringement of state or local law or regulations.

PART C

I. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- A. The approval herein given is specifically made contingent upon the permittee acquiring all necessary property rights by easement or otherwise, providing for the satisfactory construction, operation, maintenance or replacement of all structures associated with the herein approved discharge in, along, or across private property, with full rights of ingress, egress and regress.
- B. Collected screenings, slurries, sludges, and other solids shall be handled, recycled and/or disposed of in compliance with the Solid Waste Management Act (35 P.S. §§ 6018.101 – 6018.1003), 25 Pa. Code Chapters 287, 288, 289, 291, 295, 297, and 299 (relating to requirements for landfilling, impoundments, land application, composting, processing, and storage of residual waste), Chapters 261a, 262a, 263a, and 270a (related to identification of hazardous waste, requirements for generators and transporters, and hazardous waste, requirements for generators and transporters, and hazardous waste permit programs), federal regulation 40 CFR Part 257, The Clean Streams Law, and the Federal Clean Water Act and its amendments. Screenings collected at intake structures shall be collected and managed and not be returned to the receiving waters.

The permittee is responsible to obtain or assure that contracted agents have all necessary permits and approvals for the handling, storage, transport and disposal of solid waste materials generated as a result of wastewater treatment.

- C. The terms and conditions of Water Quality Management (WQM) permits that may have been issued to the permittee relating to discharge requirements are superseded by this NPDES permit unless otherwise stated herein.
- D. If the applicable standard or effluent guideline limitation relating to the application for Best Available Technology (BAT) Economically Achievable or to Best Conventional Technology (BCT) is developed by DEP or EPA for this type of industry, and if such standard or limitation is more stringent than the corresponding limitations of this permit (or if it controls pollutants not covered by this permit), DEP may modify or revoke and reissue the permit to conform with that standard or limitation.

II. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) PLAN

A. General

The permittee shall develop and implement a Best Management Practices (BMP) Plan to prevent or minimize the generation and discharge of wastes and pollutants from the facility to the waters of the Commonwealth and ensure disposal or land application of wastes in such a way as to minimize adverse environmental impact.

B. Development and Implementation

1. The permittee shall develop and implement a BMP Plan which meets the minimum required BMPs in Section II. The Plan must be included with the application submitted for coverage under this individual permits. The initial Plan and modifications thereto must be certified by the facility manager in charge of operations. The Plan is deemed to be approved when DEP approves coverage under this permit.
2. The permittee shall implement the provisions of the approved Plan immediately or within the timeframes specified in the approved Plan as a condition of coverage under this permit.
3. The permittee shall review the Plan at least annually and submit the results of the review on the enclosed Annual Report for Aquatic Animal Production Facilities form.
4. The permittee shall maintain the Plan on-site at all times, and shall make it available for review by DEP upon request.

C. BMP Plan Modification

The BMP Plan must be modified whenever there is a change in the facility or in the operation of the facility which materially increases the generation of pollutants or their release or potential release to surface waters. The modifications to the BMP Plan shall be reported on the Annual Report for Aquatic Animal Production Facilities form and be submitted to DEP upon request.

III. MINIMUM REQUIRED BMPs

The permittee must implement the following BMPs, at a minimum, and describe how implementation will be achieved in the BMP Plan.

A. All Facilities

1. Non-Native Species

Measures must be taken to prevent the escape of non-native species to the receiving waters. The BMP Plan must include a schedule for preventative maintenance and inspection of the containment system, escape recovery protocols, and fish transfer procedures during stocking and grading.

2. Agricultural Waste Management

Agricultural waste material (manure) removed from the facility must be disposed of or utilized in accordance with applicable Pennsylvania law and regulations. If land application of manure is utilized, management must be done in accordance with DEP's Manure Management for Environmental Protection (361-0300-001) and Land Application of Manure (361-0300-002). The BMP Plan shall identify the location(s) of disposal or land application, land application rates, and methods for determining land application rates, including the Nitrogen and Phosphorus content of the manure. If land application is used, include a map identifying the location(s) and delineating the field boundaries.

3. Training

- a. In order to ensure the proper clean-up and disposal of spilled material adequately train all relevant facility personnel in spill prevention and how to respond in the event of a spill.
- b. Train staff on the proper operation and cleaning of production and wastewater treatment systems including training in feeding procedures and proper use of equipment.

B. Flow-Through and Recirculating Systems

1. Solids Control

- a. Employ efficient feed management and feeding strategies that limit feed input to the minimum amount reasonably necessary to achieve production goals and sustain targeted rates of aquatic animal growth in order to minimize potential discharges of uneaten feed and waste products to waters of the Commonwealth.
- b. In order to minimize the discharge of accumulated solids from settling ponds and basins and production systems, identify and implement procedures for routine cleaning of rearing units and off-line settling basins, and procedures to minimize any discharge of accumulated solids during the inventorying, grading and harvesting aquatic animals in the production system.
- c. Remove and dispose of aquatic animal mortalities properly on a regular basis to prevent discharge to waters of the Commonwealth.

2. Materials Storage

- a. Ensure proper storage of drugs, pesticides, and feed in a manner designed to prevent spills that may result in the discharge of drugs, pesticides or feed to waters of the Commonwealth.
 - b. Implement procedures for properly containing, cleaning, and disposing of any spilled material.
 3. Structural Maintenance
 - a. Inspect the production system and the wastewater treatment system on a routine basis in order to identify and promptly repair any damage.
 - b. Conduct regular maintenance of the production system and the wastewater treatment system in order to ensure that they are properly functioning.
 4. Recordkeeping
 - a. In order to calculate representative feed conversion ratios, maintain records for aquatic animal rearing units documenting the feed amounts and estimates of the numbers and weight of aquatic animals.
 - b. Keep records documenting the frequency of cleaning, inspections, maintenance and repairs.
- C. Net Pen Systems
 1. Feed Management

Employ efficient feed management and feeding strategies that limit feed input to the minimum amount reasonably necessary to achieve production goals and sustain targeted rates of aquatic animal growth. These strategies must minimize the accumulation of uneaten food beneath the pens through the use of active feed monitoring and management practices. These practices may include one or more of the following: Use of real-time feed monitoring, including devices such as video cameras, digital scanning sonar, and upweller systems; monitoring of sediment quality beneath the pens; monitoring of benthic community quality beneath the pens; capture of waste feed and feces; or other good husbandry practices approved by the permitting authority.
 2. Waste Collection and Disposal

Collect, return to shore, and properly dispose of all feed bags, packaging materials, waste rope and netting.
 3. Transport or Harvest Discharge

Minimize any discharge associated with the transport or harvesting of aquatic animals including blood, viscera, aquatic animal carcasses, or transport water containing blood.
 4. Carcass Removal

Remove and dispose of aquatic animal mortalities properly on a regular basis to prevent discharge to waters of the Commonwealth.
 5. Materials Storage
 - a. Ensure proper storage of drugs, pesticides and feed in a manner designed to prevent spills that may result in the discharge of drugs, pesticides or feed to waters of the Commonwealth.
 - b. Implement procedures for properly containing, cleaning, and disposing of any spilled material.
 6. Maintenance

- a. Inspect the production system on a routine basis in order to identify and promptly repair any damage.
 - b. Conduct regular maintenance of the production system in order to ensure that it is properly functioning.
7. Recordkeeping
- a. In order to calculate representative feed conversion ratios, maintain records for aquatic animal net pens documenting the feed amounts and estimates of the numbers and weight of aquatic animals.
 - b. Keep records of the net changes, inspections and repairs.

IV. DRUG AND CHEMICAL USAGE FOR AQUACULTURE FACILITIES

A. General

1. The permittee is authorized to use the drugs and chemicals identified in the application at the usage rates listed in the summary table in Part C.IV.A.3.b of this permit. Drug and chemical usage shall be reported to DEP on a quarterly basis on the Drug and Chemical Use Report. Drug and Chemical Use Reports shall be submitted on or before January 28, April 28, July 28 and October 28 to report usage for each calendar quarter.
2. Drug and Chemical Usage Rate Study
 - a. The permittee shall conduct a study to determine the fate and transport of the drugs and chemicals used at the site. The permittee shall investigate and address the following as part of the study:
 - i. The degradation and consumption of the drugs and chemicals throughout the site.
 - ii. An evaluation of approaches and strategies that exist to reduce or eliminate sources in order to achieve the final usage rates.
 - iii. An evaluation of approaches and strategies that exist to provide treatment to reduce the drugs and chemicals in the effluent so that a greater usage rate may be determined.
 - b. The permittee shall develop a Usage Rate Study work plan and submit the work plan to DEP for review and comment when requested by DEP. DEP's approval of the work plan is not necessary prior to commencing the Usage Rate Study.
3. Schedule and Final Usage Rate Compliance Report
 - a. The permittee shall submit complete required studies and a Final Usage Rate Compliance Report to DEP in accordance with the following schedule:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
<u>Complete Usage Rate Study Work Plan and Submit Work Plan if Requested by DEP</u>	<u>One year after effective date of the permit</u>
<u>Begin Usage Rate Study</u>	<u>One year after effective date of the permit</u>
<u>Progress Report</u>	<u>Two years after effective date of the permit</u>
<u>Complete Usage Rate Study and Data Collection</u>	<u>2.5 Years after effective date of the permit</u>
<u>Begin Implementing Actions Identified in the Study to Reduce Pollutant Load</u>	<u>2.5 Years after effective date of the permit</u>

Submit Final Usage Rate Compliance Report	Three Years after effective date of the permit
Submit NPDES permit amendment to have the Final Usage Rates adjusted based on the results of the study (if applicable)	Three Years after effective date of the permit
Complete Actions Identified in Usage Rate Study and Comply with Final Usage Rates	Four Years after effective date of the permit

b. The Final Usage Rates for Approved Drugs and Chemicals:

The permittee must comply with the following drug and chemical usage rates starting at four years after the permit effective date.

Drug/Chemical Name	Usage Rates, lbs/day
Parasite-S	45.3
Chloramine-T	25
Hydrogen Peroxide	146
Terramycin TM200	45
Diquat Dibromide	3.02
Romet-TC	0.09
Lysol	0.2
Florfenicol	0.8
Sodium Chloride	1075

4. For new drugs or chemicals not identified on the application, or for increased usage rates of authorized drugs or chemicals, the permittee shall provide DEP with an oral notification within 7 days of initiating use of the new drug or chemical or increasing use of an authorized drug or chemical. The permittee shall also report the new drug or chemical on the Drug and Chemical Use Report, to be submitted on a quarterly basis.
5. For new chemicals, the following information must be attached to the Drug and Chemical Use Report or, upon the request of DEP, submitted following the oral notification:
 - a. Trade name(s) of chemical.
 - b. Name and address of chemical manufacturer.
 - c. Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) or other available information on mammalian or aquatic toxicological effects.
 - d. Bioassay data including a 48-hour or 96-hour LC₅₀ value on the whole product.
 - e. Proposed average and maximum chemical usage rates in lbs/day.
 - f. A flow diagram showing the point of chemical addition and the affected outfalls.
 - g. The expected concentration of the product at the final outfall.
 - h. The product density for liquids (lbs/gal) used to convert usage rate (gpd) to in-system concentrations (mg/l).

- i. The analytical test method that could be used to verify final discharge concentrations when the product is in use and the associated minimum analytical detection level (mg/l), if applicable.
- j. Available data on the degradation or decomposition of the chemical in the aquatic environment.
- k. Any other data or information the permittee believes would be helpful to DEP in completing its review.

B. Carcinogens

Use of products or chemicals that contain one or more ingredients that are carcinogens is generally prohibited. Before proposing limited use of such products or chemicals, the permittee must first thoroughly investigate use of alternate products or chemicals to avoid the use of the carcinogens. If no suitable alternatives are available, the permittee must submit written documentation as part of the information required above, that demonstrates to the satisfaction of DEP that no suitable alternatives are available and that any carcinogen in the proposed chemical or product will not be detectable in the final effluent using the most sensitive analytical method available.

C. Investigational New Animal Drugs and Extra-Label Drug Use

Except as noted below, the permittee must notify DEP of any investigational new animal drug (INAD) or any extra-label drug use where such a use may lead to a discharge of the drug to waters of the Commonwealth. Reporting is not required for an INAD or extra-label drug use that has been previously approved by FDA for a different species or disease if the INAD or extra-label use is at or below the approved dosage and involves similar conditions of use.

1. The permittee must provide a written report to DEP of an INAD's impending use within 7 days of agreeing or signing up to participate in an INAD study. The written report must identify the INAD to be used, method of use, the dosage, and the disease or condition the INAD is intended to treat.
2. For INADs and extra-label drug uses, the permittee must provide an oral report to DEP as soon as possible, preferably in advance of use, but no later than 7 days after initiating use of that drug. The oral report must identify the drugs used, method of application, and the reason for using that drug.
3. For INADs and extra-label drug uses, the permittee must provide a written report to DEP within 30 days after initiating use of that drug on the Drug and Chemical Use Report. The written report must identify the drug used and include: the reason for treatment, date(s) and time(s) of the addition (including duration), method of application; and the amount added.

V. Additional Definitions for Aquatic Animal Production:

Approved dosage means the dose of a drug that has been found to be safe and effective under the conditions of a new animal drug application. (40 CFR 451.2(b))

Aquatic animal containment system means a culture or rearing unit such as a raceway, pond, tank, net or other structure used to contain, hold or produce aquatic animals. The containment system includes structures designed to hold sediments and other materials that are part of a wastewater treatment system. (40 CFR 451.2(c))

Aquatic animal production facility means a hatchery, fish farm or other facility that produces harvestable freshwater, estuarine, or marine animals, whether or not it meets the criteria for a CAAP in 40 CFR Part 122, Appendix C or has been designated as a CAAP in accordance with 40 CFR Part 122.24(c).

BOD₅ means 5 day biochemical oxygen demand.

Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production (CAAP) Facility means a hatchery, fish farm or other facility which meets the criteria in 40 CFR Part 122, Appendix C, or which the Department designates under the criteria in 40 CFR 122.24(c). A facility is defined as a CAAP facility by 40 CFR Part 122, Appendix C if it: (1) contains, grows or holds fish in raceways, ponds and other similar structures; (2) discharges pollutants to surface waters during at least thirty (30) days per year; and (3) meets either of the following criteria for production or feeding:

- Produces 20,000 pounds or more of cold water fish per year or feeds 5,000 pounds or more of food in the calendar month of maximum feeding; OR
- Produces more than 100,000 pounds of warm water fish per year.

Chemical means any substance that is added to the aquatic animal production facility to maintain or restore water quality for aquatic animal production and that may be discharged to waters of the Commonwealth.

Drug means any substance defined as a drug in Section 201(g)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321). (40 CFR 451.2(e)) For the purposes of this General Permit, the term applies to substances that are introduced to the facility to maintain or restore aquatic animal health or to affect the structure or any function of an aquatic animal, and that may be discharged to waters of the Commonwealth, but does not include substances injected directly into aquatic animals or used in immersion baths that are not discharged to waters of the Commonwealth.

Extra-label drug use means a drug approved under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act that is not used in accordance with the approved label directions (see 21 CFR Part 530). (40 CFR 451.2(f))

Flow-through system means a system designed to provide a continuous water flow to waters of the Commonwealth through chambers used to produce aquatic animals. Flow-through systems typically use rearing units that are either raceways or tank systems. Rearing units referred to as raceways are typically long, rectangular chambers at or below grade, constructed of earth, concrete, plastic, or metal to which water is supplied by nearby rivers or springs. Rearing units comprised of tank systems use circular or rectangular tanks and are similarly supplied with water to raise aquatic animals. The term does not include net pens. (40 CFR 451.2(g))

Investigational new animal drug (INAD) means a drug for which there is a valid exemption in effect under section 512(j) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, 21 U.S.C. 360b(j), to conduct experiments. (40 CFR 451.2(h))

Net means the difference between influent and effluent concentrations and mass loads.

Net pen system means a stationary, suspended or floating system of nets, screens, or cages in open waters of the Commonwealth. Net pen systems typically are located along a shore or pier or may be anchored and floating offshore. Net pens and submerged cages rely on tides and currents to provide a continual supply of high-quality water to the animals in production.

Non-native species means an individual, group or population of an aquatic animal species: (1) that is introduced into an area or ecosystem outside its historic or native geographic range; and (2) that has been determined and identified by the appropriate state or federal authority to threaten native aquatic biota. The term excludes species raised for stocking by public agencies.

Pesticide means any substance defined as a "pesticide" in section 2(u) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136(u)). (40 CFR 451.2(l))

Point Source - Any discernable, confined and discrete conveyance from which pollutants are or may be discharged. (CWA Section 502(14))

Real-time feed monitoring means a system designed to track the rate of feed consumption and to detect uneaten feed passing through the nets at a net pen facility. These systems may rely on a combination of visual observation and hardware, including, but not limited to, devices such as video cameras, digital scanning sonar, or upweller systems that allow facilities to determine when to cease feeding the aquatic animals. Visual observation alone from above the pens does not constitute real-time monitoring. (40 CFR 451.2(m))

Recirculating system means a system that filters and reuses water in which the aquatic animals are produced prior to discharge. Recirculating systems typically use tanks, biological or mechanical filtration, and mechanical support equipment to maintain high quality water to produce aquatic animals.